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## ELIZABETH ISSA

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TOP TEN TIPS FOR A PERFECT WINTER WARDROBE!

# JUNIOR CLARK ROCHELLE

STARQUEST 2010 WINNER

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE MAN WHO SURVIVED THE MUSIC INDUSTRY



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Timeout with: Clark

StarQuest 2010's 1st runner-up

1. Can you give us a brief description of yourself and how you were discovered?

My name's Clark, I was born in Auckland, New Zealand and I was first discovered in the 2005 New Zealand Idol. I also enjoy shopping, going to the movies and spending time with my girlfriend and friends.

2. What do you enjoy most about singing?

I enjoy and love singing because it keeps me relaxed and it's also my time away from everything else in the world.

4. Do you have a specific inspiration to keep singing?

Well I would say that my family and friends would have to be my main inspiration for singing. They have always supported me and have always been there for me every step of the way.

5. What was your most memorable gig?

I would say that my most memorable gig would have to be a gig that I had at a local bar in Sydney's CBD. It goes way back to the days when I used to gig around bars with my band and a good friend of mine called Nathan who used to be the Bass player in our band. He was still around then, unfortunately he passed away late last year.



Editor's notes

Firstly, I would like to express how especially proud I am on how StarCentral Magazine's recent event (StarQuest 2010) went down. The feedback was terrific, it was great to see so many people attend StarCentral Magazine's first ever singing competition. It was also great to have seen first-hand the hard work and energy everyone had put in on the event. Everyone who were involved definitely deserves a pat in the back - especially the performers.

Now I have great pleasure in announcing that StarCentral Magazine has a new project coming up - its called "Star-connect" and it's a unique social network that we've been working on for quite some time now. I just hope that all our friends and partners will support us in this latest endeavour.

As we kick off the new financial year, I'm excited about what the opportunity field looks like for StarCentral Magazine and what the year ahead might bring. There are a number of other projects we're looking at undertaking and I'm forecasting a very bumpy and rough road - but then we're ready to take on this challenge!

In that note, let me end this message with this very inspirational quote by Lao-tsu: "A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step."

Mike Ilagan  
Managing Director

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# Timeout with: Junior

StarQuest 2010's 3rd runner-up

## 1. Can you give us a brief description of yourself and how you were discovered?

Well I'm tall, dark and handsome with sexy brown eyes ... Just kidding! LOL Seriously though, I've been singing since I was a little kid. When I was young I used to sing with my mother and her brothers so music had always been a part of my life growing up. I even got into the whole boy band thing with my brothers and cousins back then - go the Backstreet Boys! LOL I attended music college for a year back in 2003, sang on a few TV shows back in New Zealand and here in Australia. I even made it to the top 24 of the 2007 Australian Idol. I am now slowly just getting back into it after a bit of a break.

## 2. When did you first sing and where?

My first real solo performance would have to be back in primary school, I was around 8 or 9 years old back then. My teacher asked if anyone had written their own song and I actually sang 'Thriller' by Michael Jackson - I tried to perform the song as if it was mine! From there I've been performing and gigging ever since.

## 3. What are your future plans for your career?

I'm currently looking at hopefully playing Football in France full time at the end of the year whilst studying music at the same time - so fingers crossed!



# Timeout with: Rochele

StarQuest 2010's 4th runner-up

## 1. Can you give us a brief description of yourself?

Well I'm a bubbly, passionate, fun, down-to-earth and determined woman who will never give up on reaching her dream. I'm also quite outgoing and I'm always up for a laugh - Seriously, I'm the type of girl who's just willing to give anything a go!

## 2. How were you discovered?

I was actually discovered by my music teacher when I used to be a dancer back in high school during a musical. I went backstage and just started singing some backing vocals when to my surprise my music teacher told me "Wow! you can actually sing!" After that he encouraged me to join his singing class and the rest you can say is history.

## 3. What achievement are you most proud of?

My proudest moment would have to be a performance I did at my Year 12 graduation. After I sang with a friend, this girl approached me and said we actually made people cry. For me that was an achievement because we were able to reach our audience on an emotional level.

## 4. What are your future plans for your career?

I want to become a professional singer and performer in the near future. I want to hopefully be on the big stage performing with a massive crowd screaming back my lyrics to me.





# STARQUEST 2010

## StarQuest



By: Hollie Azzopardi

Wenty Leagues Club was the place to be on Sunday May 23rd, as Star Central Magazine hosted their annual StarQuest singing competition for 2010.

Performers from all over Sydney competed in what can only be described as a fiesta of incredible skill, and remarkable talent.

The 15 finalists-Clark, John D, Diana, Antony, Louise, Tim, Cut Out Boy, Susan Jon Rose, Junior, Luqman, Ane, Jamielyn, Rochelle, Charlotte and Elizabeth- sang their hearts, and lungs, out to an enormous range of tunes showcasing the work of Michael Jackson, Prince, Christina Aguilera, Leona Lewis and Jennifer Hudson, to name only a few.

The quest for Sydney's ultimate singer did not disappoint. The competition was tight, making the overall decision

particularly difficult for the judges of the evening and the audience of 400 people, who were asked to cast a vote for their favourite singer.

Judging the competition were industry insiders George Bastoli, Daniel Ross and Carlos Velasquez. The judging was based on voice quality, stage presence, overall impact and musical interpretation.

With special guest performances from singer Harry Melan and dance group Gigabeatz, the audience was kept entertained even before the contestants took to the stage.

Contestants were armed with guitars, keyboards, drummers and backing vocalists, all in the hope of being crowned Sydney's ultimate singer! And boy, was it a show not to be missed. The intimate affair showcased the remarkable unsigned talent Sydney has to offer, ranging in age and singing style.

Some lucky prize winners included 'Best Potential Newcomer'

Jamielyn, 'Trendy Image' Clark, 'Best Stage Performance' Luqman and the 'People's Choice Award' Tim.

Fourth Runner Up went to Rochelle, while Third Runner Up went to Junior, and Second Runner Up to Susan.

But it all came down to the announcement of the evening- who would be First Runner Up, and who would be crowned the winner.

The first Runner Up was awarded to Clark, and the winner?

Well the winner of the evening was none other than Elizabeth Issa, for her amazing rendition of Jennifer Hudson's iconic tune 'And I'm Telling You'.

Elizabeth took home a StarCentral pack, a gold plaque, \$700 cash, a photography session with FIN Photography worth \$800 and the cover of the next issue of StarCentral Magazine.

"I'm really, really blessed. I've put so much hard work into this and it's obviously paid off," she said.

So what's next for the StarQuest 2010 grand prize winner?

Well Elizabeth hopes to pursue a career in the music industry, saying she is going to "keep gigging, any opportunity that comes my way, I'm up for."

For aspiring singers she advises to stay true to yourself. "You're not always going to get good advice, take in what you need and recycle the rest... At the end of the day what's the use in being someone you're not?"



# Can Wii Fit really make you FIT??

It's hard to believe that with today's technology, a gaming console has been created with exercise, and gaming, combined in one. Wii games, particularly Wii Fit, encourage physical movement and activity, all in the comfort of a gaming console. So, while you are playing what seems to be a pretty normal, interactive video game, you could actually be burning calories and getting fit at the same time.

Is this true though? Can playing an interactive video game like Wii Fit really do much to improve general fitness and wellbeing?

Perhaps the most interesting feature of the Wii Fit, is the balance board provided with the Wii Fit package. It acts as an aerobics step, a sensor for most activities and it even functions as a scale. Yes, Wii fit weighs you. On your first encounter with Wii Fit, you will undergo a simple fitness/balance test which, teamed with your age and weight, provides you with your BMI (body mass index) and fitness age. Wii then tells you whether you are in a healthy or unhealthy weight range for your age and weight.

You can program into Wii Fit the amount of weight you wish to gain/lose, and a graph is provided as a visual form of your program. Each minute you spend playing Wii Fit is tallied, and you receive bonus points according to how long you spend playing. Bonus points can unlock new activities and levels, so it acts as a motivational technique to keep you playing.

Balance is a vital component in Wii Fit games, and is taking to consideration for almost any activity you do. Article 'Can you

really get fit with Wii exercise games?', written by Annabelle Robertson, and published on MedicineNet.com, quotes Cedric X Bryant, PhD, FACSM, chief science officer of the American Council on Exercise, as saying that: "in terms of skill, balance, coordination and agility are important for our functional capabilities, but they don't equate how fit a person is,".

So is it worth investing in Wii Fit if your aim is to actually gain fitness and lose weight? Perhaps. Depending on the amount of physical activity you already do (or do not) undertake, it could be worth your while. Anything that breaks a sweat is generally doing your cardio fitness levels a bit of good.

Generally, as long as Wii Fit isn't your sole means of fitness and exercise, and as long as you don't expect drastic changes, then there's no harm in a bit of extra fitness. Even if it's all fun and games.



# The man who survived the music industry

By: Brandon Roberts

Once upon a time in the California School System, there lived a young man who could only be described as average. His bright and colorful personality was less than appreciated by most of his fellow classmates, and his life had no real direction. His name was Kenny, and he didn't know it but he was destined to eventually become a star behind the scenes of the music industry.

It all started when Kenny was a Freshman in High School when a popular local band known as The Antics lost their lead singer and needed a replacement. Kenny would later say he had no idea why he did it, for he had no music experience, but he went to the band and told them that he could be their singer. They agreed to give him an audition and everything was set. Of course, Kenny knew nothing about singing, performing, or working with a band, and he had no idea what it was he had gotten himself into. To remedy the situation, he watched and studied the vocal dynamics of the band AC/DC until it was time for his audition, and for the first time in his life, Kenny rocked!

Kenny started his career as the lead singer for The Antics.

With Kenny as their new lead singer, The Antics quickly became popular in their neck of the woods. They ended up recording several albums with Parasite Records, a major distributor at the time, and worked with famous producer Mark Wolfson while booking tours across the land. In a very short time, The Antics became a traveling band and even attracted the attention of another up-and-coming group known as Metallica, who would later take the world by storm.

Kenny stayed with The Antics for a few years until he grew tired of life on the road, and he settled in Seattle, Washington where he and a school teacher (who was involved with Sub Pop



Records) started up a business called The Good Road Network, which was to act as a central hub for professionals in the music industry. Through The Good Road Network, they worked with artists like Sublime, Nirvana, and many others, and helped them to reach their critical acclaim. From there, he became the Assistant Tour Manager for Australian band NOFX.

After traveling across the world and working with some of the world's greatest musicians, Kenny finally decided to settle down and focus on some of his own pursuits. However, canny observers can still see his work published in Rolling Stone Magazine and on Crowdfaddy.com where he still occasionally interviews some of the biggest stars of our time.

If you were to ask Kenny how to do what he did, he would tell you to live your life without fear. He would tell you to throw out your preconceptions of what the industry is and really figure out what you want and go for it. According to Kenny, anyone can do what he did and be successful. All it takes is strong will, determination, and the ability to pay attention to the facts.

Who is Kenny? He is a hero. A star behind the scenes. Kenny Figuly is a man who survived the industry.

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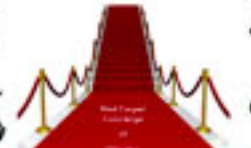
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# Elisabeth Issa

Sure she just became the StarQuest 2010 grand prize winner, but this young star has her eye on becoming a recording artist and sharing her music with the rest of the world.



By: Hollie Azzopardi

Chances are, if you haven't heard of Elisabeth Issa yet, it won't be long until you do. This 18 year old Australian Institute of Music student recently took out the title of Ultimate Winner in this year's StarCentral Magazine 'StarQuest' Singing Competition, for 2010. She wowed the audience with her rendition of Jennifer Hudson's 'I'm telling you'.

Singing has been a passion of Issa's since she was eight years old-being selected to sing in the 2000 Sydney Olympic choir as mezzo soprano. Since that fateful day, Issa has performed in a vast array of shows and competitions, including McDonald's performing arts challenges, musical theatre shows The Pirates of Penzance and Les Miserables, Holroyd and Parramatta city council festivals, the Easter Show and the Victorian Bushfire Appeal at the Riverside Theatre, to name just a few.

A highlight of Issa's career to date is being selected by Australia's leading vocal coach Erana Clark, from Australian Idol, to perform as a member of her Elite Singing and Song Writing Workshop, where she was able to produce two original tracks.

She also sang as a choir member for the Australian Idol Grand Final for 2009, at the Sydney Opera House. Not too bad for a young woman of only 18 years of age!

"My ultimate goal is to become a signed recording artist," she said. "I wish to travel and share my music with the world and provide something special to people, no matter what it may be."

After witnessing her standing ovation performance at StarQuest, as well as her performance at Soul Good, it's obvious that this young woman won't have any issues with achieving her dream.

The hardest part of achieving her goal? "[That] would have to be networking," she said. "Finding the right people and...being heard by new audiences."

Inspired by artists including Jennifer Hudson, Aretha Franklin and Celine Dion, Issa's singing style is reflective of a range of genres- including jazz, contemporary, pop, blues and soul. However, at the end of the day, Issa interprets a piece in her own unique way.

"I put (in) my own personal flavour that makes it 'me', so when I sing people are able to recognise that it's Elisabeth Issa singing."

Her advice for other singing hopefuls?

"Have a clear vision of your goal," she said. "Stay true to yourself and any chance given to perform, take it, and sing as if it were your last time."

Coming from someone who gained the highest HSC score in NSW for both her theory and practical music exams, it's advice that has obviously paid off for the talented singer.

So what next for the young singer with the big voice?

"I've been given a gift in my life, and I intend to use it to the best of my ability- touching the lives of those I have met, and those I am soon to meet as part of my life journey," she said.

"Each day brings something new, and when my day comes of fulfilling my dream, I will share my gift with the world."







## Are you depressed... and don't know what to do?

By: Jessica Jenkins

I read somewhere that scientists in the UK have somehow calculated that the gloomiest day of the year actually falls in the third week of January.

This is the time when the holiday thrill has just vanished just as those pesky Christmas debts are expected to get paid, and funny enough, those New Year resolutions which took you weeks to think of – have all been broken in just a few weeks!

We miss the warmth and happiness of our family gatherings, the opening of the gifts, the laughter of our friends and relatives ... The things that once left us in high spirits are now instead leaving us depressed and hopeless.

Now these findings make sense right?

So in light of what I just said, let me ask you this question: Are you currently in a situation where it seems that the only direction you're heading is downhill?

Are you sad and depressed about something you never attained or achieved?

Do you feel like you're all alone in this cruel world and no one can ever understand you?

Don't forget that there's always GOD.

He hears and listens, he's just waiting for you to open up and unburden yourself on him.

Sometimes, things just don't turn out the way you want them to. Sometimes you don't get the job you've been praying for, or you don't get the girl or you get sick just before the big game ...

What you have to remember is "Everything's in HIS TIME not OURS."

He knows what's best for you. Even though you feel that what you were praying for is exactly what you need and what's best for you, well I've got news for you – it's NOT.

Let's get a reality check here for a second - Are you really going to argue with an omnipotent being who has created the heavens and Earth and who has created you from scratch??

Trust me; he knows what you're going through.

He knows you more than anyone else in the world, more than you even know yourself! And he will give you what's best for you when the time is right – you just need to have FAITH.

## 10 Vital Wardrobe Pieces for winter

By: Hollie Azzopardi

Watching E News the other day, I noticed a segment on ten vital wardrobe items for this coming season. So, thanks to help from Channel E, listed below are their tips for a perfect winter wardrobe!

Find the perfect black blazer for your body shape. One cinched in at the waist is flattering to all body types. Wear your blazer to work with a pencil skirt or pants, or use it as a night jacket with a mini dress and ankle boots.

Every girl needs a striped shirt in her wardrobe. One with neutral tones like blacks whites and greys can be easily dressed up, or find a more colourful one for day-to-day wear. Team your striped shirt with jeans for a casual day look or with your blazer for a night out!

Denim jeans are an obvious choice- the trick is to find the ones that suit your body shape, and can be adapted into the looks of your wardrobe. Flared jeans are great for girls with shorter legs, as they add length, while skinny and straight leg pieces flatter a slimmer, longer leg.

The perfect winter shoe this season, other than the boot, is tipped to be the red ballet flat. Red is the perfect colour, it is season less and adds a splash of colour to any outfit. Ballet flats are great paired with a cute winter dress and leggings, or a pair of jeans.

A bold statement necklace livens up even the most boring outfits. Invest in a bib-necklace, with embellishment in lace, beading and fabric. Alternatively, layer lots of long necklaces for a more boho style.

An oversized watch is another trend to look out for. Not only is it great for its functionality, but a good one can double as a chunky bracelet!

My favourite trend of the moment, a leopard scarf, is definitely one to copy. Teamed with a plain tee, jeans and flats, the scarf adds character to an otherwise simple outfit.

Especially now the weather is getting colder, a classic trench coat is worth investing in. This piece is one to spend more money on- consider it an investment. You'll wear this to death during the colder months, and if you choose wisely (think black, beige or a bold colour like yellow or red), you'll get years worth of wear out of it. An A-line cut is the most flattering.

Arguably the most important wardrobe item is the LBD. The key is to find one that has something unique about it, without it being just a plain black dress. Think an interesting sleeve, panel cut-outs or an embellished belt.

Last, but certainly not least, black tights are definitely a wardrobe must-have. Wear them day or night, teamed with almost anything. The best thing about them? They are totally slimming.

My advice if you don't have one of the items above? It's time to go shopping! You can thank me later.



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# Top 10 reasons to fall in love with Edward Cullen

By: Ausseela

As I am writing this article, there's a full moon shrouding the night sky outside my bedroom window, which perfectly sets the scene for this article..

Twilight, the first novel as part of the Twilight series by Stephenie Meyer is excruciatingly addictive as it is ubiquitous – there's always someone buried head deep into a Twilight book either on the train, bus, beach or at the park.

A lot of the craze however comes from the novel's hero Edward Cullen who is aptly described by the narrator and main character Bella Swan – Edward's love interest.

Whilst the latest of the series is now heading for our cinemas, lets go back to the first of the series Twilight to see where all the madness began. Sorry to all the Jacob Black fans out there!

## 10 IDEALS

Edward Cullen is an idealistic guy. Although he comes from a line of savage, blood sucking creatures he and the Cullens make a conscious effort and choice to live a savage – freelifestyle as vegetarian vampires. That means only hunting animals, kind of like having poultry or seafood instead of beef. It's no wonder James the tracker vampire just couldn't understand. Who knew vampires could have ethics?

## 9 SUPERNATURAL POWERS

At one point in the novel Bella does some research on vampires and finds that they possess some special powers. Its not just Edward's charms but also his super powers that attracts us...oh and Bella of course. Whilst he doesn't sleep which edges on the verge of creepy, we Edward fans see it as romantic as he watches Bella while she sleeps. He also carries strong physical powers that are a part of his hunting prowess. He can also read people's minds which proves to be quite handy when a dangerous vampire coven is hunting Bella.

## 8 THE BODY GUARD

There's the stereotype that girls dream of being saved by a white knight in shining armour. Or in Bella's case, a dark brooding vampire. Aside from the fact that Edward is immortal, he is the kind of guy who will stick by you till the end. Awww.

## 7 SIMPLY IRRESISTIBLE

According to old folklore, vampires prey on victims who are allured by their truly irresistible looks. Bella describes Edward as impossibly beautiful just like his brothers and sisters – from his pale porcelain skin and perfect angular features. His aesthetic features make Bella melt.

## 6. MR DARCY DOUBLE

What a lot of girls see in Edward's character is aloofness. Just like Jane Austen's hero in *Pride and Prejudice*, Mr Darcy, Edward is at first rude, obnoxious and arrogant until his true character unravels and we find that he cares deeply about Bella.



## 5 BAD BOY

Edward has a streak of badness in him but we know he is good at the core. It takes a lot of guts for a vampire not to pursue those in his sights.

## 4 SELF-CONTROL

Even though Edward finds Bella's "smell" so unique and appealing he vows not to harm her anyway. He is willing to care for Bella and make her happy no matter how stubborn she is or difficult the circumstances are. When Bella visits the town and is threatened by a gang Edward controls his violent urges and instead ends up having dinner with Bella at an Italian restaurant

## 3 ANGEL IN DISGUISE

Luck isn't always on Bella's side but at least Edward is. Every time Bella comes into harms way Edward is there like a best friend and lover should be. Thanks to his supernatural powers, he's saved her from a car crash, gang and from a tracker vampire.

## 2 AMAZING EYES

Bella likens Edward to the mythical Greek god Adonis. His skin is "like marble"—very pale, ice cold, and sparkles in the sunlight. His eyes, once green, are now described as topaz. His appearance changes if he goes long without feeding: his eyes darken, becoming almost black. His eyes are so dreamy!

## 1. SELF-LESS

Aside from his good looks and charms a lot of readers join camp Edward because he is a self less guy. Because he loves Bella he puts her thoughts and needs first and constantly battles his family, others, Bella and even himself. He's a hero who matures and develops his feelings learning to love and at the same time control his desires for Bella. Whilst this trait may be seen as an Achilles heel, this is where the whole saga begins...



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## Event Review: Soul Good by: Hallie Azzopardi



Macquarie Hotel in Liverpool was packed on Friday, May 28th- and for good reason! Some of the best unsigned talent took to the stage to perform for an audience of over one hundred people, for Soul Good- The Encore Edition.

Back by popular demand, Soul Good aims to provide a platform for emerging young singing talent to showcase their abilities to a live audience. Their performances did not disappoint.

The first Soul Good performance night was focused entirely on RnB music- and due to the success of that performance, the Encore Edition came to be.

Talent ranged from singers as young as 15- boys and girls, all with a unique vocal range and ability. The up close and personal setting made for an intimate affair- laid back, and very relaxed. Audience members could grab a bite to eat, and a

cocktail or two, sit back and really enjoy what the night had to offer.

Songs by artists BoyzIIMen, John Legend, Alicia Keys, Jennifer Hudson, The Pussycat Dolls, Chris Brown and Al Green were all showcased with personal flair by the performers- some of which were contestants in this year's Star Quest 2010!

The night can only be described as a night of soulful, easy listening and acoustic tunes- perfect to sit back and relax after a hard week at work.

So, to truly understand what you missed out on last time, be sure to catch next month's Soul Good at the Macquarie Hotel in Liverpool.

Best of all? It's free!



## Movie Review: Iron Man 2 by: Brandon



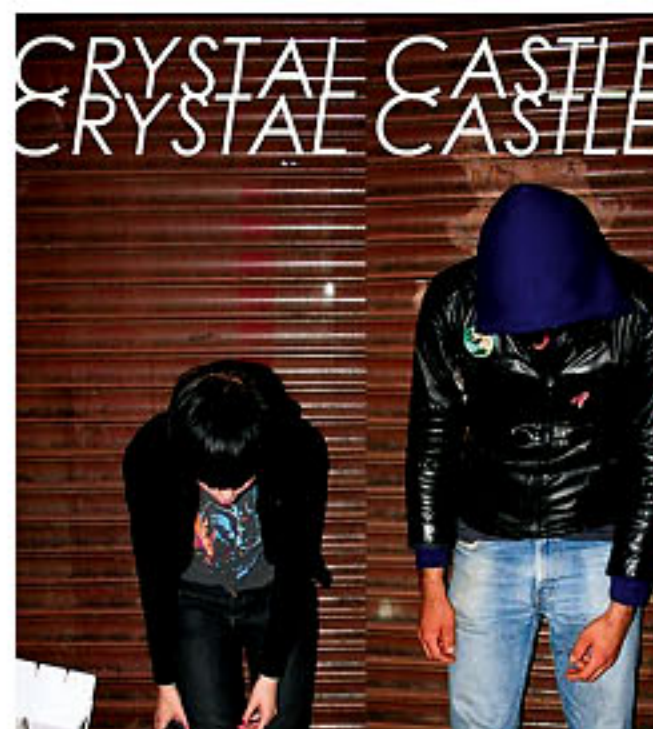
Iron Man 2 was an action packed film that built upon the magic of the original to create something new. Robert Downey Jr. did a most excellent job as a Tony Stark who is two threads away from losing his mind completely. While the movie was filled with satisfying action scenes, the real heart and soul of the plot was Tony Stark's steady descent into madness. Some of the things he

ended up doing throughout the film were shocking... Not to mention scary... Yet everything somehow fit perfectly into Stark's character.

The film itself takes place about 6 months after the original. Stark, ever the attention whore, wastes no time capitalizing on his new-found status as superhero. In doing so, he provokes the US government into taking action by attempting to acquire and re-create Stark's Iron Man design while a Russian Scientist tries his best to humiliate and discredit Stark. Meanwhile, the very thing that Tony designed to keep him alive in the first movie is slowly killing him.

The only minor blemish on the face of this fantastic film was the exclusion of Terrence Howard for the role of Colonel Rhodes, though Don Cheadle filled the role magnificently. With that in mind, this movie is a must see for anyone who likes story driven action films.

## Album Review: Crystal Castle



The first thing that has to be said about this album is that it bears a strong resemblance to mashed up 8-bit video game noises from the old Nintendo Entertainment System. Old school gamers will no doubt be taken back to the glory days of mashing buttons and cursing every time they lost a life. While all the songs are quite original, they have a definite

'retro' feel in their presentation. This sometimes causes a problem in the way the sounds mesh, for certain 'degraded' effects conflict with the newer age techno styles employed. Despite this relatively minor drawback, the overall album is actually quite good.

It takes you on a journey from one 'World' to the next, as each song presents a new way to witness this (sometimes) hi-tech digital world of our ears. The songs can get to be quite repetitive from beginning to end, but this is probably to the artists' advantage. It effectively captures the redundancy of life in the digital age. It's always one thing after another, and the occasional clash of vibration even further illustrates the frustration many people feel on a daily basis. Whether or not the artists intended it, Crystal Castle depicts the entire world as a colossal machine that can and will ultimately break down.

This album is definitely not for people who dislike techno music, new age music, repetitive music, or music that relies on heavy effects. For people who care enough to appreciate the blending of something old with something new, however, this album may in fact be a blessing in disguise despite almost agonizingly steep peaks in the pitch. Overall, everyone should listen to music like this at least once in their life. It could open their minds to musical sensations they never imagined. It may not rock, but it vibrates beautifully. Sometimes.

## Movie Review: Prince of Persia by: Brandon



The Prince of Persia was a wonderfully fantastic mind-trip that will carry you away to a distant realm of magic and fantasy adventure. Anyone familiar with the video game franchise will no doubt be surprised by the direction this adventure took. It was a thrill ride through action scene after action scene...and though it got pretty confusing at times, it allows the viewer to find something new every time they watch it.

The main story follows the story of Prince Dastan, who begins the story as a street urchin who captures the attention of the Persian King. After conquering a new territory at the behest of his brothers, he is thrust into a time-turning adventure filled with witty remarks and an abundance of action. The conclusion was quite original and may have even left room for a sequel.

Overall, the film packed a lot of surprises. Some of the action scenes seemed to be a bit redundant, and coupled with the relatively slow paced storyline makes for a long watch. This is probably not a good movie for someone simply looking to pass the time, for the puzzle that is this film is intellectually stimulating and incredibly in depth. Fans of the video game franchise will likely find this film a very appealing real-life render of the game.



# The Golden Rules of Dating in the 21st Century



By: Chris Fox

"I'm confused. If I'm really as intelligent, as attractive, as charming and as successful as people say I am, why the heck am I still single? Why can't I find someone??"

Be honest now, how many times have you cried yourself to sleep asking this very question?

You read this article with skepticism, yet at the back of your mind; you are secretly hoping that it contains some sort of magical solution or a proven set of simple guidelines that can finally help you net that elusive "right one." You quickly glance back at the title of this article again and the words "Golden Rules of Dating" unwittingly catches your eye this time.

"Golden Rules of dating? There's just too many of them around now," you grumble. Very true indeed. And you'll also notice that most of them actually hold the promise of bringing you one step closer towards capturing the heart of that "special" someone you've been eyeing on.

To be honest, I didn't even know that there were actually dating rules to be adhered to until I turned twenty one and have had quite a fair bit of flings and relationships already. Before this, I had always stuck on to the 21st century way of doing things – that is, go to a pub, make eye contact with a girl you think is really hot, proceed to making out and if you get lucky - much more.

Sounds quite simple and effortless huh?

Well this spontaneous approach to dating has actually led me into several random hook-ups with a variety of women from the petite model who had this creepy lazy eye and sinister-looking crooked smile, to the cute waitress who looked absolutely gorgeous in the dark but then looked totally different out in the light, to the hot and sexy podium dancer who had this

uncanny ability to neigh and roar like a noble steed, she also had this bizarre foot fetish as well which I don't even want to GET INTO. Bottom-line? It's been a roller coaster ride that's for sure.

When I finally hit twenty one, that's when I discovered there were actually various rules which I never even knew existed. I only found out about them after reading several books and browsing through various websites.

And you know what else I discovered? I discovered that it's actually a JUNGLE out there. A jungle that consists of men who speak in plain black and white language, and women that are programmed to decode every little aspect of the male behaviour.

I revisited the movie "He's just not that into you" the other day actually, and as embarrassing as this may sound, I think I have a movie-crush (aww shucks!). The movie was realistic, the script was spot on, the characters were smart and witty and most importantly the movie tackled a topic close to our hearts – dating in the 21st century.

"People just don't meet organically any more. If I want to make myself more attractive to the opposite sex, I don't go get a new haircut - I update my profile," Drew Barrymore miserably rants in the movie out of sheer frustration.

Now, doesn't those words just hit home?

Here's something interesting I've noticed in the last five years: I've noticed that a great deal of dating gurus, date doctors, pick-up artists and self-help authors have emerged out of the blue in big numbers armed with their very own unique set of dating rules. Each one of them is also claiming that their own distinctive set of rules is the ultimate magical formula that will enable you to be successful in the dating game.

Verry interesting indeed.

The funny thing is, many people just decided to blindly follow these rules without really looking into it and delving into details.

The result?

In the end, most people just ended up mystified, bewildered, perplexed and \*gasp\* dare I say it? Still ALONE.

You know why?

Because most of these dating rules were just too puzzling and too downright absurd. In the end, it ultimately drove hundreds of single people out there to pull their hairs out one by one in frustration and give up on the whole dating scene altogether. Most of them have now just chosen to just stay home and watch reruns of Sex and City all the while shaking their heads at the show and repeatedly saying to themselves "Carrie Bradshaw is soo right. . . so, so right" over and over again.

Well, that actually applies more towards the single women out there, most single men out there on the other hand are probably just surfing the net for some porn.

Am I right, or am I right?

There are now literally hundreds of dating rules out there, it's just crazy. If you surf the net or go to your nearest bookstore, I bet you that you'll be bombarded with hundreds of dating rules from rules in seduction to rules in love to rules in online dating and so on and so forth.

Since when did the dating scene become so damn complicated?? Whatever happened to the old saying that "if it's meant to be, it's meant to be?"

Oops . . . I think I just unleashed my inner little girl there for a second. Sorry, my bad.

Wading through all the rules and exception to the rules that we are bombarded with on a constant basis, I've come to a conclusion that there is one outstanding truth out of all this – it is that the dating scene is not what it used to be. Never in my wildest dreams could I have possibly foreseen that 21st century dating will be an era of online chatting, textmessaging, emailing, facebooking, myspacing and googling.

Welcome to the digital era my friend.

The sad thing is, the digital era seems to have erased any thoughts of spontaneously finding the "right" one.

To be honest, I'm still a hopeless romantic at heart. You can call me mushy, you can call me a romantic fool or you can even call me a little girl waiting for his big fat crush to finally arrive – Awww . . .

Bottom-line? I don't think I'm alone either. I think most of us still have this secret hope of finding the "right one" – even though no one would admit it outright.

Ironically, although I do know that dating rules play an important role in the dating jungle, well at least initially, I

believe that at some stage, they are actually meant to be broken. Here's the trouble with most of the dating rules around: They rely way too much on the ancient philosophies of femininity and masculinity. They also hold back the most important ingredient to falling in love - our GUT FEELING. Instead of something that should be enjoyable and liberating between two people, these rules actually make the whole dating experience such a difficult task to comprehend.

If there's anything I learned from all my experiences, it's that sometimes you just have to break the rules if you want to achieve happiness. Because the fact is, even if you follow the rules religiously, there are still no guarantees that you'll live happily ever after anyway. Let's face it, in the dating field, situations arise and vary all the time therefore there could be no one "perfect" formula or set of rules because the only thing that's really constant is CHANGE.

Sometimes, it's not even about following or breaking the rules though. Sometimes it's just plain luck or maybe even divine intervention to help you snag the man or woman of your dreams. Whether you like it or not, in the end it all boils down to one solid fact:

If you want to WIN the dating game, you have to PLAY the game.

If you don't like the game then you're more than welcome to sit on the bench since there are plenty of other players aching for some court time. It might take months or maybe even years to find the elusive "right one," you might not even find him or her at the end. But then at the very least, your odds go up when you submit an application form.





# Who are the One & Only Dj's?

By Jenny Aluning

It all started off quite humbly. Four friends, sharing a talent for djing and a passion for music, decided to pool their skills and resources, launching "The One and Only DJ's" – a DJ crew that first began in Macquarie Hotel in Liverpool in the Southwest suburbs of Sydney, now has spun alongside Australia's finest DJ's such as DJ Moto, DJ Eko and MC Klasik 1.

Renowned individually for their djing styles, DJ D-Kutz, DJ R\*One, DJ Day Day and DJ XCentrix remain loyal to the place that gave them their start, establishing a regular and popular gig there – Saturdaze @ Macquarie Hotel which have had the before mentioned DJ greats as special guests. The crew also play at Sydney hotspots such as Chocolate City/Candy Paint @ Havana, Static @ Pump-house, Flow Fridays @ WSP to name only a few. "We love giving the crowd what they want to hear, feeding off the crowd and reading them to see what they like just helps us build the hype up all night having them on their feet from start to finish."

Already the crew can count on the support of some of Australia's best DJ's. They also look up to "those cut masters such as the X-ecutioners." Feeding off each other's skills, the group utilizes current advancements in DJ technology "to stay ahead of the game" and create "something new and innovative to what the usual crowd clubs are used to hearing." It's definitely a work ethic that's paid off with the crew going on tour in Melbourne last year. They were flown in to play at Groove @ Kbar and Soul Clap @ Element Lounge with the "infamous" DJ Peril and DJ Weapon X who are not only amazing DJ's but are also ARIA award-winning producers. "Meeting such artists and having the opportunity to spin alongside such talent was surely an honour to have."

The future is wide open for The One and Only DJ's with the crew currently in talks with event promoters and sponsors. Their goal is to give the urban scene "the recognition it deserves." "We are also supportive of all the local and upcoming talent coming out...We do have plans, but we're sure you'll hear more of us in the months and years to come!"



# People & Faces

Get to know **who's who** in the social scene Down Under

1. StarQuest finalist Tim: "I thought that if I just closed my eyes and focused, I will float like that Matrix dude ..."
2. StarQuest winners Junior, Clark and Rochelle: "Yeah that's right, we're hot and talented - Love us!"
3. StarQuest 2nd runner up Susan Jon Rose: "So who's ready for a bedtime story?"
4. StarQuest finalist Louise: "Are you talking to me? ME?"
5. Cavan T Band: "Who's your daddyyy ..."
6. StarQuest host Naomee: "So wants to get spanked by this paper?"
7. StarQuest 2010 finalist John: "Hey fellas and honeys - whaddup yol"



Junior, Rochelle and Clark



Tim



Susan Jon Rose



Naomee



Louise



John D



Cavan T Band

Check out some photos from Star-Quest 2010!

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