

The Student Interview

Therése Neaime From The Musicians Institute

Born in Sweden to parents of Swedish and Lebanese descent, Therése has toured the world as a background singer and dancer. At the moment, she can be found dancing the night away at Soul Train. When she's not dancing, she likes to spend her time in the recording studio laying down some tracks for the internationally acclaimed recording artist, Meja.

In 1999, Therése decided to go to California and study at The Musicians Institute to help develop her skills as a singer and performer.

What made you choose the Musicians Institute?

California and the Musicians Institute was an easy choice for me, I always wanted to live in America and as a singer I was determined to get the language and the pronunciation right. I wanted

to be able to concentrate on music 100% and met people from all around the world with the same interest. When students leave their home country to study in another country they are able to communicate well with new people because you have to, so it's easier to met new friends. It also helped that LA is the entertainment metro pole.

Tell me more about your classes?

I would say that MI is like my home now. It's a great environment. All the tools are there if you know how to use them, but you have to work for it like every where else. MI has a lot of great teachers with a lot of experience in different genres. There are opportunities to perform every day if you want to. You can also sit in on a lot of classes even if you haven't signed up for that particular one. I have experienced that even if I'm there 24/7, I still don't have time to do everything I want to do. Once or twice a week you have an opportunity to perform at

the big concert room for other students and people from outside. Your performance is filmed on video and you have the chance to check it out in the library after your performance. You can also book rehearsal rooms for your band every week.

What are your hope and dreams for the future?

My goal for the future is to be able to work in the music industry full time. My main goal would be to get a record deal but I'm also a songwriter and to write for other artists would also be great way to make a living. My plan right now is to record a demo of all my original songs and play at the clubs in LA as much as I can with my band. We are an eight-piece band: drums,

bass, guitar, keys, percussion, two background singers and me on lead vocals. Our music is a sultry blend of R&B and POP with an international flavour.

I believe that everything in life is possible if you really believe in it and work hard. You will only regret things you didn't do, never the things you did!!!

Go for your dream, you have nothing to loose. I don't think that a dream never



UK split in student numbers

People under 21 in Scotland and Northern Ireland are more likely to go to university or college than under 21s in the United Kingdom.

RELEASE



completely goes away until you have tried it and if you try it at least you know!!!!!!

Even if I miss my family and friends in Sweden, have less money and a much smaller apartment, I must say that I have never been happier than now, because I'm living my dream.

I used to tell my self: - I'm going to be happy when I have this or that but when I came here I realized that life is about being happy everyday!! Small things like putting your self out there everyday. In challenging yourself you overcome your

fear. That makes you grow as a person. It's also a growth to start all over without anything in another country. To prove to you self that you can do it!!!

So, tell me, what's so great about living in California?

If I would say anything about California it would be that I love the sun, life is so much easier when the sun shines. I wouldn't say that it's beautiful but there are so many things to do here. You can go down to Venice beach and roller blade, bicycle, walk or just watch

people. You can hike in the mountains and even if LA is a big city you still find some beautiful spots such as the ocean. LA is also an entertainment metro pole and there's a lot of clubs and theatres everywhere, there is always some premier going on.

Of course it helps if you have a car, LA is a town with a lot of distance, but cars are relatively cheap here and easy to find. The only negative with that would be the high insurance fees.

I also think that people are pretty open-minded here and

it's easy to get to know a lot of new people and make new connections.

I know that even if it's been tough sometimes, I will never regret my adventure and experience here in California. I have meet a lot of new friends, developed my craft and grown as a person, what more could you expect!!



UUK stands firm on flexibility on declaration

Universities UK will today press for any reforms on the Bologna Declaration, on the comparability of European Qualifications to be flexible. It wants any European qualifications framework to recognise that, in the United Kingdom, masters degrees are postgraduate courses that are separate from under-graduate programmes.

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