

INTERVIEW

THERESE NEAIMÉ

Lebanese Born Goes International!

Sweden-based international pop star Therése Neaimé is an artist with her own Independent label, Future records. Her debut album "LIVIN" has already spawned a total four-hit-singles in Sweden and two in Lebanon, Dubai and Jordan. During the fall of 06, Therése's latest singles "The Future" also climbed to an incredible # 13 on the AC TOP 40 Chart in the U.S! Teen World takes a seat with Therése to get up-close and personal.

Tell us a little about yourself

I'm just someone who really believes that everything is possible in life if you just believe in yourself; I'm someone who went for my dream! I want to be an inspiration for others, I want to be able to look back and say "It was all possible!"

How did you get started?

I always liked to be on stage, I started out as a dancer at an early age, but my singing didn't start until I was around 16 years old, joining a Gospel Choir. The big leap came in 1999 when I moved to Hollywood/Los Angeles. This is where I started to write my own songs and play live with my eight piece band, Neaimé.

How supportive were your parents when you took up dancing at the early age of 6?

My parents were always very supportive and positive to most things that I wanted to try. I was very active and a very curious child who wanted to try everything.

How did it feel to take singing lessons with the famous Susanna Hultén?

It was an honor to work with Susanna and also very encouraging to have someone with her experience believing in you.

Can you tell us how you came to be the ambassador for "The foundation for children with Cancer"?

When my mother, who I loved more than anything died in cancer a couple of years ago, I just felt that I wanted to do something important for the children with the same disease and also help to spread the awareness across the world. I'm extremely proud to be the ambassador for this organization.

What was your major in school?

I graduated and took a major as a hair dresser. But soon I discovered that that wasn't the right profession for me.

What do you do in your spare time?

I love to spend my spare time together with my friends and family. I also love to hike in the mountains, play with my two Chihuahuas and rollerblade at Venice Beach.

How does it feel to be half Lebanese and half Swedish, and where do you find yourself in between?

I'm so proud to be half Lebanese and half Swedish. I think it's a great mix of two of the best worlds. I seldom find myself feeling between since I really feel that Sweden and Lebanon is equally my home.

Who is your favorite Lebanese International star?

Haifa Wehbe

TIME

We heard you performed at Club Crystal, how was that for you?

It was a wonderful feeling and a very welcoming opportunity to perform in front of the Lebanese people. I felt embraced and it was also a very special evening since at least 20 of my close family members, including my father were there. They were all dancing, singing along with me. An unforgettable evening!

Are you single?

No

What is your motto in life?

Don't put any limits to what you can achieve and you will be as successful as you want!

What is your inspiration or muse?

Life itself is my inspiration. Each one of my songs tells a special story from my journey through life.

What type of music do you listen to (other than yours, of course)?

I listen to all sorts of music. There're so many talented artists out there. But I prefer artists who have a desire to tell a story with their own lyrics and songs.

If you could describe your self in three words, what would they be?

Loving, positive and determined

Do you see yourself as an inspiration to others?

Yes I do believe that I am an inspiration to others simply because I'm showing them that it's possible to live your dream. When I started my career, I, for sure, wasn't the most talented singer, but I was surely one of the most driven. I think that I've proven that you can achieve anything if you just set your mind to it and are willing to work hard for it.

Have you ever lived in Lebanon or are you planning on doing so?

No I haven't lived in Lebanon for more than one month in a row so far. But since Lebanon is an absolutely beautiful country, and since I also have big parts of my family and my second home there, I would love to come and spend more time there in the future.

Any messages for our readers?

Start to believe that you can actually make a difference and don't let anyone put you down.