

Otsuka Ai

AI am BEST

Avex Trax

AVCD-23271/B (CD+DVD)

DURATION: 1:05:57

RELEASE DATE: March 28, 2007

1. Momo no Hanabira
 2. Sakuranbo
 3. Amaenbo
 4. Happy Days
 5. Kingyo Hanabi
 6. Daisuki da yo.
 7. Kuroge Wagyu Joshio Tan Yaki 680 Yen
 8. Cherish
 9. SMILY
 10. Biidama
 11. Neko ni Fuusen
 12. Planetarium
 13. LOVE MUSIC
- + Hidden track ("BABASHI" - Track 99)

DVD:

Duration: 66 minutes, 4:3, Region 2

Music videos for all thirteen songs + unlisted music video and a hidden easter egg music video for "BABASHI"

Otsuka Ai's first best album has been released and features her first CD single "Momo no Hanabira" (AVCD-30525, rel. Sept. 10, 2003) all the way up to her 10th CD single "Planetarium" (AVCD-30768, rel. Sept. 21, 2005) plus her songs "Cherish" from the "Love for Nana ~Only 1 Tribute" (TOCT-25771, Rel. March 16, 2005) compilation album and a new song titled "LOVE MUSIC".

Also included as a secret track is a song titled "BABASHI" which features Otsuka Ai and band repeating the word over and over to breakbeat music.

It's one thing to get her previous CD singles on one album but it's even nice to get them all collected on one DVD.

All tracks on the CD have music videos featured including "Cherish" and "LOVE MUSIC".

At the end of "LOVE MUSIC" is a short behind-the-scenes, off shot video of Otsuka Ai in the making of those videos.

And to add even more fun for the DVD is the inclusion of an Easter Egg (hidden chapter access by pushing buttons on your DVD remote) which you can access the music video for "BABASHI" (to access, when you see the guy jump off the airplane, press up 9x, right 9x, down 9x and left 9x and enter).

So, the music featured on this best album covers Otsuka's music from 2003-2005 and one 2007 song.

You get a good blend of Otsuka's happy, fast happy songs such as "Sakuranbo", "Happy Days" and "SMILY" to her beautiful hit ballads such as "Kingyo Hanabi", "Daisuki da yo." and "Planetarium".

You really can't go wrong with this album if you are an Otsuka Ai fan. If you haven't owned any of her previous CD singles, buy this album! It's a great starting point and you won't be disappointed.

— DENNIS A. AMITH



[Otsuka Ai on iTunes - Click here](#)

< BABASHI...

Otsuka Ai's first best album is released with several hidden features.

A MAKIHARA NORIYUKI ALBUM WITH NO MAKIHARA AT VOCALS

Various Artists

NORIYUKI MAKIHARA

-Songs from L.A.-

avex rush

AVCF-26085/B | Dur: 58:36

RELEASE DATE: February 21, 2007

Makihara Noriyuki, the popular singer/songwriter who has had a large number of hits from the 1990's has released two albums. "Songs from L.A." in February and "Songs from N.Y." in March.

I was highly anticipating this album because I was anticipating either a live album or if he was singing in English (which he has done before) but to my surprise, the album is various artists from the 80's such as Kim Carnes, TOTO's Bobby Kimball, Chicago's Bill Champlin and Jason Scheff, WHITE SNAKE's Timothy Drury, Airplay/Boston's Tommy Funderburk and many others singing Makihara's songs (in English).

The 59 minute DVD features the songs



on the album and video footage of Los Angeles.

From Hollywood, the beach, city skyline and breathtaking visuals of Los Angeles.

Definitely a DVD for those who are missing Los Angeles and Avex does a good job capturing the City of Angels.

So, although Makihara Noriyuki is not the primary vocalist, he did write the music and the lyrics for all songs on this album.

I was really hoping for a new Makihara album with him singing the vocals. Maybe next time.