

Musician drawn to ancient locations

By Jae-Ha Kim
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Musician Jasmin Stone describes her latest album, "Broken Moon," as being warmer, softer and having a more comforting touch than her previous work.

But she said that "on the other hand, the music videos bring out a sense of surrealism and sometimes even a touch of madness or alienation. These vibes are less noticeable in the songs themselves, so the videos complete them. I truly hope to touch listeners and viewers in a completely new way this time."

Based out of Israel, Stone is an avid traveler who enjoys exploring the world.

This interview with Stone has been edited for clarity and length.

Q: What are some bucket-list travel destinations?

A: I haven't made it to India, Egypt or South America yet. These places completely fascinate me with their statues, mystical temples and enchanting ancient cultures. On the flip side, I am dying to visit Tokyo. To me it represents the ultimate future, a city that is light years ahead of the world, even in its cultural concepts. It is like a digital New York for advanced souls. It brings together so many things I adore, like the Shibuya J-pop scene I am totally addicted to, the worlds of manga and anime, the video games I grew up playing and exquisite Japanese gourmet food. And the ancient history of Japan fascinates me just as much. A lot of people have actually told me that I have a bit



Jasmin Stone has her sights set on visiting Tokyo, saying it represents "the ultimate future." **JASMIN STONE**

of a Japanese personality.

Q: What are some of your favorite cities?

A: London, Milan, Venice, the Transylvania region in Romania, Jerusalem, and the list goes on!

Q: What kind of destinations pull you in?

A: It is so hard for me to pick just one favorite place in the world because every single spot has its own beauty and charm. Generally speaking, I am most drawn to the ancient, the antique, the exotic and the mysterious — grand palaces, ancient castles, hidden caves and lost civilizations.

Q: Where have your tours taken you?

A: I have traveled to perform in incredibly fascinating ancient cities like Nazareth and Acre (in Israel). In Nazareth, the festival organizers put together a trip for us to the Church of the Annunciation. It was absolutely breathtaking with its huge, colorful stained-glass windows and Gregorian chanting. I have also performed quite a bit at the Metula Poetry Festival. Metula is such a magical, rustic little town with charming houses and crisp, clean air, so between shows, I just loved pampering myself with that cozy

vibe. Even when traveling for the premieres of films I scored, I always made sure to combine work with exploring the area. Take Jerusalem, for example. Every single time you visit, you discover a hidden gem you never knew existed. It holds an almost incomprehensible, powerful energy.

Q: Do you enjoy taking cruises?

A: I am absolutely in love with cruises! There is something so special about the combined experience of an endless ocean and a floating city where you get to be a guest. It is a unique experience in its own right. On the ship I have sailed with more than once, they serve the most exquisite, lavish feasts three times a day. You honestly need an iron will to resist tasting every single delicacy the chef whips up.

Q: Are there certain items you take with you when you go away?

A: I always pack a small prayer book with me just to keep the good vibes going and make sure everything turns out well. And a little throat lozenge to prevent hoarseness, just to be safe! Sometimes I also throw in earplugs to ensure a perfect night's sleep.

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