

Section: X Japan 0

Context: *Art of Life* was released on August 25, 1993, by Atlantic Records, and consists solely of the 29-minute, heavily orchestrated title track. It debuted at number one, however the band only performed two concerts that year, as each member began solo careers. Aptly titled *X Japan Returns*, the concerts were held at the Tokyo Dome on December 30 and 31, marking the beginning of a New Year's Eve tradition that would last until the group's disbandment. The solo careers continued into the following year, with X Japan only performing four shows. The first two were the last two days of *The Great Music Experience*, and the others were December 30-31 at the Tokyo Dome, titled *Aoi Yoru* (Qing iYe , Blue Night) and *Shiroi Yoru* (Bai iYe , White Night) respectively. 1995 was also quiet, until November 19 when the band began the tour for their next album, *Dahlia Tour 1995-1996*. Around this time, the group dropped most of its original visual kei aesthetics in favor of a more casual look. While it wasn't released until November 4, 1996, singles from the album had been released as early as a few months after *Art of Life*. Though this caused *Dahlia* to contain relatively little new material, the album reached number one on the charts. The tour was originally scheduled to end on March 31, 1996, however, it was cut short when Yoshiki herniated cervical vertebrae after the March 13 show. They did however perform their tradition of two Tokyo Dome concerts on December 30-31, titled *Resurrection Night* (Fu Huo noYe , Fukkatsu no yoru) and *Reckless Night* (Wu Mou naYe , Mubona yoru). On September 22, 1997, at 1 pm, Yoshiki, hide, Pata and Heath held a press conference where they announced that X Japan would disband. Vocalist Toshi decided to leave the band as the glamorous, success-oriented life of a rock star failed to satisfy him emotionally, as opposed to a simpler life and career. He stated that he had made the decision back in April 1996, though it was not publicly disclosed. However, around twelve years later he confirmed what was long-reported in the media; that he was "brainwashed" via violence and abuse and conned out of money, leading to bankruptcy. X Japan performed their farewell show, titled *The Last Live Last Night*, at the Tokyo Dome on December 31, 1997, making it the last of five consecutive New Year's Eves the group performed at the stadium. Although later that same day they played "Forever Love" at that year's Kohaku Uta Gassen, marking their true last performance.

CANNOTANSWER

STUDENT: **What happened in 1993?**

TEACHER: ⇔ Art of Life was released on August 25, 1993,

TEACHERX: ⇔ Art of Life was released on August 25, 1993,

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STUDENT: **How did the album sound?**

TEACHER: ⇔ consists solely of the 29-minute, heavily orchestrated title track.

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STUDENT: **Was the album successful?**

TEACHER: ⇔ Yes, It debuted at number one, however the band only performed two concerts that year,

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STUDENT: **Why did they only perform 2 concerts?**

TEACHER: ↗ each member began solo careers.

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STUDENT: **What happened with the solo careers?**

TEACHER: ↗ On September 22, 1997, at 1 pm, Yoshiki, hide, Pata and Heath held a press conference where they announced that X Japan would disband.

TEACHERX: ↗ The solo careers continued into the following year, with X Japan only performing four shows.

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STUDENT: **What happened after the announcement?**

TEACHER: ↗ Vocalist Toshi decided to leave the band as the glamorous, success-oriented life of a rock star failed to satisfy him emotionally,

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STUDENT: **What did he say about his decision?**

TEACHER: ⇨ He stated that he had made the decision back in April 1996, though it was not publicly disclosed.

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STUDENT: **Did he say anything else about being in the group?**

TEACHER: ⇨ Yes, he confirmed what was long-reported in the media; that he was "brainwashed" via violence and abuse and conned out of money,

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STUDENT: **Did they have other performances?**

TEACHER: ⇨ Although later that same day they played "Forever Love" at that year's Kohaku Uta Gassen, marking their true last performance.

TEACHERX: ⇨ X Japan performed their farewell show, titled The Last Live Last Night , at the Tokyo Dome on December 31, 1997,

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