

= Vogue (Ayumi Hamasaki song) =

" Vogue " (uncapitalized as " vogue ") is a song recorded by Japanese recording artist Ayumi Hamasaki for her third studio album , Duty (2000) . It was written by Hamasaki , while production was handled by Max Matsuura . It premiered on April 26 , 2000 as the lead single from the album . Her third consecutive lead single to be produced by Matsuura , the song is part of a trilogy from Duty ; the other two singles being " Far Away " and " Seasons " .

Musically , " Vogue " was described as a Japanese pop song with musical elements of Latin pop . The lyrics discusses her presence in the music industry . Upon its release , the track garnered positive reviews from music critics , who praised the composition and Hamasaki 's song writing . It also achieved success in Japan , peaking at number three on the Oricon Singles Chart and four on the TBS Count Down TV chart . " Vogue " has sold over 767 @ , @ 000 units in Japan .

The accompanying music video for " Vogue " was directed by Wataru Takeishi ; it features two children in a post @ - @ apocalyptic city , reading a book that contains video imagery of Hamasaki in a cherry blossom field . Both the music video and the song has appeared on several compilations by Hamasaki , including A Best (2001) and A Complete : All Singles (2008) . For additional promotion , the song was featured on several concert tours by Hamasaki including her 2000 self @ - @ titled and the Power of Music tour .

= = Background and release = =

" Vogue " was written by Hamasaki , while production was handled by Japanese musician Max Matsuura . The song was composed and arranged by long @ - @ term collaborator Kazuhito Kikuchi , whilst Japanese musician Naoto Suzuki co @ - @ arranged it . This was Kikuchi 's final collaboration with Hamasaki , until he returned as the main composer for her sixth studio album , My Story (2004) . For the track 's instrumentation , Suzuki played the keyboards , Naoki Hayashibe played the guitar , and Takahiro Iida mixed the final composition . It was selected as the lead single from Duty , and was released on April 26 , 2000 by Avex Trax .

The maxi CD of the single contains the original composition and its instrumental version , plus seven remixes and the b @ - @ side " Ever Free " . " Vogue " is her first single to include an unreleased non @ - @ album b @ - @ side since her 1999 single " Depend on You " , and remains her final to do so . As a single from the Duty trilogy , which included Hamasaki 's singles " Far Away " and " Seasons " , the singles were released as a DVD single and VHS . It included the three mini @ - @ music videos , alongside the making of the videos and a TV commercial . The CD and digital cover sleeve has a close @ - @ up of Ayumi Hamasaki 's face , edited with digital effects . The song 's title , " Vogue " , is present on cover . According to Matt Wilce from Metropolis magazine , the song 's title was influenced by the same titular song by American recording artist Madonna . The standalone CD cover was used as the digital EP cover for the iTunes Store and Amazon.com.

= = Composition = =

" Vogue " was recorded in 2000 at Avex Studios and Prime Sound Studios in Tokyo , Japan . The song was described as a Japanese pop song with musical elements of Latin pop . As part of the trilogy set with " Far Away " and " Seasons " , " Vogue " highlights the theme of the present . With this , " Far Away " details the past and " Seasons " discusses Hamasaki 's future . The trilogy set also focuses on hopelessness , a reflection of Hamasaki 's disappointment that she had not expressed herself thoroughly in any of her previous songs . Based on her song writing , she described her feelings after the writing all the tracks from Duty as " unnatural " and was constantly " nervous " for the final result . A staff reviewer from Amazon Japan noticed the trilogy set had a " healing effect " that was absent on Hamasaki 's two previous studio albums .

= = Critical response = =

" Vogue " received highly favourable reviews from music critics . Alexey Eremenko , who had written her extended biography at AllMusic , highlighted the song as an album and career stand out track . A staff reviewer from Yahoo ! GeoCities reviewed Hamasaki 's greatest hits album A Best , and singled out the song as one of her best tracks . They commented that " Vogue " was the best examples of " classic J @-@ pop music . " Morimosa from Nifty.com complimented Hamasaki 's song writing ; he compared the song writing to the rest of the songs from Duty , and commended how she inducted a " pessimistic " nature rather than " anxiety " or " aggression " . Hamasaki hosted an online voting poll for fans to choose their favourite tracks to be featured on her Ayumi Hamasaki 15th Anniversary Tour . As a result , " Vogue " was included on the list . The song was remixed as an orchestral song for her remix album ayu @-@ mi @-@ x III Acoustic Orchestra Version (2003) , and was commended alongside other tracks for its " rich melody " .

= = Commercial performance = =

In Japan , " Vogue " debuted at number three on the Oricon Singles Chart . It lasted for seventeen weeks on the chart , selling 767 @,@ 660 units by the end of 2000 . This became Hamasaki 's third highest selling single at the time . Currently , the song is Hamasaki 's eighth best selling single , according to Oricon Style . The DVD single , released under the title of Vogue / Far Away / Seasons reached at number one on the Oricon DVD Chart , spending seventeen weeks in the top fifty . It is Hamasaki 's second best selling DVD single , and her eighth best seller overall . " Vogue " was certified double platinum by the Recording Industry Association of Japan (RIAJ) for shipments of 800 @,@ 000 units . The single entered at number four on Japan 's TBS Count Down TV Chart ; it stayed there for two consecutive weeks , and lasted seventeen weeks in the chart . " Vogue " was placed at number twenty @-@ five on their Annual Count Down TV chart in 2000 .

= = Music video = =

The accompanying music video was directed by Wataru Takeishi . Because the music video was part of the trilogy set with " Far Away " and " Seasons " , only a portion of the song was shot for the video . As a result , the video for " Vogue " lasts for two minutes and fifty @-@ one seconds . The artwork for the single was a screen shoot from the music video . Two out take shots from the video were then used for the artworks for " Far Away " and " Seasons " . The music video was included on the DVD and VHS formats of the three singles . The music video also appeared on Hamasaki 's DVD compilation box sets : A Clips Vol.2 (2002) , Complete Clip Box (2004) , A Clip Box 1998 ? 2011 (2011) , and the bonus DVD version with A Complete : All Singles .

= = = Synopsis = = =

The video opens with two children walking through an post @-@ apocalyptic world , with industrial cites in the background . The two children are barred in with barded wire fences . Hamasaki then appears inside a photo album , singing the song in front of cherry blossom trees . Hamasaki 's scenes are inter cuts that are featured throughout the entire video . The two children escape by crawling under the fence , but are being watched by camera surveillance .

They are free and start to run around a hilly surface , only to see more industrial cites blowing out fumes in the distance . The two children find an unusual object buried in the sands surface and dig it up . They find an electronic @-@ powered crate , open it , and find a blank photo album . The photo album starts to show the cherry trees from where Hamasaki is singing from , and finally watch Hamasaki singing . The last chorus features Hamasaki singing , fully colored , with the children flipping each page to observe the flowers where Hamasaki is singing from . The final scene features a destructed Empire State Building in the distance , with Hamasaki in the middle of the land by herself ; this scene then leds onto the music video for " Far Away " .

= = Live performances and other appearances = =

Hamasaki has performed " Vogue " on several concert tours and New Years countdown shows throughout Asia . It has been included in all of Hamasaki 's New Years countdown concerts up until the Ayumi Hamasaki Countdown Live 2006 ? 2007 A. The song made its debut tour performance on Hamasaki 's 2000 Japan Concert Tour . It appeared on her 2002 Stadium Tour and The Power of Music Tour . The song 's last live performance was her 2014 Ayumi Hamasaki Premium Showcase : Feel the love , in which was supported by her 2014 studio album Colours . The song has been included on two of her greatest hits compilations , which are A Best (2002) , and A Complete : All Singles (2008) ,

" Vogue " was remixed by several professional disc jockeys and producers , and has appeared on several remix albums by Hamasaki . The remixes include the Computerhell and Junkie XL remix on ayu @-@ mi @-@ x III Non @-@ Stop Mega Mix Version (2001) and Ayu @-@ mi @-@ x 4 + Selection Non @-@ Stop Mega Mix Version (2002) , the Dave Rodgers remix on Super Eurobeat Presents Ayu @-@ ro Mix 2 (2001) , the Traditional remix on Rmx Works from Super Eurobeat Presents Ayu @-@ ro Mix 3 (2003) , and the Groove Coverage remix on Ayu @-@ mi @-@ x 7 Presents Ayu Trance 4 (2011) . The orchestral acoustic remix , and its instrumental version , was included on her third orchestral remix album , ayu @-@ mi @-@ x III Acoustic Orchestra Version (2001) . It was used as the theme song for Japanese cosmetics brand Kose Visée , and the b @-@ side track " Ever Free " was used as the theme song for the 2000 Japanese TV series Tenki Yohou no Koibito .

= = Track listings = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits adapted from the singles liner notes :

= = Charts and certifications = =

= = Release history = =