

= Supercell ( band ) =

Supercell ( stylized as supercell ) is a Japanese 11 member J-pop music group led by songwriter Ryo , which formed in 2007 as a djin music group . The other 10 members are artists and designers who provide illustrations in album booklets and music videos . Supercell started out by making use of the Hatsune Miku Vocaloid singing synthesizer to produce vocals for songs submitted to the Nico Nico Douga video sharing website . The popularity of the songs led the group to release their independent self-titled album Supercell ( 2008 ) . Supercell later signed to Sony Music Entertainment Japan and had a professional release of their Supercell album in March 2009 , which was updated with more songs .

Supercell made a transition to vocalist Nagi Yanagi with their debut single " Kimi no Shiranai Monogatari " ( 2009 ) . Two more singles featuring Yanagi were released in 2010 , followed by Supercell 's second album Today Is A Beautiful Day ( 2011 ) , which was Yanagi 's last contribution with Supercell . Following Yanagi 's departure , Supercell held auditions for vocalists , and 15-year-old female singer Koeda was chosen out of about 2,000 candidates . Koeda 's first single with Supercell is " My Dearest " ( 2011 ) , and four more singles featuring Koeda were released between 2012 and 2013 , followed by Supercell 's third album Zigaexperientia ( 2013 ) .

Supercell and Today Is A Beautiful Day were awarded a Gold Disc by the Recording Industry Association of Japan for having exceeded 100,000 copies shipped in a single year , and Supercell was chosen as one of the best five new Japanese artists of 2009 during the 2010 Japan Gold Disc Award competition .

= = History = =

= = = 2007 ? 2008 : Formation and indie releases = = =

On December 7 , 2007 , Ryo submitted the song " Melt " ( ??? , Meruto ) to the Nico Nico Douga video sharing website , and since then the video has been viewed over 5 million times . For the song 's vocals , Ryo used the Vocaloid singing synthesizer software Hatsune Miku , and he used an illustration of Miku by an artist named 119 ( pronounced Hikeshi ) on the video without his permission . After Ryo contacted 119 with an apology , 119 responded with great interest in " Melt " and began to work together with Ryo , thus forming Supercell . More members joined Supercell since its formation , which led to 11 members by the time the group made its major debut . In an article in The Japan Times , Ryo admitted that he did not have any " big intentions " in uploading " Melt " to Nico Nico Douga and was not someone who " set out to find success " as he put it .

Ryo chose to distribute his music on Nico Nico Douga because he liked the website along with its response system , which enables user 's comments to appear overlaid on the video screen . Ryo did not originally intend to use Hatsune Miku as the vocalist for his songs , and most members of Supercell did not even know of Miku until after " Melt " gained popularity . Since Ryo did not know any singers , he was recommended by his friends to use Miku , which he thought was a good idea since videos using Miku were already widely being distributed on Nico Nico Douga at the time .

In 2008 , Supercell continued to release songs on Nico Nico Douga which quickly became popular . Supercell 's releases of " Koi wa Sens? " ( ??? ) on February 22 , " World is Mine " ( ????????? , W?rudo izu Main ) on May 31 , and " Black Rock Shooter " ( ??? ? ????????? , Burakku Rokku Sh?t? ) on June 13 all received over 1 million views . Ryo composed the song " Kib? no Neiro " ( ????? ) , released as a limited edition image song CD with the fifth volume of Sh? Shirase 's light novel series Oto x Maho on July 15 , 2008 . The song was released in two versions : one sung by Hatsune Miku sold at Animate and one sung by the human singer Sari sold at Comic Toranoana . At Comiket 74 in August 2008 , Supercell released the independent self-titled album Supercell containing their most popular songs in addition to several previously unreleased tracks . On December 12 , 2008 , Supercell released " Hajimete no Koi ga Owaru Toki " ( ????????? ) on Nico Nico Douga , which has since received over 1 million views ; this was the last song Supercell posted

to the website .

== 2009 ? 2011 : Major debut and vocalist Nagi Yanagi ==

Supercell made their major debut with Sony Music Entertainment Japan with the professional release of their Supercell album on March 4 , 2009 . The updated release included the art book originally bundled with the indie version , contained more songs than the original , and included a DVD with music videos for four songs . The album obtained a No. 4 ranking on Oricon 's weekly albums chart , and in June 2009 was awarded the Gold Disc by the Recording Industry Association of Japan for having exceeded 100 @, @ 000 copies shipped in a single year . Ryo approached singer Nagi Yanagi to be the vocalist for Supercell 's debut single " Kimi no Shiranai Monogatari " ( ????????? ) , who was known for her uploads to Nico Nico Douga under the name Gazelle . The single was released on August 12 , 2009 and ranked No. 5 on Oricon 's weekly singles chart . The song " Kimi no Shiranai Monogatari " was used as the ending theme song for the 2009 Bakemonogatari anime series , and the single also included two tracks featured in the 2009 animated film Cencoroll . Supercell was chosen as one of the best five new Japanese artists of 2009 during the 2010 Japan Gold Disc Award competition .

A second single , " Sayonara Memories " ( ????????? ) , was released on February 10 , 2010 . Supercell 's third single , " Utakata Hanabi / Hoshi ga Matataku Konna Yoru ni " ( ?????? / ????????? ) , is a double A @-@ side and was released on August 25 , 2010 . " Utakata Hanabi " was used as the 14th ending theme for the Naruto : Shippuden anime series and " Hoshi ga Matataku Konna Yoru ni " was used as the ending theme for Type @-@ Moon 's visual novel Mah?tsukai no Yoru . Supercell released a split single in collaboration with Kz of Livetune called " Kotchi Muite Baby / Yellow " ( ?????? Baby / Yellow ) on July 14 , 2010 by Sony Music Direct , which is the theme song of Hatsune Miku : Project DIVA 2nd . Ryo composed " Kotchi Muite Baby " and Livetune composed " Yellow " ; both songs are sung by Hatsune Miku . Supercell produced the song " Hero " ( ???? ) as a theme song to Shueisha 's manga magazine Aoharu , a special edition version of Young Jump , which had its first issue on November 30 , 2010 .

A 50 @-@ minute original video animation project titled Black Rock Shooter was released on July 24 , 2010 based on the song " Black Rock Shooter " and its original music video featuring illustrations by Huke . A " Pilot Edition " of the anime was released on DVD and Blu @-@ ray Disc on September 30 , 2009 . Ryo and Huke collaborated on the project with supervisor Yutaka Yamamoto and his animation studio Ordet ; Shinobu Yoshioka directed the project . Black Rock Shooter is Ordet 's first solo production as the main animation studio . Some footage of the anime was shown at Anime Expo on July 4 , 2010 .

In late 2010 , Shibuya , Tokyo @-@ based company INCS toenter established the major record label TamStar Records for musicians and artists who originally made their debut as d?jin music artists online . Supercell joined the label as one of the inaugural members , including others such as Livetune , Gom , Rapbit , and Nagi Yanagi . Supercell collaborated on a compilation album titled TamStar Records Collection Vol . 0 released as a limited edition at Comiket 79 in December 2010 ; on the album is Ryo 's " Kib? no Neiro " sung by Hatsune Miku and " Ashita e " ( ???? ) sung by Rapbit and Clear . TamStar Records released a remix album of Supercell 's debut album Supercell as a tribute to the band titled Stowaways on January 17 , 2011 . Supercell released their second studio album Today Is A Beautiful Day on March 16 , 2011 , which was Yanagi 's last contribution with Supercell .

== 2011 ? present : Vocalist Koeda ==

Supercell held auditions from May 25 to June 19 , 2011 for a guest vocalist on the band 's third album . The main criteria for the vocalist was his or her voice , as Supercell was not concerned with the singer 's gender or age . Out of about 2 @, @ 000 candidates , then 15 @-@ year @-@ old female singer Koeda was chosen . Also , then 17 @-@ year @-@ old female singer Chelly was selected to be the vocalist for Ryo 's separate music act Egoist . Supercell collaborated with the

d?jin musician Dixie Flatline to produce the split single " Sekiranun Graffiti ( ????????? ) / Fallin ' Fallin ' " released on August 31 , 2011 by Sony Music Direct . Ryo composed " Sekiranun Graffiti " and Dixie Flatline composed " Fallin ' Fallin ' Fallin ' " ; both songs are sung by Hatsune Miku . " Sekiranun Graffiti " is used as the opening theme to Hatsune Miku : Project DIVA Extend . The theme songs for the 2011 anime series Guilty Crown were produced by Ryo . The band 's fourth single " My Dearest " and was released on November 23 , 2011 ; the song was used as the anime 's first opening theme .

Supercell 's fifth single , also released on March 7 , 2012 , is the double A @-@ side " Kokuhaku / Bokura no Ashiato " ( ?? / ??????? ) . " Kokuhaku " was used as Guilty Crown 's second ending theme , and " Bokura no Ashiato " was used as the ending theme to the 2012 anime series Black Rock Shooter . Ryo wrote the song " Light My Fire " sung by Kotoko , which was used as the first opening theme to the 2011 anime series Shakugan no Shana Final . Ryo also wrote the song " Naisho no Hanashi " sung by ClariS , which was used as the ending theme to the 2012 anime series Nisemonogatari . Ryo collaborated with the d?jin musician Jin to produce the split single " Odds & Ends / Sky of Beginning " released on August 29 , 2012 by Sony Music Direct . Ryo composed " Odds & Ends " and Jin composed " Sky of Beginning " ; both songs are sung by Hatsune Miku . " Odds & Ends " is the opening theme song to Hatsune Miku : Project DIVA F.

In 2012 , designer Yoshika Usa collaborated with illustrator Tomoko Fujinoko to create the manga Wooser 's Hand @-@ to @-@ Mouth Life , which was adapted into a CG anime series by Sanzigen in 2012 . The anime 's ending theme song " Love Me Gimme " ( ??????? , Rabu M? Gim? ) by Tia is written by Ryo , who has continued to produce music for the singer . Supercell 's sixth single " Gin 'iro Hik?sen " ( ????? ) was released on December 19 , 2012 ; the song is used as the opening theme to the 2012 anime film Nerawareta Gakuen . Supercell 's seventh single " The Bravery " was released on March 13 , 2013 ; the song is used as the second ending theme to the 2012 anime series Magi : The Labyrinth of Magic . Supercell 's eighth single " Hakushukassai Utaawase " ( ????? ) was released on June 12 , 2013 ; the song is used as the opening theme for the 2013 rebroadcast of the 2010 anime series Katanagatari . Supercell released their third studio album Zigaexperientia on November 27 , 2013 . Ryo composed the music for the 2015 video game Bravely Second : End Layer . Ryo produced the single " Great Distance " featuring Chelly released on May 20 , 2015 ; this song is used as the opening theme song to Bravely Second . Also included on the single is " Last Song " , which is used as the ending theme to Bravely Second .

= = Musical style and influences = =

Daniel Robson of The Japan Times described Supercell 's music as " sentimental J @-@ pop ... [ that ] also explores the genre 's jazzier , spunkier and dancier elements . " Their sound has been compared to pop singers Aiko and Yui , and Ryo has stated himself that he likes expressing human emotions in his music . When creating a song , Ryo has often hummed a tune into a digital recorder , or starts by playing the piano . While it depends on the song , Ryo has stated he generally " play [ s ] the piano and take [ s ] notes of the chord progression " and then writes the lyrics . Ryo has cited " artists that blend rock and hip @-@ hop styles with today 's latest technology " as influencing his music , including : Massive Attack , Boom Boom Satellites , Portishead , Tricky , and Unkle .

Ryo found it difficult at first to write " tenderhearted " lyrics for songs meant to be sung by young women . When describing the lyrics for his songs using Hatsune Miku as the vocalist , Ryo felt that writing without hesitation based on his initial ideas with minimal editing was best , because the singer , as a computer program , would not feel embarrassed about singing the lyrics . He admitted that his friends would laugh when he played the songs , but he thought that " if a 16 @-@ year @-@ old girl is supposed to be singing ... it is best if she sings about romance . " When writing lyrics for human singers , Ryo takes more care in writing lyrics that singers would not be embarrassed to sing . When Ryo receives an offer to compose theme music , he writes lyrics that tie in with the theme and mood of the given work , such as the ending themes " Kimi no Shiranai Monogatari " for the anime Bakemonogatari , and " Hoshi ga Matataku Konna Yoru ni " for the visual novel Mah?tsukai no Yoru .

## == Members ==

Supercell is made up of 11 members led by Ryo , who produces the music and writes the lyrics . The other 10 members provide illustrations , animation , design , and photography in album booklets , cases and music videos .

Ryo ( music , lyrics )

Shirow Miwa ( illustration )

Huke ( illustration )

Redjuice ( illustration )

Suga ( illustration )

Maque ( illustration and animation )

Yoshiki Usa at Wooserdesign ( design )

Hei8ro ( Heihachiro ) ( support in illustration and photography )

Guitar ( support in illustration )

Crow ( support )

Golv ( support )

Former members

119 ( Hikeshi ) ( illustration )

## == Discography ==

### === Studio albums ===

### === Singles ===

### === Other singles ===

### === Other charted songs ===

### === Music videos ===

### === Other album appearances ===

### === Other video album appearances ===