

= Mami Kawada =

Mami Kawada ( 川田 マミ , Kawada Mami , born February 13 ) is a Japanese pop singer who is signed to NBCUniversal Entertainment Japan and is a member of I've Sound , a musical group which produces soundtracks for eroge ( erotic games ) and anime . Born and raised in Sapporo , Japan , Kawada made her musical debut in 2001 after being discovered by her music teacher Eiko Shimamiya with the release of the song " Kaze to Kimi o Daite " . She released her first single , a split @-@ single with musician Kotoko , in 2002 , and her first solo single was released in 2005 . Her first album , Seed , was released in 2006 . She first performed overseas in Taiwan in 2007 and later appeared at the Bangkok Comic Con in Thailand in 2014 .

Kawada 's songs have been featured as theme music for various anime shows such as the Shakugan no Shana and A Certain Magical Index series . She has performed theme songs for various eroge such as Love , Election and Chocolate and Aokana : Four Rhythm Across the Blue . She has also written songs for other musicians . During the LisAni 2016 event , Kawada announced her retirement from the music industry following a final concert in May 2016 .

= = Biography = =

= = = Debut = = =

Kawada 's vocal talents were first discovered by Eiko Shimamiya , who was her teacher at the Mitsuno Music School in Sapporo , Hokkaido . She was introduced to I've Sound , a music production group which featured Shimamiya as a member . Kawada joined I've Sound in 2001 , and in that year released her debut song titled " Kaze to Kimi o Daite " ( ??????? , " Embrace You and the Wind " ) , which was used as the opening theme to the eroge Miss You . The song was later compiled on I've Sound 's fifth compilation album Out Flow ( 2003 ) .

In 2002 , she released her first song associated with an anime , " Sora no Mori de " ( ????? , " In the Forest of Sky " ) , the ending theme to the anime Please Teacher ! . The song was released in a split single with singer Kotoko , who performed the series ' opening theme " Shooting Star " . That same year , Kawada and Shimamiya performed a number of theme songs for visual novels as the unit Healing Leaf , although only one of those songs , " Ame ni Utau Ballad " ( ??????? , " A Ballad Sung in the Rain " ) , was featured in an I've Sound Compilation . In mid @-@ 2003 , she performed the ending theme to the anime Please Twins ! , " Asu e no Namida " ( ????? , " Tears for Tomorrow " ) , which was also released in a split single with Kotoko .

= = = 2005 ? 06 : Seed = = =

In 2005 , Kawada signed a contract with Geneon Entertainment ( now NBCUniversal Entertainment Japan ) and released her first major single " Radiance " , which was used as the opening theme to the anime Starship Operators . Later that year , she released her second single " Hishoku no Sora " , which was used as the opening theme to the anime series Shakugan no Shana . It became her best @-@ selling single and sold approximately 37 @,@ 000 copies , peaking at number 11 at the Oricon weekly charts .

In March 2006 , Kawada and Kotoko released a split single for the OVA adaptation of the game Baldr Force , with Kawada performing the ending theme " Undelete " and Kotoko performing the opening theme " Face of Fact ( Resolution ver . ) " . Four weeks later , Kawada released her debut album Seed . The album reached number 12 in the Oricon weekly charts and charted for five weeks , selling more than 25 @,@ 000 copies . Later that year , Kawada held her first live tour , where she distributed a pamphlet CD containing the first instance of a song that she both performed and composed by herself , " Carpe Diem " .

= = = 2007 : Savia = = =

After her success with " Hishoku no Sora " , Kawada released " Akai Namida " , an insert song for the Shakugan no Shana movie in May 2007 . She also sang " Tenjō o Kakeru Monotachi " ( ??????? , " Those Who Scale Heaven and Earth " ) , the movie 's ending theme , together with Kotoko , Shimamiya , Mell and Kaori Utatsuki under the name Love Planet Five . Three months later , she performed the second ending theme to the series Hayate the Combat Butler , " Get My Way ! " . Kawada 's next single , " Joint " , was released on October 31 , 2007 . The titular song was used as the opening theme to the series Shakugan no Shana Second . The single marked her first top 10 single entry as it reached number 9 in its first week on the Oricon weekly charts , eventually selling 37 @, @ 000 copies and charting for 19 weeks . After Kawada 's success with her fifth single , she performed at her first live concert outside Japan on January 19 , 2008 , at the KHS Hall in Taiwan . In late March 2008 , Kawada released her second album Savia . The album included " Sense " , used as the ending theme of episode 24 of Shakugan no Shana Second , as well as " Akai Namida " and " Get My Way ! " . The album also includes the song " Hisui " ( ?? -HISUI- ) , which was used as the ending theme to the 2008 Japanese theatrical film OneeChan Bara . It peaked at number 15 on the weekly charts and charted for five weeks .

== 2008 ? 10 : Linkage ==

In 2008 , Kawada released " PSI @-@ Missing " and " Masterpiece " , which were used as opening theme songs to the anime series A Certain Magical Index . The singles ' B @-@ sides , " Ame " ( ? , " Rain " ) and " Jellyfish " respectively , were also used as insert songs in the series . In late 2008 , Kawada opened her official website together with her official fan club M.A.L.L. , an acronym that stands for " Mami Artist Lasting Live " .

In June 2009 , Kawada released a single " L 'Oiseau bleu " , which was originally included in the I 've Sound 10th Anniversary ? Departed to the future ? Special CD BOX released on March 25 , 2009 . Kawada also performed the opening and ending themes to the original video animation series Shakugan no Shana S. The opening theme " Prophecy " was released on November 18 , 2009 .

On March 24 , 2010 , Kawada released her third album Linkage. containing the singles " PSI @-@ Missing " , " Masterpiece " and " Prophecy " , as well as the ending theme to Shakugan no Shana S , " All in Good Time " , and a cover of the song " Dreams " , originally performed by the Irish rock band The Cranberries . In the same year , she started writing lyrics for other I 've singers , beginning with " Piece of My Heart " , an insert song used in the eroge Love , Election and Chocolate , sung by Nami Maisaki ; Kawada also performed the game 's opening theme " Initiative " .

== 2010 ? 12 : Square the Circle ==

In autumn 2010 , Kawada performed the opening theme to the second season of A Certain Magical Index , " No Buts ! " , which eventually became her highest charting single to date , reaching number 6 in its first week in the Oricon weekly charts .

On February 16 , 2011 , she released her 10th single " See Visions " , the second opening theme to the second season of Index . Four months later , she wrote the lyrics for the song " Lead to the Smile " , the solo debut of I 've singer Rin Asami , who started her career that year . In 2012 , she released several songs for the third Shana series Shakugan no Shana Final : " Serment " was the second opening theme song ; " U / N " was used as the ending theme of episode 15 ; and " K?b? " ( ?? , " Beam of Light " ) was used as an ending theme . Later , she released the single " Borderland " , which served as the opening theme to the anime TV series Jormungand , on May 29 , 2012 . She released a new album titled Square the Circle on August 8 , 2012 .

== 2013 ? 2016 : Parablepsia ==

Kawada wrote the song " Recall " , which was used as the ending theme to the 2013 anime

television series Amnesia ; the song was performed by Ray . She released a greatest hits album titled Mami Kawada Best : Birth on her birthday , February 13 , 2013 , which includes all of her singles except for " Prophecy " . It also includes " Fixed Star " , the ending theme to the movie Toaru Majutsu no Index : Endymion no Kiseki . The album peaked at number 4 on the Oricon daily charts and at 15 on the Oricon weekly charts . " Fixed Star " was released as a single on February 20 , 2013 . She performed the song " Snap Out of It ! ! " together with Maon Kurosaki , which was included on the music collection Toaru Majutsu no TV Songs released on August 28 , 2013 . Kawada released the single " Break a Spell " , which serves as the second ending theme to the anime TV series Tokyo Ravens , on February 26 , 2014 . She wrote the songs " Lull ( Soshite Bokura wa ) " ( lull ? ????? ? , " Lull ( And We Are ) " ) and " Ebb and Flow " , which were used as ending themes to the 2013 anime television series Nagi @-@ Asu : A Lull in the Sea ; both songs were sung by Ray .

Kawada made an appearance at the Bangkok Comic Con in Bangkok , Thailand in July 2014 , and the Animao Anime Music Festival event in Shanghai , China in November 2014 . She performed the song " Wings of Courage ( Sora o Koete ) " ( Wings of Courage ? ????? ? , " Wings of Courage ( Beyond the Sky ) " ) , which is used as the opening theme to the 2014 visual novel Aokana : Four Rhythm Across the Blue , as well as the song " Belief " which is used in the 2014 video game Dengeki Bunko : Fighting Climax . She made an appearance at the Animax Carnival event in Kuala Lumpur , Malaysia in 2015 . Kawada released the single " Gardens " , used as the ending theme to the second season of the anime television series To Love @-@ Ru Darkness , on August 5 , 2015 . In August 2015 , her fanclub merged with I 've Sound 's fanclub I 'VEs to form a new fanclub called I 've Members .

Kawada released her fifth album Parablepsia on September 16 , 2015 , which includes her singles " Borderland " and " Break a spell " , as well as the songs " Howl " and " Here " , which were used in the pachinko game Black Lagoon 2 . She released the single " Contrail ( Kiseki ) " ( Contrail ? ? ? ) , which is used as the opening theme of the 2016 anime television series adaptation of Aokana : Four Rhythm Across the Blue , on January 27 , 2016

On January 24 , 2016 , during the anime concert LisAni , Kawada announced her retirement from the music industry after her final concert on May 21 , 2016 at the Tokyo Dome City Hall . Her song " Believe in the sky " , which will be used as the theme song of the 2016 smartphone game Ao no Kanata no Four Rhythm : Eternal Sky , was released in an AoKana vocal album on May 1 , 2016 . A final compilation album has been announced for release , while a video recording of her final concert will made available through streaming on D Anime Store .

= = Musical style and influences = =

Kawada 's musical style mainly fuses rock with trance . When Kawada debuted in 2001 , she originally felt that the music she earned in her career was pocket money . She also felt happy that she could be based in Sapporo where she could be close to her family and friends , as well as to I 've Sound whom she felt was like a second family to her . After Kotoko made her major debut in 2004 , I 've Sound management began discussing the possibility of Kawada making a major debut . At first , she was a bit hesitant because she felt that she would be thrust into the spotlight , but eventually she accepted the idea . For the first ten years of her career , she always felt that she was a beginner , but this began to change when younger singers made their debuts and began to treat her as an older sister .

In an interview with Famitsu , Kawada related her experience writing the lyrics for " Joint " . Kawada said that she was challenged in writing lyrics for the song , since her previous single " Get My Way " was different from her previous singles . Kawada would read the source material of every anime before writing lyrics for its theme songs . She named the song " Joint " because of Shana II 's theme of characters Shana and Y?ji Sakai fighting together . In response to comments that the expressions in her voice were very varied , Kawada stated that she simply sings with the music in the way that she most enjoys .

Kawada 's primary producer was I 've producer Tomoyuki Nakazawa , who produced " Radiance "

as well as her first three albums . Nakazawa also came up with each album 's concept and title . However , in 2010 , Kawada began to cooperate more with other producers . She also began working more in Tokyo . When producing Square the Circle , Nakazawa asked Kawada what sort of album and what sort of songs did she want . Kawada said that she wanted an album whose songs would be reminiscent of her visual image and stage persona , as opposed to her private self .

In making the album Parablepsia , Kawada describes the concept of the album as " E.M.R. " , which stands for " Electric . Mami Kawada . Rock " . She considers " Borderland " to be most representative of her style , so she wanted to make an album which included songs which sounded similar to it . Originally , she only wanted a single song to convey the theme of the album , but for Parablepsia , several songs do . This includes the title song " Parablepsia " , which she describes as a song about not losing yourself in a society which moves around in circles , " Fly Blind " , which is a song about not always allowing yourself to be influenced by society , " Eager Eyes " , which is the song in the album which has the closest style to " Borderland " , " It 's no big deal " , which takes inspiration from a phrase that her father used to say to her , and " Dendritic Quartz " , which is about flowers which constantly bloom and will never wither ; " Dendritic Quartz " takes inspiration from a pendant she owns which has a pattern of trees .

= = Discography = =

The discography of Japanese singer Mami Kawada consists of five studio albums , one compilation albums , two video albums and sixteen singles .

Studio albums

Seed ( 2006 )

Savia ( 2008 )

Linkage ( 2010 )

Square the Circle ( 2012 )

Parablepsia ( 2015 )