

= Take Back =

" Take Back " (stylized in Japan as TAKE BACK) is a song recorded by Japanese recording artist Kumi Koda for her debut studio album , Affection (2002) . It was written by Kumi herself , while production was handled by Max Matsuura . The track was released following Koda 's participation in an open audition where she placed second , whereby she signed to Matsuura 's label to release this song . " Take Back " premiered on December 6 , 2000 as her debut recording . Musically , the track has been described as a pop and R & B song .

Upon its release , " Take Back " garnered positive reviews from music critics and was praised for its composition and commercial appeal . It also achieved limited success in her native Japan , with it peaking at number 59 on the Japanese Oricon Singles Chart and number 63 on the TBS Count Down TV chart ; this marks her lowest entry to date and her only single to miss the top fifteen on that chart . Remixed by American producer and DJ Jonathan Peters for its North American release , " Take Back " reached number 18 on the US Hot Dance Club Songs chart , number 10 on the US Hot Dance Music / Maxi @-@ Singles Sales and number 20 on the US Hot Singles Sales chart , making her the first Japanese act to chart on any US Billboard chart since the 1980s .

An accompanying music video for " Take Back " was shot in both Tokyo and New York City by Toku ; it features Kumi singing while sitting on a white chair and her lying down nude clutching a microphone in her hand . For promotion , the song was included on the track list of several concert tours , including Best : First Things Live Tour , Black Cherry Tour and her 10th Anniversary Tour . " Take Back " has only appeared once on any of Kumi 's compilation albums , Best : First Things (2005) .

= = Background = =

In 2000 , Kumi auditioned for the Avex Trax open " Dream Audition " and came second out of a total of 120 @,@ 000 participants . Following this , Avex employed Japanese producer Max Matsuura , known for his collaborations with fellow female Japanese artists Ayumi Hamasaki and Namie Amuro , to start the Avex Trax @-@ sub label , Rhythm Zone , in 1999 and eventually signed her to the label later that year . Her label had hired composer and arranger Kazuhito Kikuchi to compose " Take Back " , but Avex instructed Kumi to take singing lessons every weekend in Tokyo before recording it . At that time , she stated that she didn 't feel " anxious " about the situation , having already spent 500 @,@ 000 yen (approximately \$ 4056 USD) she won from the open audition towards food .

In mid 2000 , Kumi was asked by Avex to make her promotional debut through a photo shoot with photographer Toku , which led to the shooting of the cover sleeve for " Take Back " . The artwork features her sporting a red and gold outfit , standing outside of a lit @-@ up tunnel . Particularly , Kumi said that " during the shooting of the cover for [her] single , ' Take Back ' , no one had told [her] what the shoot was for , so [she] just stood in front of the camera clueless " .

= = Composition = =

" Take Back " was written by Kumi and produced by Max Matsuura . It was released as Koda 's debut recording and the first single from her debut studio album , Affection (2002) , on 6 December 2000 . " Take Back " has been described as a soft pop and R & B song . During an interview , it was revealed that " Take Back " and her earlier works were strictly oriented to R & B music , as " Koda didn 't get into R & B until Avex signed her to its Rhythm Zone label [...] " . At the earlier stages of creating " Take Back " and Affection , she only listened to Japanese music and stated that " [she 's] the sort who likes reading the lyrics , and Western music is in English , which [she] wasn 't very good at . If [she] wouldn 't understand it , [she] couldn 't sing it , even at karaoke , so [she] didn 't listen to it much . " After discovering fellow label mate , m @-@ flo , Kumi was inspired by his R & B work and wanted to emulate his style into her work , whereby Rhythm Zone asked her to listen to Western music to widen her musical influences . For the North American release , American DJ and

producer Jonathan Peters remixed the single ; it was chosen by Rhythm Zone as the final remix for that country . According to Kumi , " [they] hadn 't really intended to release [the remix] , but remixes were all the rage then " . Particularly , Avex 's New York office confessed that they thought the remix would do well thought the club scene .

= = Critical reception = =

" Take Back " received favorable reviews from music critics . Krzysztof Figlerowicz from Jame World was positive towards the track in his review , labelling it as " a very pleasant soft pop and R & B song " . Furthermore , he noted that the composition was more suitable with the American audience than the Japanese scene hence the lack of success and " commercial appeal " in the latter region . A writer for CD Journal praised " Take Back " , commending its R & B composition as " impressive " and praised the songs longevity . A reviewer from Yahoo ! Music Japan overviewed Koda 's biography profile and commented that the mixture of R & B and pop music was a " perfect balance of contemporary charm and vocals " . Despite not commenting over the original or Jonathan Peter 's remix , Adam Greenberg from Allmusic reviewed the Sunset in Ibiza remix from her compilation album , Koda Kumi Driving Hit 's (2006) , and stated : " When the DJs complement her voice just right , Koda can sound like any number of other singers . [...] " Real Emotion " and " Take Back " come out as something very similar to Ayumi Hamasaki 's works , "

= = Commercial reception = =

Upon its release , Kumi felt that she " feared the success of the single in Japan " . She also stated that she " was insecure " of the singles ' first week and debut sales . " Take Back " debuted at number 62 on the Japanese Oricon Singles Chart with over 4 @, @ 000 units sold in its first week ; it later reached number 59 in its third week on the top 100 . It remains Koda 's lowest charting singles on the Oricon Singles Chart and her only single to miss the top fifty . The track opened the Japanese Count Down TV Chart at number 66 , with it reaching number 63 in its third week on that chart ; it spent six weeks in the top 100 until re @-@ entering for a final week at number 97 . In total , " Take Back " has sold over 22 @, @ 680 units in Japan . As of December 2015 , Oricon 's database has ranked " Take Back " as Kumi 's 51 best @-@ selling single overall .

In the United States , Koda Kumi debuted as " Koda " and the Jonathan Peter 's remix entered at number 33 on the US Dance Club Songs chart , making her the first Japanese act to chart on any US Billboard chart since the 1980s . The remix peaked at number 18 and was recognized by Billboard as the " greatest gainer " on the weekend issue of 5 May 2011 . It spent 13 weeks in the top fifty . " Take Back " reached number 10 on the US Hot Dance Music / Maxi @-@ Singles Sales chart , making her the first Japanese artist to achieve a top ten rank on that chart . " Take Back " spent a sole week at number 20 on the US Hot Singles Sales chart .

= = Music video = =

The accompanying music video for " Take Back " was directed by Toku . It took one day to shoot and two days to edit . According to Figlerowicz in his extended review of her DVD release , 7 Spirits , the video opens with a " young Koda Kumi that has long and black hair . She presents herself in this video in two different ways . In the first one , though wearing a leather dress , she looks natural , gentle and pretty . In the latter one , she is presented with disheveled hair and strange things plaited in it , but despite that , she still attracts the viewer 's attention with her enthusiasm flowing out from the screen . " In the video , Kumi is accompanied by her three fellow background dancers ; they 're dancing in a white photo shoot room , while she is sitting in a white chair . Figlerowicz stated that the dancers complimented the early 2000s music video era : " there are only three dancers near the singer , so it probably wouldn 't distinguish from other PVs of the same era . " Scenes interspersed through the main video show Koda lying nude on a crimson red Ferrari and clutching a microphone in her hand . Figlerowicz commented that the video , in conjunction with her other videos on 7 Spirits ,

" didn 't appeal to the Japanese audience 's tastes [...] . With some time , people 's opinions of them might change , but they are worth taking a look at .

= = Live performances and other appearances = =

" Take Back " has been included on numerous track lists of tours conducted by Koda Kumi . She included the single on her Secret First Class Limited Live tour , Koda Kumi Live Tour 2005 : First Things tour , Live Tour 2007 : Black Cherry , 10th Anniversary tour , her 2009 Taiwan concert tour , and the Premium Show : Love and Songs tour . The track was featured on Koda 's 2005 greatest hits album , Best : First Things . " Take Back " was featured in the televised advertisement for Kracie 's Hada @-@ bisei facials .

= = Track listing = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits adapted from the liner notes of Affection .

Kumi Koda ? vocals , background vocals , songwriting

Max Matsuura ? producer

Kazuhito Kikuchi ? producer , composer

H @-@ Wonder ? arranger , composer

Rhythm Zone ? management , label

Avex Trax ? parent label , management

= = Charts and sales = =

= = Alternate Versions = =

Outside of the original song and the remixes included on the singles , there are three renditions of Take Back on various singles and albums :

Take Back [Blackwatch Remix] : Found on single So Into You (2002)

Take Back [Sunset In Ibiza Remix] : Found on Koda Kumi Driving Hit 's (2008)

Take Back [E @-@ Man " 106 " Remix ? : Found on Koda Kumi Driving Hit 's 5 (2013)