

Sounds

# Sounds: Hiroshima adds some soul

Continued from 1B

feet to tapping from the first note and keeps a grip until the end.

But don't mistake these women for dance divas. They seem to specialize in tight three-part harmony. Several ballads stand out, especially the R. Kelly-sounding "Get It Together." "Finding My Way" covers much the same ground, but, again, it's the singing that makes the song.

**Hiroshima**  
Urban World Music  
Produced by Robin Miller, Dan Kuramoto, June Kuramoto, Monty Seward and

**Kimo Cornwell**  
Qwest/Warner Bros.

☆☆☆

Hiroshima's latest creation combines the exotic rhythms of world music with slow-cooking r&b with contemporary jazz underpinnings. The results are an appetizing stew that could satisfy a fan of any genre.

"Unspoken Love" will surely satisfy r&b fans. Kimaya Seward and the Average White Band's Hamish Stewart add soulful vocals to the dreamy music. The voices combine sweetly, drawing the nuances from the simply, but memo-

orable melody. Seward strikes out on her own with "Through My Eyes" and "Ripples In Our Waterfall," ballads that linger in the memory.

There are, of course, trademark Hiroshima sounds as well. "Heiwa (Peace)" is the silky, Asian-influenced sound that usually dominates a Hiroshima release.

Rating:

☆☆☆☆ Classic;  
☆☆☆☆ Excellent;  
☆☆ Good;  
☆☆ Fair;  
☆ Why;

No Stars Given -  
A Mess

## Ruffhouse executives look for alternatives to gangsta rappers

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Cross-cultural bands such as Cypress Hill and the Fugees are key in the post-gangsta-rap era, Nicolo said, a time when promoters are skittish about pushing rap concerts and, as always, radio stations stay away from obscenity-laden hip-hop.

So Ruffhouse is branching out. The studio has signed a reggae singer named Kulcha don, an alternative act named Ben Arnold and Trip 66, a local rock band that could be the studio's next big hit once the

members get out of their teens and record a few songs in a real studio instead of their basement.

But rap, they know, is still their franchise.

"That's where we made our money," Schwartz said.

## Movies

Continued from 1B

locations, \$4,034 average, \$9.07 million, one week.

4. "The Chamber," Universal, \$5.6 million, 2,026 locations, \$2,770 average, \$5.6 million, one week.

5. "That Thing You Do!," Fox, \$4.9 million, 1,887 locations, \$2,612 average, \$12.7 million, two weeks.

6. "D3: The Mighty Ducks," Disney, \$4.2 million, 2,058 locations, \$2,022 average, \$11.3 million, two weeks.

7. "The Glimmer Man," Warner Bros., \$4.1 million, 2,236 locations, \$1,831 average, \$14.2 million, two weeks.

8. "Extreme Measures," Columbia, \$1.64 million, 1,923 locations, \$854 average, \$15.7 million, three weeks.

9. "Fly Away Home," Columbia, \$1.6 million, 1,401 locations, \$1,144 average, \$17.9 million, five weeks.

10. "Independence Day," Fox, \$1.3 million, 1,525 locations, \$850 average, \$297.4 million, 15 weeks.

11. "2 Days in the Valley," MGM, \$1.2 million, 855 locations, \$1,431 average, \$9.1 million, three weeks.

12. "Big Night," Orion, \$1.1 million, 277 locations, \$3,938 average, \$4 million, four weeks.

13. "Bound," Gramercy, \$560,000, 262 locations, \$2,136 average, \$1.9 million, two weeks.

14. "The Nutty Professor," Universal, \$504,000, 504 locations, \$1,000 average, \$127 million, 16 weeks.

15. "The Hunchback of Notre Dame," Disney, \$503,000, 701 locations, \$717 average, \$97 million, 17 weeks.

16. "Last Man Standing," New Line, \$460,000, 1,094 locations, \$420 average, \$16.4 million, four weeks.

17. "Bulletproof," Universal, \$449,000, 641 locations, \$700 average, \$20.6 million, five weeks.

18. "Secrets and Lies," October, \$421,000, 57 locations, \$7,384 average, \$798,000, three weeks.

19. "First Kid," Buena Vista, \$390,000, 874 locations, \$446 average, \$24.2 million, seven weeks.

20. "Courage Under Fire," Fox, \$348,000, 910 locations, \$382 average, \$58.1 million, 14 weeks.

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