

MUSIC CONNECTION

IF THERE'S NO SANSAMP™ IT'S NOT A FLY RIG®
Check out all 5 in the Fly Rig Series



TECH 21
Analog Brilliance™
tech21nyc.com

Home > Reviews > Photo Blog Show Reviews > Demon Dayz Festival Recap



JOIN OUR NEWSLETTER

Signup today for free and be the first to get notified on new opportunities.

ENTER YOUR EMAIL

- Friday Freebie
- Weekly Opportunities
- New Issue
- Partner Offers

SUBSCRIBE

DEMON DAYZ FESTIVAL RECAP

PHOTO BLOG SHOW REVIEWS / OCTOBER 25, 2018 / BY MIGUEL COSTA

The Demon Dayz Festival transformed the Pico Rivera Sports Arena & Grounds into a post-apocalyptic oasis for thousands of enthusiastic Gorillaz fans. This festive environment was clearly influenced by fictional doomsday scenarios, Japanese animation, *Mad Max* movies and other outdoor events like *Halloween Horror Nights* and *Wasteland Weekend*. Through the midst of all of this beautiful chaos, I slithered in and out of the large sweaty crowds, while enduring death stares from angry parents and mean looking boyfriends (because apparently, I was blocking the view of their loved ones). But you know something...I would do it all over again. Why? Because in the words of a Gorillaz song called *Tomorrow Comes Today*: "The camera won't let me go, the verdict doesn't love our soul..." As a music journalist, let's just say that I took those lyrics to heart and did what I had to do in order to capture footage on my camera.



With cartoon images of his award-winning virtual band appearing on a huge jumbotron, Damon Albarn (co-founder of the Gorillaz) presented a grand spectacle of music to the sellout crowd in Los Angeles. And to the delight of this avid fan base, a vast majority of the Gorillaz three-hour set was dominated by hit songs from the band's top-selling albums: *Gorillaz* (released in 2001), *Demon Dayz* (released in 2005) and *Plastic Beach* (released in 2010). But nevertheless, this memorable concert took an unexpected turn from great to even greater once Gorillaz began to share the stage with an eclectic assortment of relatively unknown musical guests and collaborators. When Peven Everett joined Albarn on stage for a rendition of "Strobelite," I immediately started running around the designated press area, asking anyone with a camera if they knew who he was. He had a raspy gospel voice and a riveting stage presence that reminded me of a young Bobby Brown. I was definitely moved by this display of flashy entertainment. But his performance did not "take me to church," so to speak. Nope. That honor goes to a recording artist named DRAM. Because after I listened him sing "Andromeda" with the Gorillaz, I wanted to run around the outdoor venue screaming "Hallelujah" and "Amen" to anyone who would listen. But alas, I refrained from acting like a complete buffoon and I maintained my professionalism.

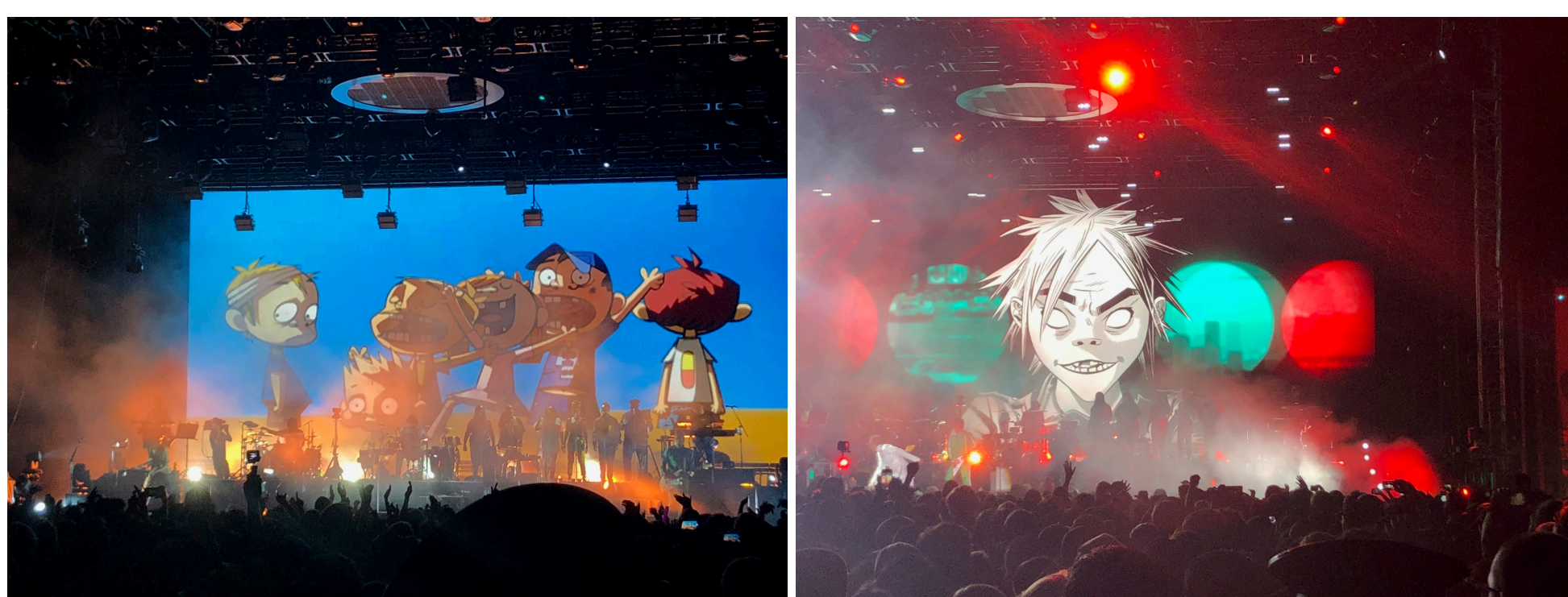
Perhaps the most sentimental moment of the Gorillaz three-hour set came when they paid homage to their deceased collaborator, Ibrahim Ferrer. The band honored the Afro-Cuban legend during their performance of "Latin Simone" featuring a Cuban trumpeter named Leider Chapotin. Gorillaz also honored the late rock & roll hall of famer Bobby Womack during a presentation of a song called "Stylo."

If British rock & roll made sweet love to American hip-hop back in 2001, their spawn would most certainly be a band named Gorillaz. It is almost the year 2019 and over the course of the past 18 years, I have watched the musical creation of Damon Albarn grow from an experimental music inception to a worldwide phenomenon.

That is a sentiment that I hold near and dear to my heart because I have been a devoted fan of the Gorillaz since the release of their second album, *Demon Dayz*. The morbid artistry, gothic fiction, violent concepts, political undertones and unprecedented musical experimentation from this LP really expanded my imagination. Quite frankly, I can think of no better way for a fan to partake in their first Gorillaz concert than at the Demon Dayz Festival with two Grammy-nominated artists (The Internet and Erykah Badu) as the opening acts.

Featured Image by Johnathan Juarez

Photos by Miguel Costa



TAGS DEMON DAYZ GORILLAZ MUSIC

SHARES 0

f 0

t +

G+ 0

p 0

J 0

in 0

Miguel Costa

Miguel Costa is a writer and photographer with Music Connection. His tenure with the national magazine has allowed him to augment his passion for journalism, reporting and discovering new music. Miguel's articles span the genres of hard rock, hip-hop, R&B, Soul music, indie pop, punk rock, reggaeton, Latin rock, jazz and more. He thoroughly enjoys covering live events for recording artists who are signed to major record labels. As a journalist, Miguel looks forward to writing many more stories, while expanding upon his content and subject matter.

RELATED ARTICLES

ASCAP 2015 COMPOSERS' CHOICE AWARDS
MORE INDUSTRY NEWS / FEBRUARY 17, 2015

MONSTER ENERGY AFTERSHOCK ANNOUNCES 2017 LINEUP
LATEST, MORE INDUSTRY NEWS / JUNE 6, 2017

BMI SETS REVENUE RECORDS WITH \$1.199 BILLION
LATEST, MAGAZINE / SEPTEMBER 12, 2018

PODCAST, BROADCAST, MIXCAST
AIXcast 4
TASCAM

AFM SAG-AFTRA FUND
More Than \$500 Million Distributed to Musicians and Vocalists to date
Do We Have Royalties for You?

OUR SPONSORS

JBL
PROFESSIONAL

EON ONE MK2
ALL-IN-ONE RECHARGEABLE COLUMN PA SPEAKER

MAKE WAVES THAT TRAVEL

LEARN MORE

FEATURED VIDEO

iHola Papi! Jesse Lynn ...

- 10 STOCKS TO BUY NOW
- FREE INTERNET TV STREAMING
- WALK-IN SHOWERS FOR SMALL BATHS
- CLEARANCE SALE ON LAPTOPS
- TOP STOCKS TO BUY

Business Focus

SUBSCRIBE NOW

Get Music Connection at your door!

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

NOT NEW!

SansAmp Classic (1989) SansAmp GT2 (1993)

SansAmp Bass Driver DI (1993)

EXCITEMENT NEVER GETS OLD

SansAmp™ - 100% Analog - Pioneered "Going Direct"

TECH 21
Analog Brilliance™ - tech21nyc.com

Now Hear This Entertainment WEEKLY PODCAST

MUSIC INTERVIEWS THAT EDUCATE & ENTERTAIN

Available on these and other podcast platforms

Founded in 1977 on the principle of bridging the gap between "the street and the elite," Music Connection has grown from a popular print publication into a spectrum of products and services that address the wants and needs of musicians, the music tech community and industry support services.

3441 Ocean View Blvd.
Glendale, CA 91208

818-995-0101

contactmc@musicconnection.com

LATEST POSTS

JAMESTOWN REVIVAL AT THE FONDA THEATRE
PHOTO BLOG SHOW REVIEWS, REVIEWS / JANUARY 28, 2022

'SCOCH ON OVER' WITH MUSIC CONNECTION SENIOR EDITOR MARK NARDONE
MUSIC INDUSTRY TIPS, MUSIC NEWS / JANUARY 28, 2022

KUBERNIK: THE MONKEES' MICKY DOLENZ
LATEST, MUSIC NEWS / JANUARY 28, 2022

THIRD SIDE MUSIC EXTENDS PARTNERSHIP WITH BADBADNOTGOOD
LATEST, MUSIC NEWS / JANUARY 28, 2022

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

Music Connection Magazine
36,326 likes

Like Page Sign Up

LATEST TWEETS

Jamestown Revival at the Fonda Theatre
https://t.co/pGGvYn9zCZ
https://t.co/aVxLzO3vyg

Jan 28, 2022