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MIDDLE EAST
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EXCLUSIVE!

'RUSSELL AND I HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING'

KATY PERRY

THE POP STAR OPENS UP ABOUT HER INCREDIBLE YEAR

J.LO BAGS A NEW TOYBOY



Five minutes with...

Therese Neaimé

The Lebanese-Swedish pop singer has launched her latest album *Stronger* which includes her tribute song to the UAE. She tells us more about her music, personal life and loves...

Congrats on the new album...

Thank you. It's an album that has grown over the last three years, containing songs written from my heart. It's named *Stronger* because I think as a singer-songwriter you become stronger by doing it everyday. Sometimes you play at an arena for thousands of people but sometimes it's only for a few people. Its highs and lows, but the whole experience makes you stronger.

What's your favourite track?

Well I wrote *Heartbeat* for my son Lucas. It's about giving him life and feeling his heartbeat inside of me.

Tell us about a life changing moment for you?

I use to be a dancer and then one day in Mexico City in 97, after a big performance and while I was on the tour bus, I suddenly felt that I wanted to write my own music. So I left everything, a long relationship and a couple of jobs to go to Hollywood and study at the Musician's Institute. Sitting in my little studio with not much in my pockets, I was still happier than ever because I knew that if I wouldn't have gone for my dream, I would always have regretted it.

What do you miss most about Sweden?

I love the summers in Sweden and

of course I also miss my family whenever I'm not there.

What's your favourite spot in the UAE?

I love the Jebel Ali Golf Resort & Spa, the Dubai Marina and Lime Tree Café.

How do you take care of your voice?

When you sing every day, that's the training. Sleep is important too. I don't smoke and drink and take in a lot of water. But I also challenge myself to sing new cover songs to broaden my vocal range.

You're so fit, how do you stay in shape?

Some people do yoga, I do running. It clears my mind. I used to compete in track and field and I always loved working out. Unfortunately I haven't had much time to work out lately.

Do you take your son Lucas on tour with you?

My son Lucas is one year and eight months and he's my angel. Travelling with me around the world has made him very social. He loves people and when he sees me on stage he wants to run there to join me [laughs]. I believe having a little child makes you appreciate the small things. It's like discovering life again. My dream is to continue to spread my music around the world, but part of the dream is of course also is to my family on the road with me. That would make the whole thing complete!

To be part of Therese Neaimé's music video *Today is a Holiday* visit facebook.com/thereseneaime for more details.



CD OF THE WEEK

Reviewed by Nathalie Shariat

Presenter of Middays With Nats on DUBAI 92 from 10am - 2pm.

Foster the People ★★★★★ Torches

Who? A California trio, wielding a fusion of dance and indie-pop electro.



What does it sound like?

It's as if Passion Pit, MGMT and Phoenix got together and had a love child. Foster the People have crafted a batch of similarly catchy tunes and it's hard not to surrender to the giddy choruses and harmonized vocals. Even *Pumped Up Kicks*, which alludes to a shooting and a boy with mental instability sounds like it was written on a sunny day in June.

Verdict? *Torches* is easily one of the best albums of the year. The hooks are so big and persistent.

Skip to: *Pumped Up Kicks* and *Waste*.

Hear it and win it daily on the Midday Show on Dubai 92, from November 6th-10th, 2011

Therese Neaimé Stronger ★★★★★

Who? The Dubai-based Lebanese-Swedish singer delivers her second album.

What does it sound like? The 15-track mix of memorable pop tunes and ballads speaks of the artist's experiences on love, growth and changes. Her Middle Eastern influence is evident on *Today is a Holiday*, which is her first English-Arabic single and is dedicated to her beloved UAE. Her soulful vocals and lyrics shine in the slower songs like *A Kiss for Every Innocence*.



Verdict: It's an uplifting album with plenty of radio-friendly numbers.

Skip to: *Today is a Holiday*.