

# KAGERO

*Japanese Gypsy Rock*

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## PRESS

### **"Kagero is a true original in a sea of mediocrity..."**

- Lee Sobel, *Lo-Fi Entertainment*

#### Article by by Meijin Bruttomesso, *The Deli - NY Scene Blog* - 11/18/2009

Bed-Stuy-based Kagero's newest record "Japanese Gypsy Rock," due out November 19, 2009, is appropriately titled for the band's striking fusion of sounds from around the world. Taking lead on violin, J.W. masters Eastern-inspired fiddle glissandos and double-stops, while bassist/vocalist Rob Simpson adds a salsa swing and klezmer kick. Kaz Fujimoto, defines "Japanese Gypsy Rock:" hailing from Japan, entertaining in a lounge-meets-Bohemian vocal style, and accessorizing each track with flamenco guitar and select Spanish phrases on standout tracks "My Little Bonita," "1 + 2 Is Almost 5," "Red and Black," and "Grappa. Guest musicians, Georgie Markov (drums), Yoed (cello), Wynn Yamami (chindon, aka Japanese drum), and Emilio (trumpet) ably enhance "JGR" in these notable selections. **Rooted in uplifting elements from eclectic origins, "Japanese Gypsy Rock" unites Kagero's musical influences and talents into a cross-culture dance party.**

#### WORLDLY MIX, by Regis Behe, *The Pittsburg Tribune-Review* - 01/01/2009

**Kagero** often is described as a Japanese gypsy rock band. **That's like calling the Rolling Stones a mere pop group...** The range of songs is impressive -- the Dixieland jazz of "Grappa," the exotic Eastern European-toned "Red and Black," the East-meets-West melting pot of "Shanghai Calls Me."

#### MUSICAL MOUTHFUL, by Bill Lynch, *The Charleston Gazette* - 10/09/08

The band name is Japanese for "heat haze," but musically it's a collection of wild contrasts. Its style is a mishmash of everything from early rock riffs to eastern European folk music. **It's high energy, often frantic music that sometimes sounds a little like "Fiddler on the Roof" starring "Panic at the Disco."**

#### KAGERO LIVE AT MEHANATA ON JUNE 12, by Stephanie Nolasco, *The Deli Magazine* 06/11/08

Kagero, described as "Japanese gypsy rock," is exactly that: a marriage of bouncy folk songs with inspirations ranging from mellow, coffeehouse blues to haunting Middle Eastern tracks with echoes of an electric guitar. Fujimoto, Kagero's front man, isn't your typical lanky, fedora-wearing bohemian with suave, sensual vocals that'll knock your sheepskin boots off. Born in a Japanese village, Fujimoto wandered the streets of London, Dublin, and Paris, then finally settled his Beatles-obsessed, Guinness-loving self in Brooklyn. Along with Rob Bass in backing vocal and bass, J.W.'s violin, plus Toko on drums, **Kagero is a musical voyage where gentle acoustic melodies, heartrending farewells, and some tango create a melting pot you'll want to lick.**

#### KAGERO RESIDENCY AT VOX POP, by John J Hagan, *Operations Manager/Art Director at VoxPop*

**Kagero...displayed this rare energy that few live band performances have anymore.** People walking by can't help but stick their heads in then 5 minutes later they are fully immersed in the Kagero experience and loving every second of it. Their seamless blend of such starkly different musical worlds makes for a supremely unique output of audible sustenance. Put plainly, these characters rock!

#### Also Featured in the Following Publications:

- *OrigVation Magazine*, Greg Bem 6/09
- *Left in Bay Ridge*, Mark Brown 9/11/08
- *The Brooklyn Paper*, Annie Wilner 4/5/08
- *The Patriot News* 2/14/08
- *24 Seven Magazine*, Meredith Deliso 10/18/07
- *Steppin' Out Magazine* 12/5/07