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Vanessa Mae

8th November 2001



This 23 year old, half Thai half- Chinese, violin virtuoso is no fluke. She made it big at 16 when her first pop album **The Violin Player** was released and struck a chord with audiences worldwide. **Storm** followed and soon she established herself as a pop diva as well, in addition to her prior image of a classical performer.

What many people don't know is that she has persevered relentlessly to get where she is. Born in Singapore, she moved to London when she was 4 and trained both in Beijing and the Royal College of Music. Her first performance was when she was 9, she played with the Philharmonic Orchestra when she was 10 and Vanessa had 3 classical recordings to her name by the time she hit her teens.

Her list of achievements is endless.. she was the youngest person to address the Oxford Union, played at the Moment of re-Unification of Hong Kong at midnight becoming the last non-Chinese artist to perform under the British rule as well as the first under the Chinese rule. She's made her debut on the fashion scenario at the Paris Fashion week for **Jean Paul Gaultier** where she modelled the centre piece of the show, a wedding dress, and broke into a performance on her violin.

Be it classical music, pop, singing, fashion.. this woman is a natural. She's entering into a new phase with the launch of her contemporary, dance-influenced album, **Subject To Change**. **Vanessa Mae** has found herself in the top 10 charts of countries as diverse as Taiwan, Hong Kong and Lebanon.

Vanessa answers some quickfire questions [▶](#)

See **Vanessa Mae** interviewed by **Russell Peters**

Also on this show

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