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This Cowboy's gaga over Lady Gaga

Pop diva's personal deejay says she lives for her fans

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FANS of Lady Gaga will no doubt regard him as the luckiest man in the world.

While they often clamour for a glimpse of their enigmatic idol at gigs and events, he is well-acquainted with her.

Indeed, he is part of Lady Gaga's touring ensemble.

Meet 34-year-old Nick Dresti, popularly known by his wacky moniker DJ Space Cowboy.

In recent years, he has gained a massive following by being Lady Gaga's personal deejay.

"She is one of the best songwriters of today," the Paris-born musician told The New Paper from London, where he is based.

He has nothing but praise for pop's hottest diva.

"She really lives for the stage and her fans," said Dresti. "There is never a moment when she's not in character."

He claimed that Gaga, away from the limelight, is "a hundred per cent the same person she is when she's performing".

Dresti will be in town at the end of the month as the headlining act of Singapore's annual street dance party City Alive!. The event, which is organised by the People's Association, will be held in conjunction with the Chingay Parade.

He was introduced to Lady Gaga a few years ago through his record label Cherrytree Records.

The pair hit it off after a phone call, when, according to Dresti, they realised they had "a lot in common".

They then worked together on the catchy dance track Starstruck, which is included in Lady Gaga's debut album The Fame.

One thing led to another and, before Dresti knew it, he was invited to join her on her Monster Ball Tour.

'Life-changing'

Describing the experience as "life-changing" and "incredible", he also shared his personal views on the singer's recent bout of exhaustion and dehydration.

A couple of weeks ago, it was reported that she had collapsed and passed out before her US show in Indiana, which forced her to cancel a number of concerts in the area.

Lady Gaga subsequently tweeted about it and apologised to all her fans.

"Artistes like her are prepared to sacrifice everything for their fans," said Dresti.



HE'S A HIT: DJ Space Cowboy has gained a massive following as Lady Gaga's personal deejay.

PICTURES:
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"They never switch off, they don't realise that work is taking a toll on their health.

"Sometimes, you don't know you're exhausted till the tiredness hits you."

Dresti has had some first-hand experience in that aspect: There were occasions when he would still "write new beats" while travelling on tour buses.

The feeling of "being totally drained of energy" gets to him only much later.

"So far, I think I'm doing pretty okay," he said.

"When I'm performing or recording in the studio, I try to keep myself comfortable and know my limits."

Dresti, who released his fourth electropop album Digital Rock Star last October, has also done remixes for artistes such as The Darkness, Paul McCartney and Fergie.

He professes to being a huge fan of alternative rockers Kings Of Leon and pop-rock girl duo The Veronicas.

"Yes, believe it or not, I love The Veronicas," he said with a chuckle.

"It would be great if I can work with them sometime

in the future.

"I'd like to do some remixes of their stuff."

He is looking forward to playing at City Alive!.

"It's my first visit to Singapore and I'm very excited.

"It'll be a crazy show," he promised.

He has heard that Singaporean audiences can be reserved, unlike their more spontaneous Western counterparts.

But Dresti is confident that "all of you will be up for a wild time".

"Having a party is something universal. Everyone wants to have fun," he said.

FYI

WHAT: City Alive! 2010

WHERE: Pit Building (beside Singapore Flyer)

WHEN: 20 Feb, 10.15pm

TICKETS: \$20 from Sistic (6348 5555 or www.sistic.com.sg)