

# KINGSTON RUDIESKA



# Kington Rudieska (Seoul, Korea)

**Korea's authentic ska pioneers, Kingston Rudieska, bring a smile to faces and a shine to dancing shoes worldwide! The 9 piece wins fans wherever they go—be it festival stages, small clubs, national TV, the big screen or over the course of 4 full albums and several EPs. The band celebrated its 13th anniversary in 2017.**

Although South Korea is about as far from Jamaica as a country could be, that hasn't prevented authentic Jamaican music, namely ska and reggae, from reaching her shores. Korea's first traditional ska band, Kingston Rudieska, has been paying respect to the roots since they began in 2004. They blend bluebeat ska, jazz, reggae, dub, and nyahbinghi chanting into a final product that is uniquely Korean; something the band has dubbed "Feast Ska." Their shows mix foot-stomping instrumentals - fronted by a four-piece hornsection - with warm, soulful vocal features. One of Kingston Rudieska's strengths has always been a willingness to experiment and improvise with the ska and reggae genres, staying true to their Jamaican influences while often infusing their music with a uniquely Korean twist.



Their performances are punctuated with a jammy, improvised vibe as many of the members are trained jazz musicians. The music pays enormous respect to ska pioneers, The Skatalites. It's not uncommon, during a set, to hear an impromptu Skatalites tune kick off an improvisational jam to the delight of the crowd. Over the past decade, they've come a long way from playing dingy basement clubs to appearing on some of the nation's biggest stages, fostering a love of Jamaican rhythms to a nation still newly discovering the genre. They've appeared at nearly all of Korea's major music festivals and numerous televised music programs in Korea. Kingston Rudieska recorded their first single in 2006, and since then they've released four full-length albums, not to mention EPs and digital singles, and contributed a track to the United Colors of Ska 4.0 compilation on Pork Pie Records (Germany).





They've also shared the stage with Japanese bands such as Tokyo Ska Paradise Orchestra, Eskargot Miles, and Cool Wise Men, North American groups the Slackers and Chris Murray Combo, as well as Babylove and the Van Dangos(Denmark), T-bone (Thailand), Babylon Circus(France), Dr. Ring Ding Ska Vaganza (Germany), and Skazz (Australia). Most recently, they recorded an EP 'Ska N' Seoul' with Jamaican music legend Dr. Ring Ding (Germany), released by Jump Up Records(USA). Another EP [Far East Asia] was released in the form of split EP with The escargot Miles(Japan) in 2014 and was ranked first place on the Japanese Reggae Chart.

Their 4th full length album [Everyday People] was released in 2014, which was made with the great producer Brian Dixon(ex The Aggrolites). Luckily, there is more - in the form of a second disc of casual jams and dubs with Brian Dixon. The recording methods used by Dixon on [Everyday People] focused less on getting it right and more on group togetherness and, in his own words, "grit." The album was a testament to the success of this strategy. On the album, 'Sailor's Chant' is a variation on an old Korean folk song 'Baennorae'. 'Boom Boom's Arirang' is a deep hypnotic reggae tune based on another folk song 'Arirang'.

After they toured the Philippines in 2012 and Japan in 2013 and 2014 and contributed to the supergroup "Asia Unite" with Japanese bands Eskargot Miles, Frisco and Kingstompers, Kingston Rudieska became ready to spread their love of Jamaican music further around the world. In 2014, they were invited to Sunset Live Festival in Fukuoka, and in 2015, they went to Singapore for a showcase at Music Matters, to Tokyo for the Little Journey Festival, Echo Park in Shanghai, China. Hong Kong International reggae ska Festival 2017, K-Music Festival 2017 (England), Sierra Nevada World Music Festival 2018 (US) and Victoria Ska Reggae Festival 2018 (Cadana).



# Video



Seoul Music Week, Never OnStage LIVE, 2017



Discovery of Life (Ska n' Seoul, 2013)



Que Bonita (Everyday People, 2014)

# Discography

## Full - Length



## EP



## Single



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