

Pamela:

Forget Pam-L.A., We've got Pam-Ellas!

Perri Pagonis

Aside from a mildly irritating first name identity-clash with the calcium-intensive, centerfold uber-girl Pamela Anderson, Greece's ebullient, endlessly-fizzy pop-star Pamela, has the talent, goods and personality to run with the best of the Greek high-visibility vocalists. I've been having a good number of interviews with pop singers, media people and piles of regular guys around town lately. Take my word for it, when the Greek-American super-cutie Pam's name comes up in conversation, guys light-up like ocean liners and women become several degrees more self-conscious of their personal appearance.

Talking to Pam face-to-face over coffee is not what one would expect from a well-known chart-song vocalist. Our scheduled twenty-minute interview became a two-hour, convo-overload gas-fest covering every subject from her early theatrical appearances, nine years of operatic singing lessons and favorite pop and rock singers to preferred shoe designers, her finance degree from DePaul university, and her pop's steak house outside of Chicago. Please believe me when I say that sitting across from a stunningly beautiful blonde packed into a pair of form-fitting True Religion jeans and trendy top, you don't expect her to say to you, "Trigonometry and Calculus were really easy classes for me. I also won a writing essay award for my critical views on Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. I also like Aerosmith a lot."

Early success

Pamela came to Greece for holiday at the beginning of the decade and was immediately picked-up, quite to her surprise, by Nitro records. She worked, as all Greek-Americans do, long and hard hours and became an airplay chart, video-clip and concert favorite in short order. She remained with the same producer for six years and, upon leaving their business enterprise, took a two-year repo to sort-out her head, make some career and life decisions, and, of course, kick-back a bit and enjoy life after several years in the music-machine grinder.

Baby I'm Ready to go!

Her Myspace webpage has two new songs available for listeners to hear. "Se Thelo Poly" and "Ap thn Arhi Ksana" are the standard, high-quality, dance-pop nuggets we've come to expect from her. During this time off from club land, she had an opportunity to reflect on her previous mindset and behavior from the past. She admits to being something of a diva several years ago, dismissing proposed collaborations and potential work if it didn't seem to be of a superior quality and upper price range. Pam told me, in a humble yet optimistic tone, that she has changed mentality. "I'm become a real do-it-yourselfer," she said, "I'm ready to work and

now understand that there is something of substance in practically any well-thought out, genuinely creative project.” Indeed, when talking with her, she seemed practically ready to eject from the chair with enthusiasm, happiness and seemingly irrepressible pop song-crafting creativity.

Real-girl vs. Girly-girl: The Endless Debate

People tend to like contradictions and oppositions in peoples’ characters because it keeps things interesting. When initially meeting and speaking with Pam, your first visual and conversational contact is with a complete girly-girl deluxe. She literally squeaks with joy when talking about shoe designers Jimmy Choo and Christian Louboutin and the current Fall fashion collections from the houses of Gucci and Cavalli. When you later discover that she’s a trained opera singer and likes to listen to U2, Whitney Houston and Dan Wilson you see another side of her that you were somewhat unprepared to meet. Couple these contrasts with a math-whiz forebrain, a smile that can break every heart in the room and a pop-song writing and performing talent that has the potential and capability to fill any club in town and you have a pretty great subject to interview.

Pamela is ready to explode onto the scene again. Hang on to your hats, kiddies. She’s ready to go.

Myspace webpage: www.myspace.com/pamelagreece