



S.H.E DID IT AGAIN: Popular Taiwanese girl group S.H.E performed their third concert here at the Singapore Indoor Stadium on Saturday night. The trio kept the sold-out crowd on their feet for nearly three hours, throwing in a Broadway-themed act to keep up the entertainment. Selina, Hebe and Ella didn't ignore the fact that Taiwanese rock band Mayday was performing just next door at the National Stadium. Instead, they urged their audience to scream louder to let the boys feel their presence. At one point, Hebe even pretended to answer a phone call from Mayday's lead singer, Ashin, "informing" her that the girls and their fans were making too much noise. All in the name of fun, S.H.E went on to pay tribute to Mayday, performing their own rendition of the band's *End All Loneliness*. **MAY CHUA**
More pictures and the full review at <http://blogs.todayonline.com/poparazzi>

POINT OF VIEW

Want real torture music? Try Glee

The United States military uses Metallica for 'acoustic bombardment'. Totally the wrong weapon of choice

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IF THERE is one thing the United States military enjoys more than shocking and awe-ing, it's bombarding its enemies with objectively terrible music.

Just last week, a report crept out about a group of special psychological operations officers who drive around Afghanistan in an armoured vehicle, blasting Taliban-peeving music such as Metallica, Thin Lizzy and the Offspring at earth-shaking volume.

The technique is called acoustic bombardment and — along with sensory deprivation and good old-fashioned sexual humiliation — is one of the military's favourite non-lethal coercion techniques.

The music itself tends to be exactly the type of aggressively macho fare you'd expect. Metallica are always near the top of the pile, along with Eminem, Dr Dre, Bruce Springsteen's *Born In The USA* — presumably because officers are experimenting with torture by profound lyrical sarcasm.

David Gray's *Babylon* used to be on the playlist, but it's fallen out of favour,

either because Gray expressed his outrage or because top brass realised that no crime is serious enough to warrant being made to listen to it more than once within a single lifetime.

The problem with acoustic bombardment, though, is that it plainly doesn't work. Just because I'd confess to hundreds of atrocities the second someone started flapping a copy of *St Anger* in my face, chances are the Taliban wouldn't. Either they're made of sterner stuff, or they're genetically derived from that boy from school who had constant body odour and an unwashed Megadeth T-shirt that he always wore on non-uniform days. You know the one.

Maybe America is getting its choice of music wrong. In reality, there's plenty of music that could do more damage. Imagine the outcry if soldiers subjected a detainee to all four sides of Lou Reed's *Metal Machine Music* (probably a side and a half more than Lou Reed ever managed himself).

Then there's *Glee*. If you were to expose a member of the Taliban to both *Glee* cast albums, you'd be guaranteed one of two results: Instant shrieking madness, or a detainee determined to spurn his fundamentalist tenets in order to be himself and follow his dreams no matter what.

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GREENBERG (R21) * 11:45am, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15 SHUTTER ISLAND (NC16) (CS) * 1:15, 4:00, 6:45, 9:30 TOY STORY 1 & 2 (G) ** DIGITAL 3D 1:00pm KICK-ASS (M18) * 11:30am 2:00pm, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30 CLASH OF THE TITANS (CS) ** DIGITAL 3D 10:30am, 2:00pm, 4:40, 7:00, 9:30 CLASH OF THE TITANS (CS) 6:30pm THE MEN WHO STARE AT GOATS (NC16) (CS) 11:30am A SINGLE MAN (R21)(CS) 11:15am	HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON ** DIGITAL 3D 11:15am, 4:30pm HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON (CS) 1:15pm 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15 DATE NIGHT (CS) 10:30am 12:30pm, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 7:30, 8:40, 9:30 REMEMBER ME 2:15pm <small>Show times are subjected to change, please check www.shaw.sg for the most up to date timings</small> ** STRICTLY NO FREE TICKETS/PASSES * NO FREE TICKETS/PASSES ALL FILMS RATED PG UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED • CS - CHINESE SUBTITLES • ES - ENGLISH SUBTITLES • M - MANDARIN	SHUTTER ISLAND (NC16) (CS) * 10:50am 1:30pm, 4:10, 6:50, 9:30 MONGA (NC16) (M) (CS&ES) * 10:40am, 1:20pm 4:00, 6:40, 9:20 KICK-ASS (M18) * 12:15pm 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15 CLASH OF THE TITANS (CS) 10:40am, 12:50, 2:10, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20, 8:20, 9:30 DATE NIGHT (CS) 11:20am 3:20pm, 7:30, 9:20 HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON (CS) 4:20, 6:20 MY RAINY DAYS (NC16) (JAPANESE) (CS&ES) 11:50am, 5:10pm FIRE OF CONSCIENCE (NC16) (M) (CS&ES) 1:10pm	SHUTTER ISLAND (NC16) (CS) * 11:00am 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40 TOY STORY 1 & 2 (G) ** DIGITAL 3D 3:40pm KICK-ASS (M18) * 12:00 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20 MONGA (NC16) (M) (CS&ES) * 10:40am, 12:50, 2:10, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20, 8:20, 9:30 CLASH OF THE TITANS (CS) 11:50am, 2:00pm, 4:10, 6:20, 8:30, 9:30 HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON ** DIGITAL 3D 11:10am, 1:25pm, 7:15 HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON (CS) 10:40am, 5:30pm DATE NIGHT (CS) 12:00pm 1:50, 3:40, 7:30, 9:20 BUGIS BUGIS JUNCTION LEVEL 4 SHUTTER ISLAND (NC16) (CS) * 10:30am, 1:15pm, 4:00, 6:45, 9:30 TOY STORY 1 & 2 (G) ** DIGITAL 3D 1:00pm KICK-ASS (M18) * 12:50pm, 5:00, 9:10 CLASH OF THE TITANS (CS) ** DIGITAL 3D 10:40am, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20 DATE NIGHT (CS) 11:30am 3:30, 7:30, 9:20 TOY STORY 1 & 2 (G) ** DIGITAL 3D 3:35pm HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON ** DIGITAL 3D 11:05am, 1:20pm, 7:15 CLASH OF THE TITANS (CS) DIGITAL 3D ** 9:30pm CLASH OF THE TITANS (CS) 1:20pm, 5:20 DATE NIGHT (CS) 11:30am 3:30, 7:30, 9:20 • GREENBERG (R21) SOCIAL SCENES • SHUTTER ISLAND (NC16) • SOME VIOLENCE AND NUDDITY • KICK-ASS (M18) VIOLENCE AND COARSE LANGUAGE • MONGA (NC16) SOME VIOLENCE AND COARSE LANGUAGE • CLASH OF THE TITANS (PG) SOME VIOLENCE AND COARSE LANGUAGE • DATE NIGHT (PG) SOME COARSE LANGUAGE AND SEXUAL REFERENCES • REMEMBER ME (PG) SOME SEXUAL REFERENCES AND COARSE LANGUAGE • MY RAINY DAYS (NC16) • SOME NATURE CONTENT • A SINGLE MAN (R21) HOMOSEXUAL CONTEXT

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Cuban writer Carlos Franqui dies

CUBAN writer and political activist Carlos Franqui, an important figure in the Cuban revolution who later became one of the most outspoken critics of Fidel Castro, has died. He was 89. Franqui died late Thursday in Puerto Rico after a brief hospitalisation for bronchial and heart problems, said family friend Andres Candelario.

The son of a poor farmer, Franqui entered leftist political movements as a youth, joined and left the Communist Party and became a journalist who eventually joined Castro's rebellion against dictator Fulgenio Batista. He edited the movement newspaper, *Revolucion*, before and after Castro's

insurgents defeated Batista, but increasingly clashed with hard-liners who were restricting cultural and political dissent.

Franqui moved abroad in 1963 and openly broke with the communist government in 1968 when he denounced the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia.

Before the break, he had been entrusted with an abortive project to write an official biography of Castro — material he later used in his book *Family Portrait With Fidel*. His *Diary Of The Cuban Revolution* (1976), is one of the most-quoted works on the history of that struggle.

Franqui leaves a wife and two sons. AP