



***Live the lifestyle with the secrets of stage presence  
brought to you exclusively by SingStar® Rocks!***

*Fresh from wowing the crowds on the festival circuit, SingStar® Rocks! on PlayStation®2 brings the best live bands to you – meaning you can sing your heart out to the biggest hits from the world's best live bands including **Nirvana, INXS, Grinspoon, GANGgajang, Deep Purple, Blur** and many, many more. Featuring all the official videos and including your very own microphones, SingStar Rocks! offers the ultimate line up for festival fans.*

*To re-create that live music experience, SingStar Rocks! has gone behind the scenes to get the low-down on the secrets of stage presence. Leading music journalist Seb Emina shares the secrets of the stars - so next time you're singing your heart out you can act the part too!*

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As well as waking up confused and unkempt on empty buses in unknown suburbs, working in live music for years has involved me seeing an awful lot of bands. Some have gone on to big things. Others have split up when their members got jobs selling car insurance. To be spotted and signed, a band can just make amazing music – it's true. But it doesn't hurt to have a stage presence that mesmerises the crowd, has them hanging on your every word, or just makes them laugh. Here are a few favourites to try out:

**Use what's in your hand**

The best stage moves are often made using the equipment you have immediately at hand: bottles, boots, microphone stands. So what better tool for concert glory than – erm – a tiny triangle of plastic? Texan punk quartet Bowling For Soup's guitarist Chris Burney is able to flip his plectrum into his mouth from string-level then spit it back into his hand, all without missing a note. No wonder their shows sell out. Also keep an eye out for Burney's other crowd-pleaser, the 'machine gun guitar'.

**Pout**

To pout effectively, don't act as if you are kissing the mirror. Act as if you are angry with the mirror, but are at the same time attracted to the television, and want the television to fancy you. It's a move that goes right back to the dawn of rock 'n' roll time, and possibly whatever came before it. It'll make 80% of the crowd think

'smouldering arrogant sex appeal' but be warned: the other 20% may well think you are essentially a bit of an idiot.

### **Test the crowd**

Few things are stranger than standing in front of thousands of people, all of whom are singing a couple of lines you came up with one night in your – but how do you know they're getting it right? The answer: turn the microphone to face the crowd, and check.

### **Stamp**

Imagine you are one of those puppets you see for sale in craft markets, bobbing around for a couple of onlookers at the behest of a grinning man with a pierced eyebrow. Now picture that man letting go of the strings that control your arms so they hang limp while your feet carry on tramping in time to the reggae music playing from a nearby record stall. That's it. Now you're Stamping. The Stamp is generally the reserve of the vocalist and some claim that it shouldn't be attempted unless you are prepared to make it your signature.

### **Smash It Up**

Nirvana, too, were famous for smashing up their equipment. Nobody knows how many poor guitars they attacked, but it's rumoured that the hidden track on 'Nevermind' contains the sound of cold-blooded guitar-smashing. Generally not recommended with regards to your PlayStation 2.

### **Be aloof**

Impressing the crowd isn't just a matter of playing up to their every whim. As with members of the opposite sex, it often pays to seem completely indifferent. See, for example, the Stereophonics' straight-down-the-line stage manner.

### **Go back to basics**

Sometimes the only thing that will turn the screams up a little is the sight of good old-fashioned bare flesh. Extra points are due for destroying your clothing altogether, as well as for throwing the torn, soaked, sweaty, smelly thing in the direction of all those outstretched hands. That always gets them going.

### **Find your Drummer Face**

You are holding open a train door while someone wearing a concrete shoe is treading on your foot, and in order for them to release it you have to do some long division in your head. And by the way, you are juggling three burning tyres with one of your hands. What face do you pull? That's the one: that's your drummer face. Most drummers pull some kind of wildly contorted expression when performing. If they don't they would probably be calm in the train door situation too.

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*So there we have it, now there's no excuse not to mesmerise your friends as you take to the stage and make like a Star with SingStar Rocks!*

*SingStar Rocks! will be available in store from 20 April 2006*

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For further information go to [www.scee.presscentre.com/au](http://www.scee.presscentre.com/au)

Jon Manning  
Hausmann Communications  
P: 02 8353 5729  
E: [jon.manning@hausmann.com.au](mailto:jon.manning@hausmann.com.au)

Rob Lowe  
Hausmann Communications  
P: 02 8353 5724  
E: [rob.lowe@hausmann.com.au](mailto:rob.lowe@hausmann.com.au)

**About Sony Computer Entertainment Europe Ltd.**

Sony Computer Entertainment Europe (SCEE), based in London, is responsible for the distribution, sales and marketing of PS one®, PlayStation®2 and PSP® hardware in 104 territories across Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Oceania. SCEE also develops, publishes, markets and distributes games software for the three formats, and manages the third party licensing programmes for these formats in the PAL territories. At the end of December 2005, over 40 million PS one® consoles had been shipped across these PAL territories, over 102 million worldwide. Between its European debut on 24 November 2000 and the end of December 2005, over 37 million PlayStation®2 consoles have been shipped across the PAL territories, over 100 million worldwide, making it one of the most successful consumer electronic products in history. Between the launch of PSP® in Japan in December 2004 and the end of December 2005, over 5 million PSP® systems have been shipped across the PAL territories, over 15 million worldwide.

**About Sony Computer Entertainment Australia**

Sony Computer Entertainment Australia (SCE Aust.) is responsible for the distribution, marketing, sales and network support of PS one®, PlayStation®2 and PlayStation®Portable software and hardware in Australia and New Zealand. Sony Computer Entertainment commenced trading in Australia in 1995. At the end of December 2005, over 2.4 million units of PlayStation®2 consoles and 210,000 PSP® units had been shipped across Australia and New Zealand.

More information about PlayStation products can be found at [www.playstation.com.au](http://www.playstation.com.au) and [www.yourpsp.com.au](http://www.yourpsp.com.au) or visit the Virtual Press Office at [www.scee.presscentre.com/au](http://www.scee.presscentre.com/au).

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