

**Music Promotion Media Presents:**

**Pictures of Shanghai**



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## Band Overview

Band Name: **Pictures of Shanghai (POS)**

Genre: Indie

Tracks on Demo: 1) Kick Start Heart  
2) Is This Public or Private  
3) Stand up and be proud

Band Website: [www.myspace.com/picturesofshanghai](http://www.myspace.com/picturesofshanghai)

### Profile of Band:

Mike Munroe	Bass / Vocals	19 yrs
Sammy Jobson	Guitar / Keys	20 yrs
Benjamin Mitchell	Guitar	19 yrs
Sam Norris	Drums	19 yrs

Pictures of Shanghai (POS) initially formed in 2000. Hailing from Kent in South East England, the members produce, as a band, a truly epic and special sound. This can be witnessed in live performances, bursting with energy and professionalism.

In 2005 POS took it upon themselves to write whole host of original and unique new songs.

POS went on to record 4 tracks creating their first 'true-to-themselves' demo. They had a surge of interest after they were the main support for American rapper, MC Lars to a sell out audience at the beginning of April 2006 and completed their own 'DIY' tour with Punktastic Records' Chaser in August 2006. POS continue to gain awareness from all areas.

With the most unique pop/rock sound, heartfelt, catchy vocals and a wonderful stage performance, POS now have a fantastic new CD entitled 'Stand up and Be Proud'. However, the writing and musical development doesn't stop there, as POS continue writing and playing to extend their musical knowledge and talent.

Throughout 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007 POS played many gigs all over the country, recorded several demos at Ignition Studios in London and played a small tour with the band Chaser.

POS have also had recent airplay on BBC radio and Radio Caroline.

## Reviews

I have a soft spot for Pictures of Shanghai (POS), they were the first band to ever take the stage at one of my gigs, and so being a fan I've been looking forward to this release for some time.

Still young and relatively unknown, this release could gain them some much-deserved attention. If we're going to use annoying generalisations then POS would undoubtedly be straight up 'emo-rock'. Singer Mike has one of THE most 'emo' sounding voices you'll ever hear, but I think it's great!

This collection of 4 songs are about good old heartbreak and despair and are the sort of songs that will have you singing along at the top of your voice while at the same time struggling to stretch your XXS tight fit t-shirt to wipe the tears from your cheeks.

Kick Start Heart kicks off with a nice keyboard intro and those distinctive vocals, before showing some punkier roots with a speedy chorus, immediately you discover that this is going to be a sing-along-gem from start to finish. It's all much the same throughout this EP, simply great 'emo-rock'. The title track for me is the best song here, slightly slower, practically a ballad, but a fantastic ballad at that. Oh Tragedy, the EP closer has a big band style drum intro which will stick in your head all day long and beyond.

If these songs are anything to go by then the POS lads aren't very lucky in love, but if as a result they carry on writing great songs like these, then long may it continue.

***Famous By Association, January 2007***

I listened to Stand Up and Be Proud, and the thing that struck me most was the singing abilities of lead singer, Mike Munroe. He can really hit some notes! I'd really like to see what he could do if he pushed himself to be the brink of his abilities.

***Lunch of Champions, January 2007***

Please check out Pictures of Shanghai and if you have a label, sign them, they are going to be successful.

***Stylewalker, January 2007***

Press: Full CD Reviews:

Just to get this stupid opinion out of my head don't you think the name sounds like one of those strange world movies? Ok no? Oh well. I was surprised when I heard this new CD from POS from what I had heard I was expecting something more on the experimental side, but never the less they have produced something of a post - pop - rock masterpiece.

The first thing that really stood out and grabbed me by the throat was the strong vocal work; they blasted me with sweet and perfectly toned melodies. Combine this with the catchy guitar riffs and the tap along drum beats, and you get pictures of shanghai, one of those bands you just can't get out of your head and just have to sing along to! It's these such talents that has probably landed them sell out shows with likes of us rapper MC Lars.

The emotion pans throughout everything to do with them, from the songs names to the way they are performed. Singer and bassist Mike Munroe fuses such emotion into all of there songs this is clear from the first few words into hit the ground running, this song is a stunner with such an epic chorus, sounds nothing less than professional.

You feel with pictures of shanghai that they really mean it and aren't trying to pull off the same as everyone else and that they aren't just writing songs about false truths just to get big, you can feel they really have the passion for the music. It really does take talent to produce something like this, if POS can keep this in tact then expect their full length to get them huge!

A good solid CD, would advise any good music fan to purchase this one!

***CD Review, 'Up In Lights' October 2006***

Time to hold my hands up. The last time I reviewed Pictures of Shanghai I was less than complimentary. In short, the band attempted to go for some kind of indie/synth/rock crossover and ended up with a complete disaster of a CD that came across as messy and forced. However, you have to give credit where credit is due and POS have returned with an EP showing a lot more promise. It's far from perfect, but the rate of improvement is tremendous and full marks go to the band for heeding advice and attempting to correct the error of their ways.

Although the four songs here are on the long side - and in my opinion could probably be trimmed by a minute apiece to make them even more catchy - you'd think it was a different band on this record compared to the last. The vocal harmonies are memorable and well placed and the vocals, while americanised, are strong and distinctive. Gone are the misplaced synths and attempts to cash in on the keyboard-wave, and in favour of this the band attempt to beef their sound up with guitars - and it works. While the choruses arguably need to be tightened up and made a little catchier, and the CD I have isn't mastered all that well leaving everything a little low in the mix, this is a 100% improvement on the last record. If they continue to make strides as big as this, the next record could be very impressive indeed."

***Punktastic, June 2006***

Press: Live Reviews:

“Amidst the blanket of emo supporters sporting interesting hair cuts in the crowd, appeared the band Pictures of Shanghai, carrying on the trend with the haircuts. It was a poor turnout for a Friday night at the forum but none the less, the band seemed fairly happy and there were a few hardcore supporters of the lads, rocking out in the crowd. The band started out with an impressive hard hitting tune full of lots of shouting and great guitar riffs. The front man, sporting his fender bass proudly, yelled out to the crowd to come forward and start a little atmosphere, the crowd was happy to oblige so I found myself right in front of the stage looking up at the confident bassist.

What can I say about this band? They had good timing and a connection was felt between the guys. It was the usual thing you'd find at the forum. So the band definitely fitted in with the usual forum line-up. Although whilst standing in front of the stage I was nodding along to the tunes, I did find myself looking at the fag butts on the floor. There was no pit but some very enthusiastic fans. I liked these guys but they need to work on some attention grabbing songs. Make them sound different! Otherwise the band has great potential and I hope they keep going!”

***Blam, October 2004***

## Photo Shots



Benjamin Mitchell, Lead Guitar



Mike Munroe, Bass / Vocals

## Gig History

12th April 2007	Industry, Shoreditch, London
6th April 2007	Tunbridge Wells Forum, Kent
19th March 2007	Hope & Anchor, Islington, London
3rd February 2007	Tunbridge Wells Forum, Kent
16th January 2007	Catch 22, Shoreditch, London
30th Dec 2006	Tunbridge Wells Forum, Kent
17th Nov 2006	The Crypt, Hastings
10th Nov 2006	Tunbridge Wells Forum, Kent
1st Nov 2006	The Prince George, Croydon
28th Sept 2006	UCCA Bar, Maidstone
7th Sept 2006	The Star, Guildford
18th Aug 2006	Sound, Leicester Square, London
19th Aug 2006	Lark In The Park, Islington, London
8th Aug 2006	Cox's Yard, Stratford-Upon-Avon
6th Aug 2006	The Tunbridge Wells Forum, Kent
5th Aug 2006	TJ's, Newport, Wales
4th Aug 2006	The Peel, Kingston
3rd Aug 2006	The Rhythm Factory, London
2nd Aug 2006	The Portland Arms, Cambridge
1st Aug 2006	The Shed, Leicester
29th July 2006	The Face Bar, Reading
27th July 2006	The Tunbridge Wells Forum, Kent
2nd July 2006	Palace Street Festival, Canterbury
16th May 2006	The Tunbridge Wells Forum (The Stable 2nd Round), Kent
2nd May 2006	The Cartoon, Croydon
22nd April 2006	The Pioneer, St.Albans
14th April 2006	The Tunbridge Wells Forum, Kent
8th April 2006	The Sound, Leicester Square, London
2nd April 2006	The Medicine Bar, Birmingham
23rd March 2006	The Crypt, Hastings
18th March 2006	Stringbendy's, Eastbourne
11th March 2006	The Red Lion, Gravesend
24th Feb 2006	Storm, Leicester Square, London
17th Feb 2006	Tap'n'Tin, Chatham
2nd Feb 2006	The Tunbridge Wells Forum, Kent
27th Jan 2006	The Tunbridge Wells Forum, Kent
20th Jan 2006	The Fighting Cock, Surrey
18th Jan 2006	The Brixton Telegraph, London
15th Jan 2006	52 Degrees North, Banbury
14th Jan 2006	West.One.Four, London