

## 国吉 メリッサ Melissa Kuniyoshi

- ・ブラジル・サンパウロ出身
- ・日系ブラジル人歌手(日系3世)

4歳から歌をはじめ、6歳でカラオケ大会に優勝。8歳の頃には東日本大震災をきっかけに同胞にエールを送りたいという想いでブラジルのテレビ番組『Programa Raul Gil』に出演して注目を集める。サンパウロ州大会3回優勝、全国大会優勝、NHKラジオ大会など様々な優勝経験を持つ。2013年に家族と共に来日し、『世界まる見え』、『ノンストップ』、『カラオケバトル』などの番組に出演。また、沖縄

で行われた『うたの日』にも出演し、キロロや BEGIN と共演するなど、多方面で活動を展開している。さらに、来日した際、八代亜紀や世界的に人気の K-POP グループ・BIGBANG との共演も実現。 2015 年には「Brazilian International Press Awards Japan」で女性ソロ歌手部門を受賞し、2019 年には「FOCUS BRASIL AWARDS JAPAN 2019」で同部門を受賞。代表的な歌唱映像『ハナミズキ』は YouTube で 1000 万回以上再生され、注目を集めた。現在は東海大学 4 年生として学業に励みつつ、今後は歌活動やインターネットでの発信を本格的に再開。

Born in Brazil, Melissa Kuniyoshi began singing at the age of four and quickly discovered a deep passion for music. By the age of six, she had already won her first karaoke competition. At eight, moved by the devastating Great East Japan Earthquake, she appeared on the popular Brazilian television program *Programa Raul Gil* to share a heartfelt message of support through song. Her powerful performance captured widespread attention.

She went on to win the São Paulo State singing competition three times, as well as several national contests, including appearances on NHK Radio's vocal programs.

In 2013, Melissa moved to Japan with her family and continued her musical journey. She appeared on various Japanese TV shows such as *Sekai Marumie*, *Non Stop!*, and *The Karaoke Battle*, where her vocal talent and emotional depth resonated with audiences. She also performed at Okinawa's *Uta no Hi* festival, sharing the stage with acclaimed artists like Kiroro and BEGIN.

She has had the honor of performing with iconic Japanese singer Aki Yashiro and the internationally renowned K-pop group BIGBANG — unforgettable highlights in her career.

In recognition of her talent, she received the Female Solo Singer Award at the *Brazilian International Press Awards Japan* (2015) and again at the *FOCUS Brasil Awards Japan* (2019). Her YouTube rendition of "Hanamizuki" has surpassed 10 million views, continuing to touch listeners across the globe.

Currently a fourth-year student at Tokai University, Melissa is preparing to relaunch her music career while continuing to connect with audiences through digital platforms. With humility and a heartfelt dedication to her craft, she hopes to deliver music that brings comfort, strength, and joy.