

## Achilla Instinct

10:03am Thursday 13th November 2008

**Mariamarta, the lead singer of goth progressive rock band, Achilla, has an impressive pair of lungs.** She is the current Guinness world record holder for vocal range, beating off diva's Carey, Lewis and a number of X Factor wannabees to the title.

The band, who after being championed by metal guru Malcom Dome, have enjoyed whirlwind success over the past two years, will appear at the Putney Halfmoon on November 18.

Achilla refers to an ancient Roman city; "We're an international band," explains Mariamarta. "We wanted something romantic and not already in existence, we're not a typical hard rock metal band."



She's Achilla...

Mariamarta hails from Hungary whilst her colleagues come from Mexico, the Canary Islands, Italy and good old Blighty; "Coming from all over, we have lots of influences including heavy metal, Hungarian folk music and Nightwish (A huge Finnish metal band), we write all our songs together."

The band's almost overnight success has caught even them by surprise; "The Fringe Festival was amazing, it was our first time out of London, we felt like rockstars, we got paid, food and drink!

"People were coming up to us and asking if we'd sign their bodies, it was only our seventh gig, I was so touched I thought I was going to cry!"

Mariamarta makes for a charismatic and intriguing frontwoman who fell into music after a chance encounter with a child prodigy - now her best friend; "I was studying nursing in Hungary, in the student hostel I met an amazing musician who was so naturally gifted he didn't have to try - he taught me how to sing.

"One day we were fooling around playing Mozart's Queen of the Night Aria and I asked him to let me sing the high notes, he was so shocked I thought I had done something wrong or damaged my voice, but he just turned to me and said, I can't teach you anymore."

To see the voice in action, get to the Putney Halfmoon, Mariamarta can't wait to entertain you; "I have seen a friend's band perform there, its an amazing place and a fantastic venue to play."

Achilla at the Halfmoon Putney, 93 Lower Richmond Rd. November 18, 8pm. £4 advance tickets available through Ticketweb. To listen to the bands music visit [www.myspace.com/achillamusic](http://www.myspace.com/achillamusic)

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