

ENDURANCE at le Supermotocross de Montréal by Jianai Jenny Chen

October 8, 2009

I am pleased to introduce the illustrious Jianai Jenny Chen, a denizen of the East Village by way just north of Shanghai. A reporter, photographer, blogger, and Gal Friday extraordinaire, you haven't heard the last from Miss Chen, because just like me, honey cannot shut up.

Last Thursday night I ran off to Montreal to join the circus. Photographer Theresa Ortolani sent me to do a little promotion at the Supermotocross de Montreal, for her new book *Endurance: Down and Dirty Off-Road Racing*.



Friday, October 2: Warm up practice on the track for Saturday's main event. I met up with Dan Paris, who did an awesome review on the book for DMX. He and his friends showed me around and filled me in on the races. When I looked out on the track I felt like I was looking at the coolest playground ever. There were giant tires stacked atop each other and jutting out of the mud and bails of hay outlining the two different tracks: the first just a dirt trail, the second a dirt trail full of obstacles—lines of logs, water trenches, and mounds of dirt and mud and rocks!



Saturday, October 3: A crazy, hectic, and exhilarating day. The air was buzzed with excitement and that helped me keep my PR girl game on. More and more fans started pouring in throughout the day. They were mostly attracted to the pits- a huge garage-like room where bikers and their mechanics set up and hung out. There were so many fans crowded everywhere I could barely push through all of them to get inside the barred area (I had access- oh yeahh). A little eerie actually, as at one point I looked up from where I was standing and literally felt like I was in a zoo—and I wasn't on the outside looking in.



The Pits

When the races finally began that evening I was bouncing up and down the press booth in anticipation. The pressure of these races was intense; there were crashes, falls with a domino effect, injuries and stretchers! But for these guys to race like this, and endure it in front of 60,000 screaming spectators, was worth all the first I had in my hair.

I even did an interview with Directmotocross's Montreal Supercross webcast voices Jim Holley, Steve Matthes and Todd Kuli. My first radio spot, big shout out to THERESA ORTOLANI: ENDURANCE!

<http://www.directmotocross.com/news/breaking/2009/10/rewind-montreal-supercross-webcast>



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Archives

- October 2009
- September 2009
- August 2009