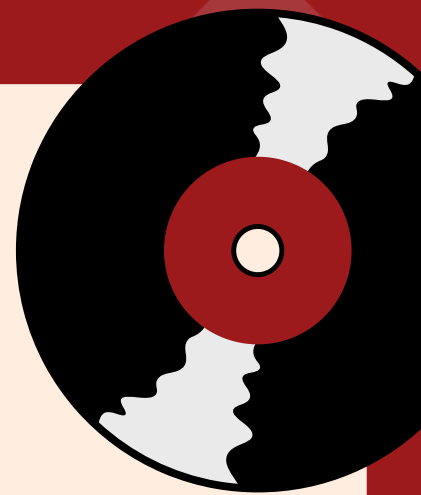
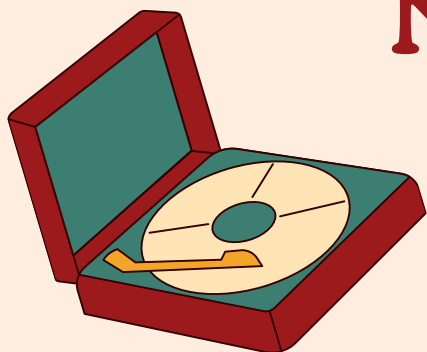


Grooves of Time



Nicolas Kwek





Once thought obsolete, vinyl is slowly making a comeback in Singapore. According to Luminate Data, a data provider for the music industry, vinyl record sales have been increasing year on year for more than 10 years in a row. As demand increases, more vinyl stores have been appearing in Singapore.



Every 2 weeks, collectors flock to the Katong Square Retro Market to dig through crates of vinyl, hoping to find a record to add to their collection. The growing crowd and rising interest represents how vinyl is slowly finding its way back into Singapore's music scene.



A DJ spins vinyl at the Katong Square Retro Market, showing how vinyl is not just collected, but also used by DJs. Many DJs still prefer vinyl over digital as it offers a warmer sound and more tactile experience.



Located along Joo Chiat Road, Cherry Lane Records is one of Singapore's newest vinyl shops. Since opening in September 2024, the store has quickly become a popular spot among vinyl collectors due to its wide variety of vinyls and cozy atmosphere.



Although young, Ms Cherry Lim has many years of experience selling vinyls, having sold them online since 2012. “It has always been a dream to open a record store, since I was a kid.” she shares, describing the passion that eventually led her to open her own store.



Inside the store, shelves are filled with vinyls from genres ranging from rock to jazz. All vinyls are carefully curated and sourced by Cherry from various suppliers, reflecting her dedication to sharing music of different genres and generations.



Other than selling records, interacting with customers is also one of Cherry's favorite aspects of owning a store. "You get to meet a lot of cool customers. Like-minded people who are into the same hobby." she shares, showing us that there is still strong community built around vinyl in Singapore.



Vinyl enthusiast Francis has been collecting vinyl for over 13 years, and often visits record stores looking for vinyls to add to his 700-strong collection. “Vinyl still sounds so good over so many years, it’s something special that lasts forever.” he shares, describing his motivation to keep collecting.



A young couple chooses Cherry Lane Records as the location for their photoshoot. Cherry shares that “Now, more younger people are getting more into it. They're starting to appreciate the older music as well.”, highlighting the growing interest in vinyls among the younger generation.



As digital music took over , vinyl never disappeared - it simply waited. Now, as more people rediscover vinyl, the needle finally finds its groove again. Vinyl's comeback in Singapore shows us that with communities and passion, something once dismissed as outdated can thrive once more.