

MARI KODA
ACTOR, DANCER and TEACHER



From film and television to commercials and music videos, Mari Koda is making a name for herself as a versatile force to be reckoned with. A native of Japan, Mari moved to New York City and immediately made an impact on the dance scene. Although she is trained in Jazz and Ballet, it is her Hip- Hop dance style that put her on the map. By combining Popping, Locking, and Waacking, she has created an ‘Old School’ flavor with a ‘New School’ appeal.

Traveling throughout the world, Mari has taught in various countries and states such as New York, Washington DC, Maryland, Georgia, New Jersey, Canada, Italy, Austria, England, Ireland, Norway, Brazil, Argentina and Japan. Mari was personally selected by Jamie Foxx to perform at Lincoln Center in the MTV Video Music Awards. She has also danced in several music videos and live on stage with the Black Eyed Peas, Missy Elliott, Jamie Foxx, Cascada, 50 Cent, Timbaland, and Patti LaBelle, with whom she toured as a dancer and choreographer. Her TV credits include performances on MTV2 and commercials for Gap, Best Buy, Jolly Rancher, Ameritrade, and Above the Influence. Mari has choreographed winning routines for competitions such as BET 106 & Park and The Apollo Theater’s ‘Amateur Night’ talent competitions. She is also a member of the world-renowned B-Boy and Hip Hop dance crew The ‘Rock Steady Crew’ that was established in NYC in 1977. Mari is one of the most sought after dancers in the entertainment business and is quickly establishing herself as one of the hottest teachers and choreographers in the Hip Hop industry today.



©STEP UP REVOLUTION

In 2008, Mari was cast as the role of the quirky Jenny Kido in the blockbuster smash hit movie ‘Step Up 2 The Streets’. Mari created such a buzz with her dancing that the role was expanded, and she was again featured as Jenny Kido in 2010’s monster summer hit ‘Step Up 3D’ (the movies were in theatres over 50 different countries) and the upcoming ‘Step Up Revolution.’ Along with being an eye-catching actor, her unique dance style can also be seen in the films ‘Across the Universe’ and ‘Brooklyn to Manhattan’.

Besides being a gifted actor and dancer, Mari is also an accomplished educator, producer, events coordinator, and manager. She has traveled to schools all over the world, holding lectures about Hip Hop culture and the dance industry in America; Mari constantly strives to create a better future for kids and firmly believes that dance can make that possible. Putting her bilingual skills to use, she has also built bridges across Japan and America by bringing American DJs and MCs overseas. Mari brings together people of all different ages and backgrounds in both fundraising and performance events, with hopes that the power of dance can diminish discrimination and prejudice.

Her love for music is visibly expressed through her movement.
For Mari it's all about the **flow, music, dance, love, and life.**

