

AUGUST'S GAMING GOODNESS

Lesley Smith looks at the offerings available for import gamers...

August is a quiet month for gaming, even in Japan. July brought Capcom's bikini/game special editions of *Love Finder*, but this month's offers are slightly more pedestrian. First up, a treat for arcade and anime fans. The strangely named *Melty Blood: Act Cadenza* (PS2) is a port of the successful beat-'em-up based on the visual novel *Tsukihime*. You pit characters like vampire princess Arcuid Brunestud and her minion Shiki against the villains of the series, including Nrvngr Chaos.

Next up is the re-release of *Tokimeki Memorial Girl's Side 2nd Kiss* (PS2). *TokiMemo* is a love sim and *Girl's Side* has a twist in that the protagonist is a girl hunting for a boyfriend rather than the other way around. *2nd Kiss* is being published in a special limited edition version that contains a host of goodies like a drama CD, book and pendant.

Also out this month in Japan is *Every Extend Extra* (PSP) - combining upbeat music and psychedelic graphics with a shoot-'em-up. Chaining combos together leads to an extension of the game, extra lives and some crazy visuals.

Xbox 360-wise, August sees the release of *Condemned* and the must-have aquarium simulator *Aquazone*, whilst DS owners will be able to get their hands on *Starfox DS*. Despite not being the best month for importing, there's something for everyone, from anime fans to those just after something a little wackier.

