

Out of the Box

Dyke-led band rises up from Down Under

Lesbian songstress Mishka's voice has been described as a "cyborg Minnie Ripperton." But on *Glovebox's* self-titled U.S. debut album, the Australian band resembles a hodgepodge of artists—Macy Gray ("Superstar"), Moby ("In the End") and Garbage ("\$10 Whore")—adding its own original, sexy, trippin' flavor to each track.

This diverse sound makes sense coming from a woman who grew up in Queensland with a Hungarian father and Cyprian mother. Mishka also lived in London for a spell, "learning and experiencing and listening to a lot of music and writing a lot of music, just being somewhere else."

She spoke to me from Melbourne a few days before jetting across the globe for *Glovebox's* state-side debut.



Jim's Closet

BY JIM RADOSTA

just wasn't right. And we knew about this really cool chick drummer, and I thought she'd just totally fit. So Grainger and I had big chats—it was such a big deal to change drummers after Peter being in it for so long. As soon as we got Sair—you know when it just feels like magic? It was the right thing to do. And she's magic. She's a magic person. Great karma. Great personality. Fits in perfectly. It's a family, which I think is really important.

JR: You guys describe your sound as "electroorganic." How do you see that evolving?

M: We've started working on the next album, which is great. It's different but the same. It's got the same elements, but we're totally moving somewhere else. **10**



Mishka (left) has been working with producer/arranger Grainger K. Lock (right) for 10 years.

Jim Radosta: How would you describe your working relationship with your collaborator, Grainger K. Lock?

Mishka: We get along like brother and sister. [When we met] we fought like cat and dog. This is what you need for a good songwriting team. I would say he's my whole soulmate because he knows how to press my buttons—and I know how to press his.

JR: What can people expect from a live *Glovebox* experience as opposed to what they hear on the disc?

M: I just want them to feel the energy of the band and have a great time. It's funny—I have no idea what the venues are really like and what the people are like. They say that, you know, everybody in America has a good time.

JR: How old were you when you first realized you were gay?

M: Oh my God, I've always been gay! [Laughs] I remember when I was young and at school going, "God, she's cute, but no, I can't think that, it's not right." Probably 13—when you start thinking but you don't know. I was playing drums, and one of the girls in the band came out and said, "I'm gay," and I thought, "Oh, wow, how cool!" And then it just went from there and it was OK.

JR: *Glovebox* recently switched drummers. What happened?

M: Peter was an awesome jazz musician, but it

GLOVEBOX makes a free in-store appearance 5 p.m. April 28 at Music Millennium, 801 N.W. 23rd Ave., followed by a performance with *Climber*, *Trespassers* William and *Solar Powered* People 9 p.m. at *Holocene*, 1001 S.E. Morrison St. Cover is \$7.

Arts and Culture Editor JIM RADOSTA needs your feedback. Write to jim@justout.com.

THE TOP SHELF

Grab your datebooks, because the Mount Rushmore of lesbian legends will be hitting the Oregon concert circuit this summer.

First up, just one week after *Portland Pride*, is *Melissa Etheridge*, fresh from her successful battle with breast cancer and eagerly awaiting the arrival of twins. (See Page 17.) The show starts 8 p.m. June 24 at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall, 1037 S.W. Broadway. Tickets are \$35-\$100 from Ticketmaster.

The *Indigo Girls* are touring behind their new collection *Rarities*, featuring covers of The Clash's "Clampdown," Elton John's "Mona Lisas and Mad Hatters" and The Grateful Dead's "Uncle John's Band." Singer/songwriter/guitarists Amy Ray and Emily Saliers take to the stage 7 p.m. July 1 at the Oregon Zoo, 4001 S.W. Canyon Road. Tickets are \$26 from TicketsWest. Then they'll head south to Eugene for a gig 6 p.m. July 3 at Secret House Vineyard, 88324 Vineyard Lane. Tickets are \$36 at the door or \$33 in advance from Ticketmaster.

After a sold-out performance in 2003, k.d. lang returns to the Britt Pavilion in Jacksonville at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 27. Tickets, which go on sale May 8, are \$25-\$57 from www.brittfest.org. **10**

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