



HER SPACE HOLIDAY

Just The 'Tronic

Her Space Holiday performs with 4 Bonjour's Parties (supported by Tenniscoats) at the Beck's Music Box on Wednesday, February 18. BOB GORDON speaks with Marc Bianchi.

Marc Bianchi used to be a musician within the Californian hardcore scene. As a musician, however, something wasn't resonating and he stated a label, Audio Information Phenomena, and concentrated on releasing the work and spreading the word about other musicians.

The creative bug held true in him, however, and he eventually began releasing music as Her Space Holiday – a kind of music a world away from Cali hardcore. He let the label go and these days, Her Space Holiday has a legion of followers in the US, Europe and Japan, but his forthcoming tour is Bianchi's first ever time to Australia. And while the World Wide Web keeps him keyed in on the fact that he has fans around the world, the actuality can still come as a pleasant surprise.

"Definitely," he says. "I've been doing this for 14 years, but touring is extra special, especially when you're leaving the country. It's like, *'do I really get to go to Australia?'* It is strange, as you mention, even though I haven't worked with a larger label before, with the internet it is like sleeping community. I'd not been with a larger label before and it's kind of sad, in a way, that you can do it yourself but you can't go to another country. Maybe I could have gone to Australia a couple of years ago, even before I was with a label, but it's just so hard to figure out on your own how to taken on such a large trip."

Indietronic has most often been the term used in description of his first five albums, but last year's *XOXO, Panda And The New Kid Revival* has been universally hailed as a departure for Her Space Holiday, given its more organic qualities. This has resulted in a different stage set-up for Bianchi's current touring commitments.

"For years up until this last record it was a laptop, a drummer and a bass player and

me on guitar," he explains, "so there was a lot of back-tracks. But with this record there's no samples or anything and I've been just hooking up with bands and friends who happen to be on tour at the same time. So depending on who's available, the lineup changes.

"The tour we did recently in Japan was with 4 Bonjour's Parties, there's nine of them, so there tons of instruments on stage but it can be stripped to two guitars, bass and drums if it needs."

It is indeed 4 Bonjour's Parties who join Bianchi in Australia, as his backing band. He digs it.

"I've loved playing with all the people that I have," he says, "but playing with them, it's just so much fun having that many people up there with you. I met them initially through an Australian band Clue To Kalo, 'cause we're on the same label in a few countries. We played a one-off show in Japan with Clue To Kalo and 4 Bonjourns were the opening band.

"The label suggested using them as a backing band on the record and I said, *'sure'*. When you a record you play the song once or whatever and can't really remember what's going on, but when I went up there to play with them they were so on top of their stuff that they actually showed me that I was playing the songs wrong (*laughs*). They're so enthusiastic about it that you remember while you're doing it about how much fun this is."



Marc Bianchi, Her Space Holiday