

Behind-the-Scenes Video of Michael Franti Working on New Album



Michael Franti & Spearhead return with their much anticipated album, THE SOUND OF SUNSHINE, on August 24th through Capitol Records/Boo Boo Wax. THE SOUND OF SUNSHINE is Michael Franti & Spearhead's seventh studio album and the follow-up to 2008's Top 40 hit All Rebel Rockers. For a sneak peek at the THE SOUND OF SUNSHINE album cover, head to www.michaelfranti.com.

THE SOUND OF SUNSHINE was conceived after Franti was hospitalized for a ruptured appendix in August 2009. "Music is sunshine. It gives us new energy and a stronger sense of purpose. You can't hold it in your hands, smell it, taste it or even see it, yet somehow just coming together and feeling these little vibrations that tickle our eardrums can somehow lift us all up out of our most difficult moments in life to unimaginable heights," says Franti.

Franti and Spearhead have no doubt succeeded in creating perhaps what is their most cohesive, romantic and life-affirming album to date. THE SOUND OF SUNSHINE opens with the album's title track "a breezy sing-a-long that seeks to bottle that experience of waking up in the morning, pulling the blinds and seeing that there's a sunny day in front of us," explains Franti. It is this optimistic energy that flows throughout the record's eleven songs from the happy groove of "Shake It" to the joyously anthemic "I'll Be Waiting."

The band began recording in Jamaica with legendary producers

Sly and Robbie (Bob Dylan, Carlos Santana, No Doubt) as well as in Franti's home in Bali and hometown of San Francisco . With the record still not complete, Franti decided to bring a mobile studio on the road with him while he toured with John Mayer this past winter. The album was finished in dressing rooms and hotel rooms along the way with Franti playing songs he had recorded earlier in the day to the audience that evening. THE SOUND OF SUNSHINE continues to showcase Franti's desire to communicate directly with his fans.

Michael Franti is the creator and lead singer of Michael Franti & Spearhead. For over two decades, the Bay Area born Franti has been bringing our world exceptionally powerful, deeply felt music. Franti first formed the punk band The Beatnigs while studying at the University of San Francisco , and later the far more hip hop-inflected The Disposable Heroes of Hiphoprisy. In the mid-Nineties, Franti created Spearhead, and increasingly in recent years, he's found his own voice musically and his own organic brand of popular success. Franti's impressive series of recordings have vividly reflected his status as a musical citizen of the world.

Franti & Spearhead will be touring throughout the summer. For tour dates, ticket information, official Michael Franti news and to check out the latest v-blogs on FrantiV, go to www.michaelfranti.com.

Tour Dates

July

Thu 15 Jacksonville, OR Britt Festival

Fri 16 Berkeley, CA Greek Theater

Sun 18 Alta, WY Targhee Fest

Thu 22 Edmonton, AB Windspear

Fri 23 Calgary, ALB Calgary Folk Festival

Sat 24 Vancouver, BC The Vogue Theater

Sun 25 Corning, CA Mystic Garden Party

Tue 27 Salt Lake City, UT Deer Valley

Thu 29 Aspen, CO Belly Up

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Sat 31 Morrison, CO Red Rocks Ampitheater

August

Sun 1 Durango, CO Animis Cliffs

Wed 4 Reno, NV Knitting Factory Concert Hs

Thu 5 Bend, OR Les Schwab Ampitheater

Fri 6 Eugene, OR Cuthbert Amphitheatre

Sat 7 Redmond, WA Marymoor Amphitheatre

Tue 10 Eagle, ID Eagle River Pavilion

Wed 11 Missoula, MT The Wilma Theater

Thu 12 Missoula, MT The Wilma Theater

Fri 13 Sandpoint, ID Festival At Sandpoint

Sat 14 Billings, MT Magic City Blues Festival

Sat 21 Las Vegas, NV Mandalay Bay/The Beach SOS Festival

Thu 26 Atlanta, GA The Tabernacle

Fri 27 Live Oak, FL Blackwater Sol Revue/Spirit of the Suwanee

Sat 28 Myrtle Beach, SC House Of Blues

Sun 29 Richmond, VA The National

Tue 31 Charlotte, NC The Neighborhood

September

Thu 2 Tampa, FL to Grand Cayman ZAC BROWN CRUISE – Sep 2 – Sep 6

Sun 19 Laytonville, CA Earthdance: United Beats of Peace Festival