

29 August 2009

PARACHUTE CONFIRMS SWITCHFOOT

Parachute Music has announced that Switchfoot is the major headliner for its 2010 Festival in New Zealand.

The San Diego surfers-turned-musicians previously performed at Parachute 08.

Media Liaison Jane De Jong says Parachute 2010 is shaping up to be the "biggest Parachute Festival ever".

Other international artists to perform at next year's festival are Underoath, Hillsong United, Leeland, Family Force 5, NewWorldSon, Falling Up and Manafest.

Jane confirmed plans are underway for a series of Parachute concerts in Australia ahead of the NZ festival.

BROOKE FRASER IS AMONG NZ'S BEST EVER

Brooke Fraser says she's "honored" to have her song *Arithmetic* included in *The Great New Zealand Songbook*, a collection of "the best Kiwi songs" of all time.

Presented as a 100 page hardcover journal, the book includes handwritten lyrics, photos and memorabilia from artists such as The Chills, Supergroove, Crowded House, Dave Dobbyn... plus Brooke!

It comes with two CDs - *This Century* and *Last Century*.

Brooke is currently in the US writing songs for her third album.

A cover of her song *Lead Me To The Cross* (recorded by Chris and Conrad) is #10 on the Billboard Christian songs chart in the US this week.

GMA-ANZ CALLS ON CHRISTIAN RADIO TO CHAMPION LOCAL MUSIC

The Chairman of the Gospel Music Association of Australia and New Zealand has called on Christian radio in Australia to champion local Christian artists.

In a statement released to its members and the media last week, Isaac Moody says it is "concerning that local Christian artists aren't being given the opportunity to have their songs broadcast".

Moody's comments follow a recent GMA-ANZ survey of three capital city stations which shows that while each station complies with the 25% Australian content quota, local Christian artists "rarely receive a chance to be heard" with "less than 5% of local music broadcast".

"Australian Christian artists are being denied the chance to share their music, as they fight to gain airplay... [up against] international and Australian major-label content," Mr Moody states.

GMA-ANZ is the peak body for Christians involved in music in Australia and New Zealand. Many are local Christian artists and independent recording labels.

Christian Media Australia - the peak body for Christian broadcasters in Australia - has not responded to TRAA's request to comment on the GMA-ANZ survey, or on what it sees as Christian radio's commitment to play Australian Christian music.

Three local Aussie acts - Roma Waterman, Playjerise, and Candice Casagrande - secured a place this week in TRAA's national airplay Top 30.