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INFO ZONE

CHRISTIAN CITY YOUTH INTRODUCES BOLD NEW APPROACH

Nikki Fletcher, the primary vocalist and songwriter for Christian City Youth (formerly CCC Youth) is sitting in the offices of The Grove recording studio on the NSW Central Coast wearing a white singlet, blue jeans, and pink skate shoes. Christian City Youth has just finished recording its fifth album *No Longer I* in studios previously owned by INXS, and now owned by Mark and Darlene Zschech. The atmosphere is relaxed and cruisy.

Long term followers of the band's music will notice a few changes with *No Longer I*. The sound is more distinct, and the songs more polished and hooky.

Nikki says that working with producer Paul Mabury (Brooke Fraser, Reuben Morgan, The Jive Express) has really helped raise the bar for the band musically.

"More importantly," she says, "Paul has helped us focus on God more than just doing it for the music. He has taken us to a new level in our production, and this has helped us more clearly convey what God has been showing us."

The "No Longer I" CD cover reflects this new approach - it's bold, striking and bright, symbolising the central message of the album.

"It's got our eyes torn out, and our faces are torn," she says with a broad grin.

"In the past year, all the members of the band have gone through a process of 'dying' - letting things go. As long as I'm serving God, that's all that matters for me.

"So the cover and the songs are saying what we've come to experience. It's not really about us, it's about Christ," Nikki emphasises.

Christian City Youth has released the song *More Than* as the first single from the album. The group will launch the full CD - "No Longer I" - at a series of concerts held throughout Australia and New Zealand over the next few weeks.

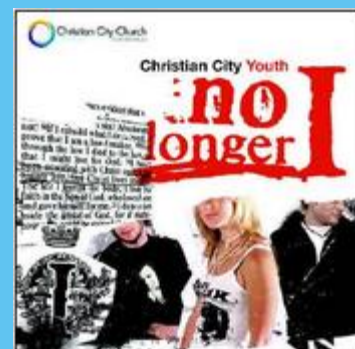
See [TRAA](#) for the tour dates.

BROOKE RELOCATES TO SYDNEY AND CAMPS OUT FOR A MONTH OF RESIDENCIES

After wowing fans in London and LA last month with her international showcases, Brooke Fraser is set to treat her Sydney fans throughout April with three different residencies each week.



Nikki Fletcher



No Longer I



Brooke Fraser

Brooke Fraser, the 21 year-old Kiwi songwriting sensation, is really showing that Sydney is her new home by embarking on residencies at three local venues next month.

Throughout April, she plays every Wednesday night at The Vanguard in Newtown, Thursdays at the Charlton Bar in Manly and Sunday evenings at Cronulla's Brass Monkey.

Brooke last year relocated from Auckland to Sydney following the release of her debut album "What To Do With Daylight" - an album that mixes haunting, soul-searching confessions with highly crafted pop songwriting that belies Brooke's relative youth.

The album has sold more than 100,000 copies over the Tasman (that's seven times platinum in Kiwi-speak) and has already surpassed 15 000 sales in Australia, thanks to high profile touring including a string of magnificent shows last year with John Mayer, and strong sales in the Christian market.

After a January tour of New Zealand beach resorts with Kiwi icon Dave Dobbyn, Brooke headed to cooler climes in February, playing packed out shows in London and Los Angeles and treating audiences to the mix of heart-rending songcraft and highly entertaining oddball story-telling that have become her live trademark.

Fraser's April shows will give fans here in her adopted hometown a chance to catch this stunning artist in a setting she suits best - up close and personal.

See TRAA for the tour dates.

More than 30 000 people attended the Australian Gospel Music festival held in Toowoomba at the weekend. The three day festival saw a record line up of national and international Christian artists including Delirious, Sonicflood, Brooke Fraser and crowd favorites Petra.

Alabaster Box has launched "Live At Ripley Road". This is one of the first DVDs by an Australian Christian act. The DVD features live concert material, interviews plus extras.

Australia has a new Christian music record label. Launched at AGMF, the Nourish label boasts Adelaide's Leigh Cunningham, Vanuatu's Vanessa Quai, Canberra's Katie DeVeau, plus New Zealand band, The Lads. Integrity Music will distribute Nourish in Australia.

The Info Zone - thanks to The Rock Across Australia.

[NEXT - ALBUM SPOTLIGHT]



Alabaster Box