



Mi-Sex Tour

Mi-Sex have just returned downunder after a four week 20 city tour of North America. *RIU* spoke to Mi-Sex guitarist, Kevin Stanton after their New York gig at Irving Plaza. By then, he was back at the Gramacy Hotel at 212-4754320, doing some phone interviews to New Zealand, as Mi-Sex will tour here between June 13 and June 22.

The eight centre tour will have the band performing in Invercargill (Civic) June 13, Dunedin (Regent) June 14, Christchurch (TH) June 15, Wellington (TH) June 17, Palmerston North (Opera House) June 18, Hastings (Municipal Theatre) June 19 and Auckland Town Hall June 22.

Mi-Sex travelled to the USA on their own resources.

"As soon as the record company saw our first gig, they took an interest in us," says Stanton. "We've had a favourable reception everynight we've played. The best reaction so far was Washington DC. They reacted like an audience that had been listening to us for years."

The first three gigs were supporting Iggy Pop. The band opened for the Ramones, double-billed with 999 and otherwise they've been headlining. In Toronto they will play a 2000 seater hall as it's in Canada that sales of *Computer Games* (the USA album title) have been best, 20,000 in fact. Six tracks of the album were programmed on the FM station heard in Montreal and Toronto.

When *RIU* asked if the band was categorised as new wave by the US media, Stanton replied: "The operative term in the US is 'punk rock'. We're a punk rock band here. Only more up-to-date journalists call us new wave."

This obviously amuses Stanton, as does US radio.

"The stations are only after money. That means ratings and playing music that the majority want. They are not selling any new records in the US, because they're not playing any new records. They play early seventies records like Led Zeppelin. It's the most boring radio I've ever heard."

Having visited the USA, does Mi-Sex want to record there?

"We prefer to record in Australia," replies Stanton. "It's much more relaxed and about twenty five percent of the price. The incentive is there and the equipment is there, so I can't see any reason not to record in Australia."

Prior to their US spin, the band recorded their second album, *Space Race*, once again with Peter Dawkins. The studio they used was Music Farm, located near the NSW and Queensland border. Dawkins mixed the album in New York.

In May and June Mi-Sex will promote *Space Race* in Aussie and NZ, keeping an eye on the progress of their debut in countries as varied as South Africa, USA, Italy and Japan. With the "Computer Games" single charting well in seven European countries.

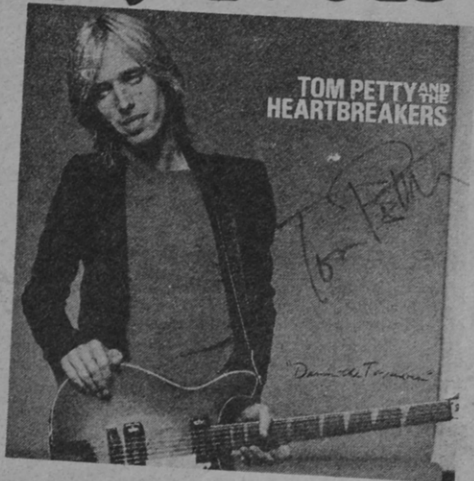
Is USA touring tough?

"No way," replies Stanton, "in Oz we work seven days a week. But over here you can only work five days. New York dies on Monday, just like New Zealand."

With the phone call over, it's 4AM in New York and that means four hours sleep before a drive to Boston. And there's only 10 more cities to go.

Murray Cammick

WIN AUTOGRAPHED DAMN THE TORPEDOES



The first four correct entries opened on May 27 will win an autographed copy of Tom Petty's classic new album *Damn The Torpedoes*.

All you have to do is identify face number 1 and face number 2 and name the *DTT* producer. Both gents are in Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers. The clues are:

No.1 Never break strings and wears a RAMS 50 t-shirt.

No.2 Does not play bass guitar.

No.1 is.....

No.2 is.....
... and name the producer of *Damn The Torpedoes*

Post to RIU, PO Box 5689, Auckland 1, by May 26.

Name

Address

DON'T FORGET THE MEMBERS COMPETITION PAGE 15

Take a discovery Break



From the vibrant LA club scene, new musical directions are emerging. As a result, the 60's-rock influenced band, 20/20, is delivering its own tightly constructed songs and irresistible harmonies.



An exciting new Californian band discovered by Eddie Money, The Beat are into simple fun rock'n roll. Paul Collins, the creative force behind this driving sound was part of a pre-New Wave outfit 'The Nerves' who gave Blondie their single 'Hanging on the Telephone'.



The Romantics came roaring off Detroit's rock'n roll production line with the talent and determination to succeed. Gigs at Max's Kansas City notched up enough raves to open shows for The Cars, Nick Lowe, Joe Jackson and Cheap Trick.

THE ROMANTICS
STARJETS
20/20
THE BEAT



The Starjets began in Belfast playing hard and fast rock music. Outgrowing the local scene, they moved to London where they quickly impressed both press and public. Many of their songs are inspired by the hardships of life they knew in Belfast.

WHAT'S IT THAT EVERYBODY
LIKES ABOUT ROCK 'N' ROLL. THE BEAT