

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mother of all debut albums long-time coming, but worth the wait.



The Hackkets (L-R): Stuart Flenley, Robin Waters, Peter Tolhurst, Andrew Paganella, Victoria Cini, Joe Vella and Dan Parsons.

The hardest working rock band in Melbourne, **The Hackkets**, are set to release their highly-anticipated debut album this Mother's Day at The Reverence Hotel in Footscray.

Proudly hailing from Melbourne's West, the band is made up of members with and without disability, brought together more than 10 years ago as part of **Footscray Community Arts Centre's** ArtLife program and still going strong. The band originally focussed on covers, immersing themselves in the classic rock and pop hits of legends such as Johnny Cash and Cyndi Lauper. Since 2011 though, the band began channelling their rock and pop influences into their own original songs, creating a kind of AM radio fan-fiction.

The thirteen original tracks of their much-anticipated debut covers a myriad themes and reflects the experiences of singers **Stuart Flenley**, **Victoria Cini** and **Peter Tolhurst**. These range from Facebook friendship fallouts, the highs and lows of playing in a band, Melbourne's inclement weather and the frustration of being ignored.

Their first single, *Mexico / LA* which was released in late 2013 and launched at The Reverence Hotel to a sell-out crowd, was inspired by Flenley's journey to overcoming a fear of flying. Catchy and sunny, the song is upbeat reminder that the future is full of excitement and possibility.

Just like the future of The Hackkets.

With more than 200 gigs to their name, The Hackkets line-up is rounded out by drummer **Andrew Paganella**, producer and musician **Robin Waters (The Boat People, Machine Translations)** on keyboard, guitarists **Dan Parsons** and **Zac Rush (Darling James)**, and bassist **Joe Vella**.

Says Tolhurst, 'Happy memories of making the album are experimenting with different instruments and things. We did hand-claps and rain sounds ... things like that.'

The Hackkets will be supported on the night by Indigenous singer-songwriter **Robbie Bundle**, who in 2014 the band shared a stage with at *FCAC: All In*, Footscray Community Arts Centre's 40th birthday celebrations.

The Hackkets self-titled debut album can be found on Spotify and iTunes or purchased at Footscray Community Arts Centre CD directly from Footscray Community Arts Centre.

The Hackkets debut will be launched at The Reverence Hotel, Sunday 10 May, 5pm – 7pm. 45 Moreland Street, Footscray.

- [Hear the Debut Album here \(Media Preview only\)](#)
- [Download publicity photos and album artwork here.](#)

##ENDS##

Members of The Hackets are available for interview.

For all media enquiries, please contact Jenna Williams, Marketing and Communications Coordinator. 9362 8883 / jenna@footscrayarts.com

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