

# Childhood idol plays on

*“It seems fitting he plays to the same generation, this time as young adults”*

**W**ash Yourself in Orange Juice. Spaghetti Bolognaise. Toffee Apple. Juicy Juicy Green Grass. No, this isn't the menu of some new chic organic cafe on Brunswick Street. They're the song names and mnemonic aids to some of this generation's most treasured memories. It's the catalogue of Peter Combe, that lovable larrikin who delivered these 'hits' directly to our TV screens back in childhood when the ABC was the only media we knew.

Anyone between the ages of, say, 19 – 28 will invariably have heard these melodies and no doubt have a fond

affection for their creator. And it seems fitting, then, that he come back and play to the same generation, only this time as young adults, in a pub, with beer.

“This tour's a little different. We've tried to make it a notch up from last year. Last year I basically toured with myself and my keyboard player, which was really nice, but this year we're going the whole hog and doing a band show in every capital city,” Combe says.

And what makes this tour even more unique than your average rock circuit is that he'll be playing with different musicians in every state. He's organised for some of the best young musicians in each city to join him and help bring the songs to life. Not only will there be the spectacle of playing with a shredding guitarist who once watched Combe on TV when they were still having their bum wiped for them, but it brings with it the added bonus of saving lots of money; and in a sense, this makes the band gig possible, as he admits it would be financially impossible to tour the country with a full band. Even his own son, who is 24, will be joining him on some of the tour, making the on-stage dynamic all the more interesting.

“I've always wanted to do a band tour and this is actually the biggest


tour I've ever done. And the other great advantage of playing with these younger players is you get this incredible enthusiasm that you wouldn't otherwise get with an older session player.

“I think people kind of surprise themselves when they come to the show, firstly at how well they know the songs and all the lyrics, but secondly at how loudly they find themselves singing. It's really quite touching (laughs)”.

Combe goes on to say how he doesn't take his audience for granted and seems genuinely “enriched” that people are coming to his shows and having such a good time.

A new live album is in the works, which doubles as a live DVD—it's concert footage from a raucous show in Adelaide.

It was put it together “to prove to people who think that I'm taking the micky when I tell them about my shows, so I can say ‘well just watch this and see for yourself!’” (laughs). Check out the new album/dvd, *Live at Live*, at [www.petercombe.com](http://www.petercombe.com)

Catch Peter Combe and The Juicy Juicy Green Grass Band at the Corner Hotel, Richmond, June 15 

Tickets [www.cornerhotel.com](http://www.cornerhotel.com)

**Daniel Vigilante**



## Mudhoney

**The Lucky Ones**

Stomp

Worldwide lovers of the finer things are rejoicing at the news that Seattle's Mudhoney, yep Mudhoney, are back in action in 2008 with *The Lucky Ones*, the band's eighth full album in a mere 20 years of triumphant rocking.

Deliberately and aggressively raw, *The Lucky Ones* sounds as lean and as full-on as any modern equivalent one cares to mention. Recorded in a scant 3.5 days (including overdubs) with Tucker Martine (who also recorded four songs on their previous album, *Under a Billion Suns*), Mudhoney went in armed with a batch of new material expecting to spend a fair amount of time getting it right. Bang—and bang again after some mixing—and a new album was birthed in record time, faster than anything else the band's done to date.



## No Age

**Nouns**

Stomp

No Age prefers to perform in unique venues: the LA River Basin, a public library, book stores, an Ethiopian restaurant, all to foster new ways to experience live music outside of traditional bar/club settings.

This is the kind of band that inspires its audience without affectation, without cynicism. Their stark DIY art-is-life live shows are an exploration of possibilities: a guitar laid over a resonating drum head, effect loops woven together like beautiful harmonies, pop songs as performance art, a duo that sounds like the gale force of rock history delivered through a wind tunnel.

No Age's Sub Pop debut, *Nouns*, is succinctly all-encompassing, from the faux-simplicity of the title to the beautiful distortion of its sound to the packaging that includes a 68-page full-colour book packed with photos and art pieces.



## Brian McFadden

**Set in Stone**

Universal

Internationally, Brian McFadden is one of the most successful performers and songwriters of his generation. Prior to going solo, he was a member of the phenomenally popular boy band Westlife, a group that sits alongside U2 as the most successful music act ever to come out of Ireland.

In 2004, McFadden decided it was time to step away from Westlife and pursue a career as a solo singer and songwriter. His first album, *Irish Son*, produced by Guy Chambers, featured three UK top 10 hits, including the chart-topping debut single, *Real To Me*, plus an unforgettable, ultimately life-altering duet with Delta Goodrem, *Almost Here* – a worldwide hit which also topped the Australian singles charts. Another classic and powerful track called *Demons* featured prominently in the US television series *Lost*.



## Everclear

**The Vegas Years**

EMI

Never shy about their influences and the music they grew up on, multi-platinum rockers Everclear have long been known for saluting the band's roots by recording and performing a dynamic and eclectic array of covers. Now for the first time, Everclear's best studio and concert recordings have been gathered for a new collection, *The Vegas Years*.

Produced by Everclear singer, guitarist and songwriter Art Alexakis, the disc features 14 covers the band recorded between 1994 and this year, including versions of Hall & Oates' *Rich Girl* and Paul Revere & The Raiders' *Kicks*, both available exclusively on the new CD.

Other recordings include the memorable hits originally recorded by Tom Petty, Van Morrison, Cheap Trick, Neil Young, and more.