

embark on a two-month national tour over which Brian is slightly anxious since he lost his voice on the last three-week jaunt. Once back in Auckland they start recording their album, which Brian reckons is gonna freak a few people with its mixture of heavy rock, poppy rock, "a Chills-y alternative number" and four or five of their favourite mellow tunes.

Brian: "Have you heard the third track on the CD 'Everything'? It's like a full-on love song with a jazz progression which Damon came up with, so I put a melody in it, added a few major chords and made a hook out of it."

Riq: "We wouldn't mind writing a whole mini EP devoted to slow, mellow stuff cos

we write lots of stuff like that and we can't often use it —"

Brian: "Because people want to boogie and jump up and down."

**"WE'RE NOT A BEER SWILLING, WHISTLING AT WOMEN, MISOGYNIST TYPE WANKER BAND."**

Riq and Brian are adamant they've moved a long way from the bands that launched them on the old Powerstation scene. Back then Brian was wearing foundation — in imitation of Push Push — in a Generation X type band called Kiss Me Deadly and, later, the decidedly glam Bad Boy Lollipop (along with guitarist Damon). Riq was in My World Crazy, drummer Rob

was in the Psycho Daizies and bass player Dave was yet to be in one-gig wonder Hot Rats.

Riq: "It was only a few years ago but we were so much

younger then, we were definitely more impressionable whereas now not a lot impresses us. Now it's a really good amalgamation of people from different bands getting together and consolidating. The lyrics are strong, the songs have got a groove, they're quite melodic but they retain that really hard edge. We're a really heavy pop band."

Like others from that era,

Riq and Brian miss the old scene where you could expect to play a packed Powerstation every weekend and you knew the bouncers by name. "We used to go upstairs and drink till 11 in the morning the next day and you'd get bar tabs and things like that," reminisces Riq. Brian blames the overcrowded Debbie Harry concert for forcing management to tighten regulations and inadvertently kill the scene, but everyone has moved on, including the glam rock girlie crowd who Brian says have "grown up and think they're beyond it now."

The Dead Flowers listen to the inevitable "everything". Brian says he's influenced by early Bowie and Stones and, of course, Seattle. He says Dave

likes Miles Davis and early Aerosmith, while Riq, who's always been into black music and Bob Marley, is now a big Pearl Jam, Soundgarden and

like because they're always wearing clean clothes and their hair's shampooed". Riq, proud of his Maori heritage, *did* take care to wear his special Moko

**BUT I HEAR YOU GUYS WERE AT THE ELLE MCPHERSON IN-MALL.**

**"OH YEAH, I'M STILL A MAN, YOU KNOW!"**

Temple of the Dog fan.

As for image, the two Dead Flowers slouched in the Wildside office assure me it's not important. Oh yeah? Brian says he only grew his hair long to cover up his big floppy ears. He would also have me believe that none of them think about what they wear on stage: "As opposed to Push Push, they obviously care what they look

shirt in the 'Lisa' video.

Are Dead Flowers a sleazy rock band?

Riq: "We're not a beer swilling, whistling at women, misogynist type wanker band."

But I hear you guys were spotted at the Elle McPherson in-mall.

Brian: "Oh yeah, I'm still a man, you know!"

**DONNA YUZWALK**

# Music Industry Seminar

## CRAWL

**Saturday October 17  
10 am—1:00 pm**

The first step in the success of an artist, band or small music industry service business is to set up the appropriate business structure from the very beginnings.

We've assembled some of the best business minds including a lawyer and accountant to show you how to get yourself in business whether you play music, manage or book it or run any music business company from a studio to a small record company.

We talk about setting up systems, using technology and dealing with money and banks & planning for survival.

## WALK

**Saturday October 17  
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This session is about doing business in your own city. In the early stages of a band just starting out or a business having formed, you've got to maximise opportunities on the local front before you can take on the world! We cover how to get business or bookings, how to use the local media, developing business strategies, coping with cash flow and finance as well as developing a career footing from your first steps in your own local city or region.

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**Sunday October 18  
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Going national is the next step in an artist's career or growth of a small business.

Our speakers outline how to take the crucial leap onto the national scene, grow into national media prominence, get recognition within the industry, use support organisations, develop skills and techniques for expanding audience/clientele. Top advice and expertise in taking you to the top of the music biz.

## FLY!

**Sunday October 18  
2:15 pm—5:00 pm**

Exporting your goods and services is the ultimate marketing move. Experts who've made the moves — whether launching a record in foreign territories, touring a band overseas or getting your business' products or services into other countries, this session shows you how to expand from the Pacific Rim to the rest of the planet's markets.

### Confirmed Speakers Include:

- Grant Thomas-Crowded House Mgmt.
- Roger Grierson-Polygram Music
- Victor Stent-Polygram Records
- Pam Fauvel-Lay Dodd & Partners
- Murray Cammick-Rip It Up
- Graeme Humphreys-Campus Radio
- Dave Pudney>Showtravel/Showfreight
- Rocky Douche-Marmalade Studios
- Graham Reid-New Zealand Herald
- Noel Agnew-Draffin Agnew & Snow
- Brian Peacock-Export Music Australia

- Phil Tripp-IMMEDIA! PR
- Peter Dawkins-Giant Prods.
- Karyn Hay-KTV/TV3
- Brendan Smyth-NZ On Air
- Lena Days-Stellar Night Prods
- Jeff Clarkson-IMPFA
- Moana-Artiste
- Trevor Reekie-Pagan Records
- Ian Magan-Concert Promotions
- Richard Thorne-N.Z. Musician
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