

THE PIERCE BROTHERS



MULTI TALENTS FROM DOWN UNDER ...

The Pierce Brothers have taken their music from street performance at Melbourne to the big stages all over the world. Comprising of twin brothers Jack and Pat Pierce, the multi instrumentalists have sold over 50,000 EP's independently, which made the buzz only bigger and bigger. With shows in Germany, England and Pinkpop Festival in our own Holland, things are exploding for Melbourne's two favorite brothers. Our reporter spoke to them right before their historical performance at the Hoornse Stadsfeesten.

(Mike Warrink): “You two perform all over the world. Was it planned to have a tour as big and international as this one?”

(Pierce Brothers): “To be honest, it turned out to be a world tour. We started in Canada first, then to England, Germany and Holland. Later this year we’ll also travel to India, but we can’t tell you the reason yet.”

(MW): “Before you two will go to India, you guys had and will have some other shows on your tour. How is the tour going, so far?”

(PB): “All together, things are going really well! It has just really blown us away. The first half year of the tour consisted of much smaller showcases in Canada and England. After all these showcases, we were performing for a lot of people, we flew to Amsterdam to perform at the London Calling Festival (Amsterdam, red.). Then we flew from Amsterdam to Manchester (Dot to Dot Festival, red.) and after a couple of weeks taking a rest, we went back to the Netherlands for our biggest show so far: Pinkpop festival. Between our performance in Landgraaf and Hoorn, we also went to Germany and the Czech Republic.”

(MW): “Your tour schedule is already exhausting by having a look at it.”

(PB): “Yes it is, but we always have fun on the road! Our tour manager Ankie has been wonderful, because we are not insured for driving. We’d loved to offer to drive, but we are not allowed to. So in the meanwhile, she is doing these extreme long drives without complaining at all.”

(MW): “Can you describe how it must feel for Ankie and other people, to be with you two in a car for such a long time?”

(PB): “They will definitely be sick of us at the end of the road. As brothers, we can argue about anything. Literally anything. The subject doesn’t matter, we just need a reason to

start arguing. We are lucky with our driver. She has got such a patience, although sometimes it must be hard for her, because we are more sisters than brothers with our arguing.”

(MW): “You already mentioned it as your biggest performance so far: Pinkpop. Can you describe that day?”

(PB): “It was shocking, and one of the coolest things of our entire life. We were never able to imagine the size of the audience. We thought that the people would first arrive out of curiosity, and then would leave after three or four songs. But the Dutch people went all crazy, started partying and stayed till the end with us. It was a lovely experience.”



(MW): “From Berlin, Munich, Manchester and London to Hoorn: do you have a special connection with our city?”

(PB): “We have never been here before, but our strongest connection with Hoorn is Theo Viset (Head of Program at the Hoornse Stadsfeesten, red.). We have met him a couple of years ago at Lowlands festival, and he already told us there about a cool festival in Hoorn. We had a small walk with Theo through the city, but we definitely have to come back. Our tour manager told us that the Roode Steen used to be the place in the middle ages where the hands of criminals were cut off. We would love to explore more of the great history of Hoorn.”

(MW): “You guys do not need an entire band to give an energetic performance: with all the instruments you guys play, it is just the two of you.”

(PB): “We know all our instruments well enough to perform a good show. In our shows we are able to bring a huge sound with a huge diversity of instruments. We can both play acoustic and electric guitar, harmonica and sing. Then we also have a didgeridoo, kickdrum, djembe and general percussion. We love to perform with the didgeridoo, because of the sounds and the fact that it tells the audience something about our roots.”

(MW): “I found some footage of you, which proved that you do not need a stage to give a performance. What is the story behind your tram sessions?”

(PB): “Tram sessions is something that a lot of Australian artists have done throughout the years. It’s a Melbourne thing, and the idea is: About 5:30-6:00 p.m. someone will get on the tram somewhere, plays and films three songs and disappear. It is like guerrilla marketing, but it brings so much fun doing it! All the excitement and interaction during this short moment is something we can appreciate.”

(MW): “Between the tram sessions and the start of the European tour, you guys became successful in Australia, with more than 40 000 EP’s sold. Can you explain this success?”

(PB): “We did a lot of small performances on the street, and performing and exposing our music has been our life for two years non-stop. The people saw us performing on the streets, but also showed up at our shows more and more. We have grown naturally from a Melbourne duo to an act with international shows. It gave us the chance to travel a lot, from Berlin to Hoorn: live is getting better and better, and the ep’s have already ran out of stock for a couple of times.”

(MW): “After your EP’s and all the concerts: is their any plan for your debut studio album?”

(PB): “We have just released the ‘Overdose EP’, and we are about to release a new EP in August. It will be a five-track studio EP, with only new material. In December and January we will record for our studio album, which will be released in April. If everything goes to plan, we will have a full album when we come back here for the next Hoornse Stadsfeesten. We’ll promise it!”

Tekst: Mike Warrink

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