

Meet BROOKE FRASER

The NZ musician with folksy roots has renewed her sound for an exciting new album and tour

TELL US ABOUT YOUR LATEST ALBUM.

It's called *Brutal Romantic*. Each of my albums has been different from the last; there's been kind of an evolution in my sound. This is probably the biggest step in that evolution, but I wouldn't call it a departure. It's my songs, my lyrics, my melody, my phrasing, but this time I'm experimenting more. It's still a very analogue album, even though there's more of an electronic base to the sound overall. It was made with analogue drum machines and all these analogue and vintage synthesisers that were used in the making of soundtracks to movies like *Blade Runner* and series like *Twin Peaks*.

WHAT ABOUT YOUR TOUR?

This is the most ambitious show I've ever put together. It's the most prepared and the most creative I've ever been for a tour. I've basically almost recorded a new album in the process of reinterpreting my

older material to sit with the new crop. I'm really excited to present that to people.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT THE NZ MUSIC SCENE?

Growing up in Wellington I noticed the emphasis that's placed on art, culturally. As a result of that, the NZ music scene is so healthy and going from strength to strength. Hopefully we see more and more artists coming forth with a fresh sound. ★

Brooke Fraser's album *Brutal Romantic* is available now. Her Australian tour starts 13 March in Perth and heads to Adelaide, Melbourne, Brisbane and Sydney. brookefraser.com

Now hear this

"I recommend listening to *Sohn*," says Brooke. "And if people haven't heard *Broods* they should have a listen. It would also be worth checking out a Norwegian electronic-folk singer called *Susanne Sundfør*."

