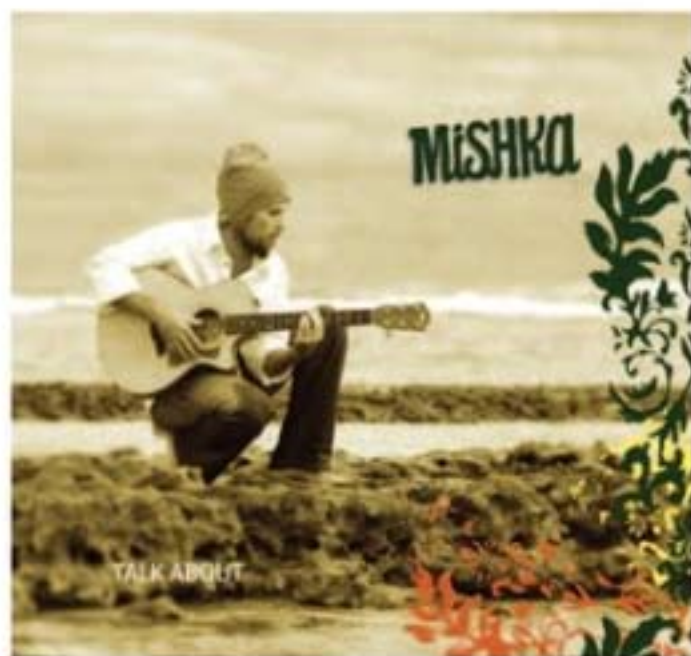


Mishka Talk About

After featuring in the launch issue of Windsurfer international, Windsurfing's own chart-topping Reggae Star, Mishka, is back in action with another new release - and news of a green-veined hook-up with surf-clothing giant O'Neill's ECO'Neill range. Brian McDowell examined his work.



When the management of Hollywood star Matthew McConaughey's record label j.k. livin dropped me a pre-release copy of Mishka's latest creation 'Talk About' I was gifted the perfect excuse to bail work and go on a surf check with some exclusive new tunes to play in the van. Like I needed an excuse...

Fist impressions are definitely that our ocean-influenced friend's style is a little more up-tempo and poppy.

Thankfully, in a genre where it's hard to break the mould, Mishka manages to keep some true Caribbean sounds but add rock, country and pop to the mix.

The aptly named second track 'Bittersweet', opener 'Give them Love' and 'Can't get Enough' are super-original and challenged my ears like a refreshing citrus-twisted Daiquiri would tang your taste buds.

Yet the favoured, traditional Reggae beats and riffs rise-up again in fine tunes like 'Dead End streets', 'Keep on Lovin', 'Keep on Livin', 'Way out of Babylon', and even Ballady notes such as in 'Fallen to Rise', 'Strength in Unity' or 'All Jokes Aside'.

Two polished songs, 'Stars Will Be Shining' and 'Give Them Love', are the result of collaboration with 'Super Producer' Butch Walker - a partnership born of the album's co-producer, and Hollywood icon Matthew McConaughey's influence.

In a 13-track feast, the new and fun vibe continues with the addition of input from Country Legend Willie Nelson with his funky appearance on 'Homegrown'.

Commenting on his own work Mishka claims that

this is "an album of movement - of stepping outside the box of traditional folk-reggae and adding a real mainstream rock influence."

This album's title-track, and true gem in my opinion, is named 'Talk About' for a reason too. "People make statements about love, equality, and peace and then try to measure their quantity in instant gratification," explains Mishka. "Whereas those things are really about a long-term way of life where all your actions - not words - add up."

'I've found such musical and spiritual inspiration out on the waves'

Mishka's definitely putting those words into action himself though with a partnership deal and input with Californian clothing giant O'Neill's ECO'Neill range.

"Working with O'Neill is giving me a chance to spread my music to more people - and specifically those who are into water sports," he says.

"I've found such musical and spiritual inspiration out on the waves, so this partnership is a good way to connect with people who probably feel the same inspiration. It's also cool if I can help O'Neill become a more ecologically friendly company along the way. It's a win-win situation."

You can download the album at:
<http://itunes.apple.com/us/album/talk-about/id361438702>

For more on Mishka visit our original feature in the September Issue or visit <http://www.mishka.com>