

For Immediate Release

15 September 2008



Debut release from Merenia Gillies - '*Libertine*'

'Libertine' Release Date: 20 September 2008 through Catalyst Recordings / Inertia
in association with ABC Music Publishing

Radio Edits: Available NOW on Musicpoint; '**Who's Sorry Now**' and '**You Said You
Would**' - www.musicpoint.com.au

'Libertine' is the debut release from dynamic Sydney songstress and MC, **Merenia Gillies**. A rising star in the Sydney club and world music scene, Merenia is best known to date for her collaborative work with **Love Tattoo**, **Rephrase** and **Paul Mac** and recent signing to the **ABC Music Publishing** roster.

An intensive labour of love, *'Libertine'* features an eclectic, well crafted collection of songs which inspire, empower, excite and convince the listener to surrender themselves to the infectious beats. *'Libertine'* defies traditional genre categorising and embodies elements of smooth soul, solid funk, Latin flavours and vintage hip hop. Relaying strong, saucy vocals, *'Libertine'* is indicative of **Merenia's** strong personality and diverse talents as a performer, songwriter, recording artist and producer. Songs from the forthcoming album are already getting a spin on FBI radio (Sydney) as well as the track 'Avance (como me gusta tu ritmo)', which is a collaboration between **Merenia Gillies** and '**The All Good Funk Alliance**' (UK), featuring on their own release across vinyl, CD and digital and being touted as the lead single worldwide.

Produced by **Merenia Gillies** and Adm Ventoura and mixed by Oscar "El Duro" Jimenez (from ARIA nominated band *Watussi*) over the period of a year, *'Libertine'* came to life through a mix of minimal programming and live percussion. Initial programming was done in **Merenia's** lounge room on garage band using the TV as a monitor speaker, a selection of the bass lines which were written and played in at that time have been used on the final master. A series of guest songwriters added their own style and finesse to a handful of tracks on *'Libertine'*, including Vicente Sebastian (*Watussi*), Paul Petersen (Prince and Maurice Day), Jonathan Pease (*Resurrectors*), Evelyn Duprai and *Rephrase*.

A mixture of organic percussion, rhythmic forms and programmed beats layered with sampled live drums is prevalent on *'Libertine'*. The album sound and beat programming was essentially drawn from vintage hip hop and the traditional percussive beats are a direct result of using a combination of cajon, guiro, congas, timbales, bells and chekere. *'If You Don't Want My Love'* is the only song on the album which involves a traditional guitar, the rest of the album instead features the cavaquinho (a traditional brasillian four string guitar) and a vintage fender electric mandolin.

Merenia Gillies will be showcasing *'Libertine'* in one special Sydney performance only (Wednesday 24 September) before embarking overseas to fulfill tour commitments. **Merenia Gillies** will be returning to Australia in December 2009 in order to prepare for a series of album showcases and the Australian Festival season.

Album Showcase

Wednesday 24th September 2008

Marble Bar, Hilton Hotel

488 George St, Sydney

FREE ENTRY

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www.myspace.com/merenia

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