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Incubus now riding an eco-bus

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It's not easy being green.

Just ask Kermit the Frog - or Incubus.

The five-piece alternative rock band is launching its "Light Grenades" tour Sunday in Tucson, taking extra measures to make every stop eco-friendly.

"This is the first time we've actually catered a whole tour towards it," drummer Jose Pasillas says during a phone interview from Arendal, Norway.

"We've always been sort of eco-conscious on all our tours, but this is the first time we're doing it this extensive."

Biodiesel-fueled tour buses, organic cotton merchandise and 100 percent recycled paper are a few of the steps the band has taken to ensure it stays green.

Tattooed tree-huggers? Carbon-reducing rockers? Oh, they're much more than that.

"It's nice to be able to get to a point where we can actually help as much as we can to all these different needs," says Pasillas about the various causes the band supports.

With the Make Yourself Foundation the band started in 2003, Incubus has raised more than \$900,000 for various causes and charities including Surfrider Foundation, The Painted Turtle and Carbon Neutral.

According to the MYF Web site, the band's goal is to raise \$1 million over the course of the next year.

PHOTOS & IMAGES



ADDITIONAL INFO

IF YOU GO

What: Incubus in concert
 When: 8 p.m. Sunday
 Where: Casino Del Mar
 Price: \$45
 Info: 800-344-9435

The band funds MYF by donating a portion of the proceeds generated from touring, record royalties and selling memorabilia online.

The record proceeds will probably help the foundation hit the \$1 million mark with the release of "Light Grenades."

The band's seventh studio album (if you include "Fungus Amongus" and "Enjoy Incubus" as albums) peaked at No. 1 on the Billboard 200 chart, and singles "Anna-Molly," "Dig" and "Oil and Water" are receiving plenty of air time on the radio.

How do they do it?

"We kind of took our time this time, which is different 'cause we're always done with records pretty quickly," Pasillas says.

"We always came home from long touring cycles, wrote a record, recorded a record and just went right back on the road for the better part of the last nine or 10 years."

The latest album was written over the course of a year and a half, giving the guys plenty of time to experiment outside the band.

It produced a lot of new sounds that reflect on what each band member learned on his time alone.

"It's a good match of songs, and we've got a lot of material to touch on," Pasillas says.

"The shows that we've done this year (on the European tour and promotional appearances) so far have been really fun."

The fun will continue for 40 stops throughout the United States.

So what do Pasillas, singer Brandon Boyd, guitarist Mike Einziger, bass player Ben Kenney and DJ Chris Kilmore do to entertain themselves on the road?

"A lot of reading, TV watching, movie watching . . . You know, giving each other wet-willies, stuff like that," Pasillas says laughing.

Courtesy of Incubus

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