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A Wobble Tour: Passionate Music, Genuine Encouragement

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Hailing from countries all over the world, originating from the world's largest non-governmental hospital ship, Wobble Worship, touring with the *Anastasis*, debuts on its first European tour with the ship's arrival in its first public relations port. Seeking to be genuine and Christ-centered, Wobble worship tunes up their guitars, sets up their drums and readies themselves for the next three months, touring Europe as a musical and outreach arm of Mercy Ships.

"We all met on our DTS (Discipleship Training School) onboard the ship in October of 2001," explained the band's worship coordinator, David Meadows.

An increased emphasis on worship during their DTS caused five of the students to consider a future as a worship team. "When our DTS was over, we felt as if it wasn't the end of a chapter, but possibly the beginning..."

Thus, through prayer and planning, Wobble Worship was borne, along with their vision for "Trampled Rose Ministries." Encompassing more than just music, the group's vision for a ministry of encouragement within the church spurred them on to do a tour of the U.S. last summer. Four of the five then felt God calling them to return to the ship, not as an upfront worship team but as servants in different capacities, and thus returned as crew in four different departments.

After being on the ship for several months, leading worship on a smaller scale for various crew worship events, they began to discuss and pray about the possibility of another tour, this time in Europe.

"We spoke with the outreach department of our idea for a tour and they came back almost unanimously that it was a good time to join the band's ministry with the ship, like two puzzle pieces fitting together," David explained.

And indeed, as the team visits churches and plays at various on-ship and off-ship events, they bring with them an overwhelming passion for worship and an excitement about the ministry of the ship. As they share about the nature and character of a loving God, their heart for worship speaks volumes.

David explained, "Worship is a vital ministry, it connects on all levels. It's relevant. Music is a global bridge."

Crew Outreach Coordinator Andre Cronje praised the relevancy of Wobble's honest approach to worship, "There's just a desire of young people in Europe and around the world for something genuine and real, and Wobble presents just that, a real Christianity."

In each European port, Mercy Ships advance teams are already setting up meetings for both on and off-ship events. While much of the team's function will be encouragement within the church, they will have



Wobble Worship will tour with the *Anastasis* during the ship's 2003 European phase.

opportunities to play in various public arenas including on the dock during Rotterdam's upcoming World Harbor Day's Festival and at a local school in Emden, Germany.



With an emphasis on genuine relationships, Wobble prepares for a packed schedule in the various ports the ship will visit.

Wobble's emphasis on worship as a lifestyle instilled in them a deep desire to get other crew members involved in the band's ministry as well.

"For Wobble it's important that the crew sees them as just another part of the crew. They're actually looking for different crew members to come with them when they are available to share testimonies and help in worship," Andre explained.

As Wobble prepares for its first few events in Rotterdam and beyond, David shared their philosophy of worship, *"We like inclusive worship, we get people involved, everyone who comes into the room is part of the band somehow. God listens to our heart. Not how well we play. The guy at the back has just as much right to worship as I do at the microphone."*

Wobble's simple message keeps them motivated and excited about the new opportunities in front of them. James Graham, the group's sound technician explained, *"A lot of what we do is just by example, showing a group passionate about God's work. We're excited about what God's doing. If you've lost your passion and zeal for Christ, then you might as well hang up your guitar. We recognize that can be a danger in any ministry if you're trying to go on your own strength."*

And indeed as Wobble prayerfully practices and prepares for their different concerts, they tune their hearts and their voices to speak a relevant message to their European audience in the coming months. - [Susanne Eadelman](#)

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