

## [Alex Renko Productions - Mark Whitfield on tour](#) [1]

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MARK WHITFIELD "PANTHER" (Warner)

on tour July 2005

[www.markwhitfield.com](http://www.markwhitfield.com) [2]

Mark Whitfield - guitar; Sy Smith - keyboards, voc; Byron Moore - bass, voc; Donald Edwards - drums  
"Panther" is the hot, new "Alternative Soul" group started by jazz guitar veteran Mark Whitfield. This comes after more than 15 years of being one of the jazz world's most respected and sought after guitarists, releasing 10 successful solo albums for the Warner Bros., Verve and Transparent Music recording companies and appearing on more than 50 recordings for other jazz and soul artists like Jimmy Smith, Cedar Walton, Cleo Laine, Shirley Horn, Incognito, D'Angelo, Mary J. Blige and Ali Shaheed Muhammed (Tribe Called Quest). To realize his vision of creating a new musical style best described as "Alternative Soul", Mark has brought together an exciting group of musician/singer/songwriters. Vocalist/keyboardist Sy Smith (Brandy, Whitney Houston Me'shelle Ndege Ocello, Macy Gray, Usher and Vonda Shepherd), bassist/vocalist Byron Moore (Jimmy Smith, Chaka Khan, Groove Theory, Amel Larrieux and Liz McComb) and drummer Donald Edwards (The Mingus Jazz Orchestra, Wynton, Ellis Marsalis, Charlie Hunter, The Jazzy Phat Nasties and LuvPark) have all collaborated with Mark to write the songs and create the vibe that is the "Alternative Soul" sound of "Panther". The self-titled debut CD will be available everywhere spring '05 and "Panther" is already making concert appearances and will start touring officially in May.

Contact: Alex Renko Productions 21 Rue du Grand Prieuré F - 75011 Paris Tel. +33 (1) 40446353, fax +33 (1) [40446340alex@renkoprod.com](mailto:40446340alex@renkoprod.com) [3]

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