

# TOURING IS PARADISE

## Alejandro Aranda says Tempe show will be 'intimate'

By Christina Fuoco-Karasinski

**A**lejandro Aranda is at home, chilling with his cat. As one of the first acts to announce a 2021 tour, he needs to rest all he can to build up stamina for a U.S. tour.

"It's definitely going to be an acoustic show," says Aranda, who performs as Scarypoolparty. "I'm really trying to go back to the roots of how I originally played music. I want this acoustic tour to feel intimate."

Aranda recently released the EP "Los Angeles," and he will kick off his tour in promotion of it on June 4 at the Marquee in Tempe.

The "American Idol" runner-up to Laine Hardy, Aranda says the competition show was a "crazy experience" and a "once-in-a-lifetime" experience.

The pandemic lockdown spurred Aranda's creativity for Scarypoolparty. He gained artistic momentum and expanded his audience. In 2020, Aranda released the EP "Doom Hologram."

"As a musician, your whole thing is putting music out and then you go on tour," Aranda says. "I didn't know what to do last year. I had to figure out what works."

Last month, he released his single "Home," a dark meditation on longing and loneliness blending organic acoustic elements with electronic samples. He's also been surprising fans with new

music on his YouTube channel, releasing videos for tracks "Cellphones" and "The Darkness," plus a 51-minute piano improv.

The EP "Los Angeles" was co-produced by SAWYR (Taylor Swift, Zayn, Nicki Minaj) and Aranda. With its alt-rock, R&B and jazz inflections, "Los Angeles" is honest and addictive. The EP was inspired by Aranda's time in Los Angeles.

"From the outside, a lot of people think of LA as this paradise," Aranda explains "But living here, you see a lot of people hurting, a lot of people in pain that no one wants to talk about."

On the song "Room Full of Cards," it's a "palatable" jazz/lounge song, according to Aranda. Like "Room Full of Cards," Aranda's pre-"Idol" tracks were introspective and thoughtful.

"Going on that show, I could only show little bits and pieces of myself," he says. "On tour, I can show everything that I like. With my music, I wear my heart on my sleeve, musically and lyrically. It feels awesome that I can express that, and I hope people understand I just like to make and love music." **E!**

### Scarypoolparty (Alejandro Aranda) with Noah Martin

WHEN: 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 4

WHERE: Marquee Theatre, 730 N. Mill Avenue, Tempe

COST: Tickets start at \$25

INFO: [luckymanonline.com](http://luckymanonline.com)



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