

PUBLISHER/EDITOR

J.R. Ruppel

EDITOR/SALES

Natalie Kaminski

CONTRIBUTING

WRITERS

Matt Taylor, Donnis Christileb, Lara Bringard, Chris Robin, Scott Vice, Todd, Less Nessman, Ryan Workman, John Zolle, Amber McKee, Clark Stacy,

COPY EDINOR:

JO YAFFE
PHOTOGRAPHS:
Robert DeBerry
F-DUDE &
ILLUSTRATIONS:
Ryan Wayment

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SORRY, SUBSCRIPTIONS NO LONGER AVAILABLE

DEAR DICKHEADS...!

Dear Dickheads,

One of the stupidest things that I've seen in a long time is the posters at Starrz of the half clothed women. Maybe I'm just not up on the latest fad, but what does it really have to do with anything? And, are things like that supposed to be cool? Another thing, to the real "hard" guy that head locked the girl and repeatedly punched her in the head. (November 7th at Starrz.) Go home. We don't need someone like you ruining things for everyone else. Thanks to everyone else that was cool.

See ya, Anthony Waterfront

Dear Dickheads,

Why did you sponsor Lungfish and Monks of Doom on the same night? It was impossible to see both shows. Also, the calendars in SLUG sometimes have incongruous days and dates. For example, a calendar may indicate a Tuesday show on the 19th when Tuesday is really the 17th. Maybe Lungfish and Monks of Doom weren't on the same night after all?

Here's a question. Why don't you have a column listing a few of the better upcoming shows with a paragraph on each? Sometimes when I'm scanning the upcoming calendars in SLUG my neural synapsis slips into a state of "dumbfuckedness" and don't properly relay the message. I missed Zipgun and Gnome because the event didn't register in my brain even though SLUG was in my face. Then again, maybe Zipgun and Gnome played the same night as Lungfish and Monks Of Doom.

Sincerely, Gary

Dear Dickheads,

I am so very pissed off! Words couldn't express to you how pissed off I am. Who am I pissed off with you ask? "America the fucking beautiful"...NOT - "Home of the free." ...NOT. We fight almost to the death for our first

amendment—Freedom of speech! We've burned flags, wrote letters, used naughty lyrics, protested and defended ourselves in the name of art. Then someone makes a statement correct or not and we (music biz, America, radicals, conservatives, right wingers, republicans and democrats) shun and turn against her.

If you haven't been living with your head in the ground lately, you would know I am talking about...Sinead O'Connor's infamous "picture-ripping" performance on Saturday Night Live.

Why is it that one of the most beautiful and most talented musical artists is shunned for using a freedom we take for granted.

I am so ashamed to be called an American! That's all there is to it.

> Sincerely, A Shamed American

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THE END OF THE FUNNIEST STORY F-DUDE'S EVER HEARD:

SO THEN I

OE-WORMED THAT FUGGIN' CAT WITH MY FORTY-FIJE

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CHRISTMAS GIFTS

HOLIDAY DRESSES

LUSCIOUS LINGERIE

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LARGEST LCTION OF CLOTHES FROM NEW YORK

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OF ITS KIND

East

7 DAYS A WEEK

RECORD REVIEWS...

MILK

Tantrum

Link 81380

Finally, the long awaited album arrived in the mail. The band comes from what the UK music papers termed the "Camden Lurch Scene." Other members of this "scene" included Silverfish, Sun Carriage and Th' Faith Healers. The bands hated the term, they said they didn't come from a "scene" and according to press materials it was quickly dropped.

The "Camden Lurch" refers to the audiences swaying and headbanging reaction to the music. After listening to the tape I can think of no other reaction. If you are under 30 buy this tape and play it for someone over 30. Force them to listen, tie them up if necessary. If they don't like it, play it for them again, repeat as many times as needed until they admit that this is a fantastic album.

If you think the heaviest music comes from Seattle, you haven't heard anything yet. Milk is about the heaviest thing I've heard in decades, maybe since the first Black Sabbath album. No offense to Seattle, there is still great music coming out of the city as you will see when I get to 7 Year Bitch.

What is Vic, (vocals, guitar) screaming about? I have barely a clue, I can understand few words he screams. It has to be important from the screeching, clanging, banging sounds he makes with his guitar and that insane pounding Chin, or new drummer, Vic Tracy, puts out.

The vocals are mixed so far to the back as to be mostly incomprehensible. I've listened to this repeatedly and I can only make out snatches of words here and there, From what I can pick up I would say the band has had some truly horrible relationships and religious experiences.

Have I mentioned the bass player, Duncan? No, not yet, I'll just say he's no Ron Carter or Jamaaladeen Tacuma. Of course he doesn't play jazz, unless it is free jazz, he puts out some of the hardest, rhythmic grind yet.

Milk is not a heavy metal band. Sure at times they sound like one, but there isn't a heavy metal band in the world that would lay down the totally free avante-garde noise of "Spyrosulphate."

In fact most of the album is pure pounding noise with bits of melody thrown in. The guitar alternates between a swarm of angry wasps and police sirens then veers off into total white-noise feedback. Like the guitar, the bass and drums are in separate bands playing whatever comes into their heads, then all come together for a little truly thrashing metal before returning to their own space.

I'd call MILK the spawn of a plural marriage between heavy metal, free jazz, avante garde and hardcore punk and I'll jump on for the ride

-William Athey

PIGFACE

Fook

Invisible INV 018

As the press release says, "Where else can you find a band containing members of all your favorite bands?" That is if your favorite bands are Ministry, Murder Inc., KMFDM, Silverfish, Rollins Band, Skinny Puppy and Thrill Kill Kult to name a few.

This is Pigface's most accessible album to date. After the heavy metal noise of the latest Ministry and just plain noise of the latest Skinny Puppy, Pigface has released the best of the batch. An album that retains the noise element we all love while adding substance like female backing vocals and a bowed cello to increase the enjoyment.

"Satellite" will please the "metal head" side of you with Paul Raven contributing his truly heavy bass to William Tucker's metal guitar and Chris Baskett's backwards guitar. "Hips, Tits, Lips, Power!" has deep bass, Paul Raven and Mary Byker's vocals layered over a woman chanting her pride in female power.

Em Esche from KMFDM has one of the most disturbing voices in music. He thoroughly demonstrates his talents on "Alles 1st Mine," "I'm Still Alive" ands "Go!" "Alles 1st Mine" is a frightening punk polka and opens the CD.

"I can Do No Wrong" ends the

album with Martin Atkins, on drums, David Sims on Bass and Chriss Connely providing vocals and guitar, banging away and chanting "I can do no wrong." He is right, in my opinion this is the best Pigface album yet.

-William Athey

JESUS LIZARD

Liar

Touch W 60 TC 100CD

I would like to thank the U.S. Postal system. The Jesus Lizard CD was mailed on October 9, I never received the first copy so it had to be re-mailed in November. I finally received it along with a booklet sized press kit. Every music publication in America and England has written about the CD by now so I'll just plagiarize what others wrote.

I don't think so, I do have some integrity, maybe not the skill of a paid journalist since no one will pay me to do this. If you want to read the opinions of paid journalists - go buy a magazine.

The Jesus Lizard's Duane Denison (guitar) has never learned how to properly tune the thing. The vocalist, David Yow, sounds like he made a megaphone from an empty toilet paper tube then sang through it into a microphone. *Liar* is filled with atonal minimalist guitar and pure noise.

Denison simply practices his scales on some songs, his guitar sound goes from minimal scale practice to full blown white noise. He can play the thing though as he demonstrates by adding a surf tone to "Puss." The rhythm section of Mac McNeilly, drums, and David Wm Sims, bass, provide a solid foundation for Yow's nightmarish vocals and Denison's guitar experiments.

There aren't any horns, but the dissonance of the Birthday Party is everywhere. The Birthday Party never played with the speed exhibited on *Liar* but Yow's horribly painful vocals can only be compared to Nick Cave. The Jesus Lizard plays full in your face confrontational rock and roll.

From the opening punk minimalism of "Broilermaker," through the buzzsaw guitar of "The Art of Self Defense," to the dark brooding "Slave Ship," the thrash speed of the DK's style cowpunk of "Rope" and the vomiting and screams of "Dancing Naked Ladies," The Jesus Lizard have created a thoroughly unlistenable and enjoyable masterpiece with *Liar*.

-William Athey

SKREW

Burning In Water, Drowning in Flame Metal Blade 3 28848-2

I can't understand what the hell vocalist Adam Grossman is screaming about, but Skrew included a lyric sheet. Here are a few examples. "I look into I see my God eating filthy, I see my fear, I see my heart burning up. I see my soul sick and grey." Those were from "Feast." I interpret it as a song about the depression resulting from being dumped.

Reg E.C. provides the rap and Jason Wolford does a little turntable scratching in "Poisonous." Allen Jourgensen contributes some guitar to "Charlemagne."

You guessed it, this is some extremely hard and heavy metal with more than a little industrial flavor. Take the pure heavy metal guitar of Danny Lohner and Grossman's voice, layer it all with terrifying industrial samples and some banging, clanging, industrial noise straight from the nearest foundry for percussion, throw in programming and samples from the entire group and their many friends, then take Grossman's demonic voice and bave him scream incomprehensibly throughout. That is the sound of Skrew. A frighteningly possessed, ear-splitting piece of recorded music.

Is the album any good? I don't know, but after listening to it a couple of times I took all my old Ozzy Osbourne records and copies of Kerrang! magazine, built a fire in the fireplace with them and cooked and ate my kid's pet rat. The album has a parental advisory sticker, I don't understand why, the vocals aren't understandable. Maybe it's to protect the liitle ones from the horrible sounds. Don't miss their version of the Rolling Stone's "Sympathy For The Devil" it is a pure hellish, distortion filled reading of the song and it rules.

-William Athey

7 YEAR BITCH

Sick 'Em

67 Records 67848

They are an ailfemale band, so can girls rock? What a stupid question. Have you ever heard of Cordell Jackson? She proved that females could rock close to 30 years ago along with her contemporaries Wanda Jackson, Sparkle Moore and Janice Martin. So quit asking the question!

The album is dedicated to Stephanie Sargent, the guitarist on all tracks, who died one month before the album's scheduled release. So here's to you Stef, what a job!

Stick 'Em is a shiny aluminum slab of grinding, pounding, thrashing rock and roll. What do they sing about? Things women should have started singing about more than 20 years ago when they burned their bras. The first song, "Chow Down" addresses infidelity, money can't buy love, and vio-

"Knot" is about smoking too much and "getting drunk from loving you too much." Moving on to "In Lust You Trust" we hear about a woman who had been "hit. whipped, lied to, raped and if "in lust you trust, you're goin' to get left in the dust." Gun, "I want a gun, give me a gun, to see your fear and watch you run." She wants to point it at a "stupid ass fool" with his "macho poses."

Sargent has the buzz-saw guitar style down perfectly, Elizabeth Davis, bass, can play funk, metal or thrash depending on the song. Valerie Agnew, drums, pounds away in perfectly time to Selene Vigil's pleasantly raw vocals.

7 Year Bitch don't hate men, they are just fed up with the treatment women receive at the hands of men. In "Lorna," Vigil sings, "She made love, she didn't get laid." In case there are any questions "You Smell Lonely" and "Dead Men Don't Rape" serve to clarify their stance.

These girls address women's issues in a manner that should scare the misogynist rappers out of their "butt crack" pants and heavy metal "hair" bands out of their spandex.

The music doesn't break any new ground, hard core punk has been around for well over a decade. Sure it's hard and will fill a "mosh pit." The real reason to buy the tape, CD or record is to hear the viewpoint expressed.

Women received the vote in 1920, they burned their bras in the 60's and now in the 90's there are some girls around who demand equal treatment, not just lip service. If you don't give it to them they just might kick your ass.

-William Athey

GRAY MATTER

Thoa

Bischard Records

After two great 7" releases over the past year, D.C.'s Gray Matter finally fulfill the anticipation for something more with their first fulllength album Thog. After a long sabbatical, and a short lived project with the band 3, the members of Grav Matter are back with the furious and intelligent sound one has come to expect from the D.C. music scene, and more respectively. Dischord Records. Hell, with an alumni list consisting of cool bands such as Soul Side, Dag Nasty, Minor Threat, and of course, Fugazi, you know that any new Dischord release is worth the lis-

Complete with the combination of both melodic lyrical notes, and upbeat guitar fury, Thog is an alburn of powerful emotion and intelligent thought. Tracks like "Bite the Bit" and the Hammond organ laced "Drain" highlight guitarist/ vocalist Geoff Turner's true singing talent, spewing out words in an almost story-like manner...straightfrom the gut.

Suggested tracks are the title track Thog and "I've just seen a Face," which is one of the most unique rendition of a Beatles sono I've heard since the Breeders did "Happiness is a Warm Gun." So all things considered, this one's a keeper.

---Ryan Workman

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THE WORLD ACCORDING TO CLARK...

J.R.,

It's Publisher's Clearing House Sweepstakes time again, and I predict that this is the year that Ed McMahon will push me too far. For several years now Ed has been promising me astronomical sums of money; and I have sheaves of colorful and exciting letters bearing his signature to prove it. Meanwhile, I continue to receive impolite invective from a presumptuous association of half-wits calling themselves "Salt Lake City Corporation." They claim that I am indebted to them for parking MY car on MY planet, and have mailed several columns of incomprehensibly large figures to my esteemed legal counsel, Dr. M. Bacchus Stern. I have had these letters forwarded, as I do all such correspondence, to Mr. McMahon and the corporate lice who pull his strings.

Ed McMahon is a foul gourd of stale lies and empty promises whose continued failure to acknowledge his debt to me and remit in full has tried my patience to exhaustion. The tension between Ed and myself is approaching its zenith and I predict a terrible showdown that will test the mettle of everyone involved. Ed and I will both want this kept out of the popular press, if at all possible. I rehash all of this for your readers now because the time is drawing near when I may have to call upon Dr. Stern to join me in a late-night visit to Ed's posh Beverly Hills estate. We will creep into his lavishly appointed bed-chamberfurnished as it is with my moneyand we will beat him like an old donkey with tube socks full of wet

This unfortunately necessary

brutality may keep Stern and myself tied up for some time, and your kind words of support will be appreciated. Gifts of money, cigarettes, etc. will be forwarded by our representatives at the Bar and Grill simply whisper the word "measles" to the bartender and deposit your offering in his tip jar.

Actually, this enterprise cannot monopolize my time, because other plans are being made. I can't seem to get enough **politics** lately—my thirst for drama was not slaked on November Third. The voices in my head will not be silenced. They say it's not over yet; it's going to get **weirder**...there are several helpings of Spider Pie still on the buffet. These voices have nevertailed me, although they sometimes speak in deceiving metaphors. Now they are telling me that My Time Has Come, and that it's OK to tell you about it.

Here, then, is the timeline for the next six months. Write it off as speculative political punditry if you will; I'm telling you I have my finger on the pulse of this city, and unimpeachable sources in the very highest levels of the government behind the Government. Mayor Deedee Corradini is on her way out. Whoosh, Kaput, Goin' the way of the buffalo. Appointing an experimental, malfunctioning Nazi android to run the Salt Lake City Police Department was the last straw. Deedee will be quietly reclaimed by her own, and will probably return to business in another state under an assumed name. Not so Ruben Ortega. He will be flogged out of office in shame, and will spend the rest of his life at the airport; whimpering and gibbering and reading Rod McKuen to anybody with their arms too full of luggage to hit him the mean time, I am being groom by the local branch of the Knig Templar to step into the vaca mayoral post. I am optimistic ab my chances, as I feel that the sume I submitted was a fine spemen of apocalyptic literature.

I am looking forward to all of the naturally, and I'm making plans fully realize, however, that the part to the City-County Building will long and treacherous. The nayor is being chosen by a special appointed committee of Tempa Adepts, which has been in sessifier over a month already. The suggests to me that they are supplied by the country of them can be traced.

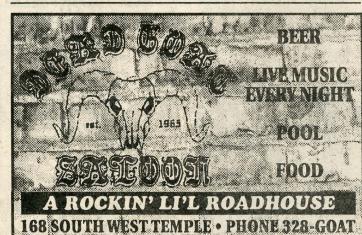
All City Council meetings will conducted in Gaelic when I'm charge, and Deedee's Liberty Pa fountain will be a cascade of flaning kerosene in tribute to Helio Meter maids will be taken off the payroll—they can work for tips. The will free up the cash for a shadow but powerful "Mayor's Fund", to the spent in forming a covert defens department in case we are attacked by Ogden.

by Ogden.

It's going to be lonely at the to J.R., and I can accept that. Be surely you recognize how crucial will be to surround myself with goo people—people with sharp vauda villian instincts who know "what really going on in town". Think over. The worst that can happen that we get shoved into a comfort able room with a remote control vacant expressions, and jobs at permanent Neilson Co. monitors.

Certainly a nicer fate than the one my sources tell me awaits Dar Quayle. Apparently he's being auctioned off by the Republical Party in a series of expensive closed-door fundraising dinners. The highest bidder so far has been our own Senator Orrin Hatch, when has announced his intention to have Dan cryogenically frozen for use a a tuning fork.

I await your reply eagerly, bu you'd better make up your min soon. Things are going to be hap pening very quickly.



Credo Quia Absurdun
—Clark Stace

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MISCELLANEOUS...

BEYOND THE VALLEY OF THE DOLLS

There's nothing like a quick jaunt down to the toy store to hammer in that image of impending societal collapse. Let's face it, the subversive nature of toys is second only to that of pomographic material, and ultimately more damaging. While ad execs propagandize that growing up is a sham to be avoided at all costs, the greater forces at large fill the aisles with objects that incorporate paradigms of a siphlistic or glorified existence.

The new generation of toys breed a diseased reality that serves as a model for the worlds in-coming, and will certainly lead to their demise. Sure the television is slightly toblame, but kids will always be more influenced by something that requires hands on experience; something they can either protect, manipulate, or break into at least a handful of pieces.

The sad reality is that a few good ideas from ages ago have now been bastardized to accomodate technology and greed. The great builders of history grew up with legos that required a little time, thought, and soul in their construction. Now the land of Lego comes pre-fab, like the rest of the world, no longer wasting all that possible creative energy. You'd be hard pressed to find an erector set anymore, let alone one with real metal parts, but that's okay, you can play with trolls instead.

There is no more abject, harmful toy in the world than the doll. While the current resurgence in Troll dolls cannot be a good thing, neither will it last. No, the root of this problem is found in the traditional doll and its many incarnations.

It used to be that dolls were simple, lifeless forms of natural beauty, which a young woman could inject with her own personality, giving the doll a form for being. Now, the roles are reversed and the doll serves as a matrix for becoming. And, what are these matrices but that of glamour and unabashed hedonism. Either the subject becomes the fashion model proposed by "Suzy Snapshot," or she forever walks the tightrope of insecurity, something the packaging

fails to warn about. If the child does fact become a model, a path to struction is still guaranteed. It is julittle more prolonged than the ot choice of suicide.

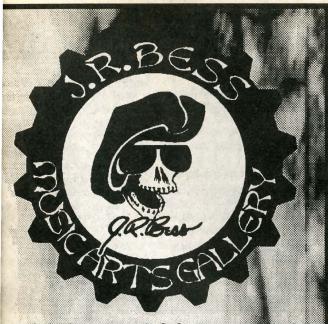
The Barbie doll has always be the quintessential marriage of bea and form. Within the burgeon electronic age Barbie can now and transmit messages like "I caget enough clothes" or "let's have pizza party." A few days of this saliminal persuasion, let alone a layears could turn your little darling a possessive, base little trollop.

How strange it is that Barbie eat all this pizza yet maintain suc lithe, fresh figure! And where does the money for this pizza and shiping come from? No doubt, it'll cofrom a life of shoplifting, whining, diependency, and increasingly micromplex eating disorders.

Even worse is the eventual f wrought upon the male figure, w stumbles on the talking doll w rifling through a sisters possesio. What sort of behavior will be s planted in a shy boy who presses button directly over Barbies crotch hear her coo "That feels good?" I suggestiveness of this temptress will stir a lad towards a life of abus becoming twofold once he discovered to the street of panties or a bra.

Perhaps the most diabolical those creations is the "cheerful, te ful" baby. Here we have a baby that actually pisses itself, and sets crying at random. It's realistic furtions keep the child guessing...tha until the child can't stop the doll. All various tries, just maybe the child viscover that the only way to silen this little bundle of joy is to beat head with a rock. And, if it works "L'il Cheerful," it should work to younger sis too! This doll is a veritate powder keg waiting to explode in the family's face.

If you have to buy your child at in order to get the monkey off yo back, at least stay away from the mind distorting trash and look in something with lasting value, like the commemorative Powell Schwarzkopf statuettes, or a worsoccer star action figure. Better ye just stay away from the toy stores together and do your shopping McDonalds.



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COMIC REVIEWS...

Graphic storytelling (comic books) and the cinema have a great deal in common, especially with a strong emphasis on imagery. Thus, it is no surprise that there should be some carry-over and cross-over, with comic books adapted into movies, movies adapted into comic books, and so

Comic book adaptations of movies have come a good distance since the late 1970s Marvel Comics bastardizations of box office garbage. The following section reviews some of the more ambitious film-to-sequential art projects.

THE CABINET OF DR. CALIGARI (S leeues)

Script by lan Carney Art by Mike Hoffman Monster/Fautagraphic Comics

For those whose taste in horror films runs to Friday The 13th, The Cabinet of Dr. Caligary is considered one of the classics of the horror/suspense genre, you dopes.

Writer Ian Carney and illustrator Mike Hoffman have chosen to depict German Expressionism and the result is interesting but ultimately unsatisfying.

The story concerns an idyllic town which employs two intellectuals, Francis and Alan. Into this mix comes a sinister presence in the form of one Dr. Caligari and the contents of his deservedly renowned cabinet, the somnambulist Cesare.

It seems Cesare "has slept away his life" and the good doctor alone can awaken the sleeper to answer any questions. The unfortunate Alan makes the mistake of attempting to expose this as a fraud and challenges Cesare to tell him how long Jane has to live. to which Cesare answers, "until tomorrow's dawn." And, predictably enough, Jane is soon targeted by Caligari, who orders Cesare to dispose of him, only to have Cesare fall in love with Jane and kidnap

There's more to the story, of course, but that should be left to

the reader to investigate. Suffice to say that the tangled web of events becomes even more complicated.

All this is depicted on the printed page by Carney and Hoffman. Writer Carney keeps the dialogue to a minimum and leaves out extraneous exposition in keeping with the film. Similarly, illustrator Hoffman keeps the spirit of the filmmaking alive with his black and white artwork, which is at times very good.

But...in the end this comic is a failure because it does not translate the powers of the movie to the page. Yes, the storytelling keeps the spirit of Caligari, but it fails to go beyond that. The starkness of Wiene's staging, scenery, and camera angles all fail to translate well, in addition to the sense of impending horror and doom, and these are the film's strongest points.

So while Carney and Hoffman should be applauded for staying true to Weine's tale, the effort is fruitless. Those intrigued by The Cabinet Of Dr. Caligari should rent the video instead.

(B&W \$2.25)

FREAKS

Written by Jim Woodring **llustrated by F. Solono Lopez Monster/Fantagraphics Comics**

Tod Browning's 1932 film Freaks was one of the most reviled films of its time, finding recognition only after the movie industry had lost much of its repression.

Artist Francisco Solono Lopez and writer Jim Woodring attempt to re-create the atmosphere of Browning's movie (itself an adaptation of writer Tod Robins's Spurs) for a modern audience of comic fans.

Freaks takes place at the Rollo Brothers Circus, where we are soon introduced to characters like the two-faced man, the human torso, and the double-bodied woman. The unfortunate attractions of the Circus comprise a bizzare, and closeknit community, which soon begins to unravel due to the presence of a beauteous acrobat, Cleopatra.

The "normal" population of the circus sneers at the "freaks," it seems, and the situation is soon

exacerbated by Cleopatra as she manipulates a kind-hearted midget, Hans, and with the help of her brutish lover, Hercules, connives to kill Hans for his money.

Lopez's drawings and designs are entirely adequate. In Lopez's version, the "normals" are just as "ugly," if not more so, than the "freaks." The "normals" lear, snarl, and grimace.

Similarly, Wodring's scripting reveals the crudity of the "normals," as well as the cruelty. It is here that the comic succeeds, because the point of the work is emphasized. Who's to say just who the "freaks" in the Circus are?

Unfortunately, in other areas the comic is sadly lacking. While Lopez's designs are fine, he lacks panel-to-panel flow and fails to depict emotion well. And Woodring, in his eagerness to underscore the work's theme, often sinks to heavyhandedness.

It may sound as if this critic is carping, but it's hard to see just why FREAKS needed to be turned into a comics, especially when Browning's movie is available on tape, with a little searching. The comic book just doesn't add much if anything to that work, and so can be seen as essentially useless.

(B&W, \$2.50)

M (4 Issues) Adapted by Jon J. Muth

Like the other two comics reviewed, M takes its inspiration from a classic of the cinema, in this case the 1931 collaboration between master filmmaker Fritz Lang and writer Thea von Harbou. (A work inspired by the heinous act committed by Germany's Peter Kürten.) Tackling the amitious job of adapting M is master illustrator Jon J. Muth.

The tale begins simply, with children singing in the streets of a nameless city. It soon becomes apparent that things there are less than perfect, though. The city is in the grip of a child murderer, and Elsie Beckman is the next victim.

The entire populace is on edge and the police are ineffectual. Paranoia is rampant, as innocents are attacked. The police, desperate, begin raiding the underground criminal organizations, hoping to roust the perpetrator. In response,



the criminals vow to catch murderer themselves to ge police off their backs. An inger plan is hatched...

Muth differs in his appr from others who have adapted into this medium. While he Von Harbou's script, he stage scenes with an acting comp using that staging to paint the Forthis, if nothing else, Muth sh be applauded. Rather than t to re-crreate Lang's mood and Muth makes M his own.

Is it successful though? I pends on whether one judg the comic book by M the Compared to Lang's vision, falls far short. But judged of own merit, it is a powerful v While the imagery isn't near stark or haunting, it is sty emotional, and evocative.

Muth is unquestionably a ist of tremendous talent and ploys silverpoint, graphite, coal, and paint in the render The illustrations are occasion achingly beautiful and even story were without merit, the would be worth the money ju the art. But, coupled with Harbou's masterful story of so terrorized by a murderer, M delight.

(B&w & Color \$

Afterwords: It's probably become obfrom the above reviews that critic is skeptical of comic adaptations of movies. While may be value if creativity is ployed, more often the work little sad. It's preferable to see o creators following their own v and the blanket condemn should be expanded to inc most movie and T.V. tie-in s of comics. If it doesn't add any to the original, then why do it a

-Scott



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The Change

Do you wanna be...

The snares rattle and the cymbols and hi-hat on Kurt Borich's drum set quake slightly as lead singer Steve Simsich plays a Spanish sounding riff on his guitar and speaks into the mike with a staccato, "Two Check."

The quaking intensifies for a moment while keyboardist-comesound engineer Alex Kim sets the levels on the board.

"Sounds all right to Jeeeeezussss," Kurt quips as bassist John Ward joins in the cacophony of warming-up sounds with a quick funk on the bass.

"Steve's gonna show us a new song," he explains. "When did you write it Steve?"

"I wrote it in the car on the way here," Steve answers as he launches into the opening chords of the tune. The others—with the exception of lead guitarist Doug Hammond, who is in Seattle or Portland, depending on who you ask—listen for a half a minute or so, and then add their own interpretation in to the emerging song.

The Change's practice studio, at least for the next week or so, is a square, low ceilinged cubbyhole with make shift sound insulation taped on the wall, the music is loud as they practice, but enjoyable. They stop every couple of minutes to alter the tempo or to shout out a chord change. You wouldn't guess they'd never heard the song 10 minutes ago.

"That'll be groovy," Kurt says, when they're done. "Should we play 'Piece of Me?"

The Change is one of the most enduring of Salt Lake's local bands. They've been together since New Year's Eve 1989. During any given week you are likely to catch them playing at either the Zephyr or the Bar & Grill, although they've been known to play other places as well.

"We usually play enough to pay the bills," John said.

Recently, they also competed in a battle of bands at the Zephyr

called The Showcase, the winner of which will have all expense paid to play in Austin next March at The South by Southwest Showdown.

"It's cool if we win," John quips, but adds, "The ephyr's gonna have one band that loves them and about 30 that hate them [when this is all through]."

Contests aside, in the immediate future the band hopes to make a move to Fast Forward recording studio, where Alex works in order to spend their time writing some new material and recording a CD.

"We don't have enough shit to go anywhere right now," Steve says, to which Alex and Kurt protest that they listened "to about 20 old songs in the studio the other day."

"We've got to get enough together to have out there," Kurt concedes. "It's embarrassing to hand out a tape with so few songs."

He refers to The Change's fivesong self-titled demo tape which includes tunes Change devotees might recognize; "Backstroke," "Far & Away," and "Pain In My Heart."

They hope to get at least 10 new songs together in the studio so they can start more active pursuing contracts and out-of-town gigs.

"At least we're trying," John said, adding he thinks its easier to be a band in Salt Lake City than other locales.

"There are not as many bands," he said. "With Seattle and California going bone dry, the record companies will be looking other places."

And if not, Kurt sarcastically predicts their future to be The Bar & Grill. "Thank God for the Bar & Grill," John says, "it's one of the few places that give local bands a chance."

Clubs which offer alternative music nights, and contests like the Zephyr's showcase, have really helped support the local scene he added.

"You guys went to school with [owner] Kris [Johnson] didn't you?"

Kurt quizzes Steve and John. "Maybe that"s why we get to play there?"

Levity aside, the members of The Change take their music and their supporters seriously. The band's following has been solid, they say, around a couple hundred people.

"A lot of our friends have been supportive as hell," Steve adds. "We've had a consistant draw."

They have a couple of upcoming shows in December including Friday the 4th at the Zephyr and a free show at Bar & Grill on December 23rd.

However, during the last six months the band has been trying to overcome a lack of motivation, which the studio change will undoubtedly help.

"I wish we had some [motivation]," Alex says, to which John says, "We're getting it back."

"It was the end of the summer," Steve explains.

"Yah, and next summer it'll be "The End of Winter.' Springs are bad and we don't like Fall much," Kurt jokes.

The loss of focus was due in part to changes—John went back to school and Doug started his new business—but the band agrees, they simply lost direction.

"You have your rude awakening one day and realize there are 10 million people out there trying to make it doing the same thin Steve says.

"For a while there, the case most interested wasn't in the ban John said. He calls Da Hendrickson, The Change's mager, "the glue that holds the bat together."

"Yah, he's a big piece of glu Steve adds.

Loss of direction or not, T Change is getting back on tra New people are getting involve with their music and it is motivate them.

And, besides, what would the do with themselves if they broup?

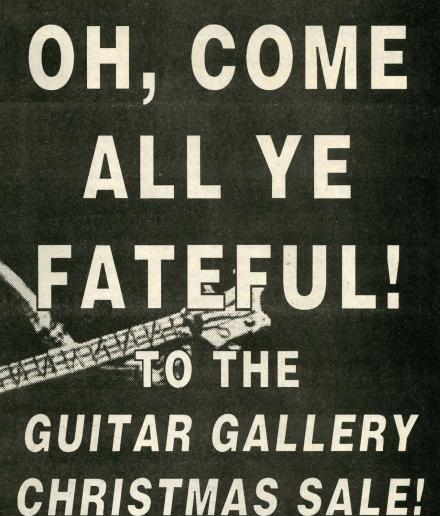
"I don't even know what it wo be like not being in a band," A said. Most of the members were bands before The Change w begot. And being in a band is ways a learning experience, the

"We've played for just of person before, after setting up four or five hours and soutchecked for two more," John setting the control of the c

The guys agree that the b part of the job is actually playing fact, they say, the transition for stage to reality can be depressi

"It bums you out when you done playing and you have to back to your real life," Steve sa "It'd be nice to just hop on a to bus and head out."

-Amber Mck



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MOVIE REVIEWS...

DRACULA

A Romance For The 90's

This is the long-awaited reinterpretation of Bram Stoker's 1897 novel. Think of it, nearly 100 years later, this story still has the power to spellbind audiences. Powerful stuff. As indeed this offering from Francis Ford Coppola is, Mr. Coppola has taken a bit of artistic license with the story, but uses it to good effect. The character of Dracula, in a powerful invocation by Gary Oldman, (Sid & Nacy, Track 29, Chattahoochee) has been given the dimension of a human. Instad of being an all evil, bloodthirsty killing machine, he has a past, a history, a love story. He becomes the most dynamic character out of the cast of stellar portrayals. Mr. Coppola neatly avoided what is common pitfall in the Hollywood scene, the casting of a pretty face for its own sake. Dracula could have been just another handsome hunk surrounded by some nifty special effects. He is instead compelling, charismatic, and very three-dimensional.

One of the most striking differences between this Dracula movie and it's predecessors is the frank exploration of the erotic nature of vampirism, and the sexual tension present between the vampire and his victim consort. As we well know, this aspect of the original story has been more suppressed, or, at best, hinted strongly at, with the notable exception of the Hunger. However, as before, the vampires in The Hunger are still the two dimensional "evil force" present in most



portrayals.

While tending to be a bit superficial, (after all it is a Hollywood super-budget

movie) this remains a visually stunning production, with the ability to draw the viewer in and make them feel for the characters, at least while watching it. Anthony Hopkins is wonderfully deadpan as Dr. Van Helsing, and provides much of the comic relief necessary to keep this film from taking itself too seriously. Winona Rider as Mina is etheral and heartbreakingly beautiful, although found myself rooting for Dracula. This was because the character of her fiance. Jonathon Harker, as played by Keanu Reeves,

is almost too pale in comparison. All in all, it is the best Hollywood cheese you'll ever

TETSUO: THE IRON MAN



A Japanese Cyberpunk-horror riff that plays like an old time Godzilla movie with its delirious headlong energy."

-New York Newsd

UNCONSCIOU

A series of stomach-churning man-machine transformations...drawing on apocalyptic scianimation like the cyberpunk Akira and hard-

-J. Hoberman, The Village Voice

Boldly ventures into the outer limits of our imaginations.

-The Hollywood Reporter

"NECKBREAKINGLY SPECIAL EFFECTS

worthy of any Schwarzengegger megabudget

-Film Threat



Exhilaratingly profane and delirious... Eraserhead meets Japanese manga comics... Eye-popping quintessential outlaw art.

E-JANGLING!"

The Washington Post

Driven by a perverse sense of humor... A liveaction science fiction cartoon in which there's a visual explosion every ten seconds.

The New York Times

impossible to forget.

-Interview Magazine

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The Flaming Lips

OUTSPOKEN MOUTHBREATHER MAYBERRY

October — Club Starrz

Sex, drugs and rock & roll began the evening. Mouthbreather wasn't exactly what you would call the right kind of band for the night, but, definitely the high point.

What you need to do is, drink a sixer of P.B.R., stumble in the door and come do the Hokey Pokey with me Mouthbreather. They are forging the future of beastiality. Eli is a real goat-fucker and I love you Amber.

Mayberry I didn't like too much. I guess they were good if you like boys with curly hair. But, putting everything aside they sound like a Stench rip-off band. Hint: Do a Black Sabbath cover and I will like you a lot better.

Come on kids. Outspoken has nothing going for them except playing 90 miles an hour. I like some aspects of straight edge, but, having preachy kids shove X's down my pants is not one of them. I left. "You can't imprison my, you can't imprison my mind."

-Chopper

The Putters **Amphouse Mother** Smell

November 5 - Bar & Grill

Amphouse Mother is the kind

of band that I would marry if I were a girl. I'd even take them home to meet the parents. They're dirty. bluesy, lovesick sound is just damn good to listen to.

I finally had the opportunity to check out Smell. They are fairly new in Salt Lake and they are really good. Punk rock to the highest degree of punkness.

I know. I've heard it all before. if the Seattle scene had any balls at all it would be in San Francisco. So what, The Putters put on one great fuckin' show. Even though their balls are a little bit peach fuzzy, surely they will mature into a great bands like many others from their home town of Seattle.

-Chopper

FLAMING LIPS **MOUTHBREATHER**

November 8 - Bar & Grill

Heaven. Volume so loud you could feel the music in your bones, the only way that Mouthbreather



The Putters

should be listened to. Mouthbreather is by far my favorite local band and seeing them with The Lips was a total bonus. Thank God that the Bar & Grill will do these kind of shows cause this was the kind of show that was much better when you're fucked up. Eli of Mouthbreather could either write great slasher novels or incredible pornos and somewhere between are the lyrics for Mouthbreather. It is like listening to The Beatles raised in fucked homes trying to get back at their parents.

This was The Flaming Lips third visit to Salt Lake and not a minute too soon. They are on the road with Throwing Muses and they got off track long enough to spend a Sabbath day in Salt lake, Jesus, what a revolting thought. This was one loud motherfucker of a show but the ear damage was worth every drum-splitting minute. They haven't changed a bit, they just have a big label paying the bills behind them now. Buy the album, turn it up loud and kiss my ass if vou don't like it.

-Less Nessman

DOGHOUSE AMPHOUSE MOTHER November 13 - Spanky's

I haven't seen Doghouse play for several months. The last time I thought they were one of the most talented, virtually unknown bands in Salt Lake. They are still virtually unknown and now, without a doubt, one of the most talented bands in the city.

Opening with a song from their self-titled tape and with a total of five people present they were cold. As the size of the audience increased, warming the hall, Doghouse also warmed up. Guitarist, Dennis Maw, or "Neck Man" as the audience and vocalist/bassist, Brenda Lazerus, referred to him, had his movement restricted by the neck brace he wore. (Following an automobile accident about a month ago.) The brace didn't restrict his fingers from flying across the strings of his guitar.

Maw lays down some of the sweetest surf inspired guitar ever heard east of the Pacific ocean. The surprising thing is that he claims to have never listened to any surf music. Surf guitar is only



Stompbox

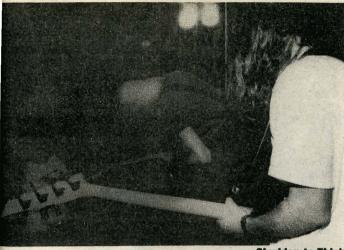
one small phase of his style. He combines surf, jazz, psychedelic and straight rock guitar in his head duties.

The other lead instrument in Doghouse is Brenda Lazerus' voice. Just as the early Jefferson Airplane reached fame on the power of Grace Slick's voice. Lazerus carries the show with her arrestingly similar vocal chords. She also lays down tremendous groove with her talent on the bass. The third member of Doghouse is drummer Jeff Lazerus. A rock solid skinsman, he keeps the time and flails away behind his kit with such power you wonder where he gets his energy.

defies Doghouse Acatagorization. Without any cover songs their show carries you to the beaches of "Endless Summer," to a psychedelic view of Woodstock's mussy fields and back to the bleak present and uncertain future of the 90s.

Next up was Amphouse Mother. From the moment they appear on stage there is no question about their style. They are a grunge band and they look the part. Opening with a tight cover of Nirvana's "Aneurism," they make no apologies for the style. They demonstrated to me that there is life in grunge yet. Amphouse Mother, like Doghouse, is a three piece. Bassist, Mark Ross and drummer, Doug Petterson amply back Bill Frost's show-off guitar style.

The band was 'ue'ed by more than a little liquid rire in their veins which only served to increase their



Shudder to Think

intertainment value. They did a runge version of the theme song from "Fresh Prince of Bel-Air," they also started to cover the horrid How Do You Talk To An Angel," hank God only using it as a aunching pad for one of their riginals.

The highlights came after they took a short break for additional efreshment. Guitarist Frost played slide guitar with an empty terglass, it was the first time I've teen it done and he wailed. Some audience members offered him till glasses, but he diclined that temonstration.

Finally Frost strapped on a white Flying V and to climax the show he smashed it into the stage. With pieces flying everywhere it was a fitting end to a highly enertaining two-band night at the Cinema Bar. I'm convinced that Salt Lake City has a growing talent pool of good bands, so get of your fat ass and go see some of hem play live.

---William Athey

SHUDDER TO THINK ICEBURN LUMBERJACK

November 17 — Club Starrz

Lumberjack is a great name. And they totally kick ass. They have a hard and heavy sound with clear melodic hardcore vocals. You really should check them out sometime.

iceburn, Shmiceburn. Blah...blah...blah.

didn't see Shudder to Think

but I would guess by the size of the crowd that they must have been good. I opted for Stompbox.

STOMPBOX PRODIGAL OF SMILES November 17—Ray & Grill

Salt Lake's Finest band ever (just kidding). Prodigal of Smiles puts on one entertaining show. They go through all the necessary motions...jumping around, screaming profusely, and banging on things. Way to go.

Stompbox from Boston, MA would have to be compared to White Zombie or Bullet Lavolta. They are thrashy hardcore with a dose of Flaver-Flav humor top keep things light since their music is real heavy. For what its worth, if they ever come back you should check them out.

All
Photos
By
Robert
DeBerry



STIM BOY SEZ...

Welcome to my final column of 1992. I missed the deadline in the last issue because I was preoccupied with my job as campaign manager for my brother Jo Jo's presidential race. We saw our 15 point lead in the polls evaporate after Ross Perotalleged that we had substituted photos of Mr. Ed and Nipsy Russell on his daughter's wedding invitation. The resulting populist furor essentially eliminated our ticket from contention although we still managed to run a close fifth behind Bo Gtitz and Lyndon LaRouche in Idaho. Allow methis opportunity to categorically deny all charges. Jo Jo was so distraught after the scandal that he self immolated in a paella pan near Madrid's Puerto Del Soi. Well, the campaign is over, and we finally have a democrat in the *White House. Now we can turn our exattention to important things like punk

1992 will probably be remembered as the year Nirvana broke open the underground and the "grunge" factor came into play. All you have to do is read the letters to the editor section of Flipside or Maxi Rockerto see how bent out of shape all the punkers are that their precious little scene is being coopted by the "corporate ogre." I predict that nothing will substantially change. Major labels, being what they are, will sign dozens of shitty Nirvana-bees and then drop them a year later. Radio and MTV will continue to suck up to rat fucking hair farmers like Jackyll and Roxy Blue and the media will invent another scene to build up as the underground hotbed when the Seattle craze pans out. My prediction is that Chicago or Minneapolis will be the agenda for the Royal corporate clusterfuck. The major side effect of Nirvana's success is that now we're stuck with a buttload of mediocre flannel-glamala Pearl Jam and Alice and Chains. The secondary side effect is more press for Courtney Love. I think Hole is a great band but she certainly has managed to milk an inordinate amount of press out of one LP and two singles. You don't suppose it has anything to do with being the mothem of Frances Cobain do you?

Another casualty of Nirvana fallout has been Butch Vig. Butch, as you recall, produced Nevermind way back when Nirvana was still the darlings of the underground. Now Butch is in demand, and every magazine I pick up has some comment about Vig "ruining" the sound of Sonic Youth and L7 by making them sound too slick. Why is it that I never read about him ruining Killdozer, Urge Overkill, Chainsaw Kittens, or The Fluid? After all, he produced their albums too. It probably has something to do with the fact that none

of those bands were on major labels at the time and thereore, the mainstream press had never heard of Butch before. Sonic Youth are big kids, they know what they're doing. Butch didn't write the songs for 'em. If they want to make a pop album, it ain't his fault. As for L7, they're still great, I just don't think the songwriting is as strong as it used to be. They'll probably never come up with anything as great as Fast and Frightening or Just Like Me again. Who could? Here's a part of a conversation I had with Mark Metzger of Chainsaw Kittens:

STIMMY: What's it like working with Butch Vig?

Mark: He is the most "non-producer" producer in the world, he just says, "play how you usually do and I'll make it sound cool."

Well, enough pontificating, now it's time for the real fun stuff. Here are my annual Stimmy Awards for 1992. The category is best albums, in no particular order

Alice Donut The Untidy Suicides of Our Degenerate Children (Alternative Tentacles.) Killer riffs, disturbing images, pyschotic ravings and a great package. If the Smashing Pumpkins had any guts they might be half as good as thif NYC quintet. Most amazing to me is the fact that Kramer produced this and I like it anyway.

Screaming Trees Sweet Oblivian (Sony Corp.) Mescaline soaked slabs of pure sonic bliss. Mark Lanegan is the best singer since Lou Rawls. Not as experimental as their earlier work but more consistently brilliant.

Helmet Meantime (Time-Warner Inc.) This choice is prety obvious. I'm only wondering how Spin managed to overlook this surgically brutal masterpiece. Of course, Spin likes En Vogue and puts Public Enemy on the cover every other month while ignoring Ice Cube or anything else from the west coast except for the neutered Ice-T.

Thelonious Monster Beautiful Mess (CEMA) Indeed it is, it's good to hear Bob Forrest's poignant whining once again and you get a Tom Waits duet to boot. On the last album they covered a Tracy Chapman song, this time Joan Armatrading gets the nod. I wonder if Bob will set Wanda Coleman's poetry to music for the next album.

Jon Spencer Blues Explosion (Caroline) Praise the lord, I've never seen the light. Pussy Galore with punch. One cool motherfucker of an album.

A House IAm The Greatest (Matsushita Music Division) These guys are so honest it almost hurts to listen. As usual the best band from England is actually list.

Chainsaw Kittens Flipped Out In



Singapore (Mammoth) Gender bending power pop from Norman, Oklahoma. Hanoi Rocks on PCP, T-Rex on crystal meth, Cheap Trick meets Crispin Glover.

Jesus Lizard Liar (Touch & Go) This gang has yet to disappoint. Any Jesus is a guaranteed slugfest and this is no exception. One of the few bands who continue to grow and improve with each release.

John Moran The Manson Family Opera (Polygram) I don't know what papa Charlie himself thinks of this but I think it's a masterpiece. Moran manages to evoke the paranoia and group psychosis of the Spahn Ranch without resorting to sensationalism and you can't beat the casting. Iggy Pop, Terre Roche and an absolutely chilling Paige Snell. It's creepy-crawly good fun.

Babes In Toyland Fontanelle (Time Warner Industries) Go back to school Courtney. This is, as Stephen Egerton would say, "the real shit," I can live without the Bauhaus lift on the instrumental however.

There are a dozen or so other records I would recommend with qualifications. Sonic Youth deserves a listen through but check out the Dim Stars album while you're at it. L7 still rocks my world. If you liked the last All record you'll like the new one. Pavement, Polvo and Seam are basically the same band; Lou Reed meets the Fall and they take Ecstasy. Pick any one of the three and if you like it, buy the rest. I'll wait for the next Superchunk album. American Music Club is still great and the Lemonheads have yet to disappoint although Evan Dando seems to be "maturing" in his dotage. The Cows are always good for a laugh. P.J. Harvey probably wins the prize for best debut.

On the reissue front, kudos to Touch & Go for putting the Big Black catalogue back on the shelves, to Relativity for buying up the Twin Toneback catalogue and licensing Pain Killer domestically, to Caroline for the Pussy Galore Corpse of Love compilation. And finally to Cargo and First Puppet for rescuing Jon Wayne's Texas Funeral from oblivian. Slash finally put the first FEAR album out on CD but we're still waiting for the Germs. And as you all know, the

Crass A-sides compilation is final available. (Rudimentary Peni on © Yippee.)

Now for the really fun stuff! Sin Boy's Sniveler Awards for the biggs villains of 1992!

For complete hypocrisy in the name of punk rock ethics the winner is Maximum Rock and Roll who as nounced they would no longer accept advertising or review records from those whom they consider "corporate" labels. This includes Caroline and Relativity who, in addition to their own titles, also distribute Dischord, Epitaph, Alterative Tentacles, Cargo, Crass, and a the rest of the precious independent labels Maxi Rocker drools over. The may call it editorial discretion, but la it fascism. They're dictating which at should and should not be endorsedjus as surely as Hitler was when he shu down Bauhaus and the Cabaret Voltaire

Lollapalooza and Perry Ferrell with the prize for crass commercialism Perry's no fool, he knows Jerry Garda won't live forever. What will the Dead heads do when Jerry's arteries finally squeeze all circulation from his dru addled head? It doesn't matter, just dress a Grateful Dead show up in flannel and leather and slap an "alternative" label on it to make it seem like some kind of significant event. It can't miss Two notes: (1) Every artist on that tour except Ice Cube has played in Sal Lake for less than 500 people and less than \$10. (2) Every artist on that tour except Ice Cube is signed to a major label with megabucks behind them. It's nothing but a glorified maylest.

Finally, a big flip of middle digit to U2, Polygram and Island records who nearly sued SST into oblivian because someone's little feelers were hurt when Negativeland had the audacity to release an album which tangentially kinds, sorta made fun of Bono Incorporated. The first amendment and the copyright law went right out the window on that one and it's taken SST nearly a year big itself out of the hole U2 Industries dug for them. Of course that hasn't stopped Polygram from raking bucket loads of cake off Soundgarden, who of course, were originally on SST.

Well to end on a happy note, it wasn't such a bad year for me. I got to have a beer with Paige Hamilton and get my Helmet set list autographed, I met my personal heroes, Jon Spencer and Cristina and got to see Spinal Tap, Alice Donut, Jesus Lizard, Fluid and a shitload of other great bands. The Salt Lake scene is picking up again, the bands are getting better, there's more dubs, and the Jazz finally have a bench. Have a successful 93, kick much ass, and take a minute to remember the friends we've lost in 92 and try not to join them for as many years as possible. Until next year, Stim Boy signing off.

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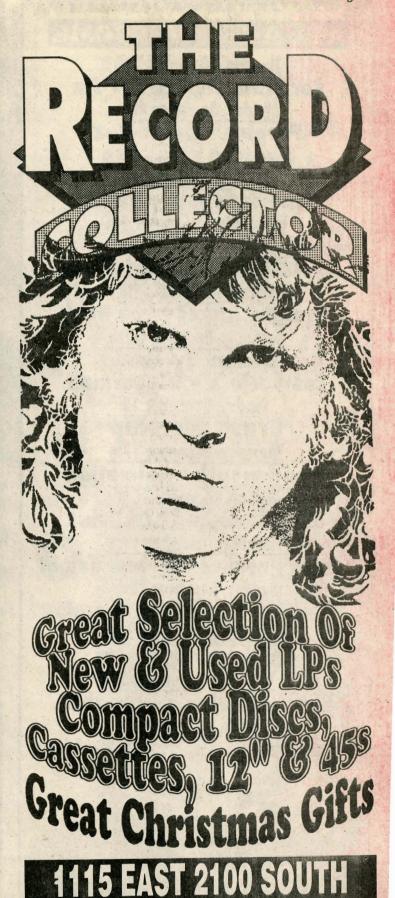
Tuesday, December 15th



115 South West Temple

Info 539-8400

A Private Club For Members
Doors 8:00pm • Cover \$6.00



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ALL AGES WELCOME

Thursday, December 3rd For What Its Worth • Sin Friday, December 4th Perplex • Baldo-Rex Rapture • One Eye Saturday, December 5th **Generic Supply + Guests** Wednesday, December 9th Into Another Iceburn • Makeshift Friday, December 11th Straight Jacket • The Book Saturday, December 12th Down By Law Lumberjack • Triggerman Sunday, December 13 Crash Worship Thursday, December 17th Trenchmouth . Animation Friday, December 18th Generic Supply • Obliviax Saturday, December 19th Tommy Knokker • Darkess Knight Sunday, December 26th Black Ivory • Maggotheads Wednesday, December 30th **Mayberry & Guests** Saturday, January 2nd Five Year Plan • Makeshift Friday, January 15th Deap Blue • Pop, Sex & Violence



NEW TRIBALISM

In spite of the bass-ackwards theocracy governing this little state, we are fortunate, enough to have a very strong" tribal/pagan community. The reponse to the Crash Worship show in October seems to prove this well. As dedicated Crash-heads, we have had the opportunity to see shows in other cities, and the energy created by the Salt Lake crowd was far bevond most of the other shows we've seen this year. In fact, the response was so tremendous that Typhoon ADRV (Crash Worship to the uninitiated) is due to hit Salt Lake again! Rumour has it that the show will be on December 13 at Club Starrz. For those of you who are wondering what Crash Worship has to do with tribalism, well, you will just have to be there. Just don't forget to check your inhibitions at the door (\$1.00).

Aditionally, the celebrations of the eight seasonal holidays, as held in the public circle Quickbeam, have a large following. Quickbeam began about six

years ago as a way to observe the seasonal/ solar holidays, and has helped to build strong pagan/tribal community in Utah. If you are interested. look for flyers announcing the next observance on the Wheel, which is Yule, prior to the weekend of the 19th-30th of December. Last Year, more than 200 people came to help mark this joyous occasion! Drumming—there are several formal drumming groups here in the valley, the best place to find one would be in one of the numerous newage bookstores. These stores either sponsor their own group, or may know about one. The best kind however, is the one you put together with a few friends. a few drums, and lots of open space. Drumming is still one of the best ways to create a cohesive tribe, for the heartbeat is universal and almost no one can walk away from a good drum session unmoved.

> Until Next time... merry meet! Tara S & Dave S

COMING SOON FROM SLUG PRODUCTIONS

COMPH-ATION

Local bands Interested in being On It Submit Music To: P.O. Box 1061, Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-1061 One Song Only Please. Music must be on DAT and must be accompanied by band photo, logo, artwork as well as any contact information about band. All submissions must be received by December 31, 1992





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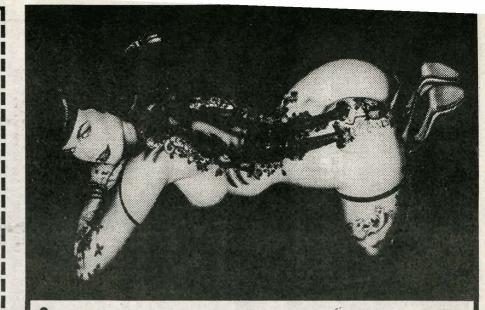
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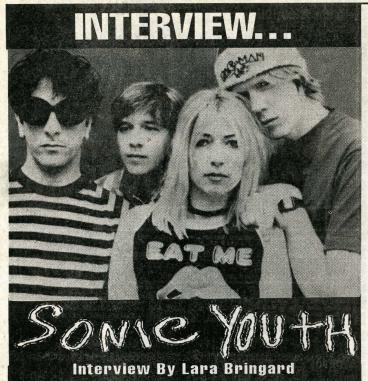
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No they won't be in town soon, and, yes, their record came out a while ago, but SLUG had a chance to talk to one of them so we did. Spare us the attitude and read what Kim Gordon of Sonic Youth had to say about Dirty, natural anarchists, and a Free Kitten.

SLUG: What's your favorite song on Dirty?

KIM: Oh, wow. That's hard. I don't know, there's a latal sangs, but I guess Sugar Kane.

SLUG: What's that all about? I noticed in the liner notes that Thurston kind of shies away from explaining too much about it.

KIM: Uhmmm, I don't know what it's about [laughs]. The name is the one Marilyn Monroe used to use on hotel registers but, I don't know if it's really about Marilyn Monroe.

SLUG: Does Thurston write most of the lyrics?

KIM: Only the songs he sings. SLUG: Is that how it works in SY? Whoever writes the songs, sings the

songs?

KIM: Yeah.

SLUG: I was listening to Dirty over and over and over and found it had this underlying hum, a kind of pleasure buzz what with one song leading right into the next. Is that calculated?

KIM: No, but it's nice it works out that way, It's pretty intuitive, you know. Sometimes we ... the songs are already done and everything. Sometimes we're sort of reacting more from the last record than anything. On the last one, the songs are more sort of concise and I think it was a more minimal kind of record.

SLUG: What do you set out to achieve with each new project or do you?

KIM: Nothing [laughs]. To achieve making a record. We try to achieve good vibe-ology.

SLUG: Okay. Speaking of good vibeology... I've noticed you guys are popping up a lot in Sassy magazine of all places. In the last bit I saw you were gettingyourroots retouched on a Sassy beauty day.

KIM: They just called me up and said we're going out to this salon for a day of beauty, you wanna come?'[laughs] I said 'Okay'.

SLUG: You guys seem to have a lot of fun with image, you don't seem to really care about it one way or the other, whereas with some bands their image has more to say than their music. What is music about for you? You've got a couple of side projects, right?

KIM: I have a band with Julie Cafritz from Pussy Galore. It's called Kitten, actually Free Kitten. We had to change the name because of an R&B pop recording artist named Kitten on Atlantic Records. We've recorded an EP called "Call Now."

SLUG: Is it like Sonic Youth?

KIM: No, it's more ... I don't know what it's like. It's more minimal, it's more basic, It's just two guitars, Actually there are a few drums on it, but the drums are more like afterthought.

SLUG: Did you and Julie do all the work on it?

KIM: We did it all. Next time we're going to hire studio musicians [laughs]. SLUG: Speaking of recording, with SY being on a big label now, were you able to indulge yourselves a little more

on "Dirty"? Or has budget ever been a constraint in the past?

KIM: No, I mean, we spent about the same amount as the last record ... SLUG: How much, may I ask?

KIM: ... about, like, \$150,000. But everything went really smoothly. We felt like it was sort of ... I mean, other bands on indie labels have producers. I guess it's kind of like an indulgence for us to have a producer and it was really easy. It worked out really well.

SLUG: What was it like working with Butch Vig [Nirvana, Smashing Pumpkins]? As a producer, how much did he influence SY's recording process?

KIM: It was good to have someone there just to say, you know, make sure the performances were good. Just to make sure everything remained straight forward the way it was recorded. He's also an engineer, which is good. He really knows what he's doing.

SLUG: Do you think that this will be the album that will bring SY widespread consumer attention? Not necessarily because of the Vig/Nirvana association, though.

KIM: I don't think so. I mean, I don't think any album will [laughs] ... maybe this will come the closest. It's been doing good. But every record we put out has sort of doubled [our audience]. It's like ...

SLUG: It builds exponentially? KIM: ... yeah, exactly. I don't know if it's a natural evolution, or what.

SLUG: Lyrically, the songs seem to revolve around the seamy side of life. Is that the experience of the band, or your environment, or New York coming through?

KIM: Well, it's just things we're interested in Different things. It's not that much fun to write a song about, uhmmm .. laughs

SLUG: Boy meets girl?

KIM: ... yeah, exactly. And like Beverly Hills 90210. I guess you could write a song about that, then that would be sort of kitschy.

SLUG: So, this having been a political year, does SY have anything to say about the choices, or lack thereof, this last campaign?

KIM: Well, we don't usually don't talk about politics in any specific way. SLUG: So that's a no comment?

KIM: No, I mean, you know. We're not like a political band. We're not working on the Rain Forest or anything

SLUG: Well, if you were to do a benefit record, what would be the cause?

KIM: We've done Pro-Choice benefits. We all feel pretty strongly about that. And, I would just say vote for all the women, because men have sort of fucked it all up.

SLUG: I was reading over the press clippings that Thurston put in SY's bio material and there's one where you say: "My theory is that women make natural anarchists because they're

outside the system in so many waysit's that unpredictable, wild female thing." (August 1990 Interview maga-

KIM: Well, I mean it's just that ... the rules aren't for women. They're sort of made by men, for men for the most part. So that would leave it that women are used to working around that in building another order of their own. A sort of non-order.

SLUG: So is SY only a small part of what your musical plans are for yourself? I'm talking about over a lifetime. KIM: Oh, I don't know.

SLUG: Did you get into music because that's what you wanted to do, or did you fall into it?

KIM: I sort of fell into it. I was raised to be a visual artist. I just ended up doing music because I couldn't figure out a way to ... I didn't have an emotional framework in art in order to say what I wanted to say. Because I wasn't interested in abstract expressionism. I just couldn't put my interests into conceptualism with what I wanted to say emotionally. Like when I came to New York, I was most inspired by the music I saw happening.

SLUG: What kind of music was that? KIM: No-wave bands like DNA and The Statics, this band Glen Branca was in, and the Contortions. Stuff like that. It was much more exciting.

SLUG: Are you doing any visual art

KIM: Not really, I think I'll always sort of ... Whether I do art or music, I would apply similar ideas. Just commenting on popular culture in different ways. SLUG: The letter you wrote about the

cover art, the bunny art ... KIM: Those pictures are by this artist Mike Kelley, He's done a series of work with these stuffed animals that he gets in Salvation Army stores. Those were from a particular series of portraits that were printed in an art magazine, and then that picture beneath [the cd] was shown in a gallery where he had the stuffed animals laid out on blankets around it. It's sort of to drive home the aspect of the sort of repression of whatever's dirty in American culture. SLUG: Comparing your older work, like Badmoon Rising and E.V.O.L., to what SY does now, do you think that the earlier music was darker? And that now SY incorporates more pop ele-

ments into the mix? KIM: I think we've always done that, but I think maybe now things are just more focused. Or it's more clear that's what we're doing.

SLUG: Lastly, where does SY go from here?

KIM: Good question [laughs]. SLUG: is the ballad album next? KIM: I guess we're going to do countrywestern and blues songs. You know, copy Sinead, That'll keep us busyl.





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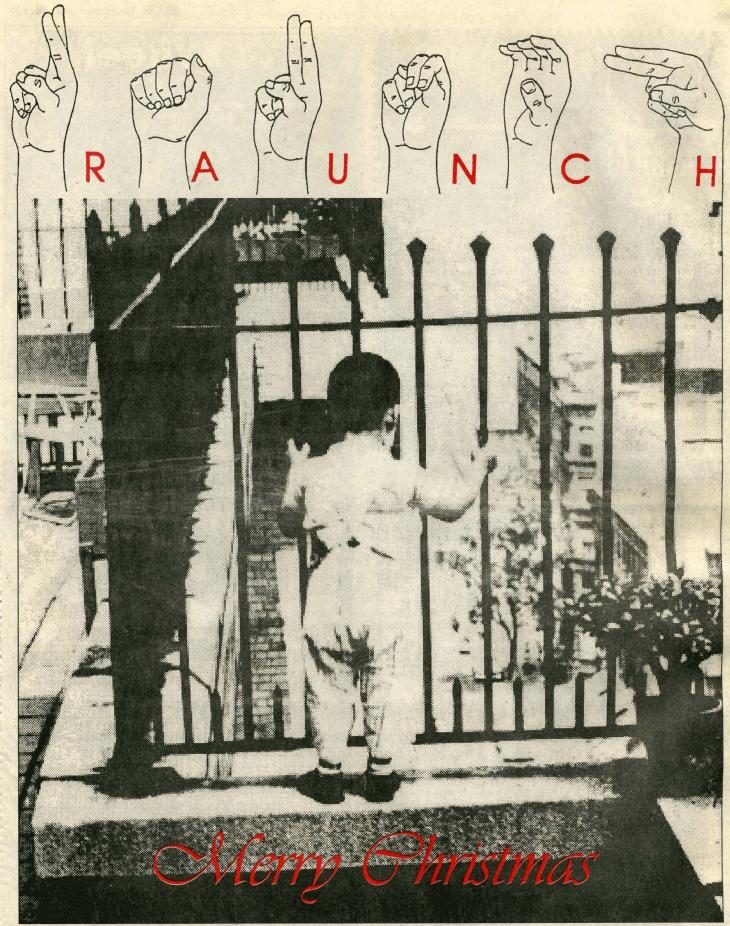
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