

NOCTURNE

Magazine



MR. BIG



MEGADETH

- Inside:
- exclusive interviews
 - local band profiles
 - demo and show reviews
 - columns

SPECIAL PREMIER
ISSUE!!!
Vol. 1, Issue 1 Summer, 1991



BABYLON A.D.



VICIOUS RUMORS

**NOCTURNE MAGAZINE
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EDITORIAL

Nocturne (music) 1. A composition dealing with or referring to night; a serenade esp. a dreamy, pensive instrumental composition. 2. (painting) A night scene.

This is Webster's definition of nocturne. In these pages you will see a new definition of Nocturne. Our night music is the local bands who are striving to make it to the top and some bands who have already made it. The Nocturne staff recognizes that the Bay Area needs a magazine to support our thriving music scene and to serve as a link among the musicians, industry and music lovers in the vicinity. We aim to fulfill that need but we need our readers' cooperation. If you are in a local band, please get in touch with us and we will try to feature you in our upcoming issues. If you are involved in any business, we would appreciate your advertising in our magazine. And if you are part of the music scene, we need your contributions and suggestions. We want everyone to be a part of the exciting future of Nocturne Magazine.

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Mr. Big

The Big Nocturne Interview

By Jean Picache

Actually, the by-line should read "By Eric Martin" since he thought of the title and dominated the whole interview anyway. This was definitely a long interview (my longest to date) but it was funny and interesting and even educational. Thanks for all the advice Eric (like don't go out with musicians coz they're animals and don't ask Mike Varney to find you a boyfriend or you'll end up going out with GHOST TOWN). Well, I can't print everything verbatim as he requested, not only for lack of space (it might fill up the whole magazine), but also because I don't want to get into trouble...this is our first issue remember! Well, here's the whole BIG story and it reads more like a novel really...

Chapter 1: History in the Making

I just finished my solo album on CAPITOL RECORDS, I got dropped, I did the Eddie Money tour, came back home and it was like it's over. I was trying to get another record deal as a solo artist again but I really missed the Eric Martin Band...the camaraderie...and I was tired of being Mr. Responsibility. Billy Sheehan (bass) gave me a call out of the blue. He got my number from Mike Varney (SHRAPNEL RECORDS). He heard some records and he said 'let's get together'. I think he knew that I had this high-powered management too, you know. We got together and formed the sound of the band. Where it was going to be still Eric Martin soulful belter singer with Billy Sheehan like the hard rock foundation. And he knew Paul Gilbert (guitar). Paul used to come to shows when Billy was in a band called TALAS. When Paul went to L.A. he was in a guitar contest and Billy just happened to be a judge. Pat Torpey (drums) came down and we had written about 5 songs in 8 days. We didn't even know each other. We knew about each other's pasts and our reputations so we just built it on that. So we got together, did our first album and the rest is history. It did great. We sold 400,000 records. It didn't go Gold but it doesn't matter. We got a nice fan base.

Chapter 2: Second Heat

It's (their latest album LEAN INTO IT) doing okay. I think it's been out for about a month and a half, two months and we've sold...last count was 130,000. "Green-Tinted Sixties Mind" (the video)...it's been shown on Headbanger's Ball and that's it. Which is completely stupid because it's not really a hard-headbanger thing. You could play that on VH-1 if you want. We're gonna go with "Lucky This Time" as our new single. Songwriting (on the second album) is definitely more mature. In a nutshell, the first album, there was the four virtuosos. And then the songs came second. In this second album, the song is the star. My favorite song is actually "Voodoo Kiss". I get to do the thing I'm accustomed to. Pour soul all over the song. I just had fun writing it. (It's) a satirical look at Voodoo.

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On the Road

with Marty Friedman

By Michele Bohannon

Touring with a bill as large as "The Clash of the Titans" calls for quite a demanding schedule. Marty Friedman, guitarist for Megadeth, took the time though to share with us how it is like on the road with them.

Originally from Maryland, Marty moved to the Bay Area for a couple of years and played in a band called "Cacophony." Found by a mutual friend, Marty replaced then Megadeth guitarist Chris Poland. He has proved to be the missing link in the puzzle. Now, a year and a half later, when asked how it feels to suddenly join an already established band such as Megadeth, Marty's reply was, "at first, it felt really new but about a month later we recorded the album. I learned back catalog, new material and wrote all my guitar solos and only had a month to do it. I was so busy it didn't phase me." Although most of the lyrics were written by Dave and a lot of the basic structures were written before he joined, he did add his guitar solos and played everything on the album. His favorite songs off "Rust in Peace" are "Tornado of Souls" and "Holy Wars." Not so much for what the songs are saying but more for the musical content.

The first video off the album "Rust in Peace" was "Holy Wars". The most recent is "Hangar 18". They got the idea for this song from Nick Menza (drums) who's heavily into aliens and UFOs. The thing he liked about it the most was that it was like making a movie. "It was an incredible experience. There were 70 extras standing around in alien suits all day in the heat waiting for their part." He continues, "I could never be an actor just sitting around all day and waiting."

He says he gets nervous before every show but it goes away the minute he walks on stage. Except for one time..."Doing the Arsenio Hall show, I was okay at first until the make-up person said to me, 'you seem really calm for someone whose about to play for 10 million people.' I completely freaked out. I was thinking to myself to go on automatic pilot. I mean I've played for more people than this in Rio. But the venue was so Hollywood and there was glass sparkly stuff everywhere. It looked like 'Let's make a deal.' There were tourists in the crowd and the Arsenio Hall band was just sitting there staring at us."

And finally, when asked what the future holds for Megadeth, Marty said, "we just finished doing a song for 'Bill and Ted's Bogus Adventure' called 'Go to Hell.' The video's coming out soon. Also, there has been talk about a live album which might not be in the too terribly distant future. We will be on tour until August 1st and will be taking a break for a while. Hopefully, we will continue to put out quality albums and have more successful tours and improve what we're doing."

THRASH PAGE

Years ago, San Francisco was known as the "Thrash Capital of the World." Even though the legendary scene has deteriorated somewhat, it is still alive. This page is dedicated to the remembrance of the days at The Farm (for those of you who remember).

MORDRED

By Jean Picache



MORDRED is one of the brightest stars to recently come out of the San Francisco Bay Area's Thrash scene. They are at the forefront of the new breed of Thrash Metal. Founding member and bassist Art Liboon reveals the essence of this multi-dimensional band.

WHEN DID YOUR TWO ALBUMS COME OUT AND HOW DID THEY FARE? (Our first album, "Fool's Game") came out in February 1990 and it did pretty well. It did better than a lot of first albums do. It made it to Japan and so we're pretty happy with that. We had a video for a song (from the record) called "Everydays A Holiday." (Our second album, "In This Life" came out in) February 1991. Actually one of the two videos (that we make for the second record) premiered on MTV's Headbanger's Ball Saturday the 25th (of May) and we weren't here to see it. The song is "Falling Away." MTV has a copy of "Esse Quam Videri" (Latin for "To Be Rather Than To Seem") and they're sitting on it right now. It's doing well ("In This Life"). Most people who hear it like it and it's getting very good reviews in magazines.

HOW DID YOU GUYS GET TOGETHER AS MORDRED? The band was first formed with me and the guitarist back in 1985 (who's not in the band anymore). We played our first show in February 1986 and the rest is history. With all the different lineup changes our sound sort of changed and we got a DJ and we are what we are now. The DJ was on the first album and on one of our demos that we make for NOISE RECORDS (their record label). We decided to put him on when we covered the song "Superfreak" by Rick James. We kinda played it as a joke at one of our shows coz we ran out of songs to play. The crowd response was good so we recorded that song in a demo. We got DJ Pause in and he did his cuts. When we began production for the second album, we decided to get Aaron (Aaron "Pause" Vaughn) in on the act too. And since he was on it so much, a lot more than on "Fools Game," we decided to take him with us on our tour. He's a member of the band.

WHAT ARE YOUR MUSICAL INFLUENCES? I like to listen to a lot of different types of music. THIN LIZZY, MOTORHEAD, PUBLIC ENEMY, NWS, ICT - T FISHBONE. A

DEFIANCE

By Michele Bohannon



Straight out of Oakland comes one of the best Thrash bands around. I recently talked with Steev Esquivel, lead singer of DEFIANCE, at Bay View studios where Defiance is recording their follow-up album to "Void Terra Firma."

The band was founded by one of the best drummers in the Bay Area, Matt Vanderend, and an equally talented bass player, Mike Kaufman. They were later joined by lead and rhythm guitarists Doug Harrington and Jim Adams. Their first album "Product of Society" was recorded with Defiance's original singer Ken Elkington. Two months after they released their album, Ken was replaced by Laughing Dead's singer Steev Esquivel. Steev, whose influences range from ALICE IN CHAINS to DIO is a great asset to the band. Although Steev's only been in the band two years, he has already recorded two albums with them. The first "Void Terra Firma" was an album that only took two weeks to record and was finished in December of 1989. It sold approximately 50,000 copies.

Keep an eye out for their most current album, "Beyond Recognition" which should be released by Roadrunner Records by September 1st. The opening track on their new album is entitled "Inside Looking Out." When asked about this particular song, Steev replied, "it's about me looking out at the world, watching people, how people think they can predict me and about me catching these people off guard."

After the album is released, Steev said "we are going to to out on the road and we are looking forward to going out and sharing our raw stuff with our fans and getting their reactions."

lot of rap, funk and jazz influences. Like a lot jazz artists in fact.

MORDRED also boasts the classically trained guitar team of James Sanguinetti and Danny White, the unconventional creativity of drummer Gannon Hall and the dynamic Scott Holderby. That explains the diversity of MORDRED's sound.

Babylon A.D.: Back in the Studio

By Jean Picache

BABYLON A.D. is probably one of the hottest new bands in the past two years and their self-titled debut album was one of the best debut albums to come out in that same period. Hot after the trail of their first album they are already hard at work on their next one. Bassist Robb Reid recounts what they have done since the release of their debut album up to the present and gives us a glimpse of what we can expect from them in the near future.

How their first album fared:

You gotta look at it in the terms of how many bands were out last yer in competition, the economy and a lot of different factors but our label was very happy with us. We were exceptionally happy with the exposure we got through the actual album itself, the videos and ROBOCOP II did a lot of good things for us.

Touring:

We did the whole United States. We didn't go over to Europe. We had tentative plans to go over but like everything in this business it's tentative until you're there. Basically, what we did the whole year and a half was go out on our own headlining clubs to small theaters. I think there was like two or three states that we didn't get to. We did get to Canada. We did a lot of dates in Canada. But we're ready to conquer Europe and Japan this coming year.

New album:

We've just finished the writing and

demoing stage. Now we're in the "producer hunt" stage. We've finished demoing our stuff in L.A. and the company's reall happy with all the material. We're happy with it. I think our stuff has matured a lot. Through all the touring and different experiences and everything that we've dealt with over the last two years. It's been a fun two years. We're looking at going into the studio and actually starting to record the end of May beginning of June. We should be in for approximately eight to nine weeks maybe ten weeks. So we're looking at an early October release. It will be exactly two years coz that's when our first one came out.

New songs:

My favorites... there's one tune called "Raw Sexuality" that's our tribute to funk. I know everybody's doing this funk rock thing but we kept it within bounds. We didn't go overboard. We're not doing the FAITH NO MORE thing. And there's "So Savage the Heart" which is one of our ballads. We have a multitude of songs to choose from and it came down to ten or eleven that we are all happy with and the label's happy with. We're already done "Sacrifice of Love" live. We've also done "Slave Your Body" which might even be the first single.

Difference between the first album and the next one:

with them and that was about it. Our A&R guy got fired and we had management problems. We were let go from that label right after our first album. So there it was, sitting on the shelf and six months later MCA picked us up and bought the record and released it (Feel the Shake). Prior to our first album, we were having problems with our bass player with substances so we had to fire him.

Q: Who took his place?

A: The bass player from HANOI ROCKS, Sam Yaffa. He joined and did the first album and toured with us. We toured the States with CHEAP TRICK, KIX and STRYPER. We toured Japan and came back and started on album number two and basically wrote for about 6-8 months. We started in 1989

Songwriting-wise, we've stretched out a little bit and done things that maybe aren't as safe as the first album. We felt that we needed on this record for it to be our record as much as possible. You'll hear more of what Babylon A.D. is really about musically and lyrically than I think the first record.

Records label:

We're signed with ARISTA...the home of Whitney houston and Kenny G. When we first signed with them that was a big concern of ours...signing with somebody who didn't really have a big network in the Rock field. But we thought too that they're a big company and they have the facilities and tools to do it. So we figured that woiuld be a plus for us and it actually has. This year they have an AOR department and they have EVERY MOTHER'S NIGHTMARE and some really good young up-and-coming rock acts. We did probably ...I haven't had any numbers for the last couple of months. The last I've heard we were up above 220,000 in the States and that's really really good. It didn't go Gold, it didn't go Platinum but our label thinks we have set a great foundation. We've got a lengthy deal so we've got time.

Longevity is definitely one of BABYLON A.D.'s more evident traits and I can't see any direction for this band to go except on to bigger and better things.

Jetboy

By Michele Bohannon

Most people think Jetboy is a new band from L.A. But the truth is, they have been around the scene since 1983 and are originally from the Bay Area. I got a chance to talk with Billy Rowe (guitar) about the past, present and future of Jetboy.

Q: When was the band started?

A: In 1983. Fern (Fernie Rod) and I started writing songs together and stuff. Then Ron Tostenson (drums) and I used to play in another band and we brought him into the unit and the three of us we're jammin'. Then our first bass player Todd Crew found Mickey (Finn), our singer.

Q: What label did you get signed to?

A: Electra. We recorded our first album

and finished Damned Nation in like 3 months. (Sam) decided to leave the

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Vicious Rumours

By Michelle Randazzo

Vicious Rumours is back with their album "Welcome to the Ball," due for release on July 31. This is their fourth album, and their second with Atlantic Records. The current lineup is: Geoff Thorpe, lead guitar and founding member; Mark McGee, lead guitar; Dave Starr, bass; Carl Albert, vocals; and Larry Howe, drums. Michael Rosin, Geoff Thorpe and Mark McGee produced this album.

Vicious Rumours fans will be glad to hear their hard-hitting metal style has not been compromised for this album. I was lucky to catch them at the opening of One Step Beyond. Vicious Rumours has a lot of energy, and the new material promises to be great.

I spoke with Dave Starr, so I could get to know Vicious Rumours a little better. I asked him about the new album and he told me about the song "Children." This will be their first video and single off of "Welcome to the Ball." Dave described "Children" as an "intense crossover type song that could appeal to a wide variety of hard rock metal fans.

The song is about our children inheriting everything we created for them, the good and the bad. We were all children and we all inherited everything our predecessors created for us. "Children" is a song that makes you think. I don't think we're a mindless band. I think a lot of the stuff we've done is timely, topical and meaningful, and I am proud of that."

There is also a ballad on the album called "Love Comes Down." I asked Dave if the album would be a sellout. "No, Vicious Rumours writes what we want to write, we are not a thrash band, we are a metal band. "Welcome to the Ball" is really powerful record with a lot of variations in it."

Vicious Rumours has sepculative plans for a tour with Savatage in August. They will tour Europe and then the U.S. If you get the chance, go and check them out!

Scene Stealer

By Kristin Brodie

After not going out anywhere for 4 - 6 weeks, around the beginning of May, I felt that it was time to bring myself back into the music scene. First was SLAM!. Slam! put on a fun show. They kept the audience dancing and entertained with their rapper and some girls dancing on stage to "Body Slam."

Okay, you DOKKEN fans...go check our WAR AND PEACE. Jeff Pilson of Dokken and a couple of ex-WARLOCK members make up this band. They are very easy to get into and sound great. They ended their set with an old Dokken tune, "It's Not Love."

SETTE CANA...cool name. Just don't try to get a story of what it means. They supported for WAR AND PEACE and as always, they put on a great show. Two of my favorites of theirs are "She Wants All the Money" and "Let it Rain."

The next weekend was the grand Reopening of the ONE STEP BEYOND. For those of you who haven't experienced this club yet, I recommend it. It is huge and has lots of "free and safe parking." The evening included 15 bands. MYSTERIOUS WAYS was the first to catch my eye. Their sound was very different. Most bands played 10-15 minutes and there was a variety of musical styles. We had a taste of CLASSY TRASH, RATTLESHAKE, ALLEYCAT SCRATCH and the SF X-MEN, FORBIDDEN, VIOLENCE and VICIOUS RUMORS also appeared and to end the evening there was MISTER HYDE, SISTER STRANGE and SCREWDRIVER SMILE. The night was a bit hectic but they all pulled it off very well.

In the middle of May we headed for the CONCORD PAVILION to see POISON. We made it for the end of BULLETBOYS. They looked and sounded pretty good. I really don't know SLAUGHTER's music but they weren't bad either. POISON was "interesting" C.C. DEVILLE seemed to play to the back of the stage on his side a lot. Bret Michaels sounded great especially

since he was sick. Singers are always sick at the time of their shows. JETBOY and BOYSTOWN were next at the STONE. BOYSTOWN played exceptionally well. JETBOY didn't thrill me as much.

You know, I go to all these shows and leave with my already damaged ears ringing. Is there a reason the cubs play the music at the "too loud point?" Maybe it could be toned down to the "loud but enjoyable point" or supply earplugs.

I must wish BOYSTOWN, SIN CITY and SETTE CANA good luck in the ROCK WAR in July. This is going to be at the MARIN CENTER and will benefit the MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY ASSOCIATION.

I hear the REAL ROCK is open once more. Everyone should go support those at the Real Rock who have put a lot of work into this "Don't Pay to Play" club.

I watched HEIST on June 8. They sounded great to say the least. I am really looking forward to seeing more of them. I also saw Sette Cana again when they supported for ROXANNE. Sette Cana opened their set with a great new song called "I Know Someteing You Don't." Roxanne put on a good show with a few of their own songs and some old "cover tunes like pieces from "Staying Alive" and "Play That Funky Music."

That's all for now...see ya on the scene!

Attention Local Bands!!!

Send us your promo/demo package and we'll try to feature you in the future

NOCTURNE MAGAZINE
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JUST PASSING THROUGH

The breakup of DOKKEN was disappointing but inevitable. The well-documented internal turmoil within the band finally led to its members parting of the ways. It was inspiring to witness though that immediately after, lead singer DON DOKKEN formed his own group and released an album aptly entitled UP FROM THE ASHES. Guitarist George Lynch, together with drummer Mick Brown, followed that up with LYNCH MOB and the album WICKED SENSATION. It was also great to discover that bassist Jeff Pilson is actively pursuing his own band WAR AND PEACE. The Dokken spirit thus lives on.

Lynch Mob

By Jean Picache

Teaming up with George Lynch and Mick Brown in LYNCH MOB are Oni Logan on vocals and Anthony Esposito on bass. I spoke with Anthony over the phone, who now lives in Arizona as with the other members of the band, no so much as to rehash the past and to compare the three bands but to concentrate more on the present and the very encouraging future of this exciting new band.

Anthony reveals that he is originally from New York and used to play with the band BEGGARS AND THIEVES. Oni, who was born in Argentina, used to play with FERRARI which is now known as COLDSWEAT. The relationship among the band members is very relaxed and laid back. They have been together as a group for over 4 years now and Anthony adds that "everything's going great." Also, everything's so equal in the band that they get equal rights not only to the songs (25% each) but even to the profits. Plus, the name LYNCH MOB can only exist with the original members intact. "The Press pretty much tagged it (the name LYNCH MOB) on us. George was doing interviews in Japan and we didn't have anything better so we figured we might as well stick with it. It's pretty good."

Anthony concludes that the biggest difference between Dokken and Lynch Mob is the diverse musical in-

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Don Dokken

By Jean Picache

After almost a year from the release of "Up from the Ashes," the Don Dokken band finally has graced the Bay Area with their presence. I couldn't understand why they didn't play here sooner but as guitarist John Norum reveals, he's as much in the dark about the whole scenario as well. "We've been to Japan, the whole States and Canada with POISON and JUDAS PRIEST but we didn't have any dates booked (in California). Because I think Don wanted the album to go Gold first before he toured here and play bigger venues. But it still hasn't gone Gold. It's almost Gold and we're pretty happy with it. For a first album, it sold a lot but I don't really know why we're here right now. We



should have done this while the album was out...when it was hot. The album is old now and it's time to do another one. We've been working on an album and suddenly we had these seven shows to do."

They sounded really tight when I saw them perform and so I sked John how they are getting along on and off the stage. "Pretty good...most of this band is European. The drummer (Mikkey Dee formerly of KING DIAMOND) is Swedish, the bass player (Peter Baltes formerly with ACCEPT) is German and I'm Norwegian. I was born in Norway but I lived in Sweden my whole life (where he used to play with

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War and Peace

By Michelle Castro



When the multi-platinum, mega-band Dokken disbanded 2 1/2 years ago, it seemed likely that Jeff would continue to play with fellow Dokken dudes George Lynch and Mick Brown in their next band, LYNCH MOB. An idea which according to Jeff wasn't meant to be. "I thought I would try playing with LYNCH MOB but I then lost touch with George for a while. I became involved jamming with other musicians soon after. We were (and still are) good friends, and I think that's why George and Mick wanted me to play bass and sing in the band with them. I think we all sort of knew, deep down, that it wouldn't work. I'm not the right vocalist for LYNCH MOB. My voice wouldn't sound good with their music, and I really felt that I wanted to be singing. It sounds corny, but I know I'm where I should be with WAR AND PEACE."

Like their name suggests, WAR AND PEACE can rock with an aggressive metal attack, then turn around and play an uplifting, melodic ballad that is just as captivating. The current killer WAR AND PEACE lineup features Jeff on vocals and rhythm guitar; former WARLOCK/DORO bassist Tommy Hendriksen, drummer Ricky Parent and 20-year-old guitar whiz Russ Parish, who was recommended by Mike Varney. "Getting this band together has

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SETTE CANA

By Ana Stark

Sette Cana are a bunch of beer drinking, loud burping, arrogant clowns who, despite all their antics, are very serious about their music. The band consists of B. Ryan, singer; Joe E. drummer; Just John on bass, and Scott Lyn and He's Henno on guitars.

"Gastro intestinal balls rock" is what B. Ryan told me is the perfect phrase to describe their music. It seems like this band is overly obsessed with bodily functions and is not in the least bit shy about demonstrating them. They play a lot of local clubs and are in the upcoming Rock War in July. For them to be one of twelve chosen out of over 100 entries, I think it's fair to say that they are exceptionally talented.

Regardless of what they do and how they act, their music shows a much more sincere side to these boys. They admit to not doing something completely original, but they make up for it with their own inventive style. They are not hindered by closed minds for their taste in music is quite

varied. "We're not afraid to be glam, thrash, pop and rap all at the same time," said He's Henno. Influenced by all kinds of music (and alcohol), they participate in writing everything like one big Happy Partridge Family.

Better try to catch Sette Cana at the Rock War or you might not see them until they come back from visiting their best friend Jose Cuervo in Mexico.



GANGSTER ALLEY

By Ingrid Skorobahaty

This July, Gangster Alley will unleash its revamped lineup on the Bay Area club scene. The current Gangster Alley lineup includes lead vocalist Rob Teed, guitarists Sean McKeon and Steve Jenkins, bassist Casey Todd, and drummer Keith Paulson. Though no member of this band is over 21 years old, these guys are veteran musicians, who have years of musical training and past band experience under their belts.

Members of the Gangster Alley cite musical influence ranging from Hank Williams to Styx, Journey, Stryper, Van Halen, New York Dolls, and current favorite Extreme. Some of these influences come through stronger than others, with the end result being a strong, tight, aggressively melodic, heavy rock band.

What Gangster Alley is aiming for, when they hit the scene later this summer, is an emphasis on the overall performance, rather than just looks or sound. "There are a lot of bands out there getting rated by how they looked or how they sounded," says McKeon, "not by what they were."

intense enthusiasms, energy, and serious dedication to this project. "One thing we realize is that the only way to get somewhere is to work for it," says Jenkins, "that's why we're here (in the studio) six - sometimes seven - nights a week."

So get ready for July, folks. McKeon and Jenkins promised that "someone who pays \$8 to see our show is going to get \$8 worth of enjoyment."



The most admirable quality in this band is their

Photo: Julie Bodway

In keeping with NOCTURNE Magazine's vision of supporting and enhancing the Bay Area's music scene, here is a special section featuring the hottest and most promising local bands from all four major parts of the Bay Area. Watch out for these bands for they are the future of Bay Area Rock and Roll!

W

SLAM!

By Michelle Randazzo

Slam! it's not just a band, it is a new attitude! The Slam attitude is what sets this band apart from the rest. "Everybody's got their story, everybody's got their style, it doesn't matter what the color 'cause cool is color blind" (from the song "Cool is Color Blind") is part of the attitude. A society with no prejudices; people having respect for planet earth; and world peace and the goals these guys want to share with the world.

The music is great too! The songs are fun and upbeat. From the rocking "Put On Your Party Dress" to the rapping "Body Slam!" there is a diverse range of influences and style. With Sean Patrick on vocals, Phil Bright on bass, Chuck More on guitar, and Ross Murakami on drums.

The energy is high and exciting. Yet there is an underlying meaning that ties all this music together. "The time is now for all to see the love we've been destroying. It's time for peace, and hate to decrease until it fades away" (from the song "The Question Is?").

Peace, love and brotherhood of all people is their message. This is one band with high ideals for success. They want more than a record deal. Slam! wants to change the world. I hope they reach their goals, this band is definitely one to watch. Go see Slam! You will not be disappointed.



S

CLASSY TRASH

By Ingrid Skorobahaty

Gilroy, a small town south of San Jose whose claim to fame is being the "Garlic Capital of the World," has something much more appealing these days than garlic!

The band is "Classy Trash," a heavy rock quartet that has been showing up in the Bay Area Clubs with increasing frequency and building up quite a reputation as an up and coming local act to follow. Fronted by lead vocalist Craig Anthony, the lineup also features guitarist Greg Williams, bassist Tristan James, and drummer Johnny Katt, all of whom reside in Gilroy.

Anthony, Williams, James, and Katt have been together since 1988 when they got together to form GoldieRocks. However, a name change was soon made and the band made its debut with the Classy Trash moniker in 1989 at the Omni. "From that point on," says Anthony, "it's grown into a really diverse bunch of music and we've tried a lot of different stuff." Anthony's not kidding when he says diverse influences in this band range from James' Top 40 background and current listening selections including Sinatra and Mozart, to Anthony's preference for Kiss, Aerosmith, BTO and other early 70's rock. "When we came into this bank looking for something," says Anthony, "we wanted to go along the lines and feel of KISS, but not with the same shock attitude. We wanted to go ball-out, but still be our own individuals. We didn't want to pattern ourselves after anybody and we didn't want to have people saying we sounded like anybody else."

Classy Trash is currently putting their energy and creative effort into writing new material that steers away from the classic partying, womanizing themes in rock. "We wanted to go ahead and broaden our own horizons. We've written about ourselves, and wanted to tackle other issues, so we decided to take things one step further." The result was "Nowhere to Hide," a song written about schizophrenia. Band members agree that this type of songwriting is the next wave for Classy Trash.

Members of Classy Trash are set on high musical goals and are keeping a clear, directed focus on where they want to be 5 and 10 years down the line. But for now, and the immediate future, the band will still be in the local clubs and strongly urge anyone up for a good, hard night of rock to "come and see us -- check it out - you'll understand what it's all about."



Demo-Lition

By Las Damas de Noche

A special message to all song-writers out there: Please refrain from using the word "down" as much as possible. It is overused by everyone!

SETTE CANA - the songs on their demo are good but they need more variety. Their sound is more modern rock which makes them sound original. The first song "Do What You Do" is a really good song. The guitars are heavy and the background vocals sound tight. "Let it Rain" is another good song. It has more of a groove you can dance with.

CLASSY TRASH - Their tape jacket looks very impressive and professional....are the contents just as good? Their songs are catchy but the guitars sound too much alike on each song. "Down to the Ground"...there's that word again. "All About Love" is your typical heartbreak song. "Don't Say No" is the best song on this demo with its hypnotic beat.

WAR AND PEACE - Jeff Pilson's new band is more pop-oriented than we expected. They sound very tight and the demo is well-produced. The guitars seem similar to George Lynch in some parts and also noted was some Warlock sound. Jeff's voice is low and mellow but can be very emotional and raspy. "Can't Slow Down" is a solid effort while "Sticky Situation" is more your typical rock song. "Hard Times For Love" is an excellent ballad and a sure hit if it ever gets released.

GHOST TOWN - This tape is very well produced and the songs are all good and very original. Dean's voice sounds really good and the songs display his versatility. "Don't Be Shy" is the best on here. "Arkansas" with its Western influence is the definitive Ghost Town song. "Kiss Goodbye" is more lighthearted and just as catchy. The background vocals are all superb and the guitars are very inventive.

BOYS TOWN - This demo is about a year old and we feel that they have developed a lot since then. But for that point in time, they sounded together and have a great rhythm. The singer sounds similar to Stryper and Triumph with a strong operatic voice. The songs aren't too original except for "Boys Town."

Live Wire

By Savvy

BEST OF THE BAY

May 11, 1991

One Step Beyond, Santa Clara

One Step Beyond celebrated their grand re-opening weekend with a "Best of the Bay" show featuring 15 bands from all over the San Francisco Bay Area. Ranging from thrash to more mainstream rock, the lineup proved just how diverse our local scene is. AUDIO FUNGUS, MYSTERIOUS WAYS and SLAM NANCY started the festivities with short 15 minute sets. It wasn't until CLASSY TRASH took to the stage though that the crowd got going. Classy Trash were quite impressive with their sleazy hard-driving' music. ALLEY-CAT SCRATCH was equally well-received with their more glam-oriented style and catchy tunes. RATTLESHAKE came on strong with some solid and varied material. The HEART -influenced LITTLE MISS DIVINE and the potent party-rock of NV S came up next and both showed the potential to move on to bigger and better things. FORBIDDEN surprised the audience with an acoustic ballad showcasing a more soulful side to vocalist Russ Anderson. The X-MEN, as always, put on a high energy show. The quality of their songwriting has sown a marked improvement as well. SUBURBIA VIOLENCE ... members of GHOST TOWN, MISTER HYDE and CALLING ALL CARS...I've never seen them more entertaining than with this rap/metal/funk spoof of a band. When do we get to laugh...I mean see you guys again? VICIOUS RUMORS were the highlight of the evening. They played a frenetic pace of speed twin guitar solos blended with a classical musicality all their own. VIOLENCE lived up to their name with a heavy death metal assault. MISTER HYDE continued the dark mood with their more gypsy-inspired spirit. SISTER STRANGE held up well despite the P.A. system blowing up in the middle of their set. This is one band to take seriously despite their playful attitude. SCREWDRIVER SMILE finished the night with as much energy and fun as they always do and successfully sustained the audience's enthusiasm. All in all it was a great show at a great club.

Jetboy From Page 5

band before the album was released and started a band with his former singer Mike Monroe.

Q: How did Damned Nation do?

A: It was doing well. It was Top 10 on the metal charts and radio. Then, we came back and we were about to go out on the road with Extreme and Danger Danger. But MCA was sold to the Japanese and we got chopped and we were severely bummin' cause we recorded a good album and had guaranteed tours down the line.

Q: Didn't you get another bass player?

A: This guy Bill Fraenza who's working out great. He's writing all the new songs with us. We are very happy with him and he is from here. So it is now a full San Francisco unit again.

Q: So now, are you shopping for a label?

A: We're shopping for everything. We might as well wipe it clean and start fresh. We have interest in a few labels. We just want to make sure it's the right label.

Q: So what's up with all the show you've been doing lately?

A: We've been playing all over to let everyone know we're here and we are not leaving. We're back! We moved to LA cause it was where we were recording and where our management was. But we always said we were from San Francisco. A lot of people said we betrayed them when we left. But I don't buy that. We went down there to do our job. Now, we want to do everything here because obviously people do notice stuff like that.

Q: What's going on now?

A: We're writing for our third album. We have some new material and some old stuff. (We want) to get another record done and make it happen like our peers have and to just make it happen and be mega-huge!

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CENTERSTAGE

BEST OF THE BAY
ONE STEP BEYOND
MAY 11, 1991



**RALPH LONGO/
RATTLESHAKE**



G-MAN / X - MEN



RIFF RAFF / MISTER HYDE



**RUSS ANDERSON /
FORBIDDEN**

BOYS TOWN
THE STONE
MAY 18, 1991



**BOBBY BANG /
ALLEYCAT SCRATCH**

PHOTO CREDITS

Kristin Brodie: Ralph,
Bobby, Riff Raff, Chris

Jean Picache: G-Man
and Russ



CHRIS WARD / BOYS TOWN

Mr. Big From Page 3

Chapter 3: Sidetracked?

I had such a blast doing that (playing with the ROAD VULTURES in the Bay Area after their tour last year). Don't call Billy Sheehan and ask, 'has Eric Martin quit?' When we got off the road, Paul put together this little band called the ELECTRIC FENCE. And they play all these Jimi Hendrix type of songs and really '60s psychedelic stuff. And I went 'hey, I'm a blues guy, why don't I put together a blues band?' And then it turned into another Eric Martin Band. I'll bring back the Road Vultures at the end of the tour.

Chapter 4: Mr. Congeniality

Some bands they go on stage, they go back to the bus and then they leave. Me, I've been always out there talking to the fans constantly. Hanging out in the parking lot at stadium shows. I like doing it. I like to find exactly how they feel about rock

and roll music in general and just everything. I like hanging out with people. Backstage is boring (shattered a myth there!)

Well, now you know where to find Eric after their shows! They are currently on tour with the SCORPIONS until October when they head for Europe and then on to Japan. Seeing Mr. Big perform is a must! They are the tightest and most energetic band live and you might get to meet Eric and discover that he has a big heart to go with his big mouth (which he admits having, by the way).

WIN!!! DEFIANCE tapes and autographed pictures.

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The Lynch Mob

From Page 7

fluences within the band. "Mick listens to the BEATLES, the STONES. That's it, you know. I don't think he listens to anything after 1970. And then Oni is like in between '70 and '77 with everything new. He's mostly into DEEP PURPLE, Stones, he listens to that WILD CHERRY, SLY STONE stuff. And he also listens to new guys like LENNY KRAVITZ. I pretty much listen to anything. I like MOTOWN stuff because that's very bass orientated. And I love LED ZEPPELIN actually. George...he listens to everything but what he likes is a different story. He can always find something good in everything. He wants to know what everybody's doing. He likes to keep up on what the other guitar players are doing." He also says that the difference between Oni's and Don's style is also a factor. Don was more of a balladeer and a polished singer while Oni is more bluesy and sings more from the soul and from the gut. Thus, WICKED SENSATION (the album) is replete with songs laced with a bluesier and more aggressive sound. You can even distinguish a hint of neo-psychedelia in George's riffs ala KINGS X, FAITH NO MORE and SOUNDGARDEN. Lynch Mob is definitely moving with the times and forging on into the future.

Don Dokken

From Page 7

the band EUROPE). We've been together now for three years. I'm also

working on my next solo album right now. It (his first solo album) did very good in Europe. It went Gold in two weeks. In the States about 100,000. I like to work in a band with these guys and I like to do things on my own where I can do different stuff so then I can experiment a lot more. I'm working on some stuff (with Don) too. It's just maybe more radio-oriented. . . More commercial kind of thinking. When I do my stuff I don't care about any of that which is kinda fun. Billy (guitarist Billy White) and I get along really good. He's a really mellow dude. I think it's great playing with another guitar player. It's a new experience for me. Playing with another guitar player...it sounds so much bigger and better."

They also played a lot of old Dokken songs. John explains that "kids want to hear old stuff. They go crazy with the old Dokken stuff." And he doesn't think it's out of line "because it's Dokken...it's Don's songs. If we only played songs from this album then the set will only be 45 minutes long. We play one hour and 45 minutes...we put a lot of old stuff in there and mix it together." As for the sound of the band, John feels that the old Dokken and Don's new band are quite similar. "He was the singer of Dokken and he wrote a lot of songs with the old Dokken. Now he realizes that we have to change and do something else. (Our next album will be) a lot heavier than this first album. It's going to be more Whitesnake. Maybe more Blues too. I'm very into classical stuff but I'm more into Blues. I never really showed that side. A lot of people think Billy's from Texas and so he's the Blues guy."

They are back in L.A. now working on their second album and I'm sure we are all looking forward to the this next sequel to the new Don Dokken saga.

War and Peace

From Page 7

been one of the high points in my life," says Jeff gleefully. "After trying out so many people for a year and a half, this is incredible! There's a definite magic happening! When it's right in your heart, life is so much fun. I'm having fun in this band! It makes all the difference." On the other hand, "music business stuff is not too much fun! We're negotiating right now, but I will say that we're definitely doing an album soon. I hate all the business politics, worrying about radio airplay. That's all some bands think about. We write the music that we like and if it gets played on the radio, that's great, but I wouldn't make that the priority. If you hate what's on the radio, do something about it! Use your creativity to create what you want to hear."

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