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Innerview

JUNE 2008 #1



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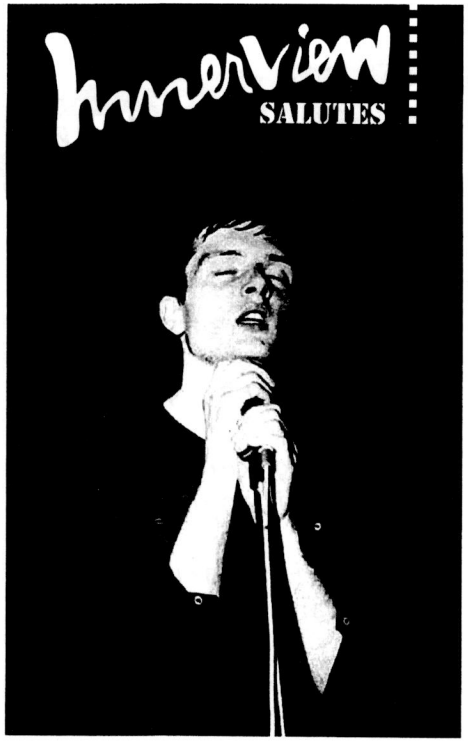


Remembering Joy Division singer Curtis

Fans of rock band Joy Division will be remembering the band's late singer Ian Curtis on Wednesday - the 25th anniversary of his death. Curtis was just 23 when he hanged himself in the kitchen at his Macclesfield home, shortly before the band were due to go on tour in the US. His band recorded around 50 songs and released just two studio albums, but they remain highly acclaimed for their powerful post punk sound. Curtis's baritone voice and lyrics about existential dread and pessimism, combined with his intense, wide-eyed stage presence, endeared him to fans.

Joy Division - Curtis, guitarist Bernard Sumner, bassist Peter Hook and drummer Stephen Morris - formed on the Manchester music scene in the late 1970s.
They released first album Unknown Pleasures in 1979, with follow-up Closer being released after Curtis's death. Their most famous single, Love Will Tear Us Apart, only reached number 13 a month after Curtis died yet it was among five finalists in the Brit Awards poll this year to find the best British song of the past 25 years.

Continued interest in Curtis and his life has led to a biopic being made, based on his widow Deborah's book, Touching From A Distance. The biography paints a picture of her husband as a gifted but tortured man who had an ongoing extra-marital affair and was prone to jealousy and manipulation. Curtis also suffered from epilepsy, which caused problems when performing on stage with strobe lights.

Anthony Wilson, who was in charge of Joy Division's label Factory Records, is producing the film - provisionally titled Control. He says Curtis was "quite special". "For all the hype in the music business, it is about the songs, and Joy Division wrote some wonderful, wonderful songs," he says.

"The artwork designer Peter Saville says that when working with a band, he soon finds out who the leader is. With Joy Division it was Ian.
"For me, he was a very nice, quiet boy."
Wilson admits the singer's death still mystifies him. "I used to think that he thought he was making everyone's life tough so he would help them by going," he says.
Tony Wilson was in charge of Joy Division's record label, Factory Records
"But I now think it is more complex than that."
Jude Law and Paddy Considine have been touted as possible actors to play Curtis. But Wilson - whose own life was depicted in 2002's part-fantasy biopic 24 Hour Party People - says: "I have met the person we want to play Ian." "He is one of the hottest young things in Hollywood. He's Irish, but it's not Colin Farrell."

Manchester rock writer Mick Middles wrote From Joy Division to New Order, an account of the Factory Records story. Middles says Curtis was a troubled character towards the end of his life.
"He was getting more ill and more intense so going on stage was becoming more traumatic," he says.
"He was very personable towards me. I've spoken to hundreds of people who encountered him and no-one has a bad word to say.
"Ian was being pulled in different directions by his personal life and his music.

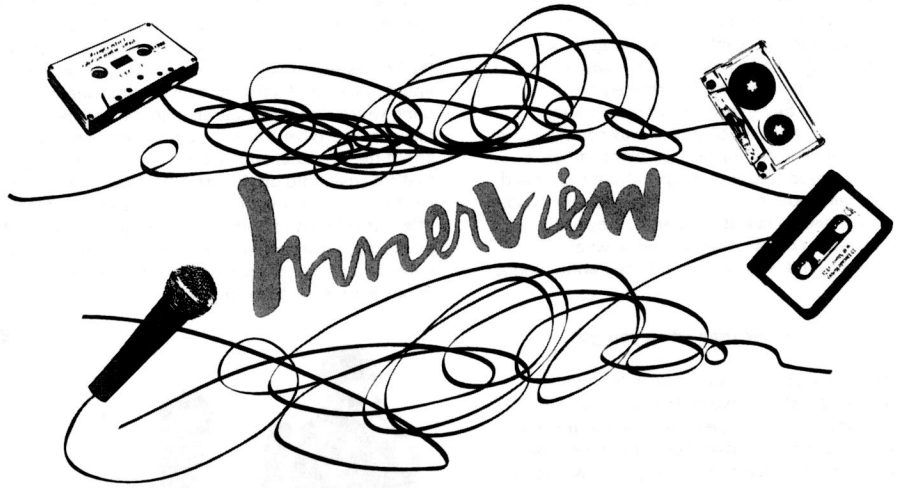
The surviving members of Joy Division were joined by Gillian Gilbert for New Order ."The last album Closer is the sound of somebody in desperation.
"Yet I've seen letters written shortly before his death and he doesn't sound like someone about to commit suicide. I think it was more spontaneous."
BBC digital radio station 6 Music is playing Curtis's music all day and staging an event called Transmission in Manchester.
6 Music presenter and ex-member of The Fall Marc Riley crossed paths with Joy Division on the late 1970s Manchester music scene.
"I met Ian a couple of times and off stage he wasn't different to anyone else," says Riley.

"But on stage, he performed in a slightly strange and almost psychotic way.
"The myth of the death of a rock star at a very young age is very influential. You can't really say whether people would consider them as important if they were still around today."

Source :
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/entertainment/music/4545719.stm

GREETINGS!

Hello good people! A very warm welcome to all you readers to our #1 issue of InnerView. We are happy that we have finally completed the issue after much hassle and plights.
Innerview zine consisting of 75.7% (yeah, that accurate) interviews with people in the scene, be it bands, artist, individuals or whoever that i think worth to be interviewed. It's really interesting to know people out there have a lot of exciting things and opinions to share with viewers. I can go on and on writing my own stuff, but then this is not about me, this is about you (damn corny, i thinks it's Digi's slogan, duh). So, this is some sort of platform for people to express things, to reveal what you have inside and also for other people to read and learn things from them.
So basically, it's about the same causes like what other zines have to offer. The freedom of expression and all that jazz. We have another 24.3% space for articles, artsy fartsy stuff and a bit of reviews. Fucking write, draw, paint, sing, strip etc. whatever you feel like. There shouldn't be any boundaries or limitations. Censorship sucks big time so why do we need to go through that channel again? As cliché as what the advertisement on TV reminds you, still it's TRUE. "THE POWER IS IN YOUR HANDS"...
However, I'm so sorry to say that this is no forum or channel for you to discuss about religion and personal beliefs. We're not saints nor are we sinners. I don't care whether we need to go through the right path for the promised heaven or wrong path for assured hell. We appreciate that if you could keep that to yourself. Thank you in advance.
So I hope that this #1 issue will give you something to ponder or maybe to laugh about. You don't have to agree to everything that is published here however, being in disagreement doesn't mean that we need to start a fist fight. Remember...freedom of expression? Do we need another Censorship Board, Ministry of Information or another ISA? If the answer is yes, then you are definitely in the wrong channel now. Please buy yourself Utusan Malaysia or URTV for sheer reading pleasure... Also get a MANGGA magazine while you're at it. :P
If you think that the content is lame and you can do it so much better, then strut your stuffs and make our jaws dropped! Share with us your activities, bands, artworks, poems, photos, thoughts, views, money (very welcome) and even your pregnancy test results. We're ready!
Enjoy this issue and hopefully there'll be more issues to come. Peace, Love and Equality! Be good!



Innerview would like to thank **Nizang** of Mosh zine, **Bob Dyldo, Pol, Zaki, Mawi, Kojak, cnllm, Borhan, IMA Jalil, Mike SDN, Alak** of Pusher, **John Hafiz** of Onani, **Aiman** of DDT, **Avrocore, Izhan** of SleepyJeremy, Moms on Strike, and everyone that has been involved in the making of this freaking zine. I love y'all..

IDEAS, OPINIONS, COMPLIMENTS, HATEMAILS SEND TO :
INNERVIEWTEAM@GMAIL.COM

Front cover : Ian Curtis of Joy Division. Check out info about him in last page.

Interview #001: IAN MACKAYE OF FUGAZI

Taken from : http://www.punkrockacademy.com/stm/int/im.html

How have you seen punk rock change since you became involved with it?
Ian: It's almost indecipherable to me. I wouldn't be able to explain to you because I've been involved with it for so long. I could tell you it's changed, sort of like if you're around somebody for a long time, things just change and it's in such small increments, all the changes, you don't really notice it until it's pretty different. In the last 17 years since I've been going to shows, not only has punk rock changed, but so has the world, so have I and so has everybody I know so it's kind of a perpetually shifting thing. I could tell you that in Washington D.C., a lot of the people who I was good friends with in 1980 and 1981 and 1982 are still my friends and they're still fairly active, they're still around. I would say that with me, some things haven't changed very much here, but on the other hand, on the many, many tours that I've done, very few people that I knew back then are around anymore and if they are, they're completely involved with other things at this point. People ask me that a lot, like "How would you compare this to that," but I don't really compare because it's impossible. It's just apples and oranges as far as I'm concerned. The biggest difference I would say is that at one point, at least for me, punk rock represented a gathering point that was in spite of what mainstream America had to offer and the whole idea was not to go along with it and it was definitely not about financial success or being involved with the music industry or any of that kind of stuff. It was completely in opposition to all that kind of stuff, so that's rather different now. I used to talk to people about bands and we'd always talk about the music or the ideas they had, but now when people talk about bands, they just talk about either what contract they signed or what label screwed them over. It's quite boring to talk about bands now.

Is it better now or worse than when you got involved?
Ian: Again, it's a question I can't answer. For me, obviously when I first got involved, it was one of the most important things that ever happened to me in my life. I guess I could still say that, but at the time it was thick, man. It was a buoyant time in my life. I was totally involved with something. I was swept along with it and it was a really amazing time in my life so at this point, I can't complain. I still feel like I'm really deeply involved with a really big community of people who either are part of or have been a part of the whole punk rock thing and I'm very interested in seeing how things have evolved and changed. Again, I can't really compare am I happier now than then. I don't fucking know.

Do you think there's anything wrong with punk?
Ian: I think all these questions would be easier to answer if you could actually define punk rock. Certainly, in some aspects I can think of a lot of things that could be fixed, but what I think of as punk rock is still quite perfect. I don't think that what I think is punk rock is probably what anybody else thinks it is so it doesn't make any difference. The beauty of punk rock was always that it was just a term. It has regional definitions and even within regions, one person can say punk rock and get one picture. It's a secret language, frankly. You can say it to one person and they get one idea and you say it to another person and they get a totally different idea from the same words. It's really just a secret language and people who know, know, and people who don't, don't. When you talk about punk rock, what are you talking about? People say to me that Fugazi is hardly a punk band, but in my mind, we are a punk band. In a lot of ways, we're way fucking more punk than most other bands but primarily because I don't think we stick to any kind of set definition which always struck me as the first particle of punk, not to follow the rules.

What's good about punk rock?
Ian: For me, what was good about punk rock and what continues to be good about punk rock was that the music was a currency that a lot of people exchanged, and those people were able to be exposed to radically different ideas about, obviously, music, but also about philosophy, lifestyles, sexuality, theology, everything. Political aspects of life. For me, at least, it opened up an entire universe of different opinions that shared one thing which was that they were not part of the mainstream. When I was in high school, I was really upset about the idea that you just got out of high school and that's it, just jump on the machine. I just couldn't believe hat there wasn't something else in the world that didn't offer other kinds of options. When I got involved with punk rock, I discovered that it was, but I didn't see it because it was underground. That's where most good things always exist, underground.



Ada kawan aku pernah kerja dekat syarikat pengelui. Kerja dia ambik mesej dan hantar mesej tu kat alat kelui yang diberitahu oleh pemanggil. Ada sekali jadi haru biru pusat panggilan tu bila ada seorang mamat kat tempat dia tersalah taip mesej. Seorang pengurus besar dari syarikat yang tak kurang hebat menelefon syarikat kelui tu dan dapatlah kat mamat sorang ni. Dia ambil mesej, taip dan hantar kat alat kelui pemandu si pengurus tu. Tak lama selepas tu pengurus tu telefon semula dan bising-bising dekat penyelia pusat panggilan tersebut. Rupa-rupanya si pengurus mengamuk dengan mesej yang dihantar kepada pemandunya yang berbunyi begini..."ONCE YOU SEE MY WIFE, PLEASE GIVE HER THE MASSAGE."... Haaa... Mau tak mengamuk orang tua tu? Kalau pemandu dia handsome macam MAWI, takkan bini dia nak tolak, kan? Itu untuk orang yang ada pemahaman Bahasa Inggeris yang bagus terbuat salah macam tu. Kalau yang memang tak pandai? Tak boleh dibayangkan apa la jadi kat bini si pengurus...
Jadi sebaik-baiknya, janganlah diabaikan penguasaan bahasa lain selain daripada bahasa ibunda.
Seelok-eloknya boleh bercakap 3 atau 4 bahasa memang sangat bagus. Takde ruginya dapat bercakap banyak bahasa, untung lagi banyak. Penguasaan bahasa selain Bahasa Melayu ni amat penting sebab boleh mendapatkan ilmu dalam skop yang lebih luas. Memang betul banyak blog atau buku yang dibaca semuanya bagus-bagus dalam Bahasa Melayu... Tapi lebih banyak lagi dalam bahasa lain. Takkan kita nak harap bila buku tu diterjemahkan ke Bahasa Melayu baru kita nak baca... Ketinggalan la wei!
Ini juga adalah rumusan lawak yang aku reka sendiri berkenaan kenapa kita takde roket atau angkasawan ke angkasa lepas. Sebab kita tengah tunggu buku yang sedia ada tu diterjemahkan dalam bahasa Melayu baru kita nak belajar pergi ke sana...hahaha! Ok tak lawak langsung. Tapi aku nak gelak jugak. Hahahaha!
Walauapapun, lawak ke tak lawak, mari kita sama-sama memantapkan diri untuk lebih berpengetahuan dalam segala hal. Berusaha dan bersaing secara adil di mana tidak lagi mengharapkan apa bentuk bantuan dari kerajaan. Ingat, bila nak dibantu, bermakna kau orang susah. Tapi kalau bapak kau ada pemandu dan kau menetap di sebuah rumah bangle di Bukit Bandaraya (contohnya), kau faham-faham sendiri la apa status kau. Kalau kau rasa susah nak faham, kau pergi letak kepala kau kat atas Jalan Ampang, tunggu tayar lori gelek kepala kau sampai meletup. Itulah seikhlas nasihat yang aku boleh bagi untuk orang macam kau.
Sekali lagi diingatkan aku 100% tidak pro UMNO atau apa-apa kumpulan Melayu Bersatu. Cuma aku nak bagitahu kepada orang yang konon rasa dia Melayu Mulia gila, darjat tertinggi di Malaysia ni supaya sedar sikit yang langit tu tak selalunya cerah. Lambat laun segala hak keistimewaan itu akan hilang juga dan bila lanya terjadi, mungkin dah sangat terlewat untuk melengkapkan diri untuk menghadapi hari- hari mendatang sebab macam aku kata tadi..."We take things for granted.." Oh tak faham Bahasa Inggeris? Bukan masalah saya untuk terjemahkan di sini. Pergi belajar lagi ye. Tata!

Borhan

RUANGAN PUISI BEBAS

Korus Kepercayaan

Bila aku kebas begini

kurang bebas seperti

binatang kurus yang resah dipagari

Darah ini harus ku cairkan

Berikan nafas wangimu Tuhan

Lewat kedewasaan ku

atas jalan yang berliku

tiada jawaban selamanya keliru

Aku berhak mengetahui

Kebenaran yang kau kata pasti

Oleh : IMA Jalil

JIKA ANDA MEMPUNYAI BAKAT TERPENDAM, DAN INGIN BERKONGSI BERSAMA BAKAT PENULISAN ANDA, SILA HANTAR KARYA ANDA KE INNERVIEWTEAM@GMAIL.COM.

FARTICLE



Mat Leh (is a pure American) datang ke Malaysia dan bersekolah agama di Kelantan, tapi tiada masalah langsung menguasai bahasa Melayu dan Arab lengkap dengan loghat Kelantan yang pekat. Mat Leh aka Thee Dr adalah vocalist Enslaved Chaos dan sekarang kembali menetap di US dan aktif bersama band Fascist Insect di sana.

MELAYU MUDAH BUAT-BUAT LUPA...

Hari ini aku nak cerita pasal kemudahan. Bukan kemudahan awam yang sering dirosakkan oleh orang yang konon bergelar punk dan anarko. Tapi kemudahan untuk orang Melayu.

Ya. Orang Melayu. Aku bukan nak jadi orang UMNO atau konon nak jadi menteri yang konon prihatin nak memperjuangkan hak orang Melayu. Tapi ingin mengutarakan pendapat aku betapa orang Melayu sekarang semuanya nak senang. DEB dah diberikan sejak berkurun lamanya. Sekarang masalah bahasa pulak nak dijadikan isu.

Hari tu beria-ia diadakan matapelajaran Sains dan Matematik di sekolah dalam Bahasa Inggeris, sekarang nak tukar Bahasa Melayu pulak. Kenapa? Kononnya kata seorang menteri "Orang Melayu dah lah lemah dalam Matematik, kalau diajar dalam Bahasa Inggeris, semakinlah orang Melayu ketinggalan."

Woi! What the fuck? Kalau dah tahu lemah dalam Matematik, pergilah belajar lagi betul-betul. Pergi tusyen ke apa? Atau beli buku latihan banyak-banyak dan buat. Sama jugak dengan Bahasa Inggeris, kalau dah tahu lemah. Belajar la betul-betul. Ni kalau tengok TV asyik layan Akademi Fantasia dengan Gerak Khas atau opera sabun Venezuela, Mexico dan yang sewaktu dengannya(yang semestinya telah dialih ke bahasa Melayu) memanglah sampai mati pun tak dapat belajar Bahasa Inggeris.

Kenapa mesti semua nak dipermudahkan untuk orang Melayu? Untuk menteri yang bongok yang aku tak tau macamana boleh jadi menteri tu, biar aku bagitahu kat sini. Sebab orang Melayu dapat banyak kemudahan sebab tu orang Melayu banyak ketinggalan. Melayu suka "take things for granted" sebab kerajaan Melayu kita yang telah membentuk mentaliti rakyat Melayu supaya mengharapkan bantuan agar dapat hidup dalam suasana yang sentiasa MUDAH.

Bangsa lain semua bertungkus-lumus terpaksa mengejar peluang supaya tidak ketinggalan. Tapi orang Melayu kalau nampak bangsa lain berebut-rebut mengejar peluang...depa kata..."Wei, kiasu la diorang ni!" Fikir balik la bongok. Diorang jadi kiasu sebab orang Melayu asyik dapat subsidi. Sebab tu la. Ini adalah juga sebab yang sebenarnya menjurus kepada perasaan perkauman dalam diam-diam. Dan sekarang kelihatan dah tak diam lagi.

Sebab kemudahan yang telah diberikan kepada orang Melayu ni jugak, membuatkan beberapa kelompok orang Melayu yang sememangnya berdikari dan tidak mahu mengharapkan bantuan kerajaan macam aku ni tertindas. Sebab apa? Sebab orang bukan Melayu menyangka yang semua Melayu adalah sangat bertuah diatas segala subsidi yang ditawarkan. Jadi kalau ada apa peluang yang baik di sektor swasta, peluang ini hanya akan diberikan kepada pekerja bukan Melayu. Jangan pelik ya jika ada siapa-siapa yang kerja gomen terbaca hal ini, tetapi inilah realitinya.

Jadi fikirlah sendiri. Sebab kemudahan yang dah terlebih sangat yang menyebabkan orang bukan Melayu dah terlalu menyampah dengan orang Melayu. Aku ingat tunggu time je kepala orang Melayu nak kena pijak. OK, part ni aku rasa aku dah sangat membakar perasaan orang Melayu tapi aku langsung tak syorkan orang Melayu pergi hentak kepala orang bukan Melayu. Itu bodoh namanya.

Apa yang aku nak syorkan disini, ialah orang Melayu sepatutnya dah mula sedar untuk bagitahu kerajaan supaya sudah-sudahlah bagi subsidi dan berhenti untuk permudahkan itu ini semua. Biarlah kita mula berdikari dan amalkan kesaksamaan dalam segala hal. Kalau kerajaan nak bagi subsidi, bagilah dekat orang(bukan Melayu sahaja eh, semua bangsa) yang betul-betul memerlukan. Barulah bagus.

Berbalik semula kepada masalah bahasa, aku rasa sedih gila bila tengok TV baru-baru ni ada kajian mendapati yang lebih kurang 300 ribu belia di Malaysia ni menganggur. Bilangan tu seperti diberitahu memang menganggur betul bermakna tak kerja dengan orang, tak kerja sendiri, bertani, berniaga dan sebagainya.

Dalam erti kata lain, TUNGGUL. Sebab apa? Sebab bila pergi interview kat syarikat swasta, Bahasa Inggeris macam anjing kena langgar lori. Bersepah. Siapa nak ambik kerja? Kang kalau kerja bahagian order-mengorder, orang order sabun dia bagi dildo. Tapi tu kira ok la jugak. Heh!

How have you seen the crowds and people at shows change?

Ian: In the beginning, people didn't have much to work with as a history so they were kind of making it up as they went along. Then the next generation of people had a little bit more of a clue, so they had a little more to go on, but they still were interpreting things in their own ways and then a couple of generations past that, they would rebel against the previous generations and they would keep fucking around with things. People kept reinterpreting it, but I would say now that kids today have a much difficult time because there's so much history that it's really hard for them to get away from what punk rock was supposed to be. It's been around for so long and so many people have been involved with it that it's really difficult for people to really establish something that is just their own, a really original idea. I definitely would stress that I have totally no disrespect for people involved with punk rock today. A lot of the kids I meet on tour have totally great vision and I think are involved with important things in life but they're working with a different set of cards, like a different set of circumstances than I was. It's actually really cool and I'm actually really struck when I meet bands or people who are doing things, whether writing or playing music or making films or whatever they're doing, when they still can run against the status quo, even if the status quo is everybody who goes to see Rancid or something. I find that kind of freedom still really exists. People still really play with ideas and that's really the best aspect of it anyway, to play with ideas, and maybe change yourself along the way.

Do you see any problems with the way people act at shows?

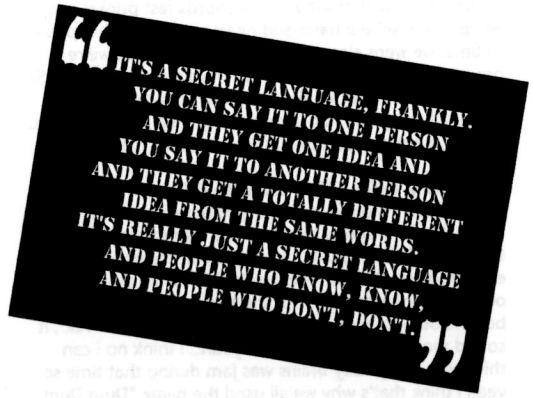
Ian: Well, there's never been a shortage of assholes. I would say the last couple of tours we were on were actually some of the best as far as crowds being nice. In the beginning, we had way more problems and it was way more confrontational. I remember when we first started playing as Fugazi that people could not believe that I was saying anything to them about their behavior. They thought, "You're a fucking fascist, or whatever. You can't say stuff from the stage," but that's because they've forgotten something. They forgot that I'm a human being and I'm just in the room like them. People at that point had reestablished this wall between the audience and the band, but from my point of view, that was exactly what we were trying to defeat in the first place, and if I'm in a room and I'm seeing people doing things that I think are fucked, I'm definitely going to say "That's fucked." What was funny to me was that if they think that was bad, they should have seen Minor Threat and the earlier bands because back then, if somebody in the band saw someone doing something fucked, they probably would just jump out and beat the fuck out of them. It was a much more interactive thing at those times and I would say that as bad as things have been and as stupid as some of the crowds may be now, I certainly saw way more fights and way more crazy shit in the early shows but I think that's also because at the beginnings of things, there's a lot more fire and brimstone. It was a violent beginning. It's like a volcano or something. It was a really major eruption and there was a lot more aggression whereas now it seems like if people want to be aggressive, they join one kind of group of people. There's the aggressive kind of clothing you can wear and then you can get into fights. Then other people aren't into that so they have a different kind of clothing or whatever. It's a lot more segmented whereas back then I think everyone was going crazy. Again, I'm not saying it was better. It just strikes me as interesting when people say, "Crowds, they're so stupid now." I don't think they're s stupid. It's harder for them to digest things because they have such a past already to base it against. When I first saw the Bad Brains or the Cramps or whatever, I had nothing to weigh it against at all except for Led Zeppelin and Ted Nugent and Seals and Crofts. I had no idea who the Stooges were or the Velvet Underground or anything. All I knew was really what Americans were getting back then which was a pretty steady diet of Top 40 rock 'n' roll and disco stuff, o from my point of view, seeing those bands was completely fresh out of the oven. I had no fucking clue what to make of it and I think now it's a really different thing. It's been so established and people have this sense, like, "Oh yeah, there have been so many bands for 15 or 20 years now." There's a context which is really different. The context is a lot more dense now than it was at the beginning. I guess the context when I first started going to shows, these bands were just completely revolutionary. I couldn't compare them with anything. Obviously, the more I got involved, the more I learned about the past underground which has been going on for quite a while.

What can we do to make the scene better?

Ian: Build things. I've always thought that construction was the most interesting aspect of punk rock. Just build new things, keep fucking with ideas. That's the only the only thing I've ever found interesting, bands who play weird music, do something weird. Just build. That's all I've ever tried to do.

Final thoughts? Anything you'd like to add?

Ian: Of course, the missing ingredient is always going to be the definition.



Interview #002

DUM DUM TAK



DUM DUM TAK! DUM DUM TAK! THEY ARE EVERYWHERE NOW. WE MANAGED TO GET THE TWO MEMBERS OF THIS PUNKROCK BAND (NIZANG & AIMAN) TO ANSWER THE INTERVIEW. SO LETS READ WHAT THEY HAVE TO SAY.

HOW DO YOU GUYS STARTED AND WHAT ARE YOUR INFLUENCES?

Aiman: Hmm... Well it all started out with a jam session, then all of a sudden came the idea of making a band, then after that we all got high with pot (well something like that) and then there was some beer involve (BEAR BEER!!!!) and then we hang out and then.... here we are "Dum Dum Tak". Influence well im not sure about the others... but sure hell im influence by children's (Because they can make me happy), The city of hell a,k,a Kuala Lumpur, the paranoid people of what they called Malaysian, the ghost that live in the forest in front of my house, my imageless Television and my soundless Computer, My broken MP3, My Speaker, My guitar, The fucking government, the Corrupted Cops, Multi Level Marketing fucker who cheat on innocent poor and helpless people, Those Racist asshole people (Fuck You), the soldier of this country (Come on they deserve a vacation they're not a robot, Fucking government), my environment because it sucks now after those preserved forest got destroyed by them (the contractor) the ghost will have revenge..., My family, friends and all you people who is keeping this scene strong, right and true without you people i think i would be brain dead, lonely and might even turn into an accountant or just suicide, lastly the fucking idiot society who always judge people by their class,age,gender and skin color (FUCK YOU ALL!!!)

Nizang: We were jamming and playing covers of my old band Jellybelly and thought of reforming the band with only me as the original line-up but somehow one day one of us played an original tune (that became our first original song) and the rest of us started contributing original compositions (basic 3-4 chords fast punks) and we decided we're a band and need a name. At that point of time, we were also promoting the show that we're organizing to launch one release from my record label. So we thought we should play the show with the four "original" songs we had jammed together. And there, you have it...a side-project band that became a real band.

WHY 'DUM DUM TAK' FOR A NAME?

Aiman: Well it's obvious that if you get some other typical name there will surely be some one else saying "HEY I GOT THAT NAME FIRST" , so to stop all the nonsense everybody crack their head try to think of a name and one of us got a name out of the blue with "Tak Tak Dush" but the other guy say no let's make it "Dum Dum Tak", it sound more interesting..., well... yeah... i think no i can think plus everybody brains was jam during that time so... yeah i think that's why we all used the name "Dum Dum Tak"

Nizang: I was the one who came with the idea, 'tak tak dish' or 'dum dum tak' at first. Haha. Basically I was thinking of a weird-meaningless-catchy name just to raise curiosity among the kids. Before we settled with the name, other names we were considering include The Reaction, This Side Up, Private Property or something, Tau Takpe, etc...

HEARD BOUT YOUR COMING ALBUM, TELL US ABOUT IT.

Aiman: Album.....? Do we have an album guys? i think we need to consult and do a meeting again, I'm confuse with the album theory, We recoded some stuff last time, I don't know what happen to it, Maybe they lost it, or somebody stole it or maybe somebody stole and sell it in Ebay. Hmm... i think i should check Ebay for the recording. If it's not on Ebay then i don't know where. Maybe it's in my house... hmm... need to clean my room then i could find it maybe..., Hmm...

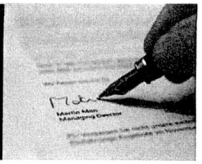
Nizang: Last I heard, the 5 songs demo is ready and finalized. We just need to burn them and print them covers. Just give us a little time. The usual excuses...Fael and some friends were the ones doing the touch-up and mixing and all. He's also busy with final semester, so that causes the delay. Just give us a little time and it'll be out.

WHAT DOES 'PUNK ROCK' MEANS TO YOU?

Aiman: Aha... What is Punk Rock means to you MR EDITOR...? me i don't know, Am I A Punk? No? Yes? Am I The "ALPHA"? Am I the Anarchist? Am I Straight Edge? Am I the Angry Mob, Macho Of the MYHC? (NYHC?), Am I Emocore or iancore? Am I a Satanic Black Metal and have my own cult? Am I God?, Am I a Preacher? Am I a saint? Am I A Devil, Am I an Angel, Am I Satan?. Am I a Dumpster? Am I A Chainsaw, Am I a Creature? I think you guys need to tell me what i think I am.

Nizang: Punk Rock starts with 3 chords revolution music that comes with some basic political ideas with it. And now the music is changing, advanced and the political ideas also expanded with so many ism and schisms. It's up to you to be punk rock with the Discharge mold, punk rock with the Greenday mold, punk rock with the Minor Threat mold, Bad Religion mold, Kemuri mold, Napalm Death mold, MRR mold, etc. But I think it's best to be punk rock in your own fucking mold lah! You have your own brain what. One thing's for sure, being a punk rocker in Malaysia doesn't mean you have to be afraid of what Joe Kidd thinks about you lah.

RUANGAN SURAT LAYANG



I NEVER WANTED TO KILL. I AM NOT NATURALLY EVIL..

Dear all...

Is it a must that whatever you do needs to go through an approver or people who will honor its validity? Why? We call the scene to be ours yet we still need to abide to these sets of rules created by some morons?

It's now 2008 and we can see how this independent music scene has grown from dishonored misfits of society to the very lovable Hujan, Meet Uncle Hussain, Pop Shuvit and the likes. Yes. I put this as 'independent 'scene so we can easily see the subject as a general music/art platform.

Independent, for bands, it means the ones who are unsigned to any major labels and has been working on their own labels or other independent labels (not supposed to be linked to a major label in anyway). Same goes to artists who have independently work their way up not by collaborating with any of those major sponsors and funds (that's how I looked at them).

I rather not put things in a punkrock's eye view cuz things are not going to be punkrock for everyone in this independent scene... even punkrock bands are not really that punkrock nowadays so let alone the non-punkrock ones...

I'm beginning to hate the whole idea of having rigid ethical and political stance on every little thing. These have become more of a 'religion' where we once are trying to get our asses away from in the first place. This is wrong, that is wrong. Which one is right? Everything is getting harder everyday. Makes you think that you just rather die.

We have individuals or maybe group of people who keen to act as the scene police. What the fuck? Who do they think they are? They will tell you what to do and how to do things their way. There is no other way. Just their way. Fuck them!

A scene, that has become more of a competition rather than a collaboration of efforts. We no longer work together towards our common goals. Pathetically, this competition was triggered by the ones who've been telling us to work together and all that shit. Yet now, they are the ones, being very competitive. What the fuck? Why must we think that anything we do must top others? Why must we think that we are the best and the others not worth shit? Do we understand why bands/people disappear as fast as they emerged? The scene is no longer a good place to be when these individuals who are self proclaimed gods, think that this scene is their nirvana and only the holy ones shall remain. Well FUCK OFF!

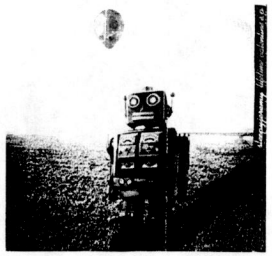
I'm going to change things here and I will not lay them straight. If you don't like what I'm doing, you can get lost or just FUCKING DIE!

I'm celebrating my anger here because you once told me that ANGER IS A GIFT... Lo and behold because I'll leave it at your doorstep soon...NICELY WRAPPED!

Regards,

Interview DID A BIT OF REVIEWS

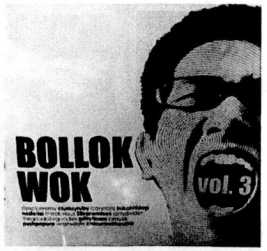
People, wherever you are, if you want to be a reviewer (for anything) then please contact us. Please provide us with your reviews about bands, releases, movies, books, zines etc. You are most welcome. Put anything you like in them. Cheat if you want to. We don't mind... But until then, hurt your eyes and feelings by reading these reviews... I'm exaggerating, OK!



SLEEPYJEREMY-Lifetime Valentine EP/2007(Planetlove Rechords)
When I first listened to this band I got instantly hooked by the intro from the first song, Love On The Way Out. They are punchy and groovy in their own way. Songs are mostly based on love and needing to be loved but not that mushy stuff that'll make you puke. Don't worry. The 4 songs were well recorded and produced. My personal opinion, they can make it big if they keep doing whatever they are doing on this release. I guess the catchy tunes really make you wanna listen to them again and again. Their rendition of Beware Of Your Heart (The Pilgrims) and their attempt in delivering a malay song titled, Katakan Pada Ku, deserve a pat on the back. Hope to get more of SleepyJeremy in this near future.
The good news is that this release is free. Just need to send them your self-addressed enveloped. For more info, please write to cryjeremycry@yahoo.com



50KPROMISES-2 Hours & Still Waiting EP/2005 (Planetlove Rechords/Nervhous Rechords)
Similar to the genre of SLEEPYJEREMY's (2 of the members are in this band), 50KROMISES however was left a little behind in the sound production department. Or maybe it's meant to be that way, I can't tell. Blame the lo-fi generation. But still, the compositions are commendable. I also admire the effort they put in Trip To The Sun And The Moon. The intro was kinda weird with a sound like they're playing in deep water. But once they hit the melody, the backing vocals, the keyboards and the guitars just reminded me of WEEZER. In a way, it's kinda turn off but overall they're still a good band and worth listening to. So take a listen.
I don't know if it's free too. Please ask them at yoda50k@yaho.com or www.myspace.com/50kpromises.



BOLLOK WOK VOL.3 – Various Bands Compilation CD/2006 (Anock Mearan Records/Gegey Music/Brainwash Records/Rohawk Records & Distro/Bewok Distro/Nervhous Rechords)
This is a true compilation indeed, because it combines all the elements of music and genre into one CD. Maybe not ALL the genre but, you know what I mean (from smoothest to the hardest, dig?). The recording and production are professionally done. This marks a point that if it's an independent release, it doesn't have to be shoddy or half-assed. Bands featured are: INIKAH HIDUP, SLEEPYJEREMY, CANNARIS, COLOURS WITHOUT INK, DIRTY DIVIDER, 50KPROMISES, GRITTY FLOORS, CLUMSY RUBY, NOSFERIAL, PUSHPAPURA, THE GOODNITE GOODIES, VIRGIN VILLAIN, BRAYOK and THE OBVIOUS. Hope I have them all there.
How to get it? Please contact Nizang of Nervhous Rechords at nervousrecs@yahoo.com.my

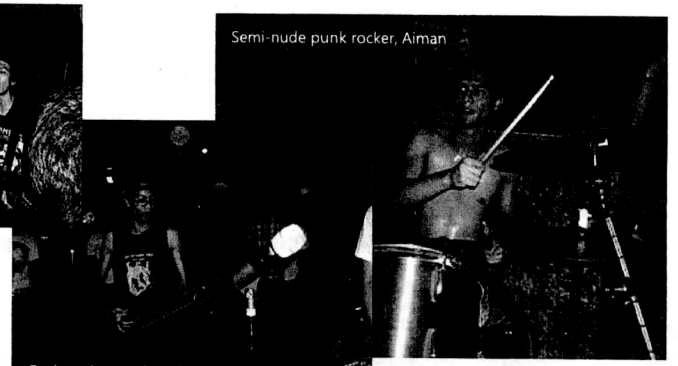


PUNK PARADOX – Various Bands Compilation CD/2007(Anock Mearan Records/ Nervhous Rechords/Green Peace Distro)
Featuring 3 punkrock/ska-punk bands from Malaysia and one from Philadelphia, USA. 21 tracks of hard hitting, bad to the bones and that thrice of Oi! kinda tunes. You'll be singing along to the songs and will get your mom's disapproval at the same time. Or maybe she'll be singing and skanking along too. We never know. It will cost you RM12 to get this by mail order. For more info, write to anockrecs@yahoo.com or xkucarkacirx@yahoo.com

By : Bob Dyldo


Marah kee??


Baju putih tu Rizie namanye..


Semi-nude punk rocker, Aiman

Fael getting ready to let it out

WHAT'S YOUR OPINION ABOUT OUR LOCAL INDEPENDENDENT SCENE NOW?
Aiman: Tooooo.... many Fascist and Racist people, it's not just by color but also where your From, Too many groupies... they only play with the people in their group (you others go away, your not my group), Too many Poseur and trendy people, think they know it all when will they all learn. Too many people who are crazy with Fame,Girls and Money, I don't know.... just go outside and experience it yourself, it's a lot better, then you tell me about what's your opinion about the local independent scene because im all ears and I don't mind if it's good or bad.

Nizang: Hmm...it's doing great.

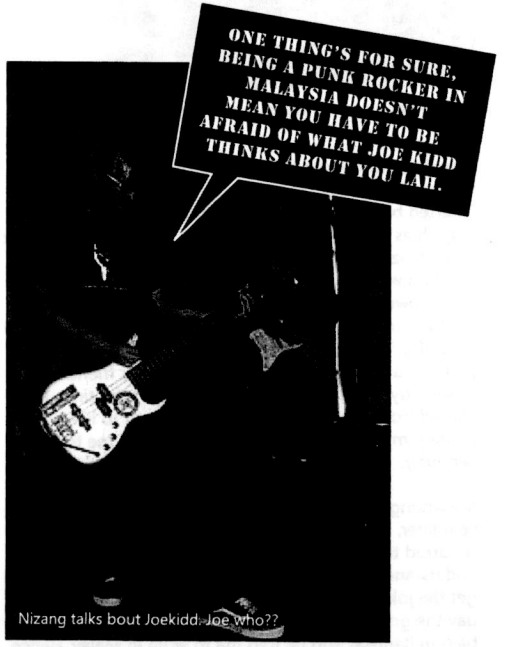
ANYTHING YOU HOPE TO CHANGE OR IMPROVE ABOUT THE SCENE IN THE FUTURE?
Aiman: Change? i not sure if i could change the scene, Im no Idol, Im not the homophobic and So called preacher of Islam like the band "HUJAN". Im not a godfather (SAY HELLO TO MY LITTLE FWENDS...), im not a philosopher, Im not Ricky Martin, Im not John Lennon, Im not Orlando Bloom, Im not Brandon Boyd, Im not Doremon (Mesin untuk menukarkan music scene), Im not Henry Rollin, Im not Ian Mckaye, Im not Iron Man, Im not Jimmy Hendrix, So can i Change the scene? That's up to you to answer...

Nizang: I just hope the scene were more our own style rather than too many bands being carbon copies of bands from USA, Europe, Japan, etc. But I guess...it's never too late.

SOALAN CEPU EMAS : DO YOU LIKE 'HUJAN'?
Aiman: Hujan? you mean those Drag Queen (no Offense to the real one) in tight skinny jeans, maggie cup hair, Bug eye sun glasses, chicken shit t-shirt, those so-called super fly spandex, macho monkey, Sexist people, Fascist and Racist people, So-called D.I.Y, The so-called Saint of Malaysia, The one a lot of people say his 'HOT", The one a lot people say he has a big ugly nose. Yeah do i like them? Fucking hell no that's for sure. I'll kick they're ass if they bother me that's for sure. I Think there is a lot more people Who deserved to be in the main stage, without the band "Paku..." the band "Hujan" will Never be known today, This kind of people should be cross out, Discriminating people Is wrong, Since HUJAN discriminate people, I as one of the people will take action, If you want to hate me up to you, Like me up to you, I don't care. Because i Fight for "EQUALITY" and Fucking Hell... may God help all the people in the underground scene because in my point of view all you people who been struggling and passionate with the scene deserved a reward. RIDE WITH STRENGTH AND HONOR YOU "ALPHA".

Nizang: Hujan itu rahmat dari yang maha esa.

DUM DUM TAK can be contacted at
dumdumtak@gmail.com
or stalk them at **dumdumtak.blogspot.com**

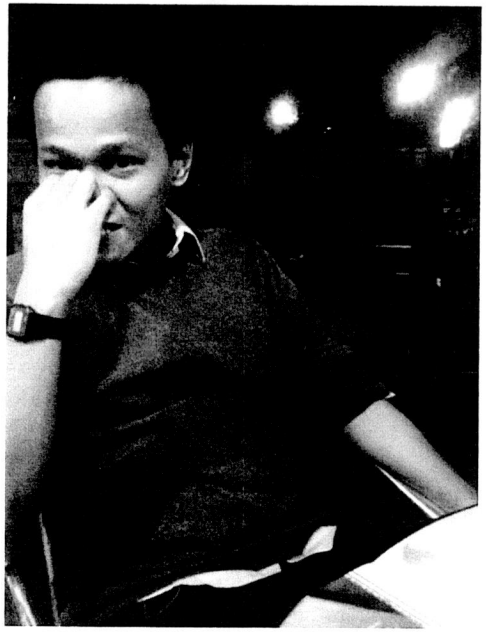


Nizang talks bout Joekidd- Joe who??

Innerview #003: Ahmad Kamal Abu Bakar

OF THE 'SEMUSIM DI NERAKA' FAME

HE NEEDS NO INTRODUCTION WITHIN MALAYSIA'S BLOGOSPHERE. IT'S A REAL CHALLENGE FOR STRANGERS TO GET HIM TO TALK (IF IT DOESN'T INVOLVE A PINT OF BEER), BUT IF HE DOES, THEN ALL HELL BREAK LOOSE! INNERVIEW TAKES THE CHALLENGE IN SEEING HOW HE OPENS THE GATES OF HELL AND UNLEASHES THE FIRE...



You can copy my writings, but do not copy this pose!

How long have you been blogging and what actually triggers the 'need' to blog?
I started blogging in MySpace a few years back, in English as I had always been writing in English, even back in my fanzine days. Out Of Step was 100% English, No Solution was 100% English. It was during the Yr Hometown Sucks period that I started to add in a bit of Malay in my writing, but that was minimal, I'd say around 15% of it. The blogging thing was mainly a hobby at that point, you know, goofing around with your friends. Everybody else seemed to be blogging at the time. It started from there, a lot of people seemed to like reading my stuff. They actually encouraged me to write seriously.

My writing then moved on to a blog in Blogspirit about a year later, somewhere in 2005 I think, but then it occurred to me that a whole lot of people didn't understand most of the stuff I wrote, they didn't quite get the jokes, etc, so I just kind of let it died. Then one day the great writer/poet Salleh Ben Joned grabbed my balls in Bangsar and he told me to write in Malay. Hence, Semusim Di Neraka was born in June, 2006. It sounded funny at first, with me never written in Bahasa Melayu before (except for SPM, which was aeons ago), and of course, the whole Rimbaud thing directly translated into Bahasa (Semusim Di Neraka after all is a direct translation of one of Rimbaud's greatest works, A Season in Hell). It took a while for me to get a hang of it, you know, trial and error. It turned out okay in the end. A lot of people seemed to like it. Not just punks (my regular readers all those years), but 'normal' folks as well. I got emails from university students telling me that their lecturers encouraged them to read my blog. It was pretty encouraging. And shocking, I have to admit.

I guess it's natural for people who want to write (or become writers) to publish their thoughts through the medium of blogs. It's self-publishing at its core. If you want to get something across, write it down and publish it yourself. In this sense, I think blogs are cool. It gives you plenty of space to be creative, you know, in the mean time it is also a training field where you learn stuff – not only from your own blog, but from others' as well. Through blogging, I have met a lot of cool people and it had also opened up a lot of opportunities for me. I mean, to become a writer and all that.

Do you find yourself as a celebrity blogger (celeblogger)?
Nope. Not at all. People can call me whatever they want. I still live my shitty, simple life. Except sometimes people buy me cool stuff. That's about it.

Who is exactly Ahmad Kamal Abu Bakar? How would you describe yourself?
Haha. You got me there. Do you know?

I think 'Out Of Step' is a great zine. So why does it has to come to an end? Is there any intention to revive it? Please share some thoughts about the zine to our readers who didn't have the opportunity realizing its existence.
Was. Was it? I mean, great? It was just a phase in my life where your lifestyle choices defined who you were. The clothes you wore, the music you listened to. Because I was punk, those things were pretty important to me back then. Not now, I think. I've grown out of that. Sure, I get a kick out of seeing bands kick ass on stage, or every time I put on the earphones blasting Black Flag. Out Of Step had been about the five, six years of my life, my young life. I don't regret anything. The fact of the matter is that people change. I changed a lot in the past twenty years or so in my life. Revive a zine I did when I was in my 20's? I don't think so.

→



Untitled by KOJAK artizliv@yahoo.co.uk

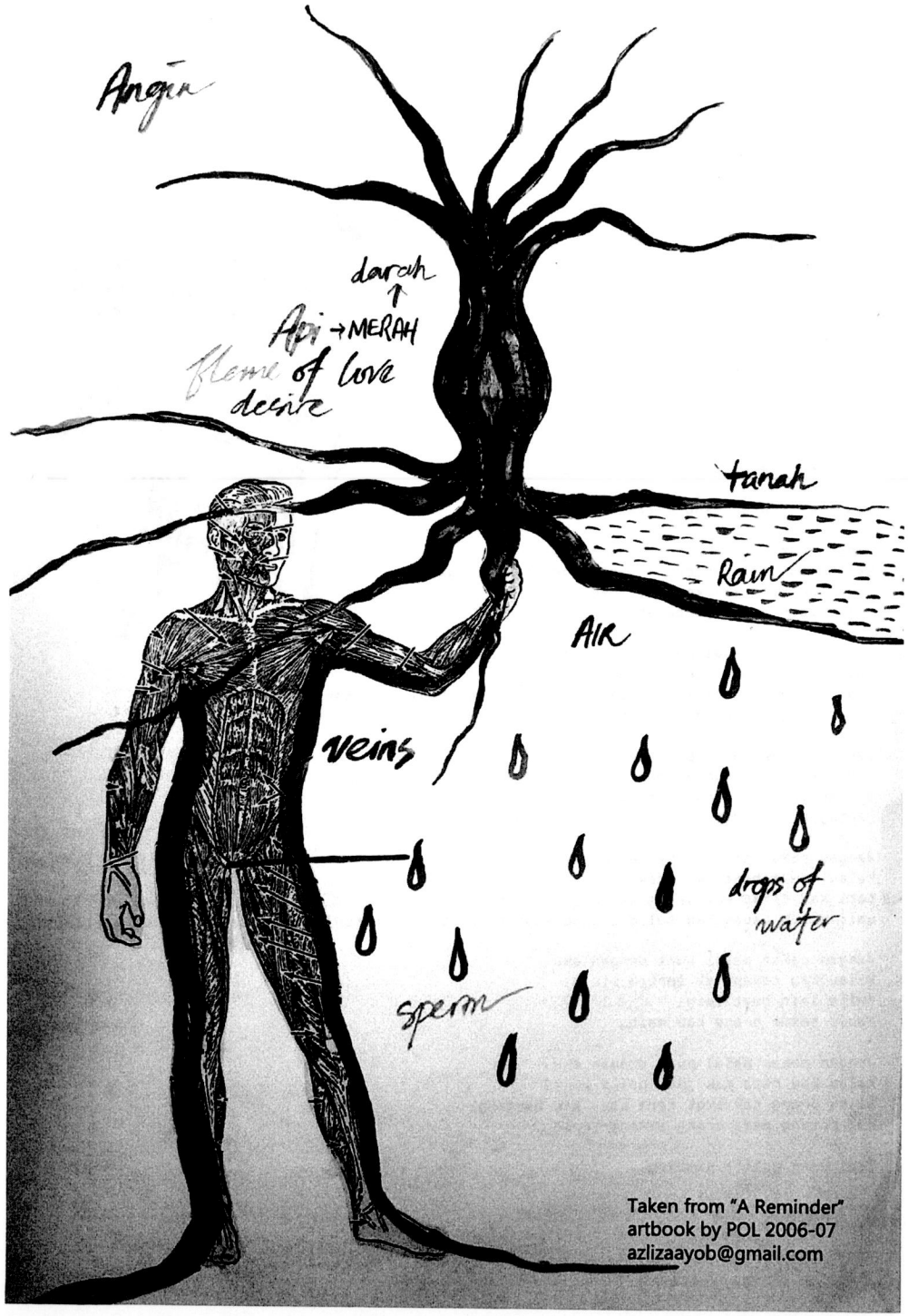




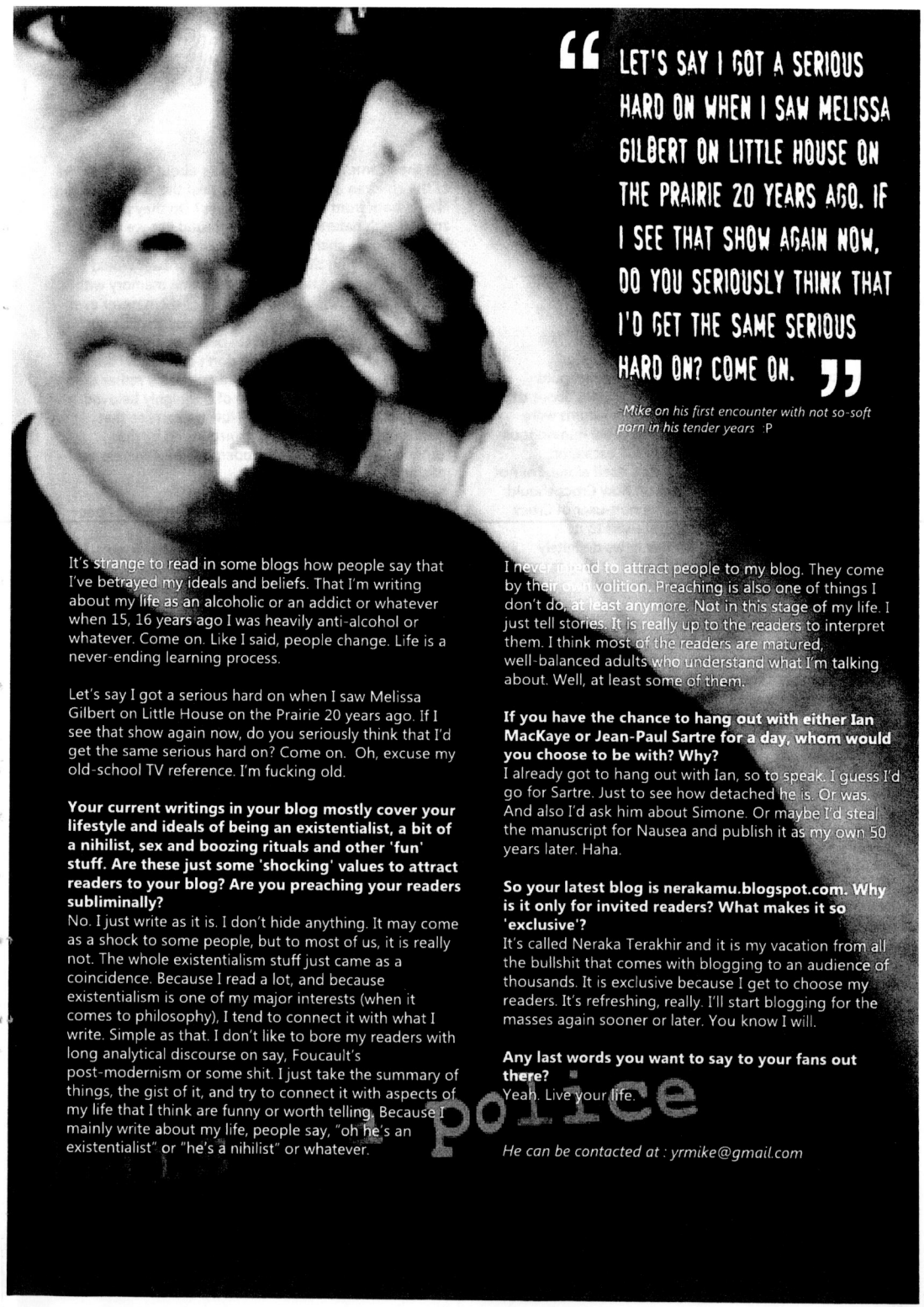
By : Zaki mohdzakiali@yahoo.com
Title: All is Well, Euphoric Ending

By : Zaki mohdzakiali@yahoo.com
Title: Nothingness in the Depth of Emptiness
Date: May 23, 2008 (Friday)
Material/Technique: Mix media
Its the technology human creates, on which the mechanisms that kill themselves.

Innerview goes ARTSY FARTSY



Taken from "A Reminder"
artbook by POL 2006-07
azlizaayob@gmail.com



"LET'S SAY I GOT A SERIOUS HARD ON WHEN I SAW MELISSA GILBERT ON LITTLE HOUSE ON THE PRAIRIE 20 YEARS AGO. IF I SEE THAT SHOW AGAIN NOW, DO YOU SERIOUSLY THINK THAT I'D GET THE SAME SERIOUS HARD ON? COME ON."

-Mike on his first encounter with not so-soft porn in his tender years :P

It's strange to read in some blogs how people say that I've betrayed my ideals and beliefs. That I'm writing about my life as an alcoholic or an addict or whatever when 15, 16 years ago I was heavily anti-alcohol or whatever. Come on. Like I said, people change. Life is a never-ending learning process.

Let's say I got a serious hard on when I saw Melissa Gilbert on Little House on the Prairie 20 years ago. If I see that show again now, do you seriously think that I'd get the same serious hard on? Come on. Oh, excuse my old-school TV reference. I'm fucking old.

Your current writings in your blog mostly cover your lifestyle and ideals of being an existentialist, a bit of a nihilist, sex and boozing rituals and other 'fun' stuff. Are these just some 'shocking' values to attract readers to your blog? Are you preaching your readers subliminally?
No. I just write as it is. I don't hide anything. It may come as a shock to some people, but to most of us, it is really not. The whole existentialism stuff just came as a coincidence. Because I read a lot, and because existentialism is one of my major interests (when it comes to philosophy), I tend to connect it with what I write. Simple as that. I don't like to bore my readers with long analytical discourse on say, Foucault's post-modernism or some shit. I just take the summary of things, the gist of it, and try to connect it with aspects of my life that I think are funny or worth telling. Because I mainly write about my life, people say, "oh he's an existentialist" or "he's a nihilist" or whatever.

I never intend to attract people to my blog. They come by their own volition. Preaching is also one of things I don't do, at least anymore. Not in this stage of my life. I just tell stories. It is really up to the readers to interpret them. I think most of the readers are matured, well-balanced adults who understand what I'm talking about. Well, at least some of them.

If you have the chance to hang out with either Ian MacKaye or Jean-Paul Sartre for a day, whom would you choose to be with? Why?
I already got to hang out with Ian, so to speak. I guess I'd go for Sartre. Just to see how detached he is. Or was. And also I'd ask him about Simone. Or maybe I'd steal the manuscript for Nausea and publish it as my own 50 years later. Haha.

So your latest blog is nerakamu.blogspot.com. Why is it only for invited readers? What makes it so 'exclusive'?
It's called Neraka Terakhir and it is my vacation from all the bullshit that comes with blogging to an audience of thousands. It is exclusive because I get to choose my readers. It's refreshing, really. I'll start blogging for the masses again sooner or later. You know I will.

Any last words you want to say to your fans out there?
Yeah. Live your life.

police

He can be contacted at : yrmike@gmail.com



TECHNOlogy Bites

by : Mohd Zaki Ali

It was about 30 minutes ago, one of my colleagues showed me several websites featured articles about the hazardous of Crocs sandals. Most of the victims were children and it has been said that the usual humongous culprit of this case was the ever 'useful' escalator. Ironically the blame was on the Crocs itself alone. I'm not quite sure about the exact reason on how Crocs should be blame in the first place. And as a non-user of Crocs products without doubt I'm not get used to its mechanism and whatnots, thus this news definitely doesn't effect me in whatever condition it may takes. But somehow is it really doesn't affect me at all?

As far as I'm concern, it's always being like this; when something failed to work properly then we'll simply put blame on others just like it was flawless on the other side. So does with these escalators, when it was failed to be ergonomics for the certain footwear (like Crocs), then we blatantly put the blame on that footwear alone. Then the blame being extended to the users concerning to their attitude when they're using the footwear and so on. How lame is that? It is now actually the time to scrutiny back about the certain dysfunctional matter of those stuffs related and allegedly the total action by any mean necessary should be taken towards the continuous hiccups.

Though, I do concern a lot about children and their behaviours; the aggressiveness, eager to learn and the keen to explore things that's considered new to them. Yet, it wasn't that surprising for me to hear/read such news like aforementioned.

Back to the old days when I was very young, I can be considered as one of the 'extrovert' kind of children. I deal a lot with the harmful of nature; climbing up the trees/hills, swimming across the river or even simply like playing whatever environment can offer me that time. Most of the scars that I have and still embedded until now were the result of my sort of hyperactive child I was back in those days. As a child, I was also aware about the danger that I would face in order to fulfill my satisfaction in every outdoor activities I was involved. And I know, those risks that I get from nature is actually a 'gift' resulted from my mischievous manners. It is nature and we know that anytime, anyhow we'll back to it sooner or later. So, for me it wasn't a big deal at all when I'm facing any circumstance cause by nature itself.

YOUR views... MATTER!

But then came with a question; how about the condition of the children of today? Do they deal the same situation like us back from the good old days? Do they playing around with nature as their playground like we did before? Do we share the same ground with them in terms of enjoying the childhood? The answer would probably no; we're not sharing the same memory with this new kind of children. Almost all of them never ever touch the mud, feeling the breeze of countryside and don't know how to differentiate between a cow and a buffalo. So forth most of them don't even know that climbing up the hills is better and enjoyable rather than running up/down the escalator of our highly beloved 'prestigious' shopping centre. Now we can see that children of today are actually surrounded by the technology... the so called modern world; concrete and machinery is their playground.

Different from ours, we dealt with nature. We had been pampered by the Mother Nature since the very beginning of our lives. The nature will not betray us, IF we take care of it as it's should be taking care of in the first place. Will that works for those machines and as well with the technology itself? I'm still remember once I wrote in my old (self-published) publication that human is actually should own the technology, unlike nowadays that obviously the technology is squeezing humankind in its gluttony hand. Is it still usable to keep the old proverb that said, "The future is in our hand"?

Above all matters, then how about the children and future generations? Only we know the truth behind it all.

And please do keep in mind that whatever things written here about the polemic between the Crocs, the escalator and as well with the technology as a whole, it was actually never change my stance (even an ounce) towards Crocs that they're actually the most ugliest (and non-practical) sandals/shoes ever invented no matter how fashionable people thinks they are. I'm also hoping that we'll be having more user friendly and harmless escalators in the near future or else the existence of those escalators that we're already have now will be demolished forever from this earth. Product designers, developers and those who have the certificate of Mechanical Engineering whatsoever, please do take note on this. Haha! Yes, finally I managed to laugh at this last phrase, on the matter of fact that I've finally made somewhat a 'sensible' joke for today! It works for me, at least.

Thank you.

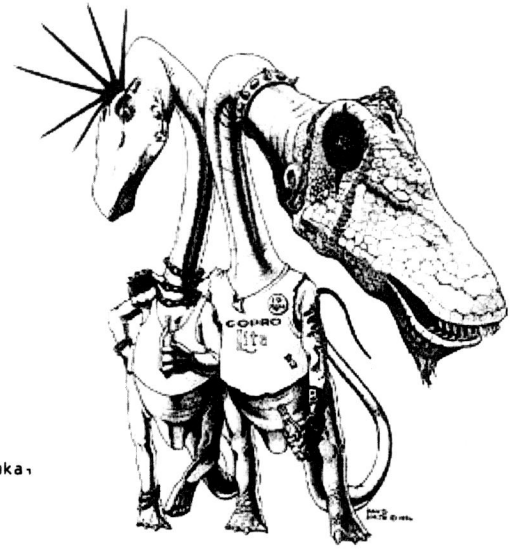
Zaki can be contacted at : mohdzakiali@yahoo.com

+ For more related issues about Crocs:
http://ihatecrocsblog.blogspot.com
++ A special thanks definitely goes to Tunku Syarila (a friend and a concern mother) for pointed out this topic at the first place. Gracias!

RUANGAN PUISI PUNK !



JANGAN CAKAP PASAL PUNK DENGAN AKU



Jangan cakap pasal punk dengan aku,
kalau kau masih lagi duduk dengan mak bapak,
tidur bawah ketiak mak,
nak benda kaki dihentak-hentak…

Jangan cakap pasal punk dengan aku,
kalau kau masih makan tanggung,
kau berlagak macam anak agung,
umur kau tak sampai pun setahun jagung…

Jangan cakap pasal punk dengan aku,
kalau kau hidup atas dasar subsidi,
kau tipu yang kau berdikari,
konon kau punya harga diri…

Jangan cakap pasal punk dengan aku,
kalau kau setakat tahu Sex Pistols,
kau ingat semua hujah kau paling betul,
kau buat semua orang macam bahlol…

Jangan cakap pasal punk dengan aku,
kalau kau jenis meroket* barang orang ikut suka,
tapi kau kata kau kononnya beretika,
orang lain semuanya celaka…

Jangan cakap pasal punk dengan aku,
kalau kau setakat ada patches kat seluar,
yang takde patches kat seluar/jaket/baju/beg/topi dll. semua kau selar,
kau memang tak pernah sedar…

Jangan cakap pasal punk dengan aku,
kalau kau nak adunkan punk dengan agama,
di'hadhari'kan mana yang rasa kena,
bertujuan nak dapat pahala untuk ke syurga…

Jangan cakap pasal punk dengan aku,
kalau kau sebenarnya anak orang kaya,
tapi kau cakap kat orang kau miserable gila,
woi! suruh bapak kau tulis cek seratus ribu, biar aku tunjukkan macamana untuk bergembira…

Jangan cakap pasal punk dengan aku,
kalau kau cakap tak serupa bikin,
tulis lain buat lain,
habis semua orang kau main…

Jangan cakap pasal punk dengan aku,
kalau kau rasa nak jadi polis punk,
kalau orang tak ikut cara kau, kau bengang,
nak potong nama orang senang-senang…

Tapi yang paling penting….

Jangan cakap pasal punk dengan aku,
Sebab aku tak punk…

Oleh : cn1lm

Interview #008 : MOMS ON STRIKE

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT. I INSTANTLY FELL IN LOVE WITH MOMS ON STRIKE THE MOMENT I SAW JASMINE SCREAMING HER HEART OUT ON STAGE. GRRLL POWER! I GUESS THEY'VE BEEN BUSY RECENTLY SINCE ALL THE ANSWERS ARE QUITE SHORT AND SIMPLE. BUT NEVER MIND, WE'LL DO THE REAL ONE WHEN YOU GUYS ARE FREE, K. SO HERE GOES :

HOW DO YOU GUYS STARTED AND WHAT ARE YOUR INFLUENCES?
Well we started in somewhere November/December 2006. We are actually friends and after that one day we decided to form Mom's On Strike! and yeah so here we are.
Influences? Here are tunes that we listened :
The Blood Brothers,The Kinison,Test Icicles,Pretty Girls Make Graves ,The Automatic, Head Automatica ,The Fall of Troy ,Le Tigre ,Eucalypt ,Death From Above 1979

WHY 'MOMS ON STRIKE' FOR A NAME?
Honestly, we dont even know but this name actually just pop out from our fucking brains and we think its pretty cool.

TELL US BOUT YOUR DEMO AND HOW TO GET IT?
Basically, our self-produced demo consist of 3 songs which are "Love In Madraz", "Minimal Minimax" and "Size XL". Nothing much about our demo seriously but yeah its kinda worth for you to listen to. You can get it at Doll's Store which located in Bukit Bintang. But currently, we stop producing it as we are now working out on our EP and shits like that.

CAN YOU SHARE WITH US YOUR FUTURE PLAN?
Future plan. Wow. We actually like never sit and discuss about this. So we dont even know whats going on in future. But so far, we are just gonna make our EP done and pressing out our brains to create some new tunes.

WHAT'S YOUR OPINION ABOUT OUR LOCAL INDEPENDENDENT SCENE NOW?
Hmmm we think the independent scene is growing good and so much better. Keep it up and keep rockkkiiiinnng!

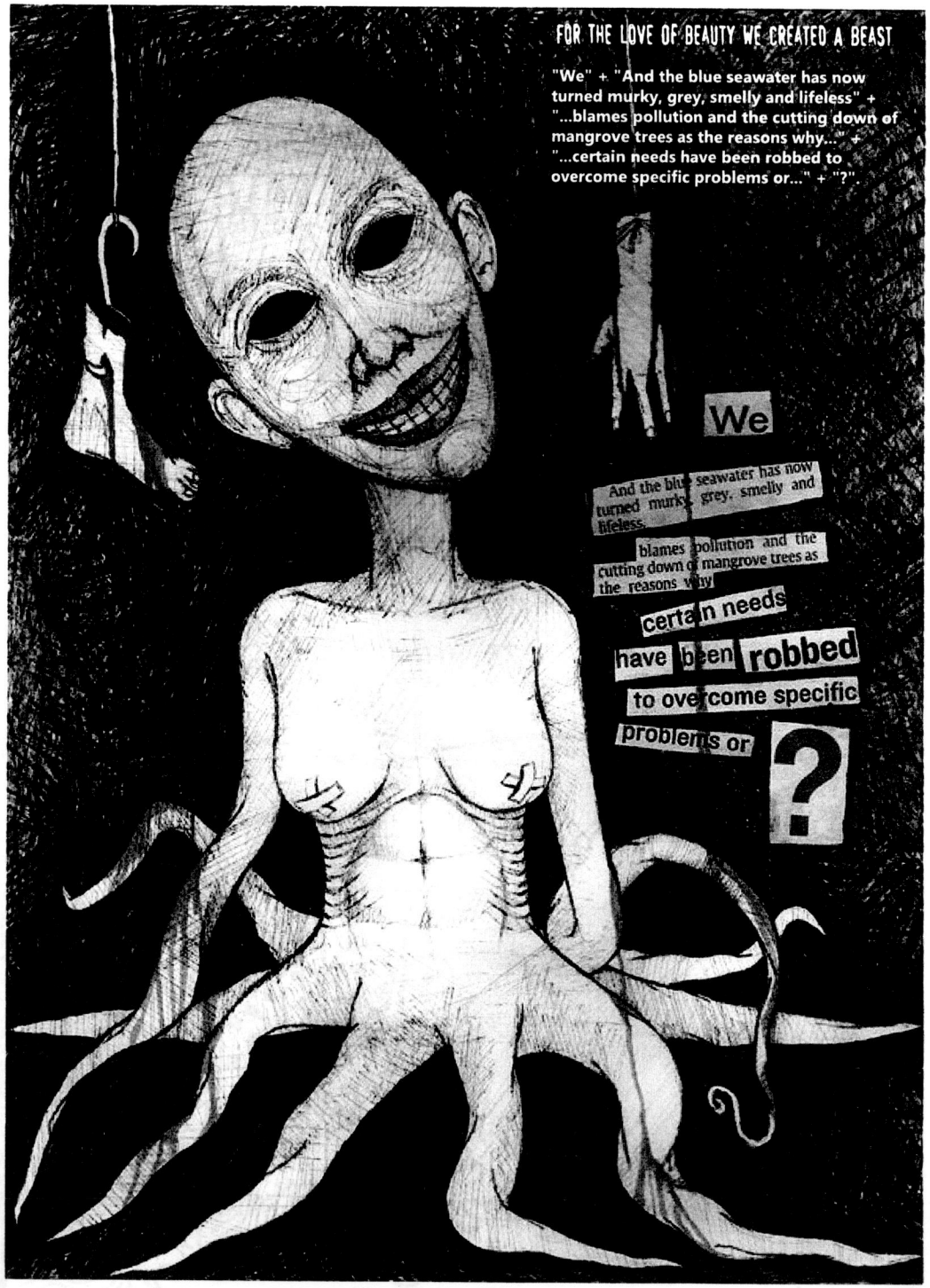
WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO CHANGE OR IMPROVE ABOUT THE SCENE IN THE FUTURE?
Well nothing much we can say but its best you guys be your fucking self. Try not to follow trends and stuff like that. Dude seriously, create your own fucking tunes and it'll definitely go good.

SOALAN CEPU EMAS : DO YOU LIKE 'HUJAN'?
Hujan? What the fuck?

Stalk them here :
http://www.myspace.com/momsonstrike
Email : momsonstrike@yahoo.com


Grrrll power

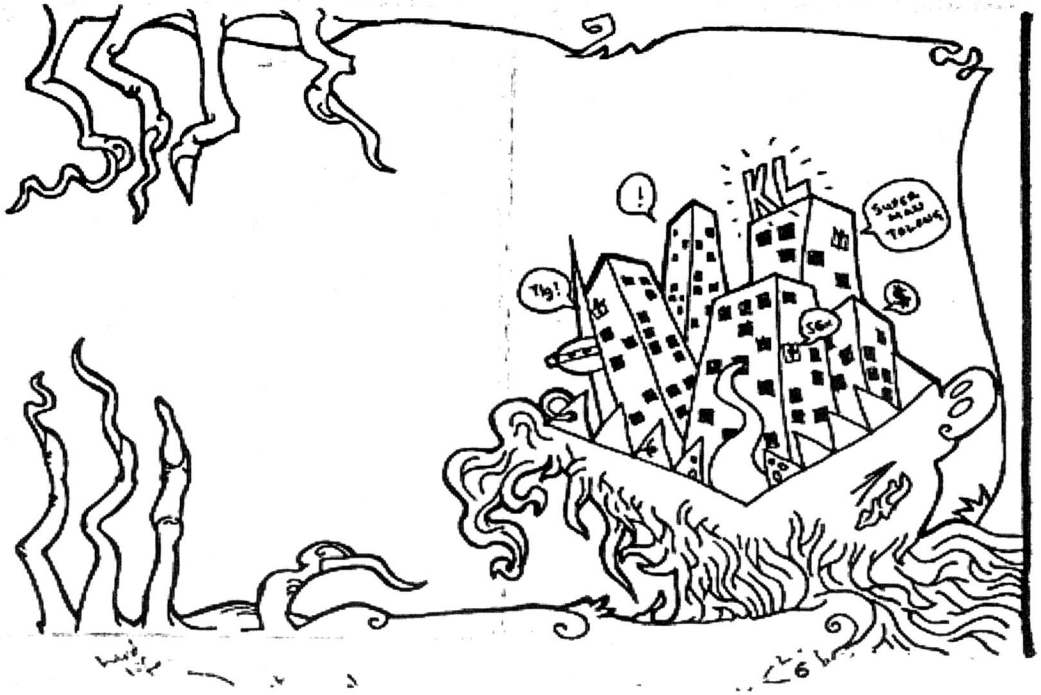




Artwork by : mohd zaki ali

Innerview GOES ARTSY FARTSY

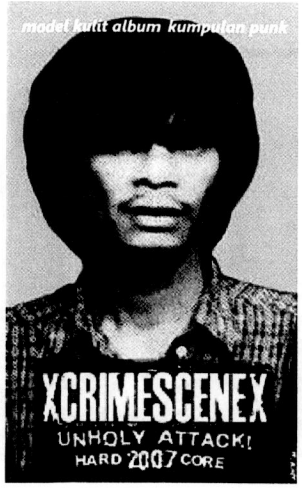


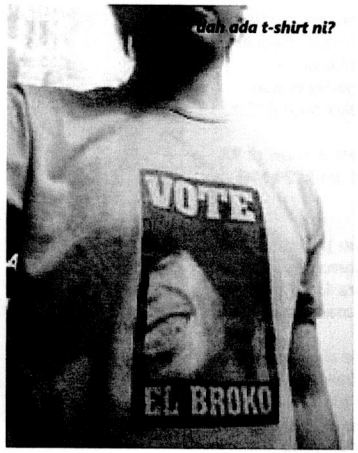




Dari segi ekspressi diri, melukis ke atau mu main band yang lebih efektif? Lagi satu, nyanyi lagu Melayu atau Inggeris yang lebif efektif?
Pada aku dua-dua pun sama efektif untuk diri aku. Sebab kedua-duanya art. Kalau aku just buat salah satu je dari bende ni aku rase tak cukup. Macam ade yang tak kene je. Aku addicted kat dua-dua bende ni.Pasal nyanyi dalam bahasa Melayu atau Inggeris tu, aku rase takde beza, sama je.

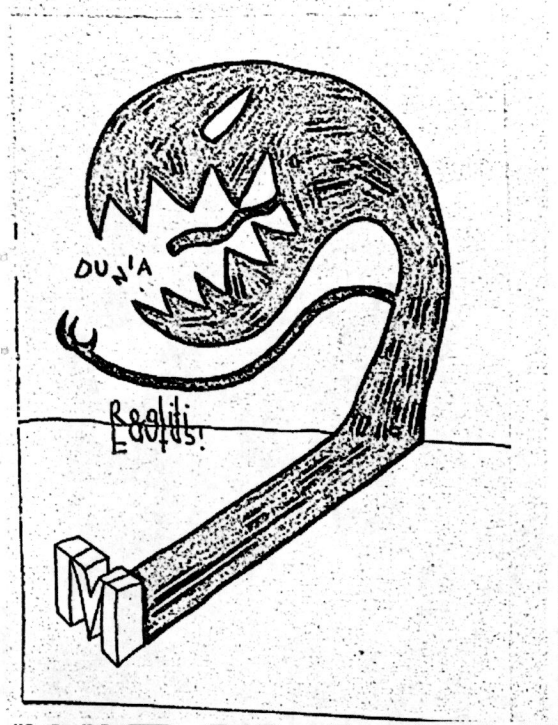
Harapan mu untuk masa akan datang.
Aku dari dulu memang takde simpan cita-cita (lepas tu avroco macam nervous dan agak lost je bila jawab soalan ni. Interviewer pun terpaksa buat kelakar nak bagi die rileks sikit.) Harapan aku adalah untuk berkongsi art aku dengan semua supaya orang lain juga dapat meluahkan perasaan secara honest dengan cara dan revolusi tersendiri. Sebab aku rasa kerajaan sekarang sentiasa menyekat aktiviti berbentuk art (sajak, puisi, tulisan dan sebagainya). Aku ingat lagi masa sekolah bila pelajaran lukisan, aku tak dapat meluahkan perasaan aku secara total. Semua kene ikut cikgu macamana nak lukis.



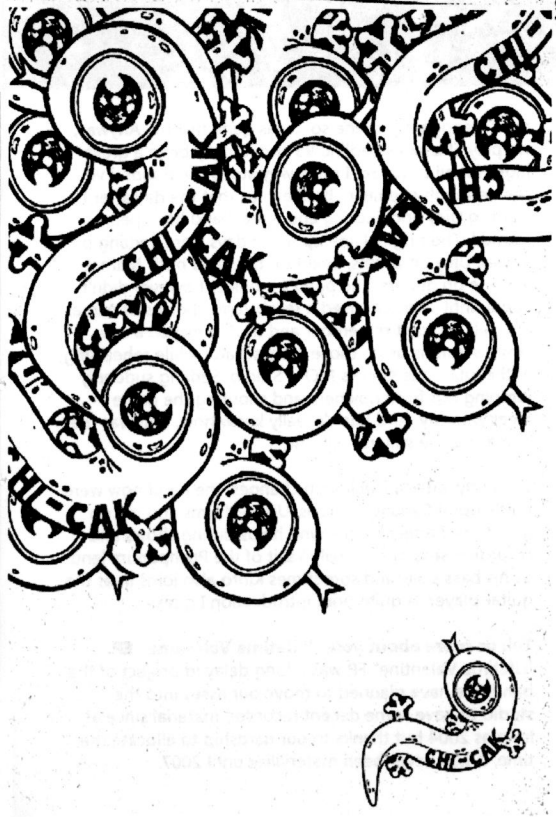


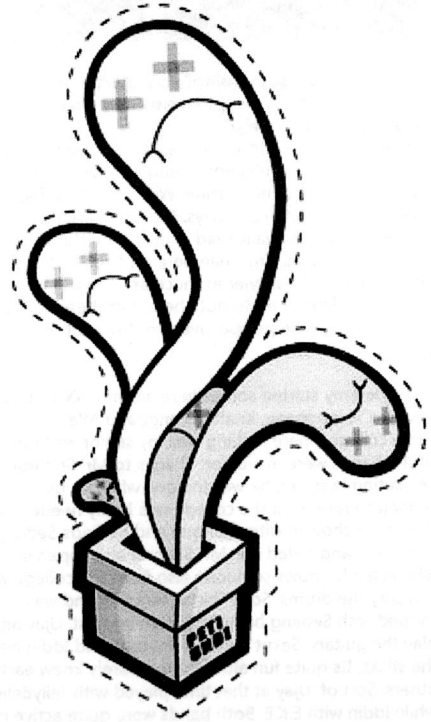












ARTWORKS BY : MAWI ismawism@gmail.com

Interview #004 : Sleepy Jeremy



Emerging from the heart of Kuala Terengganu, these lads are no strangers to the KT independent music scene. Involved with a few compilations and a release to call their own, SLEEPYJEREMY is a band that deserves your serious attention. Izhan tells us why...

Hi, how are you guys doing? As a starter, a brief introduction about SleepyJeremy and what have you guys been doing lately?
Hi there. It's really good to know that somewhere here in Malaysia there are still people who still have faith in doing and distributing fanzine. Well, I guess doing a zine is not the "In" thing nowadays. It's even harder to find the people who actually read it, don't you think? So, kudos to you guys. I'm Izhan here on behalf of the band and I'll be glad to answer as much as I can all your queries. It's important to note here that these answers were from my own perspective and does not reflect the others.

SleepyJeremy started somewhere around 2002 at Kolej Yayasan Terengganu, Kuala Terengganu. We went to the same college where Sedang was my senior and the rest of the bands were my junior. Thanks to Mr. Shahrul, my Marketing Lecturer, he was the one who put us together. A band to represent the college was badly needed back then for a show in Uitm Dungun and he finds Sedang who went and called me. Mr. Shahrul also roped in Ujay who actually knows someone also from the college who can play the drums. So, a "bidan terjun" band was formed with Sedang being the main vocalist, Ujay and I play the guitars, Sekut handles the bass and Iddin hits the sticks. Its quite fun although we barely knew each others. Sort of. Ujay at that time played with JellyBelly while Iddin with E.K.E. Both bands were quite active in the Terengganu's scene so it was quite helpful. Anyway, we play Shizuka's Redline 95 and it really been a great night for all of us. So, I think why stops the bonds. I've seen enough chemistry between us that the day after I went to Ujay and Sedang and a real band have been formed. The original line up those days were Sedang on vocals, Ujay on drums, Sekut on bass and both Mamat and me on guitars. The band's moniker however didn't come until later. We used a few bizarre choices of names I myself couldn't remember and we did played a few jamm sessions using those names. Later while rehearsing in the infamous Kuyie's MOM Studio, Sedang suddenly jumping out from nowhere and shouting the name SleepyJeremy. And I don't really know how, that was the name that we still use till now.

Currently, after a few lineup changes, the band now were made up of Sedang – vocals, Ujay – drums and me on guitars and a few friends who helps during shows and recording sessions. Usually Yazit of the Pushpapura lend us his bass skills and sometimes Kinto also joins in as the guitar player. A quite brief introduction I guess.

Tell us more about your "Lifetime Valentine" EP.
'Lifetime Valentine" EP was a long delayed project of the band. We have planned to move our asses into the studio to have some decent recorded material since as long as 2004 but thanks to our hardship to allocate the time, it was never been materialize until 2007. →

Kenapa dalam *drawing* mu ada muka-muka orang? Ada macam perempuan, burung, tangga dan dinding?
Aku obses pada muka. Aku selalu tengok orang lalu lalang bila seharian berada kat CM contohnya. Jadi tu ada banyak muka-muka dalam lukisan aku. Burung pulak melambangkan aku nak *free* dan dinding tu pulak adalah simbolik di mana aku selalu dapat banyak rintangan dalam hidup aku. Semua ni banyak simbolik tentang manusia dan unsur-unsur *romantic*. Tok tau la aku nak cakap apa lagi..(sambil menggaru-garu kepala).

Setakat ni dah berapa *art exhibition* yang mu dah terlibat?
First yang *tribute* untuk arwah Jerry di Bangsar dekat rumah dia. Turut serta antaranya Fathul dan Fuad (tahun yang Jerry meninggal) . Arwah Jerry pun banyak bagi aku dorongan jugak. Banyak orang sebenarnya bagi aku semangat sebab diorang kata aku ada gaya tersendiri dalam lukisan aku. Aku lagi satu belajar lukis sendiri. Tak pergi belajar mana-mana.
Nota :Avroco juga telah melibatkan diri untuk *show* di RA Gallery beberapa bulan lepas dan Annexe pada 29 Mei 08) .

Ceritakan sedikit pasal persembahan mu pada ulangtahun Ricecooker di Annexe tak lama dulu. Ada main banyak lagu sendiri ke? Apa antara *local band* yang mu suka? Dari segi *attitude* yang macamana yang buatkan mu suka band tu?
Aku ada banyak lagu sendiri. Tapi bila *time* main, biasanye tengah mabuk, terus tak ingat *chords, last* sekali terus jadi lagu spontan. Sebab orang dah tunggu nak tengok kita main, takkan kita nak kabo tok leh nak main sebab dah mabuk *so* main je la lagu apa pun yang bermain dalam kepala. Aku sebenarnya suka banyak *band* dulu-dulu macam Carburetor Dung, FSF, Kuchalana, DEP (sebab acai pun ada sekali terus mu kabo DEP eh, pandai mu-ed) dan banyak lagi yang aku lupa la tapi kebanyakannya band *indie*. Aku suka *band* yang *honest*. Bukan jenis yang *copy* bulat-bulat. Sebab setakat *copy*, sape-sape pun boleh buat *band* kalau macam tu. Aku suka muzik yang sumbang macam Bob Dylan dan Velvet Underground dan *psychedelic band* macam Pink Floyd terutamanya Syd Barrett. Pada aku *psychedelic music* tu adalah satu bentuk *art*.



avroco dikelilingi peminat-peminatnya...



Tersenyum manis di hari pelancaran pameran seninya di Annexe, Central Market baru-baru ini.



Inerview #007

AVROCO

OR ABROKO OR AVROCORE OR EL-BROKO

MOHD NASIR BIN DAUD, LAHIR PADA 19 MEI 1974, YANG KINI LEBIH DIKENALI DENGAN NAMA AVROCO, ADALAH SALAH SEORANG 'SELF-TAUGHT ARTIST' YANG SEDANG MENEMPA NAMA DI PERSADA SENI TANAHAIR. BAGAIMANA DARI NAMA MOHD NASIR BERTUKAR KEPADA AVROCO, ENGGAN DIKONGSI BERSAMA SEMUA PEMBACA ATAS SEBAB-SEBAB PERIBADI DAN KAMI AMAT MENGHORMATI KEPUTUSAN TERSEBUT (SEBENARNYA KAMI DAH TAHU SEJARAH NAMA TERSEBUT – ED). TAPI APA YANG PENTING DI SINI ADALAH APA YANG CUBA DISAMPAIKAN OLEH BELIAU.
Nota : Temuramah adalah di dalam bahasa Melayu diselangi dengan loghat Terengganu. *So*, harap anda semua faham. Terima kasih.

Boleh mu ceritakan serba sedikit latar belakang diri mu.
Aku datang KL dalam tahun 93. *Underground music scene* yang membawa aku ke sini. Aku ada *band* dulu. Dalam tahun 94 aku ada *band indie*. Tapi dok lame lepas tu aku balik semula ke Terengganu kerja kilang kat kampung aku. Lepas tu aku sambung *study* mekanikal di bawah MARA kat Gong Badak, Terengganu.

Lepas tu aku datang sini balik, kerja kat kilang Minolta kat PJ selama 3 tahun. Lepas tu aku tinggalkan kerja dan cuba nak sambung belajar mekanikal kat KL ni. Sebab aku kena pakai duit sendiri belajar dan aku rasa macam susah sebab selalu takde duit *so* aku berhenti belajar.

Lepas tu aku kerja merapu. Dan pada masa yang sama aku kenal Naim, dia ajar aku pasal *color* dan buat *silk screen printing*.

Aku ada *stance* aku. Aku nak hidup *independent so* aku tak nampak *independent*-nya kalau aku kerja dengan orang *so* sebab tu aku belajar pasal *silk screen printing*. Aku jugak ada menulis dulu-dulu tapi lebih pada penulisan layan diri. Takde yang *serious*. Tulisan cuma untuk lirik lagu *band* aku . Aku tak leh tulis macam Mike (Semusim Di Neraka). Sambil-sambil tu buat drawing jugak.

Ceritakan tentang penglibatan muzik mu. *Band* apa mu main?
Aku ada dua *band*. Satu *band grindcore* nama Genocide. Ahli *band* – Buyung Brutal Skin dan Piyan Rotten. *Band* ni tak lama, berpecah sebab ada yang kahwin dan sibuk ngan hal masing-masing. Satu lagi *band indie*. *Band* ni



follower

before hujan, avroco is the pioneer of this hairstyle

pun tak lama sebab *guitarist* aku Di, jadi *junkie* dan *schizophrenic so* terpaksa bubar. Tapi aku suka Di tu sebab dia *genius*. Dia pandai main gitar dan boleh menulis. *Band* ni cuma aku dengan dia je. Anggota lain kita main pinjam je. *Influence band* antaranya ialah The Wedding Present dan Buzzcocks. Emm aku dah lupa banyak. Tapi kebanyakannya Manchester punya *scene*. Sekarang ni aku ada cadang nak buat *band* dengan Joned tapi tak sukses la. Ni disebabkan kepala lain-lain. Joned nak buat *band* tu jadi macam ni macam ni. Tapi aku tak nak. Aku nak *band* aku jadi se-*original* yang boleh. Antara ahli *band* ni, aku, Joned dan Ji (Paranoid Pest). Ni semua berlaku sekitar tahun 1997.

***OK*. Bercakap pasal *drawing* kau. Bila kau melukis secara serius?**
Baru lagi... mungkin dalam 2 tahun setengah. *Influence* aku antaranya macam A.Samad Said dan Rahmat Haron. Aku melukis cuma melayan perasaan sebab aku rasa *free* bila melukis. Sebab kepala aku selalu berserabut. Dulu aku rasa macam lukisan aku takde apa-apa makna tapi aku *just* layan dan ikut mata pen sampai sekarang lukisan aku jadi ada cerita dan karakter tersendiri. Aku jugak dapat banyak dorongan dari artis-artis lain macam NurHanim. Dia *sponsor* aku cat semua. Antara yang lain macam A.Samad Said, Rahmat Haron, Hasnol dan Fathul juga banyak beri dorongan.

Selain dari melayan perasaan apa lagi yang bagi mu inspirasi untuk melukis?
Aku rasa bila masa aku serabut la aku mula melukis sebab ia membuatkan aku rase *free*. Aku *just concentrate* pada mata pen tu dan lukis je. Aku *focus* pada objek dalam kepala aku yang ada berkait dengan *philosophy* dan mitos. Benda-benda yang simbolik, macam benda yang aku tak boleh nak cerita kat orang dengan kata-kata. Aku tak suka melukis objek yang kita nampak macam lukis gelas ke, mangkuk ke. Jadi macam aku kata tadi, lukisan aku lebih berkisar kepada cerita mitos (?). Falsafah pulak adalah berkisar pada pengalaman aku macam depressi dan banyak benda lagi. Aku tak boleh sampaikan dalam bentuk kata-kata atau penulisan jadi ekspressi ni semua terbentuk dalam lukisan.

The 4 songs we recorded were actually composed mostly around 2002 – 2004 and all four songs have already find their way to light through various production by our friends. The first track, Love On The Way Out was already out through a free cd sample by PlanetLove Rechords in 2005 with a much less impressive audio quality. The second track, Mist Afternoon which was one of the earlier stuff that we wrote back in 2002 and have been featured in Bollok Wok 2, a compilation for Terengganu's bands released by the now defunct Ronin Distro and Nizang's Nervous Rechords. The third track, Katakan Padaku was actually a song we wrote in English entitled Perfect Deceiver. We changed the lyrics but retain the melodies and manage to put it onto Bollok Wok 3 released by Nervous Rechords together with a bunch of other cool independent labels. While the last track, Beware of Your Heart was already out through "Tribute To The Pilgrims" cd which comes free with The Coalition Zines.

Anyway, most of the songs were ill recorded and definitely deserve a better recoding. So, we thought that this might be the best time to really go and find a decent studio to record these songs.

Yusri of 50 K Promises introduces us to Ejai, the owner cum sound engineer of Prosound Studio and we thanked him for that. Ejai (He was the drummer for Indrani) have done some real good stuff before and we pretty like how his past projects sounds. So we packed our things and headed to Bangi. Ejai is just a brilliant guy, I really like how he handles our songs. I always have. His whole sense of composition is really dense and I like that. He has a very different compositional approach so it is sort of like filling the hole in the band. I enjoy his approach in recording the material we have and for some reason he enjoys hearing our lame songs. All songs were recorded track by track and the whole process took us a couple of long days. The cost? Nearly 1K but I guess that money was worthily spent.

The original plan was to pre release these four songs first as a teaser before we all get together and record maybe another 5 or 6 more songs and release a full fledge album. We have in about 20 songs altogether waiting to be recorded. But Ejai now is in Australia so I guess the plan had to be on hold yet again. Anyway, we press a couple hundred of Lifetime Valentine E.P all being distributed for free through our friends and associates. The response was quite healthy I must say.

I'm impressed with the intro for "Love On The Way Out". It reminds me of the band "Hot Water Music".(Not saying that you guys are copying them). Are you guys into all this emo-rock music /bands. What are the bands that influenced your music?

The only Hot Water Music's song I ever listen is "Elektra" from the "Don't Forget To Breath" compilation which ironically the first emo stuff I ever listen to. I do listen and inspired by a lot of emo bands. But not limited to just that. So, safe bet to say is that we are sitting on the fence between the standard driving sounds of punk rock and less spicy mainstream alternative rockers such as Saturnine.
When we write songs, the whole idea was to relate as much as we can to our daily lives. Love On The Way Out for instance is a piece I wrote when I'm actually in verge of a breakup with my girlfriend. The emotions, the hopes and the frustrations were written all over it. So, it would be natural for anyone to put the tag "emo" on us by looking to the lyrics. The way it happened was because I'm quite feel awkward playing or singing about fictitious things. Even if the things are metaphorical, which occasionally it is on this record, I just wanted to be straight and honest about a lot of stuff. For Mist Afternoon, lyrically it is still quite ambiguous and I think that's purposefully done so that people can identify with it in their own way. It can't be so direct that you're spelling it out for them, they really need to get something out of it themselves. And I found a lot of these with emo bands.
By the way, we listen a lot to Jimmy Eat World, Brandtson, Marchtwelve, Plain Sunset, Mineral, The Get Up Kids, Cursive; just to name a few. Tell me, how can you ever resist the poetic lyrics by Mineral or The Get Up Kids? We just can't.
During the recording session of the Lifetime Valentine, particularly we looked up to Jimmy Eat World because there very colourful, almost poetic writers, but they're also very direct. They won't use a big word if they don't have to and I like that. At the same time though i've been a big fan of Padi for years and there's a cleverness that comes with Piyu's lyrics.

By listening to your song and reading your lyrics, my personal opinion is that you are a radio-friendly kinda band. Any intention of going major? (If not, why?)
In a way yes, I do think the same and I definitely think that most of the listeners would agree as well. But what the heck, the band never experience the fruit of it. Our songs had never been aired as far as I know. And our songs are way too long for radio stations to spin it. Although Katakan Padaku did became a theme song for "Radio Ga Ga", a telemovie aired on TV1 not a long time ago, we actually never had that chance listening our tunes on air. Some of our friends did send the cds to various radio station but I guess it just fall into deaf ears. Some Punk kids will say SleepyJeremy's Lifetime Valentine is so mainstream, but, really if you think about it it's not at all. If you play it for someone who only listens to the radio they'd be like 'What is this weird stuff?'.
Radio friendly or not, was never an issue to us. We just playing what we like and writing what's related to our ups and downs. At the end of the day, what's really matter is how we enjoys every minutes of it.
On going major, we didn't take it seriously yet. Self control is something that never should be out of your hand. We think that everyone should see the whole package and make the right choices. If it means you're getting better, then why not. For the time being, we are not yet there. In the near future who knows?

→

Your rendition of "Beware of your Heart" from The Pilgrims is also commendable. It's cool that you guys really did it the SleepyJeremy way. Which is better, to cover a song by playing it chord by chord or do it your own style?
I'm glad that you guys like it. It's really up to the band to decide what's best for them. For some, when doing covers, it is really important to maintain the originality of the songs. But to others and in this case, us, we have tried to really make it into SleepyJeremy mould. For us, the Pilgrims is a band we respect and love very much. We all grow up with Perfumes Gardens and Away From The Number cassettes in our stereo. And I think I need to clarify that our version of the song didn't in any way mean that the original version is not that good. We just look into it in a different perspective. What it would be like if we add a few licks here and there? What would the song be like when we add these chords and those chords? It's more like looking into something from a different angle. Should we play it at a faster tempo? Or it would be better slower? These kinds of questions would always pop up in our minds. At the end of the day, we all sit around together and have a listen to it saying "yeahh, that's cool man". We all like it and there you have it.

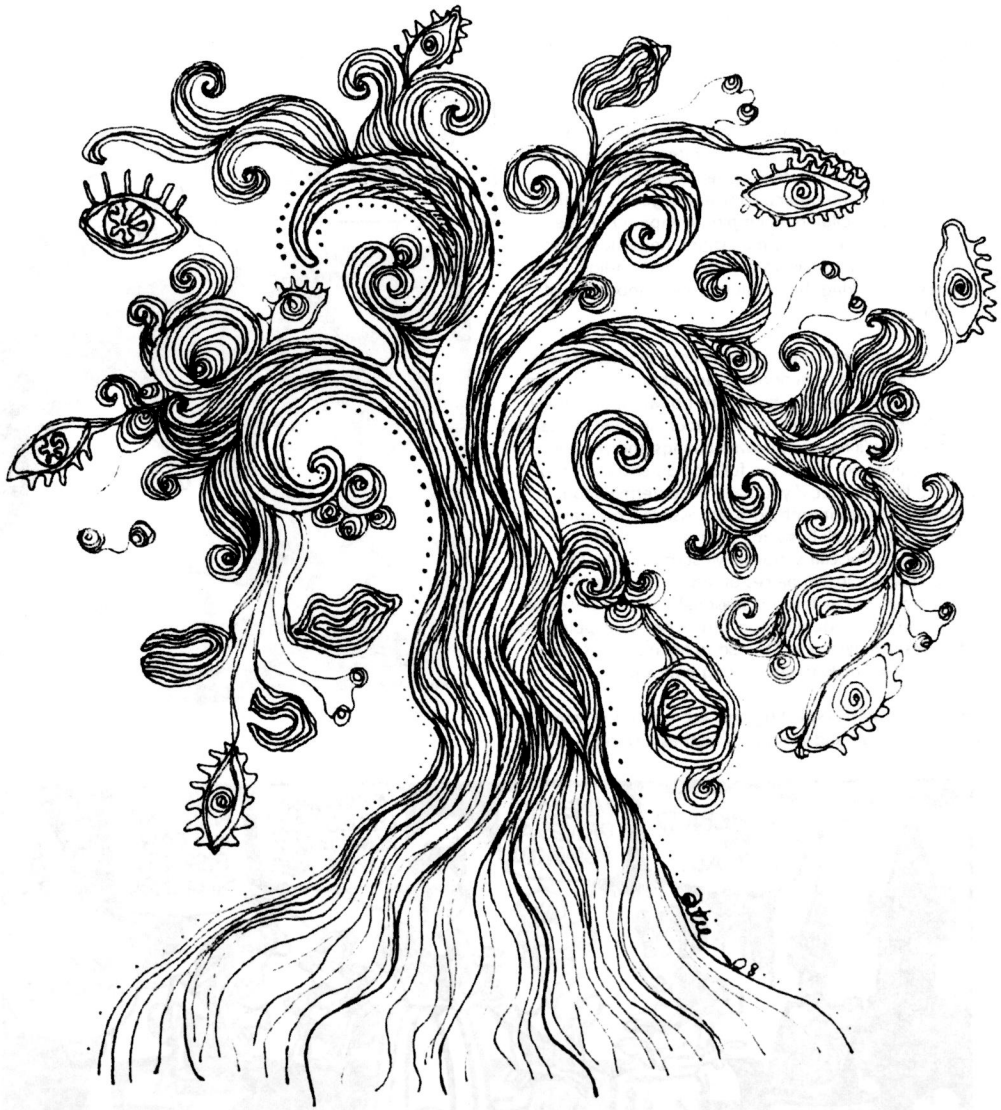
I can assure you how intriguing it would feel to wait and see what would the Pilgrims say when they hear our version. I don't know if they ever listen to it yet, but one thing for sure, Joe Kidd has put something nice to say about it on the ricecooker blog. By the way, the melodies are still there if you dig deep enough. And the original chords were also there. I did think of doing some other covers. Iris from Spiral Kinetic Circus would be cool. Or perhaps Liquid Love by the Saturnine? What do you think?

Can we attract listeners if we sing in Malay rather than English? Your opinion?
I personally believe that music is a wonderful gift to mankind. It doesn't really matter if you sings in Tagalog or in Tamil or whatsoever, a good song is a good song and can always attract listeners. It would helps a lot by delivering your material in essence which everyone can chew. Just look at Hujan. Compare it with The Couples who were into the scene much earlier. Although both music style is similar, you can see how language can be the decisive factor. For me, it just the matter of taste. But don't let the language be your barrier. Music is universal. Definitely.





ARTWORK by AVROCO you know where to find him :)



ARTWORK BY : ATIE lustfulofsoul@gmail.com

When was your last show? Is it hard nowadays to get a chance to play for gigs?
The last would be a jamm session early this year at 60's Studio, Kuala Ibai, Terengganu. We just finished playing 2 songs before the friends in blue uniform raided the venue and eventually put the session to the end. Go figure that. The truth is, we didn't play as much as we hope so I would say it is hard to get that chance. I guess there are a whole lot of bands out there but too little rooms for them to show what they've got on stage. What we get was the same bands over and over again.

For SleepyJeremy, playing live is not what we really think about. Besides, every one now live far apart. I'm in Besut, Terengganu, Ujay and Sedang in KL, Yazit and Kinto in Klang. I guess it would be better for us to focus on producing good releases.

Future plans for SleepyJeremy?
Right now everyone were busy with their own life. I myself just got married a couple of months ago, so I can't really see what's in the future have in store for us. I still writing some new tunes and hopefully we could squeeze some of our time to get together and starts polishing the material we have. I guess time will tell. For the time being, enjoy your Lifetime Valentine dosage. :)

Thanks for answering all these questions. Anything you want to add before we wrap this up?
Thousand thanks to the whole Innerview crew who kind enough to interview us. This is the second interview we have done and the first one was like ages ago. Keep on the good work. It's a good thing to see when you know the scene is still alive and kicking. To all readers out there, have faith in our scene. Bands, zines, organizers, Free Food Volunteers all need your supports. So keep it going. Anyone out there who is interested in having our e.p, please do send a self address enveloped with RM1 stamp to the addres below. Cheer guys.

Last advice, the best thing to do when you feel anger is to grab a pen and not a boxing glove.

Stalk them here :

Email : cryjeremycry@yahoo.com
Myspace: http://www.myspace.com/setjiweluke
Contact : 012 956 2753 (Izhan)
Address : Lot 19141, Taman Seri Batin,
Jalan Lapangan Terbang,
21300 Kuala Terengganu,
Terengganu Darul Iman

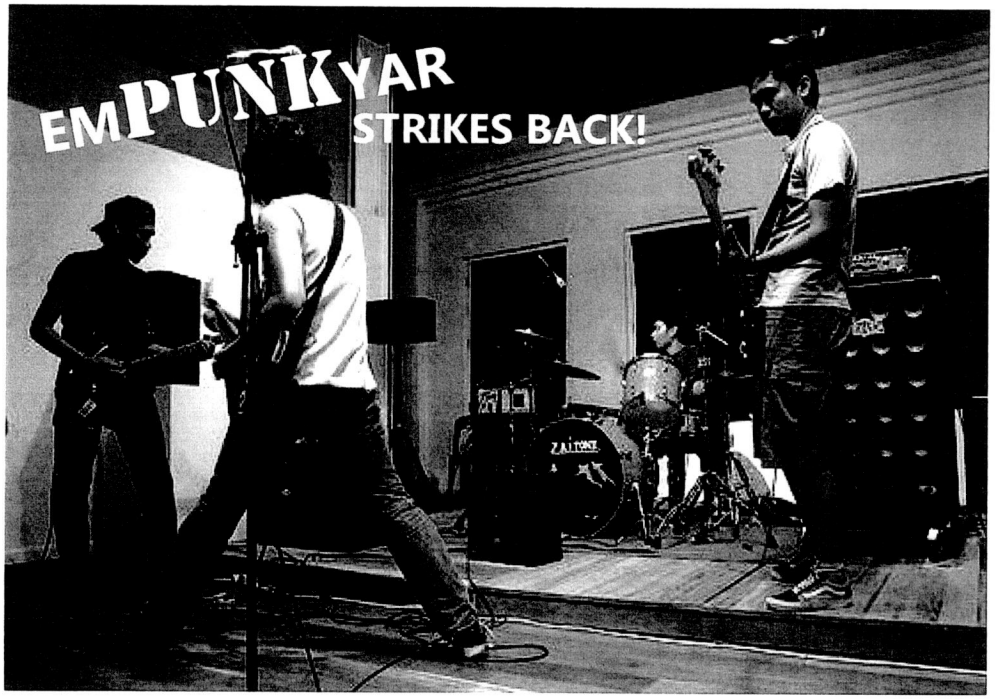

Izhan


Kinto


Sedang


Ujay

Interview #005 - PUSHER



THIS IS OUR INTERVIEW WITH ALAK, THE FRONTMAN OF PUSHER. IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHO IS ALAK, HE'S THE CURRENT VOCALIST FOR CARBURETOR DUNG. THAT'S PRETTY CLEAR I GUESS.

How are you? Please tell us what Pusher has been doing lately?
Fine,thank you. Just a bit sleepy and sick due to the weather.haha.
Pusher has been slow for quite sometime, i was busy preparing for indonesia with carburetor dung and our drummer shimi is expecting a baby. So hopefully we'll start back to practice,play gigs and record after mid this year.

How do you guys started? And why 'Pusher'?
Pusher started out with me and toleb getting bored in college in 1999. We wrote our songs and then found amir to play bass. Then i called up my kampung friend achui(ex-happy nightmare) to play drums. The name 'Pusher' was taken in respect for a close friend of ours who was really passionate with ganja as well as being a pusher.

Your 1999 demo Kalihui : On The Same Ground - 5 songs, were released for 30 copies within Kuala Pilah And Seremban. Why such a small number? Do you have any intention to put it to a larger pool of listeners or was it meant exclusively for a group of people?
'Kalihui demo 1999' was actually an experiment after three weeks forming Pusher. Our friend Atoi was starting out to record bands in his studio,so we offered to be experimented with much help from Tom & Khuzai (bollocks) and also Along Tenggiling. The reason 30 copies were only released is because back then we never thought about pushing things further with the band.After we sold the 30 pcs, then came the intention to spread out more but i was really broke and 2 of our band members had to return back to KL. So the master tape was left till the fungus came to attack.

Can punkrock be delivered only by loud music? If Jaafar Onn sang a pop ballad song with good punk lyrics, do you consider that as punk?
Punk Rock is a beautiful adjective with no structures or direct definition. There was no exact date or precise time of when punk rock came alive and nobody has ever earn any copyright to punk rock. It just happened and it still is. It naturally lives in the souls of many people who are sincere in being themselves without giving a damn bout what others might say. Its just a sacred way of being human by the struggle in making things better day by day. So anybody can be as punk rock as they can, without knowing it themselves. Salleh Ben Joned the poet is so punk rock for me.

I feel that there is too much pressure being imposed on women today. What is wrong being a homemaker? I bet if you can compare the amount of pressure and workload of a homemaker and office worker, the homemaker wins heads down. If you are a homemaker, are you well paid? Who's going to pay for your hard efforts? Is it your husband? In the end, you might have to plan for the family expenditure on a very slim budget!

I salute our mothers and friends who become homemakers and raise good families. They have sacrificed so much and they should get the respect and fair treatment from the society. Their patience is somehow overwhelming.

Sometimes we need to take a glance on our colleagues from another part of the world. Western women regard homemaker as just another career like teaching, secretary, CEO and others. Look at the genius Martha Stewart. She's building an empire by tapping on the homemakers market. The magazines, household items, cooking lessons, television programs and on-line businesses marking the nobleness and importance of homemakers.

I suggest that when the time has come, women should consider working from home as an option. I mean, men too! It saves money, flexible hours, no MC or filling any leave forms and you can monitor your kids and husband activities! You'll have your own earnings and you can afford to live your life to the fullest. Somehow, it's too good to be true. But, if you have the determination, discipline and spirit nothing is impossible. This also reminds me of Mak Busu, my aunt, a successful pineapple tart biscuit supplier. Most of the time the orders reaches 30,000 pieces of tarts during Hari Raya and Gong Xi Fa Cai. It is not seasonal however since she dabbles in corporate gifts too. I think her pineapple tarts is the best I've tasted so far next to my mom but my mom stopped making tarts a long time ago.

So, why not start respecting and appreciate the woman who cook meals and wash your clothes day in day out even when she 's down with flu. Ah! Try to remember the last time your mother / wife was down with fever or flu? Did not the house looked and feel different? You bet! And see who 's struggling to fry an egg on the kitchen stove!



Azliza ayob is a wife / mother / daughter / lecturer and artist.
Forward your comments to **azlizaayob@gmail .com**.
Need more? Log on to **http:/ azlizaayob.blogspot.com**



Martha Stewart with Chef Ismael





The hottest homemakers we have so far...

HOMEMAKERS RULE!

Dear All,

I used to be a homemaker. Cleaning the house, cooking, taking care of my little ones and my husband. My husband and I both are full time artists as well and in between the house chores and all, we find time to earn some ringgit and sen through art workshops, mural projects and a couple of others.

My social life revolves in a small circle. The people in my circle include: Abang Nan the van fishmonger, Kak La, my Andalusia (woman who stays single) neighbour, Kak Ida my neighbour cum the CNN of our kampung, Aunty and Kakak who each own the groceries shop. It is most interesting if you could talk to your neighbours on topics such as what is your lunch menu, what type of diapers that is most economical and rash free, who's the best nanny in the area and we can see the track record on how long she takes care of these children (usually if she can take care of a child from a baby till starting school) and who's monkeys that always terrorize our chickens and damaged our rambutan trees.

Actually, I took after the habits of Miss Marple, the lead character from the indigenous Dame Agatha Christie's murder mystery novels. Miss Marple always said that human psychology is the same everywhere. We can get all the juicy parts of life albeit living in close quarters such as my own kampung. Which is true...but I am not that old spinster who intends to unravel the mysteries of my kampung nor I wish to take Kak Ida's CNN position. What makes me happy is to know that the bits and pieces of the kampung gossips, how to handle people and relate my findings with where my real passion lies – making art.

Today, I happen to join another circle of friends. Since I started lecturing three months ago, I kinda miss my chit chat with my neighbours, exchanging dishes, walking to the groceries shop at 9am to replenish my ciggies and most of all, looking after my darlings.

So, when you leave something behind, some other thing joins you. Now, I am free to go to the ladies without the worry of my screaming kids, eating lunch like 45 minutes instead of just 10, get the chance to put on make up and nice (black) clothes, and also finding kindred spirits like my new colleagues. The topic of conversation also become broader with more info being transferred since we have easy access to the Internet, I started blogging too.

I wonder why when someone (male and female) asks you what is your occupation, and you reply, "I'm just a homemaker..." the reaction most certainly become less interested to continue the conversation. But if you said, "I'm a lecturer / secretary / teacher / personal assistant at so-and-so ..." the mood totally become more exciting. It seems that in this era of technology, women are expected to have their own career or becoming professionals to gain respect from family and peers. Daughters are expected to earn money, get a degree, and contribute to the family, country and so on so forth. Wives are expected to share their salaries (sometimes the breadwinner of the family), take care of the children, house chores, husband's meals, clothes and interests.... the list goes on and on...

What do you think of our independent scene now? Is there anything that you hope to change or improve in the future?
The good thing is the independent scene is growing progressively but in the same time there are some negative vibes growing along with it. Mainly its because of the media and all those big corporations who are taking advantage on the kids. They're exploiting and branding a label for teenagers to buy. The so called "independent scene" has somehow become a product with no soul for kids to consume. Its frustrating to see uniform of kids with the same style and fashion stuck on to "guidelines" on how to stay independent. I just hope to see more and more people speaking out and doing their thing intense with integrity. What i've learned much is even if i fuck the media a gillion times and go smash 1 million of televisions around town, i wont be changing anything and the media monster is still going to haunt all the kids around. So the best thing to do is do what we are doing with all the best and create our own circle of media. "We control the media, dont let the media control you,"-Jello Biafra

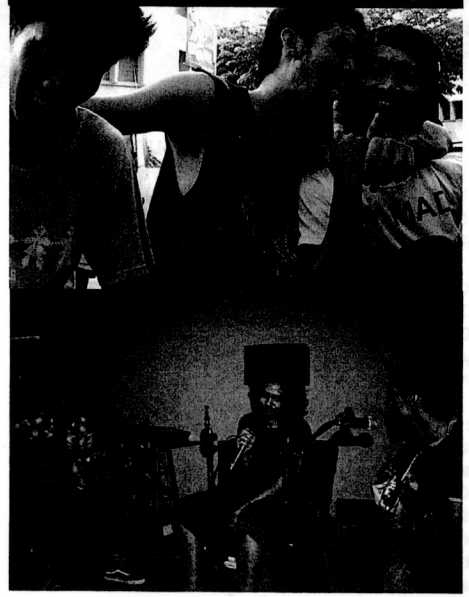
Soalan cepu emas : What do you have to say about Hujan and the issue that has been revolved around it?
Of what i've heard, Hujan has been doing great in their field and thats good for them. In the same time i also heard about the hujan guys being homophobic. Well that sucks but i can never change their mentality by going on and on, saying "Fuck Hujan!". Its been quite sometime,so stop all the whining. Creating controversial issues with hujan will only feed on to their popularity and i'm sure they're enjoying it Theres no point cause the debate has'nt been positive. For me the crowd who listens to hujan is way more important than hujan. Help to educate the crowd is much more better than making sense out of the band. If that doesnt work, then strive to make a much better band than hujan,and then steal the crowd.haha.



Thanks for your time. Any last words or maybe any issue you want to talk about?
Thanks to Editor and kem salam kat your other half.

Stalk them here :
http://myspace.com/pushering
http://dungpeople.kerbau.com/knots
E-mail : monkeyisman@gmail.com





Innerview #006 : ONANI



Alalala ... so so cute, rase nak cubit (pe...

THEY'VE BEEN MISUNDERSTOOD FOR THEIR LIKINGS FOR CROSS-DRESSING. BUT THEY JUST DON'T CARE CUZ WHAT YOU SEE FROM THE OUTSIDE IS SO LESS IMPORTANT THAN WHAT'S INSIDE. ONANI EJACULATING THEIR SPUNK OF TRUTH ALL OVER INNERVIEW'S FACE...

HOW'S ONANI BEEN DOING? ANYTHING YOU LIKE TO SHARE WITH OUR READERS – RELEASES, GIGS, ACTIVITIES ETC.
Hye, my name is John Hafiz. I'm doing the vocals here in Onani. That lovely squeaky voice, it's me.

At the moment, Onani is on hiatus. We have tons of problems on scheduling Onani's activities. Our last gig was Three Chords and The Truth which happened in MCPA, KL. Right now, we are trying to release our brilliantly engineered demo, six raw tracks that we've recorded in 2006. I think we talk about this in every interview. Yet, we produce nothing. It's 'Onani', a masturbation. Afterwards, you just can't recall.

Onani are also planning to come out with tees designed by Saiful Razman. It's still in production process.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU GUYS BEEN IN THE SCENE? HOW YOU GUYS STARTED? DO YOU THINK THAT YOUR PRESENCE CONTRIBUTED ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGE TO THE SCENE?
We had our first gig around October 2006 at Wisma Oh Kong Si (mind the spelling), Penang. You guys can do the math.
The band started as a group of college mates trying to channel out their creativity on music. They played as Agathis before, but due to some problems, they need to form another band. I was in another band, Weareforthebirds. So, we left our bands and teamed up in this new group. It was called Istana Kebakaran. When I joined, they changed the band name to Onani.
I don't think so. We are just a bunch of good looking guys with no talent.

OKAY, I BELIEVE YOU HAVE BEEN ASKED ABOUT THIS FOR MILLION OF TIMES, BUT WE STILL NEED TO RECORD THIS, WHY THE NAME "ONANI"? IS IT ONLY MEANT TO BE PROVOCATIVE OR YOU HAVE OTHER VALID REASONS?
The name was an idea from Wan, the guitarist. Like I've said earlier, we look at the group as a medium to channel our creativity. The process somehow reminds us of masturbation. You squeeze your brain, trying to produce good releases or performances that leads to a satisfaction. On stage, we try our best to come out with things that could make the crowd, at least, put on a smile. The preparation is a masturbation.
I can't deny the provocative reasons, though.

WHAT'S WITH ONANI AND "CROSS-DRESSING"? WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO PROVE?
Our problem is, I'm not so much into music. So, the guys let me add up things that I could do to enjoy myself there. Besides them having to say that I have good clean vocals, they let me wear a dress. My reason, I can't be me on that stage. It must be something different, just to get rid of the stage fright. You create a character for yourself. This might explain the vanity that we project on stage.

DEFINE YOUR MUSIC.
We are influenced by the early Onani so u can say that our music is deep and full of experimental stuff.

ENGLISH OR MALAY LYRICS, WHICH HAS MORE IMPACT IN MALAYSIA? WHY?
Depends on the content and the crowd that you are trying to tackle. I don't know how to elaborate more on this. Seriously. You go choose wisely.

LETS WRAP THIS UP. ANYTHING THAT YOU LIKE TO ADD OR COMMENT? THANK YOU FOR SPENDING SOME TIME WITH US ANSWERING THESE QUESTIONS. WE WISH YOU GUYS THE BEST.
We would like to thank ourselves for making this happen. Without us, there's no Onani.

Thanks to Shuz, our kuli, for editing this interview.

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AUTOGRAPH SPACE :)





