

STITCHED SOUND

Issue #25



Tonight Alive
Man Overboard, Transit
The Young Hearts, Arch Enemy
+ more

Boo!

Did I scare you?

I don't know about you guys, but I had a pretty fun halloween. Spent it at West Edmonton Mall before heading home, going trick or treating and then taking photos.

Is there an age limit to trick or treating? It's just so great and fun. I just love Halloween, but it seems that as each year passes less and less people dress up. That really bums me out.

But on to our issue: I really hope you guys like it! I loved doing all the interviews this month and I think I can speak on behalf of our staff saying that we all loved it. I mean, that's why we're doing this! On a personal note, I love the interview with Avery. It's a must read. She's rather young and filled with so much talent!

Anyway, to our regular readers, thank you for reading our issues. For our first time readers, thanks for checking us out! I hope you enjoy them as much as we love working on them.

Oh, can I say something extra too? We have something REALLY exciting that's going to be happening in 2012. Get stoked!

Cynthia Lam

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THAT'S OUTRAGEOUS

Interview with Max Interview by Cynthia Lam

What is the biggest challenge that you've had to face as a band? How did you overcome it?

The most difficult problem we've had to face as a band would definitely be our recent member changes. There was a lot of unnecessary drama revolving around letting go Tom and Dave but we strongly feel that we made the right decision. Our two new members, Chris and Randy, bring a lot to the table and we've grown very close to them in the many weeks leading up to this tour. We feel really good about it.

What is That's Outrageous all about? Is there a message that you'd like to send through music?

We're all about living life the way you want to. Basically don't take life so seriously. We love to have as much fun as possible all the time and also we want kids to use our shows as an outlet where they can come, be themselves, and be care free.

You're currently on the Outbreak tour. Are there any specific dates that you are excited to play at? Why?

We're really excited for literally every date on this tour. We've never been on a tour of

this scale before, but if we had to pick a date we were most excited for I would have to say Albany...only because its the closest to our hometown.

What is the most craziest antic that you've ever pulled on stage? Did it go the way you planned?

We personally haven't pulled any crazy antics on stage...yet...but on the last day of the Rise Records tour us and Decoder messed with Memphis May Fire throughout their whole set. We moved their stage display in front of their drummer mid-song, danced on them, fondled them. Pretty much anything you could think of. It was a total free for all.

There seems to be a lot of down time between venues. What is your favourite thing to do on your downtime during tour?

World Of Warcraft.

What makes That's Outrageous different from other bands in the music industry?

We feel like we differ from a lot of bands in the scene mostly because we have a different team behind us than most of the

bands in the heavy genre. Our manager also manages Never Shout Never, The Ready Set, The Scene Aesthetic, basically a lot of heavy hitters in the pop industry. We're the only heavy band he manages other than eatmewhileimhot. We feel really grateful for this opportunity to work with everyone at The Working Group MGMT and hope for a bright future with them.

What are your thoughts on illegally downloading music?

We feel at this point in our careers, we don't necessarily care only because it will NEVER end, and it will only give us more exposure! We don't support it, but on the other hand it only helps at this level in our careers.

If you were able to play a show with any artist who would it be?

Ellie Goulding, Skrillex and/or Ke\$ha.

What can we expect from you in the near future?

Constant touring and a lot of sweet surprises!





TRANSIT

Interview with Tim Landers
by Cynthia Lam

What is Transit all about? Is there a message that you are trying to send through music?

Transit is about making and playing sincere music. There are a few messages we are trying to send through our music. Give it a listen. You'll find them.

I understand that you released your new album *Listen & Forgive* this week. Can you tell us about the writing process for this record?

We trapped ourselves in a small, windowless room in a recording studio in Danvers, MA 4 or 5 times a week for a couple of months. We wrote and demoed close to 30 songs. Lots of work, long nights, writing, re-writing, and fun.

While recording *Listen & Forgive*, did you encounter any new challenges in the studio as opposed to the past few times you've recorded?

I would say the record itself was somewhat of a new challenge. For the first time, we found ourselves in a situation where we had expectations to adhere to. I mean, we've always strove to make ourselves a better band with each release. But this time, it

seemed like a few people actually cared. We just didn't want to disappoint anyone, while at the same time make a record we all thoroughly loved.

Which do you prefer - touring or being in the studio? Why?

When I'm touring I want to be in the studio, when I'm in the studio I want to be touring. I love making music and playing music so much that I'm always stuck in a limbo between the two.

What is the most wild tour prank that you've ever pulled?

It is not appropriate to print. There are things I don't feel comfortable typing.

Is there a thing that peeves you off that kids do at shows? What about your favourite thing to see during a show?

Fighting, obviously. It ruins shows, venues, and scenes. No need for it. Favorite thing to see is fun, and people listening. I just want people to listen.

You guys have been a band for almost five years now. What is the single most important thing that you've learned?

Hard work pays off.

If you were to describe Transit to someone who has never heard of you in one word, what would it be and why?

supercalifragilisticexpialidocious, because it has every letter in the alphabet in it. We try to keep it real for everyone, and so does that word for every letter.

What has been the biggest challenge that you've had to face as a band? How did you overcome it?

Surviving with no money, no future, and nothing to look forward to. You just gotta keep at it.

Where do you expect to be five years forward?

Hopefully still doing what I'm doing.

Thanks for the opportunity! Did I miss anything that you'd like to add?

Thanks for having me! Just check out our new record, *Listen & Forgive* please.

ARCH ENEMY

Interview with Angela Gossow
by Bianca Delicata

For The Root of All Evil, you decided to re-record a collection of songs that you've recorded on past CD's. Why did you decide to re-record older songs now, rather than in 2006, for your 10th anniversary as a band?

In 2006 we were constantly on the road, touring for Doomsday Machine. We didn't have time for yet another recording project. We are not a studio band - we are a live touring band. We always wanted to re-record some older tracks to give the back catalog a 2nd life but simply didn't have the time to do this until beginning of 2009 when we actually got off the road for 2 months to get the project done in the studio.

I believe that you have a supporting tour for Khaos Legions in North America coming up this September. Hailing from Sweden, do your American crowd and your Swedish crowds differ in quality, participation, etc?

The Swedish crowd is not as intense as the US crowd.. but within Europe you'll find a lot of countries that match the intensity of the American audience. The art of crowd surfing and throwing a circle pit has spread to our shores as well ;) We do not see ourselves as a Swedish band - Michael and Christopher are British, I am German - but rather as a European band.. And as a touring band, we do not focus on the Scandinavian market but are actually doing very well worldwide. And i can say from 10 years of experience - a metal audience is always intense and passionate. Nobody's trying to chill out at an Arch Enemy show, haha.

Khaos Legions had out-sold all of your other records and became the AE's highest chart topper to date. Back while you were recording the album, did you expect it to overcome your previous albums' success?

We expect us to record another killer album - but when it comes to sales and chart entries, we have no expectations. Not in this day and age. It doesn't really mean much anyway. For every album sold, 10,000 kids have downloaded it for free. What matters is the fan base that comes out to our shows. And that's a growing entity for us. This is all that counts. Playing killer live shows - we live for that!

What do you do on your downtime during tour?

I work in my 'downtime', as I manage Arch Enemy. Michael usually works as well, he handles a lot of press/PR and has a lot of endorsement partnerships going on.. The other guys just chill, hang out, watch a movie, drink a beer, listen to some music, go and check out the city.. easy going stuff.

The cover art for Khaos Legions is yourself and your band members as skeletons holding flags. What's the significance?

The cover artwork is inspired by the French painting 'Liberty Leading The People'. The cover shows the last survivors of the final apocalypse, holding the black flag up high, hopefully leading to a new, better world. The cover shows the different meanings of the word chaos.. 'Khaos' as in the Greek mythology, meaning 'creation out of chaos, a new beginning', but also in the anarchistic meaning of chaos - no government, no rules, starting society from scratch.

Do you have a preferred country or city to perform?

We prefer the places where we can pull heaps of people in, haha.. A packed show is a great show!

"Yesterday Is Dead And Gone" was released as a music video earlier this year. Can you please explain what the meaning behind the video was?

The video and the lyrics are very inspired by the current Zeitgeist - the uprising and revolution going on in North Africa and the Middle East. It shows 'the people' fighting the military/police/government forces. The message is simple, yet very up-to-date: It's time to leave the old world behind us in flames, yesterday is dead and gone, we are ready to start something anew. You can see exactly that happening in Egypt, Libya, Syria, Morocco, Tunisia - just watch the news.

In your opinion, what's AE's biggest accomplishment as a band?

We have been working relentlessly since 2001, never gave up, made it through all highs and lows, never compromised our attitude or sound. We have a very unique sound, you can always recognize it's Arch Enemy. I'd say finding that trademark sound is what most bands strive for.. We have accomplished that. Pure fucking metal!

Thanks for the opportunity! Is there anything you'd like to cover that I missed?

Yeah - we are currently on tour with DevilDriver, Skeletonwitch and Chthonic. Killer line up, all the bands absolutely slay! Come on out celebrate metal with us.





MAN OVERBOARD

Interview with Justin Collier
by Cynthia Lam

What sets Man Overboard different from other bands? How?

We aren't actively trying to set ourselves apart, we're just trying to be ourselves and I hope it is something people find unique.

You recently released a self titled album - describe it in three words. Why would you use it to describe this album?

Cool, I Feel. We love to say "I Feel" haha so I am going with that. We also all like the album and think its cool.. I feel ;)

What was it like working with Steve Klein?

The warhorse? Steve is the man. He really helped us work on a new level and made us bring our A game to the studio.

Did you ever consider self-producing albums? What made you decide to want to work with Steve?

We have self-produced a lot of our demos, splits and EP's at our singer Niks studio, Small Hill Studio. Steve really gets our band, knows and appreciates how we work and just overall meshed with how we wanted to make an album.

How do you decide the order of songs on your albums? Do they just all fit in together?

We had a few different track listings in mind but in the end the one on the album is what we all agreed on, Steve included.

Is Man Overboard a concept album? What message(s) are you trying to send?

It's not a concept album. We are just trying to write songs about our relationships and life experiences. Nothing too complicated, we want stuff everyone can relate to.

What are your thoughts on illegally downloading music? Do you see it being the downfall of the music industry?

I've said it a million times, you can't fight the internet, you have to adapt. There will always be a music industry as long as people have ears. You just have to find the best form to operate in.

How does your self titled show that you've grown and evolved as a band from Real Talk? It had a more concentrated writing process but also showcases some new themes and parts we have new done before, really sad songs, really fast songs, etc.

Man Overboard is classified into an "old school pop punk" genre. Is this what you aimed for when the band first started?

We didn't aim for anything, we were just doing what we were doing and it ended up that way.

What are two bands that you would love to tour with?

Saves The Day and Taking Back Sunday.

Growing up in the Jersey area, how has the local music scene influenced you?

It has greatly, as well as the Philadelphia punk scene. r5productions, the first unitarian church and Philly punk has had a great influence on who we are as a band.

What should we expect from the band in the next few months?

We will be finishing up the Pop Punks Not Dead Tour, touring the north east, touring England, touring America, touring Europe and more!!!

A: check out www.defendpoppunk.com for free music and news!

CURRENTS

When you first started/joined Currents, did you have any goals you wanted to achieve? Have you achieved any of them yet? If not, what steps do you plan to take to achieve them?

Our goal for Currents has always been to get our music out to as many people as possible. Whether it be touring, promoting, or online promotion. Ideally a year from now we would like to be signed to a label. We are all career musicians, hopefully things work out with this project, either way we will all be doing something with music in the future.

Having only been a band for a couple of months, have you seen any differences from where you began up until now?

Things have been consistently steady, were constantly moving. From where we started till now we've accomplished a lot more expected.

For your debut album you had a chance to work with Justin Powell and Kyle Black. What was this experience like?

Writing the EP with both Kyle & Justin was a blast. We had just started writing as Currents & really meshed well. They

really brought out the best in us, the songs all just seemed to fall together.

Currents is a mix of former members of The Body Rampant and Take Notice. For fans of the former bands, how would you say that Currents differs from them?

Imagine if Taking Back Sunday, Paramore, and Bayside had a baby.

You will be releasing your self titled EP on November 1st for free. What made you decide to give it away for free?

Going viral on a massive level with this ep was crucial to us as a band. We felt people would be more likely to check out who we are if they had the opportunity to give it a listen no strings attached.

What are your thoughts on illegally downloading music?

Illegally downloading music I feel hurts the label more than the band making the music. I think as long as you support the bands you download when they come through on tour it's all good.

Do you have any plans for touring in the near future?

We plan on hitting the road throughout the next couple of months to promote our debut ep & playing plenty of local shows.

Where do you expect to be in two years forward?

We've learned expectations lead to disappointment. So, were taking this band day by day making the most out of everything we do.

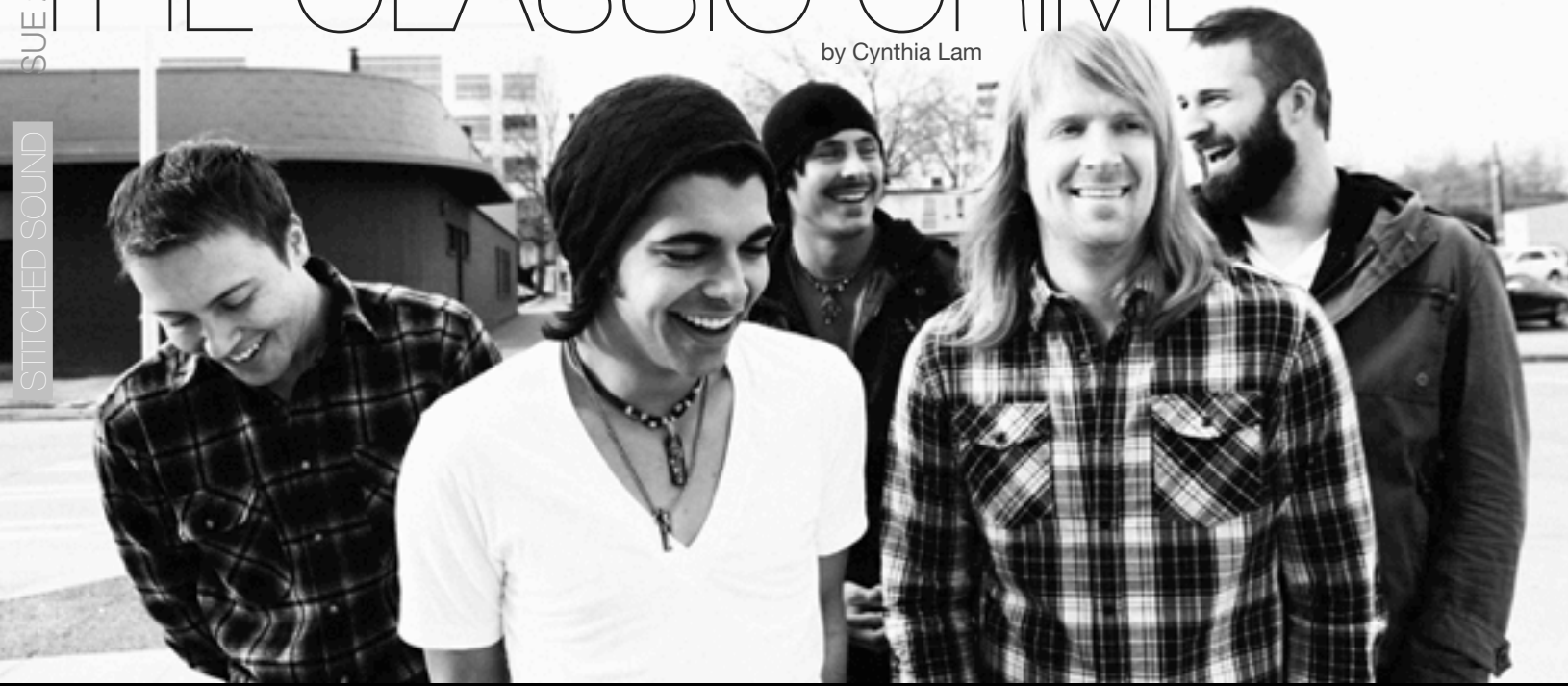
Thanks for the opportunity! Is there anything that you'd like to add?

Just to check out our website www.wearecurrents.com for all our social networking sites & tour dates. Make sure to download our free Currents EP 11/1/11! Thank you for all the support!



THE CLASSIC CRIME

by Cynthia Lam



You've been a band for quite a while now. What would you say is the most important thing that you've learned about the other members of your band?

The most important thing to learn about a band member is how to communicate in a way each individual will be receptive to. Everyone's unique, and musicians are especially emotionally sensitive to tone of voice and word choice (we have very tender egos). Good communication is key to the success and overall morale of any band.

If you were to turn back time to seven years ago, would you have ever expected to be where you are now? Why or why not?

I was young and hopeful and the sky was the limit. I'll sheepishly admit that I expected us to be hugely successful rock stars by now. The truth is we aren't, and when I first gave in to the fact that we might never be "hugely successful" a few years ago I went through a period of great disappointment. Now I've come to terms with our role in the music community, and it's allowed me to write more honestly and without the pressures that come from expected success.

Could you describe The Classic Crime in one word? What is it and why?

Hope. I think our music deals with some rough topics and provides hope for people who are going through some hard times. I've come to terms with "hope" as a greater calling than success or fame or anything else, so I guess I'm happy with that being our goal.

So your last release was in April 2010. Do you have any plans for heading back into the studio and recording?

We have some wonderful plans to record new music in early 2012.

How would you say that you've grown musically since the release of Vagabonds in 2006?

We've gotten older, and with that I feel like our perspective on music has changed some. We've dabbled in some different genres and expanded our abilities in that sense. When we first released Albatross in 2006, we were looped in with the growing trend of "Screamo." Since we've never been a fan of musical trends, we've been pretty interested in branching out and doing some different things. Ultimately, we want to make music that is timeless, that our listeners can come back to time and again for years.

Would you say that your sound has changed drastically? Why or why not?

I don't think it's been drastic, but it has been gradual. We still play power chords with distorted guitars, and I still sing way out of my natural range, so in that sense we're the same band. I feel like it's a bit harder to date our newer stuff, and that's a good thing.

Do you prefer being in the studio or being on the road? Why?

The studio is a treat. The road has so many good things but so many hard things as well. Being away for long periods of time, in a different city every night, you start to feel like you don't belong anywhere. You become sort of marginalized by society, and it's hard to adjust to life when you get back. Also, you don't get to use your creative side, the side that inspired this whole music thing, as much. In the studio, we get to create, which is the thing we love to do. We get to slowly watch songs be constructed, and we get to be a part of something uniquely rewarding and fulfilling.

What is the most important thing that you've learned while on tour?

I've learned a lot. But I must say the most important thing would be probably to watch my tongue. Morale is really important in the trenches, and it's easy to get disheartened and attack each other. As we've matured, we've become a lot better at naming our emotions and building a better framework for problem solving and conflict resolution.

It seems that the "tour life" is hyped up and seen as a glamorous life. It has it's ups, but also it's downs. What do you dislike the most about touring?

As I said before, it has it's plus sides. I mean, we get to play music for people who like us every night. That is a blessing. The tough part is being away from friends and family, living as vagabonds in a different town every night, sometimes driving through the night and not getting much sleep. We also have diagnosed a condition on the road, it usually sets in around 4 weeks, called "Road Madness." You tend to start living without consequence, because every day is groundhog day. It's hard to stay grounded, because you lose the structure and stability that "normal life" can provide. The symptoms can range from a basic lack of hygiene to a general lack of care and respect for yourself and the environment.

How big of a part has social networking sites been with the growth of The Classic Crime?

It's unfathomable. Without the ability to communicate with our fans we would be absolutely nowhere. Our relationship with our fans is made possible only through social networking.

What can we expect from you in the future?

More music, hopefully more good music.



TONIGHT ALIVE

by Cynthia Lam

Growing up, how much of a part did music have in your life?

Music has been in every part of my life. Music has got me through some of the tough times and also marks so many good memories as well. I definitely wouldn't be the person I am today without music.

If you were to turn back time five years ago, would you have ever expected to end up where you are now - being in a touring band and recording in the states?

No way! 5 years ago I was in my bedroom playing guitar pretending I was playing on a stage. This whole experience so far has been so surreal, sometimes I still don't believe its true.

So you're working on recording your debut album in Los Angeles. What has this experience been like for you so far?

Actually we recorded in the summer and just released it here. It was such an amazing experience that taught us so much. We definitely learnt how to record an album! We became better musicians and walked away from the whole experience such a better band.

What is your favourite thing about the States so far?

The extremely cheap priced beer.

Are there any food places that you'll miss when you go back to Australia?

Because a majority of the band is vegetarian and Cameron is vegan we all went to Lotus Vegan a few times and we are going to be stoked to get back there!

You guys will be heading on the Fearless Friends tour in about a week or so. What are you most excited for on this tour?

Playing in all those cities we haven't played in before. The American music scene is so amazing and the kids are all so great over there, we can't wait to get back.

Is there any dates on the tour that you are especially excited to play at?

Probably Seattle for me. I've always wanted to see that city for some reason and Thrice are playing there the same night so i'm hoping to catch their show after we play!

What can fans expect from your set during this tour?

A lot of energy! We have to try and keep up with the heavy bands on the bill.

Can you describe Tonight Alive in one word? What would it be and why?

Bitchez! This is the word we say to each other before we go on stage and psychs us up for some stupid reason haha.

Is there anything that peeves you off about the music industry these days?

The competition. So many bands are always in competition with each other and it sucks because we should all be doing this together to get the industry off the ground instead of fighting constantly between each other. We definitely just try and stay away from it all and just do our own thing.

What can we expect from you in the future?

A lot more touring and hopefully another record.

If you haven't checked us out before our hub for everything can be found on our website.

You released your debut album earlier this month. How has the response been?

It's been amazing! I didn't know what to expect when the album dropped, and I think people were pleasantly surprised when they heard it. We are taking a completely different approach than most bands these days and it feels good.

While writing and recording the album, did you have a specific sound in mind that you hoped to achieve?

Not really. I have spent many years trying to release music that I think will do well. Granted I loved what I was playing, but this is the first time I have released something completely honest with no motive. I just wrote songs and this is how they came out. It is 100% me.

What makes Little Bombs different from other artists/bands in the music industry?

I think what sets us apart is that we aren't doing this to be cool at all. We just want to be us and play music we love. It sounds really vague and cliché, but we are just friends playing music together, and enjoying every second of it. I'm sure as we progress things will become more complicated, but right now, the simplicity of the band is what really makes me happy. It's portrayed in our sound as well.

What is the most important song on the album to you? What was it written about?

Not to be "that guy", but I can't really pick one. The album as a whole has a very consistent set of emotions and message. It basically says, "I am tired of not being true to myself. I feel insecure, burnt out, and just pissed off. It's time for a change."

Where do you find inspiration for lyrics?

Everything I write about is a personal experience. I don't write based on my opinions or my interpretation of others' problems. I just can't do it. I have to write about what I've been through. I'm honest.

Have you ever had to be in a specific mood or place to write music?

Not at all. I can be laying in bed, on the train to work, walking down the street, as soon as something hits my brain, I grab the guitar and get it out. That's where most of my songs come from; sudden inspiration. It's the most exciting part of writing music.

It seems that most musicians hit a "writers block" sometime during their career. What is your remedy?

I usually change what music I am listening to. Lots of musicians, including myself, draw inspiration from their favorite albums. If everything I am writing sounds the same, I change my playlists. I also try to get into a different environment. Simply changing the scenery of where you try to write can make a huge difference.

If you were to describe Little Bombs in one word, what would it be and why?

Honest. I know I have said it before but that is what our band is. We aren't rock-stars. We aren't trying to change the world. We just want to take everything that comes our way and make the best of it. We work our asses off and we don't put up with bullshit. I have spent too much time around people who care about the wrong things and who are in it to make themselves look cool. I'm over it. I just want to play music, speak my mind and party.

Is there a message that you'd like to send through music?

Don't be afraid of who you are. If you're pissed, be pissed! Be pissed at everyone! If you are happy, show it! People try to put blocks on their emotions because they feel the need to censor themselves. I don't get it. If I am upset, you're going to know and vice versa.

What are your thoughts on illegally downloading music?

It's just a fact of life. The only thing bands can do is get better. If you're band is good and people believe in it, they'll buy your record. If you blow but you have ONE catchy song, kids won't pay for it. What's the incentive?

Do you see it being the downfall of the music industry?

Not at all. The music industry isn't falling. It's changing. Record labels are falling. Everyone else is doing alright. Those who can adapt will survive. It's survival of the fittest!

Can we expect a tour in the near future from Little Bombs?

Absolutely. We are trying to stay smart about the road though. We aren't 18 year old kids who live in mom's basement and can afford to go tour for nothing. We have jobs, rent, responsibilities and all that fun stuff. We will hit the road soon, we just want it to make sense when we do.

Please check out the record and let me know what you think of it! I respond to every comment/question.



LITTLE BOMBS

Interview with Kieren by Cynthia Lam

THE CAR PARTY

by Cynthia Lam

ISSUE 25

STITCHED SOUND



What makes Car Party different from other bands that you may be compared to?

Aesthetically we have a girl drummer that throws a few people off but musically I think it's the tightly knitted rhythm section with our big poppy guitars and vocals.

Since your formation in 2009, have all of you grown musically? How?

Definitely, individually and as a whole. Most importantly we've learned how to work from the ground up so acoustically all of our songs can stand on their own so when we play an acoustic show we don't lose any of the feeling and energy. It's also gotten easier writing together we know how everyone works now, it's a lot smoother.

What is one important life lesson that you've learned while being in the band?

Taylor: Patience for sure, you don't always get exactly what you want, not everyone is always on your side. I've definitely learned to not take things so personally and let it roll off my back.

How big of a part does music have in your life?

Not to sound cliché but it IS life; when we're not practicing or writing we're working the social networking sites trying to gain new fans, while we're on the road we're booking our next tour it's all about constant movement with us.

Growing up, did you ever expect to be where you are now - touring and being in a band?

Michael: When I was growing up, I always knew music was what made me happy. All day, every day I'm singing something in my head or out loud. It wasn't until I was in my teens that I realized that what I wanted was to make music with a group of people and be on the road playing shows every night. Since then I've set my mind to doing these things, because I know it's the only thing I want. I'm really lucky to be with a group of friends that want the same thing.

Do you see this as a full time career? Why or why not?

Yes! Honestly there's no other option it's the only thing we're good at and thoroughly enjoy doing.

Your single "Please Me" features Ace Enders. How was this all set up, and what was it like working with him?

Chris: I loved Ace and The Early November for years he's actually one of the reasons I started playing music. I found out Ace had a recording studio set up in Hammononton, NJ and emailed Ace's wife to see if he was taking on any new clients about a month later we were headed up to NJ to do a single in a weekend. Ace really helped develop the sound that we've grown into, you can tell he genuinely cares about the work he produces... It was also fun playing Jenga with his son when he came in to

visit. Going into the studio we didn't plan on having Ace sing we were actually caught in a really horrible snow storm and had to leave ASAP. We didn't have the time to finish all of our harmonies instead of making the trek back to NJ we let Ace finish I mean he's an alright singer, yeah? haha

You also released a new album on August 3rd, High & Low places. Is there a concept behind this album?

Michael: There was no specific concept behind the album but the songs are tied together because they are about different aspects of life that have really affected me like love, loss and family.

Do you have any plans for a full US tour in the near future?

We're really focused on getting to the West coast in the new year, there's a few tours in the works but we can't spill just yet!

Where do you expect to be a year forward? Hopefully touring a lot more, we'd like to be on the road 6 months out of the year.

Is there anything else you'd like to add?

Just to keep tabs on the band we'll be recording a new single in December with Ace and touring throughout the new year we update Facebook and Twitter a lot so be sure to follow :)



Interview with Chadwick by Victor Andrade

HUNDRETH

Your latest album “Let Go” came out recently. How has the feedback been? Are you guys happy with the reception? And are you guys happy of the album that you made?

So far the feedback has been great. People seem to have followed with us on the progression of this album, which is awesome. This is definitely a release we are proud of and stand behind.

Your first single was “Live Today”, but you recently released a video for your song “Remain & Sustain”. The video references the classic movie The Sandlot, and I have to say it’s really awesome. How did you guys come up with this idea? And do all of you love The Sandlot?

We all love that movie and were in the van one day talking about how each of us resembles a certain character and then we had the idea to do a video based around it and that's where it came from. It just came from a van talk, which seems to be where the best ideas come from for us.

Your sound is melodic hardcore. How did you guys come into this genre? Who are your biggest influences as a band?

We have a really broad range of influences

from early punk to american country to hip-hop to Sinatra and everywhere between. As far as our particular sound, we love the aggression and emotion of Shai Hulud and Strongarm, mixed with some more modern influences like Modern Life Is War. We just aim at creating something intense, aggressive, emotional, and meaningful.

Do you guys have any tours coming up that you’re excited about? And do you guys have plans to tour out of the country anytime soon?

There are talks of Europe in February right now with some cool bands. It's all in development stages right now, but we hope to tour out of the country a good bit on this record cycle.

If you could go on tour with any bands, who would they be?

The Smiths, Ramones, Johnny Cash, Foo Fighters just to name a few

What’s your favorite tour memory? Any crazy pranks that you remember?

We flipped our trailer in Oregon once. Hit a patch of ice and went sliding. That's all I can really think of right this second. Any other store I could dig up would probably involve

fireworks and almost burning something down.

Are you guys writing any new music yet? Or are you just going to settle with “Let Go” and tour this album for a while until writing new material?

We aren't writing full songs at the moment, we are always writing interludes to play live and transitions and all of that, but as of right now we are focusing on the new songs on "Let Go".

What’s the hardest challenge you’ve had to overcome as a band? Did it make you guys stronger?

Giving up jobs, college, future plans, relationships, normal life to get in the van and contribute to a world of music we believe in. The rewards of touring far outweigh the sacrifices made to do so. I think we can all agree on that.

What advice would you have for bands trying to make it?

Don't quit. Be real. Don't follow the trends, do what you love and don't care who likes it or not.



by Catherine Khom

THE YOUNG HEARTS

What brought you guys together to form the band, The Young Hearts?

Edris: Connor and I have been playing in bands for years and we finally met Phillip and Ryan and things just clicked I guess.

How do you describe your band's sound? Have you ever felt the need to sound a particular way?

Phillip: I guess pop rock is the closest way to describe our sound and no, there's no bubble in which we are constricted when it comes to our sound or the songs we write.

On the band's social media sites, it is covered with "New Everything 10/20" releasing two songs, "Just Stay" and "Suddenly (You & Me)," what was the process like recording these songs and what are the songs about?

Phillip: It was fast, we only tracked for three days with the genius Dan Parker at Valor Studio and the songs are about past loves and future beginnings.

If you could collaborate with anyone to do a remake version of a song, who would that, be and what cover would you love to remake and why?

Ryan: Old Blues song with Dan Auerbach from the Black Keys.

What were some inspirations you had along the journey of songwriting?

Edris: Just life in general. Going in and out of relationships.

What do you think of bands who feel the need to talk behind other bands back? Do you believe those bands who act like that end up breaking up?

Connor: I see that as cheating your way up in the music industry.

Phillip: What ever they need to do to feel important is all their prerogative, and yeah I feel those bands tends to break up because they kinda have it handed to them rather than them putting their blood sweat and tears into the music.

Have you ever considered yourself doing something else besides being involved in music? Describe how much music has influence you growing up.

Connor: Yes, I grew up a skateboarder and played drums as well, then when I got into middle school, I was all into basketball and the "baller" stage, and I finally was just like what am I doing.

In the songwriting process, if we went behind the scenes of it what would it be like and what are some odd inspirations that led to a song or an idea?

Connor: Inspirations can be from anything. I mainly get inspired from other artists and other music. Listening to music in general inspires me!

Based from Tempe, Arizona where most bands originate from, did you ever have any doubts along the journey of forming a band or second thoughts?

Connor: Everyone gets doubts and discouragement from time to time. But if you really want it you'll get over those insecurities quickly!

Everyone has dreams and goals that try to pursue at a young age, looking back what was the age you realized that music is your passion to the age you are now? What are some memories or experiences helped influence you to the love for music?

Edris: A big influence on me growing up was Billie Joe Armstrong and Elvis Presley. I was obsessed as a kid, haha.

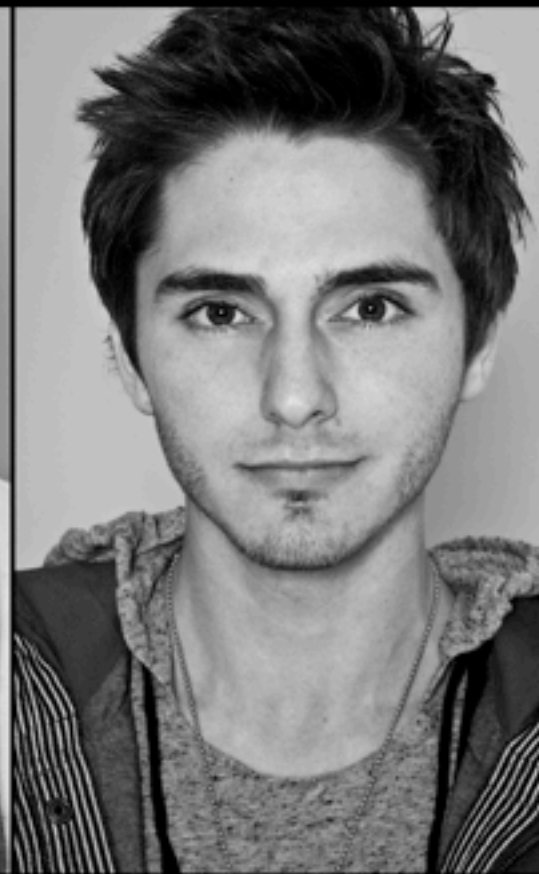
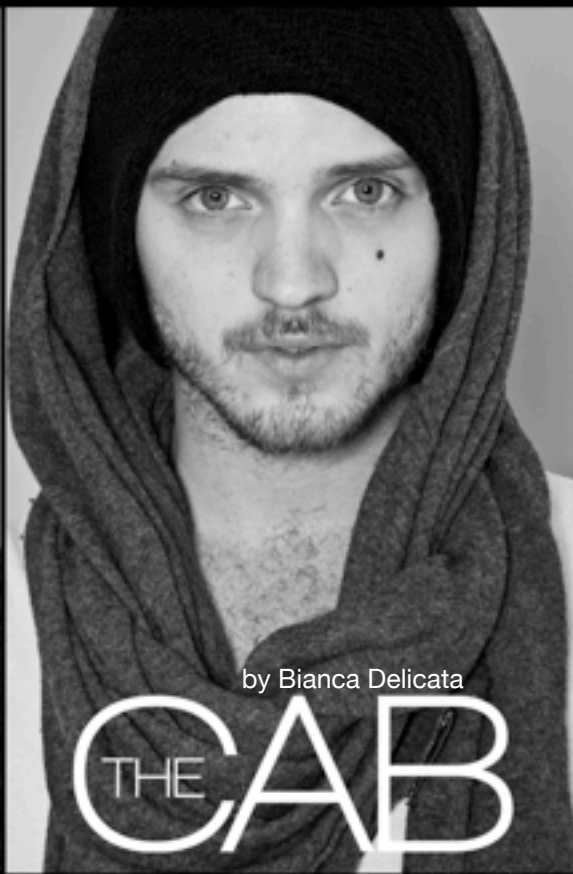
Ryan: When I was about 10, I got my first guitar and saw Van Halen live so that would pretty much decide it for any ten year old.

Connor: Seeing some of my brother's first shows really inspired me to keep at what I want to do. Especially seeing where they are now.

Phillip: Influences on music are my dad who was either playing or listening to music all the time, or Blink 182, my childhood idols.

What are some news you can share with us for what is upcoming for the band?

Phillip: Well, we are recording again later this year!! We are booming a mini tour, so look out or those dates, and come to the shows they are a guaranteed a good time, and download our EP for free, that's right free!!!!



by Bianca Delicata

THE CAB

Is there a specific theme that represents SS or does the album cover multiple topics?

On symphony soldier there definitely are a lot of different topics. However, they all do fall under the term "Symphony Soldier" and what being a soldier is to us. This album is about fighting for love and about fighting for what you want and believe in. I can confidently say that every single song on this album is under that category and shares that common fight.

I understand that you had multiple preorder packages in support of the new album. Did any fans preorder the "Colonel" or "General of the Army" packages? Did you presume that anyone to preorder them?

The really expensive ones were definitely more of us joking around, but if anyone paid for them and wanted them enough we would still definitely do it no matter how crazy they are. A few of the bigger packages did get bought though. We get to write a song for a fan and also give out personal guitars and ipods etc. It was really fun for us to do and it was a great way to connect with our fans and give them a unique opportunity. My wrist still hurts from writing lyrics though for everyone!

Hailing from Las Vegas, Nevada, the area is full of talent and inspiration. How did The Cab distinguish itself from all the other upcoming artists and bands?

We don't really think about other bands. We do we do and create the music that we want to create and then just hope amazing things follow. As an artist you have to stay true to yourself and believe in yourself. If you do that, other people will follow. I honestly believe that. just have to work hard and do your own thing.

On Twitter not to long ago, Alex D. had tweeted that he had exchanged a few words with Justin Timberlake to collaborate. How is to possibly collaborate, let alone speak, to one of The Cab's biggest inspirations? Also, have you discussed any any further motives with the collaboration?

It was a dream come true. I taught myself how to sing by singing along to Justin's work. I cannot wait to possibly get in. It all comes down to timing. We tour a ton and he is super busy. whenever it ends up happening though, I can promise that it will be worth waiting for.

Do you have any musical background before The Cab?

Nothing other than singing along to cd's in cars with my dad or singing into a mirror.

The Cab was my first actual band that played shows and had a fan base. I was in a band before it playing guitar but I got kicked out before ever even leaving the garage.

You kick off a short tour with Simple Plan, Marianas Trench, and Forever the Sickest Kids in the end of October. Will you be doing a follow-up winter tour to stop by other cities you didn't reach on the Simple Plan tour?

December will be filled with a bunch of radio shows. Hopefully of places that we missed on the Simple Plan tour. we are also going to be touring all year next year including a headlining tour which is going to be great. We can't wait to play for our fans and to play more songs off of our new album, tracks that we haven't gotten to play yet.

Thanks to our fans. They're incredible. I love our little soldiers.



LEEK AND THE WAR WICK TRAGEDY

by Bianca Delicata

I understand that you're currently working on a new album to release in March 2012. Can fans expect a change of mood from *Take The Word With Your Smile* to the upcoming album? Will you be experimenting with any different genres or instruments?

Well this album is being created to express life in a musical journey so there will be many different types of sounds & genres on there & i am taking a few songs off the *Take the world with your smile / Live & Let Love* EPs & re doing them plus another crazy 17 or so songs all mixing from classical to psychedelic to Alternative to Soundscape. Instrumentation wise I shall be using a lot of different things such as more percussion, feedback controlling, organs, sitars & many other experimental sounds.

Did you have any troubles or concerns whilst writing the new record?

Well only concern at the moment is cutting the album down, I was even thinking about creating a triple album but thought i better just do a double for now.

What initially was your first instrument you picked up and played?

First instrument i picked up & played would have been..... bass guitar then shortly after that I moved onto an Eelectric & when I started to feel more of the music picked up the acoustic & tried creating beauty within sounds.

What can fans expect to get out of one of your shows?

Watch a man lose himself with artistic freedom on stage.

When did you decide to take up this job for advocating depression and suicide awareness?

I don't really think I decided to do it, it's just something that seemed to happen i feel its a very important matter suffering from it from myself & would like fellow people with it to know they're not alone & ill do everything in my power to express that & help.

How would you describe your music to someone that's reading this now, but hasn't heard of Leek & The War Wick Tragedy?

Artistic Freedom / Sound Sculptress.

Were there any local bands who have influenced you in a big way?

Well local bands no not really, I tend to look back in history as I feel thats when music was at its most purest & beauty, but with that I don't really have influences within my sound as I try to create my own type of music & create my own sounds within how im feeling at the time of creation.

Do you have any pre-show rituals that you do? Or things to do to get you pumped up?

A Cigarette, Gin & eat some honey.

Thanks guys! Is there anything else you'd like to say before finishing this off?

Hope to see people come along to our shows & thanks my lovely manager Lisa Willows from Rawr Music for controlling our chaos ;)

AVERY

by Sarah Lozano

At what moment in your life does you realize that you wanted to do music?

When I was 10, I decided to take an acting class. There was a girl taking voice lessons in the other room, and I could hear her the whole time. I guess it sounded like a lot of fun to me, because I signed up for singing lessons as soon as I got done with my class. That's when I started actually getting into singing, but before that, I had listened to the band Green Day a lot and always imagined myself rocking out on stage like they do. I think I was always meant to sing though. I had tried every single sport out there, tried all different sorts of activities, and singing just seemed to feel right.

Who are you top musical influences?

I have so many influences, I listen to all types of music. Green Day is who really inspired me to start singing though. Also bands like Paramore, Simple Plan, Yellowcard, Boys Like Girls, Katy Perry...

What is your favorite song you've ever written? What makes that song so special to you?

I would probably have to go with "Go Screw Yourself". I really do feel there is something special about that song. I've had a lot of people write to me, and tell me how empowered that song makes them feel. When I'm on stage, singing that song; I definitely feel like I'm singing that song to a few certain people; and when I'm up there, watching the crowd jump around and

scream the chorus with me...that just makes it all the more empowering. It really makes me feel like NOBODY can bring us down; especially when we are all united like that, singing that chorus loud and proud to anyone that has ever tried to bring us down.

Can you tell us what's the story behind your latest single "Go Screw Yourself"?

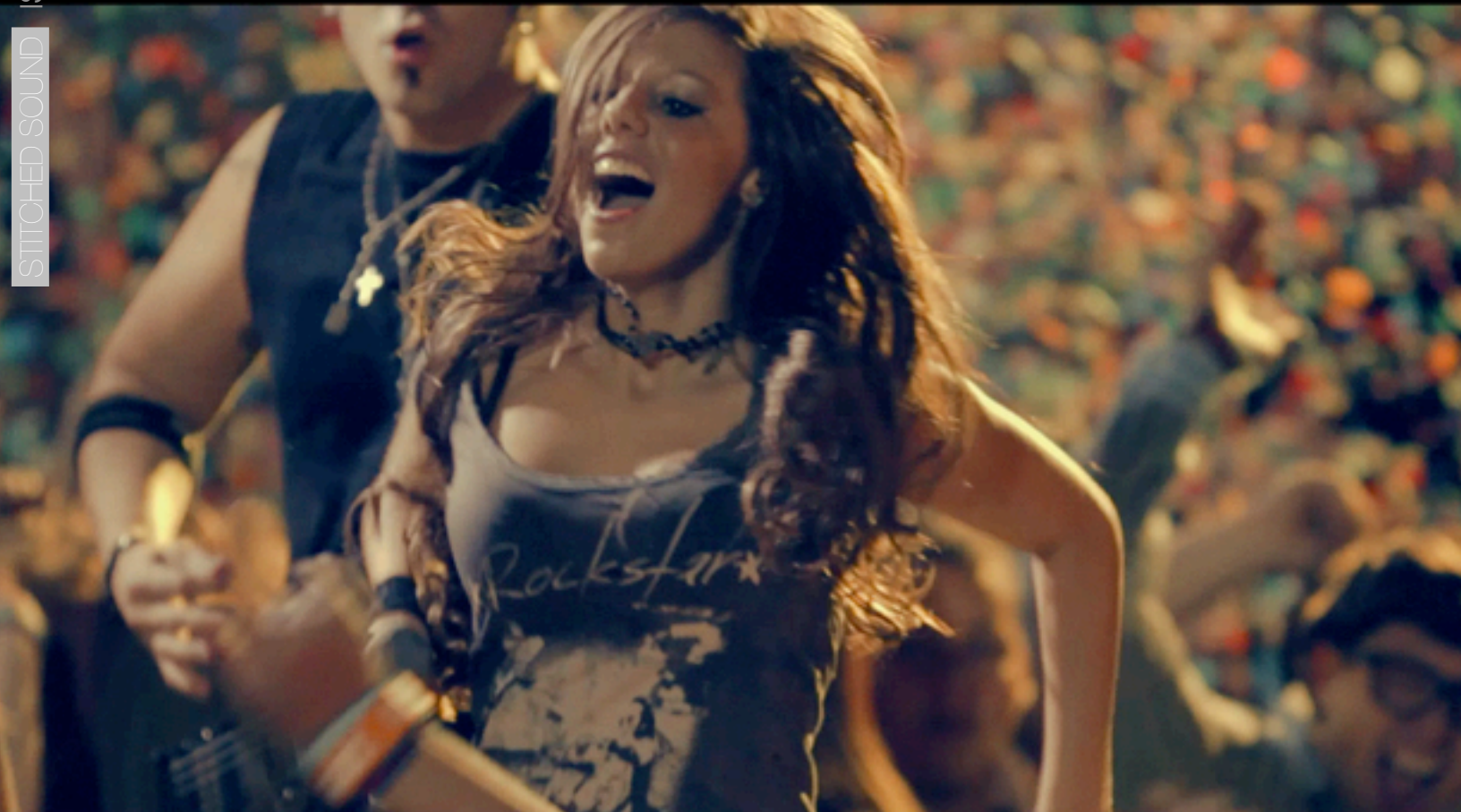
Well, GSY isn't just about one particular story...it's about quite a few different stories, and a few different people. In my life, there have been a few guys that have really done me wrong, and kids that were pretty cruel at school. I wrote the song with Dan and Leah Haywood, and while we were writing, we all thought it was a cool concept people could relate to; because everyone has someone they want to sing this song to.

You're signed to Universal Records, how big of an honor is it for you to be on that record label?

It's awesome, I'm lucky to be signed by Universal. There are so many amazing artists signed to my label as well. I'm also really lucky to have been signed by Chris Anokute, who is the one that signed Katy Perry.

continued >>





You were discovered through YouTube. How do you think YouTube has revamped the music industry?

Well, Justin Bieber was found off of youtube, and look what just one simple cover video led to! He's now the biggest star in the world. I did a comedy video on youtube, and had a small solo; and the right person saw it, by accidentally clicking on some video off to the side. I think now that everyone has seen how incredible youtube really is, a lot more industry people are searching on youtube to find the next big star. I think it's going to be the reason for many new artists in the music industry!

What is the biggest compliment you've gotten so far in your music career?

A few people have actually told me that my voice reminds them of Alanis Morissette, which is an awesome compliment because she has such a cool voice, and was so successful.

What is the best part of doing music for you?

The best part of doing music for me....probably looking around as I'm performing and seeing thousands of people screaming out the words, jumping around, and having a good time. Or that special moment during the slow songs, when I really get to connect with the crowd during the song. And even after the shows, getting to meet tons of different people. There are those people that will tell you your music changed their life, and really helped them through a tough time...and that really makes my day; knowing I'm helping somebody else throughout all this.

You've got a pretty awesome style, how would you explain the clothes you wear?

Thanks! Well, I'd say it's different for sure! I love wearing tights with crazy patterns, and then just throwing different clothes together. It's edgy, but at the same time

it's also girly! Like sometimes I'll wear a dress that isn't that that out there, or edgy, but pair it with doc marten boots, crazy black tights, add some cool bracelets, and wrap some black lace around my hand like a glove, and suddenly it becomes me.

What might we be seeing in the future from Avery?

Well, you'll be hearing a new song and music video from me this year! Also, stay tuned, because we are working on tour dates and such! And my album will be released sometime next year, so look out for that too! But definitely, you will be hearing new music from me before the album drops. :) Lots of exciting things to look forward to, I'm pretty dang excited!!

BRIDGE THE BORDERS

by Sarah Lozano



Did you really know what sound you wanted when you started doing music?

When Joe, Loucas, and Tim first started out just jamming and learning to play their instruments, an inexplicable amount of Blink-182 was covered. The three were always huge fans and even adopted similar stage banter and sense of humor. In terms of forming a sound, we just wanted to put the same emotion into our writing as our idols did. Catchy melodies, huge choruses, an upbeat tempo, and emotional, meaningful lyrics are put into every song.

What do you think makes Bridge the Borders different than any band out there?

In a culture where music is everywhere and nearly everyone and their brother has at least attempted to pick up a guitar and play a song it is really easy for the true emotion of music to be lost in translation from the writer to the audience. Bridge The Borders is different in the sense that we want our music to not just be catchy and easy to listen to, but to be meaningful to the point that the listener can feel the emotion in every beat, every word, and every strum throughout each song.

How long have you guys been playing individually?

Joe has been playing 6 years, Tim and Loucas almost 3 years and Mike has been playing for 10 years, but the past 4 years have been much more serious.

Who are a few of your biggest inspirations?

Tim: Mark Hoppus, Max Bemis of Say Anything, and Jesse Lacey of Brand New.
 Joe: Max Bemis of Say Anything, Claudio Sanchez of Coheed and Cambria, John Mayer, Nick Thomas of The Spill Canvas, Rivers Cuomo of Weezer and of course the masterminds behind Blink-182.
 Loucas: Blink-182, the Sideburns of Justin Pierre of Motion City Soundtrack, The emotion of Joe Boynton and Transit, the honesty of Dan "Soupy" Campbell of The Wonder Years and the heart of Matty Arsenault of A Loss For Words
 Mike: The Rev from A7x, The Beatles, John Bonham, Travis Barker, and Zac Farro

If you could play with any band in the world who would it be?

Blink 182 and Paramore

What's the best part about being in a band?

Best part of being in a band: We have met the most INCREDIBLE people that we never would have met if we weren't involved in music; From other musicians with great success to no success; from people who work at promotion companies to clothing lines, producers and sound engineers, we have met truly great people. We had the pleasure of working with Rob Freeman and Greg Strauss from the Pilot Studios, Johnny Tokarczyk the King of Socially Awkward Clothing company, and Stefanie Murphy who has been a great help to us. We can't thank them enough!

Is the music industry talent or luck?

Bands are to the music industry as a man is to a woman. You go in blindly with some mildly fake confidence and attempt to make your best first impression by demonstrating what you have to offer, which in both cases is usually not good enough, but you try anyway and pray she isn't too stuck up and doesn't laugh in your face. Then you cross your fingers and hope that the timing is right and with a little bit of the right stuff and a little bit of luck she'll take a chance on you and go on a date. Then from there you just have to focus on NOT F@#%ING it up.

What are Bridge the Borders three main goals in music?

Bridge The Borders is going to write the music we love to write. We're going to play our hearts out on every stage whether we play in front of 2 people or 2,000. We're going to do this for as long as possible because this is what we love to do. We love each other, we love our friends and families who have supported us, and we love our fans who have been nothing short of perfect to us. Our goals are simple, write a word, play a song, and make a smile. Boom-Roasted.



What is The Handshake Affair all about? Is there a message that you'd like to send through music?

We're five guys from Germany and we're just trying to play music that we love and make people having a good time while they listen to it. While making music we have the great opportunity to make new friends and get to know new people which is an amazing benefit of being in a band. There is no particular message that we're sending through our music so i'd say that's basically it.

I understand that you released your debut album recently. Are you happy with the feedback that you've gotten so far?

Yeah, we're super stoked on our debut album! We feel like it's the best music we've ever written and we never felt more comfortable listing to a recording result as on this record. So far the feedback has been great and we wanna say thanks to everyone who has already bought a copy of the record. This really means a lot to us!

Did you face any new challenges while recording this time as opposed to previous times?

Oh yeah, for this record we decided to leave Germany and fly over to the US to record it there. And this was the best decision ever! I would say those weeks in North Carolina definitely were one of the best ones we ever experienced as a band! We had such a great time working on the record and enjoying the country. We worked together with Drew Fulk at

Think Sound Studios and he's an amazing guy, he made us sound the way we wanted to sound on the album and had a really outstanding positive impact on the record. And he and his engineer Evan both became really good friends of us. For us personally it was the first time as a band that we felt we're 100% taken seriously as musicians and it was great to experience having time to work on a record for several weeks in a row. I'd do it again anytime!

What inspirations did you have while writing the lyrics for this album?

Lyrically it's not a concept album but I wrote pretty personal lyrics about different topics a human being has to handle with everyday. When all those topics and "areas" come together they form the person you are, so if you're trying to work on a certain problem or issue in your life, then it automatically effects you as a whole person and in the best way it has a positive effect everywhere in your personal life as a human being. Or if a problem overwhelms you somehow, then it effects every other feeling or behavior of your life. And then you have the feeling this negativity is just everywhere! That's why we called the record "I Am Everywhere".

Do you have a favourite song on the album? What is it about?

That's a hard one. I really love listening to the album in a whole. But if I had to pick one song it would choose the second song on the album called "Rumblebum" cause this song kicks off with such great energy. Even Ricos drum fill at the beginning still gives me chills. And then the

song develops to a very intense melodical choir part at the end. I love this song cause it has both of those elements which i think the band stands for. And it's really fun to play it live!

What is one thing that peeves you off about the music industry?

One thing that really annoys me is the lack of community in the music scene today. Sometimes you get the feeling that bands only have the goal to be better than another band, or they think they can judge another bands outfit or style or they just wanna get more likes on their Facebook page. I mean, i know that is in the nature of all humans to become jealous on things others have or do, but that's just not what music should be about.

What does the future hold for The Handshake Affair?

We have exciting things coming up in the next months. We're trying to play as much as we can since we released the record and since we have a brand-new live set for it. We will do a longer UK run in november with a band we're good friends with and early next year we'll finally do some more Germany dates to support the record in our country. So we basically try to tour as much as we can.

Thanks for the opportunity! Is there anything else that you'd like to add?

Thank you for the interview! Make sure to pick up our debut album "I Am Everywhere" on iTunes, online stores or at shows and we'd love you forever!



Transit *Listen & Forgive*



While this is Transit's most impressive release, there are certain flaws on *Listen & Forgive*. This is very clearly a breakup record as a result, the way listeners interpret these lyrics might change on a week-to-week basis. This album might not have some of the lasting power it has for other records. While the album is diverse, from the upbeat jams to the acoustic "Skipping Stone," Boynton's vocals are so consistent that there is an underlying sameness to these tracks. The record never becomes repetitive at all, but it comes to that point.

by Juliette Chagnon



Lights *Siberia*



by Bianca Delicata

Lights' sophomore album, *Siberia*, is a sign of maturity and growth for the young Canadian singer. Lights experiments with new directions that draw a greater fan base. *Siberia* deals with different aspects of music compared to *The Listening*; Lights associates less with the mainstream stereotypical sound, but more so the singles that are constantly blasted in bars and clubs.

The newly released album left me astonished. I was never a fan of Lights, until this assignment came about. Right off the bat, "Siberia" is a hip rocking, attitude-filled song. It's definitely an advancement from her debut release. "Everybody Breaks A Glass" dips back into her older sound, from *The Listening*, but with an edgier twist. The hypnotic beats and rhymes of Holy Fuck and Shad create a bridge and bond between the listener and the meaning. "Suspension" is a prime example of the experimentation risks Lights took on *Siberia*; dubstep is incorporated into the track, as well used on "Fourth Dimension". The mood of the album changes as "Fourth Dimension" begins. I leave this track on repeat; all I imagine is a dark path, with a unsettling and eerie fog surrounding my ankles. Lights' chilling vocals creates the perfect atmosphere for the song. "Day One" completes the album with nearly nine minutes of complete instrumental music.

Lights finishes the album with nothing left to say but a fusion of her experimental electric piece. I am thoroughly impressed with the sophomore album. She's left a positive impact on my opinion with her chilling vocals and the maturity growth she's shown.



After two studio albums, and two EPs, **Mayday Parade** has made a come back in the pop/punk scene. Hailing from Tallahassee, Florida, Mayday Parade has released their third studio album self-titled, *Mayday Parade*. The album was produced by Zack Odom and Kenneth Mount, who both produced *A Lesson in Romanticism*. Since the 2005 release of *Tales Told By Dead Friends*, the band has made quite the name for themselves in the pop/rock genre. After a reckless year of touring all over the world, the band put time aside to write for the album. Mayday Parade has yet again left people speechless with their ability to write flawless songs about vulnerability and love, without repeating themselves over and over again. The band sticks to their old sound with distinctive vocals written for teenagers all over the world. Over all, this album has yet to leave my headphones. Mayday Parade keeps it real with their well-known guitar riffs, and sing-a-long like songs such as "I'd Rather Make Mistakes Than Nothing At All", "Stay", and "Without The Bitter The Sweet Isn't As Sweet".

by Jenna Young

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All the bands, managers, publicists, and labels that we've worked with in this issue.

And also to all of you who are reading this!

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