

STITCHED SOUND

Issue #10



featuring

The Word Alive

Let's Get It, The Swellers, The Scenic, As The Sky Burns,
FIVEOHfirst, The After Party, and more!

10th issue!

Let's be honest for a second here. When Stitched Sound first started I didn't expect us to get past the three month mark, seeing as the last few attempts to revive it didn't go through too well. But, this time I knew I wanted to keep it alive, and well, luckily with the help of many wonderful people this was accomplished! So here we are at our 10th issue mark in the timeline and this is just amazing to me. Only to me? Okay. I guess I just never expected us to come this far, but we did, and I'm so happy about this.

These past two weeks have been crazy, I'm not going to lie I slacked off a bit but then rushed to get everything together. Crazy things have just happened, and with my birthday just last week and all I got too caught up in the moment. But I did do my best and really worked hard to get this out on time.

I am extremely proud of everything we have accomplished. I have nothing but thanks for anyone who has helped us along the way, and everyone who reads our issues, because you're what keeps us fueled.

Along with this - I'd just like to add that The Word Alive's new album Deceiver is coming out on August 31st, 2010 and you need to definitely check it out.

Stitched Sound is an online magazine that brings you the news about tomorrow's bands as well as your favourite artists. We do this through interviews, reviews, updates, our issues, and photography. We want to keep you updated with what's going on in the fast blooming music industry. Whether it be through an interview or an update we strive to let you know what you need to know.

We have a Twitter, and Facebook. Links are on our site if you click on Contact. It'd be great if you guys were able to help us promote Stitched Sound.

Whether it be good or bad, we always appreciate feedback. It helps us know what we should change, or what you enjoy so we can continue bringing this to you. Send it to cynniephotographs@gmail.com or stitchedsound@googlemail.com

Cynthia Lam

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Interview with Joe

How did you meet the other members of Let's Get It and decide to start a band?

We were in bands together previously that used to play shows together all the time, we were all friends and just decided to start jamming together, then we eventually took it more seriously.

When you first started, did you expect to accomplish as much as you have now?

We set a lot of goals when we first started out, a lot of which became realized, but there are more that we are still shooting for.

You are currently on tour with Stephen Jerzak, Call The Cops, and Plug In Stereo. How has the tour been so far?

This tour has been amazing, great music but even cooler people. This is how touring should always be. Readers should definitely check out all these bands.

Is there a message that you're trying to send through music?

Believe in believing, and that you can accomplish anything you want to, the power is in yourself.

What is one word that would describe the overall sound, and members of Let's Get It?

Imaginative

What is the writing process for Let's Get It like? Is it collaborative?

The songs come about in a number of different ways, basically any way you can imagine. Wherever there is inspiration, ideas can be found.

What was your favorite track off Digital Spaces to record?

"To Catch a Snipe," it's definitely one of the more creative efforts on the album, which is a side of us we wanted to get across early on.

Is there a song on the album you wish to play live that you haven't yet?

There are a lot of songs off the full length that we haven't played live, we want people to hear them as soon as possible.

What makes Let's Get It different from other bands?

Let's Get It consists of: Joe, Kevin, Christopher, Taylor and Tyler. Our number one goal is to make our music completely reflective of who we are. So in that respect, there can be no other Let's Get It.

Have you ever played "Duck Duck Grey Goose" and "Do Not Disturb" on Tap Tap? What were your results like?

We aren't good enough at tap tap to actually unlock the songs haha.



Interview by Cynthia Lam



SCIENCE FICTION THEATER

Interview with Mike Jimenez

What were some of the hurdles you faced personally or as a band to get where you are today?

The main thing we struggled with early on was putting together a band to perform live. Matt, Artie, and myself played most of the instruments on the album and old demos so we had to find some musicians to fill the shoes. Our friend Brian was playing drums with us during the City Saints EP sessions and he did a great job while he was with us. Brian recorded a few of the drum tracks on the full-length album and then I finished the rest of them. By the time the album was finished Brian was no longer in the band so we searched for a new drummer and a 5th member to play keys. We knew Jojo from his previous band Hopefield and about 6 months earlier SFT and Hopefield toured together (The City Saints Tour). We always liked the way Jojo played drums and after Hopefield split up he joined SFT almost instantly. Jojo kept telling us about this guy he knew who was a multi-instrumentalist. Jojo insisted that we audition him to fill the 5th member slot. Jeremiah was the multi-instrumentalist and after a couple auditions we asked him to join the band. Since we've had our full line-up it feels like the band is starting to blossom to its full potential. I think the reason for that feeling is that we're no longer held back by what we can, or can't, do. There was always discussions in the studio regarding how we'd pull something off live as a 3 or 4 piece band. We haven't had one of those discussions in a while.

In your interview with AbsolutePunk.net last year, you mentioned that your band's name was derived from a line in a movie. Do you often use films and/or other outside sources as inspiration for your music or do you focus more on an interpersonal approach?

Yes. Often times I'll see a film or hear a song that inspires me. It's not on purpose it just happens.

What's your songwriting process? Is the music created before or after the lyrics and how?

They are usually created simultaneously. Most of our songs happen by accident. I'm at my home making noise and I'll hum a melody over a random chord progression. When the right accident happens I record it immediately and start writing lyrics on whatever I can find. Usually napkins.

How much touring have you done since 2006?

We haven't done a lot of touring. We did a 2 week west coast run with Hopefield in 2006. Spent all of 2007 recording an album that got scrapped. Spent all of 2008 recording our album that we didn't scrap. Since the albums been out we've played up and down California and done a handful of out of state shows.

So far, what has been your most memorable show?

We played at the House of Blues in Las Vegas a few months after the album came out. After the show we were promoting our band in a casino. We went to hand out a sampler to a woman who responded "If it ain't hip-hop I don't want it!".

Had any of you been in bands prior to SFT?

Yes. Jojo was in a band called Hopefield and I was in a band called Rufio.

If you were forced to listen to one genre for the rest of your life which one would you choose?

Hall and Oates.

Can you name a few bands with a similar sound to Science Fiction Theatre?

People have compared us to these artists/bands. I don't understand the comparison with some of them. Dr. Dog, Jimmy Eat World, Ryan Adams, Matthew Sweet, Elvis Costello, Coldplay, The Smiths, Ken Andrews, Sunny Day Real Estate, Ben Kweller

As a band where do you want to be within the next couple of years?

Hopefully we'll have made another album or 2 and hopefully some people enjoy them. Also, I plan on being rich on a yacht surrounded by super models.

What can fans expect from SFT in the future?

We've been busy recording new material for the last 4 months. It looks like we're going to release one of them as a single on Sep. 3rd or 7th. It's working title being "Broken is Art". It was recorded on 2-inch tape in about 6 hours, the way most of my favorite records were done. We're planning on releasing a song or two once a month starting in September. Thanks for including us in your zine!

Interview by Dannielle Corey



AS THE SKY BURNS

Recently in the music scene, we've seen many bands that are the same in terms of their musicality and image. How does As The Sky Burns differ from the rest of the other acts in today's scene for those particular two?

We just do our own thing. We really love playing heavy music, but at the same time we don't want to dull it down with too many breakdowns, like many bands seem to be doing. Many bands in the genre nowadays seem to be in it to look cool, to socialize, or to get money, but that's not what we're about at all. We just simply love playing music, and none of us will ever stop. As far as image goes, we just are who we are. We aren't going to dress up or put on an act for people. We just dress and act how we do everyday.

What do you want fans to take away from your music?

We want people to be able to connect to us through our music. As a lyricist I write how I feel, and those feelings almost anyone could relate to. As far as our live show goes, we want the audience to feel like we are up there for the right reasons, not for money or fame, so every time we play a live show we leave it all on stage.

Where does the name As The Sky Burns originate from?

Our bass player, and band founder Terry Moore came up with the name. It was a part in a book he was reading and it just kind of stuck as our band name. The name was already set before I had joined the band also. Right now we kind of feel our name is the least original sounding thing about our music, but we can manage with it since we have had it so long.

Visit As The Sky Burns at <http://myspace.com/astheskyburns>

What's your opinion on the progression of obtaining music from originally purchasing records to downloading tracks off the internet nowadays?

As far as our music goes, we don't care at all if people download our music for free, because often we give it away for free. I almost always go to stores and buy the actual album on CD and so do some of the others in the band. I feel that through downloading you don't get the whole musical experience, because you don't get the art work, lyrics, and thanks that bands work so hard for. The only way I usually download music if it is hard to find in stores.

What are some of the artists or bands that made you want to become a musician?

I would say it's safe to say that we all grew up loving the band Blink-182, but as of the past 5 years all of us have been really inspired by bands of all sorts. As a band, some of the bands we really look up to are hard working bands that are in it for the right reasons, like A Day To Remember, Parkway Drive, Evergreen Terrace, and even some lighter bands like Paramore, and jazz musicians.

How would you describe As The Sky Burns' music to someone who's never listened to your band before?

I would say we are a metalcore band with an edge that you may not have heard before. We mix heavy riffs, with jazzy and fast drumming, filled with vicious screaming, and melodic singing.

If you were not a musician, what career do you think you would be pursuing instead?

Right now I (Joel) am attending community college for graphic design, and James is doing the same. Even though we are both going through school, we both hold the band as our main focus, because music is our real dream. A

career in graphic design would just be a back up plan for if our dreams don't work out as soon as we would like.

What does music mean to you?

Music is a magical thing to me. It has the power to make you feel so many emotions. Music kind of says who you are, by what genres you listen to, and how music you represent it. There is a song for every mood and emotion, and that's why I love music.

Do you have any guilty pleasures in terms of some present day mainstream artists or bands?

As far as music that is on the radio, I love bands like Fall Out Boy, and Paramore. I'm not big of a rap fan, minus some old artists, and I'm not a big country fan either. I would have to say though that Taylor Swift could be one of my guilty pleasures, because some of her songs are catchy.

What advice would you give a new band that's trying to get in the music scene?

Don't get into it for money. There isn't any money to be made. We usually only make gas money at our shows because we have to drive so far to play because our town is too small and there are no venues. Too many people also do it to look cool or fit in. If you are going to be in a band be dedicated, and look to do something different, too many bands copy each other or their favorite bands these days. Music isn't a competition between bands, or a fashion show, it's all about having heart and being your own person.

So who's better, Harry Potter or Twilight?

Well, every member in ATSB are Twilight haters, so Harry for the win! Everyone knows vampires and werewolves don't fall in love, they just kill. And I think wizards are pretty badass!

LECARLA

When you first started Lecarla did you expect to accomplish as much as you have today?

When we first started, we were all really motivated and wanted to be as successful as possible, but it seems that we have come quite a way in a short period of time which is amazing. Hopefully we'll be growing even more and get further and further so everyone knows who Lecarla are!

Who has been your favourite band(s) to play a show with? Why is this?

It was pretty cool playing with Deaf Havana and We Are The Ocean because most of us in the band were fans of them before even forming our band, so was amazing to play alongside them. But probably we all would say that playing and touring with Arms Of Atlas was are favourite experience with another band. They are all such nice guys and a friggin awesome band.

How would you describe the overall sound of Lecarla?

I think we'd have to say that we are Alternative Alternative Rock because we seem to be a mix of all different types of things, while still being rock but not. It's so hard to define us! lol

Who are your biggest influences as a band?

We have many different influences ranging from Alexisonfire, Oasis, Paramore, Lostprophets, Sub Focus. All different things really.

What is your favourite song to play live?

Why is this?

Right now we all LOVE playing our new song "Bruises" We haven't yet recorded it but hopefully we will soon. It's probably one of our best songs too. Just everything about it is amazing! Haha.

You have a shirt that says "Lecarla is ONE word". What made you decide to make this shirt? Was it because many people were spelling the band name as two words?

Yes! You pretty much nailed it there! Our band name kept being spelt wrong (Lacara, LeCarna, Le Carla, Lecala...) on posters for gigs and on promotional stuff so we thought "right we need to make this clear!!" and made that tshirt!

How big of a part does Lecarla have on your life?

Lecarla pretty much is our lives and every day that passes it seems to be taking over even

more! But we all love it so much so we don't mind :)

What would you say are your favourite and least favourite thing about touring?

The best part about touring is playing a gig every single night, it is just sooooo amazing. And also hanging out with whoever you are on tour with every night. Make friends for life! But the bad bits is probably, the bad toilets, having to eat junk food and being greasy :P but its all worth it!

Do you have any plans for a full-length in the future?

Yeah we will hopefully be releasing a full length in the next year or so and we're currently working on some great new material. So keep a look out.

Where do you hope to be in about three years from now?

We would hope to got over to the US and maybe even Japan by then as we've already been to Germany and are heading for India later this year. We'd wanna be on everyone's mp3 player!!

Visit Lecarla at <http://myspace.com/lecarla>

Interview by Cynthia Lam





THE AFTER PARTY

How did you meet the other members of The After Party?

We all went to high school together.

What made you decide to pursue a career in the music industry?

All through high school we played in various bands together, but never really took it seriously. At the beginning of mine and Alan's senior year (we're the youngest members in the band), we wrote a new album, got rid of some members, and formed "The After Party." We all absolutely loved playing and writing, and after doing it recreationally for four years, we decided we never wanted to give it up.

What sparked your interest in music?

My dad was a touring musician when he was younger, and played in a band all through mine and Alan's childhood. He would have band practice at our house, and we would go with him to his gigs, so we grew up around music. Kenny also comes from a very musical family, and has relatives who have careers in the music industry. Brandon got into music when he got a guitar in middle school, and since then has loved it.

Does The After Party aim for a specific genre or age group? Why or why not?

We do target a younger, female audience, probably because we are young, and we like girls! As far as our genre, we try to write music that is fun and makes you want to dance!

What would you say is the best show that you've played? What made it your best?

The best show we have played so far was probably in Grand Rapids, MI at The Intersection with Cartel, Runner Runner, Rookie of the Year and School Boy Humor. The crowd was incredible, and even though it was our first time in MI we had a ton a fans there to see us!

What would you say is your favourite song to play live currently?

Right now, we all agree that one of our band new songs, "Can't Stop" is the most fun to play live because it is super dancy!

In your opinion, what is the most overrated thing in the music industry these days?

Justin Beiber ;)

Who are two bands that you would love the tour with?

Justin Beiber (hey, he is making money right?) and the Jo Bros!

What would you say is the hardest thing that The After Party has had to overcome? How was this done?

The fact that we are all very young, and generally young bands aren't respected as much as older bands.

If you could turn back time and do one thing differently, what would it be and why?

I would have dated Demi while I had the chance!

What does the future hold for The After Party?

Your guess is almost as good as mine! All I can guarantee is that we will continue to write music and tour as much as possible, and continue to work our butts off to move our careers forward. Of course, we can't grow without our fans, and without them we couldn't have come this far. With our drive, our fans support, and a little luck, I think The After Party has a bright future! :)

Check out The After Party at <http://myspace.com/theafterparty>

THE WORD ALIVE

Interview with Tyler "Telle" Smith
Interview by Cynthia Lam

STITCHED SOUND Issue 10

Spending the second half of their summer on Warped Tour, The Word Alive have built up quite a name for themselves. In the past year they have embarked on several tours throughout the United States. Soon after they headed into the studio with Andrew Wade to record a new album. The Word Alive will be releasing their debut full-length *Deceiver* on August 31st, 2010.

The Word Alive just finished Warped Tour. Would you say this has helped the band grow?

Of course, Warped Tour in a big way is all about exposure. Some days are brutal with the heat, but you're gonna play for so many new faces you just have to do your best. We went on-stage everyday with the mindset that nobody had ever seen us before and I think it paid off.

Have you ever had any near-death experiences while touring?

We actually have had three! Once our last TM fell asleep while going 70mph on the highway, we hit a guardrail. That saved our lives. The second was our bus on Warped almost drove off the cliff at the Gorge in Washington, if you've ever been there it's like the mini-grand canyon! Scary! The third one was our first tour, and we hit a 450lb buck outside of San Antonio. It destroyed our van and we were all shaken up, but we've been fortunate enough to never come out hurt.

Which song off *Deceiver* would you say is the most meaningful to you? Why is this?

Like Father Like Son, because it speaks about a lot of personal feelings and experiences I went through with my father.

Did you encounter any new challenges while writing and recording *Deceiver* as opposed to *Empire*?

We just wanted to push ourselves, so anytime we felt a section or part wasn't good enough, we'd challenge ourselves to make it better. We did that with the entire record and I'm very proud of it all.

Is there anything on the album that fans might not expect?

We have a couple curveballs, for instance we wrote an all singing song "You're All I See" and threw in some awesome electronic components and dub-step into a breakdown. I think they are all "us" though and hopefully kids like the new twists!

If you could turn back time and give yourself one piece of advice before stepping foot into the music industry what would it be and why?

Ask more questions. Early on we trusted too much, and that is a big mistake which we're paying for financially now. But you live and learn, and we're blessed with a great label and team behind us that now is getting us back on track!

What were your first impressions of the other members in The Word Alive?

I thought that I was gonna have the most fun I'd ever had while touring, and I've been right. We are the goofiest bunch of guys and we all fit really well. I like that we can all be ourselves and comfortable.

How important is it to you to keep in touch with fans? Why?

Extremely important, any fan of myself from previous bands or of TWA knows that we pride ourselves in continuing to control all of our pages and try to respond to as many people as possible, and to never turn down the opportunity to talk with a fan at a show. We aren't the guys begging to not sign any more autographs, we want to hang out with our fans at shows.

What would you say The Word Alive is about? Is there any messages that you are trying to send through music?

We're about strength, and honesty I believe. We talk a lot in our songs about overcoming things, people, and other obstacles in ones life. We're very open about believing in yourself and trusting your gut instincts. We just want everyone to know that we live in a free world where anything is possible.

Where do you see yourself in a year from now?

Hopefully talking to you about the writing process of our next album, talking about big tours, and about the future of TWA looking as bright as ever :)



FIVEOHFIRST

Interview with Chris

How did you meet the other members of Fiveohfirst and what were your first impressions of them?

Me (Chris), Lars, Steve and Danny all had music class together in high school and we decided to get together and start a band. Adrian joined two years after we started the band. I didn't really know Adrian before he joined so I was a bit nervous, but it turned out to be one of the best decisions we ever made as a band. Our newest member Ricky joined this summer. We knew him through another band he was in before FIVEOHfirst. As soon as his band broke up we jumped on the opportunity and asked him to join. It took us 5 years but we finally now have the perfect line up.

Who would you say are your biggest influences as a band?

I would say our biggest influences as a band are Mayday Parade, New Found Glory, Cartel, All Time Low, Muse, Blink 182, Four Year Strong, Uverworld, A Day To Remember, Hit The Lights, and Will Smith (preferably Big Willie Style) Just to name a few.

While writing, do you aim for a specific genre or age group? Why or why not?

I would say we really don't aim for a specific genre, we just like to write music that we think sounds good. When it comes to age group I would say we try to aim for the

younger kids that are still in high school because they are more open to new music. But we have also gained some popularity in college towns. Because we all just graduated or are currently in college, we play a lot of shows at universities during the school year. I think the college kids might just like us because we know how to PARTY!!

How would you describe Fiveohfirst in two words? Why is this?

Two words I would use to describe us are machine and naked. Machine, because whether we are writing music, playing shows, promoting, practicing, or partying, we do it like a machine. And naked because we like to get naked.





When FIVEOHfirst started, what did you hope to accomplish?

When FIVEOHfirst started we just wanted to make a name for ourselves in the local scene. Now that we have accomplished that, we have much bigger expectations for FIVEOHfirst. We are always pushing ourselves to get our band the next level.

When was your first show that you played? What were your feelings and thoughts before you went on stage?

The first show we played was at Bloomingdale Park district with Rosaline (Good Fight Music). We were really nervous because not only was it our first show, but we were playing with Rosaline who was very popular in our scene at the time. I think I played it cool because I have played shows with my other bands in the past, but this was Lars, Steve and Danny's first show they have ever played. I think they may have wet themselves a little bit. ;)

Have you ever pulled any crazy antics on stage?

I don't think we have ever done anything crazy on stage. But one time at one of our shows at The University of Illinois, during our last song all of the audience jumped

on stage to sing with us which then lead into a crazy on-stage mosh pit. there were way more people on that stage than there should have been. the venue couldn't really do anything about it, so they just let it happen. It was a crazy night. There is actually a video of it on youtube if you want to check it out!

How important is it for you to keep in touch with fans? Why?

It is extremely important for us to keep in touch with our fans. Without our fans we would be nothing. It's the fans that keep us pushing to write better and better music. The last thing we ever want to do is disappoint any of them. Hopefully we didn't do that with the release of our new album. haha

What, in your opinion is the best social networking site to keep in touch with fans?

Facebook because everyone is on it and its a lot easier to get through to people. In my opinion myspace is dying and face book is going to take over entirely sooner or later.

If you could play a show with any two bands who would they be and why?

I personally would love to play a show with blink 182, I grew up listening to them and they pretty much inspired me to start playing music. I know adrian would agree with me on that, but I cant speak for the whole band when I say that. But I think a band we would all agree on and love to play with is New Found Glory. We just saw them play live in chicago and they were fucking awesome. They never seem to disappoint.

What does the future hold for Fiveohfirst?

Right now we just released our first full length album "Telling Every Story" so basically we are promoting it like crazy. The near future will basically be us touring full time while we continue to write more and more music. Stay Fresh!!!

Check out FIVEOHfirst at <http://myspace.com/fiveohfirst>



THE SCENIC

When The Scenic first started, what did you expect to accomplish? Have you accomplished these goals?

When we first formed, our immediate vision was just to write and play music we enjoyed. I don't think we had any goals in mind other than that. Realizing that goal though, opened our eyes to what we had within reach. Recording, touring, getting signed, all of which we saw happen. Each achieved goal gives way to new ones though, and we have some pretty big goals in mind for our new record, Bipolaroid.

How would you describe the overall sound of The Scenic?

We'd like to think of our sound as a reflection of the mid 90's rock we all grew up listening to. melodic, hooky, guitar driven rock. Nirvana, Weezer, Everclear, Third Eye Blind and everything in between.

What has been The Scenic's biggest accomplishment?

This new record, and remaining a band. Its harder than it looks.

How would you describe the writing and recording process for The Scenic like? Is it collaborative?

It is collaborative for sure. One of us will have an idea to build a song around and then we all get together and jam out the idea to develop it. Usually that's followed by doing a rough demo and reworking and experimenting with it till we all dig it.

What inspires you lyrically and musically?

We're inspired by so many things. Musically we all love mid 90's rock and while we all listen to tons of stuff, collectively that's our biggest inspiration and influence. Lyrically we draw a lot on our own experiences. Things we're dealing from our past, present and future. Like all artists, if its not coming from a genuine place its probably not going to be easy to relate to. We try to let the lyrics reflect the music and vice versa.

Would you rather be writing and recording music, or touring and playing shows?

I think the process of doing both is what makes being in a band so much fun. You get to write and create, experience the ecstasy and anguish of that, and then go out and travel and share with your fans what you've come up with.

What is the best thing about touring, in your opinion?

Never knowing what the day holds. Everything is an adventure on tour.

What is the craziest thing that has happened while you were on tour?

We found out that we slept in a basement where someone was storing a body in a deep freeze.

Who are your favourite bands to play a show or tour with? Why is this?

Sparks the Rescue, and The Status. We just get along great with those guys. Every show turns into a party.

How important is it for you to keep in touch with fans?

Its hard to keep in touch with everyone, but its definitely a priority. Part of what makes what we do so much fun is getting to hang out at shows and just be our retarded selves. We want to make sure everyone knows what where up to and when we'll be around so we can all get together and be ridiculous.

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

It really doesn't matter what anyone thinks about illegal downloading, it's going to continue. It's inevitable that music will be free someday, but that isn't necessarily a reason for a downfall. The industry will adapt and hopefully the music, and performances will benefit from it.

What does the future hold for The Scenic?

We'll be out on the road supporting our second full length, Bipolaroid, from now until eternity.

Visit The Scenic at <http://myspace.com/thescenic>



HIS STATUE FALLS

Interview with Alex
Interview by Cynthia Lam

How did you meet the other members of His Statue Falls and decide to start a band?

Well, His Statue Falls was working as a side project since 2003. During the years, the lineup changed a couple of times and 2008 was the year when Dennis hit the band as vocalist, and a few months later HSF met me (Alex) and decided to replace the shouter position with me after a real casting session.

Is there a story behind the band name "His Statue Falls"?

Not really. Maybe it means that everything is fading, such as friendships, relationships and of course the success of a band.

Who would you say are your biggest inspirations personally? What have you drawn from them?

We all listen to completely different styles of music. Dennis for example is a big fan of Dallas Green. Christoph is "really" into 90's trance and pop music. I love rap and hip-hop as much as any kind of core. So we just put all that together and try to have our own sound. There's nothing drawn.

What makes His Statue Falls different from other bands?

We are not using those extremely slow breakdowns. We are not trying to destroy nice vocals with autotune. We are not trying to pitch the clean vocals into heights that are impossible to sing. Our techno is a real instrument-line during the songs and we don't use it as an effect every 2 minutes, AND, and

that is the most important point: we can play everything LIVE what is on cd!

You released a new album "Collisions" earlier in the year. What is your favourite track off this album? Why is this?

They are all my favorites!! I love Bury my shell at wounded knee for the mood that it's spreading and the aggression. You need hit to spell shit cause it shows all the facets of the band. Jasmin w. knows how to mosh because it's so much fun performing it on stage. Every song has its specialties but they all sound HSF.

What was the writing and recording process for this album like?

Most of the time it was drums, bass and rhythm guitar beeing in the rehearsal room developing the grooves. Christoph was doing the trance at home. Dennis and me were writing the lyrics at home. The recording was done in our bass players studio and it took us about a year. We tried to do everything right so we took all the time it needed to figure out the right sounds and effects.

Is there a song on the album that is very important, or personal to you? What is it about?

Good question! I guess Jasmin w. and Bury My Shell because I wrote them after me and my ex girlfriend decided to separate in just one night in the studio and they turned out great.

Do you aim for a specific genre while writing music? Why or why not?

Like I said, we all put our output together. and the ideas can sound quite different. so at first we don't really aim for a specific genre. But as you might know we call our music techcore so in the end we try to combine all our ideas with Christoph's trance and I guess that makes it aiming for a specific genre then.

While playing a live show, what antics do you like seeing from the crowd?

There's nothing special we want to see. We have the most amazing fans on earth so they're all doing the mosh, circle-pit and dancing thing on their own. One special thing they often do is sitting on the ground with as many people as possible behind each other, doing the rowing boat. It's unbelievable.

What, in your opinion makes a good live show?

That's easy. Good sound, good light and our fans in front of the stage!

What does the future hold for His Statue Falls?

We hope to be able to play tons of shows. We are working on an EP to be released around Christmas and on a second album. We just shoot a video that is going to be released soon. And we'd love to find people that can make touring the states happen for us, cause we wanna see our fans there and we really could use some more English lessons.

THE SWELLERS

Interview with Nick Diener

STITCHED SOUND Issue 10



What made you decide to play music for a living?

It started out as a hobby. I just loved playing music. They say you need to do what you love to do in life... so I thought I'd give it a shot. It's been nice!

Were your parents supportive of your choice in career?

At first they were skeptical, but as we got record label interest, good tours, etc, they realized it was real and now was the time to make it all happen. They are behind us entirely.

What was the hardest challenge for The Swellers to overcome? How was this done?

In the beginning, we had a few lineup changes. We just couldn't find guys who wanted to tour full time in the band. It's a tough job. But now that we have Ryan and Anto rounding out the band, it's perfect. Ready to go.

How would you describe the overall sound of The Swellers?

We're a punk rock band at heart. But we also are heavily influenced by music from the 90's, whether it's radio jams or indie/emo stuff like Jimmy Eat World, Get Up Kids, Weezer, etc.

Is the writing process collaborative? What is it like?

My brother and I write lyrics about 50/50 and there is a lot of collaboration. I write a good amount of the music, but Jonathan is beginning to pick up a guitar and write some songs even though he is a drummer. it's really cool.

What do you like the most about recording? What do you like the least?

I love creating and getting amazing sounds. Finally putting the songs together. I really dislike singing in the studio though... it's painful trying to get it right and doing it over and over again.

What would you say is your favorite thing about "Ups and Downsizing"?

I really like that it was 100 percent organic. We had no pressure from a label, no timeline.. we just got in the studio and made a record. Really proud of the songs.

While writing and recording do you aim for a specific genre? Why or why not?

We don't really aim for a genre, but we need our record to have a theme. We want everything to have a certain sound, and not sound like an album full of a ton of different types of songs.

How would you say your sound has progressed since The Swellers first started?

We have focused a lot more. Figured out the direction. Also, realized that the 'less is more' approach is very valuable in a lot of situations. Makes our sound much bigger.

What has been the craziest touring experience that you've experienced?

Getting to swim at a house in the hollywood hills that used to belong to P Diddy. That was just too much.

Do you participate in tour pranks, or been a victim of them? What happened?

Our friend put an open can of tuna in our van in hopes of stinking us out over the course of a week.. but our van already stunk so badly that we didn't notice. That's pretty awful. We generally don't mess around too much, though. We just like hanging out.

The Swellers are currently on tour - and continue to tour until the beginning of December. Are there any places that you are excited to visit?

Very excited to get back to Europe. Hoping to make it to Spain. Also, the Fest in Gainesville, FL is always a favorite of ours.

Do you have any plans as a band for 2011?

More tour, more recording, new album at some point.. just watchin' it go and keeping it moving.

AGAIN AND AGAIN



What made you decide to start Again and Again?

For me, it's essential to my life. I live for music. I'd spent the years before Again and Again doing nothing but touring and making records. When I suddenly found myself without an active band, Again and Again began formation.

If you weren't in Again and Again right now what do you think you would be doing?

Trying to start a band called Again and Again... Haha. This is absolutely the only thing I can imagine. It may be sort of tunnel vision, but it means you'll never see us give up.

Who were your biggest influences musically when you first started playing music? Are they more or less the same?

Yes and no. I think your influences stay with you no matter what changes in your life. When I first picked up a guitar, it was Nirvana, Pearl Jam, Nine Inch Nails. Without a doubt you can hear those influences in what we do. But now they range from bands like AFI to Counting Crows, August Burns Red to Justin Timberlake. I think there's something to learn from almost everything.

What, in your opinion, is the most important thing to keep in mind while being in the music industry?

Persistence. You can't give up. You can't surrender. There will be a million people out there, professionals and fans, that will tell you that you "can't." But it's all worth it when you make that next step and flip those people off in your rear view mirror.

What would you say is the most meaningful song that you have wrote? What is the song about?

They are all extremely meaningful to me. I think that's like choosing a favorite child. Haha. But we can use 'Love Like Cold War.' The song is about a relationship, like so many, that has reached a sort of detente. Someone in the relationship may have set it off, but neither can remember what it was. The realization in the song is that it doesn't matter. That continuing to build up your armor is just deepening the rift. I use a lot of war imagery to try to accentuate that conflict. A cold war is a war without weapons or casualties, but it's a conflict nonetheless.

What is the writing process for Again and Again like?

Derek and I do much of the initial stuff. He's a great songwriter and he comes up with these amazing sounding pieces. It then tends to be

my job to conceptualize the overarching structure and together we form a loose idea for how we want it to come out. Then we spread the track out to Wes and Dave and begin a process of destroying and rebuilding. Ultimately it becomes a product of all of us.

What has been the craziest thing that you've done during a show?

Haha. I don't know. I was once hospitalized after having a bass hit me in the face so hard it knocked me out. Is that crazy?

How would you describe Again and Again's live show?

Fun! I mean, it's not a silly atmosphere, but we definitely enjoy playing music and I think that carries to the audience. We are very passionate about what we do. Do you have any plans for writing and recording a full length soon? Always! Haha. We're just looking for the right time and place. We've done EPs in the past due to the DIY nature of our band to this point. But the future is wide open.

What should we expect from you in the near future?

TOUR! We're headed out on a 40+ date US tour in October. We're playing everywhere, look for dates to go up online any day now.



THE SPACEPIMPS

Interview with Rishi Bahl

What would you say makes The Spacepimps different from other bands?

We do not wear girls jeans, low cut v-neck shirts, or play live to backing tracks. We set up, play, and hope to God we sound ok. I think that our music is honest as well. These days, it seems bands like Brokencyde, Jeffree Star and 3oh!3 all write about things that are trendy or dancing or something weird like that. Our inspirations are simple: the pains of growing up, girls, life being in an indie band, and awkward situations.

How did you come up with the name "The Spacepimps"?

After our first ever practice, our drummers little nephew looked at us, after he had watched pimp my ride on MTV, and said, "You guys look like a bunch of pimps from outer space." We needed a name for our first show ever and chose that name. We have been stuck with the curse ever since.

Are there any lyrics that you wrote that you are proud of?

I think that the bonus track on our new record, "Mistakes Are Hard to Undo," is a large step forward for us. It is significantly different for us both lyrically and musically. It is complex structure wise, and there are more metaphors in the lyrics that any other song we have written. It didn't make the record because we thought that it didn't fit the theme or the vibe of the record, which is why it became the bonus track. Take a listen (can get it on itunes), I'm sure you will see how different it is for us.

You recently just released "Stuck Here Forever". What is your favourite song off the album?

My favorite song on it is "This One's For You Mandy Moore." I wrote it about a scene in the movie Along Came Polly, which does not have Mandy Moore. It is by far the popiest song on the record, and the most melodic. The vocal pattern forces me to hit notes I have never hit before and can resonate with pretty much any person; someone moving away. Mandy if you are reading this, I'm still waiting for a phone call...

Is there a song on the album that you don't play live that you would like to?

Yes, "When Music Mattered." It is a song that is really hard to play live as a three piece. If we have another guitar player, we could do it. It is faster, more driving, and has the sweetest bridge on the record.

Which do you prefer - touring or recording? Why is this?

That's like choosing your favorite child! We love both, honestly. Touring lets you remove yourself from your normal life and do something (play music) for a living. It is a dream come true (though very hard to for an indie band, due to the finances). Playing music for people who genuinely like it is so humbling. Recording is an out of body experience, as you see the scattered ideas that were once in your brain, become alive. It is the most exciting thing in the world (other than birth I'm sure). Recording is like a huge art project, that in the end has

elements of your life on the "canvas." Just awesome.

Would you say that touring in Japan is very different from touring in the US?

How?
Yes, the music scene there is 5 years behind, which means our style of pop punk is alive and kicking. By our style, I mean the late 90's pop punk (Blink, NFG etc). The scene there is not over saturated with bands as well, which makes it easier for bands like us to spring free.

Do you participate in tour pranks? What has been your favourite tour prank that you've pulled?

Cannot comment in a particular prank that involved strippers and lunch meat...oh crap.

What would you say is your biggest accomplishment as a band?

Touring Japan and being able to get a copy of our record in stores. It is the most accomplished feeling being able to walk into a store and see your band next the likes of your idols. Also, playing in another country and have people appreciate your music is equally rewarding. Thanks!

What should we expect from The Spacepimps in the future?

Touring, writing, recording, and more songs about honesty, friends, growing up, and how girls suck. A tour with NSYNC would be rad too.

THE MOTEL LIFE

Interview with Nick
Interview by Cynthia Lam

How did you meet each other and choose to form a band?

Mike and Judcody both played in a local band that I was really fond of. My old band became good friends with them and when my band broke up I kept in touch. Their band broke up shortly after and I talked to them about getting a project going. We got together and it just worked. At the time our friend, Anthony, played bass and we wrote an EP. Before we were finished with our new LP we acquired our friend Ray on bass and it has worked out for the best. We got AI after trying out several different people for live guitarist. Mike had known him from high school and eventually we asked him to become our official second guitarist. That is the band we are today.

What would you say makes The Motel Life different from other bands?

There are a lot of different things I could say but I feel our hard work and persistence has honestly helped us out get to where we are right now. We are at a point in time in which people think sitting around and uploading a couple songs to Myspace will get them somewhere. That works sometimes but bands should still try to get out there, tour, promote and do whatever it takes to grab a new pair of ears no matter what genre. It has worked for us and we are gaining a bigger audience every day.

Which bands would you say you draw the most inspiration from?

Everyone in the band has different taste which is an amazing thing. We draw inspiration from bands such as Brand New, The Beatles, Bloc Party, David Bazan, Nada Surf, The Early November, Glassjaw, musicals, etc. It's endless.

What made you decide to pursue a career in music as opposed to anything else?

The five of us have a huge place in our hearts for music. Nothing makes us happier than to get on a stage and share what we write with people. It's honestly the best feeling in the world. Hopefully we are able to do it for as long as we can.

What would you say is your favorite song that you've written? Why is this?

So far I'd have to say "Writing a Book" or "Falling Asleep" is my favorite song we have written. I feel that those songs really showcase what the band is about. We are actually in the early stages of writing again and I think I am going to have some new favorites in the future.

What was it like writing and recording "Retreat"?

Writing was a completely different process compared to "WALSB". The first album had Judcody writing all the guitar parts and he would usually have a full acoustic demo with Mike while our old bassist and I just added our parts. This time around we had just guitar demos and we came together and wrote in the same room. It's much harder but it paid off. Having the addition of AI on guitar and Ray on bass this time around really helped us grow as a band. We went into the same studio with the same producer (Dave Trautz) as the EP. We enjoyed what he was able to do the first time around so we knew we would be happy working with him on "Retreat".

How would you describe the album to someone who has never heard of The Motel Life before?

Nick: There is something on it for everyone. It combines a lot of what we all listen to so

expect some great melodies mixed with a good combination of indie/rock styles in music.

Before you played your first show, what thoughts, feelings, or emotions were going through your mind?

I was more excited than anything. I really wanted people to hear what we had been working so hard on. I was worried how people would take it compared to our older bands. We played in front of a pretty packed venue and the kids seemed to really enjoy it.

Do you have any plans for touring in the future?

We just got back from summer tour and of course we are eager to get back out on the road. We got offered a full U.S. tour for Fall but some things fell through. We will probably be back on the road in late Fall/Winter and then planning an extensive tour for Spring. Until then we are trying to play as much of the west coast as possible. Crowds are getting bigger and bigger and it just makes us want to keep coming back.

What would you say is your biggest accomplishment so far?

There is so much that the band has accomplished that we are all proud of. Being featured in Alternative Press magazine, being offered and put on the homepage of Purevolume.com, Absolutepunk.net naming us one of the top 100 bands to look out for in 2010, countless tours, etc. We have a lot of people behind us. I am most proud of the fact that we are moving in the right direction every day. It has been an amazing three years for us and we are only getting started.



Empire Holiday

Interview with Ronnie Lee Hughes
Interview by Robbs Quezada



Do you have a particular song, album, band/musician that influenced your decision to become a musician?

Yes, and I was so embarrassed about this since we played with them last month at Summerfest. Silverstein was the band that made me realize this is what I wanna do. I definitely even have a Silverstein tattoo.

Is there a genre of music that you dislike?

To be honest, I can see the beauty and appreciate anything from Latin music all the way to Death Metal. Love it all.

Empire Holiday released the EP "Wouldn't You Like to Know" in February of this year. On a scale of 1 to 10 how satisfied are you in terms of the feedback received from fans and critics?

That's a tough question. I would always like for it to be better. If 5000 people bought our album, you always wish there was one more that would've checked us out. But, the fans we have are the most loving and amazing we could ever ask for. So I will say 9. And that part of me that always wants to be better keeps it from 10. And critics are critics. I love criticism, you can learn so much from it.

What are some topics that influence the writing of your music?

All aspects of life. Anything you can imagine, we'll try to use it to influence our music. Honestly, we're writing about a movie we watched last week right now.

How did Empire Holiday start out, and where did the name emerge from?

Empire Holiday is 3 members from the band Slow Motion Red Lights that wanted to pursue a slightly different style. They took me and Brandon in as new members. And to be honest I was kinda starstruck trying out for them. SMRL was one of those bands whom I truly looked up to. Then we were trying to name the project... Chris, being the nerd he is, wanted to called it Empire or something to do with Star Wars. Paul, trying to be catchy wanted Hush Holiday. So naturally, being the "compromiser" that I am, I said, "Put them together and be happy that it's original." So there's how Empire Holiday was named.

At the moment, what is your favourite album from 2010?

I really like Asking Alexandria's album. But, I am really fond of our local friends South Shores debut EP, "New Beginnings."

Do you think Empire Holiday falls into a specific genre of music? If not, why?

No. And we strive to do that. We like to bend the "rules" of genres. And I am so excited to release the next album. We're gonna go all out in our efforts to create complete "new genre music."

What was the first album you ever bought?

Dave Matthew's Band. I don't remember the name of it because I was 8 years old. But it was great. Followed by Matchbox 20 and Janis Joplin soon after.

What country do you really want to tour in?

Japan or Canada. Maybe you can meet us there and we can go to a Canucks' game. Canucks and Maple Leafs, of course.

What's the best thing about playing live shows?

Putting on a show. I'll never forget how I felt watching my first concert. I felt high and drunk and amazed. If I can put on a good enough show to recreate that for someone else. I'd feel great. Ever heard "Circus" by Britney Spears? That song is my anthem!

MECHANICAL KIDS

Interview with Seann Bowe
Interview by Sarah Lozano

What's your biggest inspiration as far as the bands sound?

Our biggest inspiration would most likely be how much of fun-loving individuals we are. We don't spend a lot of nights not hanging out with each other, we're always out till 3 in the morning doing ridiculous stuff to keep ourselves entertained. I think that really shows up in a lot of our music.

What doesn't Mechanical Kids bring to the table that no other band has?

That's always a hard question to answer but I think it's the way everything is approached that ultimately sets us apart. The attitude of the lyrics, the instrumentation, and the way we perform live all are deeply rooted in the kind of people we are and because no one on this earth is exactly alike I guess it's our personalities that really separates our music.

How well do you guys think you sound live?

Our songs in recording are a little bit more laid back than they are live but when you come see us you get that added edge to the song that shows you a completely different aspect of our band. Plus, we're very theatrical which I think is a very unique aspect to our live set.

Mechanical Kids started as a side project, how quickly did it form into a full band?

It took about a year from when I decided to go full band to have all the members set and ready to play, the side project had been around for about 2 years prior to that but the music was completely different.

If you weren't in Mechanical Kids, what band do you wish you were in?

If they weren't broken up, Terminal. But a band that's around now probably Paramore, the musicianship is amazing and I'd really like to see what I could add to that band vocally. Hayley Williams and I should battle, just saying.

Which Mechanical Kids song has the most interesting story behind it? And what is it?

Probably I'm A Star, I used to be really introverted (weird for a front man right?) a while back and I went through a huge journey of finding a way to keep my chin up and not be so afraid to be in the world. At the end of that journey I was filled with so much joy from my new found confidence that I just wanted to share it with everyone. So I wrote a song about how good it feels to be in my favorite place in the world, the stage, and I used that added edge of my

confidence journey to write a song that has a lot of hidden meaning to me. The song took like 5 minutes it just came so naturally.

What artist/bands do you think have grown with Mechanical Kids?

I think all of the Milwaukee music scene is growing with us and will continue to grow with us. We're always going to be deeply rooted with our local music because those people are our family and the only reason we feel right being on a stage so we're always going to be trying to bring as much of it with us as we grow as we can.

As a fan, what would be your dream show to see before you die?

Terminal, Drake, Circle Takes the Square, The Used, Miniature Tigers and Manchester Orchestra. Weird line-up but that would blow my mind!

Last question can you tell us about any tour or events Mechanical Kids will be on?

We're playing with The Academy Is... at the Orpheum in Madison, WI on Sept. 4th. We're going to be working on a new record all fall and winter so we really don't have a lot coming up.



Summer 2010 Recap!

I think we can all agree that Summer 2010 was a great summer, filled with many concerts and good times. Here is some of our favourite moments of the summer! Including stories about Warped Tour, summer festivals and concerts, this summer was one to remember!

Robbs Quezada - Toronto, ON



On July 9th, 2010 I attended the Toronto date for Warped Tour. I saw many great bands that I had been anticipating to watch but the set that was the most exciting to me was I See Stars. It was their first time in Toronto and on Warped Tour so being able to watch them perform under those circumstances was already pretty great. When they took the stage, the energy from the crowd and from the band was absolutely incredible. Everyone was having such a good time. I was super happy that I was finally watching one of my favourite bands and I was extremely impressed by how quality they are live. After their performance, I went to their tent for the signing. I must say, the I See Stars boys are one of the most humble bands I've met. If you haven't listened to them yet I highly recommend picking up their debut album "3D". I'm already excited to see them again in the near future.

Sarah Rutz - Toledo, OH

This summer was full of traveling, excitement, and getting to see some of my favorite bands. From going to Bamboozle Roadshow to Warped Tours to traveling several hours to see Forever The Sickest Kids, it was full of adventure. One of my favorite things was getting to shoot Warped Tour in Cincinnati. It was a rough day—upwards of 90 degrees the entire day and crowded, hot, and muggy, but would it really be Warped Tour without it? Despite the uncooperative weather (after the last set that I wanted to see, it literally POURED), I got some great shots, including this one of Tarcy Thomason of Artist Vs. Poet.

Overall, this summer was a great summer for shows, and hopefully it'll stay that way in the future. I'm looking forward to all the fall tours and spring tours!



Cynthia Lam - Edmonton, AB

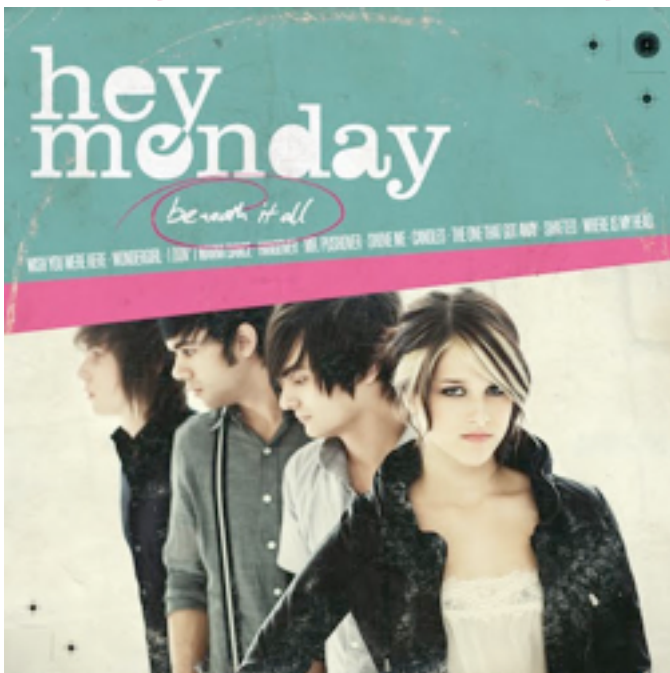
A huge part of my summer was being able to attend Vans Warped Tour once again. There's so many things to say about Warped Tour, and I would describe it as just a chaotic mess of running around to different stages, trying to figure out how you're going to watch the same three bands all at once. To most people that might sound like conflict, but strangely enough I love it. As soon as I get in the venue and to the inflatable, I try to plan my day out as fast as possible, but of course this is all thrown out the window as I got to watch a band I had no intend to see. But of course, in the end, I'm happy as a clam.

The highlights of my Warped Tour was definitely being able to see The Word Alive, Pierce The Veil, Artist Vs Poet and Bring Me The Horizon live. There are so many other bands - this years lineup was just excellent - but those really impressed me. The Word Alive put on a fantastic show and the crowd was just so fabulous, always moving and getting into it. Pierce The Veil and Artist Vs Poet just put on such an energetic and fun show that I couldn't help but feel on top of the world while watching their set. And then there is the "legendary" Bring Me The Horizon - who played a phenomenal set last, and this just perfected the ending of my crazy day at Warped Tour.



Hey Monday *Beneath It All*

★★★★☆ By Haley Miller



Hey Monday has been through a lot this year. Constantly touring and expanding their fan base and growing as a band. Losing drummer Elliot James and a rumored split with bassist Jersey Moriarty, Hey Mondays been through a lot. Upon listening to the cd *Beneath It All*, I loved the catchy lyrics and vibe to the song "Hangover" "Wish You Were Here" was also another great song. But the song that will take them far is "I don't wanna Dance." it has a great rhythm, vibe and lyrical quality, heck it'll get you dancing. The songs "Wonder Girl" and "Mr. Pushover" weren't that great but I can guarantee Cass' voice on the rest of the cd is great. After this release things will only go up for Hey Monday.

Miss May I *Monument*



By Krystin Neal

Once again, Miss May I teamed up with producer Joey Sturgis (Of Mice & Men, Asking Alexandria, Attack Attack!, The Devil Wears Prada, etc) for their sophomore album, *Monument*, on Rise Records. Originally from Troy, Ohio, the band released their first album, *Apologies Are For The Weak*, last summer, capturing the attention of kids everywhere. This time they open up with “Our Kings” which features the fast, heavy riffs one would come to expect from MMI. Ryan Neff’s clean vocals are more matured than the vocals of John Gillespie on their debut; as for the screams, Levi Benton has grown in leaps and bounds since *Apologies*. His growls are deeper and more defined, but the enhanced factors don’t end there. *Monument’s* experimental melodies are much more diverse, making each song stand out. One of my favorites on the album, “In Recognition”, takes a break from the constant shredding of the other songs, as Neff provides clean vocals seamlessly throughout the track. Finally we come to the title, “Monument”, and

back to the sound MMI has established for themselves. Drummer Jerod Boyd and guitarists BJ Stead and Justin Aufdenkampe are outstanding in the last two songs, flowing in and out of the breakdowns wonderfully. Over all, I am impressed with Miss May I’s improvements since their first album and look forward to their future endeavors.

The Devil Wears Prada *Zombie EP*

By Sarah Rutz



Alternative Press's 200 Band of the Year, *The Devil Wears Prada*, has been busy working on an EP to satisfy the needs of their fans. The Ohio-based metalcore band has a knack for putting out music that is consistent and ridiculous—and by 'ridiculous' we mean that every song they produce is well thought out, full of breakdowns and beats that are made to make an entire room go crazy. Their latest endeavor, the *Zombie EP*, is no exception. In the spirit of EPs, it only has five songs, but all five songs are packed with a punch that will get even first time listeners excited. In typical TDWP fashion, each song is a mix of screams and melodic vocals—but not electronica, which is what sets The Devil Wears Prada apart from a lot of bands in their genre nowadays.

Each song on the album is well-crafted and made in such a way that listeners will recognize it as distinctly 'The Devil Wears Prada, but won't be dissatisfied and think that it 'sounds like all their other stuff'. *Zombies* is an excellent preview of what's to come from the band and I seriously recommend everyone go and pick it up. Five tracks of the band's melody-infused hardcore (take a listen to 'Anatomy' and 'Survivor' off the album) is sure to hold people over until the next full-length comes out.

Plus, if you're a freak about zombies (like this author—Left 4 Dead, anyone?), then the monologue at the end of the first track is just for you—The Devil Wears Prada is aware of the Zombie Apocalypse, too.



NeverShoutNever *Harmony*



By Cynthia Lam

In the past three years, a certain band has released five EP's and two albums. This has resulted in the high success and popularity of NeverShoutNever. Exactly eight months later of their debut album *What Is Love*, this group released their new album *Harmony*.

Harmony is easily relatable and include simple song structures that are simple to enjoy without much thought. Many songs of the album give the listener a positive vibe wether they like it or not. Although you may not be a fan of NeverShoutNever it is hard to not find the songs catchy with a fun tambourine part in "Piggy Bank". This album starts off with "This Shit Getz Old" and brings the listener through an emotional journey. Notable songs on the album include "Cheatercheaterbestfriendeater" and "First Dance" which are just fun songs that everyone can enjoy. This album ends off with a self explanatory song called "Sellout".

Although NeverShoutNever's style of music is not for everybody, we must give him credit for making fun, catchy music. Despite gaining many hates along his journey, Christofer remains positive and conitnues to release music that he enjoys. You may hate him or love him but at one point in your life, you will most likely get one of his songs stuck in your head.

Katy Perry *Teenage Dream*



By Stefany Bryan

Katy Perry. Need I say more? If you don't know who this giddy pop sensation that has won the hearts of many is, then you're living under a rock. Katy Perry originally started off as a gospel singer, but then decided to go down a different path and thank goodness she did. What would we do without her bubbly summer hits that make us all smile?

Teenage Dream, Katy Perry's third full length album was released August 24th. Her first album was released under her birth name, Katy Hudson, and did not gain very much attention from the public. But after her success from releasing *One of the Boys* in 2008, *Teenage Dream* was highly anticipated.

If I were to think of one word that describes all 14 songs on *Teenage Dream*, it would be "catchy." Katy Perry has some sort of magical touch making all her songs likeable and catchy. They're all fun and you can't get enough of them. Now, some may say that Katy Perry can't pull off slow songs, but I beg to differ. Her only slow song on the album, "Not Like The Movies," is just as good as her big hits like "California Gurls" and "Teenage Dream." I also feel like

her sound hasn't changed much since *One of the Boys*, so if you liked that album, you probably will enjoy his one just as much.

It's hard to resist her charming voice and slight or not so slight innuendo in her songs. "Last Friday Night (T.G.I.F.)" has a similar theme to that of "Waking Up in Vegas." All her songs are sort of shallow, about partying and relationships and you know the usual. But regardless, she's got the same loveable lyrics and appealing tunes that leave us wanting more.



Any comments? Feedback?

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