

FN7WAZ

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the weekly sheet

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INSIDE: An Interview with England's Medium Medium

J=Julie
E=Elaine
S=Steve
M2=Medium Medium

INTERVIEW WITH MEDIUM MEDIUM

J: Have you played in Jersey yet?

M2: Jersey? Where's that?

J: You know, New Jersey - Trenton.

M2: Oh, isn't that where we are now?

E: No, this is Phila., Pa. So you played the 9:30 club in D.C. What did you think of Washington?

M2: Well, did you go in the back entrance at the 9:30 club? The alley was swarming with rats. Dozens of them... I've never seen so many. So really our only impression of D.C. was the White House and all these huge rats.

Steven Kane- Concept and direction
Elaine Simmons- co/Art Direction
Julie Watts- co/Art Direction
Harvey Watts- Circulation and stimulation

S: You decided to do it by yourself instead of getting someone else to replace him?

M2: Oh, yeah. We might be getting someone else to join the band but we won't be getting anyone to replace John, 'cuz we don't need anyone to replace John.

If we get someone else it'll be in a totally different capacity than his was. I really like the simplicity that you get when you cut down to a few people. The rhythm section really comes through alot stronger. Now on

stage there's just Sandy who plays guitar

and does vocal

the bass player and the drums.

It lets the spaces in the music come out alot more.

S: Especially the type music you do which is very rhythmic anyway.

M2: I think the more rhythmic the bass is, the more you can do on top of it. So it gives you more freedom in both directions.

S: I guess you could classify your music as white funk?

M2: It's not just straight white funk though. That should be obvious from what you heard tonight. We're not just trying to play funk. There is alot of funk influence in it. I think that's because funk music does have alot of good things in it, especially the rhythm section.

S: Initially the only song that I was familiar with was "So Hungry, So Angry." When I heard the album the rest of the material didn't seem so message oriented.

M2: So you think SHISA is a message song? What connotation?

S: It seems to be making a comment on the state of things.

M2: You think so?

S: Yeah, I think so.

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J: What about the guru song?

M2: That's completely ironic. It's about people who get caught up in the Guru Maharaji. They think it's the way out. I've seen people who've gone that way and thought, this is my salvation. The song is almost an indictment of that, they seem more up because of that.

E: Where in England do you come from?

M2: Nottingham.

E: Where's that?

M2: Right in the middle of the country. It's the heart of the midlands.

S: That area is relatively known as the land of Robin Hood...

M2: Robin Hood was a Darbyshire figure. Sherwood forest is north of Nottingham in Darbyshire.

S: to Sandy: How do you feel about doing most of the singing and being the front figure on stage now? You seem to have fallen into that role relatively easily.

Sandy: Yeah, I used to get caught as a peacock at one stage. After John left it was sort of forced upon me but I enjoy it. Then I got into it. I've got the vocal range and I'm a pretty good singer. It just happened I was the only one who could sing.

the three minute interview

(Steve returns; interview begins)

S: The main difference I noticed between this time and last time was the lead singer and sax player wasn't here.

M2: He left around Xmas time.

He wanted to settle down and get married. Also, he was moving in a different musical direction than the rest of us.

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S: Is there any planned state side release of the LP?

M2: The one that is out was released independently and I think I'd like to leave it that way. The band's changed so much since John left, we're a different group of people now. So we're looking forward to recording again and I'd prefer to wait until our newer material can be released. There's talk of doing a single in N.Y. before we go home but it's all 50-50. It depends on whether the people come up with the money. So we don't know. I'm sure we'll have something out by the end of the year, if not a single, then an album.

S: Earlier you said that this was pretty much the end of the tour.

M2: Well, we have about a week left. We're going back to Washington and the N.Y.

E: You're not playing Florida?

M2: No, not this time. We only like to tour for a month at a time otherwise you turn into an animal. It's a bit dehumanizing at times.

S: How would you compare the response tonight with that of other shows?

M2: It was very good tonight. This has probably been my favorite show, but it's been good everywhere.

E: How many times have you been in Philly?

M2: This is the second time. The first time we played the East Side, as well. I think this one was better.

S: Well, this is the biggest show we've had here this month.

M2: And we're fairly small. Not grand by any stretch of the imagination.

S: Well, you're English. That immediately gives you a wider appeal.

M2: I think there are alot of American bands that are just imitating British bands at the moment. I always prefer American

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MONDAY APRIL 5

Routine 9

TUESDAY APRIL 6

Zemi

WEDS. APRIL 7

Free Dance Night

THURSDAY APRIL 8

Girlschool

Shrapnel

bands that concentrate on their own sound. The band that supported us last night were young but they had obviously listened to so many English groups that they lost their own identity. They were obviously good musicians, and creative, but they just didn't come over as being anything interesting. Americans don't seem to want to listen to American bands.

J: How do you differentiate between the American and the British sound?

M2: You don't seem to find many American bands that are very original. There used to be a time when English bands tried to

be American and now it seems like many American bands are trying to be English. Every English band used to write songs where all the lyrics were "yeah, baby..." which is totally false. No one in England talks like that. Now all the American bands seem to try to sing with an English accent, which is a real shame. I'm sure there are some very talented people around. Like the Talking Heads. They're worth about 50 thousand bands.

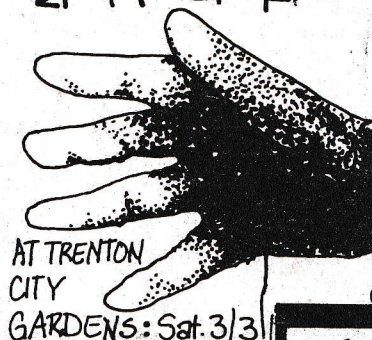
E: I know alot of Philadelphia people who try to imitate English accents, which just dosen't come off too well.

M2: It may sound almost all right in Philadelphia but if they came to England they'd be laughed at. Actually the Phila. accent is almost English in places. It's the least American I've heard.

J: Have you been up to the New England states?

M2: Yeah, Boston is very anglicized in tone, in color, and buildings and such. I can understand the way Boston people think.

S: I think we have enough for next week's Forward.



AT TRENTON
CITY

GARDENS: Sat. 3/3

BOW WOW WOW PYLON
Fri. 3/9
GIRLSCHOOL

event of the week:
THE WET SPOT 68

N. 12th STREET

MONDAY APRIL 5th

Peter Baker: Theatre
Electronic music
Performance

SATURDAY APRIL 3rd:

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FORWARD

Song of the week: Empty Room
by BAEKMIC DEVIATIONS

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