

jessica

lo-cal proto-punk grunge outfit **A CLEAN SENSATION**

Jessica is the band I, FOEMAN, am in. I thought it would be stupid to interview my own band, so I got Chuck from Play it Again records, who also helps Trent out doing their zine, and who also plays bass in Weston, to conduct the interview. We did it at his house and there were other local dignitaries present. Like Ajax who did the cover of this issue, and Greg "Chumpire", and Steve Afro. The owner of Play it Again also made a surprise visit.... Onward!

Frank It's rolling... Ok, speak LOUDLY so my tape deck will pick up your voices.

Chuck NAME AND WHAT YOU DO IN THE BAND...

Chris TRUMPET PLAYER... **Mike** MIKE, BASS.

Frank Frank, guitar. **Tony** DICK, DRUMS.

Tyler John, ax. **Chris** Gene Simmons, vocals.

Chuck I didn't get to see your first show at the 4-G's. How did it go? Was it a good first show experience?

Chris The first show 1st show or the 1st night 1st show?

Tony It was kind of a warm up.

Frank Ask Greg about the first show, he was there.

Greg I thought it went very well, we were all into it.

Frank I thought it was good. We worked out the tenseness of the first show. I wasn't nervous, but I was just standing there, playing, and not doing anything except concentrating on playing the songs.

Tyler I was shaking so bad, I was so scared, I couldn't even fuggin' play.

Mike He shit his pants! **Tony** He had diarrhea!

Chuck The show I did see at Scarlet's blew me away! Was it as good for you as it was for me?

Frank It was beautiful! **Mike** Excellent!

Tony I think that place sucks dick!

Mike The sound guy got so upset with Tony when he kicked his drum set over!

Chuck Tyler, you spent half of the show on stage, and the other half somewhere in the back. What was up with that?

Tyler I was closer to my friend Tony.

Tony No you weren't. **Chris** He's afraid of society.

Tony He had a girl named Jen back there.

Tyler No, I didn't (sounding depressed). See, people were taking pictures.

Chuck You don't like pictures?

Tyler No, I don't, and also... When I was up front all I could hear was my amplifier and I went out back where the monitor was by Tony. But, then I couldn't hear well enough. So then I was back and forth.

Frank So you are anti-social... **Tyler** Yeah.

Chuck Your second last song was my fave. What's it about?

Tony Alright! "Huda", I wrote it and it's about girls. It's about all kinds of girls. A few different girls.

Chuck The last interview I tried to do with you guys, they said you (Tony) were only in this for the girls.

Tyler Tony is a swinger.

Tony Actually I'm in it for the excitement.

Frank He's in it for the cupcakes he gets from Chris.

Tony For beers that Frank is gonna buy me.

Frank I'm not buying you any beer.

Chuck Frank...

Frank I don't know if I like these specific questions.

Chuck I know a few times you were considering hanging it up, the zine, playing in bands etc... Has this band revitalized you or is it just a thang?

Frank I got out of the nursing home last week, so I figured I'd better do something...

Chuck No, (very seriously) cuz you were talking about it a few times... **Trent** Yeah!

Frank Yeah, no, I know. The zine yes. Sometimes I want to quit doing the zine, it's draining. It's a lot of work and sometimes it seems like all the work isn't worth it. But I'll never quit playing guitar and playing in bands.

Actually I don't see myself quitting the zine either. I just like bitching about it. I get in my moods... I got a question for you Chuck, how would you describe our band?

Chuck Uh just wait a minute!... You guys are playing with us on the 10th, right?

Frank Yes, we talked Tony into doing it.

Tyler I'm not playing. **Frank** Tyler quits every 3rd song.

Tyler The sound sucks at that place. I can't hear myself.

Chris I couldn't hear anything. There's only one monitor.

Frank ...fucking, West Catty Playground, like there were monitors all over the place (sarcastically).

Chuck What the hell do I know about West Catty Frank.

Frank Oh, sorry. (Talking like an elder statesman...) Back in the day... at G's Beef and Brew...

Chuck Don't try to impress everyone with your fuzzy memory.

Frank You really never went to West Catty? Oh man, I really am old!

Chris I was break dancing back when you were at W. Catty.

Chuck I was too young to go anywhere.

Chuck Do you have any other gigs set up.

Frank We're opening up for Nation of Ulysses in Philly.

Tony I heard about a party, & my birthday is on the 18th.

Chuck You guys obviously aren't a HC band, since I wasn't bored when you played. (mucho laughter) I know I asked you this last time, and there was a real movement to get away from the question, but what kind of band do you consider yourselves? I know when I asked the question last time, it seemed like everyone was trying not to say Subpop. First Chris gives the order not to say anything...

Tony Rock'n'roll.

Frank I think we're pretty hard even though we're not HC.

Mike We're punk rockish, with a Tad/Superchunk edge.

Chuck Yeah, I was gonna say Tad like crazy.

Mike We're a tad bit Taddy.

punchy numbers rife with growling vocals and buzzsaw guitars.

Frank I don't think we sound like any one particular band.

Chuck No, no. I'm not gonna say like, oh they're a Fluid rip off.

Frank It's just songs. I listen to everything from Subpop stuff to Discharge, to disco to everything else, and the songs just come out.

Chris I think we're a Forthright rip off band.

Steve (Singer from Forthright) Yeah you wish!

Frank (Used to play guitar with Forthright) I don't think we sound like Forthright... Yeah, we're not that good!

Chuck Yeah, you (Chris) need to improve your singing just a bit to sound as good as Steve! Actually I was impressed that you sang, cuz when I saw you with Drip, you were pretty much just all over the stage, shouting.

Mike That was a totally different sound.

Chuck Fantasy question... Let's just say you get really big. And when you had concerts you could make demands on promoters. What kind of stuff would you want in your dressing room? Along the lines of Van Halen's red M&M's...

Tony Blood capsules, beer and women.

Frank Water, the best water in the world. I love water.

Chris Beer. Tony Sleazy women...

Frank ...who've taken the Aids test... and passed!

Tyler Guitars with string locks! (Macho laughter)

Tony Extra equipment so we can smash ours.

Mike We'd each like our own separate dressing room.

Chuck Does Tyler talk a lot when you guys are together?

Mike No, he just tunes his guitar constantly... I'd also want video games.

Chuck At the end of your show you made so much noise, and knocked over the drums and killed people and maimed... Was that planned?

Chris It was spontaneous.

Tony The noise was planned, the guitars make a lot of noise. I spontaneously destroyed the drums.

(Talk switched to the fight that occurred during our set between a "City Gardens" Karate Kick-dancer" and someone on the other end of his dance...)

Chuck Do you write songs together as a band, like free form jamming and get songs out of it or do the members of the band work on them individually and bring them in?

Mike All the ways you just mentioned.

Frank Like at tonight's practice, I brought in a riff, and we manipulated it until it was a full song.

Tony We take the catchy licks from the Forthright demo...

Chris Actually, what we do is we light candles, and we sit around and chant for like 3 hours...

Tyler ...with the Forthright demo blaring over and over...

Frank Until one of us spits up blood and then that's the riff we steal!

Tony Sometimes we use the No Win Situation demo...

Chris ...or else we just play LL Cool J songs really fast. Hey Greg, do you have any questions for us? (Greg did an interview with the band after the first first gig, for his zine, Chumpire, and asked us some bizarre questions)

Greg Yeah, do you have any fears that are irrational?

Chris Thanks.

Chuck That's the kind of question you yelled at me for asking last time!

Tony I don't have any fears that are irrational.

Chris I'm afraid of Aids. Chuck That's a rational fear.

Chuck If you could meet anyone, past or present, who would you want to meet?

Steve (That Forthright guy speaking out of turn again...) Me. You all want to meet me!

Mike I would've liked to have met Black Sabbath, the band, back in time.

Frank I would like to meet god, cuz then I would know he, she, it, whatever, existed.

Tony Traci Lords. Chuck Why is that?

Tony I don't know. I'd like to have a little fun with her.

Mike She only likes guys who've hit puberty.

Chris I wish I would've met Latka, Andy Kaufman. He's dead. He was suplexed, by some wrestler.

Chuck They broke his neck. Jerry Lawler killed him.

Tyler I'd like to meet Molly Ringwald.

Chuck Are you guys down with OPP?

Chris What the hell does that mean anyway?

Frank Over Populated Pennsylvania.

Chuck Any closing comments?

Frank Look, it's Joe Hanna! Now I feel young again!

Joe Where's Trent?

Chuck At your place, drinking your beer, with your dog.