



Circle Jerks

Well THE CIRCLE JERKS were one of the bands that got me into punk / hc with their fasts and out of control punk sound and great songs like... live fasts die young, operation, shit hit the fan, wild in the streets, I don't care, wonderful and more that were slam pit anthems. Well the band is back to prove older punks still have some fire and fury. (billy whitfield) all pixs by me as well

Keith Morris of THE CIRCLE JERKS was interviewed in June of 03' at The 9:30 Club in wonderful WDC. Thanks going out to the rests of the band and their publicists for setting everything up.

(TF) PLEASE GIVE US A SMALL HISTORY ON HOW YOU CAME TO THE CIRCLE JERKS

(KM) I was a member of a band called RED CROSS back in the very late 70's. I was in a band called BLACK FLAG. At the same time Greg was in RED CROSS maybe just a little bit earlier. Than RED CROSS out of Hawthorn, CA which is famous for The Beach Boys and Black Flag out of Hermosa Beach, Ca which is famous for nothing really except for a couple of world class surfers and skaters, just a quite little conservative beach town.

(TF) HOW WOULD YOU COMPARE THE CIRCLE JERKS OF TODAY TO THE EARLY DAYS

(KM) Tighter, faster, louder more well equip better songs, better song writing, better producing, and better record company. More weapons in our arsenal, ready to conquer the world and destroy the US military and US / Foreign policy, police. Oh boy!

(TF) VIEWS ON TODAY'S PUNK SCENE VS YESTERDAY'S SCENE

(KM) Well yesterday was only 24 hours ago, today's punk scene can be founded in large shopping malls, trendy shops, Mtv, VH1, The Fuse you lose, mass produce, mass marketing. We founded that we can make a lot of money off of unsuspecting kids, let's go for it. The punk rock scene from yesterday... diy, go wherever you can go, talk to whoever you can talk to, get it done however you can get it done. By any means necessary!

(TF) DO YOU FEEL LIKE TODAY'S SCENE HAVE LESS MISFITS AND OUTCASTS

(KM) It's very, very much more popular in fact it's totally cool to be punk now, as any mall punk you happier too see.

(TF) WHAT WAS THE RECENT ROLLINS BAND / BLACK FLAG TOUR LIKE

(KM) We were here about 3 weeks ago; it was all BLACK FLAG covers to raise money for 3 guys who have been in prison for the pasts 10 years. The West Memphis 3, the West Memphis 3 being a trailer park / trash town in Arkansas. And the 3 guys that are in prison were convicted for ritual tortures and murdering 3 8 year old boys. And they didn't do it.

(TF) SO WHAT BANDS GOT YOU INTO MUSIC

(KM) X, the germs, the weirdo's, the bags, the eyes, the dills, avengers, dk's, flesh eaters fear, Ted Nugent, black oak Arkansas, fog hat, free, the Beatles the stones, Joe Joe gun, golden earring, Elvis, jerry lee Lewis, little Richard, the who, the kinks...ect

(TF) WHAT NEWER BANDS ARE YOU INTO

(KM) The entire band I just rattled off, a few bands that I like is... the burning brides, the datson, and grand daddy's, new pomaphers, guided by voices dead meadows. Local bands... q not u, fugazi, anybody on Dischord Records. There's a whole lists... white stripes, primal scream, the locust.

(TF) DO YOU FEEL LIKE THE PUNK SCENE IS LESS POLITICAL THESE DAYS

(KM) Very, very, very much so. we'd been brainwash by ours government and a lot of these kids out there making music right now, they just get in theirs van / bus and they just go to the place where they're going to play and they just get in theirs van or bus and go to the next places they're going to play. They have no roots, they have no social activity, and they're not up on current events. It's just a big party.

(TF) HOW'S THIS TOUR GOING

(KM) I hate this tour, I hate these people, I'm evil kill me please... I'm having fun in bit and pieces, moments here and there. Lot's of knuckle heads, we played Atlanta 2 nights ago, the place went ape shit. Sadly when it went ape shit the people behaved like apes. It was a retarded mosh pit.

(TF) DID YOU EVER THINK THAT PUNK WOULD GET THIS POPULAR

(KM) Back when we started playing music we didn't take anything like that into consideration, it was played it by ear... Go out and play and do whatever you can, go wherever you can go, take whatever you can take. Who knows how long it's going to lasts. It wasn't that popular back than.

(TF) HOW DID YOU CHANGED AS A PERSON SINCE YOURS YOUNGER PUNK DAYS

(KM) I'm tried, burned out, I'm 49 years old, I still love music, and I still love punk rock. There was a period in time where I never ever wanted to hear another punk rock band again, than I heard THE DISTILLERS and than I heard the EXPLOSION, BRONX, LOCUST, RFTC and MUDHONEY.



(TF) FUTURE PLANS

(KM) I work for a record company, so I'm going to continue working for the record company because I really having fun and I enjoy that. I love the people that I work with; it's not yours typical record company where it's all corporate and constantly being told what to do. It's pretty free flowing; we get to listen to a lot of really cool bands. For every cool band we listen to we probably listen to 4 to 5 that aren't that cool, but you got to sort thru the shit to get to the really good stuff.

(TF) LAST'S WORDS

(KM) Not really, just have fun, be cool, be awesome, stay cool, clam and collective. Don't let it get to you. Don't put up with any of the bull-shit, be smart enough and intelligent and aware enough to know what good and what's bad. And be the best's person you can be.