

The Return of the Afficial Nasty: Onyx

By **Pete the Meat** • Apr 29th, 2008 • Category: [Still Relevant?](#), [What's New](#)

What you are about to read is a piece of history in the making. Last week, the legendary Onyx reunited for an exclusive interview, giving only HHLO the opportunity to talk to Fredro Starr, Sonee Seeza and Sticky Fingaz all on the line together for the first time in years. Still as nasty as ever, Onyx is set to release an upcoming DVD and promise a new album titled Black Rock is in the works which could possibly be released next summer. As Sonee put it, this interview is a “glimpse into the new future” of the group who lit a fuse in the ‘90s and set off the hip-hop world with a style no one had ever heard or seen before.



Pete the Meat: I just want to say it's an honor to talk to you guys. I grew up listening to you guys so I look at that as being some of the best shit ever.

Fredro: Yeah.

Sticky: Well good lookin' on that.

Fredro: Good lookin', word.

Sonee: That's what's up, man. Appreciate that support. And make sure the young 'ens around you know.

Pete the Meat: You guys just got back from touring Europe. How was that over there?

Fredro: Europe is always good, man. Europe is a place where '90s hip-hop lives. Not new school, but the classic era. This is what we do. So Europe has always been good money over there for us.

Pete the Meat: It seems like they're really still hungry for that older hip-hop.

Fredro: Yeah, yeah, they appreciate it, which is good. It keeps us working. It keeps us focused.

Pete the Meat: You're going back again?

Fredro: Yeah, we're about to go to Russia on the 27th and then we got a couple of more dates in Europe. We're a worldwide group.

Sonee: Yeah, man. It's gonna be an Onyx world, man. Onyx world.

Pete the Meat: Why is it so different over there?

Fredro: Because over there, they don't really get to touch hip-hop as much. They don't get to really see or feel the artist at a show compared to over here, but when we go over there they're kind of thirsty for it.

Pete the Meat: But even the live crowd, they go a lot crazier.



Fredro: Yeah, hell yeah they go crazier. It's more crazy over there. They don't give a fuck overseas.

Sonee: As opposed to hip-hop out here today. They never stop feeling the vibe and the electricity of hip-hop.

Pete the Meat: It seems like if they're a fan of yours from back in the day, they stay more loyal.

Sonee: Yeah, they roll with you. I gotta give 'em that.

Pete the Meat: So you're about to put out a DVD?

Sonee: Yeah, it's called *15 Years of Videos, History and Violence*.

Pete the Meat: So what is that?

Sonee: Well, it's gonna be 15 years of videos, 15 years of Onyx history, and 15 years of violence. I mean, we got a behind the scenes video with Biggie Smalls...

Sticky: Jam Master Jay.

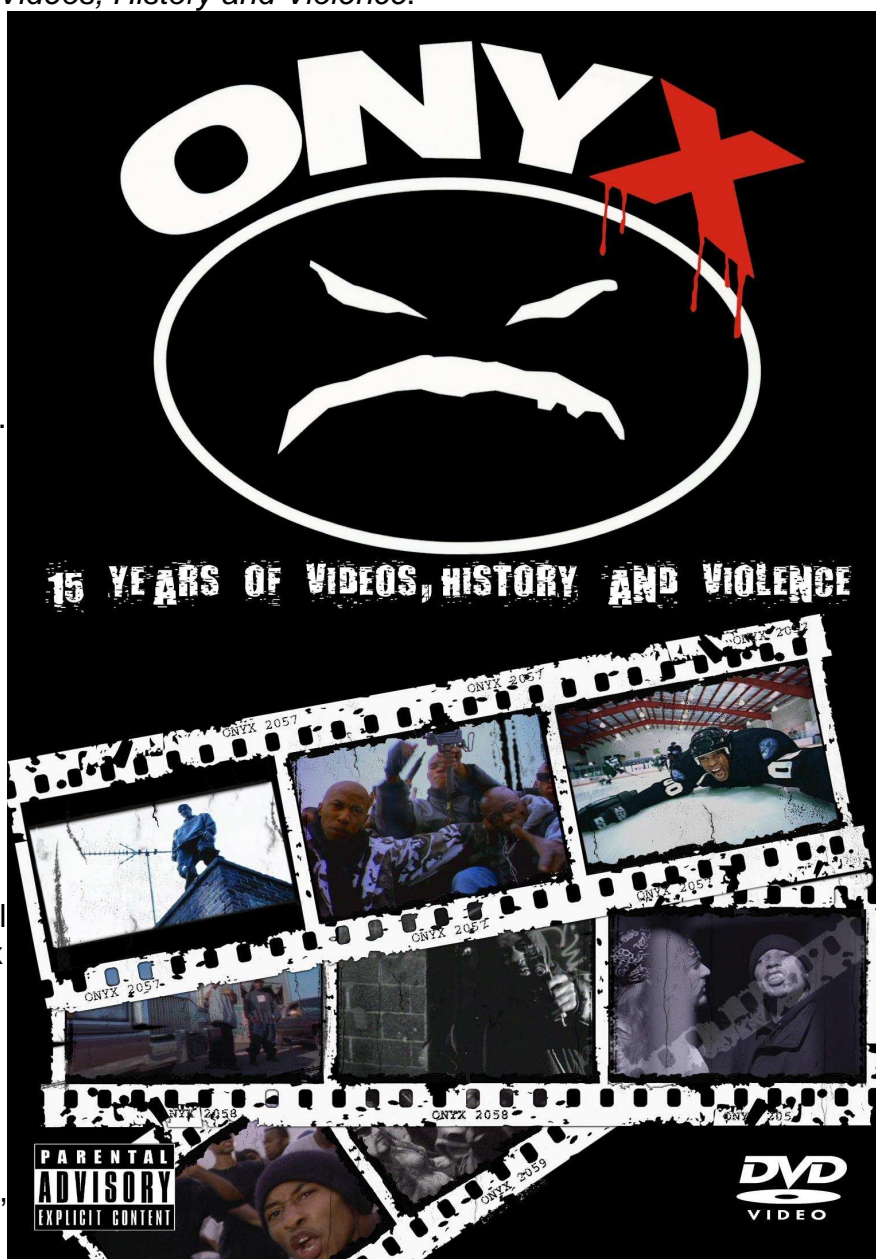
Sonee: Jam Master Jay in the studio.

Sticky: Method Man, Redman.

Sonee: That behind the scenes history, basically.

Pete the Meat: You gonna have a lot of performances, live shit?

Fredro: Yeah, live performances and f**kin' videos that you never seen before that never made it to f**kin' MTV. The average hip-hop kid, if the kid is like 13 years-old right now, he'll put the DVD in and understand Onyx from behind the scenes to in front of the scenes. You know what I'm saying, how we made the music to how the music came out and affected everybody. You'll see us in the studio actually doing the record "Slam" and then you'll see the "Slam" video and then you'll see us performing "Slam" at a show, which is three stages of music. First you make it, then you perform it and then you see the reaction.



Sticky: We takin' 'em on a step-by-step Onyx journey.

Sonee: Word up.

Pete the Meat: I love looking up old Onyx live videos on YouTube because the live performance is crazy.

Fredro: Yeah, that's what we do.

Sticky: We got the greatest show on Earth (laughs).

Pete the Meat: You guys cause mosh pits and all kinds of shit.

Sonee: Yeah, we about to bottle the Onyx energy and put that in a drink. Check that out. We about to do an Onyx energy drink, word up. Fuck that vitamin water, this is the real one. Imagine that.

Sticky: Yup (laughs).

Pete the Meat: So people want to know about a new album. Any plans for that?

Sticky: Yeah, we workin' on it, man. Slowly but surely. The new album is definitely going to be hard. We're gonna take it back to the original way and then we're going to do the *Black Rock* album, which is promised, which is a hybrid rock n' roll album and that's gonna be coming out next summer. So the *Black Rock* album, that's going to be the new shit.

Pete the Meat: You have a band you're playing with?

Sticky: Yeah, we've got a couple of different bands that we're going to be working with trying to make this shit pop off and trying to be hip-hop mixed with that rock shit and that's what we started and that's what we're going to finish with that whole "Slam". That whole hybrid of putting rap and rock together and we're gonna do twelve of those.

Sonee: Right.

Fredro: That's gonna be crazy.

Pete the Meat: I was wondering if it was going to be Biohazard. When I heard that *Judgement Night* soundtrack back in the day, I never really heard anything like that before, you know?

Sticky: Those are our influence, man. All that hard drums, hard guitars, we are into loops, just all the instruments and, kind of, you know, being the musicians with our lyrics to correspond with the music but it's all hard bass lines, drums and guitar riffs. So it was just a given to go with Biohazard and they just fit right with us, like our rock counterparts or something.

Sonee: Son had the ill tattoo on his inner lip, wildin'. Them dudes was hard body. They was out here from Brooklyn doing their thing real hard so that was a crazy hard match made in hip-hop history. You know how Run DMC did it with Aerosmith, so that's what it is. That inspiration is always there.

Pete the Meat: So Stick you been doing a lot of acting too?

Sticky: Yeah, I been doing a lot of acting. We're making our own movies now. We started out this company called Major Independents and we putting out movies like *A Day in the Life* and *Caught*

on Tape. The special part about these movies is that all the dialogue is done completely in rap, you know what I mean. The first one, *A Day in the Life* comes out later this year through Lionsgate Films so, you know.

Pete the Meat: Well, listening to your solo albums, they play out very much like a story.

Sticky: Well, not the second one. I actually like the *Decade* album. I just did that shit for the money. But the *Blacktrash* album, that shit was phenomenal.

Pete the Meat: Oh yeah.

Sticky: And *A Day in the Life* is what *Decade* should have been.

Pete the Meat: What is the Yung Onyx project?

Fredro: Yeah, those are my dudes from Southside Queens. One of them is locked up right now, so we had to...

Sticky: Who?

Fredro: Chill for a second. But he'll be out in the summer time and you'll get a Young Onyx album later this year or a mixtape or something, you know what I'm saying. That's just dudes that are growing up under us that just feel the way we feel about music and we put it down. Me and my little ni**as. My ni**as Khaos, Skitzo, Primo Starr and my man M-I. We just put it down and we're gonna another mixtape. It'll be out this summer.

Sticky: Yung Onyx is bubblin'.

Pete the Meat: And they're basically learning from you?

Fredro: Yeah, they learn right from us, man. Everything that Jam Master Jay told me, I told them.

Pete the Meat: Yeah, you're kind of taking on the role of JMJ and what he was to you.

Fredro: Exactly. That's exactly the role I took. I just want the legacy of Onyx to move on while we was doing movies and other things, personal life. When we stopped kind of making music, they started making music and they kept our legacy and they put a Yankee hat on the MadFace and turned it around backwards and it turned into something different, you know.

Pete the Meat: Were you guys really happy with the commercial response to *Bacdafucup Part II* and *Triggernometry*?

Sticky: Hell yeah.

Fredro: Nah, I mean, we wasn't happy with it. Hell no. We wanted to sell ten million records at the end of the day, so until we do sell ten million records and until we do get rich then, you know, we gonna die tryin' like somebody I know said.

Sticky: (laughs).

Fredro: We gonna get rich or die tryin' and that's real shit. That's what we gonna keep doing. Onyx is here forever. This is what we do for a living. We're gonna keep rockin' on stages, keep making music and keep giving you those hits that you need in hip-hop.

Sonee: As long as there's an audience, we'll be there.

Pete the Meat: Speaking of whom, I bought *Shut 'Em Down* in '98, but I never knew that was 50 on that track until a couple of years ago when I saw the video on YouTube.

Fredro: Right. I mean, because at the time 50 was on the record with six other MC's and that just goes to show you that he sold a lot of records but, you know, when you hear his voice on the record with those six rappers, he didn't stand out no better than anybody else. He was just playing his part. He just did his thing. So his voice wasn't really standing out like, "Yo, 50 Cent on a record, you didn't know he was on there." Nah, even me, Sonsee, my ni**a X-1 rest in peace, my man Bonifucco...

Sonsee: We all did our thing, man, and we still gonna keep doing it.

Pete the Meat: I find a real strong voice is lacking now. Like, back then it was more about the crazy voice so you knew who it was when you heard him.

Fredro: Right, right.

Sticky: The only person in hip-hop right now, to me, is Lil' Wayne. He's the only who has a voice kind of like an Onyx voice where's he's kind of getting grimy with it and kind of does some different things with his voice. But he's the only one to me, probably now, that comes with that animated, '90s flow a little bit. Everybody else is on some country shit and there ain't no animation with their shit. They sound like they're dead in the studio and shit. That's the only reason I like Lil' Wayne. He's animated.

Pete the Meat: So he's someone you respect right now?

Sticky: I mean, I like the way he does vocals. He's animated; he doesn't say the same words everybody else is saying. To me personally, he's the only person in hip-hop that is kind of like in that '90s style. And of course you've got the Busta Rhymes, you've got the Rick Ross' and these ni**as coming out, but yeah, I like Lil' Wayne. I like his style. I would do a record with him. I think if Onyx and Lil' Wayne did a record, I think it would match. I think it would sound pretty good together because all of our voices is kind of grimy and different, you know what I'm saying?

Pete the Meat: Even guys like M.O.P., Busta Rhymes, they're still doing it.

Sticky: Yeah, they're still doing it, they're still doing it, but they're still part of the old generation. I'm talking about the new generation. The kids that are 25 and under; those ni**as, you know what I'm saying?

Fredro: M.O.P., Busta Rhymes. They're from the same era we're from.

Pete the Meat: There are too many people just emulating what's hot right now and not really doing nothing different.

Fredro: That's why I don't even like hip-hop music no more, man. We just did a shoot with Saigon last week. Saigon is pretty good. He's got some shit. He's from the '90s era but he's new school. There's only a couple of dudes out there that are really hot.

Pete the Meat: They're still out there, you just have to find them.

Sticky: Yeah, did them out from under a rock.

Fredro: Yo, I gotta get out from this interview. This is Fredro signing out, a'ight?

Pete the Meat: Alright, man.

Fredro: I've got to make moves. Thanks for your time.

Pete the Meat: Thank you, man. So what else do you want people to know?

Sonee: Well, I want people to know don't ever forget Onyx, man. Its official 'ficial, right now, 2008, we're gonna start the ball rolling again and everybody gonna get they Onyx pills back in their stomach. That's what's going on. I want everybody to know about the name Titanium Group too. That's my stuff. That's my little camp. I got a couple of dudes in that camp. I'm gonna disperse names as we go along, but just remember the name Titanium Group, Onyx.

Sticky: Major Independents.

Sonee: Major Independents. We want people to know all the names, man. Onyx, man. Official Nast.

Pete the Meat: Well, we definitely want a new Onyx album.

Sonee: Yeah, let 'em know that it's coming. Definitely that. We're gonna definitely feed 'em for real.

Sticky: We're working on it, so slowly but surely, it's definitely coming, brother.

Sonee: We know they hungry, so that's what's up.

Pete the Meat: Nice to talk to all three of you. I know it was disorganized, but we got it.

Sticky: Yeah, this is the first time all three of us have been interviewed in a long f**kin' time. This is history, man. You caught it.

Sonee: Exactly. This is a glimpse into the new future, man. And that's what it is. Guns up.

Pete the Meat: Thanks again, man. Peace.

Sticky: A'ight my dude. See you in a minute. One.

Sonee: One.

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