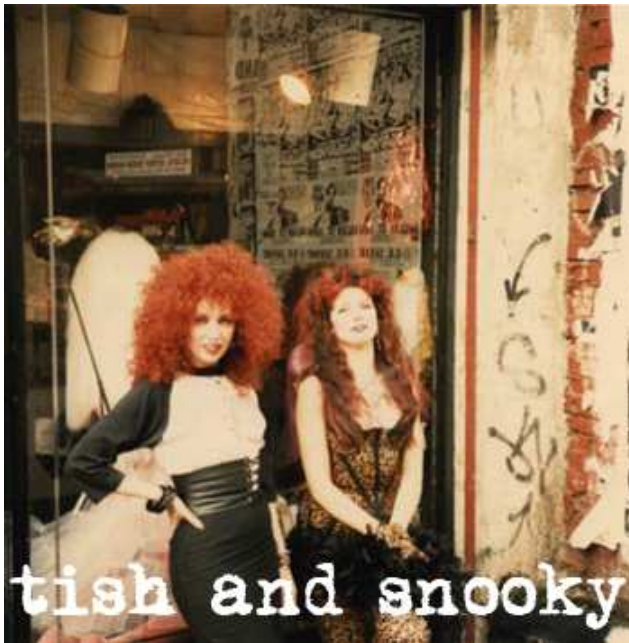


girl about town

August 03, 2008

Femme Fatale: Tish and Snooky of the Sick F*cks



Tish and Snooky Bellomo, the legendary ladies of St. Mark's Place, are better known for their brand of brightly colored hair dye, Manic Panic, than for their musical contributions. But for a short time in New York City in the late 70s, the sisters were part of local band Sick F*cks, who played their trashy style of glam punk at CBGBs and ruled the East Village. The Sick F*cks were one of the earliest of the CBGB punk bands, formed by Russell Wolinsky with infamous scenesters Tish and Snooky after their brief stint as backup singers in Blondie. The sisters also opened their Manic Panic boutique in 1977, which became another hangout for the burgeoning New York punk scene. The shop featured their signature hair dye, along with their DIY fashions, including the "Son of Sam" t-shirts worn by Stiv Bators of the Dead Boys. The girls were known especially for their outrageous street wear and stage costumes, all which were self-made and sold at the shop. Between the shop and the band, Tish and Snooky became the it-girls of the Lower East Side, hanging out with the boys of The Ramones, Television, and The Dictators, among others. And over time as their band faded away into memory, only occasionally coming out to play special events, the Bellomo sisters spend their time managing the Manic Panic brand, which has grown over the years into a multi-million dollar international company, spreading the punk rock aesthetic around the world.



Tish and Snooky at Hilly Kristal's 50th Birthday Party

With the closing of CBGBs in October 2006 and the passing of its visionary owner Hilly Kristal, MVD Audio is releasing on August 5th "CBGB OMFUG Masters: Live October 13, 2006 The Bowery Collection", which features The Sic F*cks playing their classic punk songs live at the club in the last days before it closed. With songs titled "Insects Rule My World" and "(When We Say Go) Rip Up the Seats", these were no nice girl-meets-boy songs, but rather rag-tag songs that were abrasive and abrupt. The band also plays a raucous cover of the Ramones' "Blitzkrieg Bop". The live set is just thirty minutes, but provides a good glimpse into the history of this long-lost band. Reunited for the CBGB closing celebrations, the band also occasionally comes out of retirement to play events, such as Joey Ramone Birthday Bashes. Joining Tish and Snooky on vocals is Russell Wolinsky, Dick String on guitar, Joey Schaedler also on guitar, Stink on bass, and Harry Vedercci on drums. This release is a welcome addition to the very thin catalogue of the band's work, especially since they haven't released anything since the early 80s. A must for fans, no doubt. A portion of the sales of the CD will go to the Hilly Kristal Foundation for Musicians and Artists.



Tish and Snooky - [website](#) / [myspace](#)

The Sick F*cks - [myspace](#)

Manic Panic - [website](#) / [myspace](#)

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