

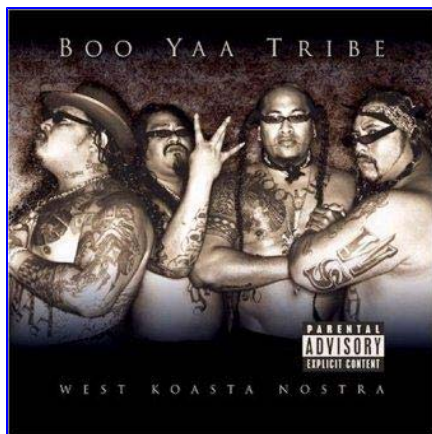
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“It’s not a matter of who’s going to let us, it’s who’s going to stop us?”

[CD Review - Boo Yaa T.R.I.B.E.](#)

May 13th, 2007 | Category: [Reviews - Music](#), [Reviews](#)



Boo Yaa T.R.I.B.E

West Koasta Nostra

MVD Visual

The Boo Yaa T.R.I.B.E (Too Rough International Boo-Yaa Empire) are six enormous tattoo-covered Samoan-American brothers who, together, probably outweigh me fifteen-to-one. They also have - or had - connections to L.A.’s infamous street gang scene. Mean motherfuckers, I guess. Mean enough for me to want to write: “Yes, Mr. Nice Men, I like your CD!”

Unfortunately, I don’t earn the big bucks being a spineless ninny, so I’ll have to be content with those few thousand kilometers of safety between here and there.

The Tribe’s 2003 release, *West Koasta Nostra*, represents the first big release in years for this group, who started back in the late 80’s but have been living in relative obscurity despite a fair amount of talent and the respect of their peers. Fittingly, there are a large number of collaborating artists on this album - at least one on every track - and Eminem has production credits for “911”, one of the better tracks on the album, save for the somewhat-ridiculous opening featuring the sound of automatic weapons fire. Battlecat produced the remainder of the album.

Boo Yaa Tribe became better known - in the ’90s for their musical abilities, playing their own instruments, and fusing their version of old school gangsta rap with metal. However, there isn’t much of those elements here, or much experimentation at all. This CD is full of swaggering gangsta attitude, full of in-your-face rhymes delivered with a power that can only be mustered by beefed-up angry guys. This is fine, if you are into that. However, the last few tracks depart a bit from the rest of the disc, featuring some elements of soul, with some surprisingly good crooning.

West Koasta Nostra includes a bonus DVD including a trailer for “Tribal Scars”, a documentary on the group; the video for opening track “Bang On”, as well as a ‘making of’ featurette. The trailer is well worth watching, as it sheds a bit of light on the group’s past. In addition, if you like watching some giant shirtless tattooed guys pumping iron, the video is for you!

[Boo Yaa T.R.I.B.E.](#)

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By [Derek Leschasin](#)

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