



SHOW INFO

7/2 @ Knitting Factory
w/VCR, The Diff's
7/3 @ The Brigg



DWARVES

Last year, The Dwarves called it quits. They released the album, *The Dwarves Must Die* and told us all that this tour would be our last chance to take in their chaotic brand of rock 'n' roll. It turns out that we were hoodwinked—which most Dwarves fans probably realized after they had saw the *fourth* Los Angeles show of 2005. Oh the trickery of those clever menacing Dwarves will never cease! This is not to say that the fans were pissed. The Dwarves delivered a brilliant rock show at every single one of those shows.

I was given the chance to talk to lead vocalist, Blag Dahlia, about their clever marketing schemes and other issues. I first had to call poppycock on his claims from the previous year. "We're always breaking up after every show or every album" explained Blag, "That's part of the legend of the Dwarves."

Just as I suspected! My investigative reporting has shed some much needed light on this "break up." It is a *Big Wheel* exclusive! The Dwarves have not died! In fact, it turns out that this year will be the year Dwarves fans can get their hairy sticky palms on a bunch of new Dwarves merchandise. Blag and company have been busy.

A new Dwarves DVD will be available this year entitled: *The Dwarves: FEFU the DVD*. The DVD includes the video for "Fefu (Fuck eat and fuck you up)," which features the infamous Suicide Girls. "I just put out a call for naked girls," says Blag. "A few of my friends are Suicide Girls and they signed on. Then Suicide Girls (the site) called us and got us like 25 naked chicks. They were way supportive. The talented Bob Sexton directed it and he's done a lot of music videos. You should see his movie, *The Legion*. On this DVD, there will be the video, some behind the scenes footage and then hours worth of old Dwarves footage from the mid-eighties and the *Blood, Guts and Pussy* era. What happened is that after I put out *Fuck You up and Get Live* (The Dwarves DVD release from last year), which was just a live show from New York, people asked 'Where are the two minute sets?' and 'Where are the sets where you

beat people up? And 'Where's the nudity?' So this will satisfy the perverts. It is for the complete-ists out there."

Coming out this year is Blag's book, *Nina*, which will be released as a spoken word record as well. Blag has flirted with the writing bug before. He has written articles for various magazines as well as the book, *Armed to the Teeth with Lipstick*. "*Nina* is about a dirty fifteen year old girl and her adventures in a weird suburban town," explains Blag. "I read a few chapters on the radio and that will be on the spoken word album along with some words over some DJ tracks we've compiled. (The album) will be called *Nina and Other Delights*."

Blag further explained the differences between his first novel and this one. "*Armed to the Teeth* was more surreal," chuckles Blag. "It has this look how clever I am quality. Look what I'm writing. *Nina* is more readable and more logical." For those of you unfamiliar with *Armed to the Teeth with Lipstick*, it features some of the most original imagery ever printed on a page including such pearls as: "a sky as lonely and unfamiliar as an albino whore" and "the boy got a weird glint in his eye, like an amphetamine blowfish in a shooting gallery."

Blag once wrote in an article entitled, "How to Write Good," that he did his best writing on cocaine. This led to a talk on drugs in general. "I'm always thinking of the kids first," laughs Blag. "Let's hear it for drug fiends! I wrote that article thinking about the stereotype of the writer with his bottle of whiskey or his pipe and so I wrote about cocaine. I think *Armed to the Teeth* is definitely an LSD book while *Nina* would be a coke or ecstasy book.... You know, I quit doing drugs. I started in the late seventies as a pre-teen and I didn't want to be an old hippie doing tons of drugs...I haven't been drunk since New Orleans in 1998. Since then it's just been some herb and a couple hits of coke. But I was never huge into coke, like do the entire baggie and then scrape the dust off the floor and snort that too...and I'd hate to disappoint your readers but in the studio, we

don't get all strung out on dope either. Big money bands have the money to do that. When I'm in the studio, it's all work. Drugs go into the writing process and come before the studio time... (I quit because) one morning I just decided that I had enough. I understand that when most people quit that way, they end up going right back to it but for now, I'm off of them. We'll see what happens. It's okay though. The erection works better now."

The Dwarves albums frequently have samples in them. I asked Blag about his connection to the Hip Hop nation. "I like Ludacris," states Blag. "I don't own any of his albums. I like his style... You know when we came out with our garage album, there was no garage scene but I was listening to Motorhead and the Misfits. When we came out with *Blood, Guts and Pussy*, punk was already dead to me. The only thing new was grunge and I had no need for it and found it derivative. I was listening to Eazy E & *Straight Outta Compton* and that first De La Soul record. The mid-nineties was a great time for that kind of music. It has gone pretty unheralded but we use drum sequences and loops on our records. We play live music over classic surf samples. But people always tell me *Blood, Guts and Pussy* is our punk record, and we were sampling back then! We were just using cassette decks and not samplers. Hip hop fans were always able to find it in our music but some people can only handle one idea at once."

Speaking with Blag is an absolute joy. The man's mind works quickly and before you know it, he's answered six questions while answering one. I had asked Blag's old friend and former bassist, Rex Everything, (ne Nick Oliveri) a few years back what his favorite drug combination was and he told me, "Tequila, Crystal Meth and Vicodin. It'll make you throw rocks at your grandma." I had to know what Blag's answer to the same question would be. Blag gave a nice laugh before answering, "Ecstasy and Viagra."

By: Joe Dana