

LIMITED EDITION SIX TRACK DEBUT

dead air

FROM NEW YORK'S RAINY ORTECA

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REVIEWS

Tad

Tad Doyle

It Doesn't Get Much Bigger Than This...



Few bands can claim to be genuine originals in any field - fewer still in such a critical musical movement as grunge rock. Yes folks, before Nirvana and co. made Seattle world famous in the early '90's, Tad, one of the first bands ever signed to the Sub Pop label at the centre of the nascent scene, were laying down a template which was as raw as it was heavy as it was real. Though the men behind the mountainous riffs and blistering rhythms laid the band to rest almost a decade ago, a new documentary DVD, "Busted Circuits And Ringing Ears" has just been released detailing the rollercoaster ride they went through, from multiple court cases, taking Nirvana on their first (co-headlining!) European tour, record deals gone good and bad, drugged debauchery and the search for the "brown note" (don't ask!). As per, Subba was in the right place at the right time to get the word from man-mountain Tad Doyle himself.

Hi there - what has been the latest news from the Tad camp? How has the DVD been received so far?

The fans have had a really positive and enthusiastic reaction. The great thing about getting the DVD out is that it was really well put together and we took literally hundreds of hours of footage and edited it down to a really tight and punchy product. One of the coolest things has been the reaction of the fans; most of these being teenagers who may or may not have heard of the band that never got a chance to see us live. We have found a new fan base and people who are already familiar with TAD were able to see us in a new light and found out things about our story that they didn't know before.

Will you be playing any shows in support of the DVD? What input did



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- My Federator
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- Boris - ULU
- Simple Plan -
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you have into the DVD other than being interviewed? Why do a documentary DVD rather than a concert film?

There are no shows planned and officially the band broke up in 1999. I started this DVD project almost 4 years ago. I had carried around a VHS camcorder during the bands career from the early days of playing small clubs on through the arena days and eventually to the demise of the band. I originally was considering editing the footage myself but I had a friend who knew a couple of fellows who had done some amazing work on other projects. I had spoken to King of Hearts Productions a few times and decided that they were perfect for the process and so I turned over the tapes to them and we decided that making a documentary of the band was a ballsyer move than putting the usual live show tapes together. I really wanted to tell the story of the band because we had so many occurrences that happened along the way that were mind-boggling, hilarious and fantastically tragic and wonderful at the same time.

On the DVD, Kurt talks of being “boxed-in” by the hype (generated by Sub Pop as part of the marketing of the band) at times - what is the first time you realized this was a problem? What would you have done differently in hindsight?

Being boxed in was only Kurt's opinion. I don't think that it was a problem. I think that the band enjoyed a lot of really good results from the marketing techniques that Sub Pop employed. Being boxed in is a perception thing; the perception being viewed through different eyes can mean different things to different people.

The DVD also sees yourself, in particular, very frankly discussing his drug use. Can you tell us when you realized you had a serious problem and what happened to help you get away from that lifestyle?

For me, and I can only speak for myself, I didn't really see it as a problem for a long time. When the drug use quit working for me with the desired end result I began to sense that it was a crutch and a cloud to keep me from dealing with reality and life on life's terms. The clincher became evident when I became vehemently anti-social and I was taking credit card cash advances to support my habit(s) that were greater than my abilities to pay to stay loaded. When I ran out of money and friends I was left dry and miserable to the point of thinking about how to find a way to be happy again or die. I had a friend who still cared enough about me to pop in on me unexpected every now and then at the studio apartment that I had. I recall him coming over and I had a Remington-Rand 1911 (a U.S. officers side arm .45 cal.) sitting on the table and I made a lame excuse that I was cleaning it. But really I had the gun out because I was really thinking of ending my life. I remember waking up alone, in fear, friendless, no money and most of all feeling a deep sense of dread and doom. It was really only a matter of time before I took the gun and shot myself with it. One of the only things that kept me from doing so was the thought that if I tried to blow my brains out and I didn't die, I would be left a vegetable and not be able to talk or take care of myself. That to me was far more scary then the thought of snuffing it.

At the end of the DVD there is some mention of the bands legacy. What

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do you think this boils down to? What do you hope to achieve from the release of the DVD?

Well, I would say that the bands effect on people ultimately achieved a few things. Number one, we had a hell of a lot of fun perusing our passions, music, travelling, writing, and the gift that was given us to share with anyone within an earshot of our music. Like I stated on the inner sleeve of the DVD, I dedicated this project to the fans. I am ultimately happy that my music was inspirational to bands that came after us and that we were able to blaze some new territories in the vastness of music. In a lot of ways the DVD was a catharsis for me and a way to put to rest a thing that brought me so much joy and despair in the same breath. I believe that quite a few bands overstay their welcome in music and become parodies of themselves. I believe that TAD was a band that burned quick and furious like a chaotic fuse attached to a bomb that we as well as the listeners and witnesses never quite knew when the whole thing was going to blow apart. The funny thing is this: we wound up drifting slowly away from the business side of the music industry and drew nearer to what made who we have been all along and I am glad it happened that way because today I am alive and I like it that way as long as the universe will have me here. When it's time for me to move on, I will be ready for that too. I am already.

What were your highs and lows of your times with Tad?

I would say that some of the best highs were in places where we were right where we were supposed to be at the time and that could range from being on an overnight drive through the Badlands of the Dakotas and seeing all of the stars in the hours just before sunrise to the shows that we played that were in my opinion so on that it brought tears of joy to my eyes. Some of these shows where big shows and some of the amazing shows were for us and a few more people sometimes. Some of the best shows that I remember were located in out-of-the-way places where 10 to 15 people including the band were in attendance. Don't get me wrong, we had brilliant shows at larger venues with sold-out audiences. I think that I have already covered the lows, and everyone has them, hopefully not as extreme as the ones that I have experienced personally.

One of the greatest highs that I had experienced was walking on stage and people cheering you on even before you played a note. You look out to the audience and see people as far as you can see and they are all there to see and listen to you. When you flip the stand-by switch on and the amp is ready to play and you begin playing your music the energy is incredible. There is nothing like hitting a few chords and letting them ring out and the sound of the tubes crackling and spitting electricity and the voltage coursing through your amplifier. You can feel the air moving from the speakers from behind you and hitting your back and your pant legs are actually moving like the wind is blowing 90 miles and hour. For the length of the set, you are louder than God. That is a gift that I will never forget.

Are any of you playing in other bands now? Tell us about any projects you have on the go.

I believe that Gary Thorstensen is playing in a band but I am not sure what they are called. I actually haven't seen him in about 3 years. Kurt Danielson

is jamming with Adrian Makins from All Time High and Valis and he is writing a book as well. Steve Weide quit playing drums and picked up the bass. Josh Synder has a couple of bands that he plays drums in one of which is The Insurgence and another band called Hell Bound for Glory with Marky Felchtone of Zeke.

I have a new band called Brothers of the Sonic Cloth. You can visit us at <http://www.myspace.com/brothersofthesoniccloth>

[There will also be an Official website for all things TAD coming soon within two weeks at http://www.taddoyle.com/](http://www.taddoyle.com/)

That's right, there is a new official TAD website coming soon that will have news, downloads, pictures and videos of TAD, Hog Molly, H-Hour, Brothers of the Sonic Cloth (Tad's newest band) and other bands that Tad Doyle has been in. There will be the hard to find vintage and new TAD merchandise, t-shirts, posters and stickers available. Quantities are limited and will be sold on a first come-first serve basis. More later. Stay tuned for more details.

If you were asked to headline a festival and you could have any five musicians or bands from the past or present to play with you, who would you choose?

Right now the people in the band I am in with. Peggy Tully on bass and Eric Akre on drums.

Other than that I could go on and on about this for days but here is a list in no particular order:

Angus and Malcom Young

Black Sabbath

Mike Scheidt of Yob and Middian

Jimi Hendrix

Rimsky Korsakov

Ludwig van Beethoven

Frank Zappa

Neil Young

Alice Cooper

On and on and on.....

“Busted Circuits And Ringing Ears” is out now and available via Plastic Head Distibution.

Check Our Review:

http://www.subba-cultcha.com/article_dvd.php?id=5247

In addition to the links mentioned in the interview, also check out the official MySpace page <http://www.myspace.com/tadrocks> and Tads' girlfriends' band Pegadeths' page at <http://www.myspace.com/pegadeth>

Thanks to Clint @ MVD

By: EDDIE THOMAS

FEATURES

- Biffy Clyro - James Johnston (Bass Guitar/Vocals)
- The Maccabees - Felix
- Reuben - Jamie Lenman, guitarist, vocalist
- Turisas -
- Tad - Tad Doyle
- LamRatLazIt1st - Keefer (Bass/vocals)
- The Exits - Ray Charlton-Vocals-guitar-synth / Mike Keating - Guitar/ Synth/ Programming
- Red Light Company - Richard Frenneaux, I sing and play guitar
- Diarmaid O Meara - Diarmaid O Meara (Turntables!!)
- Hadouken! -