

PUNKTV.CA

New Music and Entertainment
over 1 MILLION HITS /Month!
www.PunkTV.ca

PUNKTV NEWS

enter e-mail address

Subscribe Unsubscribe

NOT A PHOTOGRAPH **THE MISSION OF BURMA STORY**

PUNKTV
www.PunkTV.ca

Watch Band Interviews

- Interviews
- Music Features
- CDs
- Movies
- Photos
- New Products
- Events
- Music News
- Music Charts
- Featured Bands
- Music Videos
- PunkTV. Produc

All Interviews

- » Anne Heller interview in...
- » XMS3 interview in...
- » The Showdown interview...
- » Sarah from Cradle of...
- » Nomad 67 interview in...
- » Nick Pruher and Joe...
- » Necro interview about...
- » Matthew Morgan interview...
- » James Sznarowski...
- » Foreign Legion interview...
- » Black Halos Interview
- » Cradle of Filth Live...
- » The Living End interview...
- » Impaler Interview with...
- » Testament Interview with...
- » Static Thought Interview...
- » Since the Flood...
- » Obituary Interview with...
- » Foreign Legion Interview...
- » Cradle of Filth Live...
- » 3 Inches of Blood...
- » City Cowboys – An...
- » Thomas Mignone Interview...
- » The Creepshow - Kat Von...
- » James Spooner Interview...
- » Grave Interview - Ola...
- » Interview with Cubby...

The Queers interview in support of their new DVD release The Queers are Here

10th April



Dixon Christie

[E-MAIL THIS](#) [PRINT THIS](#)

PunkTV.ca: We're here on the line with Joe Queer from the Queers in support of their new MVD DVD release The Queers Are Here. How are you Mr. Joe Queer?

Excellent amigo.

PunkTV.ca: Super good, it's awesome. Where are you right now?

I am sitting on my ass in the hotel in Buffalo New York.

PunkTV.ca: So you're probably just as cold as we are here in Alberta Canada

Ya it's not exactly warm out here but oh well it's all good.

PunkTV.ca: Did you get there last night or this morning.

We got in at 4AM, we were a little nervous about crossing the border but they let us through reluctantly back into our own country.

PunkTV.ca: Oh fuck. Listen can I ask you something about that? When you travel as much as you do considering the oppressiveness of the Bush regime do you carry that weight on your shoulders when you're traveling to and from Canada? Do you feel the relief coming into Canada and do you feel it get heavy again when you're going back into your own country?

Ha ha. Ya well the Canadians welcome us with open arms, we never have any

» DJ Rosstar vs....

» Comeback Kid Interview...

» Unearth Interview about...

» The Uncas - an...

» Interview with The...

» The Ataris interview...

» On the line with Eric...

» Valerie Chain -...

» Who are the Plastic...

» on the line here with...

» Obituary Interview - 20...

» Lena Love Interview...

» Talking with Jory...

» Since the Flood...

» Goatwhore Interview with...

» Alabama Thunderpussy...

» Dead Celebrity Status...

» Chris Walter Punk Rock...

» White Cowbell Oklahoma...

» The Ataris Interview...

» Henry Rollins Exclusive...

» All Else Fails - MEDIA...

» DOA Interview with Joey...

» Green Day biography...

» Atreyu Exclusive Live...

» Bullet For My Valentine...

» Ben Fong-Torres, Former...

» Innocent Noise Interview...

» Bad Religion Interview...

» WATCH FOR NEW ARTICLES...

» The Heart Attacks...

» ALL ELSE FAILS Interview...

» Rum Runner Blesses Us...

» Harlot - SonicBids and...

» The Mahones Interview...

» Me First and the Gimme...

problems coming here. Having said that, its nice to get back in our own country though. The one bummer about coming back is the Bush regime so that is a little b of a bummer.

PunkTV.ca: Is it possible to declare a war on an ideal like terrorism?

I don't know man. I think down here when George Bush says something most people just want to go 180 degrees in the other direction these days.

PunkTV.ca: We got pretty heavy there, thanks for that. Let's bring the kids up to date, you guys have been around since the dawn of man, you have been a on again off again staple of Green Day's original label Lookout records but now you're on with Asian Man, how is that going for you.

We love it. Lookout kind of had some problems and they stopped paying royalties so we bailed there and we're on Asian Man. Mike Park, who is just great, he's a man of peace in a world of mayhem in the punk rock world. It's working out great. We're releasing our new catalog from Lookout and the new album. Ya it's great, he's real nice to work with and we love it man.

PunkTV.ca: Instead of a label that made millions and millions off Green Day and somehow forgot to even pay them, it must be nice to have a deal with a label that says hey we want to re-release all your back catalogue and get our logo onto this stuff at the same time and put 10 or 20 grand up a CD to do the

They were really cool, Mike is. It was kind of a bummer at Lookout but we had heard through the grape vine, through some of the Green Day cronies, that they were bailing on Lookout and we were like ok the writing is on the wall we have to leave. It's fun being with Mike. We really mixed the old albums and its fun getting them out. It's a joy working with him because I've been on a few labels and it seems that people talk about major labels being evil but in my experience independents have been evil too. Mike's a breath of fresh air and real honest and we're happy to be working with people like that.

PunkTV.ca: It's money that's evil.

That's true. Money gets real sticky when people start playing with your money, my dad told me that long ago and I didn't believe him but it certainly played out what he said. Hopefully this will work out fine. Mike's great, he was in Skanking Pickle and we played with them and Rancid back in the day so it's great.

PunkTV.ca: You guys have been around a while, I know you're a man of no shortage of opinion and it is your opinion that I seek in this question. Tell us about the evolution of punk rock as you see it, has it evolved, does it need to evolve? Obviously you guys are of the mindset that bands like the Ramones

- » Les Georges Leningrads...
- » Unbalanced - Edmonton's...
- » Xavier Rudd Interview in...
- » Miss Mitzy Interview in...
- » Adam Read of Cirque de...
- » Keith Buckley Of Every...
- » Killswitch Engage...
- » Heavens Interview with...
- » Heavens Interview with...
- » Mushroomhead Interview...
- » Starsailor Interview...
- » Drew Lightfoot -...
- » Dropkick Murphys...
- » Eighteen Visions...
- » Swollen Members...
- » Hellogoodbye Exclusive...
- » Sons of Butcher...
- » Corb Lund Interview in...
- » Clit 45 Exclusive...
- » Kenny Hotz Interview in...
- » Spenny Interview with...
- » AMON AMARTH Interview in...
- » Wednesday Night Heroes...
- » Protest the Hero...
- » Stabilo interview with...
- » As I Lay Dying Interview...
- » Regulations Interview -...
- » The Confession Interview...
- » Stealth Plug Allows...
- » Jasmine St. Claire...
- » Stabilo interview with...
- » Belphegor Exclusive...
- » Hank Williams III...
- » Soil Interview with...
- » Lye Interview -...
- » Skid Row Interview on...

and the Queers can maintain the integrity of the original artistic vision rather than trying to, like you've said about other bands, trying to be something they're not.

I always say that people forget the big punk message that the Ramones had. Band like the Dickies and the Descendents and the Dead Kennedy's, they all taught you that the bottom line was humor and don't take yourself so seriously and be able to laugh at yourself and question things. I think so many bands are too serious now and they forget that great bands like the Dead Kennedy's or Black Flag or whoever they got their message across with humor, that was the tool they used and it was a fun thing. They had some important messages but ultimately they were goofing on themselves. I think that money has changed a lot of that stuff but we'll see. When money starts getting thrown around then the BS starts and these bands cause they're on big labels that pay for advertising then the reviewers don't want to say anything bad about any of the bands so it's not objective anymore so then you put money in front of your morals or the truth so things change. I don't know, I'm just a crusty old guy who grew up on Black Flag and the DKs and I kind of like that stuff. Some of the stuff I see in the punk world now I'm not very impressed with, but hey I'm having a good time so what the heck.

PunkTV.ca: Just to respond to that kids should know that's the main reason why I don't do reviews because you as a publisher get stuck in a weird place on trying to be dependent on the record labels to support you financially through advertising and also through content and interview opportunities so you're the publisher and you're the guy that's actually writing those reviews than pans on certain artists that they're really behind they will get pissed off you. But on the other hand I sub it out to my kids and I let them write whatever they want and sometimes they'll give it 2 out of 10 or 3 out of 10 and they'll totally shit on a review and I'm totally ok with that and I think the labels are ok with them doing it just as long as its not me doing it.

I know like in say AP I don't read that much at all though I'll see it back stage sitting around but I read that and if you read that and took it to heart you would think that there was just nothing but great punk rock bands. Every band reviewed and mentioned in there is just excellent and you're like they can't all be good, I haven't seen any good bands yet. If you read some of these zines it's just totally not objective. It's retarded some of this stuff but again it's a business. I understand too it's tough but I just wish a few more people spoke the truth and called a spade a spade but you don't see it as much.

PunkTV.ca: Well kids might not know and its good we're talking about this that a publishing mandate is 50 percent content and 50 percent advertising, that is the minimal. If you're going to be successful you're probably going to look for 75 percent advertising coverage and so a lot of times when someone is making an add buy the closer they get to retail if they buy a full page they could probably get a full page of coverage on artists.

I understand that. I think with reviews that if it said honestly and not attacking the people. There are a lot of bands I don't like, I'll be honest but I'm not saying anything against their moral character. I've read reviews on me where people don't like my ass and it's an attack on me like oh he must have been on drugs or really mean stu

- » Cellador Exclusive...
- » Artimus Pyledriver...
- » Sergie from SAMIAM gets...
- » Shiny Toy Guns Interview
- » The Salads Interview
- » Procon Interview
- » Helmet Exclusive...
- » Avenged Sevenfold...
- » Black Dahlia Murder...
- » Protest the Hero...
- » DragonForce Exclusive...
- » Emanuel At Warped Tour...
- » Cattle Decapitation...
- » All Shall Perish...
- » Stone Sour Interview...
- » Lamb of God Interview...
- » Joshua's Habit Interview...
- » Cranston Foundation...
- » Portal Interview for...
- » Marble Engine Update for...
- » Emery Interview at...
- » Trivium Interview with...
- » The Rasmus Interview for...
- » King Ring Nancy...
- » Evaline Interview at...
- » Jeffree Star Interview...
- » The Casualties Interview...
- » Gwar Interview with Punk...
- » Jeffree Star - Hot New -...
- » Saves The Day interview...
- » The Dollyrots Interview...
- » Anti-Flag's Number 2 at...
- » Cranston Foundation...
- » Lipht Interview for...
- » Joshua's Habit Interview
- » Portal Interview with...

and I'm like it's just a punk rock band called the Queers you don't have to attack m
But if you can be objective and you really don't like an album that's cool if you're not
attacking the people. I understand it's tough though, it's a fine line you walk and I
think a lot of people don't care about it like you do.

PunkTV.ca: From a reviewers perspective, this is the thing that I'm always getting from my kids, and I say kids just because they're 10 years younger than me, is I want the meat. I want to know if you pan this album why does it suck? Let's talk about comparisons between their last albums, let's talk market comparisons, let's talk about the technical proficiency, let's talk about the production on the snare drum, let's talk about the lack of production, you know what I mean? Be impartial and if you can't be impartial then try to be real and try to speak the facts in common terms that people can understand. Don't just pan something because you happen to be in a shitty mood that day.

Right, and the other thing is that really I wonder about is the reviewers. Like I was reading a review, a really bad review on a Queers album and then the guy did a review on Korn which he just loved, and I go maybe he does know both genres of music, but you need someone in there that kinda knows what's going on. Like I can review a Ramones album, or Black Flag or something like that, but I wouldn't be the guy to review Bad Religion, I'm not into that kinda stuff. Musically I love those guys personally but the music, it's not my thing so I'd have a hard time even knowing what was good or bad, so I think that's important to.

PunkTV.ca: That's exactly right, get the music in the hands of people that know it.

Right, right exactly. So that's important

PunkTV.ca: I actually got to speak to Henry Rollins the other day, we were suppose to get twenty minute but he gave me a whole hour.

Ya Henry is awesome, I've never met him but always wanted to

PunkTV.ca: what would you have asked him, if you would have been given an hour?

I dunno, I'd probably just ask him about the old days. And the shows that I have seen, and asked him his opinion on... to my I'm dating myself here but I remember when I first saw Black Flag. I was out west on vacation visiting my brother in California one summer and Black Flag of course were from Hermosa beach, so I saw all the graffiti of the four black bars for black flag everywhere. But anyways I had heard a few songs but never seen a picture of them or something, I remember going to the Fleetwood in Redondo, and finally there were a few bands. I can't remember who there were but I remember I had to ask three different people while they were playing who the band was. It was suppose to be Black Flag but there were like four guy's skinner then me, this is pre-Rollins and I remember these kids

- » SOS Interview for...
- » Marble Engine Interview...
- » Silverstein Interview at...
- » Gary Numan Interview for...
- » Alexisonfire Exclusive...
- » The Living End Interview...
- » Britt Black Interview in...
- » Less Than Jake Interview...
- » The Vincent Black Shadow...
- » Forbidden / Christine...
- » Crowned King Interview...
- » Revolting Cocks / Stayte...
- » Darkest Hour Interview...
- » Versus the Mirror...
- » Revolting Cocks / Stayte...
- » Motion City Sountrack...
- » Thursday Interview at...
- » The Red Chord Interview...
- » Neurosonic Interview...
- » Hatesphere Interview...
- » Electric Eel Shock...
- » Idle Sons Interview with...
- » Hostage Life Interview...
- » Creepshow Interview for...
- » Cancer Bats Interview...
- » The Black Dahlia Murder...
- » Wumpscut Interview for...
- » Tacoma Redd Interview...
- » Dayglo Abortions Gyambo...
- » Red Light Rippers...
- » Psychotic 4 Interview...
- » Kamikaze Baby Interview...
- » Hylozoists Interview for...
- » Dearly Beloved Interview...
- » King Ring Nancy...
- » Anti-Flag Interview...

jumped on stage and grabbed the mic and one kid was singing then they pulled him off and another kid got up and it was just total Punk Rock energy. I remember when I finally realized it was Black Flag and how empowering it was, because I can't wait to call the guys back home and say "if this is black flag I can do it too". It was really good and to me, they had more power when they were a little wimpy without Rollins. Though I love it with Rollins also, and you know I will never forget that they were gonna be just this huge band that looked like pro wrestler and it was just these little guys. It was awesome!

PunkTV.ca: They had a lot of energy

Ya, Rollins I think is a man of integrity, some of the music now isn't my cup of tea, but saying that I think he is a great guy in the punk rock scene

PunkTV.ca: a little on the agro side for you?

Haha, ya maybe

PunkTV.ca: he sounds like a little angry individual

Ya but everyone I know, all the interviewers and stuff that have talked to him always say how nice a guy and funny he is. So one of these days I'll track him down and see him.

PunkTV.ca: You should be on his TV show; you should absolutely have your publicist and get a pitch into the TV show. Because he has great bands on there and I'm sure that he'll recognize your place in punk rock history. And you guys are still a great band; the music is still as great as it always was.

Ya we have evolved I always liked the Beach Boys stuff and as I get older I like the poppy stuff. But I'd love to contact him and stuff, and Black Flag. What a story, just unbelievable, to me total punk rock. I just love that. I was able to witness a lot of classic shows back in southern California and to me the Dead Kennedy and Black Flag were top of the heap and I saw everyone from the Circle Jerks to anyone. But they were always the top of the heap.

PunkTV.ca: ya I grew up in the same city where SNFU is from

Where is that?

PunkTV.ca: in Edmonton, Alberta. Have you guys ever been up here?

Ya I was up there just over a year ago, I think we played December 22, we played some place kinda downtown. I think I played there two or three times before, but ya like it man.

- » Underoath Interview at...
- » Helmet - RARE IN PERSON...
- » The SmashUp at Warped...
- » Greeley Estates Warped...
- » Cheap Suits Interview at...
- » From a Second Story...
- » Calico Drive Interview...
- » Colin Brunton - Director...
- » UnEarth Interview by...
- » Murder City Sparrows...
- » The Video Dead Interview...
- » The Matadors Interview ...
- » C'mon are Interviewed at...
- » Stewart Copeland gets...
- » If Hope Dies Interview...
- » Cannibal Corpse...
- » The Ghetto Blasters...
- » Carson Cole Interview at...
- » Alberta's Own Supports...
- » Ministry Interview with...
- » Jets to Theory Interview
- » PunkTV.ca Crashes NXNE...
- » PunkTV.ca to Attend...
- » Sepultura Interview...
- » Ministry's Rio Grande...
- » StripDown 2006 to be the...
- » Street Drum Corps...
- » Keep It Secret Interview...
- » Pink Spiders Get...
- » Rum Runner Interview
- » Left Alone Interview...
- » Grady Interview with...
- » The Smash Up Interview
- » Greeley Estates...
- » Diffinity Interview with...
- » Adair Interview Update...

PunkTV.ca: Tell us about some of the bands you guys have toured with from Anti-Flag to AFI to Goldfinger, Fall Out Boy, Alkaline Trio. What's it like watching bands like these as they grow from tours where you've headlined over them to tours where they're headline Warped tour and stuff

I dunno, alkaline trio just seems like nice guys. They were first in the door at the Metro when we played with them and they really grew as songwriters. They were always cool guys but I don't profess to knowing them all that well, a lot of my friend do. Anti-Flag we played with quite a bit back in the day. They always had that political thing going which was a joke back in their hometown of Pittsburg but they were always nice guys and we were just kind of slightly amused by their little indignant political stance. They got the politics of a freshman girl at Brown University. I guess they mean well, I kind of think its pompous to get on stage and for me to go tell anybody who to vote for or whatever. Certainly I could probably sit down with the best of them and go over the issues but on stage the audience has a brain and they can think for themselves and I always tell kids when they say you don't get too political that you know if you want to get involved in politics you don't go to a punk rock show to find out who to vote for or whatever. Like get a little more informed, don't go to see a dude with a purple Mohawk telling you who to vote for. AFI I remember they were a totally different band. They were like leather jackets and Marshall amps and sitting around pouting and they seemed kind of like they were a little not into opening up for us but its funny cause I read reviews now of their single guy and they were kind of like a real punk band then and now I hear them and its totally different musically, they wore Smiths and Morrissey shirts and every interview you read not that I read many with that guy but I've seen a few and he's telling about how he wore his mom's makeup and this and that. I was reading one interview with that guy the other day and its like you know dude either come out of the closet and tell us you're gay or shut up about it but I don't care if you're gay or not if you wore your mom's makeup. Completely different from when they opened up for us. The only thing I remember is they were almost a rock band and they were on tour with Ugly Kid Joe and then they jumped on asking if they could open up our show with our booking agent in Denver and they were bad mouthing our audience and kind of making fun of them and saying how old are you kids and blah blah blah. Then they went around and came in the back door and then Green Day came and wrote that song and they blew up and then they were a kind of Green Day rip off but completely different from when I played with them. Then of course our crowd they jumped right on that whole Green Day thing and all of a sudden their crowd is our crowd so that was interesting to see them. A lot of them I can't remember. Fall Out Boy we played with them right before they hit it big. I remember watching them because I had heard the buzz and I just remember thinking you know out of all these bands that really were the spawn of Green Day like Fall Out Boy and Good Charlotte and Sum 41 and all those bands that I really don't think would have started except for Green Day. Green Day was the only great band I remember thinking that when Fall Out Boy started. They were OK and all that stuff but Green Day had the energy. I mean all those other bands don't do anything for me, they seem cool I don't know don't pay attention to many of those bands that get up there. Again Green Day to me was the one great band that had their integrity and I really just felt that they were singing truthfully. They didn't change their sound to make it big. I think that if they would have stayed on Lookout records and done Dookie there they still would have wrote those songs, they didn't change anything except had better production and they were on a major when Dookie hit and it's truly a great album. So I always love those guys man, I really admire them and I like to see them and love to hear about them playing these shows and stuff. Some of the boys who made it really have integrity in the scene.

- » Three Days Grace...
- » J-Roc from Trailer Park...
- » KMFDM Interview on...
- » Inflation Interview...
- » Michael Maxxis Interview...
- » Floria Sigismondi May...
- » Horrorpops Interview...
- » Interview with Angels...
- » the Smashup Interview
- » Silverstein Interview
- » Street Drum Corps...
- » MXPX Interview in...
- » The Dresden Dolls 2006...
- » Living Things 2006...
- » Chimaira Interview to...
- » ex-KMFDM Guenther Schulz...
- » Screwtape Lewis...
- » The Gorgeous Interview...
- » Kataklysm Interview with...
- » DevilDriver interview...
- » Our Mercury Interview...
- » Napalm Death Interview -...
- » Kreator get Existential...
- » Anti-Flag Interview with...
- » Decoys:Rebirth to Hold...
- » Jeffree Star Interview!...
- » Floria Sigismondi is...
- » SuicideGirls.com...
- » Social Distortion...
- » I Am Ghost Interview...
- » The Ghetto Blasters...
- » Adair Interview - Hot...
- » Rumpelstiltskin Grinder...
- » Tila Tequila - The World...
- » Knucklelead Interview -...
- » Buried Inside Interview...

PunkTV.ca: What did you think of American Idiot?

I loved it. I haven't listened to it as much but I think it's really strong. I love all their stuff. I really thought that Dookie was better than their Lookout stuff like Kerplunk. Ya American Idiot is great and I like the song with U2 and stuff and it's great that they're really branching out and doing stuff. Great guys and a great band. A band that you would see and just go damn that band is going to do something like Black Flag just had that energy or the DKs had that whole thing going. I remember seeing the Pixies when we played together at the Rat in Boston back in the late 80s and I remember thinking man when they were on they were just a powerful band so it didn't surprise me to see them do really good. Surfer Rosa and stuff, they were just one of those bands that you saw and were like this is awesome.

PunkTV.ca: It's nice and their success is our success. It's wonderful for them to succeed and then for me being a fan of them for so long to watch America Idiot succeed and champion the cause for raising awareness about the Bush regime and what it means to North America.

Green Day can point out to me the hypocrisy of Bush and not be stupid about it where they go up and say you must vote this way like some political bands. They do it with that good old integrity and I admire that too. They're great and they're still moving ahead. Man I'm psyched that a band from Lookout has gone on and done that.

PunkTV.ca: He's got the one line that gave me Goose pimples the first time I heard it and that is "zeig hail to the resident gas man". That takes some balls suspect.

That's awesome.

PunkTV.ca: Billie Joe from Green Day was actually recently quoted on MTV giving you cred and saying that they wouldn't be anywhere without the Queers. Did you know he said that?

I didn't see the actual thing till afterwards on Dan from Screeching Weasel and the Methadones told me about it when he came to see us and a few kids had emailed us. That was awful nice of him to say, that was giving a little nod. I'm not in touch with those guys because it's like trying to get an audience with the pope and they're so busy. I mean I'm so busy it's insane so I can only imagine but it was nice to throw a little nod out. I don't know how much of an influence we were on Green day but that was awful nice of them.

PunkTV.ca: You had the chance to write a song with your hero Joey Ramone

before he left us. I guess the kids might be surprised to know that you both really loved the Beach Boys and from that common link both your bands were formed. Tell us about the experience of getting to know Joey over the phone and the brief friendship that you had.

I wasn't best friends with him or anything but I did get to know him and we would always get backstage at Ramones shows. I had met him many times and he had given me his address one time down in Boston cause I was like can you listen to a tape of my band? And he was like ok send it here and so about 2 months later I see him off this black cassette tape with a note written in pencil and 4 songs. 2 months later they were playing at the University of New Hampshire so I went up there with my friend Tammy who we called Boomerella and so I was like oh god how was am going to get back stage? So I went up to their sound guy and I said I was Richard Hell's cousin and I wanted to see Joey. Security at Ramones shows was never ver tight so I got backstage and I go walking in and they're all backstage playing ping pong and stuff and Monty was there and Art Hura was like this is Richard Hell's cousin and Monty was like that isn't Richard Hell's cousin so I go running up to Joe and go I'm Joe from the Queers so he's like oh Monty it's cool. Then he goes I gott tell you I really love love love love and Goodbye California, they were 2 of the song we sent on the tape and I knew he had listened to them cause he had mentioned some lyrics and all I said was I was in the Queers but he mentioned the songs so I was like he knows the songs! Are you kidding me? Then that's when he said I'd like to record Love Love Love and I've got this sing that Johnny wouldn't used called Slug and I'm going to send it to you which he did. So it was kind of funny, anyways that was how I met him. There was a snippet of a song on that tape called I wanna be happy, maybe 2 minutes of this song so anyways he called me up one day to play stuff from his solo album for me over the phone and he's like Joe it's Joey, you wanna listen to this mix for me and tell me how you like it. You can't listen to a mix over the phone but he wanted to play if for me. So I go what is it? And he says Mar Bartiromo and then what I wonderful world. And I'm like by Louis Armstrong, and h goes ya. I couldn't imagine how he could do it and then he played it for me and I w blown away, it was just a great arrangement and I go god dude I am past kissing your ass but I will tell you truthfully your voice sounds great. But that's when Joey had said to me right then listen the other stuff is good, kids will like it, it will sell but need stronger stuff so are you interested in working on some songs? So I go by all mean I'd be honored, hell yeah I'd do it. Then I told him a couple song titles, I had slime ball and a song called whatever happened to filthy Phil which the Queers did on this last album that just came out Munki Brain. Then I said remember you had sent me that tape with that song Slug on it then it was you playing guitar doing I want to be happy which I had talked to him about through the years and so we'll finish I want to be happy. Then I worked on that and sent it to Joey but he was too sick to use it and he never sang anything more by the time we sent him the tape so it never got used which was kind of tragic but he liked it and that's how it started. H did the first 2 verses and the title and everything then Ben and I did the rest of it so it's kind of a cool little thing.

PunkTV.ca: And a great moment in your career I suspect.

Kids are like you ever get jealous cause these other bands are bigger? Well you know what man I wrote a song with Joey Ramone. There's the verdict, it's in, I win. don't care. Ya I'd love to have money but you can't put a price tag on doing stuff lik that and rubbing the hand under the robe of greatness. The Queers are just the band that worships the Ramones but you know I guess we rubbed elbows in a min

- » Time is the Enemy...
- » Comeback Kid Interview
- » Murder City Sparrows...
- » Thrice Vheissu Interview
- » Exhumed Interview
- » Choke Interview with...
- » The Uncas Drop the Ball...
- » Dead Jesus Interview ~...
- » Avenged Sevenfold...
- » Interview with Skinny...
- » BucketTruck Interview...
- » Anti-Hero Interview with...
- » Dilinger Escape Plan...
- » Darkbuster Get Doused in...
- » Interview with Lost City...
- » Moneen Interview - In...
- » Sylvie Interview with...
- » GWAR - Interview with...
- » Necronaut Bastard Heavy...
- » Protest the Hero Talks...
- » From First to Last...
- » SKINNY PUPPY Interview!...
- » Dropkick Murphys...
- » Devin Sarno - Interview...
- » ANTI-FLAG INTERVIEW
- » Bobaflex Apologize for...
- » The beast known as...
- » Vanilla Ice Interview
- » Long Way Down Interview
- » The Forgotten Interview
- » Chyshuga Interview
- » DOA Interview with Joey...
- » Corb Lund Smacked Up...
- » Shira Girls Start A...
- » Opiate for the Masses...
- » Crowned King Return from...

- » Bif Naked - Princess of...
- » Chris Staap and Matt...
- » John Lydon Interview in...
- » Chris Barnes from Six...
- » Bif Naked interview in...
- » Naveen Singh and Greg...

way with Joey and that was real exciting for me. I played guitar for Marky over in Spain and that was exciting. It's great, like they are just regular guys. You know what was awesome for me was making music with Joey. He never really talked too much about his personal life but he'd call up and talk about music and I said I wanted to do a solo album of all covers and he thought that was great and he was the one that suggested we cover its cold outside. It was weird to be talking about David Bowie and T-Rex and Lou Reed and the Stooges, you loved all that stuff and it was really fun to talk music. I remember mentioning some obscure tunes, he asked me about the Acid eaters and what I thought of that album and I mentioned some other cool covers I suggested and he thought they were good. It was weird, I remember mentioning a song by they shy guys called we gotta go which is a very obscure tune but Joey knew it, I couldn't believe that he knew it but he was like ya I know that song. He was very knowledgeable about music and obviously what got him out of bed on the morning wasn't how famous he was but making great music. He was enthusiastic right to the end about music. Again here's a guy who didn't change just music but the world, the Ramones and talking about David Bowie and telling him about when I was in High school seeing Ian Hunter and Mick Ronson and he was just beside himself with jealousy cause he had never seen some of those tours and stuff that only did one tour. It was fun times with him, it was really good. Once in a while I had to pinch myself in the head cause it was Joey Ramone. He was a real down to earth dude in all my dealings with him and I never saw any ego or anything with him so that was great. It's a real good lesson to meet someone like that and one of my major heroes and even better in person than I had thought before I ever met him.



Advertisement

PunkTV.ca: Did you get to do your solo album?

No I haven't done that one yet. I keep talking about it but it just seems that I keep doing the Queers. So one of these days I'll do it I guess.

PunkTV.ca: Speaking of It's Cold Outside I have to tell you that I saw David Johansen of all people from the New York Dolls performing that live on Saturday Night Live I think in 1990 or something.

He did It's Cold Outside?

PunkTV.ca: He did a real slow jazzy version of it, it was amazing.

No kidding, I never knew he did it. I remember Stiv Bators in his last incarnation of the Dead Boys I think he had one original guy, Jeff Magnum or whoever with him, and they did it on a 7 inch they had and that was a cool version but I never knew that Johansen did it. Ya that's a cool song, you can't go wrong with something like that.

PunkTV.ca: You've had some other brushes with career highlights. Your son Punk Rock Girls was used on Travis Barker's show. That must have been a bit of a compliment for you too.



Advertisement

Ya I don't know. I didn't talk to him directly but some flunky called me up when I was on tour and he's like dude Travis says hi and can they use Punk Rock Girls? I'm like ya of course they can; they can use it for that. Then subsequently I saw it on another TV show too but I got my guys checking it out. That damn MTV won't pay if they use your songs which I didn't care for Travis but I guess I signed something and they had some loophole in it so they could use it on something else which I didn't agree too but certainly that wasn't Travis' fault. Ya it was kind of cool. Stuff like that isn't like hey he's making money off my tune but it's a nice feather in your cap when you do something like that.

PunkTV.ca: They don't pay licensing on that?

No. MTV is notoriously cheap and on that one I just let it go because it is Travis and not that I know him really but I was like nah that's no problem just use it. MTV are notorious for that stuff, they won't pay.

PunkTV.ca: Tell the kids about this new video The Queers are here.

That's just interviews of me shooting my mouth off and sharing my curious world view with everybody. Then just various live, some videos and live shots from all around the world. MVD took all the stuff, some of the stuff I sent them and they compiled it together. It's kind of a cool little project, pretty gritty and down and dirty and punk rock. It was nice of them to do that, they approached me and I'm really excited about that.

PunkTV.ca: I haven't got my copy yet, grumble, grumble.

Well let me call my people and they'll call your people and we'll see if we can get one to ya.

PunkTV.ca: I'm dealing with Clint over at MVD so I know he'll send me a doze if I want but I just physically haven't got one in my hands and I'm really excited to see it. Did you basically leave it up to them to choose what footage they loved the best?

Ya we had to because I needed some pro to really figure out what we could use. A lot of it's like some kids in a small club in Milan, Italy or something or outdoors or whatever so a lot of it wasn't useable then we had to really pick through it. They did a good job too, there was a lot of stuff. I've just been so busy that I hadn't had the time to sit down and we'd trade tapes back and forth. So they did it ya, it's pretty cool from early lineups to later lineups and through the years so it's kind of a cool thing.

PunkTV.ca: Do you find it odd that after 22 years this is the first DVD that

you've released.

I find it odd I'm still paying quite frankly but it is. There's so many projects that you just really have to buckle down and put the time into it and they just never get done. It's hard; I remember we were going to do an EP with Joey singing. I talked to Joe Ramone and when we did Don't Back Down he liked that so I went listen do you want to so an EP where we'll be your band, I'll sing your back up vocals and Andy Pailey who was pals with Brian Wilson would produce. I called Andy and said Joey will do it if you do it and then Andy was like well I'll do it if Joey will do it. But I wasn't happy enough to get it together but it's just like that didn't happen and I wish it did because it could have but I just put it on the backburner and let it go because I don't know I had other stuff going on. We had DVDs to do through the years but I never did them cause I was just too busy. It's kind of cool that they're finally doing it. MVD is just an awesome company. Great guys to work with and, like Mike Park, just great guys to work with and so they've got Bob Dylan and the Dolls and Stooges and whoever so that's a really neat company and a great roster.

PunkTV.ca: They've got a New York Dolls DVD from the recent touring and stuff down in the states but they're not just punk rock. I just went through them, and we're also into metal, I got some sweet interviews with some great great metal bands through them. It's a phenomenal company, really professional, they really work their product well and you can tell when you're on this end of getting press releases from publicists all across North America: you can tell which ones work it real hard.

I'm off in my own little world here doing my thing and so MVD sure, I get emails from people all the time so I Googled them and was like my God these people did Dylan and the Velvet Underground, they did big stuff. So I looked at the roster of bands they deal with and it's just awesome with those guys because they are really working them hard and every time I email those guys they email me right back and it's so nice to be able to not wait 5 days for a response, I know they're busy but they're right on top of it, they're pro. They have an impressive, impressive roster.

PunkTV.ca: And you know why that's going to be important to you in the future? Well they're going to get the job done and they did and obviously they're going to do a great job of it. Number 2 they're going to put some money into promoting it and number 3 let's face it we got to pay our bills and you're going to get paid. It's a good indicator when you have that level of attention to detail that eventually there's going to be a check waiting for you some point and someone's going to be counting beans for you over there.

Yeah. They were just really into it. You would have thought these guys have the gear up and go like 2 or 3 college kids that like the Queers, you'd think that we were the only band the way that they treat me. You look at the roster and they have so many other bands and I talked to them about doing a Joe Queer DVD because I used to work commercial fishing when I didn't tour, my brother had a commercial fishing boat that unfortunately sank, but I used to do that so I talked to them and was like you guys should come out and film me on the fishing boat and they were totally cool with that, they were really excited. So that's something I want to work on at some point. It's great working with people that will make things happen, I like that. I like the enthusiasm and it's a great company.

PunkTV.ca: Where do you call home?

I live in Atlanta, Georgia now. I had to move out of my apartment in New Hampshire and went on tour and the tour ended in Atlanta where my girlfriend is so I just sort of stayed there and that was like 3 years ago. I'm in Atlanta right now but I don't know how long I'll stay there.

PunkTV.ca: So the new album is going to be called Munki Brain and will be released next month. Can you tell kids about that?

Well the name people are like you get Munki in it and it's a reference to the Jesus and Mary Chain's final album, that's a band that I think is just awesome and is one of my heroes. It's great, we got a lot of poppy stuff on there, we got some punky stuff, and we're all over the place. So far reviews have been good, I'm pretty happy with it. We did some Beach Boys type stuff that I'm really proud of. We got Lisa Marie a Canadian, from Cub who I esteem most highly; she came out for the session.

PunkTV.ca: I know Cub. I interviewed them about 10 years ago. They're on Mint records is it?

Ya they were on Mint. They kind of broke up now but Lisa is cool with us and so she came out and helped out. Rick from Southern Culture and the Skids did a guitar solo on one song. Blacky from the Hard Ons played on another song. It was kind of cool some of our good friends helped out and it was very exciting for us. So hopefully kids will like it.

PunkTV.ca: I got 2 more questions for you Joe.

Groovy.

PunkTV.ca: We ask every body this and eventually I'm going to publish a book with all the responses of our esteemed friends here. Which of the following experiences have you had: have you had an alien encounter, have you had a brush with a ghost or have you seen the face of God?

I guess I would say brush with a ghost because I used to live in one of the most notorious haunted houses in New England, the Sheep Street Inn in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. So they had a ghost, this is really weird man but I'm telling you it's true, that would only go after girls that live in the house. It was an old bed and breakfast and I ended up renting it and the ghost would never mess with me but the girls always freaked out. My ex-girlfriend lived in this room before I moved in there then this other girlfriend lived in the same bedroom and both of them told me separately the same exact story. Why they moved out was cause they woke up in the middle of the night in that room and felt a body pressing on them. They kind of woke up and they could not move and then both of them finally got this body off, ra

off, the door was shut, turned the light on and nobody was there. They freaked out when I told both of them the same story from the other one and they both moved out the day after it happened. So I couldn't believe it but all the girls that lived up on the 3rd floor were like we're scared to go to the bathroom alone and all that stuff. It was really weird but I'm a believer in that stuff so I guess that was my little ghost story.

PunkTV.ca: Were they punk rock chicks?

No they liked the Queers and all that stuff but they weren't necessarily punk rock girls.

PunkTV.ca: I'll tell you why I ask that is because it's obvious that girls that are into the Queers have some common sense because if that was a horror movie the girls would not have left, they certainly would not have moved out the next day. Have you ever noticed that? They would have stayed there and eventually got cut up by Freddy or whatever.

Right well I think between living with the ghost and my ass they had enough. Ya man they would all freak out on the third floor, they saw stuff moving and felt a presence that wasn't there. So after a while I guess I didn't see a ghost per say but was weird cause I knew the ghost was there.

PunkTV.ca: What would surprise kids most to learn about Joe Queer or the Queers.

Probably a lot of people think that I just sit around in my leather jacket, head shave with my Chuck Taylor's listening to the Ramones album and shooting heroin all the time. I got the social life of a 92 year old man when I'm off tour and I just like walk the dog and stay at home and cook and stuff. Kids kind of get surprised by that I don't know why but that could be something that people don't know about me.

5 Stars - Excellent



Unless provided by content alliances, Cannot be used without expressed written permission.