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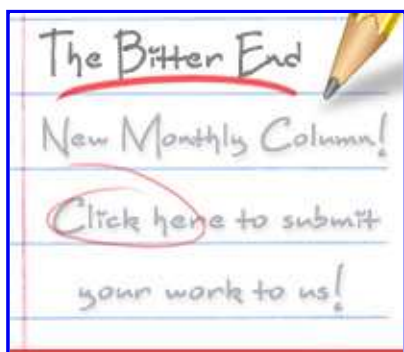
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Q&A: BugGiRL

May 3rd, 2010 by Izzy Cihak



Australia's BugGiRL seem incapable of writing a song that's not an anthem. Two listens to 2009's *Blood, Sweat & Beers* and you'll be able to sing along. In a time when conservation is in vogue, BugGiRL's songs proudly glorify Rock'N'Roll excesses in the tradition of their 1970s and 1980s forefathers. While the band's lineup is lacking in numbers, the black-leather-and-denim-clad duo boast a sound set for arenas. Amber Spence's vocals and guitars both squeal like a schoolgirl whom Satan's having his way with and Clinton Spence's drums pound like perpetrator himself. Although often compared to AC/DC, they may just out-crass their Aussie elders. Last Wednesday the band made their Philadelphia debut at Kung Fu Necktie that was a fabulous disaster of sex, drugs, and Rock'N'Roll and I caught up with them to see just what they thought about their current jaunt through the states.

How was your experience in Philly? Did you check out any of the sites?

We went to Nick's Roast Beef last night. Texas Terri put us onto that joint years ago, so we finally got to go. The guys from the Sex Slaves say it's pretty awesome too. Mmmm... hot roast beef rolls not bad, not bad. Looks like Philly is a land of delicious meals, as the Valient Thorr guys say, a place that Miss Pac Man would like. Not to mention a great city for Rock n' Roll. We've heard heaps about American Speedway, local Philly rockers who do it just as hard as bands like Nashville Pussy and Peter Pan Speedrock. As for venues, we are looking forward to checking out Kung Fu Necktie and North Star Bar.

What is your general impression of the US so far? How do the sites, shows, and fans compare to those of Europe and Australia?

The US is awesome. We really bond with the audiences in this country. The people are really loose and up for a good time... We love it. The Euros have so many beers to choose from its crazy. But like Australia, the US has a couple of tasty standard beers that ya know are gonna be a good mate for the evening. And if that aint enough, Old Crow cheap-ass whiskey always does the job. Haha.

US roadtrips have been absolutely incredible. From snowy mountains to cactus deserts in an instant. And every town has a contribution to the history of rock, blues or country music.

How would you characterize your live shows?

The sound bleeds, the action and energy is sweaty, and the beer is plentiful. Its about celebrating rock n' roll as something wild and out of control. We're all about getting sweaty, stinky and ugly. We put good times before looking good. What "popular music" is shall be beat to a bloody pulp and spat on. Go see any stadium band, then come get sweaty at a BugGiRL show... you can definitely smell the difference.

What have been the highlights of your touring behind *Blood, Sweat & Beers*?

Playing with local bands and feeling their raw expression of what life is like in their town. Playing in the South has been great as there is a mutual adoration for each others accents. They wet their pants over an Aussie accent, we pretty much get all gooey over a Southerners accent. And they cook damn good BBQ!

We've only just arrived in the East... but, already we're going weak in the knees over the Southern Philly accent.

What would be your ultimate fantasy bill to play on?

KISS (original line-up), AC/DC (original line-up), Janis Joplin, Betty Davis & Heart (original line-up), and Jack Black.

Music journalists are always so quick to ask about your musical influences, but what are your biggest non-musical influences?

Clinton: Evelyn Glennie, who is a musician (percussionist), but is more a major influence because she is deaf and plays purely on vibration. And I like loners, who don't need people. Haha. Tenzin Palmo, an Australian woman who lived in a cave in the Tibetan mountains for 12 years, and Tom Neale, a man who lived on a deserted Island in Fiji for 3 years. Neither of these people had any Myspace Friends, so y'know kids, Myspace Friends aren't everything. Haha.

Amber: I don't have any specific heroes. Although, there are plenty of great people out there doing excellent work involving the arts, environmental sciences, political activism and humanitarian work. I admire people who reject mainstream ideals and are strong and free and independent. I respect people who are different and are proud of who they are. I don't care for dickheads who advocate violence, narrow-mindedness and prejudice.

What are your hopes for BugGiRL in 2010?

To keep on rockin' the world, meeting excellent people and having a great time! And to have the most Myspace

Friends ever in the history of the Internet. Then we'll Twitter message everyone about it! Haha.

Nah, we hope to be back in the USA in September to tour and support our new album *Dirt In The Skirt*.

Keep updated on our site and myspace page, and for buggery's sake, make friends with us.

Is there anything else you'd like to share with our readers?

A lovely scoffing of soggy soaked gravy bun and roast beef, after a heavy night of drinking and partying. We'd like to share that with you'se Philly folk!

– *Izzy Cihak*

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