

King's X bassist dUg Pinnick gets "Naked" on solo album

ROCK AND POP | MAY 10, 2013 | BY: PETER ROCHE |



King's X front man gets naked on latest solo album

Credits: RockArmy Records

It ain't called Naked for nothing.

RELATED TOPICS

- [rock and pop](http://www.examiner.com/topic/rock-and-pop)
- [King's X](http://www.examiner.com/topic/kings-x)
- [Pete Roche](http://www.examiner.com/topic/pete-roche)
- [Heavy Metal](http://www.examiner.com/topic/heavy-metal)

RELATED ADS (HTTP://WWW.GOOGLE.COM/URL?CT=ABG&Q=HTTPS://WWW.GOOGLE.COM/ADSENSE/SUPP ORT/BIN/REQUEST.PY%3FCONTACT%3DABG AFC%26URL %3DHHTTP://WWW.EXAMINER.COM/REVIEW/KING-S-X-BASSIST-DUG-PINNICK-GETS-NAKED-ON-SOLO-ALBUM%26GL%3DUS%26HL%3DEN%26CLIENT%3DCA-PUB-7479725245717969%26AI0%3DCXHFH5D6UUDFXKBHB0AH A2IDIC8JIRMSBQIG-NHPAJBCBEAEGRYHOA1CL26AW-V 8BYMMGP4ZQPOQPOAH 9RP A8GBAAAGDAAOELG FP0LTTYJG4NGYP36KCWLQXWQR-JAQQUUX4CEK1YQ78PWYXMNBJPXJ7PJ0 KQRRBHANBP W430HLGUVMU2UEJTS GCXNH-YJU7TSUZIXMISE4QERDPNQ4LJFOMIGZ0LTJ66MDF2MNUJFQHOPCQEZR60V6JKHOGWGF7OKYF7ZRXRXE9SKVAH JOBD15KPHK7DSUQG6X3FKIIBGGAB-MITA&USG=AFQJCNEGENXYVOMBXTXR81JHM WUXYQW X2A)

- [Naked \(http://www.examiner.com/related-ads?google_kw=Naked&google_rt=ChBRIN7IAA43rAo0 KwsLAAOVEqVOYWtIZBoIXSbl4R6b7IYoAVITCJf4k LHdmrcCFbEtNAodWiwAuQ&channel_id=6727461 905&google_page_url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.examiner.com%2Freview%2Fking-s-x-bassist-dug-pinnick-gets-naked-on-solo-album\)](http://www.examiner.com/related-ads?google_kw=Naked&google_rt=ChBRIN7IAA43rAo0 KwsLAAOVEqVOYWtIZBoIXSbl4R6b7IYoAVITCJf4k LHdmrcCFbEtNAodWiwAuQ&channel_id=6727461 905&google_page_url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.examiner.com%2Freview%2Fking-s-x-bassist-dug-pinnick-gets-naked-on-solo-album)
- [Christian Music \(http://www.examiner.com/related-ads?\)](http://www.examiner.com/related-ads?)

Doug (styled dUg) Pinnick first made waves in the Christian leaning hard rock trio King's X, formed in the early 80s with guitarist Ty Tabor and (fellow Phil Keaggy band mate) drummer Jerry Gaskill. The band never attained the chart-topping success of similar groups but broke mainstream on Atlantic records during the grunge movement, winning the respect of peers like Pearl Jam's Jeff Ament and Mars Volta's Thomas Pridgen (both of whom would later play with Pinnick in side projects).

King's X still records to this day. Their last album, XV, cracked the Billboard Top 200 and earned more critical praise and found each X musician in high demand for his se Gaskill released his first solo album in 2004. Tabor contributed guitar solos to the latest Queensryche album. Pinnick—who'd already dropped a couple solo projects under the mantle Poundhound—cut Emotional Animal and Strum Sum Up in the mid-2000s between gigs singing for Living Colour, Yngwie Malmsteen, and Steve Stevens (Billy Idol).

Now Pinnick's back with his starkest album yet. Available now on RockArmy Records, Naked sees the sexagenarian bassist facing inner demons, confronting his past and contemplating the future while carving out a secure spot for himself in the here-and-now. dUg uses music to self-actualize, achieving a sort of [heavy metal](http://www.examiner.com/topic/heavy-metal) catharsis by purging old ghosts and grappling with his own mortality. The result is as raw and sinewy as the lanky bassist himself.

Thus the title.

Watch the video for "What You Gonna Do" here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rv2JLaT50cY&feature=player_embedded (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rv2JLaT50cY&feature=player_embedded)

As for the music, each of Naked's eleven tracks is as hard, heavy, and tempo-challenging as anything Pinnick's released before, only this time—notwithstanding a single guest guitar solo by Tracey Singleton—he played every instrument himself. The dark, sinister "What You Gonna Do?" boasts a serpentine riff, roaring feedback, and sizzling cymbals in a mix so dense it's hard to distinguish where dUg's guitars end and his basses begin. It's a confessional tune, wherein Pinnick deflates any notions fans might be entertaining that he's some affluent rock star who lives by different rules. On the contrary, he's just another dude "living with no insurance or savings" who struggles to pay his mortgage like everyone else.

"I spend my life doing what I wanted to do," dUg's rich, soulful voice rings. "At the end of the day all you've got is you."

[google_kw=Christian+Music&google_rt=ChBRIN7IAA43ugo0KwsLAAOVeg9DaHJpc3RpYW4gTXVzaWMAcM6dXb3Fs7nrKAFSEwiX-JCx3Zq3AhWxLTQKHVosALk&channel_id=6727461905&google_page_url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.examiner.com%2Freview%2Fking-s-x-bassist-dug-pinnick-gets-naked-on-solo-album\)](http://www.examiner.com/review/king-s-x-bassist-dug-pinnick-gets-naked-on-solo-album)

- [Band \(http://www.examiner.com/review/king-s-x-bassist-dug-pinnick-gets-naked-on-solo-album\)](http://www.examiner.com/review/king-s-x-bassist-dug-pinnick-gets-naked-on-solo-album)
- [Celebrity Pics \(http://www.examiner.com/review/king-s-x-bassist-dug-pinnick-gets-naked-on-solo-album\)](http://www.examiner.com/review/king-s-x-bassist-dug-pinnick-gets-naked-on-solo-album)

RATING FOR NAKED BY DUG PINNICK



"If You F@k Up" examines how some people—particularly teens—are too quick to internalize the world around them and too easily cave-in to the concomitant anxiety and depression. You've got to love yourself before you truly can love others, surmises Pinnick, so keep a little of that goodness within tucked inside for those rainy days. The tune plods along to a wailing guitar solo reminiscent of vintage Brian May (Queen), then rebuilds upon dUg's layered harmony vocals and thick, distorted guitar chords.

"Speeding Love" evokes classic Pantera with its serrated rhythm, feral riffs, and cacophonous drums. Recognizing tolerance and empathy as pathways to peace, Pinnick begs for more of each, plying his noise and organized chaos to arrive at inner Zen quietude. "Courage" borrows from the Soundgarden playbook, underscoring dUg's with-experience-comes-wisdom philosophy lesson with bluesy alternative rock.

"It's a real short adventure and we waste a lot of time," he notes. "I feel like I'm just getting started at the end of the line."

Pinnick unleashes the funk on "Ain't That the Truth," punctuating a catch "we're so glad you made it" refrain with echoey kick drum. "Take Me Away from You" laments technology's incursion into modern life, with dUg's troubled narrator worrying he'll lose his girl to GPS tracking, satellite cameras, and social media to the sharp sound of snare drum triplets. But like they say, just because you're paranoid doesn't mean they aren't watching you.

Pinnick explores destiny on "The Great Big Thing," plying his colossal space-rock riff over a mighty brontosaurus stomp while waxing poetic about why some are preselected for fame and glory while others are forever relegated to the sideline. "Throw the dancing powder on me!" demands dUg of the higher powers at work. And who couldn't use a little magic fairy dust every now and then?

dUg talks about his latest work here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LmTZOoelAgo&feature=player_embedded (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LmTZOoelAgo&feature=player_embedded)

Centerpiece "The Point" commences with pretty guitar strumming and restrained percussion, creating ambiance while leaving room in the mix for Pinnick's universal musings to ferment.

"A wake up call, a ring of truth," he ponders. "One day I'll be bones and ashes and dust."

But death doesn't define a life, dUg insists. Rather, it's "what you do to survive" that makes the more compelling story, and a "reality check" becomes one's go-to weapon against sadness in cynical times. The psychedelic measures swirl past the three-minute mark, where Pinnick channels Peter Frampton with a wah-affected talk box guitar solo.

"Heart Attack," "Not Gonna Freak Out," and the eight-plus minute opus "Hope I Don't Lose My Mind" mine acid rock, metal—even gospel—for a three-part Ampeg-amplified coda that delves deep into the human condition. Pinnick cites trust and unconditional love (which are kinda the same when you think about it) as absolutes, and the only authentic emotional adhesives capable of bonding people in a topsy-turvy world. Young boys abandoned by their mothers must "keep pushing forward" lest they be "swallowed" by their own bitterness as adults.







"What You Gonna Do?" and "Courage" appeared together on an EP last year, but surrounded here by equally weighty entries the songs bolster a musical manifesto whose thematic totality subsumes its constituent parts. This is brutal but beautiful stuff. It's odd how much more vulnerable Pinnick allows himself to be after dumping long-held spiritual beliefs for a calming agnosticism. It seems the more dUg rages in his inimitable Lenny Kravitz-like voice, and the louder he rocks with his jagged Hendrix-meets Sly Stone progressions, the nearer serenity becomes for artist and listener alike. That sort of irony is divine.

- [www.dugpinnick.com \(http://www.dugpinnick.com\)](http://www.dugpinnick.com)
- [www.rockarmyrecords.com \(http://www.rockarmyrecords.com\)](http://www.rockarmyrecords.com)
- [www.kingsxrocks.com \(http://www.kingsxrocks.com\)](http://www.kingsxrocks.com)

RELATED ARTICLES: [Naked](#) [Christian Music](#) [Band](#) [Celebrity Pics](#)

You May Like

by Taboola

					
Gwyneth Paltrow has bad taste in bras	Selena Gomez topless in leaked photo from	Kate Upton's Favorite Tiger Swim Daily	Emma Watson poses topless after turning	Selena Gomez: Nude photo scandal	"Steel Panther" and the art of rock and roll