

AGITATE

ISSUE SIX

40p/TRADE



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OF
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AGITATE

AGITATE ISSUE SIX WINTER 2005

Welcome to issue six of Agitate. This has been a long time in the making but it's finally out and hopefully it's been worth the wait. I'd forgotten just how much extra work is involved in putting out a zine compared to a newsletter but fuck it I think it's been worth it. Well so much shit has happened since the last issue. It's been another summer of drunken punk rock chaos with plenty of cool bands touring through the UK, too many to list but some favourites have got to be PROVOKED, WARHEAD, MARTRYDOD, TO WHAT END, SEE YOU IN HELL and many more. I also got back on a bike after a ten year hiatus which is the best thing I've done in a long time, the freedom and independence is fucking amazing, if you've not got a bike fucking get one it will transform your life. Also this summer I finally made it over to the K-Town festival in Copenhagen which resulted in a five day drinking and falafel binge. I got to experience some great bands most notably GASMASK TERROR, DISKONTO, NUCLEAR DEATH TERROR, APPENDIX, SOTATILA etc. met plenty of cool people and made lots of new friends. Back in the UK we had the Sozzfest - a two day hardcore punk festival celebrating the life of Wayne Southworth - vocalist of DOOM, BLOODSUCKING FREAKS, STATE OF FILTH, THE PHERAMONES and THE DEVILS who tragically died of an epileptic seizure on March 18th. It was a great two day festival full of mixed emotions, CRESS reformed and DOOM played their last ever gig. I think Wayne got the send off he well deserved and plenty of cash was raised for some excellent causes. I would like to take this opportunity to dedicate this issue to the memory of Wayne. He will be missed. On the political side of things it hasn't been too bad. We have a couple of squats in Bradford opened up by a bunch of young punks which is really inspiring to see. There's also been some critical masses in Bradford, some more successful than others and CAPS (Campaign Against Prison Slavery) protests going on. There's still talk of starting up a Bradford Anarchist Black Cross but nothing concrete has happened as of yet... Maybe more about that next issue. I'm planning on putting Agitate out on a quarterly basis and hopefully expanding it to even more pages next issue but we'll see how that goes. Any questions or communication get in touch....Chris...

REVIEWS: Please feel free to send records, CD's, demos, zines etc for review. A copy will be sent of the issue with your review.

CONTRIBUTIONS: Agitate needs contributions in the form of scene reports documenting the anarchist and DIY punk scene in your area or country, also articles on squats, collectives, action groups or anything else relating to the anarchist DIY punk scene.

DISTRIBUTION: Help with distribution is always in desperate need whatever the quantity large or small. Unfortunately no whole sale rates are available as Agitate is non-profit but bulk trades with other zines etc is always very much welcome.

PLAYLIST FOR THIS ISSUE: DISSYSTEMA, FLYBLOWN, FRAMTID, RUIN, DISFEAR, BESTHOVEN, STATE CHILDREN, ENDLESS NIGHTMARE, ZOE, LAUKAUS, DOOM, HELLBASTARD, SKITKIDS, VICTIMS, SKITSYSTEM, DISCLOSE, LEBENDEN TOTEN, ATROCIOUS MADNESS, GLOOM, DISCHARGE, HELLSHOCK, EXTINCTION OF MANKIND, DISCLOSE, @PATIA NO, SARCASM, ENDLESS STRUGGLE, NEUROSE URBANA, GASMASK TERROR, DISCHARGE.

THANKS LIST: Scoot (EXTINCTION OF MANKIND), Neil (RUIN), Leeds ABC, Jayne (Proof), Frank (LEBENDEN TOTEN), Mark (SARCASM), Profane Existence, Jan (AGATHOCLES), Daniel (ROOM 101), Pablo (Strongly Opposed), Christine (Slug & Lettuce), Filip Fuchs (SEE YOU IN HELL), Bri (DOOM), Katie and G-sus, Andy Smith and Jenny...

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PUNK & DESORDEN COLLECTIVE

We understand punk as a culture of resistance. It has nothing to do with the self-destruction, apathy, drug abuse and violence without reason, which mass media are trying to associate us with. Many bands are responsible for distorting our true desires by using our culture to reach their personal aims (profit and fame), confusing a lot of people and contradicting and devaluating our effort. We are against authority and power in any form. We claim creativity and DIY "do it yourself" as our main weapons. Music, zines, poetry and painting are just some of the means to express our feelings and spread our ideas. Our aesthetics is part of our culture. We use it as a means to express ourselves and not as a fashion, packed and sold by the money-makers of institutionalised rebellion. We know that the important thing is to be coherent when it comes to putting into practise our ideas in our daily life. Re-evolution is our first step towards change, getting rid of the lies and prejudices that we have been taught since we were children. We reject the absurd way of life that we are supposed to get used to, that is limited to being born / growing up / studying / working / consuming / reproducing ourselves and then dying, where the material things have more value than humanity, where fascism, racism and sexism are just the normal currency. We don't believe in their false democracies which install their "peace" all over the world with their bombs. Neither in their false elections where the same masters of all the times hide behind changing masks. We are trying to be a real threat to this system of hunger, death and destruction of life (human as well as animal) and nature. We are not pretending to renovate it, but to destroy it, since we are convinced that on its ruins a life full of dignity for all will flourish, together with our liberty and self-determination. We know that we cannot reach that alone. That's why we are trying to form groups, organize ourselves, create networks of information, organize protests, boycotts and different activities, encourage the fanzines fair / spaces of spreading libertarian material, free radios etc... and feed them with new material to spread. We need spaces where we can carry out our activities, liberate our own spaces and organize

ourselves with social centres and squats. We are neither the illuminated nor the punk avant-garde. We don't believe in dogmas nor in structures. We are not part of a political party neither are we a group of self-marginalized people. We have no idols, no gods, and neither do we have a colour, race or credo. We are simply ourselves, people like you and so many others who are tired of expecting magic solutions, we decide to take control of our lives, become the architects of our own destiny and start to change things beginning from our little place. We've known each other for a while and we share many things, starting with protests, concerts and activities up to simple meals, trips and adventures which are not less important. Punk for us was a link under which we came together, friendship keeps us together. Our ideas are similar, we share a related taste, but our thoughts are not unique. We are individuals and we respect our differences. We enrich ourselves in debates, and we learn and teach, that's what it is about. This is the way our idea to form the collective was born, from the desire and the necessity to spread our culture, the punk culture. To show what we do and what we look for in a conscious and creative way. To show what others do. We believe that our affinity group was the indicated way for the modelling of our group, where interaction is constant and projects can be specified in a fresh and enjoyable way. We organize horizontally and by consensus, without leaders or bureaucracy. We are convinced that positive things will be the outcome of this project, by taking the initiative it was already a success in itself. Especially in this part of the world (Buenos Aires, Argentina) a country devastated by institutional violence and where the punk scene destroys itself day by day with its ignorance, which is based on a lack of information... But we will overcome that. We hope to link with other collectives, groups and people who share our worries in order to generate more activities together. There will be more news soon, this is not the end but just the beginning...

For more information on the PUNK AND DESORDEN COLLECTIVE contact the following email addresses.
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Ruin

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RUIN are a fast, political D-beat hardcore punk band comprised of members from both Glasgow and Bradford and formed from the ashes of DISAFFECT, DOOM, SCATHA and DEBRIS. They have a CD / 12" available called "Ghost Of The Past", a split EP with PAUSE and a forthcoming second CD / 12" soon to be released. This interview was conducted with Neil (vocals) via email.

Can you start with some band history? When and why did RUIN start? Who plays what?

First of all I should say that it is Neil (singer) answering - trying to coordinate the four of us at any given time seems impossible. RUIN started when me and Brian (guitar) were looking to get together with Andy(bass) to play some political noise. Andy asked Stick to play for a few rehearsals till we got some shit together then Stick fell in love with us all and decided to stay - then it was declared - fast, political D-beat hardcore fuckin' punk. No emo, no pop punk, no 'personal' lyrics, just pure fuckin' impact... RUIN.

Why the name RUIN?

RUIN came about because Brian and me had been playing with DEBRIS and we originally thought about FROM THE RUINS as a carry on from what we were doing then. After band discussion it was then shortened to RUIN - we decided on something short that represented our views and sound. It reflects the rather negative and depressingly pointless side that there is to life at times. It is a reflection of urban desolation, something that surrounds all of us, a barren wasteland of lost hope and drudgery. It also reflects

the positive side of the concept of RUIN - destroy to rebuild. A pretty good reflection of our shit.

You have quite abit of history within the band?

What are some of the bands you've played in?
Andy and Brian played in DISAFFECT when they were lads. Brian then played in QUARANTINE and DEBRIS, Andy went on to form SCATHA and play in STALINGRAD, THE DEVILS and EBOLA. I sung with DEBRIS and Stick played in a few bands as I am sure everybody knows, including DOOM.

Can you tell us about the "Ghost Of The Past" CD / 12"? What kind of responce have you been getting?

We have had really positive feedback on the album. We were all pretty pleased with it especially the awesome production that Bri Doom created. The sound is so fuckin powerfull and most people who have wrote to us have commented on that. From my point of view, I think that I should have made more space to outline the thoughts and meaning behind the songs, but we had the chance to have the lyrics translated into Japanese on the CD and Japanese and Italian on the 12" and we used the space for that, which I think was equally important - maybe the next album will have 2 inserts!! Profane Existance said that it was d-beat with a capital D - take from that what you will!

What about the new split EP with PAUSE? How did that come about?

Basically, what happened was that in the early days we thought about some of the reliable DIY labels that were putting out stuff that we liked and that was in the same kinda vein as RUIN. I contacted 4

labels with some demo songs to ask if they were interested in doing some stuff with us and Tomppa wrote back offering a split with Pause. I was pretty pleased about that because I had heard Pause's 7" and was really impressed. The desolation of their sound and lyrics fits pretty well with that of RUIN. Two of the other labels asked if we would like to do something with them and since MCR and Agipunk released together already everything fitted in well. Thanks to Mila, Borys and Yumikes for how smoothly everything went and how well the 12" and CD worked out.

You've been writing new songs for a second 12"? Can you tell us more about it? What are the new songs about?

Well there's no love songs, not that we are negative all the time but the music we play is a representation of the frustration and futility we all feel in relation to this fucked up world. The songs are getting shorter, faster and harder ha ha! The second album will be pretty much in the same vein as the first, no change in musical direction, no concept album, just straight to the point political D-beat with a capital D! The second 12"/CD will also be coming out in the same way as Ghost of the Past - the CD on MCR (Japan) and the 12" on Agipunk Records (Italy).

Who writes the lyrics? What kind of things influence the lyric writing? Any particular

message your trying to get across?

I write all the lyrics but if any of the others disagreed with what I was saying I would drop that stuff. I firmly believe that the lyrics should be a representation of the views of all band members in some way. In terms of particular message - we don't have a vision, but our songs are all built around our anarchist beliefs.

What other issues do you feel strongly about that are not necessarily reflected in your lyrics?

At the moment the whole drain on individual freedom is worrying. The idea that ID cards and personal restrictions can be rushed in on the back of what were, in reality, 4 ineffectual bombs in London (taking nothing away from the fact that it was once again innocents that died at the hands of religious fundamentalism) is sickening, and once again it is the poor who will feel the restrictions. Knecejerk reactions and views from the 'people in the street' depress the fuck out of me. Are we so naive that we do not see that the individual rights we have are under threat of being eroded all in the name of fear of a great unseen evil-doer, who we are told lurks in every corner of our 'free' Western society. No one questions Western political and economic roles in the East or dares suggest that European imperialism may just be the root cause of greater evil. Linking in with that, I have to say that religious fundamentalism of all kinds has kept me

CAPITALISM AND RELIGION - THE TWIN TOWERS OF MASS DESTRUCTION



