

AGITATE

ISSUE NINE

50p/TRADE



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AFTER THE BOMBS



AGITATE

AGITATE ISSUE NINE SPRING 2008

Welcome to issue nine of Agitate and only six months late but what the fuck! I guess it wouldn't be Agitate if it wasn't delayed. I originally intended on working towards putting this out around October / November time last year but as always lot's of unexpected shit happened which seriously fucked with my quarterly print schedule dream that I've talked about in pervious issues. I think the main distraction this issue was moving into a new house last summer which is no real excuse. The house didn't really need all that much work doing just general cleaning up and painting but six months seemed to go by very fucking fast though I'm pleased to say things have settled down and the zinc routine is starting to get back on track. I'm already slowly starting work on issue ten which I would like to put out before the end of summer or certainly at least before Means To An End 4 but I've said that before. Nothing really confirmed for it at the moment but if it all goes to plan there should be interviews with my current favourite Swedish D-beaters WARVICTIMS and distort raw punks GIFTGAS ATTACK plus a scene report from Malaysia which I'm pretty excited about. I also usually like to take this opportunity to reflect over the recent DIY punk happenings that have gone on since the last issue but so much has happened and it all seems like such along time ago now to be relevant to talk about it like the Means To An End 3 festival and the classic MOB 47 and DEVIATED INSTINCT gigs at the lin12 Club. There's plenty of good shit coming up too this summer with bands like SYSTEMATIC DEATH, MÅSSMÖRD, FILTH OF MANKIND and DISKELMÄ all coming to play the UK and of course the Means To An End 4 towards the end of the year so expect to hear more and see photos of those bands in the next issue. Please feel free to keep sending records, zines etc for review and apologies to the people who have been waiting to see their review this issue. I pretty much reviewed everything but there were a couple of items that were just too out of date to include. Keeping the reviews more up to date is one of my main priorities and something I want to aim for with the quarterly print schedule. As always any questions or communication please get in touch. See you next issue...Chris...

INSPIRATION FOR THIS ISSUE

WARVICTIMS - Until Man Exists No More LP
ABSURD - Blodig Stad LP
DROMDEAD - ...En Este Pais LP
Profane Existence #55
FORCA MACABRA - Aqui E O Inferno LP
HOLOKAUST - S/T EP
KONTATTO - Disillusionc LP

Domd #4

DISCLOSE / G.A.T.E.S. - Split 10"
Means To An End 2007
HELLKONTROLL - Soul Robbers... EP
FADER WAR - Norway Hardcore 1982 EP
Slug & Lettuce #90
RAJOITUS - Maailman Hautajainen LP
DISCHARGE - Why 12"
GIFTGAS ATTACK / MARDRÖM - Split LP
THANKS LIST

Janick and Jason (AFTER THE BOMBS), Paul and Pancho (WARCRIMES), Jay (DISSYSTEMA), Froi (Radical Primates zine), Fisen (WARVICTIMS), Ryuji (BATTLE OF DISARM), Irena (Active Rebellion), Profane Existence, Ooch, Fofao (BESTHOVEN), Bran Scam (Rotten Life zine), Seve, Jarwoitus, Jenni and everyone who supports Agitate...



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AFTER THE BOMBS

AFTER THE BOMBS are from Montreal, Canada and play heavy metallic crust. They formed in 2004 after the disband of HELLBOUND. They have currently released three EP's and a full length album called "Relentless Onslaught" on The Total End Records and will embark on an Eastern European tour in May 2008. The following interview was conducted with Janick (vocals) and Jason (guitar) via email.

Can you give us some history to the band? When did AFTER THE BOMBS start? Who plays what? What happened to HELLBOUND?

Jason: AFTER THE BOMBS started January 2004, HELLBOUND had not practiced in several months, a few of us wanted to move in a different direction. Stian joined and at that point it was: Janick-vocals, Jason-guitar, Stian-guitar, Josh-bass and Clint-drums. Stian left the band in 2006 after the west coast tour to go back to Norway so it's now Matt Strong from ANOTHER OPPRESSIVE SYSTEM playing guitar.

Did you start AFTER THE BOMBS with the set idea of specifically wanting to play metallic crust? Apart from the obvious influences of AMEBIX, SACRILEGE, AXEGRINDER etc, what other bands influence AFTER THE BOMBS?

Jason: I think the idea when we started was to play something similar to S.D.S, Janick changed her vocal style a little. Stian added a lot of speed picking not just metal style but a lot of 80's Norwegian hardcore like SO MUCH HATE, KAFKA PROCESS, BARN AV REGNBUEEN who used

really fast guitar style. We also owe much to SACRILEGE, ONSLAUGHT, DEATH SIDE and ANTISECT.

Who writes the lyrics? Are they written by one member or is it a collective effort?

Janick: I write all the lyrics.. as the other are illiterate ahhaa.

Both the "Spoils Of War" and "Bloody Aftermath" EP's were released around the same time. Are the songs on both the EP's part of the same recording session? What about the "Relentless Onslaught" album?

Jason: We did two recording sessions around the same time, we did the 12" in a fancy studio two hours outside Montreal in March 2006 and we did a digital recording in a scummy basement for the two EP's in April 2006. Both were fun for different reasons!!

Can you tell us about the new album "Relentless Onslaught"? Are you happy with how it turned out? What kind of response have you been getting?

Janick: Yes we are very pleased with it.. We had so much troubles with the mix and releasing it due to some fucker that screwed us over.. but at the end it all came out pretty good. The response is pretty amazing I didn't think it would sell out so fast..

Your records always come packaged with great looking artwork. How did you get involved with



Rat Grinder who did the "Spoils Of War" and "Bloody Aftermath" EP's and Marald who did the "Relentless Onslaught" LP? What is it that you like about Rat and Marald's artwork?

Jason: RAT GRINDER got in touch with us, we checked out his artwork and were all blown away. Really old school MID style he draws with an 80's mindset. MARALD is a real pro we contacted him cause he did a lot of artwork for our friends (STATE OF FEAR, DEFORMED CONSCIENCE) and we really liked his work I think the gatefold art is some of the best punk artwork I have ever seen!!!

You've all been involved in the DIY punk scene for sometime now playing in numerous bands over the years like HELLBOUND, FIERCE etc. What is it that keeps you interested in the punk scene and playing in a DIY punk band?

Janick: For me punk is my life, punk music saved me if I can say that without sounding too cheesy.. haha! I was very isolated and antisocial when I was young and punk just brought me a different outlook on life and how I wanted to live my own. It also provided me with an awesome group of friends which I consider my family... Maybe more than my actual family which I don't really have any contact

with since I'm 10. Punk is raw, fierce and true and that's what I like about it. I can express myself without being judged every ten seconds and people understand my feelings and thoughts way more than the average blokes. It's easier to be who you want to be in the punk scene cause most of the people have been through rough times and understand where you're coming from.

Do you get to play many gigs? Have you played much outside of Montreal? Can you tell us about your forthcoming European tour in 2008?

Janick: Well after Stian moved back to Norway we didn't play a gig for one year...cause we had to find another guitar player. When we did we had to teach him all the old songs. Since then we have played a few gigs here in Montreal and in the US (east and west coast gigs).

The tour in Europe is booked by Koppa from Agipunk and will take place in May 2008 in Italy, Germany, Czech Republic, Poland and Austria. We are very excited about it! Thanx to Koppa and Agipunk for the great opportunity.

What's the scene like in Montreal? Is there many divisions in the Montreal punk scene? What are some positive and negative aspects of the Montreal punk scene?

Janick: The scene in Montreal is good .. I think .but of course there's ups and downs and divisions... cliques if I can say.. like everywhere and sometime I really despise it. But I can say that for the past two years punks have been more together.. I mean we mix more styles together.. like crust and 77' punk rockers and oi! It's cool and I think it's way better that way, there's more people at shows and everyone benefit from it. Let's hope it stays that way...

Janick, you started the Katacombes venue in Montreal. Can you tell us more about the Katacombes? When and why you started the venue?

Janick: Well I started Katacombes with my friend Claudie after L'X our old venue was being kicked out of its local by the University of Quebec in Montreal in 2004, after seven years of operation. It took us two years and in November 2006, we finally opened the Katacombes. It's an 18+ venue of 165 capacities. There are also workshops and jam spaces on the second floor. I started Katacombes cause I can't do anything else in life than work in the punk scene and for the punk scene.. ahaha! This is my life! I couldn't picture myself working in a grocery store or in a restaurant after dedicating more than ten years of my life doing L'X. So I decided that the eviction of L'X was not going to stop me and I worked very hard with Claudie to open the Katacombes. It's doing great. Bands that are planning on stopping in Montreal should definitely contact me.

Email: coopkatacombes@hotmail.com or www.myspace.com/katacombes

On the subject of the Katacombes you recently organized the "A Varning From Montreal" DIY punk festival. How did it go? What bands played? Do you plan on organizing anymore "A Varning from Montreal" festivals?

Janick: The Varning fest was to celebrate the first anniversary of Katacombes and it was fucking awesome... It was the first time that Montreal had a festival like that. Here are the bands that played: MEANWHILE, WARCRI, INEPSY, WORLD BURNS TO DEATH, CAUSTIC CHRIST, BORN DEAD ICONS, COMPLICATIONS, us, BROKEN, CAREER SUICIDE, MAN THE CONVEYORS, AGHAST, BOMBED OUT and THE OMEGAS. I'm planning on organizing one every year...if our financial situation allows us to do so... we'll see...

What bands are you currently listening to at the moment? What are some of your favorite eighties crust records?

Jason: A lot of Japanese hardcore, AGE, CROW, EFFIGY, WORLD BURNS TO DEATH, DARK THRONE I like a lot of the newer metal bands like

TOXIC HOLOCAUST and MIDNIGHT. As far as 80's crust records, I think HELLBASTARD is a band that always gets overlooked but is awesome . The second SACRILEGE LP is a great record. DEVIATED INSTINCT later stuff is very good slow crust. Too many good records in the 80's!!!!

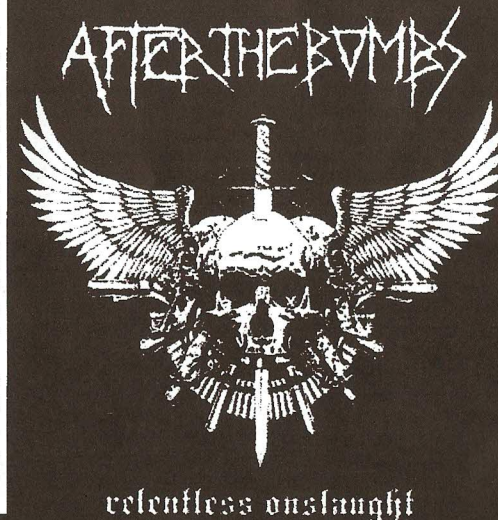
Janick: SACRILEGE demos, new AGE LP, CROW, WARCRI - Deprogram 2006 LP, CRIMINAL DAMAGE, WAR RIPPER, WORLD BURNS TO DEATH...my favorite 80's crust records would be SACRILEGE demos and "Behind The Realms Of Madness" LP, ANTISECT "Out From The Void" EP, ANTI SYSTEM "Take A Look At Life" LP, DEVIATED INSTINCT, HELLBASTARD, HELLRUSHER "Buildings For The Rich" LP, MISERY "Born, Fed, Slaughtered" EP and "Production Through Destruction" LP a classic not to be forgotten, BASTARD, NAUSEA... POISON IDEA (it's not a crust band but it's definitely one of the most brilliant band to ever existed!) There are many many more but I'll stop right here...haha!

Anything else you want to say or feel needs to be addressed? What's next for AFTER THE BOMBS?

Janick: Touring Japan hopefully soon!!!! Anyone wants to invite us! Ahha!

Thanx for the interview Chris..

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relentless onslaught

The Cowley Club

A collectively run libertarian social centre

About

The Cowley Club is a members-run co-operative. As a co-operative, assets and control are placed into all members' hands, the idea being that those using the centre share the responsibilities and work that comes with running it. Money was raised via a conventional mortgage, loans from co-operative organisations, and loanstock (loans made by individuals on a five-year basis). The building purchase was completed in February 2002, then the lengthy renovation began. Much of the property was in disrepair and volunteers put in endless hours, learning skills as we went along.

How is it run?

Volunteers have organised themselves into groups to take on various aspects of running the centre. There are collectives for the cafe, bookshop, kids club, cleaning, finances, maintenance and entertainments. There are monthly general meetings for overall co-ordinating, and a management committee of 10 members for day to day dealings. The work is organised to promote co-operation and self-organisation amongst equals. All members are encouraged to get involved. Please note that the bar is a separate organisation, the 12 London Road Social Club.

About the 12 London Road Social Club

The 12 London Road Social Club (12LRSC) is a separate organisation from the Cowley Club. It's a private members club which runs the bar on the premises in the evenings, so if you want to come for a drink, or attend events in the evening, this is what you need to join. It too is a co-operative owned and controlled by its members and it depends upon volunteers from the membership to run the bar and organise entertainments. The social club leases the cafe area in the evenings and events include: live music, open mike nights, videos, talks, dj's, and the occasional table-football tournament. Members who want to put something on can leave a message in the entertainments book behind the bar. Meeting dates for the entertainments group are openly displayed. The bar is open most sunday afternoons when sometimes members cook fund-raising dinners for causes in which they are involved. These dinners are advertised in advance.

Why a private members club?

Well it's a lot easier to get a certificate to supply alcohol in a private members club than it is to get a licence to supply alcohol to the public. If you want to buy a building to open a public bar, you will generally have to buy premises which have already been used for the purpose. These are likely to be very expensive and

anyway, we wanted a place that would be more than just a bar. The private members option was simpler and more realistic.

About the Cowley Club

If you want to come to the bar, you need to join the 12 London Road Social Club (see above). If you want to be fully involved in running things, you can also join the Cowley Club, which is the organisation that owns the building. To do so you must have been involved in the running of the social centre for three months. Members of political parties are not invited to join because the values of the co-operative are based (in the spirit of Harry Cowley) on self-responsibility, self-help, equity, solidarity and grass-roots control outside the influence of political parties and similar coercive hierarchical groupings. This restriction does not apply to members of trade unions.

Who was Harry Cowley?

Brightonian Harry Cowley was involved in grassroots social activism from the 1920s until his death in the 1970s. He helped organise the unemployed, moved homeless families into squatted buildings after both world wars, was a key figure in confronting fascism 1930s Brighton. He also campaigned for cheap food, mobilised pensioners, was involved in running social events and social centres and generally organising whatever was needed to provide practical aid for the poor and disadvantaged of the town. His actions were based in local neighbourhoods and outside political parties. We have named the club after Harry to uphold this tradition of grassroots organising and class solidarity.

What is Radical Routes?

The Cowley Club is a member of Radical Routes, a network stretching from Inverness to Cornwall of collectively owned houses, workers co-ops, social centres and land projects. It supports radical co-operatives - those opposed to capitalist systems of hierarchy, exploitation, and money as power. It supports co-operatives which are opposed to the destruction of the environment, committed to a positive ecological outlook, and which support grassroots resistance to injustice

**The Cowley Club c/o 12 London Road,
Brighton BN1 4JA Tel.: 01273 696104**

**NOTE: We don't have an email address -
phone or write or come in (!) if you want
to get in touch**



WARCRIMES are a relatively new band from Sheffield UK They play Scandi influenced D-beat raw crust and share band members with BICKLES CAB and THE SKIPLICKERS. I originally intended to interview Pancho (vocals) but due to Pancho currently still crustin' it up in Spain, Paul (drums) very kindly stepped in to answer the questions via email...

Can you introduce the band? When and why WARCRIMES started? Who plays what?

Well we started out originally in about 2005/6 I guess playing under the name FUELLED BY HATE. It was basically the same band but with a different bass player. He left to tour with FLYBLOWN and we thought rather than carry on with the same set and just get a new bass player we'd sort of re-invent the band. We tuned down to C, started only playing D-beat and changed the name. The line up as WARCRIMES is Paul on drums, Pancho vocals, Ben on guitar, Chris on guitar and Emma on bass.

I would say musically your sound takes influences from Scandi D-beat crust as well as eighties UK crust. Would you agree and did you form WARCRIMES specifically to play this style of crust? What bands have influenced WARCRIMES the most?

We didn't really set out to play a specific kind of music. We knew we wanted it to be pretty brutal and we knew we didn't really want to fuck about with any emo-crust bollocks. The kind of music we play is just sort of what came out at practice. As for influences I'd agree with you. We all love Scandi crust and I think that comes through in the sound. When you come down to specific bands it gets a bit harder to say.

SKITSYSTEM, WOLFPACK, TOTALITAR, SKITKIDS, so many Scandi bands it's pointless to name them. Stuff from other countries too like STATE OF FEAR, SEVERED HEAD OF STATE, DISCLOSE, early FROM ASHES RISE. Obviously being a British band stuff like DOOM, DISCHARGE, ICONS OF FILTH have all been a big influence. I don't think any British crust band can say they haven't been influenced in some way by them. We could probably list bands all day but you get the idea.

Who writes the lyrics? Are they written by one member or is it a collective effort?

Mostly Pancho writes the lyrics. He sings em' so I think he feels more comfortable if he's written em' himself. I (Paul) write some as well though and I think Chris has maybe done one or two.

What are some of the issues you talk about in your songs? What's the song "Spawn Like Maggots" about?

I can't really answer for Pancho's lyrics as he's not here and I don't want to misrepresent him or owt. "Spawn Like Maggots" is about human kind and the way society is geared. It's trying to point out how much I hate our society and the way we live. At the same time it's supposed to draw a comparison between the way we are mistreated and in turn the way we mistreat animals. When it says "Spawn like maggots, spread like disease, trained like their pets to be milked like their cows". It refers to people being born, living, getting a state education then working. It's supposed to point out with the animal references that it's not just us that are used by the state. Every living thing is seen as a commodity to be used or exploited then discarded.

