

RECORDS

X-MAL DEUTSCHLAND "FETISCH" (4AD LP)--- A welcome relief after seeing that miserable Modern English concert. I didn't know whether to laugh or cry watching Robbie play up to the Pre-pubescent audience at FIU. I hate performers that try to rouse up the crowd by getting everybody to clap their hands and Robbie must have done that at least 6 times. Plus the only old song they did was "Gathering Dust", probably out of sympathy for their old fans. Was I the only one? Which brings me up to X-Mal Deutschland (there is a point to be made here) who have cheerfully renewed my faith in the 4AD label. This ranks right up there with the Cocteau Twins! My fave German band of the year! Four beautiful girls (is that being sexist? I hope not!) and Wolfgang on bass. They should have named this after that Au Pairs album called "Sex and Sexuality" (sorry Ms. Woods). Well that's how I look at it anyway. I love this album. It's got a heavy beat. You can dance to it, but it's not a dance record. The guitar is mixed up loud the way it should be. The songs sink in immediately and stay there. Chilling vocals. Top notch production. What else can I add? This is worth it all the way! (BOZ)

MEATMEN "CRIPPLED CHILDREN SUCK" (TOUCH & GO 7" EP)--- I blindfolded Flex Mustafa PHD (drunk) and made him listen to these guys cause I was biased. Q: Do you think these guys are faggots? A: Yeah. Q: Do they sound macho? A: This hard sound is an extension of their peniuses. Q: Do you think they jack off? A: Everybody jacks off. Q: What do you think of the lyrics? A: Cough. Q: What does the guitar remind you of? A: Black Flag. Q: Do you think Tesco Vee is retarded? A: He sounds like he probably smells. FLEX'S FINAL SAY: They're a pimple on my ass. LISA'S FINAL SAY: They shouldn't care about reviews anyway. (LISA ANGEL)

THE EMBARRASMENT "DEATH TRAVELS WEST" (FRESH SOUNDS 12" EP)--- Didn't expect to like this. I was suprised. These guys may look like dorks but they're A-OK in my book. They've got some quirky real infectious songs, a keen sense of humour, choppy rhythms, a sharp acute instrumental attack, and plenty of drive to carry it through. Just check out the quick rushes to "Drive Me to the Park" which gives me chills. My favorite band from Kansas. (BOZ)

SCREAM "STILL SCREAMING" (DISCHORD LP)--- This grew on me. Powerful material especially whats on side one. A little more diversity on the second side away from the standard HC sound. Some of it works/some of it doesn't but at least they're trying. Regardless this is still up there with all the other Dischord shit so buy it. (BOZ)



MEKANIK DESTRUKTIV KOMANDO "BERLIN" (ROUGH TRADE 12" EP)--- A hard hitting band from Germany. There's a sense of tension as the sax player works off the standard rhythm section. The vocals which are loud and distinct are very guttural sounding as they are all sung in German. Although MDK are not a punk band, they do have a strong punk sensibility which is apparant in their lyrics (translation provided) and their powerful music. (BOZ)

OIL TASTERS (THERMIDOR LP)--- Crazy, man, crazy. Three man funk from Milwaukee that's real enjoyable- kind of like James Chance if he really wanted people to listen to him. This kind of thing ain't my bag generally, but these guys really got me. A sax man to kill for. (CZ)

VARIOUS "NOISE FROM NOWHERE" (TOXIC SHOCK 7" EP)--- Four different punk bands (Kent State, Modern Industry, Moslem Birth, Manson Youth) with 4 distinct approaches. Very crude and unpolished unlike alot of the homogenized shit that passes for punk rock these days. Plus there's not one generic thrasher in the bunch. (BOZ)

NEGATIVE APPROACH (TOUCH & GO 7" EP)---

Another intense T&G Midwest band. Although Negative Approach may lack the wit and charm of the Meatmen or Necros, musically this is top notch shit. Total no holds barred thrash that rips, churns, and burns in an appropriate manner. A ~~must!!!~~ (BOZ)
 P.S. IF you're having trouble locating any T&G product write direct to P.O.B. 716 Maumee, OH 43537. Along with Dischord this is one of the most consistently great labels around.

HAPPINESS BOYS "MEAT PARADE" (DUTONE)---Very, what you might say, experimental. It's definitely the best thing to ever come of this anti-culture sleeze hole called Florida. It can be distantly compared to bands like 23 Skiddoo, Throbbing Gristle, Gaberat Voltaire, but it's still remote and in it's very own corner. This three-song 12" collage is available from The Happiness Boys at PO Box 1168, Miami, Florida, 33143. (VAGUE)

STATIC DISRUPTERS "D.C. GROOVE"/"FEED THE FIRE" (WASP 7")--- Homogenized funk/rap disc. If you're at all interested in the D.C. funk scene bypass this and check out Trouble Funk instead. (821 N Taylor St Arlington, VA 22203) (BOZ)

100 FLOWERS (HAPPY SQUID)--- No more Urinals and no more 100 Flowers. Fuck! How come all the good guys always break up? Do you think they will get together again if we make this album of the issue? Does anyone care? This LP goes beyond labels... it's simple enough just like "The Days of Wine & Roses" but there's a deep emotional undertow at work here that drills right into your brain. I guess you could say that 100 Flowers were a personal band. This won't hit you right on your head, it's up to the listener to look beyond the obvious and fill in the gaps. A very special band indeed. (BOZ)

VANDALS "PEACE THROUGH VANDALISM" (EPITAPH 12" EP)--- "Urban Struggle", the cowboy punk song is a classic if I've ever heard one. The rest of this is also ace. Fave title: "Anarchy Burger (Hold the Government)". Plenty of laughs. (BOZ)

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PHOTO: JESSICA

CRUCIFIX "1984" (FREAK 7" EP)--- San Francisco anarchist band who present a good heavy metal/punk fusion on this disc. This record has great vocals (sounds sort of like Darby), good lyrics, and an overall hard driving sound. Nice packaging too. (\$2 to POB 331 SF, CA 94101) (BOZ)

HATES "PANACEA" (FACELESS 12" EP)--- Their first 12" offering after 3 singles. This is a more traditional punk record with post punk and pop influences as well. Unfortunately the overall muddy sound detracts from their performances. Not as good as their singles however their are still some strong tunes here. (4200 W 34th Box 132 Houston, Tx. 77092) (BOZ)

BEECH "BUTCH"/"EMPTY HOUSE" (ZERO DEGREE 7")--- These guys have been plowing away in the Richmond/D.C. area for at least 4 years now and this is the first vinyl of theirs I've come across - some may say it's a bit late for this stuff, but I say good punk is timeless. Singer Christine Gibson has been compared to Patti Smith so many times that I refuse to repeat it here. (P.O.B. 14532 Richmond, VA 23221) (CZ)

VARIOUS "MIXED NUTS DON'T CRACK" (OUTSIDE LP)--- A real solid compilation featuring 3 HC bands (Media Disease, Social Suicide, United Mutation) and 3 art/noise outfits (Chalk Circle, Nuclear Crayons, Hate From Ignorance). All bands are from the Virginia/Maryland/D.C. area. The mixing of approaches help make an interesting LP and besides the bands are pretty good too. Some cool things happening here. (BOZ)
 Write to: 3111 First St North, Arlington, VA 22201.

23 SKIDOO "THE CULLING IS COMING" (OPERATION TWILIGHT LP)--- The unheard soundtrack to "Apocalypse Now". Get this- a gratness that ranks right up there with SPK's "Leichenschrei". Awesome, scary, and chilling music from the temple. Jim Jones would be proud. (BOZ)

DIE KREUZEN "COWS AND BEER" (VERSION SOUND 7" EP)--- This is fucking choice. Choppy guitar; neat tempo changes; urgent, mean, and nasty vocals; well developed songs... this slab of vinyl has it all! A sure shot of adrenalin. Better than drugs! (POB 429 Yellow Springs, OH 45387) (BOZ)

LEPERS "EVIL MUSIC"/"SO WE CAN TALK" (UNCLEAN 7")--- Crude garage psychedelica that avoids most of today's cliches. This punk record has a basic honesty to it that probably results from the bands' relative isolation (Boulder, Colorado) from everything else going on. You won't just file this one away... (1310 College Av #1133 Boulder, CO 80302) (BOZ)



NICO "DO OR DIE" (RIOR cassette)--- OK Nico tape recorded live in Europe featuring the Blue Orchids as backup band and linear notes by Giorgio Gomelsky. It's pretty good I suppose but I've only played it once. Besides the title is a rip off from a Grace Jones record. Blah. (BOZ)

VIOLENT FEMMES (SLASH LP)--- The Femmes have been described as "folkpunkskifflerock" and that's about as accurate of a starting point as any I could think of. I guess the Femmes may be folkies at heart but there's a difference... this music has balls, there's an edge that cuts through alot of the material on this debut LP. If Jonathon Richmond wasn't such a wimp he might be making something like this. Recommended. (BOZ)

VARIOUS NY BANDS "SINGLES" (RIOR cassette)--- A collection of early NY punk/new wave singles. The majority of this is lame featuring some of the most highly overrated nothing bands of the old NY scene (Nervous Rex, Speedies, US Ape....). no Misfits, Contortions, Heartbreakers... However it does contain 3 of the most seminal/crucial/classic all-time great singles... Patti Smith's "Piss Factory", Television's "Little Johnny Jewel", and Richard Hell & the Voidoids with "Blank Generation". (BOZ)

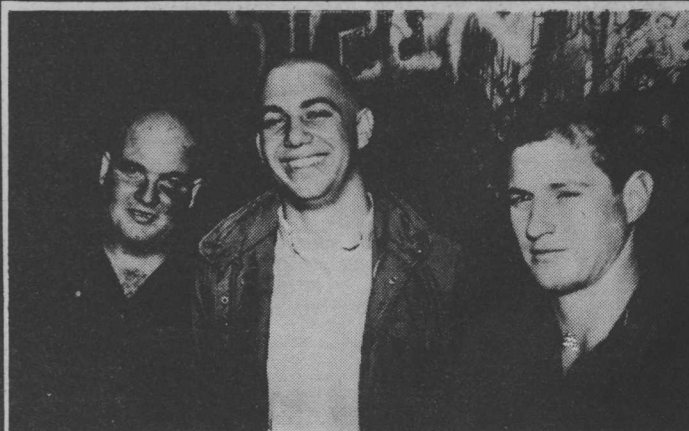
COLOUR BOX (4AD 12" EP)--- Ivo must have read my review of this in #7 and decided to redo the damn thing. Well... this dance remix isn't so bad afterall. Some special effects and a funkier mix on "Breakdown" make this alot more listenable and fun. From the "fun" label, 4AD of course. (BOZ)

NECROS "CONQUEST FOR DEATH"/"TAKE EM UP" (TOUCH & GO 7")--- One of my favorite bands- I'm biased when it comes to these guys. Two goodies here from their L.A. Spot sessions. A more mature full aggressive sound than any of their previous efforts on vinyl. More metal and less skank you might say. A great single... I'm sure the LP will be a monster. (BOZ)

OVERKILL (SST 7")--- Basic punk/metal sound on this debut EP. It's OK but it doesn't exactly make me want to go out and "burn the school" (their words). Mediocre when compared to the rest of the SST roster. (BOZ)

ELECTRIC PEACE "KILL FOR YOUR LOVE" (BIG K 7")--- Boy this sucker is weird. I know nothing about this group and this one-sided single outside of the stupid story on the insert. This thing is so fuckin queer it's good. It's a punk pop rockabilly record with 60's psychedelica influences.... no shit. Could be the next trend. Watch out. (no address but it came in a Faulty envelope) (BOZ)

MALARIA "NEW YORK PASSAGE" (CACHALOT 12" EP)--- The English side of this record seems to be naturally pointed at us I'm sorry to say. It's one of the more dancy songs they've done but it's not strong enough. Maybe cause they're not thinking German. The other side seems more selfish (the German side). It's still not that great. Try again girls, you have something. (VAGUE)



MINUTEMEN "WHAT MAKES A MAN START FIRES?" (SST LP)--- Hot shit! The Minutemen are at it again. These guys haven't dissappointed me yet and this is no exception. Yeah this is more of the same... their own mixup of punk, funk, jazz, art, sleaze.... Someday someone will sit up and take note of how great these guys really are. (BOZ)



DEAD KENNEDYS "PLASTIC SURGERY DIASASTERS"
(ALTERNATIVE TENTACLES LP)--- PSD is not as redundant as other DKs. Jello can get on my nerves but at least they have backup vocals on this album. I like these songs the best, "I Am the Owl" and "Trust Your Mechanic". Another lame review. (LISA ANGEL)

COCTEAU TWINS "PEPPERMINT PIG" (4AD) 12" EP
The cover is beautiful but you don't want to hear about that. A thick record, a very thick sound, full guitar, pounding drums, etc., etc. The vocalist is somewhat reminiscent of the siren-like sound associated with Siouxsie of the Banshees, with a touch of haziness. Good. (VAGUE)

NEGATIVE ELEMENT "YES, WE HAVE NO BANANAS"
(VERSION SOUND 7" EP)--- Let's see... Negative Trend, Negative Approach, Negative FX, and now Negative Element. Sounds real negative man. NE play what we might label garage thrash... well we might label it that but we might not. I'm gonna have to think about it first. Anyway this is OK and some of the lyrics are funny/interesting but you've heard most of it somewhere before. (POB 429 Yellow Spgs, OH 45387) (BOZ)

CLITBOYS (DEMO TAPE)--- Cliche lyrics. For example these song titles... "I Hate the Ku Klux Klan", "Apathy Rules?", and "3rd World War". Thank god there's no songs about Reagan. However musically this isn't too bad.. they're pretty energetic I suppose..... but originality is obviously not their forte. Maybe with time... (180 Cherokee Milwaukee, MI 53217) (BOZ)

FLUX OF PINK INDIANS "STRIVE TO SURVIVE" (SPIDERLEG LP)--- A bit of a letdown as this sounds a bit too calculated and sterile when compared to their singles. Regardless this is still a powerful and ambitious debut LP- sort of a companion piece to the Grass album as far as packaging and sense of purpose are concerned. (BOZ)

SHOCKABILLY "19th NERVOUS BREAKDOWN"/"CITY OF CORRUPTION" (ROUGH TRADE 7" EP)--- Surprise! A twisted fuzzed-out garage version of the old Stones staple. The flip is a piece of psychedelic madness that sounds like it was recorded underwater. If you don't like this you have a problem. (BOZ)

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TSOL "BENEATH THE SHADOWS" (ALTERNATIVE TENTACLES LP)--- "Beneath the Shadows" is different from previous TSOL. They've added organ and piano on all the songs which gives them a more wussy-ish sound (the guy they got for keyboards reminds me of Burt Bacharach), but Ron Emory is still a guitar hero and there's a couple of great songs like "The Other Side" and "She's Still Saying". (LISA ANGEL)

MINOR THREAT "OUT OF STEP" (DISCHORD 12" EP)

--- There may not be anything here as awesome as "In My Eyes" but fuck it cause how many bands get a chance to come up with a song like that in their lifetime? YES! This is another killer set of tunes and MT have never sounded tighter on vinyl and the dual guitars of Brian and Lyle are devastating and you know I could continue on and on with this but you know what really separates this band from the majority of the others? Their honesty and commitment. It fucking shows. (BOZ)

START "LOOK AROUND" (FRESH SOUNDS 12" EP)---

Better than their Ep but this is still too lame and mellow for me to get excited. Allen Ginsburg sings a song here but I still haven't figured out where he fits in. (BOZ)

SACRED ORDER (DEMC TAPE)--- Sacred Order hail from Milwaukee just like Die Kreuzen. Unfortunately this isn't in quite the same league, this is a bit too predictable and generic... Regardless this is still OK as far as noise goes it's just not extremely exciting. (\$3 to 2620 s 124 St West Allis, WI 53227) (BOZ)

VARIOUS "WARFRAT TALES" (WARFRAT LP)--- L.A. comp of primarily (although not limited to) 60's influenced bands. My faves are the two least derivative, the under rated Leaving Trains and the always great 100 Flowers (RIP). Other bands of lesser interest include the Last, Rain Parade, Wednesday Week, Earwigs, etc... The rest are OK but if you like these kind of bands this is recommended cause it's really a well put together package. (BOZ)

THE BIRTHDAY PARTY "THE BAD SEED" (4AD EP12")

--- Another vicious violent assault on our senses... like being stuck in a gigantic blender and having your guts splattered and thrown about in all directions. The B.P. do not know the meaning of the words "subtly" or "accessibility". Although this may be a bit more refined than "Junkyard" it's ultimately every bit as good. This is the real hardcore for people who know the difference. CRANK IT UP. (BOZ)



TELEVISION "THE BLOW UP" (RIOR cassette)---

Shitty recording of a great performance. The dual guitars of Verlaine and Lloyd are in full force on this live tape dating from 78'. A special moment in time... wish I was there. (BOZ)

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PRINCE CHARLES & THE CITY BEAT BAND (RIOR cassette)--- Heavy super bad street funk ala old Funkadelic. This is more exciting and vital than anything I've heard from JAHmaica over the past year. It's also alot more fun than that Nico tape. (BOZ)

RAIN PARADE "WHAT SHE'S DONE TO YOUR MIND"/"KALEIDOSCOPE" (LLAMA 7)--- This is about as mellow as I can stand, but it's a thoughtful haunting approach to that 60's idiom (which shall go labelless here) with the thickest harmonies I've heard in a long time. The 5 1/2 minute flip is real drone-city digging even deeper in that idiom with electric sitar and other neat shit. Plus if you hold the record up to the light, it turns purple. Wow. (CZ)

WIRE (ROUGH TRADE 12" EP)--- Three years later and the Wire releases keep on coming. "Crazy About Love" is lillong and heavy on the atmospherics ala Section 25 (or vice versa which is probably more correct). "Second Length" is a bit more direct while "Catapult 30" is an exercise in minimalist noise. Stick with "Pink Flag" unless you're a fan. (BOZ)

THE BOBS (SAFETY NET 12" EP)--- Defunct South Florida band that come off like a slightly quirky Talking Heads (pre-Africa). Nothing particularly original or mindblowing but this is still a pretty good record. Quality songs sharply executed. (POB 4546 Ft Lad. FL 33338) (BOZ)

B-MINORS "PROM NIGHT"/"LETTERS FROM HOME" (IKON 7)--- Peppy (if not powerful) pop from Ohio. Real catchy on the A side, while the flip turns moodier and more keyboard (as in "organ") oriented. I found this on a trip to Cincinnati, and I don't know anything about them, I'd like to know more. (CZ)

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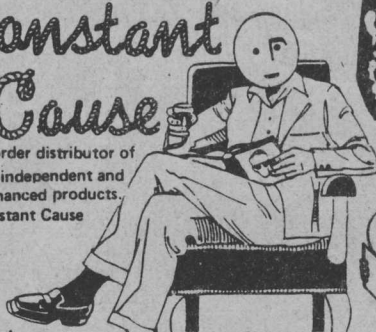
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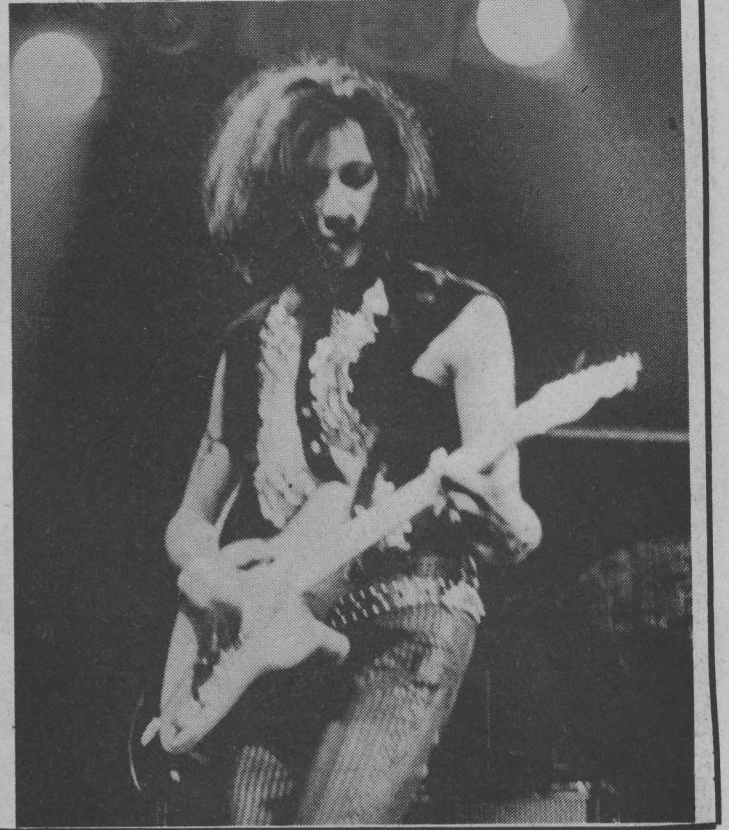
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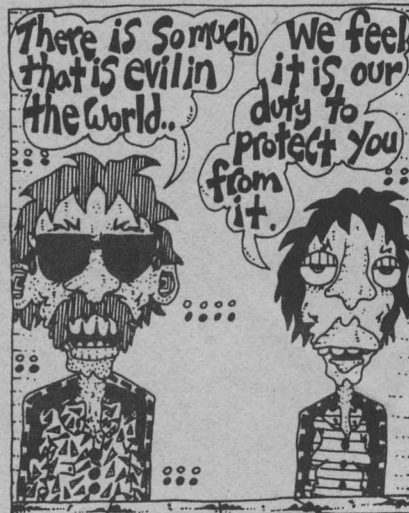


"Roses are red. Violets are blue. The Cramps are God, but so are you!" Child's nursery rhyme.

photos and rhyme by Leslie Wimmer



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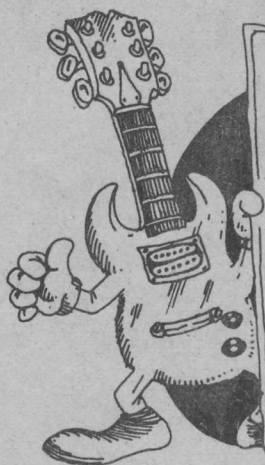
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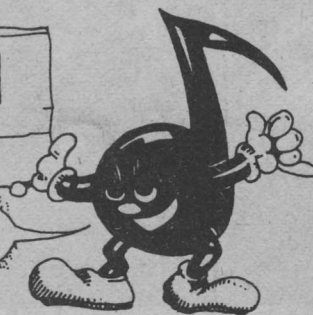
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