



BY BOZ AND LIBBY

MEAT PUPPETS

Libby and I interviewed Derrick, the drummer for the Meat Puppets, backstage at the I Beam in San Francisco in June. They were going on stage in 15 minutes so the interview was pretty rushed. Let me just mention that their live sound is really drastically different than their recorded sound. While Meat Puppets II is a pretty laidback record, their live interpretations of that material is much harder and aggressive. Also Curt, their guitar player, kinda looks like Nugent.

SR: The new LP is a lot different, more country oriented. Why the change?

D: Well, first of all we don't think of it as a country sort of thing. To me, country and western is always...I suppose to the rest of the world Arizona is pretty country; but we never considered ourselves to be very Southern minded 'til everyone told us so. To us it's kind of a pop oriented thing. It reminds me of Led Zeppelin or something.

SR: Is Led Zeppelin an influence?

D: Yeah. It's real guitar, bass, and drum oriented; just regular rock and roll, where-as country, to me, is more topics than actual style. I suppose it's sort of country-rock oriented. It's countryrockjazzfusion.

SR: As far as non-musical influences go would you say that the desert or any specific drug influences the band at all?

D: Not really, no. Our lifestyles influence the band, certainly, but our lifestyles change. The main point I want to make is that the band doesn't have any gimmicks whatsoever...There's nothing you can listen for. It's not like heavy metal or thrash and expecting to see one thing. Like our live shows don't contain that much country music and the record's obviously a studio thing. We had 3 or 4 guitars on some songs, so, like, some people ask us if we do all acoustic shows now and we don't at all. Our live shows are designed to get down. We don't do anything but just play rock'n'roll.

We want to play forever and want to play for as many people as possible. We're into mass marketing and into playing.

SR: How's SST as far as promotion?

D: Well, they've sold like, 6,000 records and they're pressing some more. There's not as many as I'd like there to be. They've been promoting the new Black Flag record instead of ours and I don't they should have released them at the same time and I wonder what their motives were for doing that... We just got back from touring with them for 6 weeks all over the country.

SR: How was it?

D: It was fun. The reaction was real good. The audience was still prone though to all the abuse they were gonna get after our set, so it still wasn't as good as I'd have liked it to be. A lot of people saw us.

SR: Do you smoke as much pot as rumoured?

D: I don't know the rumours.

SR: Masses.

D: I don't know. My lifestyle designates that I'm allowed to stay as loose as possible and do whatever I like. I don't have to live in the city or work. I live with my mother. What we're mosting working on now is making a living on this. We just enjoy doing whatever and we also eat meat!

SR: What about these gigs you've been having in the desert or on boats?

D: We had one on a boat on Friday with the Minutemen and it was cool. It was \$15 a ticket. It was a media event and a little contrived, but we played good. But it's not the kind of thing I would encourage. They wanted to get a video off of it obviously. It was fun.

SR: Who do you hate the most and want to see dead?

D: Nobody, but I think I've answered most of the good, relevant questions about us. Who do I hate and want to see dead? I don't know...I enjoy politics...I'd like to see 80% of the population dead. That's my answer.

Don't hurt me please! **baboon dooley** Gets it together in San Francisco!

