

Fugazi



I: MY NAME IS IAN AND I SING AND PLAY GUITAR.

B: I'M BRENDAN CANTY, 21, MY BIRTHDAY IS MARCH 9TH AND I PLAY DRUMS.

J: MY NAME IS JOE, I PLAY BASS.

G: MY NAME IS GUY PICCIOTTO, STRONG-MAN.

DS: SO WHAT DO YOU THINK OF DAYS GONE BY WITH LIKE MINOR THREAT, EMBRACE RITES OF SPRING AND ALL?

I: ALL GOOD BANDS. IT'S NO BIG DEAL AS LONG AS IT DOESN'T BECOMES A SELLOUT POINT FOR FUGAZI. IF YOU COME SEE US AND HAVE THOSE BANDS IN MIND, YOU'LL BE SADLY MISTAKEN.

DS: SO WHAT'S DIFFERENT ABOUT THIS BAND THAN THE OTHERS?

G: DIFFERENT PEOPLE. WE'RE ALL SERIOUS.

B: WE LIKE TO GET OUT AND PLAY.

I: THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THOSE BANDS AND THIS ON IS THAT IT'S 1988 WE'RE OLDER.

DS: HOW OLD ARE YOU?

I: I'M 25

B: I'M 21

G: I'M 22

J: I'M 24

I: HOW OLD ARE YOU?

DS: (ANDY) I'M 16.

B: REALLY? YOU LOOK 30. (LAUGHTER).

I: 16 WAS A GREAT YEAR IN MY LIFE.

DS: HOW DID YOU GUYS FEEL AT 16?

G: IT WAS A GREAT YEAR, EVERYTHING SEEMED FRESH, THE MUSIC, THE WHOLE THING. LOTS OF STUFF WAS HAPPENING. I LOOK BACK ON THOSE DAYS QUITE FONDLY. GOING TO SHOWS AND SEEING BANDS. YOU GET OLDER, AND YOU CHANGE A LOT. WHEN I WAS 16 I WAS STARTING TO FIGURE OUT WHO I WAS AND WHAT I WANTED TO DO, IT WAS REALLY EXCITING.

I: I WAS A SKATEBOARDER. THERE WAS NO PUNK SCENE AS FAR AS I KNEW THEN.

DS: WHAT KIND OF MUSIC DID YOU LISTEN TO?

I: TED NUGENT, JIMI HENDRIX, JOPLIN. NUGENT WAS THE RAGE AT THE TIME. HENRY AND MARK SULLIVAN (KINGFACE), WE ALL SKATED, THAT WAS OUR BIG THING. THEN THE ENGLISH PUNK THING CAME AND CHANGED EVERYTHING.

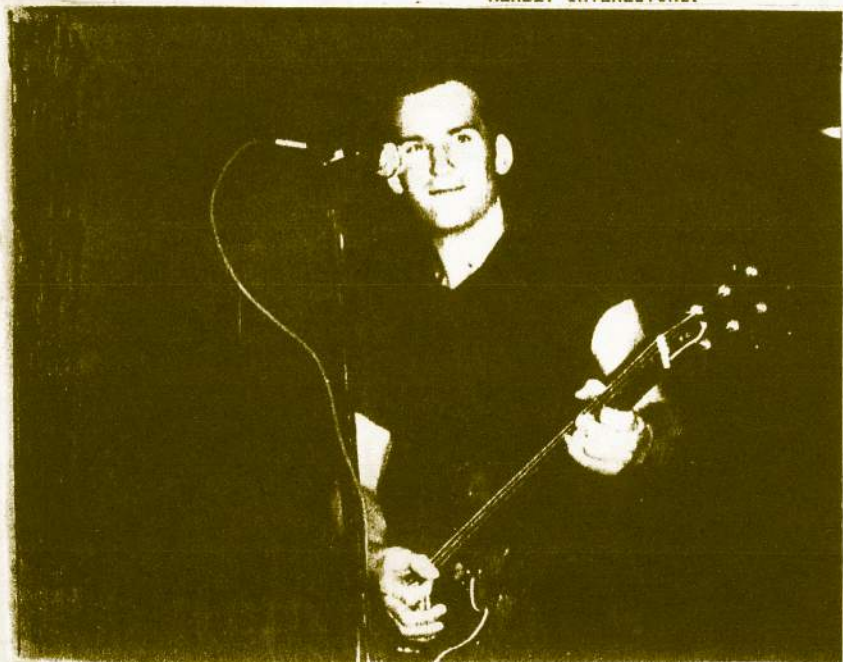
DS: WHAT BANDS DO YOU LIKE NOW?

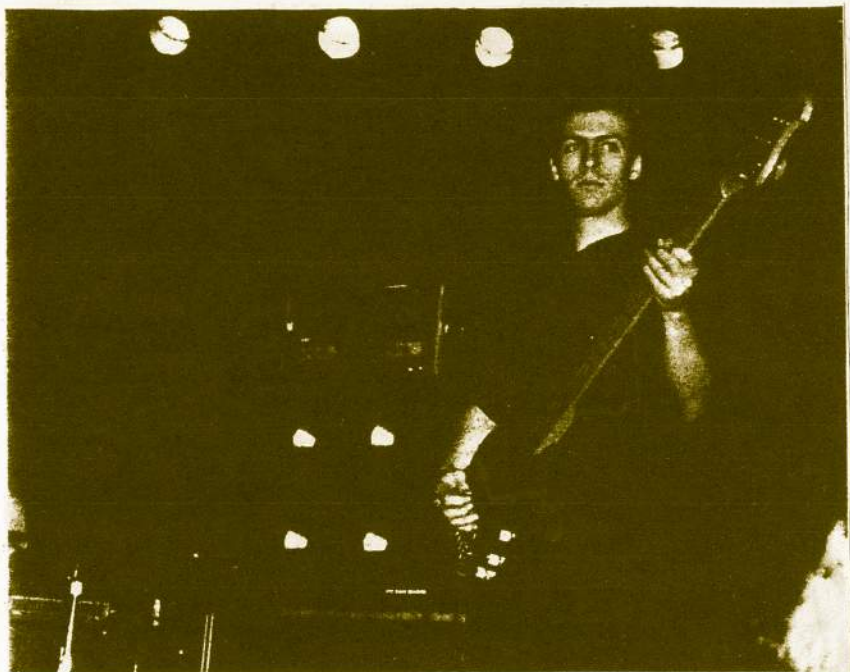
I: ONCE AGAIN WASHINGTON IS GOING THROUGH..., A LOT OF BANDS ARE BREAKING UP. SCREAM ARE STILL THERE. FIRE PARTY ARE GOOD. 3 BROKE UP, THEY WERE VERY GOOD. I LIKE KINGFACE.

J: HAPPY GO LICKY WHEN THEY PLAY.

I: THEY'RE GREAT, BUT THEY ONLY PLAY ONCE IN A WHILE. BRENDAN AND GUY ARE BOTH IN HAPPY GO LICKY, THE BAND STILL EXISTS. A NEW BAND IS FIDELITY JONES WITH THOMAS AND DUG FROM BEEFEATER. IGNITION ARE GOOD, SOUL SIDE. PLENTY OF GOOD BANDS.

G: THEY'RE ALL DIFFERENT SOUNDING. THERE IS NO TYPICAL SOUND, IT'S REALLY INTERESTING.





DS: DO YOU HAVE ANY POLITICAL VIEWS?

I: OF COURSE WE DO AS A BAND AND AS INDIVIDUALS. YOU HAVE TO BE MORE SPECIFIC. THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS WE FEEL STRONGLY ABOUT. THERE ARE PLENTY OF MESSAGES AND I ALWAYS FEARED GIVING ONE OUT WOULD MAKE THE BAND DIMENSIONAL. HENCE, A BAND LIKE MINOR THREAT WAS STRAIGHT-EDGE, WHICH IS VERY IMPORTANT, BUT CERTAINLY NOT THE ONLY POINT OF THE BAND. I STILL FEEL VERY STRONGLY ABOUT THAT. I FEEL VERY STRONGLY ABOUT FEMINISM AND THE PEOPLE IN THE BAND DO ALSO. I THINK WE'RE INT, AS GUY SAID, "BUSTING GENRES" WHICH IS BASICALLY LIKE PRESENTING SOMETHING THAT IS LIKE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT AND PROVOCATE PEOPLE INTO THINKING AND NOT TO GET THEM TO DO THE SAME OLD STUFF, 'CAUSE THAT GETS BORING AFTER A WHILE AND PEOPLE ARE CHANGING AND STUFF.

DS: MOST OF THE BANDS I'VE INT.

DON'T LIKE TO SAY "WE'RE STRICTLY THIS TYPE OF BAND"...

I: YEAH POLITICS ARE NOT THAT CLEAR CUT. WASHINGTON BANDS HAVE ALWAYS HAD A LOT OF PERSONAL MUSIC AND THE WHOLE THING WITH EMOTIONS BEING POLITICS AND VICE VERSA AND SO FORTH IS NOT CONFINING.

I DON'T SEE US AS A LEFTIST BAND OR A BAND AGAINST APARTHEID. OF COURSE WE'RE AGAINST APARTHEID, BUT THAT'S NOT THE BAND. IT'S A FUNCTION, BUT NOT THE SOLE FUNCTION. THE FUNCTION IS PROTEST WITH A MUSICAL FORCE. THE FUNCTION IS TO MAKE PEOPLE MOVE AND HOPEFULLY GET THEM UP AND PROTEST IS A BIG PART OF THAT. THE BAND IS JUST A BIG SOUNDTRACK TO THAT, AND HOPEFULLY AN ENERGIZER. THAT'S WHAT THE BAND IS ABOUT. IT'S HARD TO SAY WHAT IS A BAND'S POLITICAL VIEWS. WHAT ARE YOURS? WHAT ARE DESPERATE STATE'S POLITICAL VIEWS? (LAUGHTER).



joe guy brendan ian

DS: WHAT DOES THE NAME FUGAZI MEAN?

I: IT'S A SLANG TERM FOR FUCKED UP SITUATION, BUT IT CAN MEAN ANYTHING, THAT'S THE GOOD PART. IT'S NOT CONFINING.

DS: HAVE YOU BEEN RECORDING?

I: WE JUST STARTED SOME, BUT IT'S NOT FINISHED YET.

DS: HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT DAG NASTY MOVING TO GIANT?

I: GREAT MAN. MORE POWER TO 'EM.

DS: ARE YOU STILL FRIENDS WITH THEM?

I: SURE. THEY JUST HAVE THEIR OWN CONCEPT OF WHAT THEY WANT TO DO. I'M HAPPY FOR THEM. ANY TIME A BAND IS UNHAPPY WITH DISCHORD, I ENCOURAGE THEM TO MOVE. I'D RATHER HAVE THEM HAPPIER ON A DIFFERENT LABEL. I HAVE NO ILL FEELINGS OR ANYTHING. SCREAM SIGNED TO RAS RECORDS.

DS: DO YOU HAVE DAY JOBS?

I: RECORD STORE, AND I WORK FOR A CATERER. WE DID STING A FEW WEEKS AGO. HE PUT ON A GOOD SHOW, MADE THE PEOPLE HAPPY. I WAS IN THE BACK PUTTING HIS BEER ON ICE.

B: I WORK AT DC SPACE, IT'S NICE.

G: RECORD STORE, I LUVA THE MUSICA, IT ISA MYA LIFEA.

(THE INTERVIEW THEN WENT INTO TALKS OF CAVERNS, COLLEGE, AMBITION, AND BULLSHIT. THANKS A LOT TO FUGAZI FOR MAKING THIS A FUN INT.-ANDY)

DESPERATE state

Palmyra, Pa 17078

to:

