

SAN MARTIN RECORDS

interview ROSEMARY

(JANVIER 2005)

Une interview du groupe réalisée par Max du label SAN MARTIN RECORDS basé à Turin, suite à la sortie du MCD The bland Anthems et des concerts du groupe en Italie fin novembre 2004. Interview for english readers only parue dans le fanzine MOTORFUCKER + quelques chroniques pour réviser les bases de la langue italienne. Grazie mille à Max Tyson et Mart'crack Moof...



>> When and why did you start to play ?

Hi. ROSEMARY started like many bands did before us. It was during our late high school period, Thomas and Julien were good friends : although they had never played music before, Thomas really wanted to start a band. Then they met Rambozo, a 14-year-old drummer and that was it. They first started to learn how to play music together and after a few months practising, they went to record their first 8-track demo at Larsen studio.

>> Present your band members...

We're a 3-piece-band : the original line-up was Thomas on guitar and vocals, Julien played bass and Rambozo drums. In early 2003, Rambozo suddenly left the band, then Thomas and Julien looked immediately for another guy : 2 days later, Thomas got a phone-call from a young man named Davy, they rehearsed once together and Davy became part of the band.

>> What is the origin of the ROSEMARY band name ?

Thomas : Well, I'd like to tell you it all started from a joke or something like that... When you hear this name for the first time, it doesn't really sound like a great or catchy band name. It stands more for an uncool thing, an ill-at-ease feeling maybe... Or maybe it was just picked out to piss-off guys believing that every true band should get a cool name before even being able to write songs... Anyway, the band performed a few shows with this name and people started to know us as "the band with a girl name"... So we stuck to the name. Why bother anyway ?

>> How is life in Chambery? You live so close to Torino, so has your sound been influenced by our hardcore music ?

Chambery is a quiet little town in the south-east of France, surrounded by mountains, forests, students... Not many things happen here, you hear about one or two local mafia murders each year, but we're mostly devoted to TV worshipping, walking in the wind... Sane activities !!! Fortunately Genova, Torino and Lyon ain't too far, thus we can see good concerts all along the year. I know you guys in Italy often talk about your hardcore scene, but I had never had the opportunity to listen to any of it, until ROSEMARY played in Italy, sorry... But it is a well-known fact that the Italian

underground music scene is much better-organised than the one in France, you guys have a good and efficient network of venues, fanzines for example, and many french activists are inspired by this...

>> Could you suggest us any interesting French band ?

I think you've already heard about BURNING HEADS, DEITY GUNS, LES THUGS, THE SONS OF SATURN, CHEVREUIL, NED, PORTOBELLO BONES... as they had the opportunity to tour in Italy. Some of these bands are still in activity, others have stopped playing.

>> Tell me about the most crazy thing that happened during and after one of your shows ?

Nothing crazier than what happens to rock bands in general : play in front of a crowd of 10 people who don't give a fuck, drive 500 km for one show, get in trouble after a show, abuse the audience... or audience abuses you... But there are also cool things : the stage being invaded by people going crazy during a song (unplugging the guitar in the same token), hazardous stage diving, nose/mouth bleeding or broken tooth after getting hit by a microphone... Stereotypical rock'n roll visions/experiences...

>> You played in our El Paso squatt two months ago ? How was that night ?

It was really great : for our first show out of France, we had the chance to play in one of the greatest DIY place in Europe... We've already played in squatts in France but we really didn't expect such a warm-welcoming place, and we were astonished when we entered the gig room... This was in november 2004, we were very happy to perform there. We hope to tour some other places like this in Europe. Really exciting !

>> Can you talk about your records Artifice XIII, The Bland Anthems and Under The Twin Towers ?

In 2004, we made 2 recording sessions with 2 different sounds engineers, blowing out 10 songs. ArtXIII is our 5th demo, it contains a bunch of new punkgrungy songs. We usually try to get in studio 2 or 3 times a year to record our songs in order to work on them later, because they're often early versions, not fully hatched or developed. But it's still enough to get the gigs we need and to keep working on it in order to release something more complete in the future. This is what happened with the release of The Bland Anthems, which is merely, according to us, our first real record : a 3-track single, including Loving Dead Friend (taken from our last recording sessions for Art.XIII), Even A Nation and Not Even You (which different versions were already recorded before) a quite satisfying release actually... Otherwise, UTTT is Thomas's second band, a crustpunkblackcore combo. They also released a record this year, called "Merde in France", also released on MINIMAL CHORDS.

>> How usually your songs born ?

Verse-chorus-solo-break, 5 chords, some rehearsals together to know which version we gonna choose, then some screams/gibberish for the singing, and finally a recording session (or two when we suck)...

>> How is the cooperation with the Minimal Chords label ?

MINIMAL CHORDS started as a show promoter then included a small DIY label branch to its activities. Nothing much. We're free to use this structure to promote the band as we work in close cooperation with Jeromms and Thomas, the two label managers. The record label mainly helps us to get shows, and we help them by doing our best : we all try to take an active part into the local scene, a website was also opened a few months ago, some other people started to get interested and joined us ever since...

>> Any future plans , maybe a full-length ?

Shows are our main focus : we'd like to experience some other shows throughout Europe before recording new materials but we do hope to record our first LP soon...

>> Your favourite Italian band ?

Ignorance is bliss ! We don't really have the opportunity to have a wide musical knowledge of Italian music. We've heard about CGB, PLASTINATION, HUMAN TANGA, ALL D'WAYS, DISCO DRIVE... Also about ZUCCHERO, PAOLO CONTE... (laughters)

>> Is punk dead, sick or doesn't feel pretty cool ?

Thomas : What a question ! I thought we were considered as a grunge band ! Punk music has become mainstream so I don't think that the common idea of many people contributes to keep it true and wild... It has become such a commodity... I also have my own vision, my own idea about punkrock music. Maybe it's right, maybe it's wrong but I'll try to keep it true, whatever people think...

>> Since you play, has your sexual life improved ?

Thomas : I had my first time in Italy. Thanx.

>> How is the punk rock scene in France? Is there a cooperation between the bands ?

We experience a lack of organisation in France : sometimes kind of sectarisms, narrow-minded, self-satisfied people... But things seem to change, fortunately, because segregation leads to nowhere... The main punk scene is overtaken by fakes of SUM 41, BLINK182... you know what I mean... Nothing really underground, big fucking business deals... That's quite a shame, but it's their problem... But cheer up, because there's also an underground scene and activists trying to feed a true rock revival...

>> Say whatever you want to our readers and don't forget to say : "SanMartinRecs. Is great " and "Mr. Berlusconi is a shit". Thanx a lot.

SanMartinRecs rules, politicians suck. Try to get involved as much as you can, help yourself, deserve what you want... Thanx for the interview, see you soon !

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<http://www.sanmartinrecords.it>