

IOWA

OUTCULT

ZINE

FEATURING: DOSE, BLASTER, PSYOP,

PHANTOM THREAT, POLYACHI

THE RUMORS

THE LATEST
FROM THE
IOWA
UNDERGROUND!



#4



Dose

Hardcore

Oliver: Who is Dose? How did Dose form?

Brandon: Dose is Tim Tucker, Sam Boesen, Jackson Bunz, Derek Ferrin, and Brandon Espinosa. Jackson and I started jamming a bit right before the pandemic started. Eventually we picked up Sam, Derek, and Tim. We started playing shows pretty soon after that and haven't really stopped.

Oliver: What went into the creation of your self titled, "Dose"?

Brandon: A lot of those songs on the self titled were written for almost a year before we recorded them. There wasn't a whole lot of prep going into writing them. We just wanted to start a band that was fun.

Oliver: What is your song, "Doused" about?

Brandon: "Doused" is about problems piling up.

Oliver: What advice do you have for anyone wanting to start a band?

Brandon: Have fun. Compromise is key. Becoming a melting pot of the individual members influences alongside the collective influence is going to make your band sound unique.

Oliver: What are your hopes for the Iowa scene?

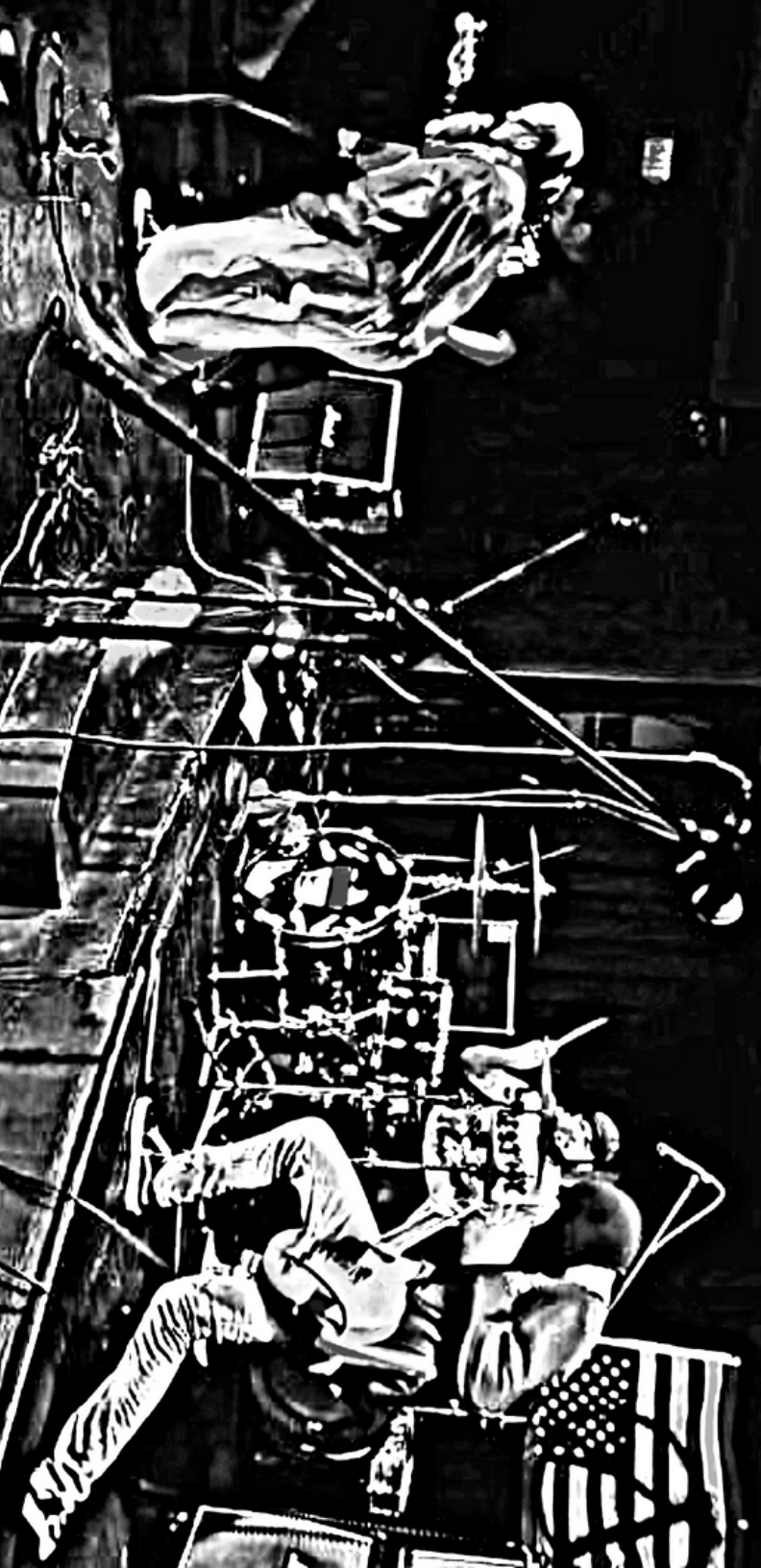
Brandon: I'm hopeful that younger kids will start punk and hardcore bands in Des Moines and that this scene will grow and grow. It has the potential.

Oliver: Is there anything else you all would like to say?

Brandon: I'm just going to shout a bunch of bands and shit. LDB Records, Enervate, Prowl, Skin Ticket, Fire Sign, Primitive Rage, Prevention, Constraint, Gates To Hell, Glass Ox, Jezter, Jack and the Slammers, Identity Crisis, Druids, Dayz Lost, Gnaw, Caio and all of SLC Hardcore, Minneapolis, Oklahoma, Canada (all of it), Chain Of Command, and Method. All of these bands/labels/areas deserve your attention.



BLASTER



Blaster

Hardcore

Oliver: Who is Blaster?

Elliot: Our line up is Tony on drums, ray on bass, Ritchie raygun (sean) on vocals and myself on guitar.

Oliver: What went into the creation of your demo, "Self Destruct"?

Elliot: The self destruct demo dates back to February 2016 with Matt pat and myself playing on the tracks it's a song about being pushed around and feeling isolated.

Oliver: When can we expect more music from you all?

Elliot: We are currently working on a recording that we hope to have out in a couple months.

Oliver: What are your hopes for the Iowa scene?

Elliot: Our hope for the Iowa scene is that more DIY spaces can open up, and kids start coming to shows and see that they can pick up an instrument, start a band and throw their own shows and make cool art.

Oliver: Is there anything else you'd like to say?

Elliot: We'd like to shout out Matt, Pat, Josh, and all of our friends who have let us play and anyone who has enjoyed our shows so far!



Ps4op



PSYOP

Hardcore

Oliver: Who are the members of PSYOP, and how did PSYOP form?

PSYOP: Dolly on Vocals, Adelina on Guitar, Jessica on Bass, August on Drums and Rubin on 2nd Guitar. For the first time since I was 16 I wasn't playing or attending shows. I went from playing shows every month to 2 years of that being torn outta my life. So during that time I wrote the Demo, I played and recorded all the parts, I knew exactly how I wanted it to sound. I then started reaching out to people as they came outta isolation. I ended up with the original lineup; Myself, Adelina, Jessica and the original Drummer Lorelei. Originally I had planned on just releasing the demo I'd recorded, but we decided to re-record with all of us. That became This is Your Brain on America. The bands been through a bunch of lineups, mostly different drummers but August is a ripper so we're locked loaded n ready rock!

Oliver: What inspired "Secretary of Defense"?

PSYOP: Growing up during 9/11 and watching politicians both democrats and republicans making excuses for millions of innocent people getting murdered in the name of democracy when it was just the same imperialist conquest it's always been. If it's not a war, it's a "conflict", if it's not that it's an "operation" or a "preventative measure" but they're all the same thing, a paycheck to arms manufacturers and a guarantee that everyone lives in fear of the American empire.

Oliver: You all have released your first album in 2021. When can we expect more music from PSYOP?

PSYOP: We have a new 7in coming out later this year, it's already all recorded and mastered, it's just at the plant to be pressed now!

Oliver: What are your hopes for the Iowan music scene?

PSYOP: I think as a band we'd like to see more young people making freaky music in general, personally I'd like to see more people starting people start fast mean hardcore punk bands. Dischord or SST style bands, that's just the shit I'm most stoked on!

FLYNN HILL



Phantom Threat

Metal

Oliver: Who is Phantom Threat? How did Phantom Threat form?

Phantom Threat: Phantom Threat is a metal band from eastern Iowa, based out of the Muscatine/ Quad Cities area. The band features Scott Allbee and Alex Mueller on guitars, Chris Winkel on bass, Frank Cruz on drums, and Zachary Tomfeld on vocals. The band formed in 2022 and the original lineup kind of came together out of two separate camps.

Zachary and Chris were working on their alt country/ alt rock magnum opus "The Prairie Wars" (release spring 2024) and were looking for a drummer to record some tracks in the studio. Through this search they were introduced to Scott who, along with the original second guitarist and the original founding drummer, were starting a metal band. They began rehearsing and writing the material that would become the band's first ep. After parting ways with their second guitarist, the band continued on playing live shows as a four piece until Alex Mueller joined. Shortly after, the band parted ways with their original drummer and Frank came onboard to take over on drums.

Oliver: What was your favorite moment in the band?

Phantom Threat: There's not really any one particular moment that stands out but we really enjoy playing live. We have played some really fun shows and played with some great bands. That's pretty much unanimously our favorite part of this band. There's no better feeling than being up on stage making brutal metal music with some of your best friends, and having the crowd going nuts. It's hard to beat that energy.

Oliver: What inspired your song "The Thin Crust of an Oracle's Blood"?

Phantom Threat: This is a song about revenge. Cold, cruel revenge. Lyrically, it's about a horde of men that are banished to some sort of purgatory type dimension but return to exact brutal vengeance upon those who have wronged them. There's an underlying theme of ancient world imagery in a lot of our songs and this one definitely has aspects of that.

Oliver: What are your hopes for the Iowa scene?

Phantom Threat: We just want to see the scene here flourish. There are so many great bands coming up in Iowa right now. The metal and hardcore scenes have always been thriving here and there seems to be a resurgence now that we've moved past the Covid era. People are hungry for live music and we need to keep that momentum going.

DAVID LIVELY



Polyachi

Oliver: To start off with, how did POLYACHi form, and who are the members of POLYACHi?

Des: We are Schuyler Leehey and Des. We're cousins. The band formed at a family tailgate in 2011. We'd both been dissatisfied with other projects, and had the same tastes and goals. Our aunt Gabby was like, "make a band, dipshits." So we did.

Oliver: Nice! Who are some of your influences that brought both of you together?

Des: Tool, Slipknot, System of a Down, Alice in Chains, Nine Inch Nails, our mutual love/hate relationship with Metallica. Mostly, we love heavy music that takes a unique approach. We've been showing each other bands back and forth over the years since.

Oliver: Hell yea, in some of your songs you use heavy auto tune to achieve a certain effect. How did that come about, and why did you decide to use it?

Des: In 2011, I fell in love with Lil Wayne's Dedicated mixtapes. I listened to Dedicated 3 a lot and it made me wanna hear autotune on metal. Lil Wayne's voice is such an ugly mess naturally, but it sounds liquid and gross through autotune. We love the dynamics of that. It also allows you to kind of ugly cry and be on key, so the focus can be intensity only, and musicianship as a second thought.

Oliver: What do you feel like is most rewarding about doing music?

Des: It makes life worth living.

Oliver: If you had one piece of advice to someone wanting to start a band, what would it be?

Des: Do it, right now. Just get rolling and figure it out as you go. There's an unlimited number of ways to go. You get to learn from everyone. You get enormous dopamine hits almost the entire time. It is the absolute best possible thing to do. Music is at the core of our lives.

Oliver: Onto a few of my final questions, what are some of your hopes for the Iowa scene?

Des: That more bands keep forming, keep playing shows together and mixing it up. I'd love to see a lot of multi genre shows, like mixing black metal and pop punk and rappers. The scene is already exploding. I just want it to keep growing.

Oliver: My last question for ya: is there anything else you'd like to say?

Des: Yes. Thank you for including us in the zine! We love what's happening in the scene all over Iowa. We're proud to be part of it.



THE RUMOURS

The Rumours

Punk Rock n Roll

Oliver: Who are The Rumours, and how did you all form?

The Rumours: The Rumours are Iowa's kick-you-in-the-face, rock'n'roll threesome. I formed the band back in 2014, we went through a couple of lineup changes until I found the most badass of rhythm sections: Ela Rose and Daniel Kluiters!

Oliver: What inspired your, as you describe it, "flirt with punk"?

The Rumours: We started out as a straight up rock n roll band, just rock n roll. But as time went by we realized how much we love the punk sound and realized we wanted to move in the punk direction. No turning back now!

Oliver: You've released two singles in the past two years. Are these singles stand alone, or leading up to an upcoming release?

The Rumours: These last two singles are stand alone. We wanted to get something out for the time being, but we're in the studio now working on the next album. Super stoked to get these new songs out!

Oliver: Nice! About what can we expect from that new album stylistically?

The Rumours: Stylistically... maybe we do a little bit more than flirt with punk. Haha! Like I said, we have gone down the punk route and that's what the new album is. Our brand of punk and rock n roll. We also write about some experiences that

Oliver: Hell yea! Onto a few of my final questions for ya, what are your hopes for the Iowa scene?

The Rumours: I'm pretty fortunate to live in the Cedar Valley because all the bands out here support each other no matter the genre. We're all friends and I think that's the coolest thing. It would be sweet to stick together in the whole Iowa scene. And I know we do to an extent. The scene is precious, especially after we all had to take some time off due to Covid. We've got to hold onto our live music and support each other. This state is full of talented musicians that are absolute badasses. Lucky to be a part of the scene here!

Oliver: Fuck yea. And finally, is there anything else you'd like to say?

The Rumours: First, thanks for having us. I'm glad that a cool ass zine exists especially in Iowa! Second, we're gonna be hitting the road here next month, our tour kick off is at the Octopus in Cedar Falls on 4/28! We're playing with 8Fouthead and The Hong Kong Sleepover! It's gonna be a helluva show. And we've got a music video coming out soon as well. The album should be out by the fall! Until then... we'll be around. We've had over the last couple of years and it's nice to get that out.

Dose



Blaster



PYSOP



Phantom Threat



Polyachi



The Rumours



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