

(hed)pe



"All your Base X belongs to us...a Conversation with Jared Gomez"

By: Jake Student

Have your ears ever had the blessing of being tantalized by the sounds of (hed) P.E.? Two week ago I was a foreigner to the explosive infusion of rock and hip hop that (hed) P. E. brings. Today I am a fan (check the CD review in this issue). The frontman/Mc Jared Gomez took some time to talk to me about what (hed) P.E.'s existence on this earth is all about...

Jake: First of all, I am blown away by how amazing you guys sound. How would you describe your overall sound and how did you discover it?

Jared: Our sound is a bit schizophrenic. We feel the need to include many different styles into our music. The lines become blurred. There is an obvious love for hip-hop, vintage punk rock and heavy metal. But, also obvious is our passion for roots and reggae.

Jake: What is (hed) P.E.'s overall philosophy, what can a music listener expect to get out of listening

to one of your albums?

Jared: Freedom and knowledge of self. We go from kind of analytical topics, to just plain lifestyle joints. We also take a little time to shine a light on some hidden wisdom.

Jake: So, gimme a little history on the band, who you all are and what were the fateful events that led to (hed) P.E.?

Jared: The band is a production of Orange County, Southern California, as far as location. But, I believe bands and music in general, take a life of their own, and (hed) P.E. definitely has its own destiny in mind, apart from who is in the band.

Jake: What are some of the group's hip-hop influences?

Jared: So many influences that I am apprehensive of naming any, for fear of forgetting to name someone else important. But, fuck it... NWA, Jay-Z, Timbaland, Dr. Dre, 2-Pac, Biggie, Chuck D and Public Enemy, Beastie Boys, Cypress Hill, Tech N9Ne, and definitely the Kottonmouth Kings.

Jake: What are some rock influences?

Jared: Sex Pistols, The Clash, RATM, SOAD, KORN, Chuck Berry, Ray Charles, Curtis Mayfield, Rancid, Eyes Set to Kill, Tool.

Jake: Have you found any one area of the country or world to be exceptionally

responsive to this blend of music that you've created?

Jared: We are blessed in that there are hot spots for us all over this fine planet...from sea to shining sea!

Jake: So what's your opinion on where our world is at and or going at this point?

Jared: Jesus, I could write a book on that topic. Very, very complex things going on. As many realities as there are people to live them. What seems wrong one day, is right the next. People need to read about Secret Societies...in order to have a more enlightened view of global politics and the world in general...don't get me started.

Jake: What's Back to Base X all about, and why the title?

Jared: Back 2 Base X is a reference to the fact that that album in particular decided to embrace a sort of classic

punk, early rock and roll ethic. Not much programming, and just a lot of organic rock and roll on that joint. The album is mostly about what I was talking about earlier, secrets, conspiracies, and sex and drugs...

Jake: I heard you have some tour plans coming up, where you headed?

Jared: Europe, Japan, US, Saturn, The Pleades...Orion's Belt?

Jake: If you could tour anywhere, where would you go?

Jared: Brazil or South Africa...haven't played in those countries yet.

Jake: Is there anything in particular that you'd like your fans to know?

Jared: Most of all thanks for joining in this journey. The fans co-create everything we do, shows, albums, all of it. The experience would not exist without them, so in that way, the fans are like Gods...

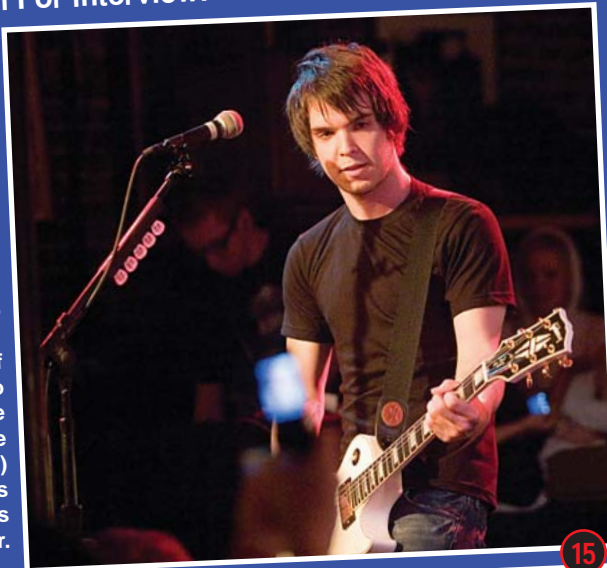
Alternative Press Magazine's Bands You Need to Know Tour is designed to mash up together some of the best up-and-coming bands, put them on a tour together and introduce them to the public. This year the main acts were Circa Survive and Cute Is What We Aim For. Lucky for many, both bands have already a steady and true following that only continues to grow show after show. This time around, Contessa Abono was able to sit down with Cute Is What We Aim For as Riki Fieldman put his photography talents to use, and I then later did a phone interview with my new favorite band's vocalist, Anthony of Circa Survive. It all went a little like this:

Cute Is What We Aim For interview:

State your name please---
I'm Jeff and I play guitar in the band Cute Is What We Aim For.

Contessa- So, I've heard you boys say things like you totally want to be yourselves - have fun but be deep and intelligent at the same time... how have you managed to accomplish this goal so far?

Jeff-Within the music itself is how I've managed to accomplish it. I just love hanging out with these people (the band mates) and being goofy, so that's what makes it fun, it's definitely been fun so far. (laughs)



15