

"Much love to my man Scott lan for being a really down to earth guy." — House of Pain

At present the very down to earth and approachable Scott Ian has a chip on his shoulder, and it's called alternative rock.

"These days we don't get any radio coverage or MTV airplay, All the radio stations are interested in is alternative music. We may as well be a brand new band starting out. We don't get any media exposure whatsoever."

Scott blames this sorry state of affairs on a lack of circular objects

"No one's got the balls to do anything original any more. It's kinda strange to make a record and wonder whether anyone's going to hear it."

If the good people of the world can see their way past the media conspiracy to muzzle metal, then they're in for a treat when they wrap their lugs around *Stomp 442*, according to Scott.

"Stomp 442 is super heavy. It's the best songwriting we've ever done."

Just because *Stomp 442* is the best thing Anthrax have ever done, doesn't mean their past work wasn't absolutely bloody fantastic, it just means the producers and mixers couldn't read or dig where Anthrax wanted to be.

"It's not like I was unhappy with records in the past, it's just with this record, the production and mix really fit the songs. There is only one song on the album that I would remix if I had a chance."

The reason for the need to remix is the self same circular object deficiency affecting America's radio programmers and the media in general.

"The song 'Nothing for Me' just doesn't have the [same] balls as the rest of the

record and we're actually going to go and remix that track, so we'll get to fix it anyway. I think it will be a single."

It's not only Scott that testifies to Anthrax's album having plenty of circular objects located within its bowels. The cover artist designed a very large, heavy metallic circular object in appreciation of Anthrax's circular fixation.

"The guy who did our covers name is Storm Thurgausen and he did the Pink Floyd and Led Zeppelin covers. everything he does is pretty crazy and out there. When he heard the music he drew a sketch of the metal ball because, he said: 'The music's got a lot of balls!'"

Perhaps this excess of balls could have something to do with the depilatory effects of the thatches covering the Anthrax boys' pates. "I have a bald head cos I just got sick of having to wash my hair. We just worry about our music. It's funny, because people make such a big deal out of it. Kids come up to me and say: 'Why'd you cut your hair?' I always found it weird that people would care about the length of your hair, or what you look like. I guess it's being in a band. We just worry about our music."

With Anthrax giving Dan Spitz the boot prior to making *Stomp 442*, they may well have cause to worry. However, like a knight in stinky black leather, Pantera's Dimebag Darell stepped in to lay down some typically fretful fretwork on the album. Now, according to Scott, everything's just hunky dory. Also playing on the album, as well as touring with Anthrax, is Paul Crook, their guitar tech.

"We've known Paul for about five or six years. He fucking rips on guitar. The first day he ever started working for us as guitar tech, I heard him playing and it was like: 'Fuck, who is that?' He was ripping. We used to make jokes all the time, like Paul's gonna give Danny some poisoned food, and wouldn't you know, a few years later Paul replaced Danny."

According to Scott, the only way Anthrax are gonna get their music out to the kids that need it is through touring. Despite the negativity of the media, Scott knows the fans are still out there, and him and the chaps are gonna give 'em what they want heavy fuckin' — metal.

"I think people should be interested in heavy metal because for me, right now, the bands doing the most original things are bands like Offspring, Pantera and Slayer. I'd rather listen to *Reign in Blood* 24 hours a day than anything on the radio. It's time for people to forget the stigma of metal in the 80s and fucking use your own mind and values!"

KEV LIST



Reader Warning #1: What follows may damage your mental health.

Maybe the reason Mr Bungle make such nutty music is because they're full of utter wacksters like Danny. Danny does something in Mr Bungle [in a more conventional band, he'd be called the drummer] and lives in San Francisco.

## It's a Bungle and He's Out There

Before I get the chance to enquire just why Mr Bungle want to inflict their records on the innocent, Danny enquires after my health. After checking everything's OK-ish with me, he informs me he has a broken back, but it's only slightly broken. According to Danny his back problems had something to do with the overcrowding in San Francisco

"San Francisco's an absolutely lovely city. It's on a peninsula, bay area, with 500 million people. It's very crowded, I used to have three people living in my left lung. Maybe that's why my back's broken."

Danny then finds out I'm calling from Christchurch

"Jesus Christchurch." Ho, ho, ho.

This is about the time I biffed away any questions I may have had to ask, and decided to just let whatever happened happen.

Reader Warning #2: Any reader with a low tolerance for reading mindless drivel should just stop reading now.

#### James Bond and De Plane, De Plane

Mr Bungle's latest masterwork is called Disco Volante.

Could this have anything to do with the ship of the same name from the classic Jimmy Bond film *Thunderball*?

"A long time ago we did a cover of *Thunderball*. It's one of my favourites. I like anything Sean Connery did, or the first two Roger Moores. *The Man With the Golden Gun* was the last of the good ones. It had that funny little guy from *Fantasy Island* in it."

Up until now Danny had been blissfully unaware that Ricardo Montalban's shortarse sidekick, Tattoo, had, in fact, topped himself. Danny took the news fairly well

"That funny little guy... that cute little guy! He killed himself! I feel bad for Rick."

# Suckers and Dog Fucking

In one last aborted attempt to find out the secrets of Mr Bungle's musical madness, I enquire about the Bungleites' latest album.

"If I was a sucker, I'd buy it."

What would Danny like to listen to, then?
"I don't get much of a chance. I have to listen to our stupid music."

When Danny does find a few moments to relax, chances are he'd listen to the Barefoot Hockey Goalies (if they exist), that is, if he could drag himself away from his alleged excursions into pooch prostitution.

"I'm a pimp. There's a lot of fucked up, rich old men in this city that just love to have sex with animals. I work down at the dog pound, where I get to take some of these dogs out so these fucking old creeps can fuck 'em. That's how I make my cash."

Fearing the vengeful wrath of vegan vandals, Danny later back-pedals on his cruel canine capers

"I don't follow through on it. I just keep ripping off a bunch of sick old men."

#### A Pint of Extra Bitter, Old Man, Please

Steering Danny away from the X rated world of animal husbandry towards the safer climes of modern rock shows leads to some soul searching.

"I go to shows once in a while. I'm a fucking old man I don't really have time for that shit... I'm a bitter old man."

(In best Paul Holmesian style) Why are you so bitter Danny?

"An excellent question. What made me bitter? One day I realised I'm a bitter old fucker. When I was growing up, I remember thinking: 'I hate people who grow old too fast before they even ripen.' I just hate everything and everybody. I think I'm just intolerant of crowds ."

# Tie the Kangaroo Down, Sport, and Fuck Off!

When he discovers his words of wisdom are being printed in a New Zealand magazine, Danny let's fly with some hastily chosen words on one of his (many) pet hates

"Those fucking raucous Australians, fuck those bastards... fuck those bastards. I've never been there and I hate it. There seem to be a lot more fatheads in Australia than there are in New Zealand.

"It seems Australia is full of a lot more people who've been hit really hard in Australian Rules football games. The only taste you get of Australians here is these pighead football types, or uptight, egotistical surfers."

### The Patton Man

What Mr Bungle interview would be complete without some attempt at an irritating question about Mr Bungle's most famous member, Mike Patton? Danny responds in the only way he knows how.

"I've heard of the guy. Oh, hang on, I know who Mike Patton is. Didn't he used to sing for Turd? He was a pretty shitty one at that."

## Fight on, Taranaki!

All good things must come to an end, and luckily things that aren't that good also finish. Before leaving, Danny left us with a message for all New Zealanders to share.

"My last word to New Zealand is, fight till fucking Taranaki and Southland rule the earth."

KEVIN LIST

Rage Against The Machine



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