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# GAY COWBOYS

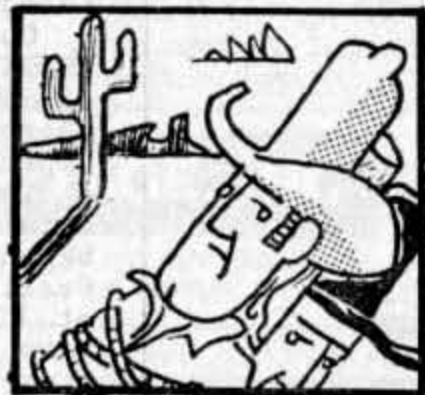


# IN BONDAGE



**T**YING  
UP  
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# GAY COWBOYS



# IN BONDAGE

"The Gay Cowboys in Bondage?!" (uncontrolled laughter...)  
- a typical bystander

By now you are asking yourselves: 'Just who exactly are these fellows, and just what do they have up their collective sleeve?' THE GAY COWBOYS IN BONDAGE consists of Pete Moss on guitar, Milo on vocals, Eddie Nothing on bass, and Ravenous on drums. Recently, this now-enlightened reporter had the unique pleasure of chatting with the afore-mentioned Pete Moss and Milo, about pop music, life, KISS!!!, comic books, MTV, and other dire issues in current events.

But, hold on! A little background info on the guys, first. They originally got together (over a year ago) on the premise of writing and performing songs that made fun of some mutual acquaintances. After only two weeks, and two practices, they recorded their immortal cassette: We're Not Gay, But The Music Is. Pete's guitar solos were written as the songs were recorded!

What follows is an edited dialogue of our exciting and intellectually enriching interview/chat...

ME=Me

PM=Pete Moss

M?=Milo

ME: WHO WRITES MOST OF YOUR SONGS? DO YOU DO THEM TOGETHER?

PM: It depends. Most of the time, the songs aren't done by the time we get to practice, and we kinda start feeling them out as we play(!). We change 'em a lot. Like we played a show last Sunday, and we did a brand new song, and I already have some ideas on how to change it. So, mostly Me and Milo come up with ideas, and by the time we get to practice and everyone puts their two cents in, it changes. But, mostly Me and Milo.

M?: I'll write the lyrics and I'll bring it to practice, and I'll go "Alright you dongs, this is it!" That's how it works. But, unless we're really going in the studio, we think it's Ok to change songs. Because that is how you experiment with them and see how people react to them, keep an eye out.

(At this point, Milo inquires about a group on MTV, and notices that they have wind in their hair. The two astute musicians then deny any rumours of the GAY COWBOYS getting such a fan to blow wind through their hair...)

PM: We wanted smoke machines.

M?: Oh! What we would give for financial backing, for when we do a KISS cover, just to have great fire-works! Oh, what we'd give! But, the best we can do is sparklers, and they're just not good enough.

PM: Oh, very patriotic!

M?: Oh, did I mention KISS RULES?

(more indepth talk of stage props and wearing eye-patches)

PM: Oh, yes Boy! (he makes kissy-noises) Boy George is the cutest, CULTURE CLUB is great!!!

M?: Mental illness!

ME: O.K. HOW LONG HAVE YOU GUYS BEEN TOGETHER?

PM: Uh oh. The tough question...

M?: I can tell you exactly. When we played that show at Flynn's last weekend, we'd been together a year and a month.

PM: Officially, actually, sort of.

(Elaborations on this theme)

ME: HOW DID YOU ALL GET TOGETHER? DID YOU ALL KNOW EACH OTHER BEFORE?

M?: Well, I kinda... A stupid band Pete used to be in, NO NAMES, and so Pete and I became pretty friendly because we were the two punky-influences amongst them. And then thru F, Oh the group F used to have Ravenous as their drummer; but they're still great, they have an EP coming out soon, It's great. And Eddie plays bass for F too.

(more elaborations on how the group got together; including some nasty things about people, that really shouldn't be printed!)

ME: HOW DID YOU GET THE NAME?

M?: Mr. Moss...He came up with that name!

PM: This is a difficult question, but I'll try to keep it as short as I can. I was subconsciously influenced by a sketch on MONTY PYTHON'S FLYING CIRCUS (yeah!), which

was called 'Gay boys in bondage.' And when the name GAY COWBOYS came to me, I don't know if I was thinking of it; but obviously, subconsciously, I had to be. So, it sorta stemmed from that, I must have made it "cowboys" to change it for some reason. I can't think of why it came to mind, but when I said it, it just sounded so good that everyone said "That's the name!" and they wouldn't let me think of another name.

M?: You're a genius, Pete! A Genius! ... We just wanted a name that we could get good remarks on...

PM: And you know you can't forget THAT name! People remember that name. If anything else, people always remember our name. THAT'S important.

ME: HAVE YOU EVER BEEN PICKETED BY MORAL GROUPS OR RELIGIOUS GROUPS? DO YOU EVER GET PHONE CALLS OR ANYTHING, FROM PEOPLE LIKE THAT?

M?: We had a gay magazine from San Fransico write us, for the cassette. It was Great! They just said 'we don't care if you're gay or not, we just think it's a great name and we want to support it!' so we're gonna send them an EP. They didn't care if we wanted to see them blown up, or whatever, they just thought it was the greatest thing to use the name in this day and age.

PM: So far, I don't think we've had any trouble with it. Well, the first actual gig we played was at Piper High School, and we played under an assumed name, 'cause the teachers and administrators would never have gone for it. Yeah, but if people hear our name and don't want to have us, well that's fine.

M?: But (at Piper) we mentioned that we were the GAY COWBOYS IN BONDAGE, and that was like... (Milo proceeds to make various gasping and choking noises...)

PM: Well, then they freaked out...

M?: There was a little bit of a riot, and we got in a fist-fight & all ... it was good! I busted somebody's nose! (he laughs)

(MORE various elaborations and contemplations of playing under an assumed name)

M?: You might want to ask us if we're straight edge, which means that we don't drink and we don't do drugs and we don't smoke...

ME: BUT, WAIT! FIRST, ARE YOU GUYS STRAIGHT EDGE?

M?: Oh, of course we are! Proud of it, too. Except for Pete, he has some failings, but ... he keeps them to himself.

PM: Yeah, I snort Ovaltine. (looks at me:) You don't believe that, do you? I'll go get my jar out of the kitchen...

ME: WHAT OTHER BANDS WERE EACH OF YOU IN BEFORE THIS?

(They quibble a bit about who should go first...)

M?: I was in a band called HIJINCKS, which lasted about a week. THE MUD DOGS, and I played guitar - and I was great! because I can't play guitar! and GAY COWBOYS IN BONDAGE and that's about it.

PM: What about Eddie?

M?: First band Eddie was in STUDIO J112, that I was in. It was with Rip Shredder, it was a joke band.

PM: So, that and GAY COWBOYS IN BONDAGE. Oh, and Eddie's in F now. Ravenous and I go back a long way to a group called CHAOS. And he was in...F for a while, and the GAY COWBOYS. Now! If you want a writer's cramp, pay attention! Pete Moss has been in the following bands. In no particular order: STORMBRINGER, STONEHENGE, HYPNOSIS, EXODUS...

M?: These are pretty Queer rock-n-roll names!

PM: ...Right! The good ones are coming up: CHAOS, THE ESSENTIALS, VIOLENT LOVE AND THE DEAD WHORES, THE R.A.F., THE BOBS for one show... uh... THE EAT for a soundcheck only, THE QUESTIONABLES, THE CULT HEROES, THE SPANISH DOGS, THE STAN STILL DANCE BAND, THE GAY COWBOYS IN BONDAGE, of course THE TRASH... so that must be it.

M?: Uh, forget THE HIJINCKS, it was stupid! Really, it was only three days, and we didn't have a drummer or singer.

PM: C'mon! If I listed a band I only did one damn gig with, three days is a milestone!

M?: Well we once had Charlie Pickett in a soundcheck. You (To Pete) were out with Kim.

# GAY COWBOYS IN BONDAGE

PM: Charlie Pickett???

M?: Yeah, we did "Wild Thing!"

PM: Where Was This ???

(Pete & Milo quibble about this, and why Pete wasn't told)

ME: WELL, HERE'S SOMETHING THAT REALLY SEEMS TO TIE IN, NOW.

I READ AN ARTICLE ON YOU, AND YOU HAD SAID YOU LIKED

IMMATURE A LOT. IS THERE SOMETHING TO THIS? DO YOU

ACTUALLY TRY TO BE IMMATURE?

M?: Nope. Immaturity is nothing you work at, it's just THERE.

It's just being silly and stupid...

PM: It's nothing we work at... Well, you don't take this band as seriously as whatever other band you happen to like. People like to put down being immature, but it's fun and it's healthy.

(The three of us ramble about immaturity, TV, GI Joe cartoons, and playing at McDonald's playgrounds)

PM: You can't talk to this band without talking about comics and cartoons.

M?: Pretty much, we're all, except Ravenous, into reading comics.

PM: Marvel Comics are great; and the inferior D.C. will be blown up in the morning - by me.

M?: Hey Lance! If you read this, "Howdy," His comics are good.



Eddie  
Nothing  
and Elvis  
and Buddy.

PHOTO M. LESLIE WIMMER

(more talk of comic books, and Eddie's extensive collecti  
M?: He reads them all religiously. And artist that he is,  
can just reproduce all of them. Eddie does all of our  
flyers.

PM: He has less to do with the band than, I think, Me and  
Milo do; so he's on the artwork end. He does flyers, I  
did the cassette cover, he did the Ep cover, various  
artwork. He's a great artist. Except, he draws to much  
about Reagan!

(we ramble, etc, etc, and pick up talking about THE GAY  
COWBOYS' music...)

PM: We try to make our music just as...rock-n-roll, without  
pretension to Heavy Metal, Electronic, or to this or t  
that. But, once it all gets finished up, it could be  
anything. We have pop songs, we have hard core, we hav  
every kind. So, it's hard to say...we just call it  
rock-n-roll 'cause it has the least amount of letters.

M?: Even the blues, man!

PM: Sure, blues, ZZ TOP, boogie ... anything we can do;  
reggae, anything we can do for ten minutes.

(Milo scrounges through my notes, and Pete & I admonish him)

ME: WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE LOCAL SCENE, OR LACK OF?

PM: That was an interesting twist; because right now, I  
think the scene lacks a lot...

M?: I think basically what happens is: A lot of people down  
here (I guess I can't blame 'em, but then again I can),  
see a band so many times - because there's only so many  
bands to see... Like when we came out, we seemed pretty  
fresh, but now, we're just THERE... What I discovered,  
with myself is: I'd go see a band (like THE ESSENTIALS  
or F or whatever) so many times, because how often can  
you HEAR them? Can't hear them on the radio, can't hear  
them on your stupid MIV! It should really be appreci-  
ated, because the main reason to do it IS FOR FUN. And  
like when we record, it's to bring more people fun,  
hopefully...

PM: ...People seem to get apathetic real fast when they  
have nothing to bitch at. When they... like some people  
tell me... I'll go see a show, and there'll be a small  
crowd, and I'll say later 'Oh, so-and-so were great.  
Where were you?' - and they'll say 'Oh man, I just  
couldn't make it, I went to play Video Games.' When  
people bitch that they can't see a band, and then they  
don't go to the next gig that the band plays; they've  
just "X"ed themselves out of the Universe. Because  
that's a double standard, that's a catch 22.

(The Conversation slowly deteriorates from this point, and  
no more of it shall be repeated here. Since few would really  
care about what was said after this point...save for the  
information that follows...)

THE GAY COWBOYS IN BONDAGE's second recording project,  
an EP entitled Owen Marshmellow Strikes Again! should be  
out sometime this month (hopefully). The EP is all of their  
own material, this time; no covers (AS I Bid a tearful  
farewell to "the Muppet Song"). One more important thing  
that needs to be said is: THIS IS A BAND TO SEE LIVE! Go  
see them; have fun; Trust me on this one!



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