



MORTAL MAN GAZETTE



Reports about Hardcore, Popculture and everyday Curiosities

Welcome to Mortal Man Gazette! This is Issue 1—maybe the last one, maybe the start of a series. I don't want to promise anything because life is life; sometimes you're stressed, sometimes you're just lazy, or you have to doomscroll through the @newyorknico feed to fill the void left by the fact that you are not an Italian American born and raised in Brooklyn, NY. The aim of this newsletter is to provide reports about the world of hardcore, fashion, and the general curiosities of everyday life.

Report: N.Y.H.C 1995

This is a love letter to, in my opinion, the best hardcore documentary to date: New York Hardcore from 1995. Nothing brings me closer to what I love about New York hardcore or hardcore in general. Look at this bunch of freaks talking hard. Every second word is nonsense, but on the other hand, every second word is hard as fuck. César from District 9 is sitting on one of the ugliest couches I've ever seen to date and starts reading the lyrics to "Payback," beginning with a "Yo, listen to this shit." Cut to the next scene: District 9 performs this song on stage, all in baggy jorts, with Mike Rivera wearing a backpack. That melted my little white small-town brain.

That's just the beginning; the fever dream continues. Just a few scenes later, Virginia, the only female in this doc, pulls down her lip and shows her lip tattoo that says "SUFFERING," just staring into the camera. Madball performing "Set It Off" at Coney Island is the next moment that makes my heart pump in dangerous spheres every time I see it. Imagine my 19-year-old self lying in my room at my parents' house, the laptop on my chest, two hours before I have to start my night shift at the steel plant. We're talking about minute 20 here. We have one hour more to go. I could write pages about this piece of history, but I think you all have a picture now of how I feel about this material, so I will continue now with a few more highlights.

**"Hardcore has the
ugliest People"**

Danny Diablo



**"It was my brother, again.
Jerk."**

Mike Dijan

I don't even want to talk about the 7-year-old Freddy Madball on stage with AF, because that's obvious and a well-discussed matter. One moment that also shocked me was when they show live footage of No Redeeming Social Value, where they all pull their dicks out on stage, followed by 108's "Sex is Suffering." What a genius move in the cutting room! Or is it just how the scene was rolling back then? A topic future generations can discuss.

The tempo stays wild; after 30 minutes of Krishna consciousness, we get a nice little brawl during Crown of Thorns' "Juggernaut" by Mike Dijan's brother, who tries to smash some kids after he pumped himself up on stage in a white undershirt. The last highlight, and for me the ultimate proof that this doc is a timeless classic and a treasure for future generations, is Rodger Miret breaking his back during stage diving.

With this image in mind, I would like to end this brief account of my admiration for this piece of history.

Thank you to udoxntknowme for doing this back to back with me.

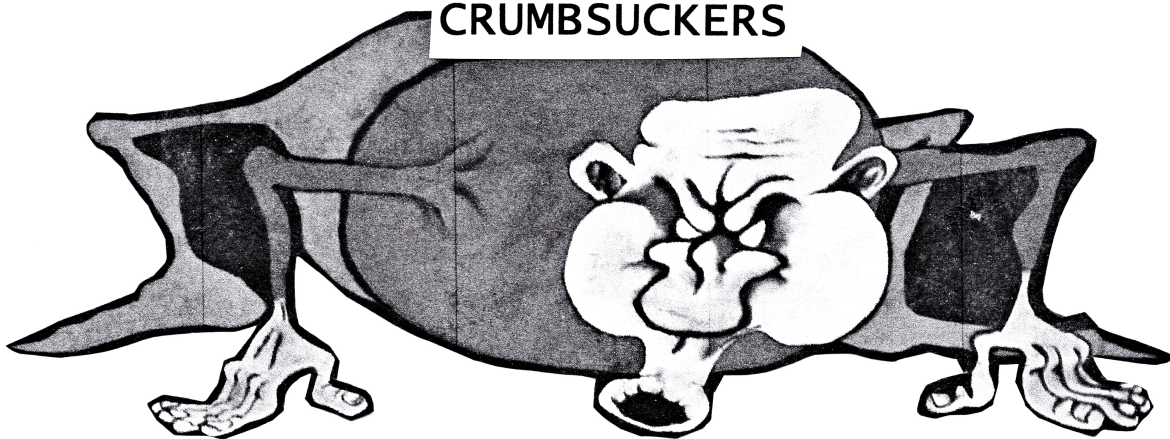


ALIENATION

Yo, what's up. I'm writing these lines sick, lampin (chilling) on my couch on 31.10. watching Curb Your Enthusiasm and relating way too much to this old jewish man...also hoping I'll make it to this years Halloween mosh. Late as ever but better late than never am i right? If you're reading this I've finally finished it in time and seem to have made it to the show in good health. Thanks for taking a copy even though I won't promise too much right from the start. Well see for yourself... here goes:

I have this ongoing (although not very serious) arument with my partner, wether a metal leaning hardcore band should be considered 'Hardcore' genre wise. Think bands like Skourge, Foreseen or Cro-Mags' album Alpha Omega and the likes. while I do feel we're living in a post-genre or rather gerne melting world nowadays some things to me at least are clear as night and day. One 'd be that if a band has members active in the scene and a DIY forward ethic it's considered a Hardcore band in my book. No second thought about it. Don't get me wrong, I love a good crossover act, but that doesn't change the fact that the Mags are 100% hardcore to me, whatever album or era... There's another one of these metal leaning hardcore band from New York I feel kids just tend to forget about these days when checking out the classics (wonder how many of yall still actually do that anyway). The band I'm talking about goes by the name of:

CRUMBSUCKERS



Their extraordinary first LP *Life of Dreams* (1986) is just packed with that New York groove we love here at Alienation HQ, it's fast, it's punk it got the metal slicks, solos and just so much style from the Album Cover by Legend Sean Taggart all the way to Chris Notaros harsh vocal delivery. Track after Track after TRACK, I feel like there's no slowing down here from the first second to the last. Straight up all-caps no frills **HARDCORE** with a big slice of soul and bounce to it. It doesn't make any sense to me that this was released in 1986 as I feel like this sounds kinda like the Breakdown 87 demo but with a definately more proficient and metallic edge to it. Foregive me for saying this, and it's not easy for me pointing that out aswell, BUT listening to it back to back this kind of smokes the 87 Demo. Although comparing an LP to a Demo seems kinda dumb now that I think about it haha.

ANYWAY let's get back on track with their second LP *Beast On My Back* (1988). Way more (heavy-)metal leaning (still HC imo) this B.O.M.B. (you see what I did there) is clocking in at 34 mins and 32sec. with 9 songs total, so that'd be about a minute longer than their former LP with 7 songs less. Undoubtedly a record to that's much harder to get into for the average hardcore kid I'll admit, but nevertheless I've got a soft spot for it which maybe has something to do with the fact I'm actually owning a copy of that LP. On here there's some purely intrumental tracks, really out of this world! I'm telling you to check this out if you like metal leaning hc as those are some of the sickest tracks I've heard from an actual harcocre band. I don't know who came up with the robot vocals at the beginning of „Remembering Tomorrow“ but I love every part of it. Many bold choices in that Album but they're also staying true to what the do best: no bullshit new york metal hardcore.



Here's a link to their 1985 *Working The Magic* Demo which I didn't talk about but you can check out the video description for any info on that... all of their output is to find on spotify so there's really no excuse to not check this out...



Thanks to BigxDog for kicking my ass to get this done and doing this **BACK TO BACK**
(...you're the underdog - just like me...)