

# DSI RECORDS

I was first aware of DSI Records when the first United Mutations 7"s came out, and subsequently

when the Malefice "Overboard" 7" was released. I had the privilege of seeing Malefice, and they honestly were one of my all-time favorite live bands! Linda Hsu just informed me that the 7" by Malefice was re-mastered, and they're gonna add an extra track! Look out for that! The guitarist is now in LA w/ King of Kings on Def America, whatever that means... Anyway, I tossed some questions towards the DSI address, and got to writing to some interesting people and got some answers to the questions that were weighing heavy on my mind! Thanx to John Fox for the answers, and to Linda for everything. On with the interview!!!

**FOE** Who is involved (has been involved) with DSI? What are their contributions to the creation and running of DSI?

**DSI** DSI was started by Lee West and myself (John Fox) in the fall of 1983, basically I've done everything myself with the help of Mike Clayberg. In the last year we've also been joined by Richard Gibson, who takes care of getting the records pressed. Linda Hsu as our radio/zines promotions person and Jane and Cyndi Moon are our loyal part time helpers.

**FOE** Why did you start the label, and who did you look to for guidance?

**DSI** DSI was started to release the first United Mutation EP, the rest just happened. For guidance... of course Dischord has probably helped most through their advice and helpful tips on how to run a label and the record biz in general.

Basically we've had to learn it all the hard way.

**FOE** Your first three records are out of print. What are they, how many pressed, and why haven't they been repressed?

**DSI** DSI #1 United Mutation "Fugitive Family" EP 1000 pressed, DSI #2 Death Piggy "Love War" EP 750 pressed, DSI#3 Malefice "Overboard" EP 1000 pressed. We'd love to repress these and keep everything in

print, but lack of \$\$\$ is the problem. I only have a couple of each for myself, and I can't afford the collectors price either!

**FOE** I'm gonna ask some decision questions... How do you decide... What bands to put out records for?... How many to press?... What color vinyl to use?

**DSI** We usually press 2000 of each record. We've just started pressing on color vinyl, so look out!!! As far as the bands we put out... It seems that a lot of the bands have no other outlet, so if they're good people and we like the music we try to help despite how popular or unpopular they are. We can't help all those we'd like to but we try to help in one way or another.

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**FOE** It must be difficult to keep the label financially afloat. How do you manage the costs?

As far as promotion, how big of a role does advertising in zines, sending out promos for review and airplay play?

**DSI** It's very expensive, frustrating and unprofitable, (but who said it's supposed to be easy!). Advertising helps mostly through name recognition (people see the ad, then see it in the store.) We can't afford to advertise but it does help keep our mail order going. It seems MRR ads are the only ones that generate any interest, I don't know why this is. We're just starting to send promo stuff out and the response has been very good.

#### Now Available:

- \* DSI#003 MFD "Full Volume" LP, 11 songs
- \* DSI#002 Foundation "Tied-up with a Monkey" LP, 10 songs
- \* DSI#001 MFD "Music for the Deaf" LP, 13 songs
- \* DSI#13 Immoral Discipline "Battlefield" EP, 4 songs
- \* DSI#12 Images "Dreams are Real" EP, 4 songs
- \* DSI#11 MFD "Chapter 3" EP, 5 songs
- \* DSI#10 "Odd Man Out" EP, 5 bands/5 songs (Government Issue, Fun Junkies, Black Market Baby, MFD & \* Shudder to Think)
- DSI#9 Thorns "Progress" EP, 4 songs
- DSI#8 Slickee Boys "10th Anniversary" EP, 4 songs
- \* DSI#7 MFD "All of This" EP, 3 songs
- DSI#6 Blackout EP, 5 songs
- DSI#5 Uruku "Exhused Lunch" EP, 5 songs
- \* DSI#4 United Mutation "Rainbow Person" EP, 5 songs

#### Also available through DSI mailorder:

- Blood Bats "Fatal Book Opened" LP, 11 songs
- Death Piggy "Death Rules the Fairway" 2 - 7"s, 10 songs, \$5.00

LP's are \$7.00 each postpaid. EP's are \$3.00 each for one or \$2.50 each for more than one postpaid.

- \* means T-Shirts available: MFD and Images are of record cover art, United Mutation has the logo and two-headed baby skeleton, Shudder to Think has the logo and Medusa head, and Immoral Discipline has an eagle and the logo.

All shirts come in large or extra-large and are \$7.00 postpaid.

Pay with cash/checks/money orders (\$ US) payable to DSI.

Overseas AIR \$4.00 per order, SEA \$2.00 per order.

If you'd like to be on our mailing list, please send your name and address.

DSI RECORDS / PO BOX 346 / DUNN LORING, VA / 22027 / USA



only time will tell how it will help.

FOE How has your dealing with distributors been? How much do they pay you for your records?

DSI We've been around for over five years now, so it seems we're getting a little more respect. We deal with small/independent distributors around the world, trade with other labels and the big distributors like Dutch East and Caroline have been great. Anyone interested, please write!

FOE What does DSI stand for?

DSI That's a Dark Secret. What do you think?

FOE Dark Secret Initials?... What are your "Best" and your "Worst" memories in association with DSI?

DSI "Best Memories" are all the people you meet from all over, and knowing that we're doing something worthwhile despite what the mass media or majority of people think of all this.

"Worst Memories" are answering interview questions!

FOE Gee thanx!

DSI No really the worst is trying to decipher someones address due to bad handwriting, PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY!!!.

FOE What do you do besides the label? (As if that weren't enough)

DSI I work part time in a Chinese restaurant. We all have some sort of work skills other than just folding record jackets and licking stamps.

FOE Do you think hardcore has lost its DIY attitude? How do you think that has affected the "scene" poitively/negatively?

DSI Probably, but at least the larger labels are making it possible for bands to reach larger (and much deserved) audiences. Too bad commercial radio hasn't caught up yet, but I guess that's what we're all supposed to be against. It's a Catch 22.

FOE What is your favorite thing to... Drink... Evil thing... Outfit... Record from the "disco era"...

DSI A poll of the humble DSI staff determined the answers to the following questions...

Favorite Drink: 50% Cranberry/Cran-anything, OJ, Pepsi, Diet Coke mixed with Sprite.

Evil Thing: 87% Non Vegetarian Food, Elvis Presley, Straight Edge, Crowbar, Guns and Roses.

Outfit: 33% Only wear black, Pizza Hut pattern suit, what I wore to bed night before, Cyndi's goofy hat.

Record from the "disco era": 75% Bee Gees "Stayin' Alive/Sat. Night Fever" Soundtrack, Village People "Live and Sleazy", Sex Pistols "Never Mind the Bollocks", and Bay City Rollers "S.A.T.U.R.D.A.Y. Night".

FOE What are your future releases?

DSI DSI #14 Date bait 7"

DSI004 Images "Fall From Grace" LP  
Thanks to Frank and F.O.E. zine for their interest and support, if you'd like to be put on the mailing list, send your #'s!!!

DSI RECORDS / PO BOX 346 / DUNN LORING, VA / 22027 / USA







DSI RECORDS has put out a slew of releases whose attributes don't spell rolaids, but do add a lot of relief to a scene which has been in need of high quality records! Check out the interview and check out these tunes!

IMAGES "DREAMS SO REAL" 7"  
mid-tempo HC (which ofcourse changes tempo) with all the complexities you would expect from a band from the D.C. vicinity to possess. Power plays a key role in this bands effectiveness, as well as the technicalities, sorta like Malefice does, did, and ofcourse punkrockedness. This band's strength puts them above most HC bands anywhere! Rus- ty is a great vocalist; is that a given for DC area bands? Look for a new lp. \$\$\$5

"ODD MAN OUT" 5 SONG 5 BAND 7"  
G.I. starts this blue marble comp. off with an alternative version of "forever" (to the one appearing on the "Crash" LP) which was recorded 6 months before the LP sessions. The FUN JUNKIES do a Mad Paradeish punk tune "Hardcore Hotel". Black Market Baby do the rulinest punk rock tune "Back Seat Sally", recorded in 1986. MFD's "Minute to Go" is an equally rockin tune, and Shudder To Think DO "Touch", which can be heard on their fantastic lp "Curses...". Craigs voice be rulin'. This is the punk rock record for the late 80's! Great sampling for novices, a fantastic package for those who must own all! \$\$\$

IMMORAL DISCIPLINE "BATTLEFIELD" 7"  
classic style HC/oi, thats got a fire to it, better than the US of oi comp. Side one is more serious in its topics, while side 2 is a little unexpected, and actually has a song called "Coffee Achievers". Is this a "skinhead" band more intrested in fun/thought than images? Yeah Buddy! Pretty vinyl! \$\$\$

MFD "FULL VOLUME" LP  
Mr. Rapavi's vocals bring this powerful outfits sound to it's full potential. A solid blend of punk, melodic material, with a rough and ready HC edge that gives this a way rockin' sound. A most underrated band! \$\$\$

SAYINGSOMETHINGCLEVERISSIMPLEENOUGH, BUTWITHOUTMEANING, ITSNOTHINGBUTABLUFF  
HELLOWEEN "I WANT OUT" 12"  
Seems like these guys have alot of fans. If I want to listen to IRON MAIDEN, I will. This is polluting my record collection therefore... NO STARS!

AxC " 88 SONG 7"  
The worst record I've ever heard. NO STARS

CRUZ RECORDS Po Box 7756 Long Beach CA 90807

ALL "Allroy's Revenge" lp  
Well, considering I bought both ALL CDs thus far, (An indication of how much I like this band, cuz I don't just buy anyone's CDs bub!) I was expecting the very best, good, good, things, with this new lp. I was a little wary of the new singer, face it dave's shoes are big ones to fill. Scott does fine! Actually I was a little hard on this record at first, cuz well, there are a couple of bad (or just passable) songs here, something I never expected from All. But hell, the good songs are great! Mary, Box, Scary, Man, Fool, Ex far than make up for the noise-gue. \$\$\$5

CHEMICAL PEOPLE "Ten Fold Hate" lp  
Bill Stevenson's and All's influence shines through on the second CP lp. There's nothing overly outrageous or original here, but I didn't find it offensively bad either. Sounds too much like they are trying to style themselves after various others in the alternative scene, without really being themselves about it. Too much trying. \$\$

BRAD IS SEX "HANGING ON THE STRIP" 12" & "BLACK MAGIC WOMAN" 7"  
P.O. BOX 41453, Santa Barbero, CA 93140

Judging a book by its cover...Hand painted record jacket, one sided 12". My guess would've been some almost industrial band that is almost good but as boring as all get out. But being the unbiased individual that I am, I played it, even the side without any of the 4 songs on it. What I heard blows away any of the college drivel I've heard in ages, yet takes its influence from the same area. There's a catchiness that is appealing, yet not soft or boring. I like it \$\$\$

F BOYZ "SINNIN' LIKE MAD!" 7"  
421 NW 83RD WAY  
PEMBROKE PINES, FL 33024  
Fun grunge punk rock hardcore! Yow! Not only does the girl on the cover rule (better than S.I.) but the tunes on the record are far better than you'll hear as background on any S.I. gimmick /promotional/bloopers video! 5 songs that getcha going! \$\$\$5