

FRANCIS ANTHONY SUPERSTAR

Francis A. Superstar and his band

will play anywhere at anytime for any amount of money.

FRANCIS ANTHONY SUPERSTAR is of course Francis on vocals and guitar, Erik Krieg on bass and the bearded one, Head Georgino. When I got their first 7", I was literally blown away! The pure punk rock angst, clear, and real "personal" lyrics really hit me. I got to see Francis Anthony Superstar at one of the best shows of 1994. It was in an old slaughterhouse, which was located on a farm outside of Quakertown (now that's a punk rock venue!). All the bands that played were great. I met some cool people, and had an all around great punk rock day. This interview was conducted after the show, and before we went to the local diner for some grub.

FOE If GG Allin's brother, after GG died went to Seattle and started a new band, what would it be called?

FAS I don't know...

FOE Merle Jam...

FOE Tell us about the shirts you were going to make...

FAS "Coed Naked Murder Suicide! Dead and Gone with Nothing On!" I made the order and a week and a half later they call me back and said they couldn't print it.

FOE How did this line up come about?

FAS Not Your Friends (was his previous band), towards the end became me compromising all the time, without getting any compromise in return. That band was going toward more of a metal core direction and I wanted to play more punk rock n roll. I was not being taken seriously at all. Anytime I would bring a song it would be made fun of and not thought about so the Superstar thing was kind of a reaction to that. It was a way for me to get my own thing out. It's kinda like fuck you! Not only is it my stuff, but I think, it's good enough to be taken seriously, but also I'm the star of this show! It's kinda comic in a way because by all means I am not a superstar. I live in a trailer court, I have a boring job, and I lose the women I love. It was a way for me to go balls out and to not have to hear any lip about it. My way or the highway. These guys play the role that they are exactly like me, in every way except that they look different. It wasn't all bad playing with Not Your Friends. When the Francis Anthony Superstar record came out it got a better response than Not Your Friends. A lot of people say they like this band better.

FOE What made you cover the Follow Fashion Monkeys song?

FAS We figured it's on your cd ("Get the Hell Out" comp available for \$5 ppd, order now!), we figured a lot of people like it. It's a good song, and being from down here, we figure it would be a good way to get the crowd on our side instead of coming out and singing "Tuck Off We Murder" by the Murder Junkies.

FOE I don't think that song was ever played live by the Follow Fashion Monkeys.

FAS Everyone knows it though.

FOE Yeah, because of the disc.

FAS The first time we played we played Emporium, and everybody loves the FOE cd there and Greg and we played it up there also, to kiss up because they are big fans of the Lehigh Valley and it worked.

And Chuck from Weston liked it too. At practice we play the Burning Ambitions song.

FOE The "put the cap on the bottle" song!

FAS The "put the cap on the put the cap on the bottle" song.

FOE Does anyone have to go to work tomorrow?

ERIK In the band it's Francis, but where I work it's my way or the highway at Metco!

FAS They just fired a guy and Erik almost got his ass kicked.

ERIK They hurried him out of the office because he was about ready to kick my ass. I fired him!

FOE Why did you fire him?

ERIK Cause he's an ass.

FOE Is that what you wrote on his papers?

ERIK I basically said "He's an ass, get him out of here!"

FAS You know Erik plays in a bar band. He makes bucks doing that and he sells out the rock n roll underground to play with them.

FOE Do you play Bob Seger songs?

FAS Oh of course. "Old Time Rock N Roll". They start out with "God Bless Texas" and end with "Roadhouse Blues". I'm sorry I'll stop blasting on Krieg. I'm just jealous that he won't give up his girlfriend for me, and give up that band for us.

FOE So you actually have a girlfriend?





FAS I got this key chain from a girl at work. (shows it to us)

FOE Wow, it has your initials on it and everything!

FAS And I told Greg and he told me "Wow, a girl gave you something other than misery!" I attach to women way too easily and get my ass kicked!

FOE To steal a phrase from Dave Weston "When are you gonna learn?"

FAS That's something that you can get your ass kicked over and over again and still step up to the next fight.

FOE Greg told me to ask you about your fitness plan. In the one song you did say you're a "mile running, weight reppin' hate machine".

FAS You know you never wanna talk about the lyrics outside of the song. You wanna leave them right on in there because there's a lot of embarrassing things you can get away with in music. Head tell them about your fitness plan.

HEAD I don't have one!

FOE You know the Kisses and Hugs fitness program.

FAS My body is so bad that if I don't continually whip myself into submission, I'll die. I have to floss.

FOE Do you use generic floss or the major label stuff?

FAS Johnson and Johnson. And I run probably four days a week every week. Like Thursday I ran five miles and I lift every few days. Every now and then I miss one but it's been pretty steady since a year and a half ago.

FOE You heard about the FOE gym didn't ya?

FAS Yeah from Greg's interview. Can I tell a Greg Story. On the way back from Downtowntown after OX played, we stopped at a diner in Pennsburg and Tony started talking about Pavement or something and the people behind us were amazed that anybody knew anything remotely underground in Pennsburg, and by the end of the conversation Greg sold 2 Ox 7"s a FOE cd and one of the Ox tapes, some sort of "Diner Job" cassette (Ox is famous for their "... Job" cassettes), so somehow he just sells stuff everywhere.

FAS I sold out today and ate a Klondike Bar! My body is not as good as some peoples I got to watch my fat intake. Klondike bars have 20 grams of fat and I haven't eaten a Klondike bar in about 8 months. On a 2,000 calorie a day diet, I base that on 67 grams of fat but of course the chicken dinner I ate last week at Rax blew that, on a seven day week about 5 of those my fat intake is about 50.

FOE I was at Musikfest last night and I had a piece of cake that had about as much fat as you had all last week.

FAS I heard you went to Rollins.

FOE Yeah, we have to get into that.

FAS I loved that show in Pittsburgh.

FOE I can't stand Rollins.

FAS Aw man, Rollins is the epitome of stealth. He's clean livin' from one point to the next in a straight line.

FOE He's a mile running, weight reppin, hate machine.

FAS I'm proud that you found that commonality there. You know I got the new album and it was hard to swallow but now I love it.

FOE I couldn't stand him live, it's like he's up there egging the girls on, flexing all the while the guitarist is just playing these stupid noise leads.

FAS The thing is there's not a lot of chords in the new stuff. You know why I like Rollins, he has a hard time stayin' in line with chicks. I read those books everytime I get bummed out. I read those books and get ready to take on the world and believe me, its been a tough year I must have read "Now Watch Him Die" two, three times and I read it twice in 93.

FOE I'm basically talking about his music...

HEAD Tell him what happened in 1991.

FAS What happened in 1991?

HEAD Can I tell them.

FAS (Finally getting Head's drift) Well how do you say that.

HEAD Francis got laid for the first time this year, in January.

FAS No it was October 1993.

(Applause)

ERIK As soon as he got laid Not Your Friends went to shit, we went metal core.

FOE So we can pretty much believe all that you say in your lyrics has happened to you.

FAS Its all true. Nobody can make something that stupid up. Can I tell a Murder Junkies story?

FOE Go ahead...

FAS I worked 8 hours then drove to Philly which is another 6 hours away. I'm 19 by the way. The show was 21 and over, and I took a chance on getting in and I got in. Jeff Clayton was cool, Dino thought I was a dick and I got my picture taken with him. Merle made fun of me and Bill ignored me. Johnny Puke was a dick at first then he was cool to me. The show was great they didn't play long enough though. They played 9 songs off the album and then they did "Scumfuck".

HEAD It cost us \$6 to get in and there were people outside talking about selling out. These people get more concerned about politics in motherfucking music. Why don't you get a job. \$6!

FAS They don't mind \$6 on beer. Some people are so anti corporate then they go and buy beer which is the epitome of corporate America.

FOE How did you feel about paying all that money to see Rollins?

FAS No problem.

FOE How much was the show out there?

FAS \$22.50. It was worth every penny. I saw him cheap before. You got to understand he's rendering a service, and people like me are willing to pay for the service, and I got it. (Talk switches to what kind of mail they get...)

FAS He get's dirty mail. He's got stacks of magazines. He get's Leisure Time Products.

FOE What are Leisure Time Products?

FAS That separates the men from the boys! No black dots.

FOE Who's your favorite girlfriend from them?

HEAD Nina Hartley, Stephanie Adams. I got this one at home I like. "Hot Wet and Pink".

FAS My favorite title is "Anal Chronicle". But I haven't watched any porno since January, because I've given up on fantasy.

FOE How old is everyone in the band, and do you feel you're where you wanna be right now?

FAS I'm 20 and a half. In January I had to drop out of school. On the first day of school because my car blew up. I had to start working. This whole year has been in preparation for the war. Working up to something.

FOE What are you going to go to school for.

FAS I don't wanna say, it's a sell out. I was going for economics and I want to pursue music, so I'm going to get a degree in business administration. By the time I'm 21 things will be going on. We're hitting the road in May or June of next year. I will be satisfied in a matter of time. I want a cd out by next summer.

ERIK I'm 20 and 12 days working 5 days a week at Metco and I'm not happy with that.

FOE What's Metco?

ERIK It's a powdered metal plant.

FAS That's where we get our metal edge. Krieg brings in the metal edge. You have speed metal, death metal, and now powdered metal.

FOE Can you get sick from that?

HEAD Tell them about the time you passed out.

ERIK That was because I ate that Hershey bar and drank a Dr. Pepper.

HEAD I'm 19. I work at a True Value Hardware store in Berks. Hi Jay. Hi Anne, Tom. In 3 months I get benefits. I work in plumbing and electrical. It's cool because a lot of people quit so I move up the ladder real fast.

FOE Do they like the fact that you have the big beard and stuff.

HEAD I look like the customers but I have all of my teeth.

FOE Well, give it time. Do you floss?

HEAD No, I don't floss.

FAS The dentist told me I better floss or I'll lose my fucking teeth.

HEAD Its alright (the job) I'm not gonna stay here forever. I almost have enough money saved to get a van. We're gonna get a van in a couple of months so we can quit taking my mothers car. I work and play music and that's it. I have arthritis in my back. I'm 19 years old and when I was 17 I got arthritis in my back. And I'm losing my hair.

FAS He's got hair all over. He practically plays naked cause he doesn't want to cut short the patches of hairs growing on his back. And you know chicks like that. Its something to grab on to.

FO Thin Frail Genetics, is that something you worked out. Is that because of his back and your teeth and your need to work out?

FAS He's good looking under that and so is Kreeg. I have a hard time with aesthetics and all that because of chemistry. I inherited a lot of bad shit and that's what it is all about.

Can I give you the Francis Anthony Motto.

FOE Sure.

FAS Can't win em all. Can't win many. Having a hard time winning any.



THIS GUY WASN'T INVITED. AND YOU'RE GONNA FIND OUT WHY.

FRANCIS ANTHONY SUPERSTAR

THE
PARTY'S
OVER



FOUR SONG SEVEN INCH

(\$3 TO: THIN FRAIL GENETICS
P.O. BOX 93
ST. MARYS, PA. 15857