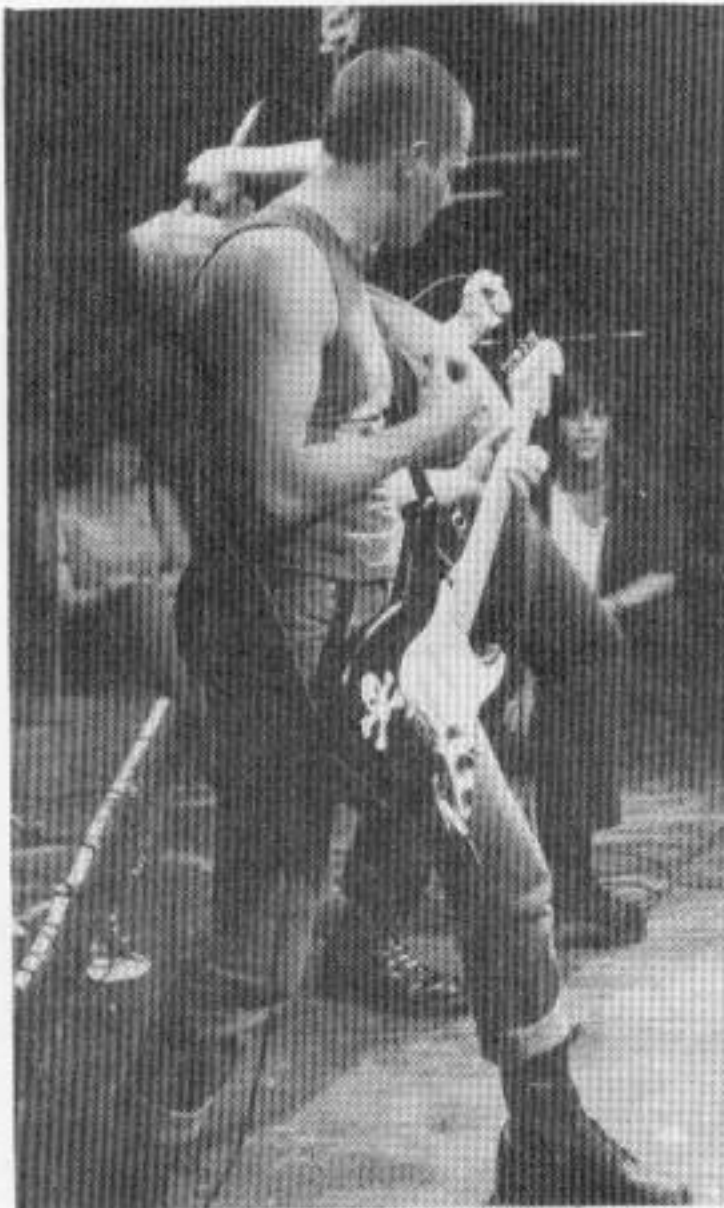


SHEER TERROR

After hearing Sheer Terror's two cuts on "One Big Crowd" (which is one of my fav. lps) I was drawn to their fast, powerful sound. I can only imagine how intense this band must be live! Well, I decided to write them and see what they had to say. So this is how the interview went, with the Q's asked by Frank (why do I keep writing this, I must like seeing my name in print or something) and Paul Bearer answering from Sheer Terror or is that Paul Bearer from Sheer Terror answering.

Q Who is involved with Sheer Terror and why has it come into existence?

A Band members are (Alan) Blake on guitar, Barry M. on bass, Reid Explore on drums and I (Paul B.) on vocals. Its a band that just came together. People wanting to form a successful band.



Q How long has the band been together and have any of the members been involved with any other bands?

A We've been together for a little over a year now. We've all come from different bands. I (Paul) was singing for Pathhead Suburbia (an old N.Y.C. band circa 1982; only 7 shows, a four song demo, and a cut on a compilation) and before joining Sheer Terror was studio work and sessions with Josh from Shok. Blake and Reid were in No Control (a few shows here and there, on 2 or 3 compilations). Reid was in a few funk/go-go bands in D.C. and a few unknown punk outfits from that same

area. Barry played drums for Adam's 2 (a not too popular NYHC band)

Q How did you get on "One Big Crowd", why'd you choose the songs you did?

A Both Blake and I had worked with Javi before. Javi wanted to put No Control on it, but they had already broken up, so Blake told him about his new band. We recorded our first demo 3 weeks after I joined the band. Originally we were to record two songs ("Fashion Fighter" + "Only 13") and send them in for the comp but since we were there, we recorded an extra two songs ("Ready To Halt" and

"Kurtz Song") Good thing we did, because we wound up using "Kurtz Song" instead of "Only 13"

Q Do you plan to record more in the future?

A We have 2 demos already recorded and a variety of live tapes. We had plans to sell a live tape to get the name around, but the tape was accidentally destroyed. There is talk of going back into the studio to rerecord all of our material over again. This will probably be the tape that we'll sell. Approx. release date: Feb 5th.

Q Has Sheer Terror played mainly to NY crowds or have you played out?

A We've played mostly in NY, but have played out of state many times (Conn. , Baltimore, Detroit). We will tour once an lp is released.

Q What was your fav. show, why?

A This is a hard question to answer because we are still a young band and have a lot more to accomplish.

Q We know the 2 songs from "One Big Crowd", what are some of your other songs about?

A Well, theres "only 13" which is about 13 year old little girls at shows, "Howard Unruh" is about the WWII vet from Camden NJ that shot and killed 13 people one fine afternoon. "Loaded Dice" is about gambling with life. "Not Giving Up" is about 3 minutes long. Others are "The Great Shuffle", "Dwe You Nothing", "Everything...", "Dying Angel", "Ready To Halt", "Obseletion", "Smile For A Price"

Q How would you describe NY as a city to someone who's never been there?

A New York is a cold city, one of, if not the toughest cities in America. The attitude here is "you don't fuck with me, I don't fuck with you. But if you do fuck with me, I'll kill you." I love it here, I mean, fuck, I was born and raised in this city.

Q How would you describe the NYHC scene?

A It changes a lot, but gigs are often (one or two a week). If I

may coin a phrase "In every bunch of roses there's gonna be pricks." It leaves a lot to be desired, but it is definitely one of the best scenes.

POE Why do you think HC associates its artwork so much with skulls?

ST I don't know. People think they look scary + gruesome. People like the way they look, they think its cool.

POE What do the band members do outside of the band?

ST Blake drives a van for a construction company, Reid works stock in a clothes store, I'm not sure what Barry does, and I'm currently unemployed.

POE Please excuse me for my incompetance but I have lost the question for this answer, (I'm only human) but i think it went something like... In this issue of POE i also have an interview with Government issue and they have a song called "Sheer Terror" do you think this is just a coincidence?(Or something like that)

ST That is purely a coincidence. I've heard the song , and personally, I don't like it. I mean, like we've got nothing better to do than name ourselves after their song. Give me a break!

POE what do you think 1986 has in store for Sheer Terror?

ST We will definitely have an album out before the year is out. We will make this a successful band. AND that's a fact, Jack.

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