

Feature: Sam Kinison - Shouts it Out

By Mark Piedmonte

"We don't want to drink and drive. No, but it's the only way to get the car back to the Fu**in' house" proclaims Sam Kinison in the opening segment of his second and latest album entitled *Have You Seen Me Lately?* Kinison, known by his fans for his raunchy dialogue and "worldly" insights into subjects ranging from the Resurrection of Christ to being damned into hell fire is easily recognizable by his loud, screaming no-holds-barred attitude. Since his appearance on Rodney Dangerfield's young comedians special, Kinison has been keepin' busy with various appointments such as his own HBO comedy special, being spokesman for radio station WMMR and WYSP out of Philly and appearances in rock videos, feature films and MTV.

Sometimes, when listening to Sam's material, you can't help but squirm in your seat a little. Various bits on religion and Biblical figures (Mary, the virgin mother of God's Mystery Date for example) can be rather ruthless attempts at trying to get laughs. His jokes are rude and brazen sometimes, and leaving audiences with the uncomfortable feeling of "that was so awful I had to laugh."

Women seem to be Sam's favorite topic of "conversation" when he's on a roll. Claiming to love them for all they're worth (plus certain organs that they possess), he still comes off as bitter when he talks about the women in

his life. Kinison rants and raves about the down sides of married life and of the pressure and heartaches of being divorced (an event he's experienced twice in his life time). In a segment about entering the gates of hell, Kinison foresees the devil all ready to fire up his latest victim until he finds out that the soul has been married. The devil even offers the soul a job because it's been married twice!

One may wonder why then, if this fat little screaming man is so obnoxious, is he so popular? Well, one reason most certainly is Kinison's remakes of rock 'n roll standard "Wild Thing" on which C.C. Deville from Poison plays guitar among other inspiring rock musicians. The song and video are gaining much air play on radio stations and MTV (the video is of course on the daily top ten requests).

Another reason for Sam's success, however, may be because he's just what we need in our world right now, someone to yell and scream and say things that no one else would ever dare to utter from their lips. The world today is over weight, angry and ready to explode and maybe Sam is simply just a model who's proving that it's okay to let it all out and be honest with one's feelings.

He's definitely not for everybody, but he is if not anything else, different. OH, OHHHHHHHHHH!

Art Appreciation

By John Burd

Does the pace of music represent the pace of our lives?

People on classics don't move to fast

But they keep a lot on the mental ball.

People on hard stuff don't move too fast either

Sensual overload

They drive badly.

Maybe it represents the acuteness of our senses

Is there a cause / effect relationship between quiet and acute senses?

Is it cause, effect, or a misconception that people on classics

Are more curious?

I believe from personal experience that it is an effect.

Does the pace of our music represent our paranoia?

Nah,

Does music represent our thought patterns in a rhythmic form?

I'd like to think so, after all - music is universal,

And a 'good tune' is so easy to remember.

Silence to think,

Classics to drive,

Pop to reminisce,

Jazz to mellow out,

Old rock to get into,

New rock to wonder how much of it will last.

I'd need to own Magic 93, WVIA radio and the Listening Booth,

in that order, to have what I like.

Music can't be for free.

Artists can't starve.

But couldn't we be cut a break?

Give the artist the cash for estimated advance sales now

Why should the estate get most of it?

Hot Heavy Metal

Ozzy Osbourne - No Rest for the Wicked

By Mark Piedmonte

The almighty Oz is back once again, and this time spreading his views on politics, preachers, and of course, the ever presence of evil in our world. He proves that his ability to find good musicians to back him up is strong as ever (Zack Wilde is his latest and perhaps greatest ax-man since Rhoades) and the music is as loud and fast as ever -- sure to please any of Ozzy's fans, old or young.

So what's the problem? It's boring as hell! Nothing ever changes (even with new musicians), it just gets old and monotonous and overdone. But of course, it will sell like hotcakes, satisfy dedicated followers, and bills will get paid. No, there is no rest for the wicked; they just keep recording material and pray for the best.

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Priorities:

- 1) Food.
- 2) Companion/mate.
- 3) Esthetics.
- 4) Roof over head.
- 5) Music.

Many would argue you can't get two without first having three and one but that is, regardless of the order it is believed they will be attained, they are in the order I perceive I need them.

Problems:

- 1) Farmers are being forced to sell arable land for real estate.
- 2) Women don't ask first.
- 3) The lack of concern over the trading of the environment for cash.
- 4) Property tax and the notion of land ownership rots.
- 5) What do you mean \$13.00? Leaching off of the disposable income of teen-agers for shame.

Wax New Wave

Midnight Oil: Diesel and Dust

By Ken Powers

In eleven years of existence, Midnight Oil has never received widespread airplay in the U.S. Apparently, music promoting issues of social injustice and nuclear disarmament were not suited for the American music scene. Until now.

Thanks to a six week tour and two successful MTV videos, Midnight Oil has cracked the Billboard charts with their new album *Diesel and Dust*.

All the songs are political, dealing mostly with the plight of the Australian Aborigines. "Beds are Burning" pushes the Australian government to give back what it's stolen from Aborigines over the years. Meanwhile, "The Dead Heart" serves as a sort of anthem for Aborigine resistance. Another theme of the album is social change. "Dreamworl" lashes out at people who sit on their ass, pretending everything's alright, while people starve and go unemployed. "Warakurna" reminds us all that change is inevitable.

Although the music has valuable messages to send, it hinders itself by its monotony. This album needs some fun songs to round it out. Otherwise, the average listener will turn it off after the end of the first side, and miss other quality material. Beyond this song selection flaw, *Diesel and Dust* is quite effective and powerful.

Now that the word is out on Midnight Oil, expect to hear more from these "socially conscious" rockers in the future.

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