

website : [Walking with the beast](#)

INTERVIEW : MESA COSA (Casbah Records)

Can you tell us about the story of the band ?

No one is from Melbourne but we all met here ! I went to a festival and the fortune teller said “start a band” so I did. Stewart (Tambourine) and I have been friends for ever, it was very organic. Then our saxophone player came to lots of parties and played with us until finally we made him an official member

Tell us more about Infernal Cakewalk : how did it come, how you recorded it ?

Just we wanted to make noise and fun songs, we just want an excuse to shout a lot and we jammed and made up songs in our house, we have a house we can play music in until very late, after we had enough songs and saved some money we recorded it here in the living room in one day.

What about this reference to Georges Méliès ?

This is funny : I was one night watching youtube videos and found that Infernal Cakewalk by Melies was the same rhythm and tempo to our song “666”, so I put them together and we had a film clip ! I really love Méliès symbols, fantasy and devils, we thought it was good to name the record after that video.

How did you get in touch with Casbah Records ?

I think I sent them a message really late one night (also high and maybe the same night I find Georges Méliès clip) and forgot it. I think two months later they wrote back saying “yes we want to release it !” I was very confused.

It's your first record on vinyl, can you explain this choice ?

I think a vinyl is a memory and a object, it is a *thing*, look we *made* this. Music is so easy to lose and forget, cd's break, tapes are difficult. I think vinyl is a nice thing.

Jay Reatard said something like that : « I can make pop stuffs on a record, but when I'm on stage, it's like war” with you guys it seems to be war on record and on stage, why “power”, strength, are so important in your music ?

We started this band to be genuine, and sometimes I see some bands and I think, this is so boring, they think they are so important, or they try being cool. I was thinking, 6 people screaming into a microphone would be better than this, so then that's what we did ! I think, with energy, you can't lie, and people they

come out to watch a band to get energy, and forget about the moment, so we give them lots of energy to make it easy to forget (problems, being cool, whatever) and just have fun. In few words Mesa Cosa is : Energy, honesty, excitement, noise, messy, loose, fun.

What do you like so much into punk & garage rock from south America ?

I like the language, the symbols, i like its kind of dirty, a bit rude and gritty, its unique.

Is-it hard to sing rock'n'roll in Spanish ?

Its better ! it has moe sta-ca-ta-ma-cha-os kinda sounds, so they are really fun to sing and they make the singing a lot more rhythmical, I prefer to sing in spanish a lot because, it sounds good !

You cover Saicos's song "Alcatraz" : why this band ?

Los Saicos are so incredible, every song in their record is perfect, its hazy and dirty and dark and melodic, I think they are very influential band and a very important one.

Which other bands influencing your sound, your songs ?

The answer is always The B52's & Los Saicos. There are others as well, we love JC Satan & Wau y Los Arrrghs (Slovenly) we love Zoobombs (Japan) Ty Segall, Oh Sees, Black Sabbath, Spaceman 3, Molotov (Mex), Beastie Boys, Brian Jonestown Massacre, etc. But B52's and Saicos are No.1

You use a saxophone on your songs, it's an instrument which is not often use by the "garage revival", tell us more about this choice ?

Haha this was not a choice! We met our Saxophone player at parties, we got wasted and took acid and had concerts and he would play and make noise, he LOVES noise, and he loves metal, it was funny. After maybe 7 parties we said "ok you are in the band now".

What about this obsession with the devil, hell...

Death and the Devil are just amazing concepts, ideas, amazing symbols, really interesting and really fun, really deep. But also this is a Mexican perspective, in Mexico devils are colored devils, there are good devils, bad ones, death is celebrated or you make fun of it. We also sometimes sing about the lighter side, like God and Mary and things, they are interesting too, I think it's better than singing about girls, more cosmic, more tribal, more deep.

What people think of Mesa Cosa in Australia ?

I think they don't know what to think, we are kind of don't belong anywhere, but I think they like us more every week, we play hard and we are always screaming 110%, I think now they are getting more comfortable with us. We are screaming in spanish about the devil, it takes a while to 'get it', but yes I think they like us.

Tell us more about rock scene in Melbourne? It seems to be a very creative environment, with some terrific bands...

Melbourne has amazing music, sometimes too much music ! It's really excellent, but sometimes there is too much competition, or "who is cool" kind of thing, I think because there are so many bands, it is easy to become cynical. It's easy to play so bands can maybe get lazy, but mostly it is very amazing, some great bands ! Like: Midnight Woolf, Baptism of Uzi, The Murlocs, King Gizzard, Royston Vasie, Damn Terran, ScotDrakula, so many bands!

Which are the best conditions to listen to Mesa Cosa music ?

Live: Drunk, a little bit high, late at night (after 12), lots of people, small room, one broken amplifier that kind of works.

Record: Really stoned with headphones on and eyes closed.

You seem to apply the rock'n'roll way of life...

Yes I think so hahaha...yes, definitely.

Will you go on tour outside Australia soon ?

We want to! I think we love France, we want to go to France, Spain, Germany especially. We are talking to Ben at Casbah Records, maybe middle of 2013, or if we are too poor, then maybe early 2014.

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