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The Pop Culture Suicides



Foto di Julie

Italian Secret Society

EDITORIAL

*“ This band is built to destroy. That's a bi product of the music and the attitude behind it. “
(Zim Zum)*

It's not a chance that this 5th editorial starts with a Zim Zum quote. And still it's not a chance that most likely this fanzine will be out a little bit earlier than expected.

Just like i've preannounced in the past weeks, in this fanzine you will find an interview that Zim Zum kindly did for us. For this reason i decided to anticipate its release, because i must admit that i was quite excited and impatient and i wanted to share Zim words with all of you, as soon as possible.

I really think that listening to him (or better, reading him) talking about music, The Pop Culture Suicides, the passion he feels for what he's doing, is quite therapeutical. For this reason, during the last weeks, while the interview was simply a file saved on a folder in my computer, i started feeling so restless, like i was depriving all of Zim and TPCS fans of something very special.

And that's all i have to say, now it's time to let Zim speaks... check it out at page 4! And enjoy! Other than that, while working on this fanzine, i realized that exactly a year ago the TPCS Italian Secret Society was born.

A year after, i'd really like to thanks all the people that, in every way, helped me to give birth and keep this project alive.

Zim, of course, because during these years he has always been there, since the day of Zim Zum World birth, ready to advise, resolve doubts and difficulties and patiently listening to my anxiety attacks. For the patience and kindness that make him a very special person, other than a special artist. And of course, thanks for creating the Music that is the only reason of all this.

Haze, AjaX, Trey, Baron, for being part of the only band that was able to change my life. For all the great emotions, for the interviews, for what anyone of them means.

Gretchen, because she saved me from madness hundred times. For being the person that is always able to make me feel part of the family, for the precious friendship and support. For everything.

Patti, because so many times during these two years, she helped me to forget there's an ocean between me and them. For the kindness, the care, and all the little (and big) kind deeds and thoughts that make my days much better.

GlitterZim, for being such an important inspiration, for creating the site that helped me to keep my passion alive during the years, for the pure love she puts in supporting Zim and TPCS.

And **L.P. , Bob, Julie, Zillah** because anyone of them gave and still gives a special meaning to all this.

And then, last but not least, **Welta**, because finally i know i'm not all alone in this country, for being such an enthusiast supporter since the first day, and of course, for letting me think i'm not completely insane, or, if i am, well, we are both!

This fanzine is dedicated to all of you, i hope to bring you all with me along the long way that, i'm sure, the TPCS Italian Secret Society has still to go.



SUICIDES NEWS

Demand TPCS!!

If you want TPCS to play in your city, you can now demand them at www.eventful.com. Of course, the more of you will demand them, the more hopes there will be to see them play in Europe, one day!

The TPCS French Secret Society is born!

The European invasion goes on and, some months ago, the TPCS French Secret Society is born, too!

You can find our French brothers and sisters at <http://www.myspace.com/tpcsfrenchsecretsociety>



I'll give you something that you need... Interview to Zim Zum!!

(Thanks Zim Zum)



(Pic by Tony)

There's something, in what Zim Zum says, that always let you speechless, shocked and touched. I think that anyone who carefully listened to any of the songs that Zim wrote in these years, knows what i mean. Zim Zum is one of those artists who always leaves you with something new to think about. What is mostly stunning is the pure passion that he puts in what he does, the same passion that gives you a kind of fever anytime you get into his world. For this reason, and for many others, i strongly wanted to give him a voice, again. Because in this world where so many people look way too bored, anesthetized or simply scared to have something really interesting and true to say, listening to Zim is the only way i know to find a hope again, in the meaning of Music and Art.

Ladies and gentlemen, we are proud of introducing you into Zim Zum World... enjoy your staying...and on your way out shut the door...

1. Right now your main musical project is The Pop Culture Suicides. I guess that anyone who had listened to the songs would say that this band is completely different from any other band that the music business is offering us. It's clear that MTV and the music industry is not helping to promote a kind of music that could be intended as art, and not simply as "product". As musician, how do you see the future of music?

Do you think there still is a "culture" of music?

ZIM ZUM: I dont think the larger percentage of the population is cultured enough to really understand music or art or the combination of both. Art is a sub genre now only truly appreciated and understood by a sub culture.

People want fast food, fast internet, fast cures and fast results and they want all of this without moving an inch or even giving it a second thought.

The industry, as it was, was feeding shit to millions and millions loved the taste. Now it's just a shit hangover and everyone denys they were a part of it. Talent was dumped by so many music outlets when the shift went to product sales over longevity, creativity and originality. The music industry as it was is dead. "Music" television no longers exists. Commercial radio is just that, one big commercial paid for by sponsors. 90% of what you see and hear is a paid advertisement.

I could go down a list of people that call themselves "artists" when they are nothing more than calculated product. edited and intonated just the right way to sound like there is talent involved, 50 different writers and producers and hundreds of pro tools plug in's later all they do is rob you of your money and with time, leave you feeling stupid. Especially if you see them live.

1a. What can you do?

ZIM ZUM: Support the music you love.

2. The first TPCS live show was November 23 rd 2005 at The Lounge. That was the first time ever you played with TPCS live. Which were your feelings before and during the show?

ZIM ZUM: I spent more than a year of my life away from everyone and everything. No TV. No radio. No friends. I wanted everything clean and blank. Back to a place where it was 100% me, without current influence so that what I wrote and what I played and recorded came from un manipulated emotion. I wrote more than 70 songs during that time spawned Pleistoscene, The Pop Culture Suicides and my solo recordings.

It also changed the way I interact with others...

TPCS had been a band and played in a room at least 3 to 4 nights a week for 2 years before we played live so what we do is not motivated by public perception or being accepted. We do what we do because there is no other way, it is what we have always done.

I explained to each person coming into the band that my motivation was to do something that was without regrets. Without strings. Not manipulated or dictated by anything outside. People might love the music or hate the music but it wouldn't change what we do or how we do it.

This band is built to destroy. That's a bi product of the music and the attitude behind it. We spent a couple years in a room, playing (literally) inches from a wall just on the other side of the mic stands. When we play live, the wall is gone. Anything can happen because nothing is contrived or choreographed or preconceived, but, we are always in control.

3. Do you remember the first concert you ever went to? Would you tell us something about it?

4. Since you were a child, have you always known you wanted to be a "rock star"?

ZIM ZUM: Since my earliest memories, music has always been my life. The first albums I ever heard (and I heard them back to back) were Pink Floyd's "The Dark Side of The Moon"

and David Bowie's "Ziggy Stardust and The Spiders from Mars." Even before I played guitar I was given "The Beatles Complete Easy Guitar" book and I was told that I shouldn't get caught up in the music of the time but to stick with classic bands like Led Zeppelin. That alone should explain quite a bit about who I am and where I come from. The first concert I was witness to was in the basement of the house I lived in/grew up in as it was rented to a band as a rehearsal space and I remember being equally afraid and curious as I went down those stairs for the first time.

I always wanted to be a rock star. I remember jumping on my bed with a tennis racket as a guitar, when I was five or six. I felt that if I could be a rock star it would take me away from all the things that hurt me. The first albums I ever owned I found in a garbage can because a friend of mine who lived in an apartment building saw someone's mom throw out all their kids albums and those albums just happened to be KISS. The second album I ever owned, I stole from a record store and it was AC/DC's "Back in Black"

My childhood and the people in it influenced who I would become, but ultimately I made myself who I am.

5. If you were a song (TPCS one or not) which one would you be and why?

ZIM ZUM: I don't know that one song ever tells the whole story so it would be difficult to sum up a lifetime in one song but my favorite songs are songs that I can relate to. Songs that feel as though they are speaking to me.

6. In which way The Pop Culture Suicides may be intended as a "Secret Society"?

ZIM ZUM: ?

7. Name three things you can't live without...

ZIM ZUM: I don't know, I've never tried.

8. And three things you think we should get rid of to make this world a better place...

ZIM ZUM: I have a lot more than 3 but George W Bush, Greed and The Patriot Act.

9. If you were a movie character who would you be and why?

ZIM ZUM: That would be way too self analytical for me to narrow down to one and why.

10. This interview is going to be published on the Italian TPCS fanzine and it's going to be read not only by your Italian fans, but probably also by people that will find that for chance and probably will hear about the band for the first time in their life... what would you like to tell them to goad them in checking out the band?

ZIM ZUM: I don't know that I would tell them anything to try to persuade them into listening to TPCS. I would try to offer some optimism.

Every day above ground is a second chance to make your life amazing. Don't rely on anyone else to save you from yourself.

SUICIDES LYRICS...

Personality Crisis

Lyrics and Music: Zim Zum

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Another day reminds me
of my not so solid state
Reception distorted
As I self medicate
In this world where were all used and then thrown away
Too sick, too tired to try to find a reason to stay

This is just one of many ritual breakdowns
Page six, celebrity meltdown
Giving into every single one of my vices
This is just another personality crisis

If todays the day I lose control
If todays the day I just let go,
If I don't say goodbye I meant to let you know
If my heart should stop
Please try to finally be at ease
Leave me lifeless as there's nothing left of what you thought was me

This is just one of many ritual breakdowns
Goodbye
Giving into every single one of my vices
This is just another personality crisis

If you thought you really knew me
Is this what you thought I'd be?
When you think you're starting to see
You're still just looking through me
Never knowing what I might find
When I look in the mirror
Pictures in the back of my mind
Aren't getting any clearer

Nobody's counting on me

So I'm not gonna change a single thing
And I'm so fucking tired of trying to be
Something even close to
Making you happy

The question is still why
You feel the need to try
To read between the lines
And trade the truth for lies

This is just another personality crisis

This is just another personality crisis
I am what your gossip always sacrifices
This is just another personality crisis
Giving into every single one of my vices

This is just one of many ritual breakdowns
Page six, celebrity meltdown
Giving into every single one of my vices
I am what you gossip always sacrifices

This is just one of many ritual breakdowns
Page six, celebrity meltdown
Giving into every single one of my vices
This is just another personality crisis

Nobody's counting on me
So I'm not gonna change a single thing
And I'm so fucking tired of trying to be
Something even close to
Making you happy

The question is still why
You feel the need to try
To read between the lines
And trade the truth for lies

