



VOLUME ONE

ISSUE ONE

Slick Hex Battle # TWO

Excel interview

Venone

Banning Spray Paint





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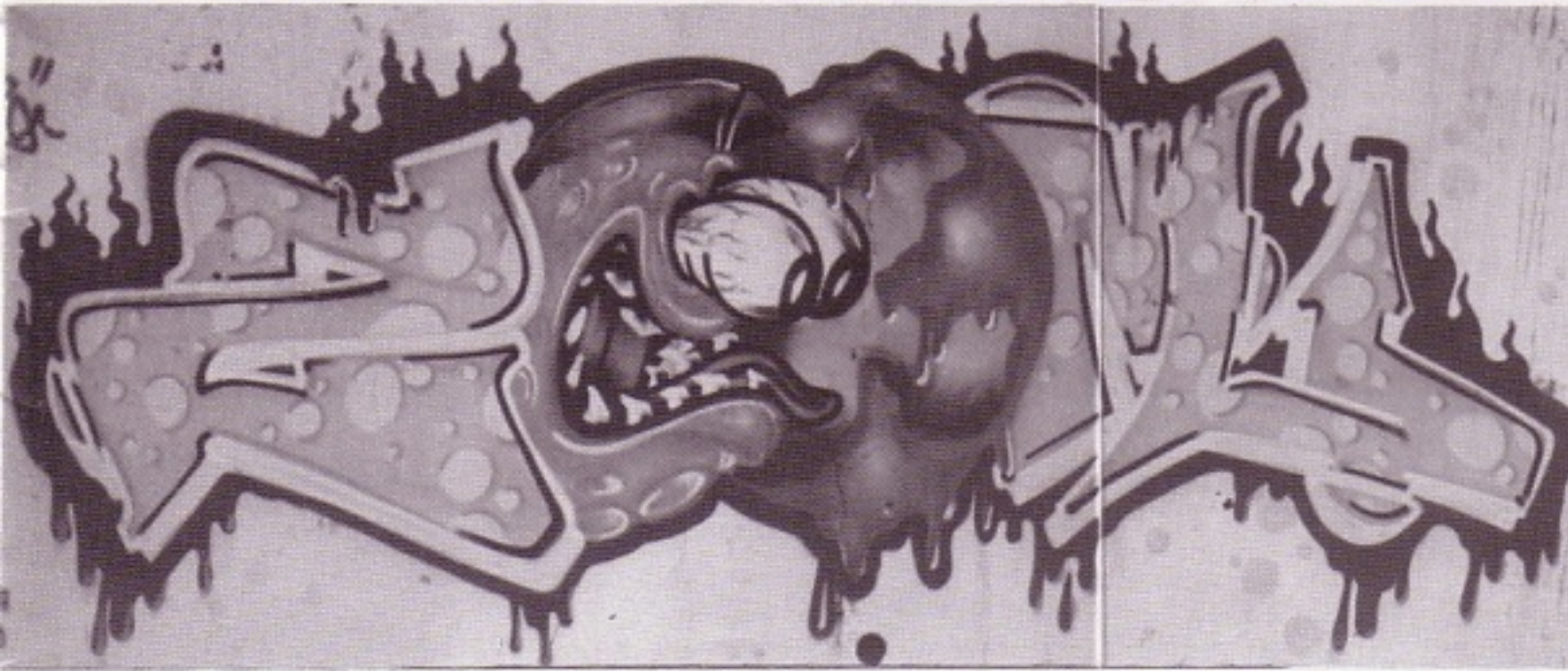
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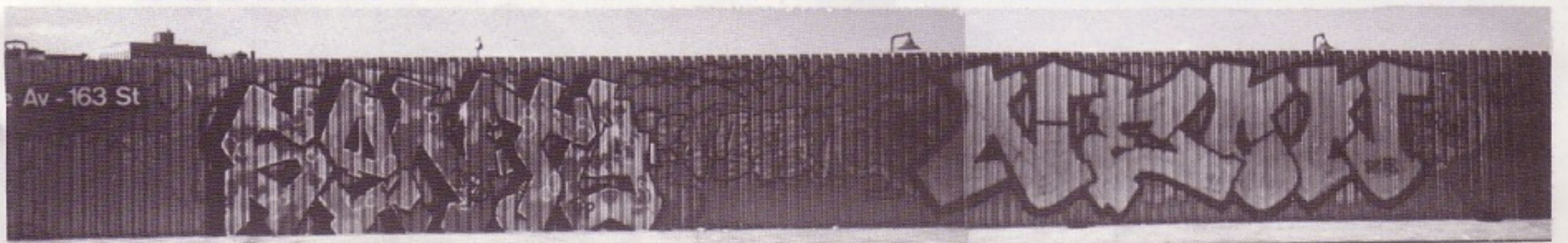
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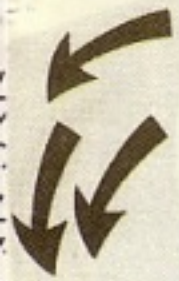
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ven



C.C.: How long have you been writing?

VEN: Since 1984

C.C.: Was their one thing or a group of things that got you writing?

VEN: I was involved in the "Hip Hop" movement and my brother was bombing the trains. And I always liked riding the trains so I would look at all the graffiti and say what the hell is this shit. So threw my brother I began to realize what it was about. Seeing my brothers name "Bones" and his partner "Net" on all the trains (Net was king of the insides on the D and M lines) fasanted me. I would go with him to take picture and I got into it.

C.C.: Was it always Ven?

VEN: I started with Race but I never hit a train with that name. My brother and I were walking some fright trax, thinking up names and he said Ven and I was like that sounds cool. That was April 1984.

C.C.: What crews are you in?

VEN: My crew A.M.W., R.T.W., T.D., TOP CREW, AOK, XTC, B.Y.I., But im mostly for self so so im putting up my crew at the moment.

C.C.: Are their alot of writers in A.M.W. ?

VEN: Ya about a hand full, 10-15.

C.C.: How dose it fell to be one of the last writers to be bombing the trains?

VEN: Well I enjoy it more now, it's more competitive, more strategic. In the old days you would go write your name and you had to see if people coming were writers or cops, but now when you see someone in the layups you know it's time to go, cause you know it's not a graffiti writer. It's easier now, there's so many lay up's to hit and nobody hitting the trains, so you can skip around . They can wait for you in one area and you'll be somewhere else. Ther up in the Bronx and will be in Queens 25 miles away. Totally fucking with their mind.

C.C.: Is there one cop that give you the most shit?

VEN: My most hated cop is Mona. He's the one that's always popping shit about me, cause he cant catch me. And the two times he did it wasn't for painting, it was for bullshit and I won both cases. He hates me more than I hate him. It's funny.

C.C.: Wheres the future for you?

VEN: Im into the music scene, in production and retail. Im trying to the London House scene out here. My brother Frankie Bones was one of the originators of that movement and were trying to show

these trendy people that thout the Acid House that was here last summer was not what it's all about . That the music now is more hard hitting, and it's all about progression.

C.C.: Will you have time to paint?

VEN: I have 150 cans and the urge to bomb. So when I go it will be something productive. I just don't have time for these immature writers out there. Trying to pop shit about the Venski when there not bombing the trains . If you don't bomb trains than your not a writer.

Spray Paint Ban Proposed

City and state officials Monday announced a legislative proposal calling for a ban on selling spray-paint cans to all but commercial users.

Officials say the bill, being drafted by state Sen. Art Torres (D-Los Angeles), is necessary because police have been unable to arrest graffiti vandals, many of whom work in late-night teams.

If the bill passes, sellers could sell spray paint to customers 18 years and older, but, beginning Jan. 1, 1991, would have to lock cans away.

By January, 1992, spray cans would be available only to commercial businesses.

The bill also calls for sellers who violate the restrictions to pay fines of \$50 per can or \$1,000, whichever is greater.



WELL the bullshit is at it again. Why in the hell would they want to classify artist along with gang writers and street taggers. Why would this dick Art Torres hold his press conference at Belmont tunnel and than make his entire speech in front of the only structure in the yard that dose'nt have full color pieces and characters covering it. And why would'nt the news stations that covered the ass holes speech show any of the art, when a few months ago they covered the Slick and Hex battle boasting about the artistic ability and the separation it has from gangs. But once again we've been placed in the same category. **IT'S FUCKING CONSERVATIVE CENSORSHIP. KEEP ON BOMBING IF WE GO INTO A PAINT PROHIBITION WILL NEVADA SUPPLIES...**



EXCEL was interviewed at their rehearsal studio on Aug. 13, Excel is Greg Saenz drums, Dan Clements voice, Shaun Ross bass, Adam Siegel guitar. After the passing of a Dodgers schedule, some old English and jokes about the night Adam, Brisk, Dread and myself went 3am pool hopping at a major hotel on Sunset the questions began:

C.C.; Tell us about the early years.

Adam; Well I ran away from home at 13 (laughing) and I had a little bit of money.

C.C.; So you bought a guitar.

Adam; That's the only thing I did have. So I lived with my cousin who went to Venice High with Dan in 83. Dan gave him a tape to give me, so we started talking and formed a band. This dude from Florida named Hank was on bass and we played the " cathy " (never getting paid). At that time Shaun was hanging around with us, so when the time came for a new bass player Shaun was it. Around 85, we changed the name to Excel. We did a demo " Personal Onslaught " we released our first album in 87 " Split Image ".

Shaun; That did well for a firs. record with no publicity.

C.C.; Was that the start of your history with your label.

Shaun; Well Mike Muir paid for it. It was a quicidal record Carolyn distribution. And we stayed with Carolyn in N.Y..

C.C.; What was your first tour.

Adam; Europe. We had played northern California, Mexico and Arizona once.

C.C.; You skipped the rest of the country and toured Europe.

Adam; And then straight into a Two month U.S. tour.

C.C.; Where was the good city's for your style.

Shaun; Tijuana. The club their holds 1000 and we have a good following down there. Philadelphia was great and Vancouver. Europe was great we did allot of Graffiti at all our stops.

C.C.; With both of you being writers do you see other bands trying to include graf. to their band like you guys.

Shaun; Were the only ones that do it ourself. Everybody else has other people try it or pay a writer. They don't do it cause they've been around it for years like we have, their jumping on the band wagon.

C.C.; What do you think about the blending of hard sound with hip hop.

Shaun; It depends on who's doing it.

Both; I haven't heard it done right yet.

Adam; Urban Dance Squad did ok, but their not really hard.

Shaun; Nobody has done it right. I was thinking about that stuff, there's a lot of bad rap that's getting overrated. Someone with a big ego goes into a studio, and makes gross amounts of money.

Adam; There's to much money to be made. people that wouldn't do it if there wasn't money to be made are rapping cause their is.

C.C.; what about the bands that lipsink.

Adam; For us it wouldn't work. It's not right for a band to do that. I know the Cult sample stuff.

Shaun; They put out music that is for audiences that only care about what there seeing, not hearing. Technology is taking the creativity out of music. The good quality music is not being heard. I think todays society would rather make Tone Loke a millionaire. We have fans that trust us. We play are ass off for an hour, all original music and people respect that.

Adam; As we keep progressing. It becomes harder and harder to find influences. When we started there were lots of bands that I liked, lots of guitar players that influenced me.

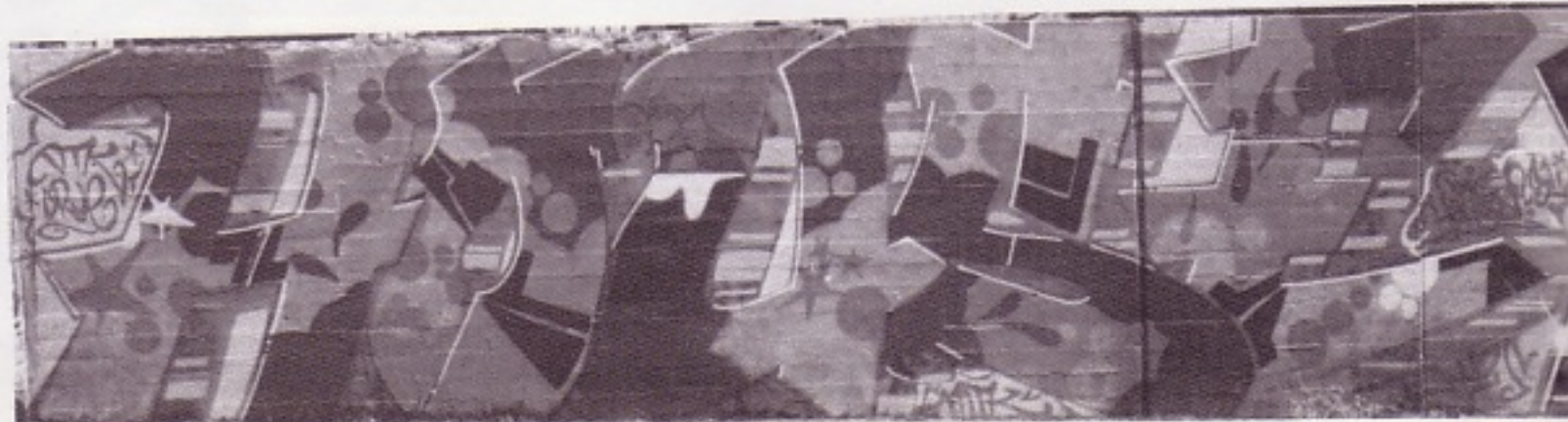
Shaun; There's nothing new out. Nothing worth supporting. (there's allot of great bands but)

Adam; I haven't seen any bands lately that given me the chills, you know.

Shaun; That's what Excel is about, we keep the energy from something like 83-84, the original hardcore, SSD Control, the first COC line up. Were still on the bottom of the financial ladder. I could live good if I got into my job more, maybe if I didn't have the band. But than I couldn't express myself. And being this young and being able to see the world. And for free. i'm great-full. The listeners have provided the demand.

C.C.; You guys paint.

Adam (REV K.S.N.) Definitely. I haven't gone to yards in a long time and I don't tag or bomb much anymore. I've been arrested 4 times. Now I do a lot of jobs air brushing. I'm working on some tee shirts for Epic Records. Eventually album cover work. But it's all graffiti art influence.



Greg show's up and they jam for two hours. Vary tight and def. When they finished questioning began again. Some more of the basics that Greg missed.

C.C.; How did you start.

Greg; There was a couple of bands in my neighborhood, not really a punk thing, more towards Motorhead. Than a friend of mine saw the Excel add in the Recycler. So I went for it.

C.C.; Did the add say Excel.

Greg; Word for word:" Excel looking for a dedicated, talented, punk metal influence. No egos."

The conversation turns to a photo from there Europ tour, of this guy they met that had the Howdy Doody from there album tattooed on his stomach.

C.C.; Who are your influences.

Shaun; Rudimentary Peni, Jungle Brothers, Sly and the family stone, Deep Purple.

Greg; John Bonham, Keith Moon, Charlie Watts.

Adam; Jimmy Hendrex, Masters of reality, Sly and the family stone, old punk.

" Sorry to Dan he couldn't be here I'm sure he would have a lot to contribute."

Excel is a GREAT BAND. They have an attitude that is the perfect blend of what you need to make it big. And an energy that will knock you back in a big way. Watch for there new album out in March.

THIS IS THE FIRST OF OUR NEW MUSIC SECTION. WATCH FOR ALL KINDS OF BANDS AND MUSIC REVIEWS. IF YOUR IN A BAND OR KNOW OF ONE LET US KNOW...



ALL OF THE DEF SOUNDS BELOW ARE AVAILBLE ABOVE..

- 1-TRICKY DISCO;
- 2-L.F.O; LFO
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- 10-KLF; WHAT TIME IS LOVE
- 11-TFP;THE FORCE OF POWER
- 12-THE GRID; FLOATATION
- 13-MC CROW; SITUATION
- 14-MC SHOWBIZZ;BIGONE GOTTA TURN
- 15-WEE PAPA GIRLS; GET IN THE GROOVE
- 16-LEE MARROW; MOVIN
- 17-TOGETHER; HARCORE
- 18-ROY THE BOY;RING MY BELL
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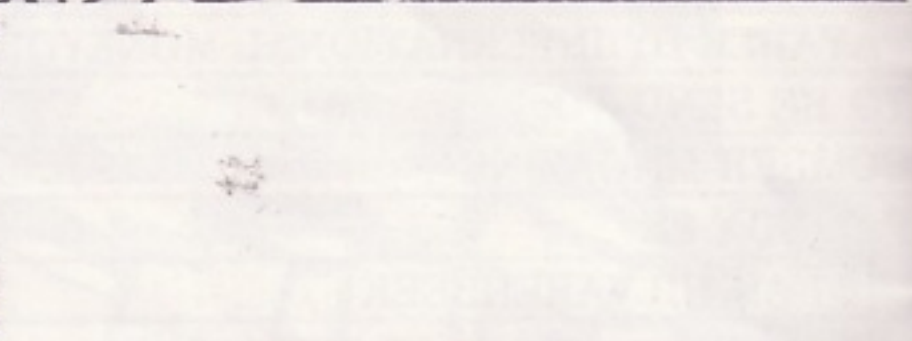
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