

## "Fuck all the critics in the NYC Who wants to rock the microphone after me?"

-- Ice Cube

OKAY, NONE OF THAT WAS TRUE. WELL, THE PART ABOUT THE MUSIC PRESSIG-NORING ME WAS REAL; BUTTHAT'S BEEN PRETTY EASY FOR THEM SINCE MY WORK IS NOT COMMERC-TALLY AVAILABLE; IS PROBABLY NOT COMMERCIALLY VIABLE: AND IN ANY CASE, SO FAR, NO MAJOR MED. IA CONGLOMORATES HAVE LEVERAGED MY RECORDINGS ONTO RADIO OR TELEVISION. WHICH IS JUST AS WELL, SINCE I HAVE YET TO SURRENDER COMMERCIAL RIGHTS TO MY WORK IN PERPETUITY TO ANY SUCH CORPORATION OR ORGANIZ-ATION. NOT THAT THIS TENDS TO STOP THEM, IN MANY SITUATIONS, BUT THE FACT THAT MY WORK IS COMPLETELY UN-INTERESTING TO THE VAST MAJORITY OF THOSE UNFORTUNATE ENOUGH TO LOSE MOMENTS OF THEIR LIVES COMING INTO CONTACT WITH IT RENDERS THE POSSIBIL-ITY OF CORPORATE INTEREST Family get together, December, 1993.

LEADING TO CORPORATE CHICANERY EXCEEDINGLY UNLIKELY.

AS I SAY, THIS IS NO SAD STATE OF AFFAIRS. FOR MY PART, I HAVE CHOSEN TO INAUGURATE THIS NEW ZINE SERIES, CAREER SUICIDE, AS A BID TO STAVE OFF THE IMPENDING ARRIVAL OF THE SORT OF CRITICAL TRUTH-CREATORS I FICTION-ALIZED ON THE INSIDE-FRONT COVER.

THERE IS A COGENT EXPLANATION FOR ALL OF THIS, BUT I'M AFRAID I'M NOT THE ONE TO ARTICULATE IT CLEARLY FOR YOU. HMM. MAYBE I'M JUST PLAYING INTO THEIR HANDS. I Je-siùs have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches, I am the root and the offspring of Dā'-vid, and the bright and morning star.

eve

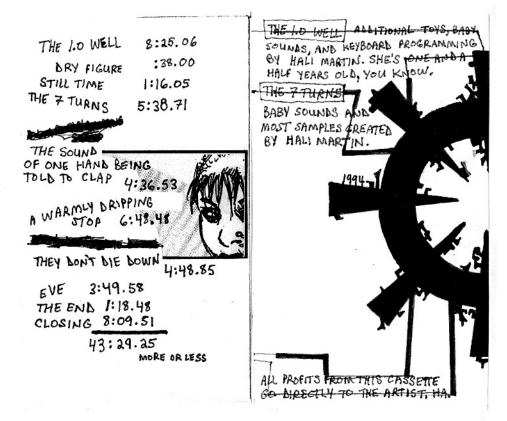
Fall/Winter, 1994

cassette only, distributed locally

Original cassette J-card for Eve

I STUDIED CLASSICAL PIANO FOR OVER NINE YEARS. DURING THE 1980S, I PRACTISED FORTY-FIVE MINUTES TO AN HOUR AND A-HALF OR MORE EVERY DAY (OFTEN GETTING UP EARLY BEFORE SCHOOL TO RUN THROUGH FINGER EXERCISES AND SCALES), AND COMPETED IN PERFORMANCE COMPETITIONS AGAINST STUDENTS FROM ACROSS THE STATE.

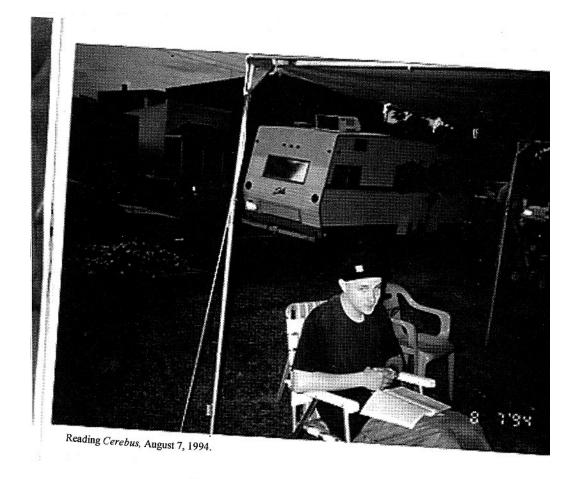
ALL OF THIS AMOUNTED TO PRECISELY SQUATT WHEN I FOUND MYSELF, IN THE SUMMER OF 1994, STRAPPED TO A KNOCK-OFF HOLLOW BODY 12-STRING, STRUMMING INTO THE BUILT-IN MICROPHONE OF A 70s EFA CASSETTE RECORDER. ALMOST BEFORE I KNEW WHAT WAS GOING ON, I'D GRADUATED FROM SCRAWLING EMBARRASSING WRICS ON "SECRET" YELLOW LEGAL PADS TO PLINKING OUT HALF-COCKED



TUNES AND INVENTING A THOUSAND AND ONE NEW (TO ME) STUDIO TRICKS TO MASK MY DISASTROUSLY INEPT GUITAR PLAYING. I HAD NO IDEA WHAT THE FUCK I WAS DOING, AND REALLY NO CLEAR IDEA OF WHY I WAS DOING IT. IF PRESSED, I WOULD NOW HAVE TO DEDUCE THAT THE SUMMER WAS HOT, AND I VIEWED MUSICAL EXPERIMENTATION AS A SORT OF BUSY WORK WHICH WOULD HOPEFULLY DELAY THE ONSET OF MADNESS I WAS CERTAIN WOULD BE THE END RESULT OF BEING DEPOSITED BACK IN FRENCH LICK APTER BEING EJECTED FROM MY SECOND INDIANA PUBLIC SCHOOL OVER MY ZINE, FUCKING. MAS AROUND EVERY CORNER.

TALKING WASN'T WORKING. WRITING OBYJOUSLY

WASN'T WORKING. AND SO I RESORTED TO MUSIC.



WELL, THAT'S NOT PRECISELY TRUE EITHER. ONE NOTION I STARTED OUT WITH IN RECORDING WAS THAT MY SONGS WERE GOING TO BE AN EXTENSION OF MY THOUGHT PROCESSES. THAT THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE WAS TO SOMEHOW CREATE A RECORD OF SUCCESSIVE STATES OF AWARENESS, LATER TO BE USED AS REFERENCE. NOT SO MUCH TO "COMMUNICATE EMOTIONS" TO OTHERS, OR TO JOIN THE WORLD IN AN ALL-INCLUSIVE ORGY OF SEXUALLY ORIENTED FUNK. THIS CLEARLY MARKED ME OUT FROM MY FRUSTRATED TEEN GUITAR-HERO PEERS. SINCEI WAS STILL LIVING AT HOME, THAT MEANT AMY WAS STILL HALF A STATE AWAY FROM ME. AS I WROTE TO HER ON JULY 8, 1994:

I made an album today. Well sort of anyway. It's got 19 songs but they're all really short so it's really more like a cassette maxi-single. Well, really there's ten 'songs' and a bunch of little interlude deals. It's just me and a guitar and three tape recorders and a lot of electronic noise and air sounds, but I like it a lot. You didn't like Eitzche Neincstche (however the fuck you spell that) when Ben played it at the club, so you probably won't like it because it's in that sort of same non-music vein. It's like Ramone's-speed | trance-noise though and I love it. (I am not writing this for Rolling Stone but I am hyped because I have been working on it all day.) It's all really trance-like but it's so fucking short you can't trance. Ha.

THE ORIGINAL TAPE FROM THAT DAY IS LONG GONE, BUT I REMBER THE SONGS, AND SOME OF THEM STILL PLAY IN MY HEAD. A COUPLE OF WEEKS AFTER I WROTE THIS LETTER, I WAS RIDING WITH MY DAD AND SISTER IN THE CAR AFTER A WEEKEND AT MY GRANDPARENTS' HOUSE, WHEN THE CAR VEER-ED ONTO AN ALTERNATE HIGHWAY NEAR THE TOWN WHERE MY SISTER AND I LIVED WITH OUR MOTHER. WE PULLED INTO THE PARKING LOT AT THE HOSPITAL WHERE MY SISTER WAS BORN, AND UP PAN MY MOTHER, WHO LEAPED INTO THE PASSENGER SEAT OF THE ALMOST-STILL-ROLLING CAR, AND AWAY WE WENT. TO WHERE, ONE MIGHT BE FORGIVEN FOR ASKING. NO ONE WOULD TELL ME!

Music scares me because it makes me a different person. It's not like writing and drawing where you can hold it and stare at it when you're finished. (Ahem.) But it really freaks me because it stirs weird emotions and shit. I don't know if I like it or not.

So. This may be the last thing I attempt to play. Or not.
I love you I love you. Fuck. I am still trapped in the old cardboard box of this fucking home. I've got a lot of conflicting ideas in my head right now that are making me

feel quite strange. Not unlike giddiness but then it's a depressed giddiness so I don't know. It's the music. It's in the music.

I've got to stop this shit.

APTER AN HOUR OR SO ON THE ROAD, IT BECAME APPARENT THAT NEITHER OF MY PARENTS WERE GOING TO TELL ME WHAT THE FUCK WAS GOING ON. MY SISTER NODDED OFF AGAINST HER BACKSEAT WINDOW. I LEANED BACK IN MY OWN SEAT AND POPPED THE CASSETTE OF MY MUSIC INTO MY WALKMAN AS WE APPROACHED LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.

I just did a new song whallago and a remix and I think I like this music thing after all but I sometimes in the back of my head think I'm stealing commercial jingles or backgrounds from movies but then that's okay cause it's pretty funny. I stole my sister's generic little Casio keyboard so now I have a crappy drum machine but I made a really great thing with it. Well I think so. I'm so tired but I'm also hungry. This shit makes me hyperactive mentally. Music fucks with me. I don't know.

WE ROLLED INTO THE PARKING LOT AT THE NUTHOUSE AT ABOUT FIVE MILES PER HOUR, SO I HAD AMPLE TIME TO READ THE SIGNS EXPLAINING HOW TO FIND THE FRONT ENTRANCE OF THE FACILITY (THE COMPLEX WAS SET BACK SOME DISTANCE FROM THE ROAD), AND TO CHECK OUT THE BARBED WIRE FENCE WHICH SURROUNDED IT.

MONTHS PRIOR, I HAD MADE THE SINCERE CHALLENGE TO MY MOTHER TO GET US BACK INTO COUNSELING OF SOME KIND. AT THE TIME, SHE REFUSED. ACCORDING TO MY FATHER YEARS LATER, KIDNAPPING ME HAD BEEN A BID TO PRE-



With wax Jesus prop on the steps of the U.S. Capitol, August 10, 1994.

VENT ME FROM RUNNING AWAY FROM HOME AGAIN ONCE I DISCOVERED THEY INTENDED TO TAKE ME TO THE FUNNY FARM. HE STILL HAS NO ANSWER FOR WHAT THEY THOUGHT WAS GOING TO PREVENT ME FROM "TAKING OFF" ONCE WE CAME HOME. MAY. BE THEY'D PLANNED FOR THE MEN IN WHITE COATS TO KEEP ME.

IN ANY CASE, THE PROFESSIONALS DECIDED I WAS NOT A DANGER TO MYSELF OR ANYONE ELSE, SO I WAS ALLOWED TO RETURN HOME WITH MY PARENTS THAT DAY. IN SPITE OF THE INCREASINGLY PREPOSTEROUS STUATION, I DID NOT RUN AWAY FROM HOME AGAIN (THOUGH, TO BE FAIR, I HAD CERTAINLY PLANNED TO IF THEY HAD CONTINUED TO REFUSE LETTING ME MOVE AWAY TO COLLEGE THAT FALL). MY MOTHER PROTESTED PARTICIPATING IN THE COUNSELING SESSIONS, WHICH BOTH THE DOCTORS AND I AGREED WAS MORE THAN A LITTLE SILLY. MY FATHER STILL COMPLAINS ABOUT BEING MADE TO FOOT HALF THE BILL.

EVENTUALLY (WELL, IT SEEMED LIKEAN ARDUOUS WAIT AT THE TIME, BUT UPON REFLECTION THE ENTIRE PROCESS COULDN'T HAVE LASTED LONGER THAN A SINGLE MONTH), THE DOCTORS DECIDED I WAS, IN ACTUALITY, A COMPLETELY HEALTHY, IF SOMEWHAT OBNOXIDUS AND CONTRARY, SIXTEEN YEAR OLD BOY. THEY LOVED MY ZINE FUCKOW AND GUSHED PRAISE UPON THE TAPES OF MY MUSIC I HAD BROUGHT THEM ("MY SON SAYS THIS TAPE YOU'VE MADE IS GOOD 'INDUSTRIAL TECHNO' MUSIC"). WHILE THEY DIDN'T QUITE AGREE THAT A SIX-TEEN YEAR OLD WOULD BE BEST SERVED BY BEING TURNED LOOSE ON A COLLEGE CAMPUS AN HOUR AWAY FROM HIS NEAREST RELATIVE, THEY DID REVEAL TO ME THAT THE IQ TEST AND OTHER COGNITIVE HOOPS THEY'D HAVE ME JUMP THROUGH WERE USELESS IN TRYING TO ACCURATELY GAUGE MY INTELLIGENCE. THEY READ ME A FIGURE THAT WAS A FULL TWENTY-

FIVE POINTS ABOVE THAT OF MY MOTH-ER'S (FOR SOME REASON SHE'D TOLD ME HER IQ AT SOME POINT) AND THEN MADE THE BRAZ. EN CLAIM THAT SOMETHING HAD TO BE WRONG, BECAUSETHERE WAS "NO WAY" I COULD HAVE SCORED THAT LOW.



WELL THIS WAS GREATLY AMUSING. WITH SOME CONSTERNATION, I WAS SHORTLY TH. EREAPTER PERMITTED TO ENROLL IN UNIVERSITY COURSES FOR THE FALL. I WOULD LIVE IN THE DOPM APARTMENTS, ON CAMPUS. SUCH IS THE ALL OR NOTHING LOGIC OF THE ADULT WORLD. ONCE THE DIE WAS CAST, BOTH OF MY PARENTS WOULD PROCEED TO ACT AS IF MY LEAVING FOR COLLEGE THAT YEAR HAD BEEN IN THEIR GRAND DESIGN FOR ME FROM THE START.

BY THE TIME I WAS READY TO BEGIN WORKON EVE, THE SCHOOL I WAS ATTENDING HAD ALREADY IN-FORMED METHAT A 4.0 GRADE POINT AVERAGE WAS NOT GOING TO BE AN IMPRESSIVE ENOUGH INCENTIVE FOR THEM TO BEND THEIR STANDING POLICY OF ONLY ADMITTING ACTUAL HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES INTO THEIR ACADEMIC PROGRAM. AT THAT POINT I HAD

Original cassette J-card for Eve, Fall/Winter, 1994.

Y TAPE.

MANN, THIS THING HAS TAKEN ME ABOUT A TH TO PUT TOGETHER AND FINISH. IF YOU LISTEN TO THIS A S YOU MIGHT START TO HEAR THE THINGS I HEAR YOU MAY

NOT CALL THIS MUSIC. MY MOM SAYS IT SOUNDS LIKE I'M TRYING TO "MAKE IT SOUND LIKE PEOPLE ARE HAVING SEX" (?), AND MY FRIEND CALLS IT "RAY-MUSIC" (??). WHATEVER. THESE SOUNDS ARE GODD TO THINK TO REALLY WHAT I WAS THINKING OF WAS YOU.

I HOPE YOU'RE HAPPY.

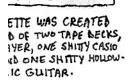
THE ONLY ONE WHO DESERVES THANKS IS



LET ME

SOME-

THING





1052 MADISON AVE. EVANSVILLE, IN 47714

ALREADY MOVED IN WITH AMY AND PRETTY MUCH A-BANDONED MY DORM ROOM ANYWAY. MY "COMPUTER NETWORKING" PROFESSOR SUGGESTED I BLOW OFF THE LAST COUPLE WEEKS OF CLASS (WHICH FREED ME UP COMPLETELY), AND I SPENTTHE LAST SEVERAL DAYS ALONE IN THE CAMPUS APART-MENT WORKING ON THE BASIC TRACKS FOR EVE -- TAKING THE OCCASIONAL SHORT BREAK TO PLAY SONIC THE HEDGEHOG ON MY ROOMATE'S SEGA GENESIS (HE WAS NEVER AROUND), EAT DINNER WITH AMY ("CONVENIENTLY," SHE LIVED IN THE SAME CITY AS THE SCHOOL I'D SELECTED), AND WORK ON MY ZINE -- WHILE I WAS SUPPOSED TO BE PACK. ING UP ALL MY SHIT TO MOVE OUT. THE TRACK 'STILLTIME' WAS DEMO'D LOUD ENOUGH TO AROUSE THE INTEREST OF MY UPSTAIRS NEIGHBOR, WHO CALLED DOWN REPEATEDLY, AND IN EXASPERATED TONES BEGGED METO TURN DOWN THE BASS.

AT MY NEW HOME, AMY'S LITTLE SISTER HALT WAS JUST STARTING TO GET AROUND WELL, AND USE HER VOCAL CHORDS AS AN ARTICULATE INSTRU-MENT. ONE DAY, IN THE SPIRIT OF EXPERIMENTATION, I BEGAN MAKING RECORDINGS OF THE SOUNDS SHE MADE WITH HER TOY INSTRUMENTS. ELEMENTS OF, AND SAMPLES FROM THESE TAPES CAN BE HEARD THROUGHOUT EVE.

THE 12-STRING HOLLOW-BODY GUITAR I BOUGHT FROM TOM "THE BOMB" TERWISKI FOR \$65 (FARNED AT MY PART-TIME JOB AS A SUB AT THE LOCAL 409 BOT-TLING PLANT) LENT A SIMULTANEOUSLY RESONANT AND PLASTIC SOUND TO THE SONGS. THE HOMEBREW PITCH-SHIPTING AND CASIO (BOTH THE CLASSIC SK-1 SAMPLER AND EVEN CHEAPER, LESS FUNCTIONAL MODELS WERE USED) KEYBOARDS MADE IT CLEAR TO LISTEN-

ERS THAT THIS WAS STRICTLY AN AMATEUR AFFAIR. AND YET, THERE IS SOMETHING THERE.

ENOUGH OF THE CORE PRINCIPLES I HELD (AND HOLD) MADE IT ONTO THE TAPE THAT I CANNOT COMPLETELY DISMISS IT AS SIMPLE ADOLESCENT MOODLING. THE SONG 'THE 7 TURNS' STANDS AS ONE OF MY FAVORITE RECORDINGS TO DATE (AND FEATURES PERCUSSION. WORK BY AMY'S ONE YEAR OLD SISTER). I SET OUT WITH A NUMBER OF SPECIFIC CONCEPTS IN MIND AND MANAGED TO INTEGRATE ALL OF THEM FAIRLY SEEM-LESSLY INTO THE WHOLE. THE ENTIRE PIECE AS A SINGLE WORK CONTAINS TH-EMES AND REPEATING MOTIFS WHICH HARKENED BACK TO MY MUSICAL TRAIN-ING IN CLASSICAL PIANO.

I MEAN. IKNOW THE THING SOUNDS LIKE CRAP. I AM COGNIZANT OF THE FACT THAT THE THOUGHT CONSTRUCTIONS AND CONNECTION POINTS BETWEEN IDEAS ARE NECESSARILY ONLY MEANINGFUL TO ME. ASIDE FROM THE OUTSIDE CHANCE THAT SOME OTHER HUMAN BEING WILL MAPPEN ACROSS THE MP3'S ON THE INTERNET AND CONVINCE THEMSELVES THAT THE PATTERNS OF SOUND ARE ANYTHING OTHER THAN FUCKED-UP NOISES WHICH ARE PR-ACTICALLY INAUDIBLE, I RECOGNIZE TH-AT THE RECORDING ITSELF IS OF DUB. IOUS VALUE TO SOCIETY. BUT I DIDN'T MAKE EVE FOR SOCIETY, AND I WASN'T TRYING TO COMMUNICATE SHIT.

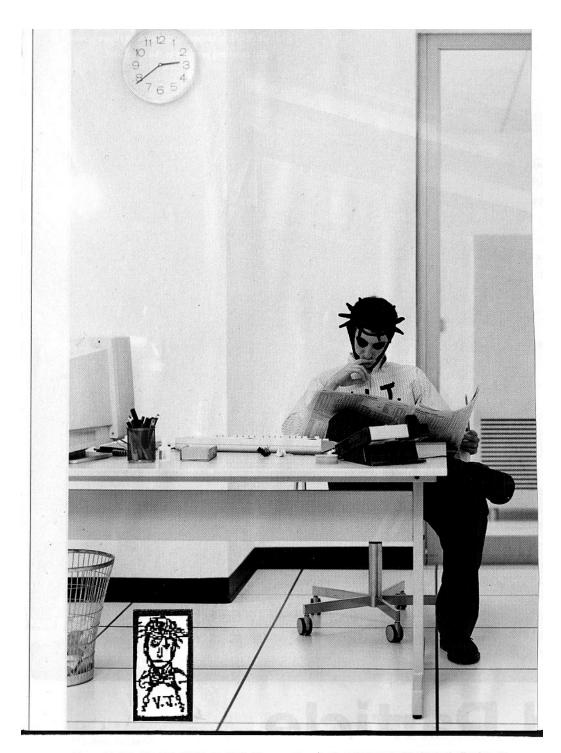
TEN YEARS LATER, AIN TA DAMN THING CHANGED. "Review of (I guess it's called Eve):

Guess what? Virtual Jesus also does music. Guess what else? It's just as enthralling as his writing and art.

These compositions of seemingly random sounds, laid over with occasional samples or snatches of melody or a beat, will defy your conceptions of music and noise. Was it John Cage who said "the difference between music and noise is how we hear it?" V.J. Is exploring his favored subject, perception, in manifest and subtle manner with his sound assemblages. I find his music incredibly conducive to abstracted thought concentration. I can listen to it and hear some new aspect every time, or I can let it bleed back to the edge of my awareness, goading my brain into functioning. I'm not sure how you can get a copy of this, but a blank tape and/or a few bux (4?) to the address below will surely suffice. If you are interested in experimental music, or exploring your awareness, check this out."

-- Daze zine





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