

OVER

Roll Call

Lilian Void : Guitar
 Just Dave : Drums
 Christian Villareal : Bass
 Alessandra Genevose : Keyboards
 Monet Pneumonia : Vocals

When did the band get started and what was the original intention of the band?

OVER : We started in winter 2016 in our first drummer's basement. Our original intentions were fairly simple: start a postpunk, gothic band while promoting a radical left wing ideology through vulnerability, romance, sex, and anger, all the things necessary to anchor the pending revolution. Of course.

Tell us more about your name. How does it communicate the sound or vibe of the band?

O : OVER was a name we hoped would reflect the times we're currently living in. We are in the undeniable midst of a 6th extinction, which is the most ultimate "over" we can possibly be hurtling toward. We wanted to, as much as we could, sonically replicate the urgency, the anxiety, and the bizarre joy of living in the end times. At our best, we're as romantic and idealistic as we are totally pissed and bitter.

How would you describe your music to someone who has not yet checked you out?

O : Post-apocalyptic mixtape for your true love, probably.

What inspires you to create this style of music?

O : Definitely the coming extinction of our whole fucking planet. But also, the staggering support and love we get from our friends and our communities at large. As horrifying as it is to be living in a time where the planet is literally and figuratively on fire, it's really important to remember that the sensual world, and our ability to connect with it, is still very much alive. We are extremely fortunate to have lives full of people who share the same conundrum of hope and despair as we do. And we're all aware of how easy it is to fall into the bottomless pit of despair and not crawl back out ever again. We wanted to create something that by no means would ignore the fact that that pit of despair is real ('cause it is), but would nonetheless offer a guiding light out as well. Or at the very least, some raw anger and emotion to relate to. There is still a generous, beautiful world worth living for, and fighting for, if we're willing.

What influences in fashion, literature and culture impact your creativity?

Monet Pneumonia : Surrealist poets, and poets in general, are a huge influence to me in my song writing process. American surrealism, that favors the bombast of dream logic over traditional logic, is my compass and inspiration more often than not. And of course, the music that is built within the band is the ultimate inspiration for me. When we write it's always music first, lyrics second. At the end of the day, the lyrics and voice are just mirroring the emotional states that occur sonically. It's some serious duende shit. We tend to write responses to not only what we're feeling on an individual level, but a global level too. We have this

really insane electric energy when we play and write together. Like, we'll write songs on the spot, lyrics and all, in a matter of minutes sometimes and I think that comes as a result of being on so many similar pages both musically and personally, while also maintaining a lot of our individual tastes and influences.

Lilian Void : Psychedelic cultures from the world over, gaudy opulence, connecting with the collective unconscious, the destruction of gendered clothing, and the sheer diversity of human ritual influence my fashion approach. In terms of literature, I'm a big fan of situationism, absurdist leftist prattling, gallows humor, and deep dives into cosmological paradigms inside and outside of global hegemony. If it's one thing that I hope doesn't influence me, although I'm sure it does in many ways, it's dominance culture: capitalism, patriarchy, white supremacy, egotism, dogmatism, and the inability or unwillingness to evolve.

Christian Villareal : I feel like the early anarcho punk scene and crust/stenchcore scene coming out of the UK definitely had a huge impact on my style musically and clothing-wise. *Empire of Illusion* was and still is a very important book that shaped the way I write lyrics for sure. Same could be said for reading all those Conflict and Icons of Filth lyrics growing up.

Just Dave : For me, it's the combination of punk and glam that forms my fashion aesthetic. We've been hashtagging "anarchoglam" and "bigfishnetenergy" a lot. Fucking hilarious. Fashion to me used to be so NOT punk, but I later realized how inaccurate that is. Punks are so concerned about fashion, it's always been an incredibly important part of the whole scene from the very beginning. Culturally, I've always been obsessed with rock 'n' roll, comedians (especially pissed off political ones), filmmakers, horror... I've never been able to hear enough music, I love it so much. There is something worthwhile in any genre of music, you just have to look for it.

What other bands are inspiring you right now?

MP : Selda Bağcan's self-titled album is one I fall back on a lot. It's kind of corny, but I'm most inspired by all of our friend's bands right now. Vueltas, Xibling, False Figure, Rose Garden Funeral Party, Three Rose Charm, Cemetery... there's so many!

LV : I don't play favorites, we are all equally inspiring. But I am sad Prince Rama broke up.

How would you describe the current alternative music scene where you live?

Alessandra Genevose : Femme heavy. Fucking awesome.

MP : I second what Alessandra said. The amount of support, respect, and admiration that we're all able to reciprocate within our scene is fucking rad.

LV : It's super active, burgeoning, and politically topical. Hard to keep up with!

CV : There's a ton of different types of bands within our scene too, there's not necessarily a dominant genre at this point.

JD : It's downsized to a manageable size from when I moved here in 2006. There

were shows every night and it was hard to keep up. The people from that era who stuck it out through this gentrification, and still play in bands, are all in pretty stellar bands now. We've kind of grown up together as a scene.

What are your favorite tour or stage stories? Share 'em here.

O : Oh lord... so many, but I don't know how many of those stories are tame enough to repeat. Tour is a very unhinged time, so your truest freak self really takes over. There was this one time we all took a bunch of Viagra before playing a set. That was totally stupid and hilarious. Oh! We got robbed outside of an In N Out Burger outside of LA last tour. Our gear, for the most part, was left alone but all of our personal belongings were taken. So we drove to our next show, the sweethearts at the house brought out a bunch of clothes for us, and the next day we spent the limited hours we had before our show scoping out slutty-ass clothes to wear. Since we were left with nothing but our frumpy van clothes we felt super emboldened to seek out slut wear so we could feel good going back on stage. We didn't put an extraordinary amount of effort into how we looked on stage, but ever since that happened, we go all out every time. That experience totally changed the way we navigate our aesthetic efforts and ultimately encouraged us to be our most bombastic stage selves possible. It ended up being a really empowering experience. Which is great, because the experience of getting robbed was fucking bunk.

Tell us about your latest release.

O : Our latest release, *To The Teeth*, was written in the heat of the Trump years. Alessandra hadn't yet joined the band, and two of our founding members (Justin Cory - Drums & Andrew Grosse - Bass) plus Lilian and Monet composed all the songs in a very short span of time. We wrote furiously. There's a lot of anger and urgency present in this album because our daily routines (continued to) involve

waking up to (yet another) report of a school shooting or a cop killing someone or not-so-secret war happening... the list goes on. We breached a lot of boiling points that year, personally and globally, and were feeling extremely fed up, exhausted, but really determined to make something, anything, better. The album, and the act of making it, became a means of necessary, but productive, escapism during that time. Seeking escape in difficult times is totally understandable. Who doesn't want to try and escape a nightmare? But if that escape, whatever it is, can be transformative and contribute to a greater shared human experience; even better.

What's next for your band?

O : We're all a bunch of prolific, perfectionist freaks, so no matter what we're always working on new material. We're currently organizing a European tour for the fall, we're about halfway through writing a new album, we're writing up a new music video script... We'll be in the studio very soon to record a couple songs for a split we're doing with Nox Novocula, which we are so excited about. They rule.

Where can people find out more about your band and any other projects members are involved in?

O : Folks can find us on google by searching "OVER pdx". From there, we've got a Facebook page and an Instagram; our instagram handle is @overpdx. We also have a website: overpdx.wordpress.com, which we keep up to date. For upcoming shows, tours, and spicy photos, Facebook and/or Instagram is the one you'll want to follow. As far as other projects go, Monet has a freak electronic side project called DNA Minifridge (dnaminifridge.bandcamp.com/album/dna-mini-fridge) and helps runs a small, independent poetry press called Cathexis Northwest Press (cathexisnorthwestpress.com). Lilian has a hardcore band called Human Cage. Christian has a hardcore band named Dodlage (dodlage.bandcamp.com).

