

CASINO SOULS
the bitter springs interview

1. *Your latest single 'Absence' has a more experimental feel to it, is this the way the group is heading?*

Everything we've ever done is experimental and its really up to you to decide what direction you think the group is heading. We could never make a conscious decision, with the Springs the song is everything. Two releases hardly gives a strong reference point anyhow. The only conclusion to be drawn from 'Absence' is we learnt to play slower.

2. *How did the Vic Godard collaboration come about?*

Britain's greatest songwriters work at the Post Office. Its a bit like 'the village' was to New York in the seventies. We can't say too much because 'The SouthBank Show' are doing a feature on the whole Post Office phenomenon. We became the Subway Sect last year, there's not many that can claim that, and Vic turns out for us now and again live.

3. *Why did you finish with Last Party?*

To retain lucidity and anyway the name was always crap!

4. *Are there any groups you'd say have influenced the sound of the group in any way?*

Only everyone we've ever heard. No-one and everyone. Good bands give inspiration, and the bad teach you all the clichés to avoid.

5. *What made you choose the story of Joe Orton's lover for a song?*

Simon has a deep rooted affinity for characters living in their own turmoil, for the victims in life, and it's such a good story - sex, death, destructive emotions - from a real life story personal parallels will be drawn.

6. *Were you surprised by the amount of noise made by the press about your first single?*

Yes and no, we've always known how good we are. The best thing is seeing people get it.

7. *Do you mind being compared to groups like Tindersticks, The Go-Betweens and Animals That Swim?*

The Go-Betweens were a fucking excellent band, Tindersticks are alright for late night smoking and drinking, and we haven't heard much by Animals That Swim - so no, sometimes and maybe. People are compelled to create a reference point for a band they've only begun to hear.

8. *How did Robin Guthrie come to mix 'Absence'?*

He heard a tape and liked it, and it helped that we knew where he lived. In actual fact it's not that different from how we did it first time around. The best songs tend to mix themselves. It was great of him to do it and we never had a clue as to what would come back. It sounds cleaner.

9. *If you could work with anyone on a record who would it be?*

Simon - 'Lee Scratch Perry' , Dan - 'Nick Cave' , Neil - 'Neil Young'

10. *Who are your favourite New groups?*

The Long Decline, Underworld and Beck (if you can still call them new), and The Super Jews.

We've got an album ready and at least 2 more waiting. At the moment we don't know when it will be released.

Can you send us a copy of the mag when it's ready.

Keep in touch and hope to see you soon.

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