MAGNETIC VISIONS

GLUE EATER
THE FREAKEES
RV22B
CB RADIO
ANEMIC BOYFRIENDS
FRUITBAT
AGGRESSIVE HUGGER
Magnetic Visions are pieces of culture (mainly music) that seem to magnetically draw my eyes to them.

From the moment my grubby little eyes see them, I'm hooked. You just know that this is gonna be good.

John Peel used to say that he had developed a sense for when a record or band was gonna be good. I've tried my hardest to develop this 6th sense through countless hours stalking bands online and awkwardly hanging around record stores.

These are some bands that draw my eye to them.
Carsten Bruhn is the label found and current CEO of Roulette Records Inc. currently known for releasing Pinch Points, Girl Germs, LVIV and Culte among many others, in his spare time Carsten records under the project name CB Radio and has so far released Three 24 track albums of synth 80s goodness. I sat down for a quick chat.

Summarise Roulette records in 10 words
Love, Music, Friendship, Community. I think that sums it up!

Where do you think Roulette records fits in the Melbourne music scene?
We like to think it fits in nicely! There are heaps of other local labels that inspire us every day and hopefully we can go on to inspire others too. Theoretically, it should be hard for a label like us to fit in, but we have found it easy and I think that’s a testament to our cities musical community.

Where do you see Roulette records going in the next 365 days?
Good question! It’s really tough to say though, sometimes you never know what life is going to throw at you. A safe guess would be more releases, more great bands, more vinyl, and more tapes! We haven’t done a lot of merch for the label which is a bit disappointing, so maybe we can focus on that soon. It’s just tough, it’s all about the money you know.

Alright onto YOUR music (what I wanted to focus on), according to my stalking of LVIVs Instagram you used to be in the band. Why did you leave? And how much did you contribute to the band?
Cool, thanks for being interested in my music! Yeah I played bass in LVIV for a few months. My friend Emma was getting back into playing the drums so we had a couple of sessions at bakehouse and a band was born. I think that was how it happened, I may be wrong, my memory sucks. From there we spent a while writing songs with all the other members, during that process I’d say I contributed a fair bit. I played a few shows with them however ultimately I was way too busy with the label in that period and couldn’t make rehearsals so I let them know I was gonna have to step down from the bass.

What other bands have you been in?
After Love, Honeyfish, Pinch Points*, The Alleys, Dead End, Japan Air, Taffeta Punk. Maybe more, I can’t remember... Some shocker band names in there though hey!

*note I was never really in Pinch Points, it’s just a running gag between myself and myself. Filled in on guitar for Jordan a few times though!

Onto CB Radio, it’s a very prolific solo project with three 20+ track albums.
What’s your songwriting ethic for the project?
Thanks. The songwriting ethic is me attempting to overcome my musical anxiety by trying my best to release some of the material that I’ve written over the past 12 or 13 years. I wasted a lot of my time on drugs and alcohol so unfortunately while I was writing a lot of stuff during that period, I just never had the motivation or capability of releasing any of it. I was always really focused and passionate on releasing it all but just didn’t know how to? I think I was caught up in what other people would think, or maybe I thought the music was better than it was and thought I needed to make a really big deal out of it when it came time to release it... In reality I think I was just too scared to release anything. Too scared and too stoned.
How do you record CB radio songs?
I have a crappy Alesis qx61 midi keyboard that I bought off gumtree from an Italian DJ in St Kilda that changes pitch randomly, a cracked version of Logic Pro X that has a bunch of cracked shit on it, a crappy Roland tri-capture audio interface that gives my computer kernel panics, a crappy old AKG condenser mic, a 2008 iMac, a piece of shit fender mustang guitar with a warped neck from 1994 (MII) that I bought off someone from the ocean party I think, and a 10 year old squire bass (although now I’m using a friends cool random bass thank god), I use all of that to record my stuff. I’ll start off by opening a new file on Logic and open up a software instrument like a synth or drums, and then that’s it. Or if I’m wanting to do guitar stuff I’ll lay down a simple beat and just create a guitar track and that’s it. I rarely write songs on just 1 instrument away from the computer. I can and have many times but it doesn’t sound very good and I can’t add any other instruments to go along with what I’m playing or what I hear in my head.

Alright it’s drama time, Who is Pay Me about?
It’s kinda fictional hey... but also pretty real. Kahlia and I wrote that song in about an hour when we were both waiting on money to come in from venues and we were totally broke and very frustrated. We get that it’s hard to organise payment sometimes, bookers jobs are hard and sure, they’ve got a lot of shit to do... But you know, unlike them, we were unemployed and living month to month so it was tough waiting and waiting for that money to roll in. It always is. I think it’s a very relatable song for anyone.

Alot of the songs on the albums are very synth heavy. Is there a particular synth sound you go for?
Um, I guess there is but I don’t know if I can describe it. If I went through presets of synth sounds on a synth or a computer there’d be almost none that I would like so I’m kinda particular. I think the term is ‘soft pad’... I’m not very technical, I don’t know what an oscillator is really or how a square wave is different to a saw wave. I learned all that stuff when I was studying but I was sort of high and just wanted to access the uni’s studios.

I like synth sounds that are calm and chordal. I like being able to clearly hear each note of the chord, I hate release and delay and enjoy short attack and a low cut off. Gee that sounded pretty technical maybe I do know a few things!

What do you think makes a bad song?
Okay this is definitely the hardest question yet. I’d say I can put up with most music but it’s the lyrics that usually define it for me. Anyone talking about their bitches, their hoes and their money etc... anything that vilifies anyone, anything that’s violent/hateful? I don’t know what else!

Finally, what do you want to say to whoever is reading this?
Well first, I’d like to say thank you. I appreciate you reading this and I appreciate you. Second I’d like to say please be nice, think about the pain out there in the world, think about those less fortunate, focus on being a good person, stand up for yourself and for those without a voice, if you have a partner remember to respect them and be open and honest with them, if you have parents try speak to them more often and be honest with them, try to do less drugs, try to eat less meat, try to learn more about science, ask more questions even if that may make others feel you’re less intelligent because it totally doesn’t, eat more Italian food, and maybe watch the movie E.T again.

CB Radio can be heard at cbradio.bandcamp.com, you can also keep up with his label Roolette Records on Instagram and facebook by searching Roolette Records
What's the worst album of all time?
To garner a question of such frivolity, you need to ask - what's the best album of all time? Well, as you can spot from the abhorrent tone I'm using, you just need to ask Pitchfork. They'd take Thom Yorke wiping HIS ass on top of a guitar any day for whatever led Zeppelin covers people in small-roofed clubs play. Then again, all those people want the gas and fuel buildings back, imagine that... then again, the 80s are repeating themselves into the 2010s... I'd say _what a pastiche of shit_, to the point where I must break out of whatever TISM influence I have. It's bland and there's nothing new on the table, just "give me money" under a veil of prog rock. If you can't be original don't do anything; but I'm still here, we're all still here...

Who's should be prime minister?
We all know full well that Peter Minack should, he not only broke out of being the slave to the economist, but he wrote a Civil War book. Then again if he ever noticed me copying his style he'd spit on my face and say, "why don't you fuck off you bird-like feathered creature?"

Finally, what is RV228?
Revolutions two through eight is... just organised noise. There's no other way to describe it, and if you say that your band has "no genre", thank Christ you're sticking to that Tascam - the world would eat you alive... or dead... or anyway... then again... _[censored]_

You shouldn't listen to RV228, not even on their Bandcamp RV228.bandcamp.com
Anchorage Alaska is not a typical place where you would expect to find some rocking punk by those rowdy youth. But that's just where Anaemic Boyfriends where founded way back in (dare idk). Maggie Johnson And Louise Disease moved to Alaska in 1963, coming from a background of classical (with Maggie being a flutist) and where surrounded by lots of folk and 70s rock, usually a recipe for disaster.

It all came from a Chance conversation between Maggie and bassist John Lee where Maggie said the line "Guys are not proud, they'll stick it anywhere". This set into motion the creation of their first single Guys Are Not Proud, John Firmin (Maggies husband at the time) started sketching out the tune and infectious chant to go along with it. The 7 inch was recorded in the basement of a fur shop and featured tons of jangly guitar and sax and of course Louise's infectious vocals, it stays in your head. This is followed on the 7 inch with Bad Girls In Love (originally the a side) which is a more upbeat rawkin song, it sounds like the kind of stuff that would be played by some rebellious teens driving down the Californian highway, it rocks. These two rockers where pressed on wax with a fantastic minimalist cover and that was a day.

The single gained some success on the college scene causing a small shortage of 45s and calls for them to tour, this was a problem considering the nature of the first singles recording with them just getting friends to play on it. They eventually managed to get a band together and based themselves up in San Fran Cisco, this lead to the recording of another 7 inch Fake I.D. backed with Love Attack. Fake I.D. is easily one of my favourite songs ever written, whilst most people might not have the problem of sneaking into venues, it is for me and this song seems to make it all worth it. I remember once listening to it while walking up to a venue with massive security to try and get in and see Girl Germs and it just pumped me up to do it (I managed to make it in as well) it has a magic that very few songs have.

This is followed by Love Attack, a much more mellow and chill song more in line with their first 7 inch, and it's just as catchy. Eventually the band broke up due to having internal problems with the direction and such having only recorded two singles and a couple of home done cassettes never majorly released. The band members continued on with their lives moving back to Alaska living their lives.
Then came along HoZac Records, looking to reissue Fake I.D. Todd went searching for the band members leaving YouTube comments on mysterious uploads of their songs. Eventually this lead to an email address of one of the members of which an email was sent to, soon later an email was sent back with the title “Anaemic Boyfriends” and no physical lettering, obviously confusing Todd. However a little later a response came back saying “I don’t really understand email” in my opinion one of the best email responses of all time.

Thankfully they agreed to a reissue Anaemic Boyfriends Fake I.D. reissue is OUT NOW on HoZac Archival with Fake I.D. on one side and Bad Girls In Love on the flipside. It’s a corks to be sure.

Glue eater is the newest project from Multi Media artist wiz Travis (of Wasterr and Culte). Its fast and razor sharp with a sense of loneliness and anger that everyone can relate to mixed with a subtle sense of hope that’s really refreshing (or at least that’s how I interpreted it).

Is Glue Eater the spiritual successor to Wasterr or should people forget that Wasterr ever happened?
They’re totally unrelated. Glue Eater is listening to egg punk alone for a year straight and having no avenue to get all of the bottled up anxiety out of your system

So I can presume you’re a pretty big Egg Punk fan, could you maybe give some recommendations for a beginner? (Coming from an egg punk beginner)
Yeah! If you want some deep cuts over coneheads or DLIMC, a couple of my favourites are: Matrix, Erik Nervous, Liquids, Free Refills, NEO NEOS and Booji Boys. This ridiculously good band called ParaNoia just popped up in Perth and I’m obsessed with them too. Australia needs more eggs!
How did you approach the recording and song structure of Glue Eater differently to Waster? I noticed glue eaters production is a bit stabbler. Well I hadn't written a song in over a year and just delved into full mania one day. I just wrote a bunch of really weird, fast songs in one sitting, sent them to the love of my life - Mitch Cassin - and we decided this could be a band haha. I guess we've clicked into this habit now where I'll come up with these stupid ideas and stuff that doesn't usually work, and Mitch somehow makes it into music. You should probably be interviewing Mitch, I just climb around my living room furniture and yell into my mic.

So you reckon Mitch is the mastermind behind Glue Eater? I don't know about mastermind. We've just been really close friends for years and we have skillsets that perfectly complement each other when we make music together.

Can we expect to hear more from Glue Eater? Maybe even a live band? Yeah! We should have a full tape out really soon and I think we have like 10 songs already. We've got a full line up and I can't wait to start playing again. I just don't know what to do when our whole set goes for like seven minutes.

Maybe just write one prog rock song to close the set? Hahaha I dunno, if it goes for over a minute, is it really a Glue Eater song though?

You can hear the full Glue Eater demo at glueeater.bandcamp.com

Around June I started to take notice of a one. "@tw.goblin.nightmare" on Instagram, I took an interest in his guitar pedals and seemingly cool taste in music. A while after that I started to see him around at gigs appearing at a few nights of the disco junk tote residency and at various other musical journeys I faced. I soon discovered he's a top bloke with a very good sense of humour and music taste.

During some talking tom sent me a new track from his new project Aggressive Hugger, Tom has previously released some excellent solo work but I hadn't listened to this because I'm very lazy. The track he sent Eye Know was really something special. It had elements of B52's, Uranium Club, Pinch Points and other various hip bands but with something more added. It was just fresh. I would be looking out for Aggressive Hugger as I could see them being one of those bands that makes like 20 tapes to start out with and then they go for $250 on Discogs.
Fruit Bat are garage whatever band from the outer places of NSW, a young band not only in the sense of their age and they just put out their first double A side single through Angry Dog Records. It is much excellent and has been in my head. I talked with Lewis to learn more about the band

How would you describe the band Fruit Bat?
fast passed, balls out, dirty, fun, rock and roll

Where do you live? (address not mandatory)
Lower/mid blue mountain's

How does being so remote AND so young impact your ability to gig around?
Living in such a remote place kinda makes it hard to find like-minded musicians. The scene in and around our local area is very different to the music we play, more spaced out and folky. And as for age, for the most part it's not too bad, not too many places have an issue, especially if they never find out that I'm underage (the other two are 18)

It's very clear you're influenced by Wollongong bands like Scab Baby, Hoon and Space Boys, what was it like discovering these bands?
Well Joel and I specifically had been listening to bigger bands like lumpy and the dumpers, dead ghosts, perverts again etc, so we already were getting inspiration from there but coming into this scene has really brought us into our own. Like this time last year my top favourite bands were countries away and well known and blah blah and now, my favourite bands are either my mates (scab baby, 2mums, space boys) or within arm's reach (R.M.F.C, Gee Tee). Hearing bands in our local scene really showed us that this is where it's at. We've got a really really solid group of people pushing local music and it's a good thing. So long story short, excited is how I feel hearing my mates shred :)

TRACK 7
What is a Reverse Shoplift?
A reverse shoplift is a guerrilla form of marketing where you take your music and merch into stores and put it on the shelves. Leaving things rather than taking, reverse shoplifting

Why do you use an acoustic guitar in ya live band?
Hahaha feedback. Nah, I don't really know, I suppose it fattens out the sound a bit, helps make up for the lack of a bassist. Plus it just sounds naturally warm and distorted

What's the worst album of all time?
Disco junk, under age punk, what a waste of time. Shout out disco junk xx we love you

What do you reckon is next?
Well we plan on going To Melbourne in November to help spread the good news. But long term I suppose just keep making music, recording ya know. Meet new people, make people happy, all that wholesome stuff I slimy garage bands get up to

Fruit Bat are Joel Bird (vocals, acoustic), Angus Lewis (vocals, electric) and Chammus Fatrety (drums). Their single is out now on all of your favourite streaming services and Fruit Bat will be coming down this November (Hopefully)

Long Live Bat

Photos by @cookingwithmicro
THE FREAKIES

WELCOME TO FREAKIE COUNTRY

Track 8

Around mid 2018 I was trying to find a bully from my school on Instagram named Dante, in the process I found the account of a one Dante Freakee of the band The Freakees, I gave them a cursory listen and it blew me away, it was sludgier and more screwed than any band I had heard yet. Needless to say I was hooked. Dante and I soon got talking and a lovely partnership was formed between Disco Junk INC and Freakees HQ. Over time I’ve watched The Freakees become young punks on Jimmys ANTI youtube channel to soon to be Neck Chop Records alumni. I had a quick intercontinental chat with the Dante Freakee about the band

How would you sell The Freakees to a record label?
We're just a couple of folks that need to pay bills. Also I need a new bass amp

The Freakees music has become a lot less "sludgy" that it used to be, is that because you always wanted a bit of a clearer sound but could never achieve it or is it just a change in taste?
Neither. I think we all always prefer the lofi sound, we just tried different ways to record it, and haven’t managed to get it exactly how we want to just yet.

Is there a particular kinda artist you’re going for?
Nah, I wouldn’t really say that. I think we all just listen to a bunch of different bands and just kinda incorporate it in different ways. We definitely aren’t married to any particular sound or band.

What are some other American bands you would like to recommend to the people reading this?
There are too many great bands, I know I’m forgetting a bunch that deserve to be named

Photos by @Cowboycrush
So the lyrics to "Sell Out" are a bit... vitriolic is a nice word for it. Did that song originate as a playful jab or is it more meant to be a violent assault on a particular group? Two of the venues I mentioned are huge gentrifiers and actively narc on like smaller DIY venues. The other is more just cliquish, specifically for the burger records scene, and I can't stand that shit.

That's horrible. It sounds like high school again. That's all music is ya know hahaha, it does feel a lot like high school lol.

Is the songwriting to The Freakees quite spontaneous or is it quite well thought out? They totally were hahaha. It's pretty spontaneous, I'd say. It used to just be me, Gob, and Kiana, and we'd just play together and record it when we'd hangout. Now we schedule practice with the whole band specifically to write; but it doesn't always happen very often. Occasionally, just the three of us will write a couple songs while hanging out at Gob's house, something that comes out in those early recordings. Those, at least the first three, were all very spontaneous.

There's clearly a large Ween influence on the early recordings and generally to your style. Has Ween has a big impact on how you write and record music? Oh yeah, 100%. They've been a bigger influence on me than most other bands or artists. They certainly weren't the band that made me want to go out and make music, but they sure gave me the extra push to do that. Like, what I love about them, is that they just made whatever music or art they wanted to, without any sort of consideration to what people would think of them or their music. They just knew how to have fun with it. Ween for sure is one of the biggest influences for me in any sort of band I'm in, in one way or another. I know that Kiana also feels the same way about Ween, and you can hear the influence in anything she does as well I think.

Do you have a favourite ween record? I know you've shown love for the early demo tapes (which I love as well). I'd say it's a toss up between the pod and pure guava. Most of the time I prefer the pod, but there's been times where I've preferred pure guava. Though I have to admit, it took me a little longer to like pure guava than it did to like the pod.

Finally, where do you see Freakees and Freakees HQ going in the future? Who knows? Maybe it'll keep going for another hundred years or so. Hopefully he get weirder along the way.

The Freakees have a 7 Inch that is set to come out on Neck Chop records soonish, and a split 7 inch with Research Reactor Corp on Goodbye Boozy. And considering how the band have been going there should be more and more music coming soon. Hopefully even freakier.
AND THATS IT

An unending thanks goes every band. Featured in this zine, all of these bands can be found at these Instagram addresses:

@thefreakees
@tw.goblin.nightmare
@hozacreccords
@revolutionstwothrougheight
@i.am.glue.eater
@cbradio_
@f_r_u_i_t_b_a_t

And send them love, and maybe buy their stuff if that's your groove.

All questions and writing where done by Billiam, you can send me an email at billy.g.twyford@gmail.com if you want to tell me I suck.