



YOU GAN TAKE AWAY MY SPACE SHIP, YOU GAN TAKE AWAY MY SPACE SUIT, YOU GAN EVEN TAKE AWAY MY SPACE LASERS, BUT YOU GAN NEVER, EVER, TAKE AWAY MY SPACE GAME.

- MC LARS

WELCOME TO THE NEW AGE, GROUPIES!

What a crazy month! These past few weeks have taken me to and from Cincinnati, multiple back-to-back shows, spending time with some awesome bands and people, and getting almost no sleep. Still, I knew I couldn't leave you guys hanging, hope you enjoy this issue. As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to me inquiring about getting your writing in Groupie, I love having guest writers and artists. This is hopefully the last issue I have to rush, next time you hear from me I'll be settled in for the summer! So so much love from the Groupie group, and as always, take it easy out there!

With love, Elliott BUSK and beyond ...

NEW RELEASES

by Robert 444



Heavy melodic hardcore out of New England, If It Rains's debut EP is reminiscent of early 2000s east coast melodic HxC with modern-day stylings. The four track demo from members of Anklebiter, Broken Vow, No Model, Ultimatum, and Pummel brings six minutes of high-energy d-beat rhythms, anthemic gang vocals, and crushing breakdowns. I absolutely love this sound and hope to see them in Columbus soon.

Out of Ventura Country, CA, **Ceramik's** debut LP is eight songs of fast, thrashy hardcore. The ten minutes of high energy, blistering tempo are an onslaught of sound. Resonant of 80s hardcore punk with a modern heaviness, **A Life So Bleak** is energetic and catchy, a perfect album to kill someone to.





The epitome of the straight-edge hardcore sound, What Counts's newest EP is four-tracks of fast and rhythmic vouth crew. The first two tracks are fun and quick-tempo'd punk songs built for side-to- side. Then, a cover of Floorpunch's "Clear" that original justice and more. Closing out the record, the "What Countz Outro" is the catchiest song ever made. "THIS IS WHAT COUNTS", fuck yeah it is. I haven't stopped singing that shit since.

As a native Hoosier myself, I have nothing but respect towards **What Counts** for keeping Indy hardcore moving, and I really hope to play with them again soon. This might be my favorite release this year.

Dear What Counts and co.,

My fucking boyfriend has been singing your Outro song for the past month and I cannot take it anymore. Curses upon your crops for creating a song so powerfully catchy. Respectfully, if I have to hear "THIS IS WHAT COUNTS THIS IS WHAT'S REAL" one more time I'm going to commit an atrocity. You will be hearing from my psychiatrist.

XOXO. Elliott

FIRMATON

GUITARIST FOR

WHAT COUNTS

VOCALIST FOR

SENESCENCE

TALKS JOURING,
TREMOLO,
AND TRANS

photos via @dwh.photo

ELLIOTT: SO, JUST TO GET STARTED: IN BRIEF, WHO ARE YOU AND WHAT DO YOU DO?

My name is Fiona, I'm the guitar player for **What Counts**, and I am the vocalist for **Senescence**. Oh, and I also run a tape label/hardcore fanzine called (https://suckerpunchedtapes.limitedrun.com/)

ROBERT: PERFECT, SO MY BAND **TAILSPIN** HAS BEEN THINKING ABOUT GOING ON TOUR. I WAS WONDERING IF YOU HAD ANY ADVICE FOR MANAGING TOURING, TRAVELLING LARGE DISTANCES, AND PRACTICE ON THE ROAD, GIVEN THAT **WHAT COUNTS** IS STARTING A NORTHEAST RUN?

It can be hard. I think it goes without saying everything should be planned out in advance: make sure everyone is able to make all the tour dates, and if not, have a fill-in. It's also important to remember all the essentials – make a list and put all those things in front of you, look at them, read off your list again, and only then you put them in your bag. For vocalists especially, if you don't want to lose your voice, you need to relax: don't talk too much and get a full night's sleep, or you will lose your voice two or three days in, and the rest of the tour just won't go well. Trust me, I've been there.

E: YOU'VE LOST YOUR VOICE BEFORE?

In Senescence we did a tour with this band called **Jockey** last October, and I did lose my voice because I decided to talk on the phone like the whole drive. We did a night drive, and I decided to speak the whole time! I lost my voice from that, but I also just lose my voice all the time. I have allergies and stuff, and I get sick, so I'm never at good vocal health.

E: HAVE YOU EVER SEEN THOSE THEATRE KID RESPIRATORS? THAT COULD HELE

I've definitely thought about it! Sometime I'll have to deep dive into it.

(author's note: they're called nebulizers, apparently?)

E: SO, I'M FROM MASSACHUSETTS — SPECIFICALLY THE BOSTON AREA. I WAS SO JAZZED TO HEAR YOU WERE TOURING IN HOLYOKE, AND THE EAST COAST IN GENERAL! I WAS WONDERING IF THERE WAS ANYTHING IN PARTICULAR YOU WERE LOOKING FORWARD TO ON THE EAST COAST, AND DON'T WORRY, I WON'T BE OFFENDED IF YOU DON'T SAY MASSACHUSETTS.

Oh, I honestly have not looked ahead, I'm not very well travelled. I haven't been to any of the states we're planning on visiting yet, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, or Rhode Island. Being up there will be fun already, other than that I don't know if there's anything specific. We're passing through Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania so we'll see the **Title Fight** mural! I have it tattooed on my chest, actually.

E: THAT'S SO COOL!

Author's note: The "Title Fight Mural", located on 93 South Main St. in Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania, is the same mural painted by artist John Slaby for the "Hyperview" album cover. Title Fight's release of this album in 2015 marked a shift in the band's style, from trad hardcore to a calmer post-punk.



R: OKAY, SO I WAS CURIOUS — YOU'VE PLAYED WITH BOTH SENESCENCE AND WHAT COUNTS IN THE SAME NIGHT. HOW IS IT GOING FROM PLAYING GUITAR TO SINGING? DOES IT COME NATURALLY, OR IS IT SOMETHING YOU HAVE TO FORCE?

I don't get nervous before shows, so I don't know if there's a huge shift in my mindset. If I'm gonna be nervous at all, it would be for vocals. **What Counts** songs are very simple to play on guitar; I know them well enough. It's a band where we're just trying to have fun, so I feel a lot less stress to perform perfect. For **Senescence**, there's a little bit of hesitation, but throwing them in the same night isn't really a problem for me. I used to play guitar in **Senescence** too, so it's nice to just do guitar in one band and vocals in another now. The experience of switching is a lot less stressful than playing and singing at the same time.

E: SUPER COOL! SO, AS I'M SURE YOU KNOW, I RUN A ZINE. I'M ALSO A BIG FAN OF YOUR ZINE, SUCKER PUNCHED, AND I KNOW A LOT OF ZINES THAT HAVE COME OUT SINCE IT'S INCEPTION IN JUNE OF LAST YEAR. DO YOU HAVE ANY PARTICULAR FAVORITES, WHETHER IT'S IN INDIANA OR THE MIDWEST AT LARGE?

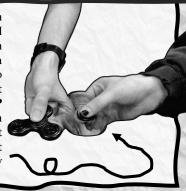
Yeah! The local old head of Indianapolis, Scott, has a zine that inspired mine called **Mundane Moshers**. I have to shout him out because his work is just so funny, a lot of his commentary just kills me. I think there's a lot of multi-page zines out in the Midwest, like **Mandate of Hardcore** and **Core of Reality**, and in Chicago there's a really cool zine called **Undivided Attention** that's very well put together; a lot of interviews, a lot of content.

E: WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE THING TO READ IN ZINES? INTERVIEWS, ESSAYS. REVIEWS?

That's really hard, I'm gonna say not reviews, because I can just listen myself and form my own opinion, but it does seem like a formality in zines. I love interviews because I like to hear behind the scenes information about random bands that I never would have learned about otherwise, but I also love essays if the writing is good, if it's insightful or funny. All my favorite zines have had some article where the author is just going on a rant about something I've never heard of, and it sticks with me for months. So probably essays and interviews!

R: THIS IS MY LAST QUESTION, BUT I WAS PERSONALLY CURIOUS: DO YOU HAVE ANY COOL OR UNUSUAL PIECES OF GEAR THAT YOU USE WHEN YOU PLAY?

I really like this question. So, for actual gear, both **Senescence** and **What Counts** are pretty stripped down. I mean Senescence might have like a chorus pedal, but both bands are just over-driven guitar. What Counts will use a phaser every once in a while. The main thing that came to mind for this question, which is really funny and not a lot of people know about, is that on the new **What Counts EP Hoosier Style**, there's this feedback noise, almost like a helicopter. That's me taking a fidget spinner, making it build up and swell. I was just making a joke initially, but our recording guy was like "what was that?". I said, "my fidget spinner", and he's like "we're gonna do that again".



E: THAT'S SO FUNNY! DO YOU USE A FIDGET SPINNER WHILE YOU'RE PLAYING?

Sometimes! I think I brought it with me to this show, it's in my car. I used to use it as a tremolo picking device, I would just spin it and hold it to my guitar. Then, we discovered the feedback thing, but I also just think it's funny to hold a fidget spinner on stage.

Robert's super smart guitarist note: Tremolo picking is a guitar technique where you hit one string many times in rapid succession, creating the sound of a single note being played repeatedly.

E: THAT IS SO AMAZING. ALRIGHT, FINAL QUESTION. A LOT OF YOUR MUSIC COVERS QUEERNESS AND QUEER IDENTITY, HOW DOES YOUR PERSONAL EXPERIENCE WITH GENDER AND SEXUALITY IMPACT AND INFORM YOUR WRITING, AND WHAT ARE SOME OTHER QUEER, TRANS, OR FEMME HARDCORE AND PUNK PROJECTS YOU ENJOY?

That's a great question. I think my experience as a trans woman has impacted so much of the writing for **Senescence** specifically. Our most recent EP, **World to Gain**, was kind of like a collection of my thoughts, feelings, and experiences from the time of me coming out to myself to right when I started hormone therapy. It was nice to have some outlet to talk about that, and I'm continuing that for our newer stuff. We just recorded a promo that will turn into an EP, and the two songs we recorded are still fully about trans experiences. It's a huge part of my life, whether I want it to be or not, so it's always going to – in some way – inform my writing and things that I'm creating.

One thing I've been trying to do is write less negatively. I feel like in the past I've written a lot of stuff that was emo, Senescence is a half-emo-half-hardcore band, but I don't always just want to be talking about how bad things are because I feel like there's a lot of joy and happiness in my life since starting hormone therapy. I want to speak about trans joy, and the more positive outlook I have now for the future, and how that reflects on my sense of confidence.

As for the second part of your question, there's this younger band from Indianapolis called **Halfway House**. Their drummer is a trans woman named Alexia and we've been friends for a while. I think it's cool to have a young band like that speaking about their experiences. Other than that, **Destiny Bond**, **Anklebiter**, **Buggin**, **and Velocity**, and **Situational Hazard**.

E: AWESOME. ANY FINAL WORDS YOU HAVE? NOT IN A MENACING WAY, JUST- FINAL WORDS. SHOUT OUTS OR ANYTHING OF THAT SORT.

Fuck the VFW Hall in Peoria, Illinois for not letting us hold the Palestinian relief show there. Fuck you guys. I hate you, and we already have the show set up somewhere else. Yeah, that's it. Thank you guys!

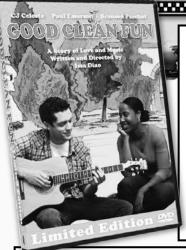


THANK YOU FOR THE SICK INTERVIEW, FIONA! FIND WHAT COUNTS ON SPOTIFY AND BANDCAMP, OR ON INSTAGRAM @XWHATCOUNTSX. SENESCENCE IS ON ALL THE SAME PLATFORMS, FIND THEM @SENESCENCEUSA. FINALLY, SUPPORT FIONA THROUGH SUCKER PUNCHED TAPES & ZINE @SUCKERPUNCHEDZINE!



...Evidently, me and Rob have some different go-to's when it comes to prepping for a show. I'm a homebody and like to be prepared for any problem that might come up for me (or my friends). Robert travels light and loves to mosh, making his haul a little more manageable. Ultimately, what you take with you comes down to how much movement you plan on getting up to, whether you're travelling alone or with a friend, and what your personal needs are. Concert venues tend to have rules about how much stuff you can take with you, which is important to keep in mind! Places like Dirty Dungarees let you stow your items in the washers, but not everywhere will have space for large bags. Always bring cash for merch or door cover. Finally, it's always kind to bring a few extra pairs of earplugs and hand sanitizer for when it gets particularly grimy. Pro tip: if you don't want to carry around a bulky container of earplugs, a mint tin works great for storage on-the-go!

Rolf's Movie Review



Written and directed by **Issa Diao**, this groundbreaking film chronicles the story of a college student, and her journey to find herself, find love, and put on a hardcore show. Allison McCormack, a twenty-one-year-old student at Shermer University, is organizing the big, end-of-year concert, the headlining band cancels due to injury. Strapped for time, she attempts to use her connections to recruit the biggest band in the world, The Goodcleanfuns, a vegan straight-edge hardcore posicore badass hardcore band; however, they are less than willing. Employing blackmail, wit, confidence, and the power of friendship, Allison must utilize all her skills to convince the band to play, thwart the evil Dean Vernon's ploy to stop the show from happening and rekindle and strengthen her relationship. *Will she manage?*

The beauty of **Good Clean Fun** lies in its heartfelt, emotional plot. How will someone who has lost a close family member, the support of her favorite band, and herself, manage to get it all back? Quotes such as "I haven't played chess since my brother died," tug at the heartstrings, causing one to feel what Allison feels. When the Goodcleanfuns turn out to be assholes, the viewer feels real disappointment. And when Anthony is kicked out of college for masturbating on camera? I can't even begin.

All in all, **Good Clean Fun** is a heartfelt, entertaining experience, and an all-around good time. The plot is gripping, the direction, cinematography, and editing are masterful, and the music is flawless. If you want to sit back, chill out, and have some good clean fun, I highly recommend, 10/10. You can catch the full movie on **Issa Diao's** YouTube channel, titled **"Good Clean Fun: The Movie"**.

Shout out to the greatest delivered line in cinema history: "What the HELL is a kilometer?" That doesn't do it justice, go watch the movie.



I shit my pants watching it. Still don't give a fuck about sids tho.

Please put that in







METAL

IT'S *NOT* JUST A MUSIC GENRE



ARTIST FEATURE: GOOSE MORRISON

GOOSE MORRISON, a CCAD student based in Columbus, Ohio, creates sculpture and jewelry with a focus on industrial material melded with astrological and biological theming. Their work is provocative and moody, fleshy and divine, and unlike anything I've ever seen. Their latest thesis exhibition "GAGREFLEX" is a culmination of all of their mediums, ceramics to fabric, printmaking to metalwork, and in part features the unlikely duality of cold, inhuman steel melded with all-too-human medieval armor and weaponry. I highly recommend their work, which can be found on Instagram and TikTok under @starboy.accessories.

Thank you Goose for letting me feature you in this celestial issue!



HARDCORE





ARIES – MAR 21-APR 19

Aries, your fiery and unyielding disposition is perfectly suited for the fury of Raw Brigade's Aggressive City. This modern album carries the spirit of old-style rowdy hardcore. Let your unique style loose in the pit with this moshable musical violence, and revel in the nostalgia of OG California 80s hardcore all the way from Bogota, Columbia.

TAURUS – APR 20-MAY 20

Taurus, nothing suits your silliness, gravitation to comfort and the classics, and your friendly indulgent demeanor quite like **Vicious Circle** by the **Zero Boys**. Embodying 80s snotty punk-rock, this is the perfect soundtrack to graffiting your high school, gelling your hair into liberty spikes, and running from the cops.







GEMINI – MAY 21-JUN 20

Gemini, you captivate the room with your individualist, sensitive, outgoing personality, just like SeeYouSpaceCowboy...'s release The Correlation Between Entrance And Exit Wounds. This screamo sasscore record isn't for the faint of heart, and like your complex and artistic self, has layers of depth worth putting time and love into.

CANCER – JUN 21-JUL 22

Cancer, nothing can compare to your emotional intensity, your attention to detail, and your creative motivation, except for maybe The Hated and their primordially emo The Best Piece of Shit Vol. 3. Revel in the beauty of this band carving out their own niche in the center of hardcore callous violence the same way you always manage to find peace in troubled waters.









LEO – JULY 23-AUG 22

Leo, you're self-indulgent, radiant, extroverted, and glamourous, but you refuse to be seen as vapid. Vintage Piss by Sonny Vincent and Rocket from The Crypt captures your punchy, stylish nature with a raucous twist, perfect for every inch of your glowing personality. Whirl the world around as you dominate the dance floor with retro shindig style.

VIRGO – AUG 23-SEP 22

Virgo, you already know your wit and keen intellect draws you to complexity and clean beauty. The Art of Absence by Cold Embrace is a hardcore album as much as it is a work of art, ready to be embraced and dissected by you. Fall in love with the complex instrumentals and let loose with the fun and punchy vocals interlaced with moments of soft introspection.









LIBRA - SEP 23-OCT 22

Libra, your elegant and sensible nature draws you to the finer things in life. While nothing is fine and civilized about hardcore, Mindforce's Excalibur has what you need in terms of intricacy, powerful metallic guitar, and slow impassioned breakdowns. Straight out of the shining city of New York, there's a lot to love about this project.

SCORPIO - OCT 23-NOV 21

Scorpio, your macabre and devilish sense of humor can be off-putting to some, but the right folks will learn to treasure it. Channel your inner freakshow with Terrifying Tales by Blitzkid! This Misfits-esque horrorpunk collage takes the best parts of cheesy 80s spook films and meshes it with the playful punk-rock you love.







SAGITTARIUS - NOV 22-DEC 21

Sagittarius, you contain multitudes, just like Sign Language's Madison & Floral. As someone who can hardly keep still for just one genre, you'll fall in love with the shoegaze, emo, and hardcore influences making this album almost as special as you. What's more, this outfit is local to Ohio, giving you something to brag about!

CAPRICORN – DEC 22-JAN 19

Capricorn, your no-nonsense hard-working persistence brings you to only the hardest of hardcore, that classic shit that speaks to your sensibilities. Live by the Code by Terror is exactly what you're looking for in terms of it's shredding instrumentals, themes of unity and strength, and incredible power.









AQUARIUS – JAN 20-FEB 18

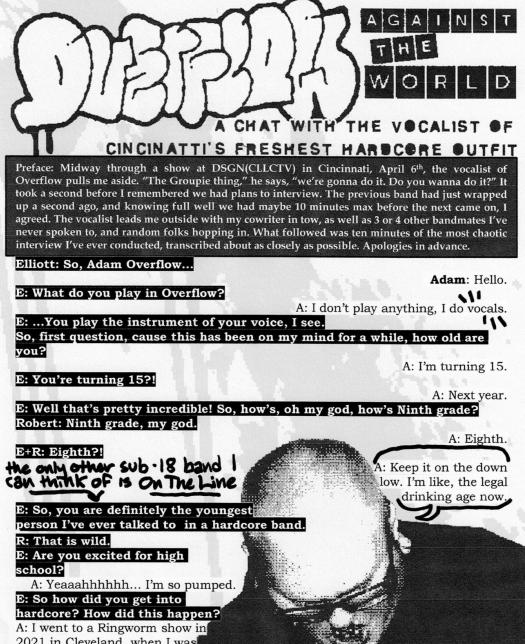
Aquarius, you already know you're gonna change the world. New Wave by Against Me! is the perfect soundtrack for your revolution, a thrumming and folksy piece of Americana best enjoyed with the innate dignity and valor you're known for. It fills up a space, instills a melancholic joy, and grants wishes for a better tomorrow.



Pisces, I've got you covered with something unlike anything else, just like you. Low Level Owl: Volume 1 by The Appleseed Cast is a shoegazey, melancholic, pensive album perfect for a long sentimental drive, the credits to a coming-of-age movie, or writing diary entries about lost loves from dawn till dusk.







2021 in Cleveland, when I was like 11, my dad brought me. Oh! Future plans! We're recording a single, then an EP. And the EP may or may not include vocal

and Sob Story. E: Wow!

R: That's nice! A: And a split with

Tail Flow or whatever.

features from Waydown

E: We got a split with Overflow? — "WC" being Tailspin
R: Yeah! I told you about that.
E: You did not!

E: Ok, um, so you went to a Ringworm show. What happened after that to get you here?

A: A month later I went to some hardcore fest, and then a month after that, like three shows in a month-

R: Seth just realized that the Taco Bell is closed.

A: But then I went to Santamanía 2021 or 2022 or some shit, but I think like Saboteur played, I think Waydown played too, a bunch of good bands. Bolster for sure, and Piss Flowers.

E: That's incredible! And then, how did you decide to start a band?

A: Um, I was bored. I wanted to do vocals, I'm a dumbass, I can do silly shit.

E: You're also one of the only bands I've ever met who has put out an EP before playing any shows.

A: Oh my fucking god. You know how many practices we had before that first show? Fucking two bro. Yo Jake, didn't we practice once with you before that first show? Jake: Yeah, you guys played with me just once.

A: And we didn't know any of the songs, so we recorded, it was like bro, if we record right now we can learn all the songs at home. All the songs were written in like a practice.

R: Genius.

A: Me and our bassist cooked up "Intro" and "I Could Have Done the Same", that's why they sound a bit different from "Overflow" and "Till You Die".

R: What did y'all use to record?

A: I don't know like Reaper or something?

R: No, I mean like...

A: Oh! Our homie Kanan, he plays bass in Louise and for Piss Flowers.

E: Cool! So how has the reception for that been treating you so far?

A: Bro. I mean from this show, we had like a fifteen people dogpile for "Till You Die". That was fucking nuts bro.

E: That's really cool. And I noticed a lot of younger people coming to the show also. Do you think that's your influence, in part?

A: I don't know fucking any of them. They just show up.

E: How does forming a group happen in school?

A: I don't know. Bro the most cringest shit, if you're a band... What the fuck. If you're a band and you know all your members from school, it's guaranteed to be shit.

R: That doesn't count if you're in college.

A: But I'm saying like, if you're in 10th grade, and you're like guys let's start a band! I wanna sell arenas!

R: That's gonna be a controversial opinion.

A: Young kids, they all know each other because they're in the same class. They're all like AC/DC cover bands.

E: So, who are your favorite guys out here in Cincinnati?

A: Guys?

E: Well not like, dudes, but like, what are your favorite bands or people

you've collaborated with?

A: People in Waydown and Sob Story for sure. Especially Joe, he got us on our first show.

R: What's your favorite class in school?

E: What electives are you taking right now? Are you on the geometry track?

makhouse hoys

A: Uhh, I just got homeschooled like last week.

I stay up till like 4 am and watch Twin Peaks now.

R: Dude, look at this, I got a fucking Twin Peaks tattoo.

A: No fucking way! Hold on hold on! Bro hold on let me get a photo. What is that? I'm on like the fucking third episode.

R: Oh you'll see it pop up.

A: Ok fuck the guy that turned off the lights. Unless it's the owner of DSGN, he's chill as fuck.

E: Have you played any other venues besides DSGN Collective?

A: No, DSGN is really just the spot in Cincinnati. All the DIY venues are gone.

E: Is there anywhere in Ohio that you really want to play?

A: Not Dirty Dungarees.

R: Woah! E: No!

savcosm M (better

A: No Class, Dirty Dungarees, yeah. I mean those are really the only fucking good

venues.

R: Marlboro Manor, shoutout Marlboro Manor.

A: Oh my god, I forgot about that place. Isn't that a house venue?

R: Yeah.

Brennan: What's your favorite prime?

like the dumb sports drink ..

A: I haven't tried prime. That's for like, kids that watch Five Nights at Freddy's ratailspin vocalist fanfics bro.

R: That's fucking Brennan! That's fucking you.

B: I don't know what you're talking about.

E: Just to wrap things up, are there any shoutouts, besides what you've

already said? Any final

messages?

A: Shoutout DSGN. Shoutout Mike and Julia, from DSGN. Shoutout Cal for fucking filming tonight.

J: Grandpa, if you listen to this, you a bitch for dying.

E: I think that's all. I'm gonna call it there.

transcript by Rober !!! notes by Elliott
Thank you Adam ! Co! listen to Overflow
on Spotify ! Bandcamp or ELSE!

indiao PAYMENT INFORMATION would you listen if I fought the authority rise up and join'd the majority true your see that societys ignoring me wire soon to be forever the minority - Cause they're using that seniority want so much more of me How can't be that this is the prioty We're Soon to be forever the minority Won't Be Judged and Pushed Around Don't Back T Youth Spent Just Remem Never List I WIL It w.I Left - Overflow

Right – Tailspin Setlists from (DSGN)CLLCTV, Cincinnati - April 6th



Elliott (@ccosmosiss) is a bugscientist-in-training at OSU, who fell in love with the hardcore scene and gets by with a little help from her friends. She created Groupie to track her lived experience as she dips deeper into the subculture world of Columbus, OH. Besides that, she draws, writes poetry, and eats batteries. She loves her boyfriend & thinks he's pretty rad.





Robert (@robertmesaros_) is a guitarist for Columbus band Tailspin, outside of throwing down at Dirty Dungs he likes to read and go for long walks on the beach. He's an engineering student at OSU and studies for 25 hours a day (when he isn't in the Groupie writing room underneath the Union). He loves his girlfriend very very much.

Join the world wide web revolution and check out the Groupie website! https://groupiezine.wordpress.com/

Consider donating to me on Venmo so I can make more zines like Groupie and keep the Printer Gods happy! Every dollar counts and is **beyond** meaningful.



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