



don't ask me

Babes in Toyland drummer *Lori Barbero* wowed us at the Babe's Auckland concert last year with her drumming and singing and speaking talents. We waved her down with our questionnaire somewhere in America. Lori is a woman of taste. Recently she married car freak and head Butthole Surfer *Gibby Haynes*.

What's the last thing you stole?

Two pieces of gum, because I forgot to brush my teeth.

The piece of art you wished you owned?

There's a church in Vienna, Austria that's a masterpiece. It also has a graveyard in the basement with the most impressive statues ever.

Your mode of transport?

One of four vintage cars.

What would a man have to have to make you want to flirt with him?

A great sense of humour and an honest, yet seductive set of eyes.

Your definition of crass?

99% of anyone who is in any way related to politics/government (especially police), skinheads, racists and homophobes.

Your definition of fun?

Shopping at second hand stores with a truck big enough for my purchases.

How did you lose your innocence?

Got drunk and spilled my heart out to a certain somebody.

What's in your bathroom cabinet?

Toothbrush, toothpaste, lipstick, deodorant, Q-Tips and Ben-Gay.

What's the last great book you read?

The Man of Sorrows by Joe Coleman

Your all time top five albums.

Patti Smith *Radio Ethiopia*, the Pop Group *We Are Time*, Alice Cooper *Killer*, Therapy? *Caucasian Psychosis*, Black Flag *Damaged*.

The most over-rated aspect of love?

No one can overrate anything that has to do with love... it's bigger than life... isn't it?

The foxiest male fashion item ever invented?

Boxer shorts.

What's perfect about you?

Nothing at all. Almost my bowling score.

Give us three reasons for living in the USA?

I understand the language; friends and family; 24 hour convenience stores.

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again doesn't make sense. Why the Shihad album wasn't included I don't know."

NZ Herald music critic Graham Reid has been on the judging panel in previous years, he also declared personal reservations regarding judging criteria.

"I think it's very suss and I'm surprised that it [*Body Blow*] would get through given that there were other albums out there. That's no reflection on the Headless Chickens or even their record company, what it says is the rules are that flexible you can put something like that in and it will still be up for contention. I would have thought the judges might have said, 'Let's blow the whistle on this one, is there not another album that is equally good?' I never consider a remix album as a new album, most sensible people don't. Perhaps that's an area that needs to be looked at."

Southside recording artists Moana and the Moahunters, although nominated in four categories for their album *Tahi*, have been patronisingly marginalised appearing only as finalists in the Best Maori Recording category.

"I've always really enjoyed the Music Awards but this year we've felt quite insulted because our album is only a finalist in the Maori Album category. What I find disturbing is this sends a message that catchy music that contains Maori language and pre-European instruments does not qualify as 'kiwi music', it is placed in the dumping ground that is the Maori Award. We definitely

Highest Charting NZ Singles 1993

Sourced from RIANZ 1993 100 Top Charting Recordings of the Year. The place in the Top 100 is in brackets.

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| 1. (No.17) You Gotta Know Supergroove (g) | 5. (No.65) Scorpio Girls Supergroove (g) |
| 2. (No.45) Juice / Choppers | 6. (No.85) Language Annie Crummer |
| 3. (No.47) Keeping Up the Love Thing Katene Sisters | 7. (No.90) You Make the Whole Hammond Gamble & Red Nose Band. (p) |
| 4. (No.53) I Only Said Shihad | 8. (No.97) Be Someone / Underground Dead Flowers |

(g) Gold sales is 5,000 units. (p) Platinum sales 10,000.

foreign

Alice In Chains will release a video *Live Facelift*, a 45 minute video filmed in December 1990 . . . **Smashing Pumpkins** were banned from the BBC's *Top of the Pops* due to the lyric "cut that little child up inside me" from 'Disarm'. A spokesman for the BBC said "as far as we're concerned the lyrics of the song were not suitable for family viewing" . . . **David Baker** has left **Mercury Rev** to go solo and will team up with the **Boo Radleys'** **Martin Carr** . . . **Janet Jackson** walked off stage during her Salt Lake City show and was admitted to hospital and treated for flu and dehydration . . . actor **John Candy** died at age 44 from a heart attack on the set of the western spoof movie *Wagons East* . . . **Liz Phair's** album *Exile in Guysville* topped the *Village Voice* music critics (300 writers) poll . . . USA "shock" comedian New Yorker **Bill Hicks** died of cancer aged 32 . . . **LL Cool J** will play the leading role in a "fantasy" **Jimi Hendrix** biopic *Toys* based on his music and directed by **Barry Levinson** . . . **Beautiful South** have upset people including recent departure **Briana Corrigan** with non-PC lyrics such as "They say always use a condom / I say always use a whip" . . . **Carter** are now a trio with the addition of drummer Wes (ex Resque) . . . **R.E.M.** have written nearly 40 songs on their recent sessions. Expect an album later in the year . . . **Morrissey** walked out on an L.A. video shoot and a *Rolling Stone* interview and returned to the UK . . . **John Singleton** (*Boyz N the Hood*) will direct **Ice Cube** in *Higher Learning* . . . line-up for **Lollapalooza 1994** is expected to be **Nirvana**, **Smashing Pumpkins**, **Beastie Boys**, **Johnny Cash** and **George Clinton** . . . **Jeremy**



Fearnley and Terry Woods have left the **Pogues** . . . **Guns N Roses** will do a fund-raising show for victims of the California earthquakes . . . **Elvis Costello & the Attractions** are gigging in England to promote their new album *Brutal Youth* . . . **Bono** has contributed backing vocals to supermodel **Naomi Campbell's** debut single . . . 2000 fans were locked out of **Snoop Doggy Dogg's** London club appearance but there was only one arrest . . . **Bruce Springsteen** won an Oscar for his 'Streets of Philadelphia' theme . . .

REDD KROSS AT GLUEPOT

Redd Kross, long considered one of the coolest bands in the world by those who know (like Sonic Youth) play Auckland's Gluepot April 18. Steve and Jeff McDonald formed Redd Kross in California over a decade ago when they were 11 and 15, playing wildly distorted guitar rock, Stooges covers, Linda Blair tributes and gabbing to the press about their love for 70s icons like Lori Partridge years before it became cool to admit to such things. At last they're on a major label and they're coming here and they're not to be missed.

are not going to attend the Awards."

Graham Reid: "I would have thought Moana would be in there for Top Vocalist, it's an extraordinary album and I'm also surprised it's not up for Album of the Year. She is right in regarding herself as marginalised in that sense."

This year 21 artists were competing in the Top Single category for three positions as finalists, 24 LPs were considered, also for three places, in the Best Album category. With such a large number of records in contention it would appear major changes are necessary. Murray Cammick, owner of Southside / Wildside Records (and *RiptUp* Editor) suggests a possible solution.

"With a committee voting, even the judges can be surprised by what act scores the highest points overall. Maybe the solution is to have five finalists in the Single of the Year and Album categories to reflect the significant number of releases in recent years."

Other divisions that have yielded some surprising finalists are those of Most Promising Group, Most Promising Male Vocalist and Most Promising Female Vocalist. The most important condition of entry that affects all three categories has seemingly been ignored by the judges in two. This condition states the following: 'Each artist nominated must have had their first recording released by a member of RIANZ or NZ domiciled producer between 1 January and 31 December 1993.' The last 21 words are again displayed in bold type and are underlined. Under this condition the following finalists would be deemed ineligible. The 3Ds appear in the Most Promising Group category, their first recording was an EP called *Fish Tales* released by Flying Nun Records in 1990 followed by an album, *Hellzapoppin'* in

Highest Charting NZ Albums 1993

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|---|--|
| 1. (No.14) Muttonbirds Muttonbirds (p) | 5. (No.73) Collection Dave Dobbyn (p) |
| 2. (No.33) Language Annie Crummer (g) | |
| 3. (No.46) Body Blow Headless Chickens | |
| 4. (No.70) Big Sky Warratahs | |

(g) Gold sales is 7,500 units. (p) Platinum sales 15,000.

1992. The Holy Toledos are finalists in the same category, yet Christchurch label Failsafe released their first recording, the vinyl EP *I Confess* in 1991. Michael and Brendon Gregg of the Holy Toledos are also competing in the Most Promising Male Vocalist category. Rob Mayes, owner of Failsafe Records was perplexed by the inclusion of Holy Toledos in both categories.

"My label released the Holy Toledos first two recordings. The EP came out in May 1991 and a full-length album, *Forget and Forgive*, was released in January 1992. Failsafe Records is a totally New Zealand resident label and I personally produced and engineered both recordings in conjunction with the band."

As has been stated earlier, the fact these bands and/or artists are finalists in categories for which they are not eligible should not discredit them or their record companies. It is the responsibility of RIANZ to seriously reconsider some of the criteria under which nominees are judged, and the Conditions of Entry for several categories need to be tightened.

Although the three finalists competing for the Most Promising Female Vocalist Award comply with all six conditions of entry specific to that division, the inclusion of two artists has still raised eyebrows. Not only for the fact there were only three nominees to begin with.

Graham Reid: "I think that says something about the paucity of female artists which is interesting given that last year was International Year of the Woman and Suffrage Year. However I suspect there were more people out there than were entered, but if a record company chooses not to put their stuff in what more can you do?"

So there you have it. It is quite clear there is widespread dissatisfaction within the music industry regarding certain aspects of the Music Awards. In conjunction with the changes to the RIANZ Conditions of Entry there are definitely other options that should be considered as an alternative to the present industry based judging system. Whether or not these additional avenues will be explored before the 1995 NZ Music Awards remains to be seen.

The 30th Annual New Zealand Music Awards will

be held at The Pan Pacific Hotel in Auckland on Monday 11th April 1994.

JOHN RUSSELL

POSTSCRIPT: Since the completion of this article the 3Ds have been replaced as finalists in the Most Promising Group category. Their immediate replacement, Auckland band Second Child, were also deemed ineligible as their first recording, the mini-LP *Magnet*, was released in 1991 by Wildside Records and distributed by Festival Records, a member of RIANZ. Auckland band Grace are now finalists in this category, their first recording, 'Skin to Skin', was released by Deepgrooves in September last year. Sony Music NZ have successfully argued the Holy Toledos inclusion in the Most Promising Group category as Failsafe Records is not a member of RIANZ. This does not address the fact that Failsafe Records are a NZ domiciled record producer. Strange days indeed. J.R.

The (In)Credible Grammy Awards

Music Industry voted Awards internationally are low on credibility. The British Industry Awards are the biggest joke and even the highly-respected USA Grammy Awards often miss the point.

The *Los Angeles Times* noted that Toto and Christopher Cross have both won five Grammy Awards, while the Who, the Beach Boys, Jimi Hendrix and Led Zeppelin have never won a Grammy.

The Beatles won Album of the Year for their hard to ignore *Sgt. Pepper* in 1967 but the Rolling Stones have only won a Lifetime Achievement Award in 1986. Accepting the overdue Grammy, Mick Jagger quipped, "The joke is on you."

The Grammy voters have always had difficulty choosing Best New Artists — in 1978 they chose disco divas Taste of Honey above the Cars and Elvis Costello whilst in 1989 they voted in lip-syncing Milli Vanilli.

In 1980 when Christopher Cross won five awards he won Best Album against Pink Floyd's *The Wall* and Best New Artist against the Pretenders.

A Best Hard Rock / Metal Performance category was introduced in 1988 to reflect the new wave of aggressive rock bands. And the winner was — Jethro Tull. M.C.