



Khrinj

member has always wanted, and a sound they are all excited about, garnering praise and respect from a large following on the island, the band has collectively decided it is time to head to the mainland. "We want to make Maui known 'cause there's a lot of good musicians on this island," says Jaxon.

Vinnie agrees, "Our goal is to get off this rock and do a tour."

## KHRINJ

*Thunder rumbles, lightning cracks, the sky opens up and the truth is revealed...*

Khrinj's CD, *Defense Mechanism*, opens with crackling static and rumbling thunder on the first track entitled "Fool's Gold", which is an appropriate intro to the album "dedicated to awakening humanity from its slumber of self-kept ignorance." Lead singer and rhythm guitarist, Cayce Almason, believes that music is an expression of personal, political and societal angst.

In the aptly named song "Released", Cayce laments about the pain of truth in the cycle of life and death, perfectly correlating with a backdrop of the electrifyingly dark wrath created by John Meyer on lead guitar. Ian Horneman further rounds out this balance in heaviness on bass guitar along with Hans Schopen emphatically beating the drums into an embodiment of absolution.

Throughout the album, and especially on songs like "Tragedy" and "Smoke & Mirrors", Khrinj carries that ever elusive quality of metal known as hard 'n heavy; a tight, solid, musical chemistry. At once melodic and somber, with enough rage to pack a hot Kentucky brothel on a Sunday, Khrinj is alternately empowered

and emotive, deliberate and tortured, passionate and liberated.

Musically, Khrinj manages to incorporate Cayce's desire to play artsy punk, "So I can still scream and yell", plus Ian's penchant for black and death metal, and the obscure music John finds online and from magazines. Cayce explains, "The real musical influences come from within the band - we pull shit from the cosmos, from the energy the band creates with each other." Ian elaborates, "We all have a personal preference for the kind of music we want to play, but if the energy's there, and we're rockin', then that's it." Together since June of '97, Khrinj maintains that every band member keeps an open mind when bringing their individual influences and preconceptions to the table. They agree to let them go and are almost always happy with the results. They do challenge each other, yet they're all friends. Ian says, "We have our

squabbles, but when it comes down to it, we put it aside for the music because that's what we love the most."

Not originally the lead singer, Cayce first joined the band as a backup vocalist on rhythm guitar, then later reluctantly agreed to do lead vocals, at the band's insistence. Lyrically, Cayce's social and political standpoint is "to have the compassion and patience to understand where people are coming from. The society we have is great, but what are we going to do with it? - that's the question. Anarchy doesn't work, it isn't realistic. I'm pro-people understanding that they have a role in this country."

Cayce maintains that the music Khrinj makes strays away from traditional metal, but not in the same sense that punk has become more "like the Rice Krispies commercial" says John. It isn't "happy friendly metal", or even nü metal. Hans insists their newer material is even more heavy (interrupted by the whimsical chimes ringing on Ian's cellphone), and more theatrical. "We're just better at our instruments now," John modestly summarizes, "and they're better structured songs." Ian agrees, "We've played together longer - when we write songs, it's a little bit more technical, not just a basic formula."

Khrinj believes that their greatest high comes from playing live - their compensation for the challenges of maintaining an original, hard rock/metal band on Maui. Hans concludes, "The best shows I've ever played were shows where I lose my whole self. I'm not even thinking about or worrying about what's coming next - we just GO!" **MTW**

## The Monster Truck Ad

Khrinj and Zero Tolerance will be kicking off the summer with Maui's own mega-rock event called "Summer Madness", featuring special guest Sausage Act (including members of Anesthesia), at *Maui Brews* in Lahaina on **Thursday, June 26th**. Doors open at 9pm, tickets are a mere \$5, with the show starting at 10pm. Don't dare to miss this mania next **THURSDAY THURSDAY THURSDAY!**



Sausage Act

# Sausage Act

## The Interview

### How do you describe your music?

Free jazz vs. Death metal in the waiting room of an insane asylum, spiced with sphincter chords, sprinkled with heavy percussion and left to ferment for 28 days. Garnished with on-stage shenanigans and bizarre special guests. Served raw with malt liquor and your choice of madness, fear or confusion.

### How would you describe a typical Sausage Act fan?

The typical S.A. fan is a single white male, 18-24 years old, naked, hair on fire, screaming obscenities while running with scissors and reading Bukowski, has an I.Q. of 240 but can't tie his own shoes, is bi-polar and bi-curious, carries an average of \$3200 in consumer debt at 12.25% interest, and enjoys very loud, irritating, repetitive noise. May be on parole or probation. Seems completely harmless until provoked. A typical show consists of hundreds of individuals fitting the above description, packed tightly in a small, poorly ventilated space and chugging down overpriced cocktails. They seem to enjoy it.

### How do you prepare for a live show?

Before every show, I rewind the lip-synch tape in my Milli Vanilli boom box and practice moving my mouth so it looks like I'm really singing. I'm getting pretty good at it. And I also don't go to the bathroom all day. I find it adds a sense of delicate urgency to the performance when you have to urinate badly.

### What are your musical influences?

Mother Goose, car alarms, jackhammers, AM radio station silence.

### Favorite performing and/or recording techniques?

Jumping up and down and hitting myself with a rubber chicken seems to work equally well in the studio and on stage. When recording, make sure to press 'REC'.

### What are your long-term goals?

What any power-hungry, money-grubbing rock-star desires. The ultimate sell-out. The Sausage Act lunchbox by Aladdin. To have kids sucking Kool-Aid out of a Captain Sausage thermos has been a life-long dream. That, and doing Christina Aguilera's laundry.

### What is the Sausage Act philosophy?

Kiss yourself.