

ONCE AGAIN MAXIMUM ROCK AND ROLL PRESENTS

Their company. Photographs will be putting out a fantastic punk 10 by someone named CHRIS BRICHSEN, that's a kick in the ass to all "punks" people!

STUART ARSEHOLE'S HARDCORE SCUM!



Punk g
in Oslo

STRAIGHT OUTTA NORWAY!

NACENT LIT...
Duff... and will soon be...
NORSE CUTTER...
punk/rock scene...
sparty gay...
man... the...
small (with a...
there are a...
LOVER...
Jazz/punk has...
band (w/)...
DELONG HAS...
They have got...
the best punk...



The first Bloodstains compilation I bought was Across Norway. Why? I have no idea. But some of the songs on that one have stuck with me as prima facie classics of the genre, if not as putative classics (Ah, ain't nothin' better than usin' big words to talk about songs like "Kill the Disco"). I first encountered SVART FRAMTID on the great sampler CD "A Network Of Friends" which came out about five years ago. Their song "Disiplin" is an ultra-classic of Scandinavian hardcore, or any hardcore for that matter. Around the same time, my pal Nick, as he tends to do, obtained the 7" for about \$3 and proceeded to rave about it. Probably a year or so later (who's counting?), I won the 7" in an auction an old Swedish punk rocker was holding after having a baby. Good for him and me, right?

On the whole, '80s Norwegian hardcore bands packaged their records better, played with more talent and savvy and sang more intelligent and political lyrics than perhaps any other scene. Norway did not have a big scene, but it also did not have any bad bands in the halcyon early days. I should point out that unlike the neighboring Swedish scene, nearly all of Norway's bands sang in their native language and did not name their bands in English. While the scene had strong connections to other countries, its bands seemed to have influenced each other, whereas the other Scandinavian scenes took most of their influence from abroad. Much of the credit for Norway's sound goes to X-Port Plater (run by members of SVART FRAMTID)

VI E SMA BARN
PA EI FRODIG
VE E LEI AV VA
VE VIL TKKJE G
UNDER EN SOP

SVART FRAMTID
KUTT - 80

which released the five of the eight or so crucial records in early Norwegian hardcore history (that "crucial" back there is superfluous, because I have yet to discover a bad release from Norway in the early '80s). Those five were, in order: SVART FRAMTID "1984" 7", BANNLYST "La Dem Ikke Lure Deg" 7", V/A "Nå Eller Aldri" 7", PROCES/STENGTE DORER split 7", and BARN AV REGNBUEEN "Det E'Kje Nåkka Artig Længer" 7". Preceding these five, on other labels, were these ultra-rarities: BETONG HYSTERIA "Spontan Abort" 7", AKKUT INNLEGGELSE "Echoes From the Asylum" 7", V/A "Ingenting For Norge" LP. Most punk rockers outside Norway probably recognize AKKUT INNLEGGELSE, because they contributed classic tracks to the classic compilation "Cleanse The Bacteria," but as indicated by the label's name, X-Port Plater sent many of their records abroad. I also have read that BANNLYST toured the UK around '85 and blew motherfuckers away with their intense thrash. It's no wonder that bands like ENT and Napalm Death turned north to Scandinavia for influence.

So let's go step by step here: AKKUT INNLEGGELSE's "Echoes From the Asylum" 7", sometimes called "CIA-KGB," is a dirty, riffy piece of proto-hardcore punk (their name translates to "Acute Admission," whatever that means). This 7" is quite rare and unknown to many hardcore collectors, I suspect, since I don't know anyone who has it. Just three tracks on this '83 release, but the two on Bloodstains Across Norway are the best. The coolest thing about this band was, of course, that the members were 14 and 16 when the 7" was released. It's not thrash for sure, but still an excellent record you should sell your grandma for. In the MRR #12 Norway scene report, there's an interview with the band, in which guitarist Thomas delivers very sober responses. When asked, "Why did you form a punk band?" he responds, "What answer do you usually get? Boredom. I'd like to say it was something else..." He also talks about Norway's prevalent racism (but I won't mention that one of the band's members is wearing a swastika shirt in the picture). The band also released a tape that Tim Yohannon thought was quite promising. Anyone have a copy? Finally, I should mention that they have two excellent, angry tracks, perhaps from the aforementioned tape, on the recent CD reissue of the BCT tape "I Thrash Therefore I Am." Members of this band turned up in everyone's favorite band, TRBN-GR.

No collector is a true collector unless he or she has thought about the BETONG HYSTERIA 7" late at night when under the covers, lonely and . . . It's a classic, perhaps one of my favorites. Like A.I.'s 7", this one bridges the punk-hardcore gap. From what I can tell, these leather-and-studs-clad punks were quite well-loved in Norway when they were around. With minimal information on the sleeve, and a picture of a skull next to a fetus, and sides labeled "side nazi" and "side kommi," I get the feeling they aren't exactly singing about hula dances and sunrises by the beach. The music is guitar-driven rough punk which subtly set the standard, it seems, for all Norwegian hardcore after it. It's an aggressive toe-tapper with lots of guitar work without being at all wanky. Apparently the band released a tape as well, but no one seems to have a copy. I don't know what else was on the Mind Expanding label, but the "Spontan Abort" 7" was its fourth release. I suspect there were only 500 of these 7"s pressed based on its rarity. Oh yeah, no date on the record either, but supposedly it came out in '81. These five tracks are essential and you should go out and buy a copy right now, punker. A few copies turned up in the last year or so—ask your friendly dealer for one today! Members of this band later turned up in a supposed jazz-punk band named LOVER OG TIGRE.

In the scene report I mentioned, the writer mentions a band called FADER WAR and says they released a 7" and appeared on a comp 12" with 3 other bands. Well, I can verify the existence of the 12": it's called "Ingenting For Norge." The 7", however, doesn't seem to exist. It could, but I know no one who owns it or has heard of it, and it's not in the MRR archives. The kicker of the whole thing is that the band were described as being "more hardcore than Discharge," so they, of course, are of great interest to many punks across the world. The bands on the 12" are: TERROR, ALLAHRM, NORRRSKE BUDEIER and FADER WAR. The first three are unimpressive punk rock to varying degrees of wavy-ish- or core-ness, but FADER WAR fucking kill! Total d-beat raw hardcore like Anti-Cimex, Disarm or SOD. The coolest part about FADER WAR is that they recorded this stuff in July '81! Remember that in July '81, Anti-Cimex were still singing, quite wimpily, in Swedish and playing straightforward hardcore punk without a d-beat. FADER WAR were the only band from Norway to release any vinyl in this style until BANNLYST! Amazing! If anyone has any information about this band, please write; Game of the Arseholes will gladly reissue anything the band released.

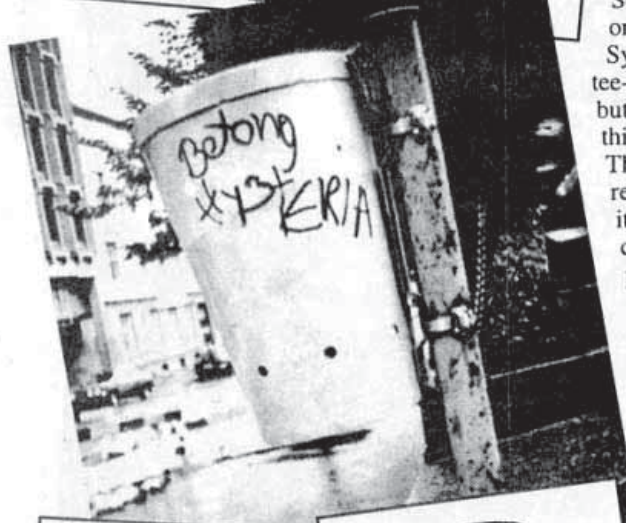
On to X-Port Plater: What a fucking kick-ass label it was! As I said, the first release was SVART FRAMTID "1984" 7", which, taking some of the guitar-power influence from BETONG HYSTERIA, laid the blueprint for Norwegian thrash that continues today. No one who is serious about Scandinavian hardcore should be without this killer record. If you've never heard it, maybe I'll tape it for you if you're extra-nice. While some of the earlier Finnish and Swedish stuff was pretty straight-forward in its interpretation of Discharge, with the benefit of waiting a year or two, SVART



BETONG HYSTERIA



SPONTAN ABORT



FRAMTID (means "black future") were able to complicate the Discharge influence and add some more-intelligent political lyrics. From what I've heard, the singer, Gunnar, had a huge Disorder tattoo on his back, but be sure, SVART FRAMTID were far more interesting and mature-sounding than Disorder. Gunnar, along with Ote (guitarist I think) ran X-Port Plater. There are six tracks on the 7", and it comes packaged in a six-panel fold-out sleeve, like most of the other X-Port releases. The fold-out reveals a well-drawn collage-type picture of various horrors such as Reagan playing poker with Khomeini and the grim reaper weeping atop a bunker, presumably because the human race had rendered him obsolete. Not bad, if you ask me. All the lyrics are in Norwegian, which is similar to Swedish, and they are accompanied by war photos and art images. Export versions of the record came with inserted translations of the lyrics. The 7" has a pop-out center for all the punk rock jukeboxes around the world. So essential! Members of SVART FRAMTID went on to form KAFKA PROSESS who started out sounding much like SVART FRAMTID and eventually developed their own sound, which was still very much

Norwegian. KAFKA PROSESS became a household name after their split LP with Disorder (who else?) and have recently been reissued on LP by Skuld Records in Germany.

Hey, in the if-anyone-has-a-copy-of-this department is SVART FRAMTID'S appearance on Norway's government-run television channel on a show about squatting!

BANNLYST first appeared on a much-revered split tape recorded in March '84 with ANGOR WAT, also from Norway, which the latter released on their Knall Syndikatet which was a zine as well as a tape label. I've never heard this tape, but from what I've read, it's quite good, and includes BANNLYST covering "Garageland"!! In '85, X-Port released BANNLYST'S 7" as their second release (their name means "Banned"). Only a four-panel fold-out on this one (boo hoo), but again, political lyrics and accompanying atrocity photos. The drawings on this one aren't as nice as those on SVART FRAMTID'S 7", but most punk drawings aren't. The music is guitar-driven, blazing thrash: faster, more chaotic and punishing than SVART FRAMTID with raw vocals. Simply excellent. It definitely gives some of the more over-the-top Swedish units a run for their, ur, kronar. Actually, it reminds me of Crude SS if they were a bit faster and had less tempo changes and were Norwegian. Oh, I kill me. Seven songs, and, like SVART FRAMTID'S 7", the export versions of this one include translations of such anthems as: "I'm Only A Tool For the System." I bet if this band had sung in English like Anti-Cimex, they'd be on tee-shirts and patches across the globe. A shame! This 7" is hard to track down, but it isn't usually expensive once found due to its obscurity. As I said before, this band apparently had an intense live show, which is no surprise.

The compilation 7" is a format that people either love or hate. X-Port's third release, the comp 7" called "Nå Eller Aldri" is fucking exquisite and I love it, despite not being too fond of the format in general. Maybe it's the best compilation 7" ever, though the competition isn't very stiff. Whatever. The point is that I can't get sick of this fucking record (just like every other fucking Norwegian release)! Again, an awesome, oversized, six-panel fold-out sleeve and lyric-translation insert accompany the vinyl. It begins with a great, pound-your-fist, BANNLYST track. I should note that none of the tracks on this 7" appears on other vinyl releases (this label really had their shit together and did everything in a consummately professional manner). Following BANNLYST are PSYKISK TERROR, a fast, punishing d-beat thrash band that I wish had released a 7". From what I understand, they appear on at least two tape-only compilations from the old days, "Noize of Norway" and "Raped Ass." If any of the PSYKISK TERROR-ists are reading, please get in touch! After this we hear KAFKA PROSESS'S first track, which, as I said, sounds very much like SVART FRAMTID. It's great—and it's about the terror of snuff films, and, get this, its English translation, like its original Norwegian text, rhymes. Maybe that only blows my mind because I was an English major. Flip this bad-ass 7" over and four more tracks come at you. First track is by SISTE DAGERS HELVETE. I would guess that, of all the bands mentioned in this article, this band's record is the easiest to find. Their LP, "The Hell," was released on Rock-O-Rama at the same time that label was re-releasing the Finnish classics, except this Norwegian hardcore attack never appeared on any other label. The band has a more melodic and straight-forward interpretation of the Norwegian sound. It's actually very good and memorable. Their track on this 7", called "Hvorfor?" or "Why?" is great and has

