



NOISE BY NUMBERS

By punksanddrunkpoets / Photo By

NOISE BY NUMBERS hail from Chicago, IL. Featuring Dan Vapid from SCREECHING WEASEL, THE METHADONES, and THE RIVERDALES on lead vocals and Neil Hennessey from THE LAWRENCE ARMS on Drums. The debut full length for this Chicago four piece is due out this fall. With influences ranging from 80's and early 90's punk. Think early ALKALINE TRIO meets PINHEAD GUNPOWDER East Bay stuff. For fans of HÜSKER DU, NAKED RAYGUN, SEAM, and yeah...you get the idea. Dan (Vapid) Schafer was kind enough to sit down with AMP and talk about the band and their upcoming release on Asian Man Records and Solidarity Recordings.

If you could, please talk a little about the formation of NOISE BY NUMBERS. When did it all come together, who is in the band?

NOISE BY NUMBERS is Dan Schafer (lead vocals, guitar), Jeff Dean (lead guitar), Rick Uncapher (bass), and Jimmy Lucido (drums). The band formed after I got laid off last year and Jeff Dean asked if I wanted to get together and jam. We did and ended up writing songs together. Then we started to look for people to complete the band, and thought Rick and Neil Hennessey would be a great fit. We knew that Neil wouldn't be able to commit to the band full time due to his other band obligations, but he agreed to help us out and get the band up and running. We jammed for a while and recorded an album, but knew we needed to find someone permanent for the drums. Jeff suggested his friend Jimmy, who came in and played with us and it immediately felt like a great fit. After that, NOISE BY NUMBERS was born.

Your relationship with Asian Man

Records and Solidarity Recordings, how did that come about?

I have done numerous recordings in the past with Asian Man records. We were looking for a label and the guys in the band urged me to ask Mike Park if he would put it out. So I asked and he did.

When does the full-length record come out? Can you talk a little about that?

The full-length record is titled *Yeah, Whatever...* and should be out at the end of October, early November.

What do the present and future plans hold for NOISE BY NUMBERS? Tour Plans?

For now, basic stuff like rehearsing and playing gigs. The goal is to do as much as we can alongside the bands we are committed to full-time.

What inspires NOISE BY NUMBERS song/lyric writing?

We agree on the following bands: HUSKER DU, BOB MOULD,

REPLACEMENTS, NAKED RAYGUN, and DRAMARAMA. Jeff has more of an indie background and mine is pop punk. Our sound is a combination of the two.

With NOISE BY NUMBERS having members of other established bands, how has it been playing together and writing songs?

Pretty cool! I've never played with any of these guys before and don't get to play this style in my other bands. Everybody brings their own perspective to the table. So far, the outcome has been good.

With members being in SCREECHING WEASEL, THE RIVERDALES, THE LAWRENCE ARMS etc, all such different styles of punk, how has it been playing something somewhat different?

I love it! I like a lot of different types of music and get to fulfill those aforementioned influences with this band.

Chicago has had its share of great bands, and it's such an amazing city! Does the day to day life influence mood and song writing?

Yes it does. I have a love-hate relationship with Chicago. I get tired of the congestion, construction, high taxes, corruption, etc. It's also expensive to live here. On the other hand, I went for a long bike ride yesterday alongside Lake Michigan. About 30 miles or so round trip. The skyline is beautiful and the city has so much history that I take for granted.

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