

The Gospel According to Mojo Nixon



by **Mojo Nixon** as told to **Mike Fy**

San Diego is home to many things, one thing being, **Mojo Nixon** and **Skid Roper**. With Mojo on acoustic guitar and a bellowing southern droll and Skid keeping the beat with his washboard and spoons, always pump out a roots level sound. Whether singing songs like, "Debbie Gibsons Pregnant With My Two Headed Love Child", or touching on a serious subject, humour is always the main objective. On October 9, Edmonton had a chance to witness this performance. Playing to a packed and ecstatic crowd at Bronx, Mojo and Skid did a thumbs-up performance. Earlier that day, Mojo stopped by to enlighten us with his homespun words of wisdom.

This is **Mojo**, how y'all do'in out there? It's not cold enough for me, ya'no I came up here and I brought longjohns, I brought big furry hats, I got toques, I got toques that go on top of toques. And it's not cold yet. I guess it will be. Will it get gnarly cold? And we're going to Moose Jaw, and we're hoping it will be cold there. We're playing there Thursday. (October 12) Playing at some little hotel bar. We hope it's going to be like the **Sex Pistols** at San Antonio. Hopefully there'll be a few people that have heard of us, that will be just delighted. There will be other people, the lookey loos, they'll just be looking to see what's going on. And then there will be the regulars and maybe they'll fight, us or somebody, you know. Not that we encourage violence, you know, we're for creating life and not taking it away. But a little rough-housing isn't bad, you know.

This is the fourth time we've been in Edmonton. We dominate Western Canada, we're going to take over or something. I'm going to be bigger than **Gretzky** or something.

People here, it's like the wild west, especially like, you know, like Colorado or something in the States. People are a lot more open and worried about what kind of haircut they have and all that stuff, I mean some people are, but they don't come to our show. They're at some English phoo-phoo dance hell, or something.

We've been on the road for about two weeks, and things have been going good. We got to eat Canadian Thanksgiving and when we get home we'll eat American Thanksgiving. I feel bloated, I have water weight gain.

The **Elvis** hot-line is still up and still going strong. The number is 619-239-KING. We've got 50,000 calls. At one point in April we were getting 500 calls a day. We're still getting between 10 and 100 calls a day. It's insane, people call up. Somebody from Alberta keeps calling up and saying, Elvis is in...what's this place... Medicine Hat? I don't know where they're calling from, I don't know whether they're in Medicine Hat or Calgary or Edmonton. But there have been quite a few spottings in Medicine Hat. Sightings I should say, spottings sould like something on your face or something. We haven't actually seen Elvis though. We played at the Evil Shopping Mall yesterday; we did an in-store, at the record store. And just by synchronicity, I guess, there was an Elvis impersonator doing a little thing, right around the corner at this restaurant. So, he's in there buying records in the record store while I'm singing the song. So it was great! People were taking pictures trying to get him and me in the same picture. You know we have that song, "Burning Down the Malls", we're going to change it to "Burn Down the Malls, Save the Waterslides".

So, we've got a video out now, "Debbie Gibsons Pregnant With My Two-headed Love Child". And Canada is only one of the two places on the Earth that's playing it. They won't play it in England, they won't play it in Europe, they won't play it in America, but they'll play it in Canada, and Australia. Well, yah, she won't sue me. I mean, her Mom, I imagine and her lawyers. Her Dad is a lawyer for Atlantic. So, she'd tied in tight there. That was part of the reason that MTV

won't play the video. And the video is very light-hearted. It's not a mean, vicious thing at all. It's like **The Three Stooges**.

Yeah, we believe in all kinds of power. Whatever comes up, crystals, ouija board. You know, I've got these hound-dog shaped crystals that I put up my butt when I channel Elvis. I got those down in San Francisco. You can get the power down there.

We just played up in San Francisco. I was good, but in San Francisco everybody's too hip. You gotta kind of slap 'em upside the head a coupla times, but they come back to earth. They're all from Iowa or somewhere and they move to San Francisco and they get the weird haircut and they get all depressed and start reading like Bukowski books or something, and they get too hip. But you just go "baaah, baaah" and they come right back to you. Y'all probably got a few sheep up here too, right? One or two?

So, we have a new album out, *Root Hog or Die*. Selling great! We're about to eclipse **Bryan Adams** and who else do you have...?

Michael J. Fox is big, but if he puts an album out, I'm gonna chop his head off. He's short too, you know. And people say he's anti-Elvis and should I be afraid of him, but I say no! He's a midget and I'm not afraid of no midgets.

We were up here in Edmonton last time when Wayne Gretzky was getting married and it was in all the papers. Y'all must have been pretty embarrassed about that stuff.



"I think that I'm too stupid to sell out, I'm just too crazy, there's too many wild hairs up my butt."

