

Nomeansno means no means no

lie in the male-dominated world are manifested in the sexual act, our society's view of sex, and the way children are brought up to be a sex. It exists on all levels." Pretty contemplative stuff.

Wednesday night was Nomeansno's last show on a lengthy tour. I don't know if the road was wearing them out, or if Edmonton's cold weather had gotten to them, but they weren't as energetic as I've seen them in the past. Usually they never stop leaping about, and continually twist their faces into the weirdest shapes. But even a subdued Nomeansno put on a heck of a show. They're always very well-rehearsed, so they knew exactly where they were in their incredibly-complex songs.

Highlights of the show were "Dark Ages" (about the crumbling of society) and "Victory" (about the struggle to keep friendships going). I just wish they hadn't skipped my

personal fave, "Real Love." My only complaint is that the sound man had the volume set a tad high.

Anyone who says there's no intelligence in "punk" music simply has not seen this band. They never fail to put on a great show that leaves one with something to think about after the sweat clears.

The Minneapolis-based Bone Club opened up for Nomeansno. They reminded me a lot of The Cult, with a touch of Alice Cooper in the vocals. Musically, they have a very complex sound. Several of Edmonton's local bands could take a lesson from their judicious use of effects and interesting riffs. It seemed like no two chords were alike in the entire set. However, they could have had a bit more to say vocally. Often the lyrics were lost in the mix, but what I did hear sounded a bit repetitive. But not bad for such a young band. We'll certainly hear more from them in the future.



Clive Oshry

John Wright of Nomeansno pounds the skins (far left) after Andrew Arashiba of Bone Club turned up the audience for him last Wednesday at crackerjacks.

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