

A cheezy, typical, bad band interview by SPUD

Last Thursday I ventured into the Richmond to interview one Soma Holiday, a hip new band (note the traditional band-in-the-graveyard photo). The Soma's consist of P.J. Hakimi on drums, Chris Haynes on guitar, Michelle McTamane on vocal chords, and Rob Sansom on the bass guitar. When I arrived, I was conducted into a darkened room smelling of incense, then I was handed a cold beer. The interview took place over more cold beer and more bad incense.

SPUD: So where did you get the name Soma Holiday?

Chris: Soma Holiday is from Aldous Huxley's novel, *Brave New World*. Soma is a drug the government gives to everyone. It's a psychedelic that makes people get peaceful and love everyone, very similar to Ecstasy.

SPUD: So what's a Soma Holiday?

Chris: OK, if someone can't fuction in Huxley's society because of anxiety, jealousy or tension, they take enough Soma to have a day-long trip that cleanses them and allows them to return to society free of worries or fears.

SPUD: So the day-long trip is a Soma Holiday?

Chris: Yeah, it's sort of like going to Tahoe for the weekend. We thought it tied in with our country's escapist mentality.

SPUD: How long have you guys been playing together?

Chris: Me and Michelle have been playing together for three years. Rob has been with us since last May and P.J. since October.

SPUD: What kind of food do you like?

No Response.

SPUD: Is this a vegetarian band?

P.J.: No

Michelle: No, we have tribal meat rituals.

SPUD: So you're a band of meat eaters?

Michelle: No, not really.

SPUD: Do you play better on meat?

Chris: Sure, we're beef powered.

P.J.: Then can we change our name to Captain Beef Power?

Rob: There's already a band with that name on Warner Bros.

SPUD: Really?

Rob: I've seen K-TEL advertise them.

SPUD: Your band hasn't been to Texas yet, have you?

P.J.: No.

SPUD: Do you want to play Texas?

Chris: First chance we get, man. We're gonna go to the home of the BUTTHOLE SURFERS, the finest band to come out of that state, maybe the whole world.

SPUD: They'd like you in Texas.

Rob: Hey, they like us in Mis-

issippi.

Chris: Do they?

Michelle: At least one grandma.

Rob: And my cousin Richard and his wife Beth.

Michelle: We have a big senior citizen following.

SPUD: They're not a minority anymore, you know.

Chris: Yeah, we play that geriatric rock.

SPUD: Have you made a record yet?

P.J.: No.

Michelle: We make tapes for our parents, though.

SPUD: Then you consider this a business venture, playing in a band?

Chris: Right now it's more like a non-profit organization.

SPUD: What's your background, P.J.?

P.J.: I don't have one.

SPUD: How'd you get interested in this gig?

P.J.: I listened to a lot of the Clash.

Michelle: So you're trying to

hold them responsible?

P.J.: Yeah, I guess we could blame them.

SPUD: What did you like as a kid, Michelle?

Michelle: I liked KISS. I sung along with all their songs.

SPUD: So you guys know a lot of KISS?

Chris: Every note. We're going to do a whole album of KISS covers.

Michelle: Man, band interviews are stupid. Aren't you going to ask us any important questions?

SPUD: Okay. What's your favorite TV show?

No Response.

SPUD: Alright. You win. Do you have any political beliefs?

P.J.: No.

Rob: Yeah, kill the poor.

P.J.: Kill everything, you mean.

Rob: Sure, kill everything, then there's no more worries.

SPUD: That would be a Soma Holiday?

Chris: That's right.

Soma Holiday will be performing at Lipps on May 9th. Draft beer is only fifty cents, according to Chris Haynes.

