

Tangerine

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Empire - Tangerine has been able to achieve in just 1 year what seems to take most bands a good part of a life time. In your opinion, what has helped you gain that level of exposure and expectance?

TONY: We had a goal set from the very beginning with this band. And that goal was if we're going to do it, we're going to do with precision and at full-throttle. Kind of like the whole 'taking the bull by the horns' approach. It all kind of started by us managing to somehow get ourselves involved in a bunch of large Pittsburgh events right off the bat. This got our name out there fast and put us in front of some pretty decent crowds right away. We then started hitting up the local press and radio, who both were very responsive and supportive as well. From that point we just kept up this type of momentum, and eventually just started moving it into other areas.

The band has performed in many far flung places. From Cleveland and New York to Toronto and LA., what has it been like playing in those kind of places, away from the security of a home town crowd?

TONY: Well, we're all about branching out as much possible, especially in the places where things can happen. A lot of bands have a tendency of finding sanctuary within the places they live, but since none of us really have anything here to hold us back, we basically just set our sites high, and do it. Like I said before, in the beginning we pounded Pittsburgh pretty hard, but now we're only play here once or twice a month. This seems to be helping us with the turnout of our overall local attendance, (because we're not playing here every weekend) and it also allows us to focus more of our attention on expanding into other regions. Toronto's been good to us and we love the amount of support we receive from not only the venues, but from the people who come out to see us as well. As for New York, well ever since the city enforced the no-smoking law in the clubs, it's been a bit sporadic up there lately with audiences. But, hey, it's New York, you gotta play it. As for LA, well we had a blast. That was an extremely successful little run for us and we're already planning on doing again before December.



I'm willing to bet you have at least one crazy "band on the road" story?

TONY: hahaha.... Oh, we have *many*. Let's just say that we've seen and done a lot of interesting things within a one years time period... and most of it started in 2003. We had a great time in LA. We did the whole nine. Hung out with Rock Stars, Porn Stars, and Movie Stars. Scott might be able to fill you in a little better on the craziness that seems to follow us around.

Could you give us your take on the sound and style of Tangerine?

TONY: You know, I say this all the time and sooner or later I should probably figure out something better to say, but I honestly just think we sound like Tangerine. I mean, I don't really get how so many people say we sound so much different than everyone else. We get

compared to The Church & Pink Floyd a lot, but I don't know if I necessarily agree with that, considering that I don't really know much about The Church and I never was a huge Floyd fan. I don't feel that the influences within the band itself necessarily holds any precedence over the style of music we play. I mean, maybe it could be that we're just a melting pot of differences that just seems to sound right together. I dunno, I guess Pop/Rock?(laugh)

What are your hopes for the band? Are you looking for label support or are you content stay independent?

TONY: There's no question that each of us want the success of this band. We've all made a lot of sacrifices for it already and I don't think we would continue to do so if we all didn't believe in it. Getting label support of any scale, whether major or minor, would without a doubt be a good thing for us. It would allow us to expand into a lot of hard to reach areas. But I think the trick of it all is finding the right one who not only believes in you and will push you, but also believes in the art you're trying to convey as well.

A new album is in the works? Can you please let us know all about that? When can we expect it?

TONY: If all goes as planned, our new album should be out by the end of August. It will feature 7 new songs and 3 songs that we originally released on our debut EP (Elastic World, Changes*(remix)*, and 24 Miles). This albums been in the works for quit awhile now, since October of 2002 I believe, but is

finally shaping up to be something that was well worth the wait. Personally, I feel that this album is going to bury our debut EP by 10 fold. Just in the dynamics and the songs craftsmanship alone, I think it's going to be very difficult album for us to top. It seems to have that little something for everyone to be able to relate to.

How does the writing process work with Tangerine? Is a group effort or does each member do their own thing and bring it in?

TONY: Well, as of now, I've brought all of our original material to the table with the lyrics intact and the songs blueprint on the guitar. I guess everyone who's played on these songs has contributed

musically in one way or another, however with Tangerine's continuous "revolving door" problem, it's hard to say who has actually contributed what to what. As of now, Scott and I are the last two originals left from when we first came out onto the Pittsburgh scene in mid-2002.

Anything you want to add, Thanks, show dates, web addresses, etc.

TONY: I'd like to thank everyone out there who's shown us their support. Everything that has happened for us is because of people like them. Supporting local and unsigned musicians, although it seems like it's becoming a dying cause anymore, is still a wonderful thing. Everybody's trying to get somewhere and chances are, even your favorite bands started there. If it wasn't for those people in the beginning, they may have never gotten to where they are today.



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