

# Red Hot Chili Peppers

VOL. 1 #4



TRAGEDY

LINDA LABAN CHARTS THE CHILI PEPPER'S  
CAREER FROM ITS FUNK-PUNK BEGINNINGS  
TO TODAY'S HIT SINGLES. PART 3.

THE BAND PLAYED THEIR FIRST GIG OUTSIDE THE U.S. AT A FESTIVAL IN GERMANY. THEN THEY TOOK A SHORT SABBATICAL WHILE DRUMMER MARTINEZ LEFT AND ORIGINAL MEMBER JACK IRONS REJOINED. AFTER MUCH THOUGHT, THEY APPROACHED MICHAEL BEINHORN (A COHORT OF BILL LA SWELL) TO PRODUCE THEIR NEXT ALBUM.

WHAT DIDN'T APPEAR FOR A FULL TWO YEARS AFTER THE SECOND ALBUM, THOUGH, A PERIOD WHICH THE BAND USED TO BOOST THEIR LIVE FOLLOWING ON THE U.S. CLUB CIRCUIT, AND TO FINE TUNE THEIR SOUND. WHEN THE UPLIFT MOFO PARTY PLAN: FINALLY APPEARED, IT DISPLAYED A DECIDEDLY ROCKIER FEEL THAN THEIR EARLIER WORK; IN PLACE OF THE SOUL COVERS THEY'D PREVIOUSLY RECORDED, THERE WAS A HARD AND HEAVY VERSION OF BOB DYLAN'S "SUBTERRANEAN HOME SICK BLUES". THE SHIFT IN STYLE WORKED: WITHIN TWO MONTHS THE UPLIFT MOFO PARTY PLAN HAD SOLD MORE COPIES THAN ITS TWO PREDECESSORS COMBINED.

THE LEAD SINGLE FROM THE ALBUM HAD ALREADY REACHED THE SHOPS WHEN THE LP APPEARED. "FIGHT LIKE A BRAVE", WHICH IN RETROSPECT ISN'T THAT FAR REMOVED FROM THE MUSIC THAT THE BEASTIE BOYS WERE MAKING AROUND THE SAME TIME, WAS BACKED BY A SPEEDY COVER OF JIMI HENDRIX'S "FIRE", WHILE THE 12" FEATURED SOME ADDITIONAL MIXES OF THE A-SIDE. TO PROMOTE THE SINGLE, THE BAND PLAYED SOME U.K. CLUB DATES.

THEN IN MAY 1988, THE BAND ISSUED THE INFAMOUS "ABBEY ROAD" EP. THE COVER OF RECORD DEPICTED THE CHILIS ON THAT LEGENDARY ZEBRA CROSSING OUTSIDE THE ABBEY ROAD STUDIOS, WHERE THAT OTHER FAB FOUR, THE BEATLES, HAD POSED A COUPLE DECADES EARLIER. IN 1969, PAUL MCCARTNEY HAD WORN NO SOCKS; THIS TIME AROUND, THE BAND WERE TOTALLY NAKED APART FROM THOSE SAME ARTICLES OF CLOTHING!

THE EP CAME IN 7" AND 12" FORMATS, WITH THE LEAD TRACK BEING "BACK WOODS" FROM THEIR THIRD ALBUM, SUPPORTED BY "HOLLYWOOD (AFRICA)" AND "TRUE MEN DON'T KILL COYOTES" FROM THEIR DEBUT. THE BONUS TRACK ON THE 12" WAS "CATHOLIC SCHOOL GIRLS RULE" FROM THE SECOND LP. THE BAND SUPPORTED THE RELEASE BY PLAYING LIVE DATES IN MANCHESTER, BRISTOL AND LONDON, CASHING IN ON THE PROMOTION WHICH THEIR DECIDEDLY UNUSUAL PUBLICITY PHOTOS HAD SPAWNED.

EVERYTHING SEEMED SET FOR SUCCESS: THEN TRAGEDY STRUCK. BACK IN THE STATES IN JUNE, HILLEL SLOVAK DIED FROM AN ACCIDENTAL HEROIN OVERDOSE, AT THE AGE OF TWENTY FIVE. THIS WAS A SEVERE BLOW TO THE REST OF THE BAND, WHICH MADE THEM SIT BACK AND EXAMINE THEIR OWN LIFESTYLES AND THE GROUP'S FUTURE. JACK IRONS DECIDED THINGS HAD GONE FAR ENOUGH, AND LEFT THE CHILI PEPPERS.

FLEA AND ANTWAN DECIDED TO KEEP THE GROUP GOING, HOWEVER, AND HOSTED AUDITIONS TO FIND TWO NEW MEMBERS. THEY EVENTUALLY HIRED NINETEEN-YEAR-OLD GUITARIST JOHN FRUSCIANTE FROM CALIFORNIA, A BIG FAN WHO ALREADY KNEW ALL THE BAND'S SONGS BY HEART, AND TWENTY-SIX-YEAR-OLD CHAD SMITH FROM DETROIT ON DRUMS.

BY THE SPRING OF LAST YEAR, THIS NEW LINE-UP HAD COMPLETED WORK ON THE BAND'S FOURTH ALBUM, "MOTHERS MILK". ONCE AGAIN, MICHAEL BEINHORN WAS THE PRODUCER OF THE RECORD, WHICH APPEARED IN THE U.K. IN AUGUST.

THE ALBUM CONTAINED ELEVEN ORIGINAL COMPOSITIONS PLUS TWO COVERS, STEVIE WONDER'S "HIGHER GROUND" AND JIMI HENDRIX'S "FIRE". THE LATTER, OF COURSE, FEATURED HILLEL SLOVAK ON GUITAR, AND HIS ARTISTIC TALENT COULD ALSO BE ADMIRERD ON THE BACK COVER, WHICH DISPLAYED ONE OF HIS IMPRESSIONISTIC PAINTINGS. FLEA'S ABILITIES AS A TRUMPET PLAYER COULD BE HEARD ON THE THREE TRACKS, "TASTE THE PAIN", "PRETTY LITTLE DITTY", AND "SUBWAY TO VENUS".

END OF PART THREE OF A THREE  
PART SERIES.

## Discography

## EMI Stock Numbers

	CD	Tape
Red Hot Chili Peppers	E2-90616	E4-90616
Freaky Styley	E2-90617	E4-90617
Uplift Mofo Party Plan	E2-48036	E4-48036
Road E.P.	E2-90869	E4-90869
Mother's Milk	E2-92152	E4-92152
Taste The Pain CD5	E2-50285	N/A





# FANT FARMS

MY HAND IS ON THE PAPER BUT MY BRAIN IS ORBITING PLUTO. WE (ME AND THE BOYS) ARE POISED ON THE VERGE OF ~~THE~~ SPLURGING AND PURGING OUR GUTS ONTO WAX. LET THE PROCESS OF SPECTACULAR AND MAGICAL MUSIC CREATION BEGIN (WE START RECORDING TOMORROW). FOR THE NEXT 2-3 MONTHS WE (ME AND THE BOYS) WILL BECOME FUTURISTIC CAVE DWELLERS WITH REASON TO EMERGE UNTIL WE HAVE COMPLETED THE ~~RECORDING~~ WATER, FOOD AND A 24 HOUR CALENDAR OF TRANVESTITE DANCERS WILL PROVIDED FROM WITHIN THE RECORD COMPOUND ON A PERSONAL LEVEL BUT SOMETHING TELLS ME THAT LIFE RESEMBLES THE FRACTURE LAST MUCH LONGER. MY THUMB IS ON THE MOVE, AND IT'S TIME TO REMOVE MY HAND FROM YOUR GOOD BYE. and GOOD SMITTINS,

(B)

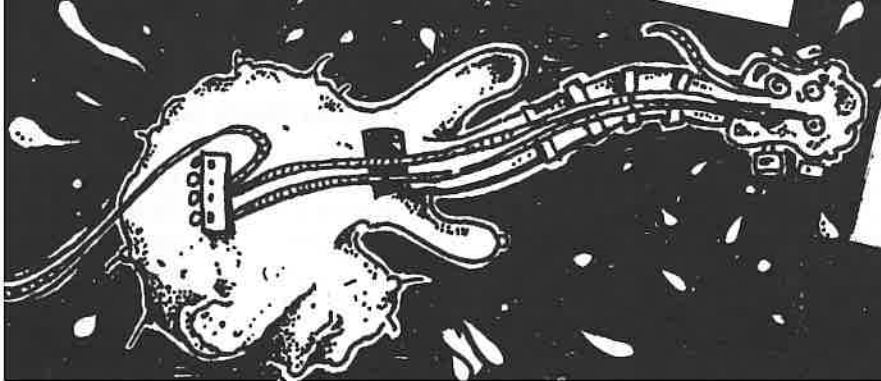
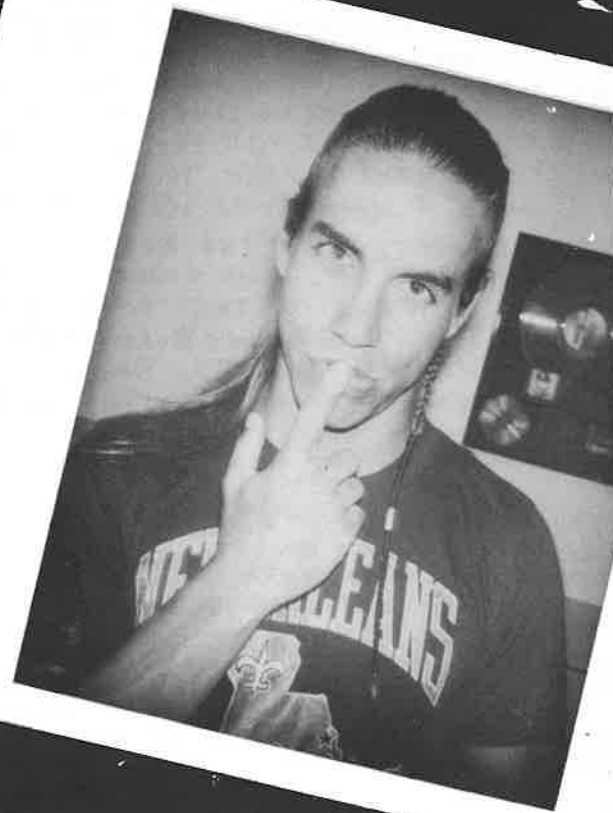


From the desk of a:

## Rock From Abandon

Well, Well, Well...

letter #4 already. I wish I could think of something funny + witty to write, but ~~let's~~ let's see humm. ~~by~~ by the time you read this, we'll be recording our new record. we've got a shit load of tunes to rock. Needless to say, we're all very excited to commence on ~~the~~ which is sure to be our finest moment. I don't think one of you breaks will be disappointed! I gotta tell you that making music with people has to be one of the most fulfilling things in life. you gotta try it some time, well, gotta go - no more space. well, GYA soon, Love!

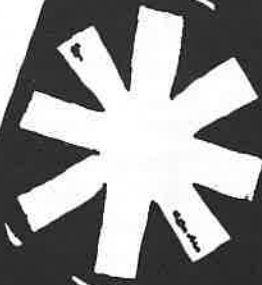




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I am now locked into the  
fourth dimension happily for the next  
two-three months solid. I find it  
difficult to express any of it  
verbally because the emotional shapes  
are glowing in a beautiful Godly  
way in my Spirit/body/head  
and all my eye can see is the  
powerful gorgeous beauty in the spirits  
of FLEA/ANTHONY/CHAD/ME  
I am blinded to the ~~billboards~~ ~~and especially~~ ~~ugliness~~ ~~of our~~ ~~outside~~ ~~house~~ ~~recording~~ ~~studio~~ ~~magical~~ ~~castle~~ ~~SLIKE~~ ~~said~~ ~~this flow~~ ~~is beyond words~~ ~~so I LOVE YOU~~ ~~and have a wonderful~~ ~~evening.~~ ~~P.S. Have a wonderful~~ ~~day too.~~



FUNKY FREAKS

Dear Friends—

I am sitting in the open sunshine, there is a slight breeze and I am on top of a wall of the second level of the glorious mansion in the Hollywood Hills that we are recording our record at. I just had a bath, but had to keep my right foot out because I broke it playing basketball a couple of days ago and it is in a cast. ~~TODAY~~ is a big day. It is the day that we begin recording our new album. A day for us to really open ourselves up and be receptacles for all the energy in the atmosphere. Let the tape roll. Hallelujah, I love you, Four funky freaks feeling and flirting and fornicating ~~with~~ and farming the FUNK.

Go listen to Charlie Mingus  
you crazy knuckleheads  
Better Get it in your soul

Concentrate your energies  
on us making a good record ~~at~~  
least an hour a day please. LOVE,  
FLEA



People For The Ethical Treatment Of Animals

As many as 14 million innocent animals die excruciating, agonizing, and tortured deaths from cosmetics and household product testing. Tests that many prominent researchers and scientists from around the world have criticized as worthless, unnecessary, and inaccurate. For example, terrified rabbits are held fast in stocks while skin lotions and fragrances are squeezed into their eyes with a syringe and other animals go through hideous death throes from toxic effects of massive, forced inhalation of hairsprays and aerosol deodorants, or from being force-fed household cleansers. More reliable, effective and even cheaper alternatives to testing on animals such as skin patch tests, computer models, and organ, tissue and cell culture tests are already available but ignorance and the vested financial interests of those involved in the multi-billion dollar animal supply industry have slowed the growth of these humane testing methods and the Cosmetic, Toiletry and Fragrance Association (CTFA) which represents these manufacturers refuse to even consider alternatives.

There is something you can do to stop this cruelty as a consumer. Do your homework, find out what companies test on animals and boycott them, write to them and let them know why you refuse to buy their products. Support the many companies out there who already produce safe and cruelty-free products. To get information call or write:

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