



Bio & Press Kit

Tragedy: All Metal Tribute to the Bee Gees and Beyond, has changed the face of music forever. Tragedy takes your favorite Bee Gees, disco and soft-rock classics and reinvents them in a Heavy Metal fashion. The result is aural ecstasy. You may enter the Tragedy experience unaware of your latent appreciation for gooey soft rock or flamboyant metal, but you shall emerge forever humbled by the greatness of Tragedy (and covered in glitter!).

Tragedy has sold out venues like Bowery Ballroom, Brooklyn Bowl and Terminal 5 in their hometown of NYC, as well as those in far-away lands such as London, Glasgow, Disneyland, Austin, Boston, DC, Tampa and Guilfest (with Motorhead).

Tragedy has released two critically acclaimed albums: We Rock Sweet Balls and Can Do No Wrong and Humbled By Our Greatness. Production for their third, Death to False Disco-Metal, is underway.

"Tragedy manage to dwell in the realm of novelty while far exceeding their worth as a concept... the aesthetic is somewhere in between the flamboyance of the disco-era Bee Gees and the flamboyance of mid-eighties hair metal, with some extra flamboyance thrown in for the sake of flamboyance."

Tiny Mix Tapes

"Hard riffs, tight white flares, and even tighter octave-scraping harmonies...essential listening."

The Sun, UK

"Everyone from Feist to Tom Jones has covered the disco hits of the Bee Gees, but perhaps no one does those gooey soft-rock numbers better than Tragedy...Shiny costumes, dramatic eye makeup and headbanging hilarity..."

Village Voice

"Back in the dark days of disco, the Bee Gees were the shit, despite having massive teeth, bigger hair and a falsetto only dogs could hear...with the righteous power of heavy metal, We Rock Sweet Balls and Can Do No Wrong mixes Guns 'N' Roses swagger, the Scorpions' sense of pomp and Judas Priest-esque vocals to create a sound that is exactly like The Darkness!"

Kerrang





"Now...will this next album prove to be a classic? Well that depends upon how much of a sense of the ridiculous you have - the album title is a classic all right: "We Rock Sweet Balls and Can Do No Wrong" they are great fun!

Don't you just love it?...an 8 piece band from New York, supposed to be a hoot live, check them out on the upcoming UK tour- good night out!"



Tragedy - A Metal Tribute to the Bee Gees Live Review @ Wulfrun Hall (Wolverhampton) - 68

Live Review

Tragedy - Heavy Metal Bee Gees. It shouldn't work, but it does.

Tragedy are first and foremost a 5 piece metal band (+ 3 backing) and secondly a Bee Gees tribute band. In fact they do themselves something of an injustice by calling Tragedy a tribute band. They transcend tribute. They take tribute to another level, they are more like a heavy metal homage to the Bee Gees. Think Guns N Roses meets Spinal Tap, a good dollop of twisted sister, a smattering of Whitesnake, a lash of Zeppelin, oh yes, and a there's some Bee Goes in the mix too, but it's hardly recognisable. Glam rock lives

I strongly suspected that this all started as a joke, but quickly turned into something else, something genuinely clever, if completely barking mad. This was confirmed by Jake (Barry Glibb) after the show: "We were only supposed to do two gigs supporting a Neil Diamond tribute, but it just took on a life". Tragedy may well have defined a new genre of crossover tribute bands which, when followed to its logical conclusion probably means we will be seeing a Punk Rock Barry Manifow somewhere down the

The Wulfrun Hall in Wolverhampton is the venue. Tragedy are supporting Wildhearts tonight, as they are for most of this short tour, but they will also be in support of Electric Six at the Shepherds Bush Empire in London on the 12th December. I sensed that the audience was, at first, unsure if they should like them, but this uncertainty only lasted for a minute or so. It's a shame the tour isn't longer to give more people a chance to witness the utterfy brilliant madness of Tragedy for themselves. The tour promotes their superbly titled album "We rock sweet balls and can do no wrong". Clearly Tragedy are a group of very accomplished musicians who have accidentally discovered that extremely well executed metal arrangements of the disco gods classics makes for not only a great sound, but also a brilliant night out. Stunning rock vocals combined with heavy metal riffs, in a parallel universe this is what the Bee Gees would sound like

Speaking with Jake, it's clear that Tragedy genuinely enjoy doing what they do. They are serious about their music and their sense of fun infects the audience and carries you along with the joke/beilliance of it all. Get to one of their gigs if you can and don't wait for permission to enjoy them. You will witness something fabulous, Stayin' Alive, five Talkin', Night Fever and You should Be Duncing, amongst a host of other hits, performed as you have never heard them and, may I say, all the better for it. Go in the right frame of mind and you simply cannot fail to enjoy them.

TRAGEDY We Rock Sweet Balls And Can Do No Wrang

AT last - a heavy metal tribute

to the Bee Gees

Hard riffs, tight white flares and even tighter, octave-scraping harmonies. Of scraping harmonies. Of course Too Much Heaven should be underpinned by Led Zep's Kashmir, obvious innit?

And the Tap-esque monologue on You Should Be Dancing is essential listening. New Yorkers Tragedy must

e a hoot live - they open for The Wildhearts and A on their current UK tour this week.

Whether this can sustain several depends on your sense of humour/level of intoxication, but it's a must for the Christmas party.

Easily the best metal Bee Gees tribute band I've ever heard.





Tragedy Photo: Dale May. link



Ones To Watch 2009

ROCK SOUND

Ginger, The Wildhearts picks Tragedy
"I think Tragedy will set the world on fire in 2009. They will
then douse the flames with melody, evacuate the building
with smoldering riffs, assess the fire damage with stylish
presentation and collect the insurance with pomp and
majesty. Pomp, you say? Yes, that's right buddy. Pomp."

www.letsmaketragedyhappen.com



or follow up recipie to be called. Write Hot And Evyrybody Wurbs to Bang Unit' (aught rection Gibbons from NYCs Bee Corel heavy metal tribute town Tragety.)

Doe of the most curious ballsts to energy of late. Trapedy release their debut about We Rock Sweet Balls And Can Do No Wrong through Round Records - the label owned by Ginger of The Wildhearts. According to the Robin. Trapedy came about before They'd even played a gic - with their first supporting Signer Diamond - you purched it, a Neil Diamond Creams band and your parent, social scarrey for cancept his proven to be a massive hit on the NY scace almady and now it's the UK's him to see them live when they support the Wildhearts on their UK laur in December.

So far, the Gob brothers have yet to hear the heavy metar renditions, but according to Robin their new versions are better!

"As good as the songs are, they didn't really kick ass until we book hold of them," he laughs. "I don't want 16 sound like a jerk, I've always liked the Bre Gegs, but I've payer thought too much about them because you hade fower and up to the my use, best is given being and have a chupkle when Stayler Alive' comes on. Since we started the bood everywhere I go, whether it be the supermarket, the taxt the drug store, you just hear hee Gees music everywhere and it never ceases to hit me and it's like. This is alright but it doesn't readly nock' - I prefer listening to our versions!"

'Wir Rock Sweet Balls And Can Do No Wrong' is set on November 10 on Round. Cartch the band live with The Widthearts in December; see gig guide for data. www.myspace.com/fetsmaketragedyhappen TRAGEDY
'WE ROCK SWEET
BALLS AND CAN DO NO WRONG'



Some things really do not go together - like chocolate and cheese, SSM and mans, and now the Bee Gees and metal should be added to that list.

[9]

Strangely, this New York eight-piece manage to get away with it, albeit with their tongue firmly planted in their (massive) cheek. Their re-working of the falsetto three's classic tracks, which includes 'Jive Talking', 'Night Fever' and 'Tragedy', is done with all the spirit and aplomb of 80s glam. Like disco night at LA's legendary rock haunt The Rainbow, this will have you digging out the spandex and glitterballs.

FOR FANS OF: 80s hair metal, whiskey and having a good time.

www.myspace.com/letsmaketragedyhappen BONNIE KERSWELL

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headbangers ball

PRESS

Tragedy Mix Bee Gees with '80s Heavy Metal and Don't Suck 03/5/2008





"We Rock Sweet Balls and Can Do No Wrong."

The words on the CD cover are written in the same font as Iron Maiden's logo and above the statement there's a picture of a lightning storm bursting from a disco ball and striking a multicolor dancefloor that seems to be bursting into flames. The album is by Tragedy and it's described right under the logo as "an All Metal Tribute to the Bee Gees."

Is this a joke? Maybe, but six dudes in the New York band are laughing all the way to the fiery gates of hell. We Rock Sweet Balls and Can do No Wrong features 10 Bee Gees songs treated with various shades of metal. "Stayin' Alive" is sleazy, bluesy Motley Crue crossed with Guns N' Roses, but with a Judas Priest Chorus, "How Deep is Your Love" sounds like The Darkness if they actually had rocked sweet balls and "Night Fever" features a riff reminiscent of Scorpions' "Rock You Like a Hurricane" and ends with the chant "Here I am!" Pretty entertaining stuff, and their shows are supposedly a scream.

If you're in the city that never sleeps, find out for yourself at the band's record release party on March 22 at The Highline Ballroom. The heralded event also features the tribute bands Unchained (Van Halen), Theater of Pain (Motley Crue) and Kiss Nation.

Now, we're not super-big on tribute bands and we thought we would have been the last ones to agree that the Bee Gees can coexist peacefully in any way, shape or form with heavy metal. Hell, we remember the days we used to storm around our elementary school lunchroom chanting, "Disco sucks" and blasting AC/DC on a boombox to annoy anyone who might have preferred "Saturday Night Fever" to "The Kids Are Alright." Then again, we also reveled in reading passages from "The Satanic Bible" aloud in the high school library, but that's another story. And when it comes to rockin' silly and stupid, Tragedy might worth at least one night stand — even if you don't respect yourself in the morning.





ONLINE SHIT THAT MAKES US LAUGH

A METAL TRIBUTE TO THE BEE GEES

Back in the dark days of disco, the Bee Gees were the shit, despite having massive teeth, bigger hair and a falsetto only dogs could hear. Now six New Yorkers have paid tribute to the brothers Gibb in the only way they know how: with the righteous power of heavy metal. Their debut CD, We Rock Sweet Balls And Can Do No Wrong, mixes Guns N'Roses' swagger, the



Scorpions' sense of pomp and Judas Priest-esque vocals to create a sound that is *exactly* like The Darkness.

Find it: www.letsmaketragedyhappen.com

BLENDER

THE ULTIMATE MUSIC MAGAZINE

TRACEDY

New York band gives Bee Gees a metal makeover

A metal Bee Gees cover band, is that what we are talking about?

Yep. "Its a chemistry experiment thats sometimes beautiful, sometimes evil and usually both," says singer-guitarist Peter Kohl, a.k.a. Mo'Royce Peterson.

Who are your fans?

"The concept casts a wide net: people who like metal, people who like the Bee Gees and some who don't like either," Kohl, 27, says. The band performs in white satin and spandex outfits. "We're insanely metrosexual. Some people get really offended."

Offended at metrosexuality?

"People call us 'faggots' a lot," Kohl admits. "One person called us a 'stupid metal-Bee Gees abortion.' It's OK, we embrace the hate." JON COPLON





Bee Gees inspire unlikely musical fusion by Jay Lustig

"There must be some mistake."

Undoubtedly, that's the first thing many people have thought upon seeing the band Tragedy described as a heavy metal Bee Gees tribute act in an ad or concert listing. But, no, it's not a mistake.

A New York-based group named after a 1979 Bee Gees hit, Tragedy specializes in making Bee Gees material -- mostly '70s pop-disco smashes like "Stayin' Alive," "You Should Be Dancing" and "Night Fever" -- sound like Guns N' Roses or AC/DC songs. They will be doing just that at Asbury Lanes in Asbury Park on Saturday.

"When we started this, we were talking about how disco and metal have been at war with each other for our entire lives," says Tragedy singer-guitarist Peter Kohl. "And we thought that if we could just get these two warring factions to the table and have them look each other in the eye and see that all the other really wanted to do was have a sweet party, we would save the world."

The Bee Gees was a trio, featuring brothers Maurice, Barry and Robin Gibb; Maurice died in 2003. In Tragedy, Kohl performs as Mo'Royce Peterson; Phil Costello is Barry Glibb; Jake Szufnarowki is Robin Gibbens. They're joined by drummer Barely Gibb, bassist Gibbous Waning, and three backup singers. When they perform "Shadow Dancing," a 1978 hit for the Gibbs' brother Andy Gibb, Andy Gibbith handles lead vocals.

Kohl, Costello and Szufnarowki formed the band last summer, calling themselves Tragedy because that sounds like a name a heavy-metal band would have. They have made lots of progress in a short period of time, releasing their debut album "We Rock Sweet Balls and Can Do No Wrong" on their own Rocks Off label, and booking a steady stream of gigs up and down the East Coast.

"The concept is a hook," Kohl says. "You don't have to explain it too much -- unlike every other band I've been in, where it's original music. You tell people that it's heavy metal versions of Bee Gees songs, and they get it.

"Most people think it's really funny, but some people just get angry. And it's not Bee Gees fans; it's metal fans. But a lot of metal fans end up liking it. They'll tell us, 'I thought this was the stupidest idea I ever heard. And then I heard it.""

There are countless tribute bands on the club circuit. But few have as daring a concept as Tragedy. Beatallica, which fuses Beatles and Metallica songs, is one. Dread Zeppelin, which plays Led Zeppelin classics over reggae beats (with an Elvis Presley impersonator handling lead vocals), is another. Then there are bands like AC/Dshe and Lez Zeppelin -- all-female tributes to AC/DC and Led Zeppelin, respectively.

Many cover bands appeal to purists: people who want to hear the music they love, faithfully imitated. Fans of a group like Tragedy have to be more open minded. And the musicians have to be experts at the drastically different forms of music they bring together.

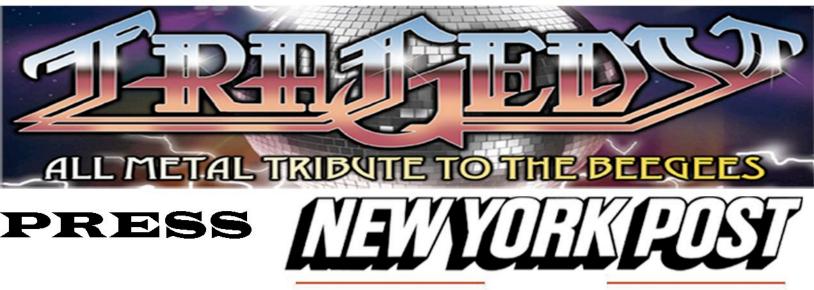
"We've all been dabbling in all kinds of music our whole lives," says Kohl, who has played both disco and metal in his band, Moi? Costello, meanwhile, has been a member of the hard-rock parody band Satanicide as well as Stynx, which is more pop-oriented.

Since the Bee Gees were so prolific, making the Top 40 in every decade from the '60s to the '90s, the potential for Tragedy is almost limitless.

"Right now, it's just building and building," Kohl says. "The Bee Gees are not just disco. Most of the stuff we do is from their disco era, but they started in the '50s, as kids.

"The depth of their catalog can definitely keep us going for a while. Plus, so much of our show is about theatrics -- it's kind of a circus -- and we have so many ideas to keep it going that we haven't been able to pursue yet."





ROCK THE BEE GEES-US OUT

TRAGEDY INFECTS DISCO-ERA CLASSICS WITH A HEADBANGING 'NIGHT FEVER'

By LARRY GETLEN

IF the notion of a band playing heavy metal versions of Bee Gees tunes sounds a bit too deep for your love, rest assured that it could have been worse.

The band Tragedy, who'll play just that at Irving Plaza tonight, initially considered some even stranger musical creations.

"We try to come up with the most wrong thing we can," says Peter Kohl, who performs under the name Mo'Royce Peterson. "I think the wrongest thing we came up with was a heavy metal tribute to Anita Baker."

"We're still threatening to perform one day as Black Abbath - a heavy metal tribute to Abba," adds Jake Szufnarowski, a k a Robin Gibbens.

Tragedy's self-released CD, "We Rock Sweet Balls and Can Do No Wrong," features tortured rock versions of such "Saturday Night Fever" staples as "Stayin' Alive," "Jive Talkin' " and "Night Fever," even ending the latter with a shameless Scorpions callback.

Which leads to the question - with heavy metal and the Bee Gees having as much of a mutual audience as Rush Limbaugh and Michael Moore, how does this act attract an audience?

"People understand the concept when they hear it," says Kohl, who along with his bandmates performs in a white satin jacket, chest bared to the world. "That's unlike most bands, where you have to describe it - 'Oh, it's this meets that, which makes it something else.' We do Bee Gees songs in the style of heavy metal. People get turned on by that."

Well, some people.

"There are serious metal fans who are furious that we call ourselves metal," says Szufnarowski. "We played an after-party for Ween, and there was a strong contingent on their message board who said we're the most horrible band ever. People either totally love us or totally hate us."

But despite the mixed reviews, the band is drawing enough of a cult to play some major venues, and hope to find enough inspiration to give Tragedy a longer life span than white polyester leisure suits.

"We're hoping Barry Gibb gets off his ass and writes some more awesome songs," says Szufnarowski, "cause he's been pretty lazy of late."



The band Tragedy, who'll play just that at Irving Plaza tonight, initially considered some even stranger musical creations.







Puttin' metal to Bee Gees

What would the Bee Gees have sounded like if the trio had been fronted by Axl Rose? You can find out tonight when Tragedy, a metal tribute to the Bee Gees from New York, plays a gig at the Middle East Downstairs. Tragedy's version of "Jive Talkin'" is as hard-driving as "Welcome to the Jungle." Its rendition of "You Should Be Dancing" is as singable as "Sweet Child O' Mine." Joining Tragedy will be Appetite for Destruction, a Guns N' Roses tribute act that sticks to songs by Guns N' Roses. 8 p.m. \$15. Middle East Downstairs, 480 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. 617-864-3278. mideastclub.com



VOICE

Everyone from Feist to Tom Jones has covered the disco hits of the Bee Gees, but perhaps no one does those gooey soft rock numbers better than Tragedy, three shaggy-haired men who perform frenzied, screaming, heavy metal renditions, everything from "Stayin Alive" to "How Deep Is your Love" Tonight they bring their shiny costumes, dramatic eye makeup, and head banging hilarity to the ultimate cover band showdown, Tribute Wars XX.



TRAGEDY, "a metal tribute to the Bee Gees," which has to be heard to be believed. We would stab ourselves in the face before we'd miss Tragedy.

During a trip to South America, I saw a bunch of Guatemalans busting out a tepid ensemble version of "How deep



Is Your Love" on panpipes for spare change. I left believing I had just witnessed the definitive Bee Gees cover band. How wrong I was. Seeing them helped prepare me for the sprawling production of white spandex and orangey chest hair that has made Mo'Royce Peterson and Tragedy the world's finest Bee Gees metal cover band. They were made for this column.

Err...why are you doing this?

We love disco, we love the Bee Gees, we love metal. We just made a Reese's cup out of it.



Some of the songs sound like metal songs; some are easy to adapt. The attitude is similar. Some of the lyrics sound like they could be in a metal song.

Any ones in particular?

"You Should Be Dancing". "She's juicy and she's trouble/she gives it to me good/my woman give me power/goes right down to my blood"

Do other bands frown on your disco-metal perversions?

The bands we've played with have been funny hair-metal kinds of bands. Some people love it, some people hate it. Disco sucks. I'm not saying that, but that's how a lot of people feel. Maybe the Bee gees didn't get it quite right.

What would the Brothers Gibb think of crowds raging out to a metal "Night Fever"? I don't know what their reaction would be. We hope they would take it the right way. We adore what they did. So much of glam metal is being ridiculous. When we are being ridiculous, we aren't making fun of the Bee gees, we're just being metal.

What would you say to Barry Gibb if you met him?

I would just give him a big hug...and let him do the talking.



DEFEND YOURSELF!

TRAGEDY: AN ALL-METAL TRIBUTE TO THE BEE GEES By Martin Caballero



Froklyn + soundbites



Metal. It's an genre I know almost nothing about, though I once had to fill in for my college radio station's metal show once, all I remember is getting requests from the State Prison. Double kick drums have no place in my life, apart from banging on the floor at 3am to ask my otherwise nice downstairs neighbor to "turn that shit down."

Luckily, this isn't really about metal, it's about novelty metal. Sunday night, the Highline Ballroom brought together not one, not two, not three, but four of our area's finest examples of metal schtick. I only saw one of them, actually. I missed Boyz Nite (known for their "Die Hard" song), Queen Diamond (teenage girl King Diamond tribute) and Beatallica (you can figure it out). I came specifically to see Tragedy, the Number One All-Metal Beegees Tribute Band in the Tri-State Area.

Tragedy are pretty much a one joke band but they do it very well, with scripted between-song banter, backup singers, and shiny white suits. More importantly these guys are all great musicians -- some of whom are in the funny, glammy Moi?, others have done the metal tribute schtick before with Hair Supply -- and make the covers worthy of writhing on the hood of a car.

Their only real obstacle to world dominance is their name, which has already been claimed by a crustcore (new term to me) band from Portland. At least one of that group's devoted fans mistakenly drove from Pittsburgh to see the wrong group -- and you can read his angry email on their MySpace page. (If you guys do have to change your name, may I suggest "Tragedidy" which is what I, as a kid, always thought they were saying.) While last night's gig made perfect sense, Tragedy's other upcoming shows are opening for legit bands ranging from real metal-ers Satancide to jam band Umphree's McGee. And if so inclined you can also buy an MP3 of their version of "Stayin' Alive" -- for fifty bucks. Some more face-melting shots from last night's action after the jump.





They started a joke. Tragedy bring the Brothers Gibb into the hard rock hair era.

Jive you like a hurricane

With Tragedy, Bee Gees become metal

INTERVIEW. The Bee Gees are that rare band whose music is timeless but simultaneously rooted firmly in its specific era. Can you imagine the brothers Gibb and company "Jive Talkin'" their way through the metal '80s, for example? Well, you won't have to imagine anymore, because New York City's Tragedy, "The No. 1 Heavy Metal Bee Gees Tribute in the Tri-State Area," have stumbled across a formula so ingenious it's hard to believe no one has thought of it before. Metro took a peek behind the curtain with Tragedy singer/ guitarist Mo'Royce Peterson.

How did you first get the idea to combine the Bee Gees with metal? It seems incongruous at first, but totally works.

I was running one way with disco in my hands and Brother Barry was running the other way with metal in his hands when we crashed into each other. "You got your disco in my metal"... "You got your metal in my disco"... And it tasted great. We were big fans of both genres and found that a lot of the Bee Gees' songs really lend themselves to metal with lyrics like "she's juicy and she's trouble, she gives it to me good" and "I get low and I get high and if I can't get either, I really try".

What specific style of metal do you bring to the songs, or do you run the gamut?

We are heavily influenced by British metal of the 70's and 80's, i.e., Judas Priest, Iron Maiden, and a lot of LA metal like Van Halen and Motley Crue. We also do the occasional nod to Nu-Metal.

Do you think most of their songs are so good they could be played in any style and it would still rule?

The Bee Gees' songs really are amazing - beautifully crafted, great lyrics. But, a great song can be ruined. It's all in the interpretation, not so much a matter of genre. We have heard plenty of terrible attempts at Bee Gees covers in any number of genres.

How far do you all get into playing a character on stage? How about offstage? Does the Bee Gees virus carry over into every day life? Brother Barry's beard is all too real - with parasites, stray pubes and Bee Gees viruses. We don't pretend to be the Bee Gees. We are Tragedy. We rock sweet balls and can do no wrong.

Is there a moment when you can see recognition spreading across the faces in an audience that may not be familiar with the band when they realize what songs you're playing? How long does it take to win them over?

It is really funny to see that "sudden recognition" reaction when playing in front of an audience who doesn't know who we are. Sometimes it blossoms into bliss, sometimes rage. Ideally, an evil blend of both. Within 666 seconds, we have them eating from the palms of our palms.

On "You Should be Dancing" you do a pretty spooky spoken work part... is that something you guys wrote?

Actually, the producers of Saturday Night Fever made them cut that from the original. I guess virgin sacrifice and dead babies didn't fit their "vision". Fucking Hollywood.

I know no one ever wants to admit if they're doing any kind of metal ironically, and who cares really, but what percentage of the time you guys are playing is it a laugh, and what percentage is it life or death?

666%. I believe to my core that life, death and laughter are all one in the same. The funniest stuff is inevitably profound. I have a hard time separating the humorous from the serious. The most honest answer I can give you is that we are having a lot of fun.

Do you think life was better in the seventies?

According to Brother Robin's babysitter, it was way easier to score. Clothes were better fitting. Porn was shot on film with compelling story lines to get you really involved. President Jimmy Carter was presented with a black satin tour jacket by the Brothers Gibb. The music was awesome. Imagine disco and heavy metal being born in front of your eyes. But, since the 70's there have been great advances in computers and cable television.

It seems like both metal and disco all of sudden became cool again somehow a few years back, now those are two of the biggest touchstones for new bands. How the hell did that happen?

There was a terrible backlash against the success of both disco and metal. It took a long time before people had enough distance to give both genres a fresh look and recognize how awesome that stuff is, musically and aesthetically.

You guys play in any other bands? How did you meet?

All of us have been involved in various bands and recording projects together. Brother Barry and I met when he was in Satanicide and I was in Double Dong & Wyld Lixx (who got their start in Boston). I produced the debut album of his new band, Children of the Unicorn, as well as the latest from Brother Andy (Corn Mo). A few of us also perform together in my band, Moi?, as well as with The Loser's Lounge.



The Washington Post

The Singles File

Tragedy: "Stayin' Alive"

The only heavy metal Bee Gees tribute band you will ever need.

-- Allison Stewart

chartattack

Your Canadian Music Source

Tragedy, A Metal Tribute To The Bee Gees opened with "Night Fever." The singer said, "No applause necessary, we know we're awesome." And they were. The all-male New York/New Jersey band members were dressed in tight, white '70s disco garb, with a couple of cute female backing singers wearing metallic mini-skirts. Two go-go boys would occasionally come on stage to dance and bring towels for face- and cock-wiping. White Cowbell Oklahoma would have been proud. There was lots of gay and incestual banter between songs, and the set list was packed with hits: "Nobody Gets Too Much Heaven No More," "More Than A Woman" (introduced as a song about "chicks with dicks"), "You Should Be Dancing" (which had a Spinal Tap-like "Stonehenge" interlude where one of the singers told a lengthy tale about pagans who were "hung like breakfast burritos"), "How Deep Is Your Love," "Stayin' Alive," "Tragedy" and a tribute to the late younger Gibb brother, Andy, with "Shadow Dancing." I'd be shocked if this band doesn't either spark or rekindle your love for the Bee Gees. The magic obviously wouldn't be the same if you didn't see the group live, but they have an album called We Rock Sweet Balls And Can Do No Wrong and you can have a listen on their MySpace page.





A cover band's a cover band, right? Wrong! The Bee Gees get a much-needed metal touch from Tragedy.

We can all agree that the Bee Gees were very close to genius with perhaps only one flaw, they weren't a metal band.

Tragedy, an all-metal tribute band to the Bee Gees falls into this school of thought. Their unique take on the classics is definitely worth checking out.



Tragedy. a heavy metal tribute to the Bee Gees:

The most brilliant concept band of 2008





It's a Tragedy

RESS

A heavy metal Bee Gees cover band decimates New York this weekend.

By Kirk Miller





Meet Tragedy...

"The problem with an original band is you have to describe it," says Pete Kohl, a.k.a. Mo'Royce Peterson of the tribute band Tragedy. "What we do is easy to explain – we do heavy metal versions of Bee Gees songs. We say that and people want to hear it."

Since its inception in August of 2007, Tragedy has become a staple of New York's burgeoning, somewhat offbeat tribute band scene. This weekend, the group will headline B.B. Kings with a number of other similar-minded acts. We spoke with Kohl about his group's conceptual genius and self-described "decimating" live show.

How does one combine heavy metal and the Bee Gees?

It's easy: We love disco, and we love metal. On the surface, they're polar opposites, sort of like a Reese's Peanut Butter Cup, I guess. But it works, and it's fun to go against the grain.

How did you get so popular so quickly? You're headlining an 1100 capacity venue.

We're fucking awesome, that's the main thing. As we like to say, we rock sweet balls and do no wrong.

What's with the popularity of tribute bands now?

Our success doesn't really come from the tribute band scene. We play with some, like this weekend, but we play with some nontribute bands as well; we've played with jam bands like Umphrey's McGee and punk bands like Murphy's Law. This isn't a standard tribute—I mean, it's songs people know, and that does help—but it's a concept turned on its head.

Who's your fanbase?

It varies. See, I think almost everyone like the Bee Gees, and almost everyone loves heavy metal, either genuinely or an ironic way. Admittedly, we don't get many hardcore Bee Gees fans, but they have a universal appeal.

What's your stage show like?

It's mayhem. We have the three brothers up front, singing, playing cowbells, wearing tight white satin. And we have our beautiful back-up singers: Women's Gibb, Angelpussy, Olivia Newton-Chong and Linda Gibb. Oh, and we have an intern/towel boy named Lance. He's kind of an idiot.

Have the Bee Gees ever contacted you?

Not directly. We've been contacted by some fansites on MySpace, but nothing directly from the brothers Gibb.

Is anyone else doing what you're doing?

We played with Beatallica; they're more of a mash-up band, combining the Beatles with Metallica. Some of the straight-up tributes, like Appetitie for Destruction and Mr. Brownstone – yeah, two different Guns N Roses tributes – have been great. We played with Mini-Kiss, too, the midget Kiss cover band.

Is there anything you won't play?

Actually, some real Bee Gees fans will come up and ask us for some more obscure songs, like from the 60s. But we're only doing their best known stuff, their disco stuff from the 70s, and a couple of the songs they wrote for Andy Gibb and Barbra Streisand.

Do you have a favorite Bee Gees song to play? They're all so good! We like "You Should Be Dancing"...but we take some liberties with that. It turns into a Satanic ritual on stage.

Have you ever offended anyone?

Not Bee Gees fans. But some metal fans will; for some reason, they occasionally call us "faggots." But we tell them, through the power of Christ, we've left that lifestyle behind...like, weeks ago.

Tragedy plays BB Kings this Saturday and the Canal Room on April 19.



5 questions with Metal Bee Gees Tribute Band: Tragedy

Last week I went to see a Led Zeppelin cover band near Fenway Park here in Boston. On the bill was a band called Tragedy "A Metal Tribute to the Bee Gees", when I saw that I thought about skipping out and going to another bar until around the time the Zeppelin band would be going on stage. I am so glad I didn't. Tragedy was absolutely one of the funniest/most fantastic things I have ever seen in my life. I talked to them after the show about doing an interview and ended up following them around for part of their tour so I could write about it here.

After I wrote up my article and submitted it to Rolling Stone, the fact checker for the magazine was told everything in the article was a lie. I went home and spent most of the week in bed until Mo'Royce Peterson from the band stopped at my house, apparently he was tricked by band aid Penny Lane. We both reminisced how we loved Penny Lane, he apologized for what he did to me in regards to Rolling Stone and then he agreed to be interviewed.

Normally I do five questions but since this might be the greatest band in the world... they get ten.

1) I guess the first question one has to ask is... A Metal Bee Gees tribute band, why?

Our primary objective in starting this band was to get noticed on comedy blogs. Comedy has been ignoring tragedy for years. So unfair it's not even funny!

It has been said that Ted Williams could see the seams on a baseball as it was pitched towards him. We, the genii (plural for genius, duh!) of Tragedy have huge, powerful brains in our balls (brainballs). We knew that if we took our steaming-hott metal to the sweet syrup of the Bee Gees that it would change the world forever.

2) Honestly when I heard that there was going to be a Metal Bee Gees tribute band I was prepared to skip to another bar for a bit, then you guys hit the stage and not only melted faces but changed the way I look at the world. How many other lives have you changed?
Your foolishness is forgiven. If there is one thing we have learned from our bible study class, it is forgiveness. Through the Power of Christ, we have left

Homosexuality for good this time, and so can you. Change starts at home, brother.

(Note: Oddly enough after seeing Tragedy my lusting for Richard Simmons has decreased.)

3) When trying to explain this event to my friends I said you were a combination of Tenacious D, Spinal Tap, and the greatest Metal Band ever Bon Jovi (but with a sober lead guitarist), is that an accurate description? If not how would you explain your band? (sorry that was a long way for a Richie Sambora joke) That was a joke? (Note: Not a very good one, my bad)

That is a fair description, except none of those bands played Bee Gees songs. Idiots. Though I think Barry Gibb and Jon Bon Jovi get their teeth whitened by the

same dentist. If I can be half as Metrosexual as those guys, my life will be complete.

- 4) I once read about a musical note that when heard will make the listener shit themselves. Oh yeah...look at me...I can read. Show off.
- on year...look at me...r carrieda. Onow on
- a) Have you ever achieved that note? Maybe. Man, that would explain a lot of things.
- b) Do you think the Bee Gees were the first band to find a note that made men want to blow another guy?
- Music has inspired love and romance throughout the ages. I seriously doubt they were the first.
- 5) You have played shows with other tribute bands that range from Sublime Tributes to G'N'R Tributes but also with big name bands The Donnas and Umphreys McGee, do you get different reaction from playing with these other bands? And can you get me the drummer from the Donnas phone number?

Not that different. All those bands totally hit on us when we played with them. We have played with a crazy variety of bands. It's been pretty wild. But, everybody loves Bee Gees metal. It's universal. That's why we're so popular and everyone wants to bang us. After being with us, Torry doesn't really "hang out" anymore.

Don't waste your time.

(Note: There are no confirmed reports that Tragedy ran a train on her.)

- 6) Complete this statement: Tragedy is_____the opposite of Comedy.
- 7) Have you had bowel movements larger than Mini-Kiss?

To this point, we have not been weighing. But, we will have Lance (our intern) get right on that. I'll keep you posted.

8) Will there ever be a Menudo Metal Tribute Band?

Not without a lawsuit. From us.

- 9) What is your favorite Bee Gees song? Or is it like choosing your favorite sexual position? Fanny Be Tender. So, yes.
- 10) What is next for Tragedy?

On our myspace blog you can view maps of impending decimation by Tragedy. Wherever there is a Tri-State area, Tragedy will be rising to #1 in the rankings of Heavy Metal Bee Gees tributes in said territory.

And finally, something that no words in the English language can possibly describe, their video for Stayin' Alive. I know all of your lives have just been changed, there is no need to thank me.

LetsMakeTragedyHappen.com