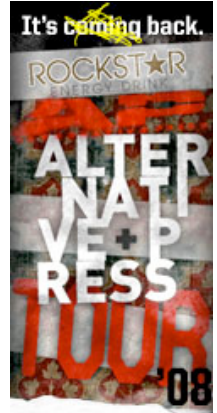




HOME NEWS MOSH PIT BANDS FEATURES CONTESTS AP MAG DOWNLOADS AP TV / MUSIC

LOG IN TOUR AP/PODCASTS AP/e!y SUBSCRIPTIONS SHOP ADVERTISE JOBS STREET TEAM INTERN CONTACT SEARCH



FEATURES ARCHIVES

TEN ESSENTIAL SCREENING ASK THAT GUY

From The Editor's Floor: Chris Carrabba of Dashboard Confessional

Posted by Scott Heisel on 21-Dec-07 @ 05:52 PM

We here at AP love to talk. So much so, that when we do interviews with the rich and famous (or the on tour and barely scraping by and eating Taco Bell), we end up with an excess of Q&As that can't be wedged into the magazine, no matter which way we turn it. This is why we have From The Editor's Floor. This week, enjoy managing editor Leslie Simon's full, unedited interview with [Dashboard Confessional](#) frontman Chris Carrabba. -AP



LESLIE SIMON: What inspired you to return to your acoustic roots and go solo for your fall tour?

CHRIS CARRABBA: I've never really stopped doing shows [acoustic]. I do them every now and again. It's not like it stopped being fun or anything, I've just done a *lot* of them--like, a *lot*. Like, *thousands*. I think I had tired of them a little bit. I had done so many shows, I think I burned out on them a little. Anyways, I felt fresh and I thought it'd be fun to do a whole tour like that.

Are there any songs you won't play live anymore because they're too personal? Or are there any songs that you're dusting off for the tour?

There's songs that I wouldn't play for a while because of whatever reason, but there are no songs that'd I've said, "I'll never play again." I just put some songs in the vault for a while. I'm trying to pull out everything for this tour. I did a song called "Living In Your Letters" for the first time since we taped *MTV Unplugged*. Then there are songs like "Bitter Pill," which I had locked away a long time ago. It had become a song that had hung really heavy on me for some reason.

Is it possible to be immune to the feelings you once felt when you originally wrote these songs?

I [feel them every single night] because I'm not a very good actor. For whatever reason, they always take me back into that place. I did have a funny moment with ["Bitter Pill," specifically] the other day when it just struck me, for the first time, that it's a *really* mean song. There's a line in the song that says, "This medicine is just what you deserve," and then the crowd said, "Swallow, choke and die," which is the next lyric. They said it with fervor and it stopped me in my tracks. I stopped playing. The crowd looked at me and I looked and them, and I said, "That was *angry*."

When you initially wrote songs like that, which were seemingly so venomous towards whatever girl who had done you wrong, did you mean for them to be acts of revenge?

[Laughs.] No because--especially *those* songs in *those* days--you never think that anyone's going to hear them at all, and certainly *not* the person you wrote about. It's just cathartic.

The songs that are angry or unhappy or whatever, they were genuinely born out of those feelings. Somehow, you can tell in those moments where the audience is singing them that they're pouring themselves into that moment as well. It's brought them happiness--and it's brought me happiness.

Have you ever heard a response from any of your exes who may've been the subject for some not-so-nice lyrics?

I've actually seen them [at shows] and I've caught their expressions. You can see it cutting them a little bit and I can't help but feel bad.



RECENT ITEMS

News:
[Rise Records add In:Aviate to...](#)
[Solid State sign Sever Your Ties](#)
[Fall Out Boy to reschedule...](#)

Features:
[Web Exclusive: Manchester...](#)

- + From The Editor's Floor: Chris Conley of Saves The Day
- + From The Editor's Floor: Trevor Reilly of A Wilhelm Scream
- + Web Exclusive: Annuals/Manchester Orchestra Tour Diary (part two)
- + From The Editor's Floor: Josh Homme of Queens Of The Stone Age
- + Web Exclusive: A conversation with Rivers Cuomo
- + Front Row Center: The Fest 6 (days one, two and three)
- + Web Exclusive: Blessthefall Tour Diary (part five)
- + Front Row Center: A Wilhelm Scream/Only Crime
- + Web Exclusive: Blessthefall Tour Diary (part four)
- + Front Row Center: Bomb The Music Industry!
- + Web Exclusive: Blessthefall Tour Diary (part three)
- + Web Exclusive: Set Your Goals' Halloween Adventure
- + Front Row Center: The Draft/Dead To Me/The Gaslight Anthem
- + Web Exclusive: Scary Kids Scaring Kids making the video
- + Web Exclusive: Blessthefall Tour Diary (part two)
- + Front Row Center: Minus The Bear
- + Web Exclusive: Blessthefall Tour Diary (part one)
- + Web Exclusive Interview: Evergreen Terrace
- + Web Exclusive Interview: Three
- + AP web exclusive: More most anticipated albums of 2007
- + *Other sections...*

[Home](#) | [News](#) | [Mosh Pit](#) | [Bands](#) | [Features](#) | [Contests](#) | [AP Mag](#) | [Downloads](#) | [Media](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Shop](#) | [Advertise](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Contact](#)

Copyright © 2005 Alternative Press Magazine, Inc. 1305 West 80th Street • Ste 2F • Cleveland, OH 44102

Created and Powered by  Mission Media