

Peace Arch Entertainment & Vitagraph Films Presents

WHAT WE DO IS SECRET

A film by Rodger Grossman



92 minutes / Rated R / English Language / Color / USA

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www.whatwedoisecretthemovie.com

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WHAT WE DO IS SECRET

Synopsis

IT WAS A MOVEMENT THAT CHANGED MUSIC
IT WAS MUSIC THAT CHANGED THE WORLD
AND IT ALL STARTED WITH A GERM

1970s Los Angeles, Nihilist Philosophy, Glam Rock, Drugs, Booze, Closeted Homosexuality, Dianetics, a Yen for Rock and Roll Immortality – a convergence of forces that shaped the short, self-destructive life of Jan Paul Beahm, a fatherless boy raised by an alcoholic mother and abandoned by an older brother who died of a drug-overdose – a kid who reinvented himself coming out of a high school program for outcasts, as the one and only DARBY CRASH, the legendary lead singer of the seminal Los Angeles Punk band, The Germs.

Shane West (“ER,” “ONCE AND AGAIN”), **Bijou Phillips** (CHOKE, BULLY), **Rick Gonzalez** (ILLEGAL TENDER, COACH CARTER) and **Noah Segan** (BRICK, CHAIN LETTER) star in **WHAT WE DO IS SECRET**, a biopic that chronicles the rise of **The Germs** and their charismatic leader Darby Crash whose image – the contorted, screaming face and death grip on the microphone, has become an icon of the U.S. punk movement and a rapt influence on bands since. Darby’s cultivated punk attitude, resplendent with the hardcore, infamous onstage self-mutilation antics and volatile energy that inspired the band’s mesmerized followers to riot, ultimately banned The Germs from playing every venue in the greater Los Angeles area.

But how did it start? It all started with a germ...

Los Angeles, 1975 – disenfranchised University High School teen Jan Paul Beahm (Shane West), shares his five year plan to become a legend with best friend George Ruthenberg (Rick Gonzalez). Step One. They ignore the fact that they don’t know how to play instruments, as well as the fact that they don’t even *have* instruments, and form a band. Sophistifuck and the Revlon Spam Queens is born.

Paul and George recruit band members and play their first gig, which is pretty much a giant food fight to the tune of noise. These antics distract from the band’s lack of musical ability and endear them to the audience. Virtually overnight, the out-of-control group earns a reputation as a force of chaos and mayhem on the Los Angeles punk scene.

After some false starts with band members that don't work out (including Belinda Carlisle who shot to fame with the Go Go's a few short years later, but never made it on stage as a Germ!), the final Germs line up is complete. Sculpting their punk image, Paul drops the moniker "Bobby Pyn" and adopts the name "Darby Crash." He anoints George "Pat Smear," and bassist Terry Ryan (Bijou Phillips) is "Lorna Doom." Smart aleck drummer Don Bolles (Noah Segan) who heard the band's early music, arrives from Arizona for an audition, determined to be a Germ.

Darby gets off on "mind-control" (interestingly his high school unofficially taught L. Ron Hubbard's Dianetics) onstage and off and soon has the "Circle One" fans buzzing around him in a cult of their own. This both fascinates and fuels him. He develops the "blue circle logo" and the viral "cigarette burn circle." He writes shockingly literate and insightful lyrics and comes to the attention of journalist Claude Bessy whose interview with Darby about his philosophies and plans for the future, provides a structural element for the film. The band runs wild in an FCC nightmare of an in-studio interview with KROQ DJ Rodney Bingenheimer who broke the band on radio.

Increased notoriety on the underground music scene for The Germs, also captures the attention of *What? Records* and later, *Slash Records*. Ironically, as their popularity grows, ultimately the band is black balled from playing every venue in town because the destruction of the club will inevitably ensue amidst a storm of flying bottles and fights. When they are asked when they will play again, the running joke is -- "never" -- and when documentarian Penelope Spheeris wants to film The Germs for her seminal documentary on the L.A. punk scene, *THE DECLINE OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION*, she filmed their performance on a soundstage with a live audience, since no club would book them.

By 1980, Darby was increasingly dependent on hard drugs and unable to focus on writing more music to follow up The Germs' one and only album. He subscribed to the "Live Fast, Die Young" mentality, and with Step Five of "the plan" he sealed his status as a legend of rock 'n roll, by ending his life in heroin-overdose suicide on December 7th. While he might have imagined himself on the cover of every tabloid, ironically his death was eclipsed by John Lennon's assassination the next day. But the legend of Darby Crash and his hugely influential band, The Germs, continues to reverberate and grow.

The real Pat Smear went on to play with Nirvana and is currently with the Foo Fighters as well as the "new" Germs, a band that grew out of the making of this film. Shane West, who portrays

Darby Crash in the film “channels” Darby when he joins original band members Pat Smear, Lorna Doom and Don Bolles on stage.

#

Critical Acclaim

“four stars” ... A surprisingly touching human drama.” ... A lot of care, research and blood, sweat and tears went into this production (but) all efforts have led to success.”

--Film Threat

“Shane West gives a star-making performance in this excellent exploration of a chaotic, exhilarating period.”

--Aint It Cool News

Darby Crash Biography

Born Jan Paul Beahm in Los Angeles in 1958. He was the last of four kids. His mother Faith had split up with husband Harold Beahm, who was not Paul's (as he would come to be known) father. Paul was the bastard son of a man named William Beorkland. He was raised by stepfather Bob Baker who his mother joined in holy matrimony in the year 1964. He died in '71, and Paul went to search for his real father, who he discovered had passed on. Paul also had an big brother, who, in an eerily prophetic way, had died of a heroin overdose.

Paul met friend, guitarist and companion Pat Smear when he was in 8th grade. They met thru a speed dealer they both bought from. Pat was in 7th grade. They became friends quickly, despite some differences of opinion - while Paul loved old 50s rock and roll, the more cutting-edge Pat was a fan the New York Dolls, David Bowie, and Queen. Paul disliked this music at first, but would grow to appreciate it. At 13, Pat ran off and lived in a "Jesus commune" for a year. He came back and saw Paul again, and that's where the story really begins.

The setting was the notorious "Innovative Program School" at University High in Santa Monica. The school was designed to harbor social miscreants, and, not surprisingly, both Paul and Pat were admitted to the experimental facility. Also found on campus was future Black Flag bass player Kira Roessler. Kim Gordon of Sonic Youth graduated from the school. Around this time, the two first got the notion of forming a band. Originally it was just sort of a joke - they had the name "Sophistifuck and the Revlon Spam Queens." Not much came of the idea until later. Paul and Pat were thrown out of IPS - they accused Paul of trying to brainwash students.

Soon the two became interested in punk rock. The story of the early days is littered with familiar names and places - The Whiskey a Go-Go, the Licorice Pizza record store across the street, and the parking lot of the Rainbow, where many of the people involved in this story and others from the same period would spend their time. Bands like The Runaways and The Ramones were a big influence, but the catalyst was the bombastic glam / arena-rock sensation, Queen.

Queen was staying at the Beverly Hilton. Pat and Paul arrived to look for Freddie Mercury, and ran into two (they claimed) "twins" from the Valley. They were Belinda Carlisle and friend Lorna. They never thought they'd see each other again. Lorna later said she immediately liked Pat and Paul, calling them "the weirdest guys we ever met!"

Now Pat and Paul were determined to form a band for real. Soon the city was plastered with flyers asking for "two untalented girls", and, as if by fate, Lorna and Belinda answered. Belinda played drums, calling herself Dottie Danger, but quit fairly quickly after getting mononucleosis. She brought in her friend Becky, who was named Donna Rhia. Belinda continued to work with the band, doing such things as making flyers and supplying Paul with peanut butter. Reportedly the girls were disappointed with Pat and Paul's name for the band, which symbolized "the germ of an idea", something that was there at the beginning.

In no time the band had their first performance, with pointy-shoed Mexican kids The Zeros and "LA's first punk band" The Weirdos. They "made noise." Paul, who was now known as Bobby Pyn, covered himself with licorice and peanut butter and threw himself around dramatically. In five minutes they were shut down. This was the beginning. They also played at the audition for Cheech and Chong's "Up In Smoke", from which the best-known version of "Sex Boy" is taken. They also played at Kim Fowley's "New Wave Nights", a performance recorded on the Germicide album. They covered "Sugar Sugar" and Bobby covered the audience in, well, sugar.

They attracted the attention of Chris Ashford, a record store employee who founded What? Records and released the band's first single - "Forming", with the live "Sex Boy" as a B-side. Bobby included his shockingly literate and intelligent lyrics on a lyric sheet. The eerie, unmistakable echo on the recording was apparently, according to Pat, a "button left on by accident." The band, quickly deciding to "get more

serious", went thru a series of new drummers, including Cliff Hanger, Don Bonebrake, and Nicky Beat, who played with them on the Slash Records 7 inch #SCAM-101 that included the songs "Lexicon Devil", "Circle One", and "No God" and showcased the band's impressive playing ability and skill, as well as Bobby's lyrical prowess. It featured a cover with sinister, Nazi-esque imagery for shock value. Paul also dropped the name Bobby Pyn, adopting a new moniker: Darby Crash.

The Germs were born.

They had gone from a horrifying shock band to a darkly powerful, dynamic group, and followers flocked to them like lambs to the slaughter. The haunting blue circle began to appear everywhere, and true loyalists of the band scarred themselves with a Germs burn: a circular cigarette burn on the left wrist. Darby said this when interviewed: "You haven't asked me about burns and circles. You've gotta have them right here (points to inside of left wrist) . . . over 200 people have them, even in San Francisco. You can only get one from someone who already has one. It all has to do with circles."

In Phoenix, Arizona, musician Don Bolles heard the Germs early work and wanted to join the band. He called Darby and Pat, but to no avail. Months later he traveled to LA and in minutes he was the Germs new drummer. With Don on board, the band released their masterpiece: G.I. Produced by Joan Jett, the album featured Darby's brilliant introspective lyrics and some amazing songs. Released on Slash Records, the track listing is as follows:

1. What We Do is Secret
2. Communist Eyes
3. Land of Treason
4. Richie Dagger's Crime
5. Strange Notes
6. American Leather
8. Lexicon Devil (note: This version is much faster)
9. Manimal
10. Our Way
11. We Must Bleed
12. Media Blitz
13. The Other Newest One
14. Let's Pretend
15. Dragon Lady
16. The Slave
17. Shut Down (Annihilation Man)

The L.A. Times called it "the most important album to come out of Los Angeles since The Doors' 'L.A. Woman.'"

The band was a lot tighter and more explosive and their live shows became more and more catastrophic, with riots becoming more frequent. Darby becoming more involved with drugs - when asked if he was a junkie, he laughed and claimed he could never afford it. Darby had also developed his habit of not singing on mic. The band became notorious for their incredibly intense and destructive shows, and Penelope Spheeris decided to film them for her documentary "The Decline of Western Civilization." They appear performing what would become their signature song, "Manimal." Director William Friedkin (The Exorcist) saw them and was so impressed he asked them to do some songs for his new film, "Cruising." They recorded five tracks - "My Tunnel", "Throw It Away", "Not All Right", "Now I Hear the Laughter" (which Lorna wrote with Darby), "Going Down", and "Lion's Share." The only one to appear in the controversial film was "Lion's Share." The other four were never heard until 1993, when Slash issued the truly fantastic "MIA" compilation.

Darby had gathered a certified cult of acolytes and was a true punk icon. He appeared with many girlfriends, but the facts of Darby's personal life were kept secret. Like Bowie, he flirted with bisexual imagery. There are some cryptic references to Hollywood punk Donnie Rose. In a later interview Donnie

said: "We loved each other a lot; I just couldn't give him what he needed . . . it's personal."

Things started to fall apart. Darby, for no reason other than he saw Don wearing a dress while playing with side project Vox Pop, fired Don and replaced him with the inept Rob Henley. The "Germs contingent" complained, but Darby would not relent. Soon Darby himself disappeared, running off to England with a female friend named Amber. He called Pat and Lorna and told them to practice with Rob while he was gone. It didn't work. Lorna quit. Darby came back in the summer of 1980, wearing a mohawk, leather bondage gear, a blue stripe on his forehead, and some blue feathers. He had become infatuated with Adam and the Ants while in England for reasons still not totally clear. He put together The Darby Crash Band, with "friend" Bosco on bass and Pat filling in on guitar "until a permanent guitarist could be found." The band played fairly well, but it didn't work at all. The chemistry and raw power wasn't there. It wouldn't fly.

Darby decided to play a Germs reunion show. He wanted to put things in perspective for the kids new to the scene. Don was happy to do it, he said he thought Darby was "a genius, like some crazed LSD guru."

It was December 3rd, and a rainy night in Hollywood. The Starwood was packed with wide-eyed punk kids eager to see The Germs. X was supposed to appear as a special guest, but they never showed, inciting Darby's rage. He verbally sheared guitarist Billy Zoom during "Strange Notes." The set was fantastic. The band played furiously, and Darby's singing was on the mic more than anyone thought possible. Lorna and Don played an improvisational version of "Another One Bites the Dust", recalling the band that helped the group formed. Darby addressed the new punks: "We did this show so you new people could see what it was like when we were around. You're not going to see it again."

On December 6th, Darby Crash injected a terminal amount of heroin into his bloodstream and died of an overdose. He was found with his arms splayed out in the shape of a cross. John Lennon was killed the next day, eclipsing the young punk avatar's death.

The rest of the band moved on, doing other things. Most notably, Pat Smear went on to play with Nirvana and the Foo Fighters. Belinda Carlisle became lead singer of the pop princesses the Go-Gos. Nicky Beat worked with The Cramps and Pearl Jam. They all went their separate ways.

Darby Crash meant many things to many people. He was a hero, a free-spirited punk who didn't care what people thought. He was a gifted poet and a deep, soulful person. He was a dangerous, self-destructive, heroin-crazed lunatic. He was just some guy who sang with the some band called The Germs. People remember him in different ways. The truth is, the impact he had on the people around him and the world of music in general is still seen today. He will never be forgotten.
R.I.P. DARBY CRASH. 1958-1980

NOTE: A lot of this information is from the liner notes in the "A Small Circle of Friends" tribute album. Thanks.

WHAT WE DO IS SECRET

Credits

Written and Directed by
Rodger Grossman

Producers
Matt Perniciaro
Kevin Mann
Rodger Grossman
Todd Traina
Stephen Nemeth

Line Producer
Bruce Wayne Gillies

Executive Producers
Shane West
Michael LaFetra
King Records

Story by
Rodger Grossman
and
Michelle Baer Ghaffari

Director of Photography
Andrew Huebscher

Production Designer
John R. Mott

Film Editor
Ross Albert
Joel Platch

Music Supervisor
Howard Paar

Music by
Anna Waronker

Costume Designer
Julia Caston

Casting Directors

Annie McCarthy
Jay Scully

Studio Facilities Provided by Occidental Studios

Co-Producers

Michelle Baer Ghaffari
Andy Wombwell

Co-Executive Producer

Andre Relis
Lise Romanoff

Cast

DARBY CRASH	Shane West
PAT SMEAR	Rick Gonzalez
LORNA DOOM	Bijou Phillips
DON BOLLES	Noah Segan
MICHELLE	Tina Majorino
JENA	Katherine Leonard
MALISSA	Rachel Santhon
ROB HENLEY	Ashton Holmes
CHRIS ASHFORD	Keir O'Donnell
BELINDA	Lauren German
CLAUDE "KICKBOY FACE" BESSEY	Sebastian Roche
BECKY	Amy Halloran
AMBER	Missy Doty
BRENDAN MULLEN	Ray Park
CASEY COLA	Azura Skye
PENELOPE SPHEERIS	Michele Hicks
BOB BIGGS	Bob Biggs
BLACK RANDY	Chris Pontius
CAPTAIN SENSIBLE	Ozzy Benn
DAVE VANIAN	Christopher R. Boyd
RAT SCABIES	Daniel Reeder
GERBER	Randi Newton
BOUNCER	Brian Oerly
FOOTBALL PLAYER	Jared Show
REGI MENTLE	Brian Gleason
RODNEY BINGENHEIMER	JP Manoux
TOMATA DU PLENTY	Rich Moreno
SHANNON	Sara Rivas
CROWD MEMBER	Grant Vathanadireg
WHISKEY MANAGER	Richard Wharton
STARWOOD MANAGER	Howard S. Miller
AUDIENCE MEMBER	Chad Liffman
AUDIENCE MEMBER #2	Noah Abrams

BLACK FLAG
THE SCREAMERS

The Bronx
The Mae Shi

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STUNT PLAYER

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Mickey Cassidy
Shawn Crowder
Keith Davis
Dimitri Diapchenko
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2ND AC
2ND AC
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B CAMERA OPERATOR
STEADICAM
STILL PHOTOGRAPHER
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Peter DePhillips
Nickolas Rossi
Jason Cochard
Andy Steinman
Matthew Chubet
Kevin Estrada
Nick Stavros

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BEST BOY GRIP/
KEY RIGGING GRIP
DOLLY GRIP
GRIP

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Randal D. Grimm
Randal D. Grimm
Mitch Gulbin
Jon Carmichael
Jeanne Dear
Matty Gulbin
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Raul Vasquez

GAFFER
BEST BOY ELECTRIC

Christian Grosselfinger
Somsy Vejsiri

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ASSISTANT EDITOR	Gary A. Friedman
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SOUND FX EDITOR	
ADR SUPERVISOR	
ADR MIXER	

DIALOGUE EDITOR
FOLEY ARTIST
FOLEY MIXER
SOUND ENGINEERS

STUDIO DIRECTOR

STUDIO COORDINATOR

LOOP GROUP COORDINATOR

LOOP GROUP

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Post Production & Digital Intermediate by

Modern Video

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Panavision

J.L.Fisher

"We Must Bleed"

Written by Darby Crash and Pat Smear

**Courtesy of Slash Records

**By arrangement with Warner Music Group Film & TV Licensing

"You Drive Me Nervous"

Performed by Alice Cooper

"Written by Michael Bruce, Alice Cooper and Bob Ezrin"

Courtesy of Warner Bros. Records Inc.

By Arrangement with Warner Music Group Film & TV Licensing

"Queen Bitch"

Performed by David Bowie

Written by David Bowie

"Courtesy of RZO Music, Inc."

"Neat Neat Neat"

Performed by The Damned

Written by Brian James

Courtesy of: Sanctuary Records

"Sex Boy"

Written by Darby Crash and Pat Smear

"Forming"

Written by Darby Crash

"We Are The One"

Performed by The Avengers

"Written by Daniel O'Brien, James Wilsey, Greg Ingraham and Penelope Houston"

Courtesy of Dangerhouse Records

"Sex Boy"

Written by: Darby Crash and Pat Smear

"Circle One"

Written by Darby Crash

"Lexicon Devil"

Written by Darby Crash and Pat Smear

"A Life Of Crime"

Performed by The Weirdos

Written by Cliff Roman

Courtesy of Cliff Roman

"Gidget Goes To Hell"

Performed by Suburban Lawns

Written by William Ranson and Richard Whitney

Courtesy of Suburban Industrial Records

"Adults Books"

Performed by X

Written by John Doe and Exene Cervenka

Courtesy of Dangerhouse Records

"Richie Dagger's Crime".

Written by Darby Crash and Pat Smear

"What We Do Is Secret"

Performed by The Germs

Written by Darby Crash and Pat Smear

**Courtesy of Slash Records

**By arrangement with Warner Music Group Film & TV Licensing

Shut Down

Written by Darby Crash and Pat Smear

"Just Like Your Mom"

Written by: Don Bolles

"Manimal"

Written by Darby Crash and Pat Smear

"Nausea"

Performed by: X

Written by: John Doe and Exene Cervenka

Courtesy of Elektra Records

By arrangement with Warner Music Group Film & TV Licensing

"New Dawn Fades"

Performed by: Joy Division

"Written by: Ian Kevin Curtis, Peter Hook, Stephen Paul Morris and Bernard Sumner"

Courtesy of Warner Music U.K.

By arrangement with Warner Music Group Film & TV Licensing

"Bloodstains"

Performed by: Agent Orange

Written by: Michael A. Palm

Courtesy of: Posh Boy Records

"Police Story"
Written by: Gregory Regis Ginn

"Lion's Share"
Written by: Darby Crash and Pat Smear

"My Tunnel"
Written by Darby Crash and Pat Smear

"Five Years"
Performed by David Bowie
Written by David Bowie
"Courtesy of RZO Music, Inc."

"Rock N' Roll Suicide"
Performed by David Bowie
Written by David Bowie
Courtesy of RZO Music Inc.

SPECIAL THANKS

Akiko Uchida
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Shannon ""Little Doggy"" Mila
Marshall Grossman
Ricky Stoutland
Albert Sweet
John Motts Guy - Waiting for name

Jeremy Weinstein
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Chad Liffman
Doug Mark
Stephanie Bronson
Harold Bronson
Phil Rowland
Tony Hoffman

Adam Griffin
Adrian Velicescu
Alexis Martinez
Amber
Amy & Richard Steingard
Andrew Meieran
Angel Torres
Bambi Conway
Bob Biggs
Brad Robarge
Brian Rousso
Brian Young
Carla Maddog
Chris Ashford
Christine Bidinger
Dabney Lee
Dan Fried
Darren Trattner
David Bowie
David Matlof
Denise Hamilton
Doug Cavanaugh
Earl Ghaffari
Edie Baskin
Ellie Speare
Eric Black
Erik Himmelsbach
Frank J. Carmel
Fred Schruers
Gary Stewart
Geo Velicescu
Geza X
Greg Ginn
Hellin Killer
Isa Ghaffari
Jason Newman
Jeanine Basinger
Jeff Ayerhoff
Jeff Morrone
Jena Cardwell

Jennifer Levine
Jessica Swirnoff
Jill Ash
Jim Gibson
John Doe
Jon Bronson
Josh Leonard
Joss Whedon
Karl Austen
Katie Rhodes
Kent Beyda
KK Barret
Lee Ving
Lincoln Stalmaster
Lucas Haas
Maggie Ehrig
Malissa Hutton
Marc Gerald
Mark Waters
Max Biscoe
Mellie Ghaffari
Michael Fuller
Michael Kaser
Michael LeBlanc
Michael Palmer
Mike Watt
Mike White
Paul Roessler
Penelope Spheeris
Rik L. Rik
Rodney Bingenheimer
Shawn Bidingier
Sherron Annest
Skip Bronson
Solange Bertet
Steven & Clare Baum
Steven Kaminsky
Steven Wren
Tal Fiala
Terry Morse
Tom Plotkin
Trudie
Sandy West (Runaways/Germs crowd)
Blind Troy
Karen Sidlow
Cliff Roman
Henry Wren-Meleck
Pat Lucas
Jessica Hobbs
Aisha Cohen
Brady Benton
Brian McPherson
Pamela Lillig
Paul Brooks
Gregg Barron
Lara Saggese

William Ranson
Robbie Fields
Jennifer Jesperson
Toby Mamis
Wendy Marmo
Jonathan Palmer
Kenny Ochoa
Jane Monksfield
David Ferguson
Greg McWhorter
Suzy Shaw
Greg Ginn
David Alan Brown
Ellen Turci

Panavision Remote Systems
The Dragonfly

And everybody that showed up at the shoots as crowd members.

EXTRA SPECIAL THANKS

Don Bolles
Lorna Doom
Pat Smear

AND

Mom, Dad, Leslie, Jon, Grandma & Grandpa & Sofia.
And to Faith. For having faith in me.

EXTRA EXTRA SPECIAL THANKS

Shannon. You easily could have given up on me, and never did.

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"WHAT WE DO IS SECRET"

WHAT WE DO IS SECRET Cast Biographies

Shane West

"West seems to be channeling the spirit of Crash" – [Premiere](#)

Shane West portrays the legendary **Darby Crash**, the self-destructive lead singer of the infamous L.A. punk band The Germs in WHAT WE DO IS SECRET. In addition to acting in the film he is also a producer.

He was last seen on NBC's long time hit "ER" as the atypical "Dr. Ray," and is also known for his starring role as "Eli" on the ABC dramatic series "Once and Again." Upcoming feature films include THE LODGER, STONE HOUSE and THE GIFT.

He starred opposite Sean Connery in the Fox feature film, THE LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENTLEMEN as the legendary "Tom Sawyer," a courageous, clever young street fighter who is determined to stop the infamous super villain, "The Fantam." He was also seen starring opposite Mandy Moore in the Warner Bros. feature A WALK TO REMEMBER, adapted from the Nicholas Sparks novel. Other credits include LIBERTY HEIGHTS, A TIME FOR DANCING, GET OVER IT, and WHATEVER IT TAKES.

West's career truly took off when he co-starred in Mark Taper Forum's stage production of *The Cider House Rules*. He premiered in the role of "Angel" and garnered great praise for his first stage role.

Born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Shane West began to realize his passion for acting at an early age.

BIJOU PHILLIPS

Bijou Phillips portrays **Lorna Doom** of the 70's punk band The Germs in WHAT WE DO IS SECRET.

Bijou Phillips is a multi-talented actress, singer and model, who has accomplished many goals despite her young age.

Bijou will next be seen in *CHOKES* based on the best-selling novel by Chuck Palahniuk. The film stars Sam Rockwell and Anjelica Huston and is directed by Clark Gregg. *CHOKES* premiered at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival.

She recently wrapped production on the independent film *WAKE*, in which she stars with Ian Somerhalder. Other films include *MADE FOR EACH OTHER*, a comedy in which she stars opposite Chris Masterson and Abel Ferrara's bio picture about New York's famous Chelsea Hotel, *CHELSEA ON THE ROCKS*, which recently screened at the 2008 Cannes Film Festival as well as Cine Vegas. Last year, she was seen in *HOSTEL II* directed by Eli Roth co-starring Lauren German and Roger Bart.

In 2005 she completed a leading role alongside Anne Hathaway in Oscar winning writer, Stephan Gaghan's, *HAVOC* directed by Oscar-winning documentary filmmaker, Barbara Kopple. She also earned a role in 2004 opposite Jeff Bridges and Kim Basinger in *THE DOOR IN THE FLOOR*, a film adaptation of John Irving's novel *A Widow For One Year*.

Bijou is no stranger to Hollywood, growing up as the daughter of the late singer-songwriter John Phillips of The Mamas and the Papas, spending her time between New York, California and South Africa. At the age of 13, she started modeling, to become one of the youngest people to grace the covers of *Interview Magazine*, *Italian Vogue* and several ads for Calvin Klein. At 17, she acquired a record deal and began work on her album 'I'd Rather Eat Glass' produced by The Talking Heads' Jerry Harrison. Bijou's big screen debut was in *BLACK AND WHITE* by director James Toback which garnered glowing praise from critics for her performance. Larry Clark then cast her in *BULLY* which also aided in paving the way for her ongoing successful career.

RICK GONZALEZ

Rick Gonzalez (Wilson De Leon, Jr.) plays guitarist **Pat Smear** in the biopic of the notorious L.A. punk band of the 80's The Germs, in *WHAT WE DO IS SECRET*.

Gonzalez currently stars in the CW's new series, "Reaper." He will next be seen in a lead role in the highly anticipated thriller *ILLEGAL TENDER*, from producer John Singleton and writer/director Franc Reyes. The movie tracks a young Latino man (Gonzalez) on the run to clear his family name and save his mother's (Wanda De Jesus) life. Most recently, he appeared in Dimension Films' supernatural thriller *PULSE*, a film about a web site hoax that turns deadly when a supernatural force begins controlling and dominating the lives of those who log on. He has also signed on to New Line's upcoming drama *PRIDE AND GLORY*, Dimension Films' *QUEBEC* and the independent films *FIRST SNOW* and *ORANGES*.

Gonzalez received critical acclaim for his star-making performance as Timo Cruz in Paramount's COACH CARTER, opposite Samuel L. Jackson. Based on a true story, this inspirational film stars Jackson as a high school basketball coach who benched his undefeated team due to their collective poor academic record. Gonzalez's Cruz is the heart of the film; he portrayed a young man torn between his roots and a burning desire to achieve, both in basketball and in the classroom. In ROLL BOUNCE, a 1970s roller skating coming-of-age comedy from 20th Century Fox, Gonzalez played the role of Naps, a young Latino who takes part in the annual Roller Jam competition on the more affluent side of the tracks. Most recently, Gonzalez was seen in Steven Spielberg's updated version of the H.G. Wells' classic WAR OF THE WORLDS, in which he starred opposite Tom Cruise.

Hollywood first began to take notice when Gonzalez won the role of "Primo," opposite Laurence Fishburne, in the motorcycle actioner BIKER BOYZ for DreamWorks. He followed this memorable role by winning a spot as a member of Dennis Quaid's struggling baseball team in Disney's box-office hit, THE ROOKIE. Additional big screen credits include the ensemble comedy OLD SCHOOL, with Luke Wilson and Vince Vaughn, and LAUREL CANYON, with Frances McDormand and Kate Beckinsale. In the television realm, Rick had a recurring role on the David E. Kelly drama "Boston Public." Additional television credits include guest turns on "CSI Miami," "CSI," "The Shield," "ER," "Law & Order: SVU," "Touched by an Angel" and "Buffy the Vampire Slayer."

Of Puerto Rican and Dominican descent, Gonzalez was trained at New York's High School of the Performing Arts, where he excelled in basketball and baseball. While in the city, he appeared in numerous off-Broadway productions at the Harold Clurman Theatre.

Noah Segan

Noah Segan portrays the much-picked-on, smart aleck drummer **Don Bolles** in WHAT WE DO IS SECRET, a biopic about the life and times of seminal, legendary punk band The Germs.

Born in Brooklyn, Noah spent his youth educating himself in the disciplines of photography, music and acting. The latter has led him to a myriad of roles, garnering him a respectable resume in the world of independent cinema.

Early on, he starred opposite Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Lukas Haas in Focus Features' Sundance award-winning film BRICK and Fox's THE VISITATION.

In 2007, he re-teamed with BRICK director Rian Johnson for a cameo in THE BROTHERS BLOOM, opposite Mark Ruffalo, Adrien Brody and Rinko Kikuchi.

2008 showcases Segan in leading roles. He will star in Lionsgate Entertainment's CABIN FEVER 2: SPRING FEVER and opposite Nikki Reed in CHAIN LETTER, the new installment from the makers of the SAW franchise. Noah also leads DEADGIRL, from Christopher Webster (producer of HEATHERS), and Oscar-winner John Daly's THE BOX COLLECTOR, whose actors and producer/director Noah rejoins in THE HESSEN AFFAIR.

Noah recently finished producing and starring in the full-length feature, QUIT, opposite Dora Baird.

In his free time, Noah enjoys smoking, Billy the Kid, boxing and The Replacements. His favorite actor is Warren Oates, who died, as Noah plans to do one day as well.

WHAT WE DO IS SECRET

Filmmaker Biographies

Rodger Grossman, Writer/Director/Producer

WHAT WE DO IS SECRET is award-winning Writer/Director/Producer Rodger Grossman's first feature film.

WHAT WE DO IS SECRET stars Shane West ("ER") and Bijou Phillips (HOSTEL) and tells the true story of punk rock legend Darby Crash, the charismatic leader of the notorious and seminal 1970's punk band, The Germs.

The film premiered at the Los Angeles Film Festival and has received critical and audience acclaim at the Cleveland International Film Festival, Phoenix Film Festival, Philadelphia Film Festival, Newport Beach Film Festival, Noise Pop Festival, LoneStar International Film Festival, Gasparilla Film Festival, the Calgary Underground Film Festival.

A native of Los Angeles, Rodger attended Wesleyan University in Connecticut, graduating with High Honors in Film Studies, under mentor Jeanine Basinger. Upon graduation, Rodger returned to Los Angeles and attended the American Film Institute Director's Program, where he wrote and directed several short films.

FORCED EXPOSURE, Rodger's first feature length screenplay, was produced by Roger Corman's Concorde Studios. Since then, Rodger has sold a number of feature film and television projects. In television, Rodger has produced, directed and/or operated camera on many reality and scripted series.

Rodger resides in Los Angeles with his wife and daughter.

Matthew Perniciaro & Kevin Mann, Picture Machine, Producers

Founded in 2004 by producers Matthew Perniciaro and Kevin Mann, PICTURE MACHINE strives to take a new approach to the way in which independent films are made.

Since starting the company, Matthew and Kevin have produced FIFTY PILLS, starring Kristen Bell, Lou Taylor Pucci and Michael Pena. The film premiered at the 2006 Tribeca Film Festival and was distributed by Echo Bridge Entertainment in 2007.

Their next production was WHAT WE DO IS SECRET, a biopic of punk rock legend Darby Crash, which premiered at the 2007 Los Angeles Film Festival. The film stars Shane West, Bijou Phillips, Rick Gonzalez and Noah Segan as the notorious punk band, The Germs.

They have recently finished the road dramedy FANBOYS, a co-production with Kevin Spacey and his company, Trigger Street. FANBOYS tells the story of five best friends who take one last road trip together to give their friend his dying wish... to break into George Lucas' Skywalker Ranch and steal a copy of Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace six months before it hits theaters. In addition to having the full endorsement of Lucasfilm, the film was in the top five on the Hollywood "Black List", a compilation of the year's best screenplays, and has a highly touted ensemble cast including Seth Rogen,

Dan Fogler, Jay Baruchel, Kristen Bell, Chris Marquette and Sam Huntington. The Weinstein Company and MGM will distribute FANBOYS theatrically and worldwide during the summer of 2008.

PICTURE MACHINE is currently in production on the documentary MORE THAN A GAME, an unprecedented look into the life of Basketball Superstar LeBron James. They are additionally developing the Untitled Sentry Heist Project with filmmakers Kevin Smith and Scott Mosier.

Todd Traina, Producer

Todd Traina, producer and founder of Red Rover Films, has consistently produced unique and varied product and focused on independent films of all different genres. Last year Traina was named a "Top Ten Producer to Watch" by Daily Variety and was recently honored at the Toronto International Film Festival.

Traina served as Executive Producer on the 2007 Sundance Audience Award-Winning drama GRACE IS GONE, starring John Cusack. GRACE IS GONE was sold to The Weinstein Company and will be released on DVD in 2008.

Traina served as Executive Producer on the martial-arts thriller BLOOD & BONE starring Michael Jai White and Julian Sands as well the thriller NIGHT TRAIN starring Danny Glover, Steve Zahn, & Leelee Sobieski. Traina also served as Executive Producer on STAG NIGHT starring Kip Pardue, Breckin Meyer and Vinessa Shaw. Traina was an Executive Producer on BLACKWATER TRANSIT, starring Lawrence Fishburne, Karl Urban and Stephan Dorff. Based on the novel by Carsten Stroud, BLACKWATER TRANSIT was directed by Tony Kaye. Traina also served as Executive Producer on Rifkin-Eberts' feature TIMBER FALLS, a horror/thriller directed by Tony Giglio. Traina produced the feature film MY SUICIDE (aka Untitled David Lee Miller Project), starring Gabriel Sunday, Brooke Nevin, David Carradine, Nora Dunn, Mariel Hemingway, Tony Hale, Joe Mantegna and Harry Shearer. In 2006, Traina produced the highly acclaimed PUNK'S NOT DEAD, an in-depth feature-length documentary based on the Punk Rock movement. The documentary features music and extensive interviews with over 100 bands, and will be released on DVD 2008.

Traina is in development on the comedy THE WOODY, which he co-wrote with Frank Dietz. Traina and Dietz also partnered on the comedy spec script WITHOUT A HITCH. Traina will produce and has acquired the rights to the novel MORNING SPY, EVENING SPY by Colin MacKinnon, to be adapted for the screen and directed by George HICKENLOOPER (FACTORY GIRL, THE MAYOR OF THE SUNSET STRIP, HEARTS OF DARKNESS: A FILMMAKER'S APOCALYPSE). Traina is also developing DEAL with partners Rifkin/Eberts, to be directed by Michael Corrente.

Prior to forming Red Rover Films, Traina was president of Lampedusa Films, where he developed and produced STANLEY'S GIG, a feature film starring William Sanderson, Marla Gibbs, and Faye Dunaway. STANLEY'S GIG won several film festivals and premiered on the Starz Network. Traina also co-produced the feature film SKELETON WOMAN starring Daphne Rubin-Vega and Serena Scott-Thomas. Traina served as Executive Producer on director Paul Feig's debut feature LIFE SOLD SEPARATELY. Traina has also produced a variety of other documentaries and cooking and lifestyle shows, including "La Bella Vita," an international food and travel show starring the late Vincent Schiavelli, and most recently "Restauranteur," featuring Adolfo Suaya.

Traina began his career with producer Douglas Cramer at NBC Productions working on the *Danielle Steel Movies of the Week* Secrets, "Heartbeat" and "Palomino." Later Traina was a partner at BigRock Pictures where he developed the comedy spec WOODSTUCK, written by Frank Dietz, which was sold to John Davis at 20th Century Fox. Traina was born and raised in San Francisco and is a graduate of Connecticut College.

Stephen Nemeth, Producer

Stephen Nemeth formed and heads up Rhino Films, the independent film company that originated as a division of iconoclastic record label Rhino Records. He has produced eight films and executive produced twelve others. He is also working with Amnesty International through Artists for Amnesty on developing and producing human rights related motion picture and television projects. His Producer credits include FEAR AND LOATHING IN LAS VEGAS, WHY DO FOOLS FALL IN LOVE, DOGTOWN AND Z BOYS, SHREIK IF YOU KNOW WHAT I DID LAST FRIDAY THE 13TH, YOU AND I (starring Mischa Barton and directed by Roland Joffe), and RADIO FREE ALBEMUTH (the last Philip K. Dick novel.) Executive Producer credits include DENISE CALLS UP and CADILLAC RANCH.

Nemeth executive produced the documentary WAR/DANCE (THINKfilm) about Ugandan child soldiers which was nominated for a 2008 Academy Award for Best Documentary and which won the Director's Award at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival and PICK UP THE MIC, which premiered at the 2005 Toronto International Film Festival. He has also exec PRODUCED FIELDS OF FUEL, about alternative energies, which won the Audience Award at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival and FLOW which also competed at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival. Nemeth is in production on numerous other documentaries including BEISBOL, chronicling the rise of Latin Baseball; A WALK ON WATER, about the connection between autism and mercury and films about **George Plimpton, Budd Schulberg** and **Robert Williams**.

He serves on the boards of the Hollywood Film Festival, Woodstock Film Festival, the Prints and Drawing Department of the LA County Museum, the Wildlife Ecostation, Wheels For Humanity, Children Uniting Nations, Shine On Sierra Leone and the One Second Film Foundation. He is also an advisory board member of Rock the Vote and Amnesty International's Artists for Amnesty and serves as a consultant for Mobile Media and Admetech, a foundation at Harvard Medical School. Nemeth was named one of the "Top Ten Most Prolific Producers in Hollywood" by The Hollywood Reporter, and one of the "Ten Coolest People in Hollywood" by an online survey of 500 agents, managers, journalists, and lawyers.

Prior to forming Rhino Films, Nemeth worked as an independent producer and as a motion picture agent at the William Morris Agency. He is a California native, attended Le Lycee Francais de Los Angeles, and is a graduate of UCLA's psychology department.

Bruce Wayne Gillies, Line Producer

Filmmaker and DGA member Bruce Wayne Gillies has served successfully as an Executive Producer, Producer and Line Producer on several Hollywood independent feature films and network television programs. Notably, Mario Van Peebles biopic BAADASSSSS!, an IFP Independent Spirit Awards nominee for best feature film, best director and best screenplay.

Recently, Gillies helped produce Plum Pictures' TRUCKER starring Michelle Monaghan, Nathan Fillion and Benjamin Bratt and the indie-drama COLUMBUS DAY starring Val Kilmer for Kevin Spacey's Triggerstreet Prods. Previously, Bruce line produced the powerful docudrama MUSIC WITHIN starring Ron Livingston, with Michael Sheen and Melissa George.

A seasoned filmmaker, Gillies' background also includes directing the feature film BULLFIGHTS and music videos as well as three well received short films he wrote, produced and edited. In addition Bruce has written several feature and short film screenplays and television treatments.

For over twenty years Bruce has been creating, writing, producing, directing, and working on motion picture productions. He started directing in college as an undergraduate helming multi-camera coverage of NCAA college sports. Early on he also performed as a professional Radio D.J. at WCFX, Clare, MI while attending college at Central Michigan University majoring in Cinematic Arts.

Bruce Wayne Gillies grew up near Detroit, Michigan in the suburb of Southgate. He now resides in Southern California with his wife and children.

Michelle Baer Ghaffari, Story Co-Writer/Co-Producer

While attending University High School in West Los Angeles, Michelle was introduced to Jan Paul Beahm. The two became fast friends. Shortly after, Paul was given his high school diploma early—being allowed to graduate only after he'd promised never to step foot on campus again. But this didn't stop the future Darby Crash from calling in a bomb scare so Michelle could join him on a trip to Hollywood.

Although Michelle turned down Paul's offer to join the Germs at their inception, their friendship grew. Michelle found her niche among the original L.A. punk rockers as one of Darby's best friends, an ardent Germs fan, and co-publisher of the fanzine *Panic in L.A.*

Whether it was an interview for *Panic* or a trip to the hospital for some gig-induced stitches, the two remained close throughout Darby's vital foray into notoriety. In 1979, when Penelope Spheeris featured the Germs in DECLINE OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION, she requested that Darby and Michelle be interviewed together. Among the stories their scene revealed were tales of one of their antics—the night they discovered a dead housepainter in Michelle's backyard. The two later shared an apartment in Hollywood.

Michelle was deeply affected when Darby killed himself with a heroin overdose on December 7, 1980—so much so, in fact, that she swore off drugs and made a vow to truthfully document Darby's life and death.

When Rodger Grossman sought out Michelle to discuss Darby, Michelle was impressed by Rodger's passion for the subject, his good looks, and his winning smile. She was smitten. How could she join this wacky lunatic and his wreckless yet passionate journey to tell a story nobody cared about? Yet join she did. Michelle joined Rodger to write and co-produce WHAT WE DO IS SECRET.

Michelle is now a writer and editor living in Westwood with her husband and two daughters.

Joel Plotch, Editor

Plotch has been editing feature films for the last twelve years. Included in the 18 films that he has edited is an ongoing collaboration with director Neil Labute that includes such films as IN THE COMPANY OF MEN, YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS NURSE BETTY, THE SHAPE OF THINGS, and most recently, WICKER MAN. Additionally, he has continued to edit commercials, music videos, television programming and documentaries.

Prior to his feature film career, Plotch was president and Creative Director of JP Studio, a New York based production and editorial facility where he directed and edited hundreds of music videos and commercials. He also created and produced documentary television for PBS, HBO, MTV Networks. In addition Plotch worked on a variety of television shows for The Sundance Channel, Showtime AMC, Nick at Night and the ESPN family of channels.

Plotch began his career production managing and producing commercials for directors such as Jerry Ansel, Bob Giraldi, Victor Milt, and Robert Petrocelli. Joel then became Art Director for the commercial and industrial film company Mediaworks where he oversaw, designed and directed films for hundreds of corporate and commercial clients such as Volvo, Learning International, General Motors, BMW, and ars. During the early years he served as a Creative Director at a New York City based commercial production company called Mediaworks. Several years later he formed his own production and editorial company called JP Studio where he produced, directed, and edited hundreds of commercials and Music Video's, as well as a number of notable documentaries and Television projects

Plotch graduated Magna Cum Laude with a BFA from Washington University's School of Fine Arts in St. Louis. He minored in Art History. During his college years he won numerous awards for his excellent work

in a variety of media; film, video, performance and fine arts. His early films won awards at the San Francisco Film Festival, Houston International Film Festival, Chicago Film Festival among others. He also attended classes at the renowned Chicago Art Institute where he studied with legendary filmmaker Stan Brackage.

Plotch has been making films since he was 14 years old and continues to explore the cinematic world with strong convictions and passions.

Andrew Huebscher, Cinematographer

Andrew Huebscher was born and raised in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he got his start shooting for local television. He later moved to Los Angeles to attend the University of Southern California's film school, earning scholarships in cinematography and honing his craft on short films. He later won the American Society of Cinematographers' Heritage Award. Recent feature credits include SHADOWHEART, (818), CHASING GHOSTS and BELIEVERS. His narrative work has been featured at Sundance, Los Angeles Independent, Tribeca, and dozens of other film festivals around the world.

Recent commercial work includes a spot for Harvey Nichols, which will be shown theatrically throughout the Middle East. Past commercial work has been featured at the AICP show in New York.

Andrew is well versed in film and digital shooting formats, and has extensive experience in color grading and D.I. (digital intermediate) finishing. He has personally graded three features on which he was also DP. He views the relationship as identical to that of photographer and darkroom.

Andrew is based in Los Angeles, where he is represented by the Montana Artists Agency. He maintains a website featuring clips of his work at www.andrewdp.com.

John Mott, Production Designer

John Mott is an accomplished production designer, working in the U.S., and internationally in Europe, Asia and Africa on Feature Films, Television, Documentaries, Commercials and Music Videos. Recent feature credits include BABY O, THE ONE, DRIFTWOOD, and ALONE WITH HER. His network television credits include the post-apocalyptic CBS drama "*Jericho*" and the Discovery documentary series "*Moments in Time*" for which he was nominated for an Art Directors Guild award for Excellence In Production Design.

Recently, he was the keynote speaker on Production Design for Digital Capture at the 2008 NAB Show in Las Vegas.

Memberships include the Art Directors Guild (SMPTAD, Local 800), the American Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, and the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA).

Born in Edinburgh, Scotland, John grew up in Sydney, Australia, where he graduated from Sydney University. He lives in Los Angeles.

Howard Paar, Music Supervisor

Howard began his US career as a Los Angeles based club promoter/ DJ working with such bands as The Specials, The Clash, The Go Gos, Berlin, The Cure, The Bangles, Echo & The Bunnymen Lydia Lunch, Ministry . He went on to become Vice President Soundtracks Mercury/Polygram where he executive produced a number of soundtracks (credits below) as well as placing numerous songs in films & TV shows. He then joined Richard Branson's V2 Records as Head of Film & TV where he worked closely with artists such as Moby and Underworld, until 1999 when he became an independent supervisor.

He continued to work with Moby whose "play" CD has become the first in history to have media placement for all tracks. He now works with a number of artists who create music for visual media including Carlos D of Interpol and Warren Fischer of Fischerspooner.

Howard was nominated for a Grammy in 2003 for the DOGTOWN AND Z BOYS soundtrack. In 2008 he worked on WHILE SHE WAS OUT starring Kim Basinger and Lucas Haas; AUGUST starring Josh Harnett and Naomi Harris and THE RAMEN GIRL starring Britney Murphy.

Press Reviews of Paar's work:

Things Behind The Sun: "And while music has been a key element in all of her (Allison Anders) films, the placement of both newly written and carefully chosen existing songs to help shape the character and mood is exceptional...the songs here serve to show the powerful effect music can have on people..."

~**Daily Variety**

Down & Out With The Dolls: "The music is sensational, the energy level high & Down & Out with The Dolls is a wise and funny treat."

~**LA Times**

"*Nowhere*": Like most alt-rock soundtracks, this one is crammed with material from *120 Minute regulars* like Elastica Hole & Marilyn Manson...but while other scores seem padded with limp outtakes, *Nowhere* stands out. The tracks from Radiohead & 311 rank with their best material."

~ **(A) Entertainment Weekly**

Few contemporary soundtracks conceived as they are in company boardrooms with nanny Billboard hovering in the wings actually comment on or illuminate the film they're grafted onto. "*Girls Town*" is the exception , in fact its one of the best albums released this year. The soundtrack gets into an incredibly intimate, funny, sad and strong feminine voice that's distinctly urban ,fed by hip-hop and sober electronic grooves. It's music artfully of the moment yet there's something old and wise at work here.

~**LA Weekly**

"*Girls Town*": "With an impressive lineup of female artists that includes Salt 'N' Peppa Queen Latifah, Luscious Jackson & PJ Harvey, Girls Town combines slumber-party fluff with grown up issues over disposable pop-funk rhythms. Ideal for ear-candy addicts and dancing fools alike".

~ **(B) Entertainment Weekly**

"The movie may be weird, but the *Nowhere* soundtrack is way cool, since it's packed with such hot bands. The disc covers all the bases too, so you won't get bored. Play it when you've got many moods spinning at once".

~**Teen**

"...the soundtrack to *Nowhere* goes anywhere but. Rare tracks from Radiohead Elastica & Hole are all excellent while the contributions from Massive Attack Chemical Brothers and James make this perfect listening matter for young Americans suffering all manner of, like, really intense crises".

~ **** **Q**

"*Another Day In Paradise*" Tasteful isn't exactly the first word that comes to mind when you think of 'Kids'

director Larry Clark but this 60's soul heavy soundtrack is exactly that.
~ (A) Entertainment Weekly

Among the soundtracks executive produced as VP Soundtracks/Mercury Records, are THE BIG LEBOWSKI, Gregg Araki's NOWHERE, TURBO: A POWER RANGERS MOVIE, CAT'S DON'T DANCE, GIRLS TOWN and TALES FROM THE CRYPT: BORDELLO OF BLOOD.

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