

SECONDS



**RED HOT CHILI
PEPPERS**

HANDSOME DICK
MANITOBA

HORROR NOVELIST
CLIVE BARKER

MARK
MOTHERSBAUGH

RONNIE
MONTROSE
HASIL ADKINS

DAVE ALVIN
STRYPER
T.S.O.L.



PEPPERS RED HOT CHILI



SECONDS: Discuss some details of the Uplift Mofo Party Plan. I know it's "a plan based on a band, a band based on a plan."

FLEA: Well, when the Peppers formed we had a very important secret plan that I will divulge now for the first time in the history of man. Our secret plan was a three-step plan. First was to make a great record, first step. Second step was to make a great video. And the third step was to make a great tour. That was our secret plan, we want everybody to know that. We figure we've done step one of the Uplift Mofo Party Plan. I think it's the most complete record that we've ever made. I'm happy with every aspect of it, I think it's captured the live intensity of the band, it's captured different aspects of what we play musically. It's just a really complete record, our producer Michael Beinhorn was really attentive to all these songs, there's no slip-shot anything on it. On the first two records there's really good points to them. Like on the first record, I feel that the songs are excellent but that it's too sterile the way it was recorded. We didn't get along with the producer Andy Gill very well, he had a different idea of recording. At the time we just wanted to play live, you know, stick a microphone up and turn on the tape, that's how we wanted to do it, and I think it would have come out better like that. The songs on that record that came out the best, which in my opinion are "Get Up and Jump" and "Buckle Down," are the best because they were recorded more live, the other ones were recorded piece by piece to a click track, and that's just not how we work. Then on the second album with George Clinton, I love the songs on that record too, all the tracks were recorded live, which is great, and I think they all have a real good soulful feel to them, but I don't think they were mixed in a real subtle, funky way. I still don't think there was enough attention paid in the mix, it was just put out. On the new record, everything was done right—we recorded everything live and everything was mixed really well, we got really good sounds, and it was just really good feeling in the studio when we did it. We had great feeling with *Freaky Styley*, too. But the first record was really tense because we weren't getting along with the producer at all. I mean, there was an instance where we went and took a shit and put it on the mixing board and said, "Look at this."

SECONDS: I don't think Andy Gill, from Gang of 4, really had an understanding of funk.

FLEA: Well the thing is, I really loved the first two Gang of 4 records. But when we started working with him, they had already put out two more records, and the last one he did, *Hard*, I'm not fond of at all. So he was into that, and he would say, "I didn't know what I was doing when I did those first two records. I was silly, I was stupid, just like you are now." We were like, "Fuck man, those records are great!" Nothing against Andy, that's what he was into. I have all the respect in the world for him because those first records he made were great. But we just argued a lot on that record. He wanted to make it piece by piece, make everything right. But he just took the booty juice right out of it, and it was a problem. On this new record Michael Beinhorn is a really good producer, I'd strongly recommend him to anyone looking for a producer. A lot of producers will take a band and plug the band

record, because George had never seen us play live while us out on tour before we made the record to check it out of thing he does, that's what makes him so cool, he checked himself really aware of what we're all about. George was were playing the music that we played, but our live performance was a big part of what we do. That's why you can't really feel the second record, I don't think, as much as you can on the first that's because George wasn't really aware of it. But when he was great, he created such a good atmosphere, he's such a good person, he has so many good stories to tell. While we were recording our headphones—"Yeah, get it Flea! Get it Anthony!"

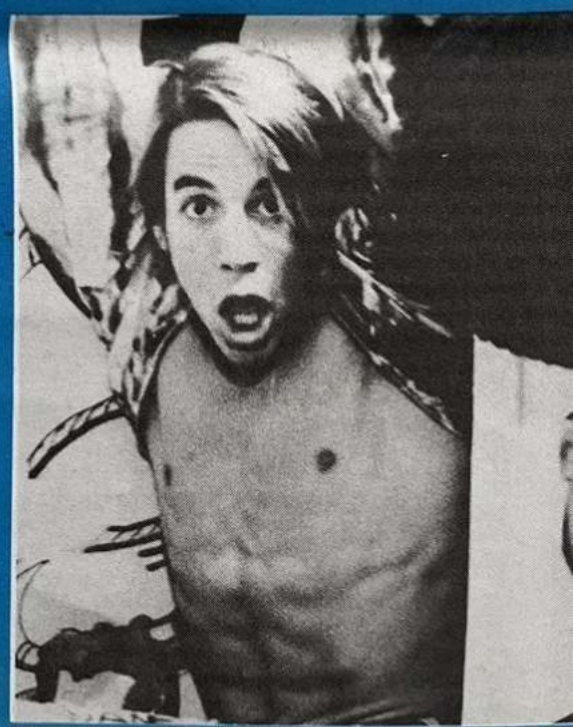
SECONDS: It seems like his influence on you must have been big.

FLEA: Yeah, to tell you the truth, he definitely influenced that second record. But when we first started, I had never heard the big hits like "One Nation Under a Groove" and I'd never really been into Parliament-Funkadelic. It was on the second record that I heard all this and I said, "We're doing what we're doing." Because our stuff has been so funky for white radio and too hard rockin' for black radio, that thing happened to Funkadelic, all their earlier stuff, "Got Brain," "Hard-Core Jollies," that stuff rocks so hard that people don't know about it. Personally, I think it's some of the best music ever played. It falls into the same category as funk music but it rocks. I think the same thing happened to us, we weren't a commercial success. And we had never really met George, yet we've been going in the same direction for as an open-minded funky groove. Now it's definitely a guess it influenced us without us ever hearing it, just the way it was.

SECONDS: Your latest single, "Fight Like a Brave," reminds me of the chorus especially.

FLEA: Yeah, but also a lot of people say that it reminds me of Led Zeppelin, the whole *Physical Graffiti* groove. But basically what we wrote, that we were playing at the time. When we put it together it's just that we get a groove and Anthony's playing that's it. I think "Fight Like a Brave" is a really good song, drugs, though it can relate to a lot of different things to us.

SECONDS: Talking about drugs, Red Hot Chili Peppers are known for their ties of drugs you've consumed? For instance, a lot of the band members nature must come from taking LSD all these years.



Cheryl Dyer

FLEA: As far as drugs go, we smoke pot like madmen. My brother doesn't get high, but he's weirder than hell anyway. A big part of my life, there's no denying it. I don't go taking drugs. But as far as drugs go, I'm very anti-cocaine and he's destroyed a lot of people that I love. I especially despise