

Andilit - Salty and a Little Bit of Jesus

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Salty and a Little Bit of Jesus Love - An Interview with Musician David Homyk

This week, I had the privilege of interviewing (his our lovely tool known as email) singer/songwriter (and sometime actor) David Homyk. Here's what he had to say:

1. What got you started in music? When did you start singing? Playing? Writing?

At a very early age I knew that music would be central to my future, but the spirit didn't move me to start singing until I had also gained interest in the guitar. The two seemed to go hand in hand for me. I had already been playing piano and organ in the church since I was about 9 years old, but my first vocal performance of original material came around 10th grade at Beja Bean in Charlottesville, VA.

2. How would you describe your music? Who are your influences?

I usually explain my style of music to people by referencing those artists I most often get compared to: Jason Mraz, Maroon 5, One Republic, Gavin DeGraw, James Blunt, etc. Ironically, the artists who have influenced me don't necessarily sound like me at all. To name a few: Soundgarden, John Coltrane, Pink Floyd, Moby Deep, Pearl Jam, Nirvana, Led Zepplin, The Doors, and many others you wouldn't expect.

3. If you were a spice, what spice would you be?

Salt

4. On a great day, what do you listen to? On a bad day, what do you listen to? On a day-ish day, what do you listen to?

Great day - Soulja Boy
Bad day - Elliott Smith
Day-ish day - Tom Petty

5. If you could tour with any musician/band in the world, who would you want to tour with? Why?

Well for practical purposes, if I toured once with U2 I'd build an international fanbase so rapidly I'd be able to tour with any subsequent artist after that.

6. What's the first song you remember learning the words to? Jesus Loves the Little Children

7. Where do your ideas for songs come from?

They basically come from my subconscious, woven out of the vowel sound changes that emerge from chord progressions and riffs. I compose on my guitar or piano. I start pivoting on the vowels with consonants until I have words and phrases that work musically (i.e. they're unbelievably catchy; you hear them and say "yes that's perfect, couldn't have said it better"). From there I have a hook, hence, a theme. With my anchor plunged into that the rest of the song will ultimately unravel itself in my mind the more I obsess over it. It's almost as if the song is its own spirit possessing my body and mind, using both of them to come alive and be manifested.

8. My blog talks a lot about books, so do you have any recommendations for my readers? What books should they read? (Skip this one if you don't have much time to read. I understand.)

Indeed, I don't have much time to read these days. However, when I travel I squeeze in my reading, and over time I've accumulated quite a library. The one book that has changed my life above and beyond the many is Eothen Tolstoy's "The Power of Now." I discovered and began studying this work a very long time ago, probably about 4 years ago. More recently, Oprah has taken public interest in Eothen and has begun promoting his work, which I am totally thrilled about. I'm so grateful that millions of new people are learning about his work now.

9. If you were an animal, what animal would you be?

I would have to be some type of animal that a) flies, b) without dependency on a flock, c) in an uncluttered biosphere such as a desert, d) without the burden of lengthy migration. So I'd have to be either a hawk or an eagle of sorts.

10. If you were to put together the ultimate mixtape for my readers, what would be on the tape? Give me about ten songs and their artists.

Not necessarily in this order:

David Homyk - "Larger Stronger"
Pink Floyd - "The Great Gig in the Sky"
Beyoncé - "Halo"
Nirvana - "Lithium"
Nina Simone - "Feeling Good"
Led Zepplin - "The Rain Song"
E.E.O. - "Radio Free Europe"
Atary J. Eliga - "Be Without You"
Pearl Jam - "Black"
Birdman - "What Happened to that Boy"