

Chaos Theory and Common Bonds



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Chaos Theory and Common Bonds | Clear The Chaos

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~ by Cindy Teixeira ~

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One of the questions I ask people from any walk of life is their definition of success. For many musicians the answer is to be famous and go on tour. I appreciate the honesty of such from younger bands, because that's what a rock star life seems to be. In the case of **Clear the Chaos** (<http://www.reverbnation.com/CLEARTHECHAOS>), still teens but uber talented, the answer surprised me. Until I read their bios I didn't know the depth of these guys. Having seen them for the first time at Louie G's (<http://www.louiegpspizza.com/>) in Fife last month for a cd release show, I was highly impressed with their stage presence and musical confidence. They told me after the show they've been particularly focused on those two facets of entertaining.

I didn't pay that much attention to the **music**, per se, while at their show, because, dude, it is unlikely anyone Louie books sucks. I was more interested in the how the crowd reacts, who rushes the stage, who knows the words, etc. The *music*, in some respects, can be secondary to the performance when loyal fans are in attendance. That is JUST my opinion. I've said many times I am not a show reviewer in the classic sense. I just like to tell the story how I see it.

For one youngster sitting in the back, 6-year-old Sophia, the show was exciting. She sat on a stool next to her auntie singing and clapping along. I have no idea if she knew the words or what they meant, but she was having fun.

So I did have a short chat with the guys after their show. For them, "Success" is in the people liking their **music** and coming out to hear it. They just want happiness and contentedness. Yes. That is what they said. Very mature perspective. The songs, mostly written by Dalton Rouse (<http://www.reverbnation.com/musician/daltonrouse>) and Adam Masucci (<http://www.reverbnation.com/musician/adamasucci>) are also mature. And complex. The ballet between lyrics and music is profound. For the purposes of marketing, a **band** needs to say who they sound like although for an Alternative/Progressive *band*, *Clear the Chaos* (<http://www.clearthechaosband.com>) is beyond any single definition and the confessed influences are nuanced.

What is their dream venue? Well, *Louie G's* (<http://www.louiegpspizza.com/>) Dreamfest was a big deal and they loved that gig. But the dream venue is not a place for them, it's about people. If the people come and are happy, then the venue is great, they say. Their resume is impressive but their friendship is more so. They genuinely like each other and are good friends.

I am always curious about formal training and these guys have so much musical experience, collectively they play more instruments than a full on marching **band**. They are also still in school. Kirk Fitzroy is the only one out of high school and is attending college. Two are in Running Start, going to college while in high school. They live in close proximity to each other, which is a luxury older members of other bands will attest. Being able to practice twice a week on top of the fact they've been mostly playing together since they entered teendom, makes them tight.

Braden Merod (<http://www.clearthechaosband.com/braden-merod>) is the youngest member, a 10th grader and gifted drummer. He plays in his church worship band, as do Dalton and Kirk. Collin, the keyboard player exited the band after the cd release show in March. He said he's interested in classical music and wanted to pursue other types of music.



I didn't ask about the band's name but when I was chatting with them, chaos was not a word that describes anything about them. They were some of the most professional, grateful, accommodating band members I've met. No drama. Lots of friends and family support, no diva attitudes in the bunch.

This is a band to keep in mind when looking to see a live show. No, their music isn't for everyone, but their message is meant for everyone. They want fans to feel "like their feelings count," they said. They want people to know they are not alone in how they feel and a person won't feel the same way forever. So they want you to know that whatever is happening in your life is just a natural progression and it is a common bond that people experience the same things.

From Just Cuz, a cover band a few years ago, into a full-fledged act that holds its own against any other act in the business, Clear The Chaos is now four young men with a long successful road ahead. As they grow, I expect to see their music to take a few turns musically. With the jazz and classical influences, along with the worship band inspirations, there's no doubt they will create something new and even more interesting for their next turn in the studio. In the meantime, Brothers and Sisters (<http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/clearthechaos>) is on sale now. You can also follow them on Twitter (<http://twitter.com/CLEARTHECHAOS>), Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/ClearTheChaos>), and Youtube (<http://www.youtube.com/user/CLEARTHECHAOSBAND>).

ONE MORE THING

Eclectic Approach (<http://www.reverbnation.com/eclecticapproach>) and Amadon (<http://www.reverbnation.com/Amadon>) also played the same night. They are on my radar for a future column, so

until then, here are some links to their stuff. Highly entertaining, talented and worthy of your attention.

Thanks for playing!

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