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MOUNTAINEER

ARTIST:
A Minor Forest

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INTERVIEW

and the basic idea of what I'm gonna say, but it's not like words. I know how I'm gonna phrase it, and then in the studio, we just work on making it so it sounds like I'm actually singing something. Like I'm actually singing words. Like he'll [Andee] have to come up with what he thinks I'm singing, and then that'll be the actual words, and then I'll try it again and sing those words.

Andee: As an example of the earlier question, I think the new song is called "Swiss Mime." (motions to Swiss Mime glossy on the Forum Grill wall)

Erik: Yeah, see, that right there. That's how we come up with song titles.

Angela: (to Andee) How come when you play live, you set up with your back to the audience?

Andee: It's always been that way. When bands practice, like if you and I were in a band, we would be practicing like this [facing each other]. We wouldn't both be practicing like this [facing the same direction]. It always seems a bit absurd, although I understand the importance of audience involvement. It seems to make sense for bands that are like improvising and playing off of each other to see each other.

Erik: Basically, we always have to have eye contact in order to play the songs.

Andee: In order to not be math rock because with eye contact, we never have to count. But you know the main reason, which I don't think we've talked about, is that when I was little I went to Disney Land. Have you ever been to Disney Land?

Angela: Yeah.

Andee: There's that one place where they have really shitty bands playing on like the edge of the dance floor.

Erik: Tomorrowland.

Andee: It's in Tomorrowland. There's this sculpture, and then the band comes out of the ground. I was young, and I had just started to play the drums. There was a little dance floor, it's like a sidewalk and you can walk this close [suggesting distance between himself and Eric] to behind the drummer. And you never see ... you see MTV and you always see the drummer making faces and you never see his feet and hands. It's kind of interesting, like poetic sometimes, to see all the stuff that goes on. I think those are all the reasons.

Angela: This is another question for you. Weren't you on an episode of Different Strokes?

Andee: Was that in the thing?

Angela: It was on the Internet, I think.

Andee: It was on that list too, that Slint list.

Angela: Which episode?

Andee: It was that episode where Arnold tries out for the football team but he can't be on the football team because he's so little. So Mr. Drummand buys uniforms for the team, and kind of bribes his way onto the team. And both me and my little brother were on Arnold's football team. So we didn't really get to do anything, but we go to meet Arnold and Willis and Kimberly.

Angela: So what are your future plans as a band?

Erik: We don't know.

Andee: Be very late to Iowa City.