

# ROT GUT







*City Paper*  
Nov. '92

*Big Short*  
Sept. '90

Rotgut caught my ears with a very strong four-song EP some time ago, and they may have put out something since then. Regardless, the four tracks cut into the vinyl were all aggression and raw power, with the sloppy directness of early Black Flag or Circle Jerks. The music presents the pure, unholy joy of punk rock, where the band is more concerned with energy and communication than with skillful musicianship. Having seen Rotgut perform earlier this year, I can tell you that the qualities that they presented on record are there in equal amounts on stage.

with Rotgut's 7-inch on Potty Queen Records. Aside from having one of the coolest covers this side of the '70s (dig that groovy picture of Archie Bunker and Sammy Davis Jr.), you gotta love the music. After all, you know any band with a slogan that says "Subtle. Like a brick through your window" is going to mean business. Rotgut gets right down to it, playing a straight-ahead, no-frills, attack-from-the-ground-up brand of punk rock that's catchy and very in-your-face. Sloppy, spirited, slammin' — it's everything that made shows fun to go to in the first place.

*Jersey Beat #42*  
winter '91

**ROTGUT**  
4-song 7" EP

Potty Queen, 4721 Larchwood, Philadelphia PA 19143

Totally rockin' 70's guitar muck, not an uncommon sound around South Jersey and Philly what with Dr. Bombay and the Rave Records crew. Four hot tunes here, all pretty much the same tempo and style, and all grade A.

- Jim T.

"Factsheet 5"  
#39

by strong, direct and unpredictable music (TY)

ROTGUT, self-titled (Potty Queen Records, 4721 Larchwood, Philadelphia, PA 19143): Power-punk four-piece doing four songs here, or maybe it's one song four times. (Well, no, the instrumental does sound different). The music pounds around, sloshes through your head, and having scrambled brains, exits out the opposite year while the band is hunting down more guitar chords and near-chant vocals. The zen of punk. (EP/MG)

"Maximum Rock n Roll"  
Apr. '91

V/A - "Please Don't Lick the Walls" box set

The highlights of this nicely packaged, limited edition 4 7" set go like this: BLUE contributes a short, crazed, raw punk-out of some note; ASH-TRAY performs a two-chord tune that builds to some intensity; HEAVEN CEMENT sound garage as hell in a rock/punk style, a real screamer; and ROTGUT delivers a thick, pummeling HC/punk amalgam — the best tune on this enjoyable release. (SS)  
(Rave, PO Box 40075, Philadelphia, PA 19106)

*Maximum Rock n Roll*  
Aug. '90

**ROTGUT - EP**

Some basic U.S.-style '77 garage punk. As you probably know, I never get tired of the back-to-basics punk style and power guitar simplicity. Not pretty, just raw and real. (TY)  
(Potty Queen Records, 4721 Larchwood, Philadelphia, PA 19143)







**ROTGUT** PEACE, LOVE and SAMMY 4-song 7" EP (Potty Queen) - Your basic full-throttle us-against-the-world stance. Gives the illusion of speed. 'We may be goin' nowhere, but we're doin' it hard-n-heavier than anybody else.' More wanton than anarchist. Watch that pot, man. It's boiling dry. The licks are straight out of Guitar Player. Rotgut seem to be into recreating the Stooges' aura, and on "Quit The World", they do a damn fine job. The Stooges-MC5 grunge-thang will probably never burn itself out; it's like an eternal rite of passage, an escape from innocence, an embracing of harshness and doom. Once upon a time, it was enough to be a rebel, but following in the footsteps of history's innovators doesn't count as revolt, because the inspiration comes from without. Might even garner a footnote in the annals of rock-n-roll.

(Potty Queen Records, 4721 Larchwood, Philadelphia PA 19143). *Ancient Grandma*

*Secrets #6*

**ROTGUT  
PEACE AND LOVE SAMMY 7"**

A new band out of Philly?! I was starting to believe the city of apathy was incapable of producing such a thing but much to my surprise, ROTGUT are a fairly new band from my home city and a really good one at that. Four songs of guitar heavy punk/hardcore with a spirited sound kinda typical of older Philly bands like PAGAN BABIES. There's a rockin' feel to the guitars and a lot of punch and power in the drum sound. Just a good upbeat punk record with lyrics about not liking life very much - not sure how else to describe this or who to compare them with but this is good well played music with more energy than you could probably find in the entire scene altogether. Decent single. Available for \$3.00 I assume from: Potty Queen Records, 4721 Larchwood, Phila., PA 19143.

*"Primary Concern" #6*

of the performances shines through.

Immaculate Hearts' "Girl in the Rubber Room," one track in the Rave set, boasts a chugging rhythm section that sounds as if it's slogging through mud with its amps cranked up full blast. Johnny Digs the Devil's equally throbbing "Revelry" is marked by well-utilized, aggressive wah-wah guitar. And speed-metalist Rotgut turns in the box's most disciplined song, "Kill Your Boss," whose clever, somewhat unorthodox verse-chorus construction overcomes otherwise run-of-the-mill playing.

Two bands featured in "Don't Lick (See SINGLES on 8-H)

*Phila. Inquirer  
Apr. '91*





10012)\*\*\*\*\*A righteous slab of Lazy Cowgirls/Angry Samoans punk rock from Philadelphia's Rotgut should not be missed on their *Peace And Love Sammy* seven inch EP. Write to Potty Queen Records, 4721 Larchwood, Philadelphia, PA 19143.

*Stranger #12*

**ROT GUT - 7 inch**

Put their name to music and there you have the description... **CHOICE GRUNGE!!!** 4 tunes - one instrumental. Lyrics included. For all you punk-core-grunge monsters out there!! Not noise - understandable fun grunge. **POTTY QUEEN RECORDS 4721 Larchwood, Philly, PA 19143** ES

*Big Short Feb '92*

■ **ROTGUT, Peace, Love and Sammy** (Potty Queen). Pretty good, heavy distortion, uptempo punk. The lyrics are heavy on the negative side, but the singing styles keep it from being so harsh. (4721 Larchwood, Philadelphia, PA 19103) (TS)

**Subtle. Like a brick through your window.**



*City Paper*

*Entertainer!*

A few weeks back Rotgut's demo tape was reviewed here, but now these guys have waxed that material on their own four-song EP awaiting your consumption. With a power-packed mixture that sounds like an unholy alliance of the Sex Pistols and the MC5/Iggy camp, Rotgut delivers short, noisy blasts of pure punk energy. Rotgut has mastered the most elemental requirement of this type of music - making things sound like they are just on the verge of completely falling apart, yet blasting onwards and completing the song just before everything goes to pieces. It's tons of fun to go along for the ride, so send \$3.00 to Potty Queen Records, 4721 Larchwood, Philadelphia, PA 19143. Don't miss the swell instrumental "Hellbent" - it is ferocious!

*Word of*

**ROTGUT "Peace Love and Sammy"** 4-song 45 (Potty Queen Records) • The first cut, "Quit The World," is a hammerin' slab of punk-a-rooni (Andy Rooney?) (Mickey Rooney?) way reminiscent of the classic early bashers by the WIERDOS and DILS. The guitar work is as thick as tar (or at least Guinness Stout), with big phlegmy hunks of smokin' two-or-three-note licks coughed up every four measures or so. The rest of the material isn't as spectacular, but is still more than solid. Pass me them non-prescription decongestants!!!

*Bad News #15*

ROT GUT, self-titled 7" EP, from Potty Queen Records, 4721 Larchwood Phila, PA 19143. Rollicking punk rock the way it wuz meant to be. Great sleazoid cover art and attitude. Gut busting music fer all you low lifes out thar. Get this. (2)

*Flipside Oct '90*

**ROTGUT 7"**

Demo sounding recording which actually is more of a plus than a minus. Fast guitar dominating pre-hard thrash punk. A more aggressive Angry Samoans? Not bad. - Krk  
Potty Queen 4721 Larchwood, Philadelphia, PA 19143 USA



Saturday April 11

ROCK

# DIDJITS/ ALICE DONUT/ ROTGUT

So what're the most essential ingredients for American rock and roll? Lots of bands try to answer that question, but one of the few bands who can definitively raise their paws for the teacher to call on them are the Didjits, brilliant deliverers of two-to-three-minute bursts of genius. Their song topics cover all of the critical elements — drinking, fast cars, white trash, and star-spangled heroes like Evel Knievel. Mix up that potent stuff with Rick Sims' three-chord mondo-guitar ecstasy — with brother Brad

pounding away on drums and Doug (can't seem to find his last name at the moment) anchoring things with solid, punchy bass — and you have got yourself a real time. You have got one America's national treasures. You have got to get yourself to the Trocadero for this one. And while you're there, hope for the blistering and blunt cover of Devo's "Mr. DNA" that scorches the middle of the band's latest on Touch and Go, Full Nelson Reilly.

And it shouldn't go unmentioned that the Didjits are just one of three good reasons to see this show, the others being Philly's Rotgut — who have recorded some rambunctious things of their own — and New York's Alice Donut, forceful masters of general mayhem. This inspired and thrilling triple billing is sure to be fun for all ages — and should be one of the very best shows of the entire year.

At the Trocadero, 1003 Arch St., Sat. April 11, 8 p.m. All Ages Show (922-0392).

—Frank Blank



DIDJITS.

city paper

## THE FLUID/ROTGUT KHYBER PASS PUB, 3/3

By Larry Kay

Opening the show was Rotgut, a band that's been around for three years and still gets no respect or recognition from a large audience. Despite their being the heirs-apparent to the Angry Samoans, the legendary L.A. punk band, they are routinely and unfairly ignored by seemingly everyone except the 30 or 40 people that always turn out for them. If they were based in Southern California you'd all be paying \$8 a head to see them at City Gardens or CBGB. Of course, that also means that they'd

really never be able to get a gig in Philly.

and area outlets... Rotgut has been recording material with an eye towards contributing to several compilations. For sheer fun and unabandoned craziness, their recent shows have been hard to beat.

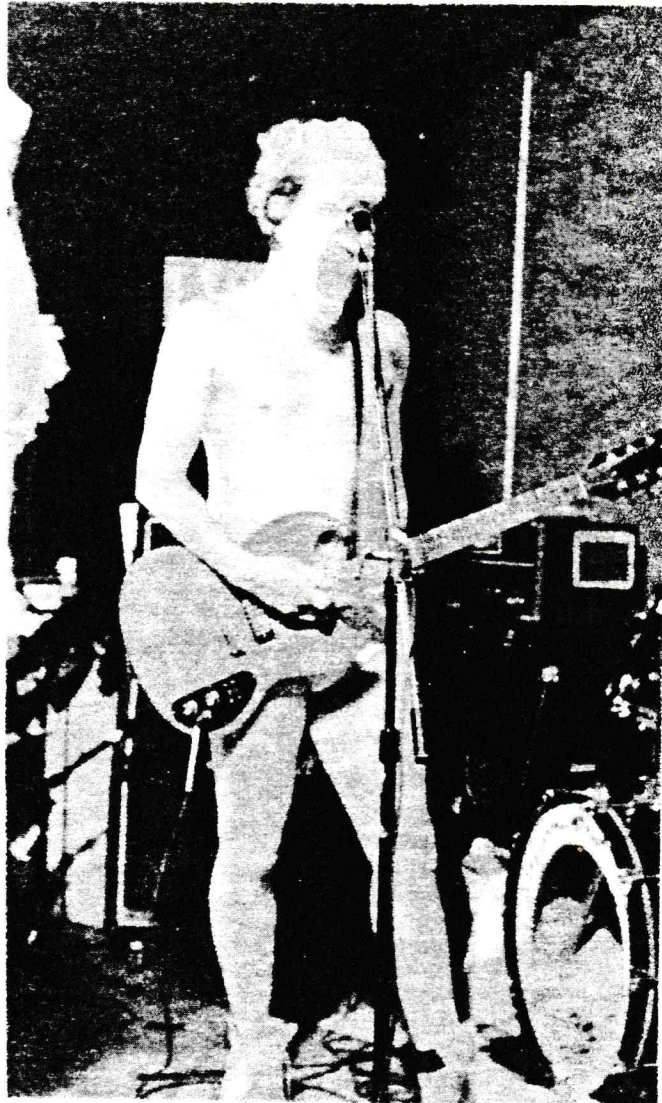
Philly Rock Guide  
Apr. '92

## The Dwarves/3 Foot Acid/ Rotgut The Khyber Pass, 1/31 By Larry Kay

Didn't see Rotgut. I was upstairs watching the pre-show orgy and Dwarves groupie tryouts on the Khyber pool table.

JANUARY 31, 1992, Khyber Pass, Philadelphia, PA  
Khyber Pass is SO fucking small — about 1/2 the size of the Jabberjaw. People were stacked on top of each other and any lateral motion was next to impossible. GREAT PLACE though. REALLY intimate. I found out that I was out of videotape and the nearest place to get pro-grade was a MILE away, so I braved the cold and walked it — sure was strange waling through "historic" Philadelphia. Cobblestone streets, horse-drawn carriages, the whole bit. A spiritual experience. On the bill with the DWARVES were two excellent bands. Let's discuss them now. ROTGUT was straight forward punk rock. The guitarist wore a football uniform and really acted the part. Very light and heavy guitar. Bar-chorded and fun. I was very impressed. 3 FOOT ACID took the

Flipside #77  
march/Apr. '92



Rotgut - Drunk punx. They've shaved of their beards. Often destroy audience members and/or instruments. Driving, pounding...hey-o! Don't play all-ages too often, but check 'em out if you got the chance(also known to play parties)

Tooth Decay #1



# ROT GUT

I spoke with BOBO and Bill Rude of the Philadelphia band ROTGUT on 4/11/92 right before Alice Donut hit the stage...

**FOE** If I were to tell you that I thought you blew the Dwarves away when you opened for them at the Khyber Pass, how would you respond...

**BOBO** Did you expect anything less? That was an off nite for them.

**Bill** They ruled when we played with them before, about a year and a half ago at the Firenze.

**BOBO** We felt they played better than us at the Firenze, and we said, that's never gonna happen again.

**FOE** You did a hell of a job demolishing your instruments tonight...

**BOBO** I didn't destroy anything...

**Bill** It's something I always wanted to do.

**FOE** You really went all out tonite... free t-shirts, bass player dressed in catholic school girl garb, BOBO here in his golf attire, driving plastic golf balls off the stage, banter between you and the crowd and to top it off, the demolition of your equipment...

**BOBO** ...and we didn't get paid, I might add. We damaged the stage and broke their sound equipment... so...

**FOE** I saw them pointing at the stage after you were done...

**BOBO** Yeah, there was a couple of holes in it. Broke a couple of mike cords too. It's all in good fun.

**Bill** If we were trying to live off this band we'd all be dead.

**FOE** How long have you been around?

**BOBO** About 2 and a half years...

**FOE** Did you put out the 7" yourselves?

**BOBO** Yeah, there was a different line up then. Me and Bill, and Jim Beam, and a different drummer and different rhythm guitar player, who were both killed in bizarre gardening accidents... One was killed by a chicken...

**Bill** ... the other involved a hoe, I don't know... Our original bass player was thrown from the teacups...

**BOBO** ... at Disneyland, thrown to his death. It's one of those things they try to keep quiet. You don't hear about that kind of stuff.

**FOE** So where is your current bass player now?

**BOBO** That's a question we often ask ourselves!

**Bill** We thought he'd been at home watching COPS, but that's over by now.

**FOE** And your drummer was in Electric Luv Muffins...

**BOBO** Yes.

**FOE** So how is your golf game for real?

**BOBO** I've never played a real golf game in my life... Some chip n putt and some miniature golf...

**Bill** I shot a 143 the last time I went out... and I didn't replace my divots! I once went to a golf course with 20 balls and came home with none!

**BOBO** Going to the driving range was a lot of fun. You don't have to be good. You can just beat the shit out of the ball and it doesn't matter... Our stage antics are a product of our frustrations at work. We've got to have an outlet for all that creativity.

**FOE** Where do you all work at?

**BOBO** Me and Frank the drummer, work for a Reality Agent. Frank is a carpenter and I'm like whatever they need for the day... Jack of all trades, master of none. Dan is still in school. Jim Beam is a mechanic, and Bill is the white collar worker of the band...

**Bill** I'm an auditor for a bank.

**FOE** What was the best fight you ever saw?

**BOBO** I can tell you the worst one I ever saw... and I was on the receiving end of it. I was 17 and drank a half a bottle of whiskey and had no shoes on and thought it would be a good idea to get into a fight with this guy. So I wound up with 8 stitches in the back of my head by the end of the night.

**Bill** I saw a fight at a show one time and a guy had like carpenter's tools on his tool belt and was hitting this guy with a hammer and this other guy threw a full 40 of Colt 45 at the guy. The best fight I was in was when I was 12 years old, playing in the backyard and this guy was riding his bike and I literally clotheslined him with the clothesline. He flew off his bike and then he came at me and I beat the shit out of him.

**BOBO** ...and that's where we get our drive from!

**Bill** ...that's why I go to East Coast Hockey league games... Johnstown, Hershey...

**FOE** Have you ever done anything more punk rock than Alice Donut?

**BOBO** ...that would have to be the time I staple gunned my testicles to this guys overalls on 40th street...

**FOE** Are you going to release anything in the near future?

**BOBO** We have another 7" recorded. We've got to remix it. Another few months, it'll be out. Basically we're fucking lazy and it takes us forever to do anything... Not really lazy, just completely unorganized. But it wouldn't be punk rock any other way.

**FOE** Were you in any other bands?

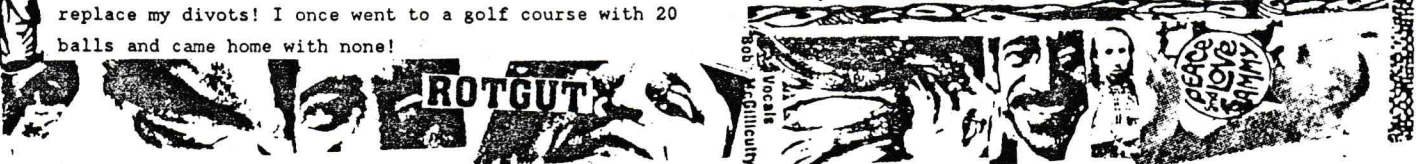
**BOBO** Jim Beam was in Futile Effort, Trenton's first HC band.

**FOE** Wow, I have their demo, and I helped set them up a show at the West Catty Playground building, like around 1984 or 1985.

**BOBO** I don't think he even has a copy of their demo...

**FOE** So how much money have you guys made selling your underwear?

**BOBO** I heard that one guy was getting \$300 a week! That's a pretty good cash for not wiping your ass and bringing your underwear in three times a week. But no, none of us actually knew Uncle Ed.







**BOBO - vocals**  
**DEE MYS - guitar**  
**JIM BEAM LOBOTOMY - bass**  
**BILL RUDE - lead guitar**  
**RAY CHARLES MANSON - drums**  
**4721 LARCHWOOD AVE**  
**PHILA. PA 19143**  
**(215) 748-7207**  
**(215) 755-1528**

### *"Retriever"*

**ROTGUT 7" (Potty Queen/4721 Larchwood/Philly, PA 19143)**

This four song 7" sports Sammy Davis, Jr. and Archie Bunker on the front cover and various physical anomalies, probably from Ripley's "Believe It Or Not" or photos from ancient freakshows on the back. The cover art sets the pace for "Hellbent" punk rock raving. Though their lyrics focus on the typical depression and pessimism of "being fucked by my enemies and fucked by my friends," from "Quit The World," the melodies and approach somewhat recall the bobbing punky hardcore of Red Die #9. Sincere punk in the time-wrought tradition: "Subtle. Like a brick through your window."

*Suburban Voice*  
 #31

ROTGUT-Peace, Love and Sammy (Potty Queen)  
 '77-styled NYC punk (Ramones/Heartbreakers), recorded lo-fi and with the appropriate sneer. Gets the job done, though it lacks that extra kick. (4721 Larchwood, Philadelphia, PA 19143)