

Premonition melds music, punk ideology

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Premonition is a band that holds firm in the belief of realness and the ability music has when it is immaculate, not contrived. Bill Glover (vocals), Garrett Grashuis (bass), Dan Houston (guitar) and Jason Gambrell (drums) play music because they feel an emotional release from their music and build their music upon their own sincerity to the craft.

Premonition was founded in October 1992 when Houston and Glover got together to begin a band. Houston and Glover looked throughout USC for a drummer and bassist, finding Gambrell to cover drum duties and a friend to play bass.

Grashuis joined the band when he saw Premonition play at a party. Grashuis went to talk with the band when it was done, and in a few weeks, he was the band's new guitarist. Later, Premonition's bassist Tory Harris quit, and Grashuis changed from playing guitar to bass.

Premonition's first performance came as a surprise. The band had traveled to Augusta, Ga., to see In/humanity, and at the show, it discovered In/humanity did not have an opening act. So, Premonition decided to open for them. The band only knew two songs, and its first performance was a disaster.

In an ironic twist, Premonition just finished recording two songs for a 7-inch, which will feature In/humanity on one side. The 7-inch should be released in late January or early February.

Premonition's music is categorized more as hard punk rock. The band was influenced by such bands as Dag Nasty, the Dead Kennedys and Rites of Spring.

"We play stuff that pleases us," Gambrell said. "If you want to be taken seriously, don't turn it into a business."



Photo by Evan Sellers

Drummer Jason Gambrell was a key addition to Premonition when it was forming late last year.

The band likes the audience to become a part of its performance. The band discourages stage diving and slam dancing at shows, but it encourage break dancing.

"Music is not a spectator's sport," Glover said. "There should not be a barrier between the band and audience. We should be one unit. We want social interaction, listening and singing. We are not one organic entity. And through this emotional setting, we merge into one."

Premonition tends to have bad luck but escapes any disasters because the members find humor in themselves. One such time, the band traveled to Myrtle Beach to play and pulled into a music store to buy a pair of drum sticks. As the band waited in the car while Gambrell looked in the store, a UPS truck pulled in behind the car and began to honk the horn.

Glover leaned out the window and shrugged his shoulders, not sure of what was wrong. The UPS driver thought Glover shot him the bird, jumped from his truck and ran to the car. He began reaching inside the car, pushing his body through the window, and the band pushed him out and spun away.

Later, while the band was in Myrtle Beach, the members

stopped at a Taco Bell. When they pulled out from the drive-thru, they ran into a median.

The band lives on the creed that one should do what one feels and not be afraid of the consequences, no matter what they may be.

"Do what you want to do, don't do what others want and expect you to do," Houston said.

"Just make sure you are in it for the right reasons," Grashuis said. "It's for the music and its cause. It's not for the money or material means."

Premonition will play in late November at Heretics in Charlotte and plans to play shows in Atlanta and Florence. The band does not plan to play another performance in Columbia until after the Christmas holidays. The band also hopes to begin work on a full-length, self-produced EP and have it completed by spring.

Premonition tends to live by surrealistic morals and find contentment in doing what it thinks is right. The band would prefer to be broke and still have its true sound. The band lives each day by its own feelings and reaps all rewards and disasters with a firm chin because the members know they are faithful to the purity that music has to offer the world.



Photo by Evan Sellers

"Do what you want to do, don't do what others want and expect you to do," said Dan Houston, guitarist and Premonition co-founder.

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