

**The New York Times**

(Aug. 15, 1995):

It was a joke, an art project, a rave, a sex club and a shallow gimmick all rolled into one leather-clad lump when two electronic dance-music bands, Lords of Acid and My Life With the Thrill Kill Kult, performed on Thursday night at Roseland.

Billed as the Sextasy Ball, the concert explored the dark side of Lollapalooza, with slide shows of art that Senator Jesse Helms doesn't like, topless dancers, S-and-M shows, videos of violent films, a body-piercing booth and stalls selling everything from industrial-music records to rubber brassieres.

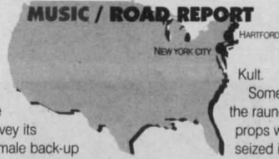
Not surprisingly, the tour has been plagued by trouble since it began in June. Slides of artwork by Andres

Serrano and others have been confiscated as pornography and dancers have been arrested for indecent exposure. On Thursday, however, the Sextasy Ball took place without a noticeable hitch.

A sort of B-movie female ideal seems to have informed the music of My Life With the Thrill Kill Kult, a Chicago band that has one important thing in common with Lords of Acid: both bands released a concept album about sex.

On record, My Life With the Thrill Kill Kult is one of industrial dance music's more interesting bands, with evocative film and television samples tucked strategically into a bed of disco beats,

funky bass lines and growling vocals. But live, the group failed to convey its originality. Three female back-up singers and three male musicians played along with muddy backing tapes as Groovie Mann let his chest muscles ripple and snarled and rapped his way through trashy topics like stray teenagers, wild road trips, devil worship and



**MUSIC / ROAD REPORT**

Newspapers have even changed the title of the event.

Saturday night, the tour was halted by a more celestial censor, as lightning took out electricity at the Sting nightclub in New Britain during the first song.

Well, why do you think they call it techno music anyway? These guys aren't ever going to be playing an unplugged set, even under duress.

My Life With The Thrill Kill Kult plays an urgent, keyboard-driven dance sound that's spiced up (and considerably humanized) by

the almost single-minded devotion to sexuality. Its dance beats, driven by heavy guitars, energized the young, surprisingly diverse crowd to a mass dancing groove.

The Thrill Kill Kult had its own guests, most spectacularly, a fire-breathing dancer to accent its "Sex on Wheelz" encore.

But the band may have been more dependent on tapes than the Lords. The vocal stylings of one wriggling female singer seemed to be wholly provided by tape.

An announcer who alternated Poe with profanity shouted that this show wasn't an afternoon at some Connecticut shopping mall, but in some instances it was, with leather goods, underground books, clothing, witch's spells and tattoos available in booths at the club.

One would think there'd be more participation from the strip bar next door, too. But this was, after all, an all-ages show.

— Roger Catlin

**MY LIFE WITH THE THRILL KILL KULT**

Reviews from across the country of the band which performs at Wednesday at Mississippi at 8 p.m. Plum and Big Stick open the St. Louis show.

"sex on wheels." By the end of the night the word sex had been stripped of all its meaning, conjuring as much concupiscence as a court summons.

— Neil Strauss

**The Hartford Courant**

(Aug. 7, 1995):

The Sextasy Ball has had its setbacks during its ambitious 49-city tour.

Officials in Louisiana confiscated some of the slides displayed in the multimedia extravaganza starring the bands Lords of Acid and My Life With The Thrill Kill

**SHOWS OUT OF TOWN**

**Branson**

Will Rogers Theatre, featuring Dino Kartsonakis, 2 and 7 p.m. Monday through Friday through October (800-754-3010); Grand Palace, Yakov Smimoff, 9 a.m. Oct. 16-21, 23-28 and daily through November except Nov. 5 and 23.

**Chicago**

Oasis w/Acetone, Saturday, Oct. 21 at the Riviera; Terence Trent D'Arby, Oct. 29 at the Metro; Elastica w/Loud Lucy, Oct. 31 at the Vic Theatre. (312-559-1212)

**Kansas City**

The Voluptuous Horror of

Karen Black, Oct. 22 at the Grand Emporium (816-531-1504); Townes Van Zandt, Oct. 25 at the Drum Room (816-756-3786)

(Some listings are based on bands' Home Pages on the Internet and may not have been announced by the venues in question.)

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