

The 4 Sivits Interview

February 22nd 2007, Azchael of www.rockinchina.com interviewed The 4 Sivits, an oldschool hardcore punk band from Germany destined to perform on Chinese stages this April...

Their website: <http://www.the4sivits.net/>

Their tourdates: [Tour schedule 2007](#)

Azchael: Can you please introduce your band? Who is behind the 4 sivits? What kind of music do you play?

THE 4 SIVITS has currently the following members. Steven on the vocals, Mirko on Bass and Backgroundvocals, Maik on Guitar and Rico on Drums. Steven and Mirko are original members since 1997. Rico join the band one year later and Maik entered the band in 2003. T4S play kind of early 80s american old school hardcore and punkrock.

Azchael: What is the meaning of "the 4 sivits"? What is a sivit?

Sivit or sivits has no meaning. The original members searched for a word that is like a proper name. So they put some letters together and create the SIVIT. 4 is for the number of band-members. After several years we got some emails from people who have the same name. They live mostly in the usa, one was from south-korea

Azchael: You're going on a tour throughout Asia this year (March, April). We're all interested: why? And how did you arrange it?

Most of our Tours are not the main-tour-routes of german and european bands. A lot of bands have western europe or usa in main-focus. We are always looking to play places where not so many foreign bands come to, like RUSSIA, UKRAINE, BULGARIA and ROMANIA. Maybe we with these countries a better personal relation cause we are all born in eastern germany, a formerly communist system and in that time we had only the chance to go to eastern countries. We never been to asia before and so we are real interested to play there after we got some invitations from people in china, malaysia and other south-east-asian countries. For Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore we got the contacts over friends who toured there before, like WOJZCECH and VITAMIN X.

Azchael: A large part of your tour in Asia is going to be in China. How did you arrange the concerts? How are you going to solve the transportation issue? China is a huge country and distances are vast.

The China-Shows are all organized by Wane of CHAOS magazine in Wuhan. We got her contact from a girl who was contacting us on myspace! We got the Tour-Schedule from Wane and we'll have some off-days to overcome the biggest distances. Mostly we'll go by Train and we have sleepingplaces in it. We know that Wane is taking care of us and experienced cause she also did the tours for INSURGENT KID and GAMMALUX.



Azrael: Have you ever been to China before? And if yes, where?

None of us have been to China or Asia before.

Azrael: What are your expectations on the forthcoming tour? Are you excited? Anticipating any specific concerts?

For South-East-Asia we have kind of an idea. Some friends of ours toured there, we saw videos and we stayed in touch with some people from there for a long time. But for us China is a no man's land. Our guitar-player saw last year on a cultural tv-Station a special report about a chinese oi-punk-band. Besides this we only know some things that GAMMALUX and INSURGENT KID told us. Wane gave me also some special information, cause we plan to make some interviews with active people in the hardcore and punk-scene in china. And this make us really look forward to it. For sure it will totally different to european countries.

Azrael: Have you ever heard Chinese hardcore music? Had you have contact to some Chinese artists, that are supporting you (support acts)?

I'm only in touch with some chinese bands over myspace. And i know some chinese bands from their tours in germany and europe like SMZB or PK14. We know not so much of our supporting acts in china now. This will be clearer in the next weeks and for sure we'll try get in touch with all that bands before. if we have a chance!

Azrael: Are you going to have enough free time to visit some parts of China? What is going to be your touristic programm?

Mostly on our last tours, we had not so much time to visit all the interesting places. In china we'll have 4 off-days, but the distances between the shows are far. So there will be not so much time to see all the touristic places. Maybe we'll have the chance to visit Hong Kong and for sure the FORBIDDEN CITY in Beijing and THE GREAT WALL near Beijing. Wane gave us also small touristic information about the towns where the shows are. But for us it's more important to see the normal life of people in china and to talk with them about their situations.

Azrael: Are you going to sell your cds during the tour? Do you plan any tour shirts?

Wane is organizing a small cd-release for that tour and she also working on some tour-shirts. the cd includes the last material we recorded and it'll have some bonus-songs with cover-versions of some of our favourite bands.

Azrael: Where do you see your influences? With which band or artist (dead or alive) would you like to jam once?

Our music we play is mostly influenced by early 80's american punk-stuff in the vein of NEGATIVE APPROACH, MINOR THREAT, JERRY'S KIDS, GANG GREEN, CIRCLE JERKS and REAGAN YOUTH. This is the sound we like and we grew up with. But for us there's more behind that. It's also the idea to live our own life and to support the D.I.Y. ethics. I'm not sure if i have a wish to play with some of my heroes. i saw a lot of them on reunion-tours and it was mostly frustrating. Only NEGATIVE APPROACH, we saw last year, could convince.

Azrael: What instruments and which brand are you using?

Here in Europe I play a SONOR-Drum and SABIAN-Cymbals, our guitar-player and bass-player use MESA BOOGIE Amplifiers. Maik plays a GIBSON-Guitar and Mirko an IBANEZ-Bass.

Azrael: Thank you for your time!