

ovo0101



1987. 12 pages. 8.5 inches by 5.5 inches. Black and white photocopy. "At every turn in its thought, society will find us waiting."

Publisher/Editor: Trevor Blake

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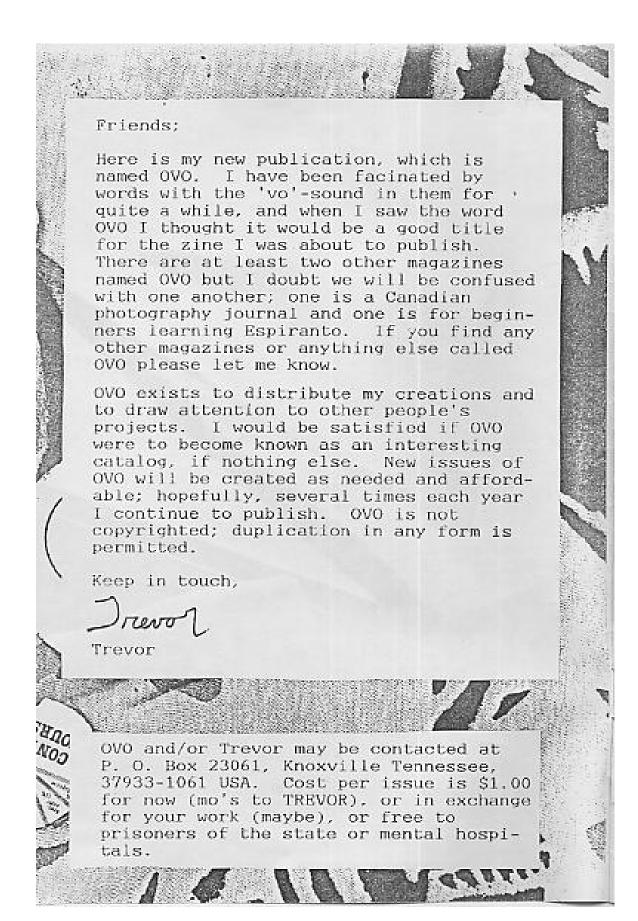
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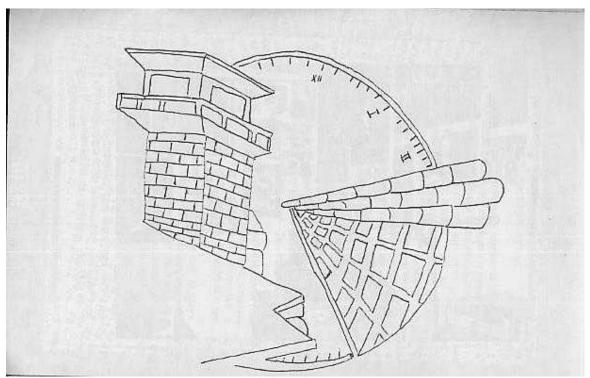
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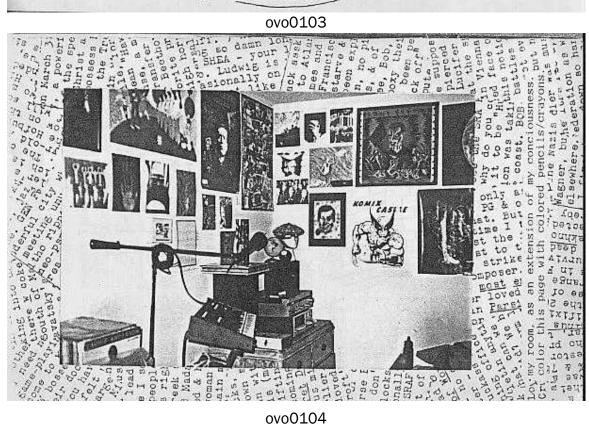
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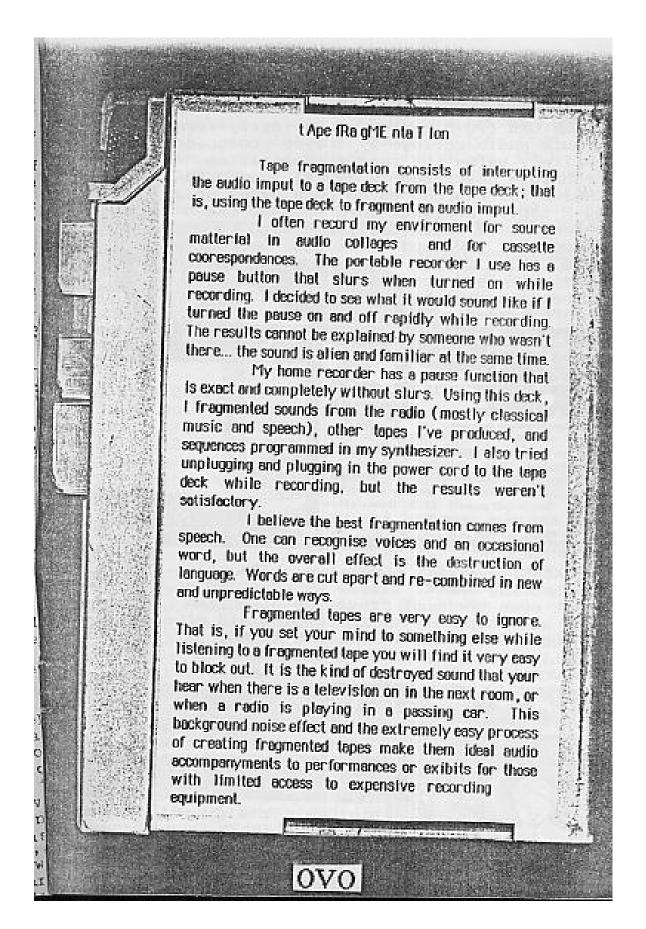
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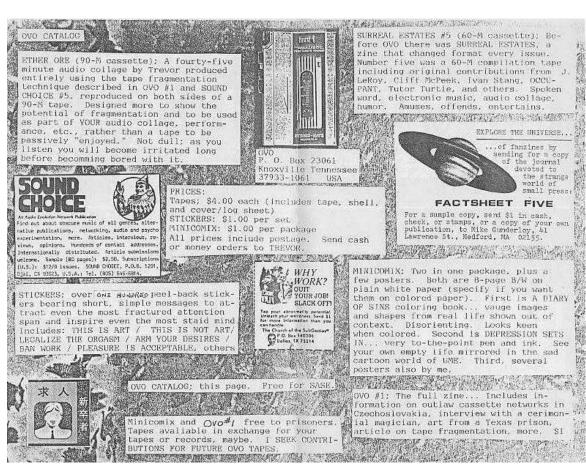
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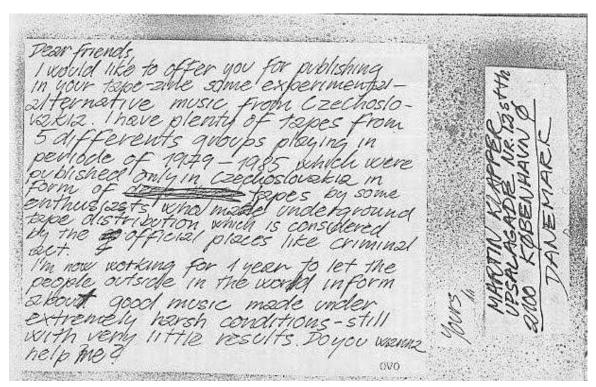
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This issue of OVO was to include an interview with ceremonial magician Yael Dragwyla, but at the last minute the interview had to be moved to next issue. You may contact Vael for more information on her fees (charged on a sliding scale) for readings, lessons, holistic therapy, Tarot, Daballah, magick and Astrology by mail at PO Box 1548, Goleta CA 93116-1548 and by phone at (805) 963-2847. Phone tag.

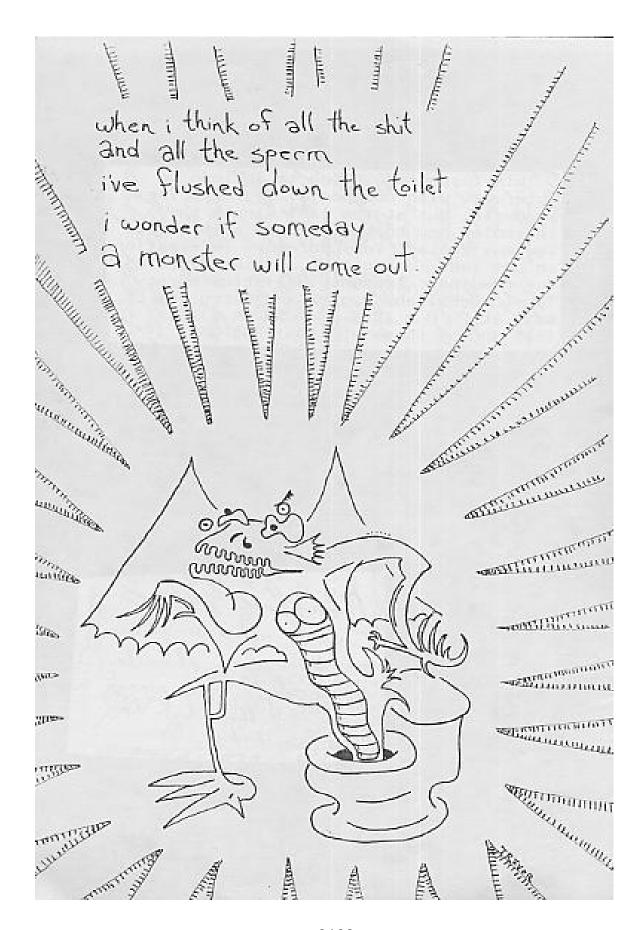
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LETTER FROM THE GRAVEVARD SHIFT by Gerry Reith

I've become jaded of late and convinced of the impossibility of achieving anything worthwile. Concerning the modern state, I cannot see any way out or around or through, and it strikes me that one's time is better spent seeking after the little (and the great!) pleasures of cameraderie, art and study.

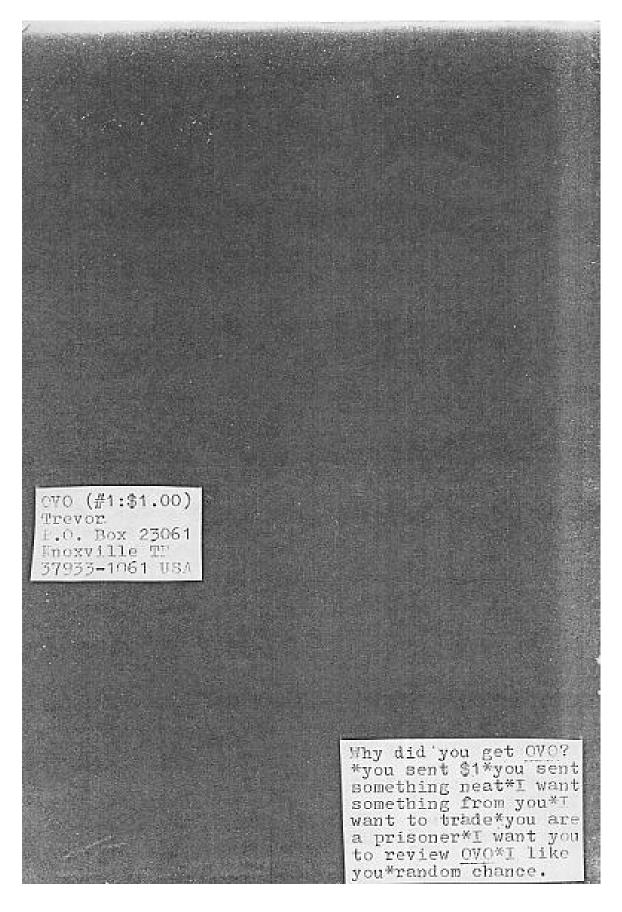
Although not a mystic, I appreciate some of the tactical insights of Taoism... I think once the critique of organization is firmly assimilated, the whole political project of "anarchism" is exposed as a fraud. As anarchists: leafletting, speaking, prosyletizing, agitating anarshists, we are continually trying to smooth over the inherant contradictions of trying to motivate people to act while disavowing any responsibility for their choice of action(s).

If we toss over organization and hierarchy (as we should) we are left with the <u>prescriptive</u> task of anarchist propiganda, and must face the emptiness of our individual lives, the emptiness that activity was intended to mask and failed to fill. There is still the joy of provoking and of communicating, but this begins more and more to fall into the older modes: humor and art.

We must stop thinking in terms of issues, power struggles, programs, policies, and projects (state and social) before we are going to be able to get anywhere, and this means an end to most of what the modern anarchist movement consists of.

Being an exemplary person is the most difficult thing; it is why so many of us are lured into prosperous schemes for publishing; promoting; and capitalizing on, non-monetarily, of course, discontent with a dying culture and an oppressed world. It vanishes into the mist on some rainy afternoon, and the aftertaste is bitter. But why, when grown, do we mourn for our childhood games? Let's invent new, better ones, that don't have this built-in self-destruct mechanism.

(Written October 1983, published Spring 1985 in <u>VULTURE</u> No. 1 (Montreal), with French translations; the title presumably supplied by its edition.)(donated for <u>OVO</u> by BobBlack)



ovo0111

Annotations

OVO 1 was first published in 1987. The information on page two is accurate but it is unlikely that any of the addresses seen elsewhere in this issue are still valid.

ovo0101 - Cover. All collage elements of musician Sting from Spin magazine.

ovo0102 - Introduction. Composition elements drawn from 'mind control' button (artist unknown) and screened t-shirt by Knoxville artist Katpeascent.

ovo0103 - Anonymous drawing from a prison in Texas.

ovo0104 - The bedroom of a 20-year-old zine publisher. Background may be text by Kerry Wendell Thornley. Posters on the wall includes (top left row) The Residents, DEVO, The Prisoner, Dead Kennedys; (second left row) The Residents, photocopy art by Trevor Blake, Peter Gabriel, calendar, *Pelican Farmer* by Trevor Blake, *Eelhead* by Trevor Blake; (third left row unknown) (top right row) Sidney Sime, unknown, Sidney Sime, Danny Elfman, Earth seen from space; (second right row) teeth mask by Trevor Blake, drawing by Trevor Blake; (third right row) unknown, J. R. "Bob" Dobbs by Trevor Blake, comic book poster, Dungeons and Dragons poster. Synthesizer shown is a Sequential Circuits Six Trak. Front most LP is Laurie Anderson's *Sharkie's Day*.

ovo0105 - Tape Fragmentation. This page later reprinted in *Sound Choice* magazine. The tape recorder shown was used to record hundreds of cassette letters and listen to hundreds more. In the 1980s, I and others sent many thousands of cassettes through the mail. The tapes were almost never recordings of music; usually they were audio collages or people talking or some of each. In the 1990s I gave away several thousand tapes accumulated during this time. But I still have hundreds of others – all from just a few friends.

ovo0106 - OVO Catalogue.

ovo0107 - Dear Friends. Martin Klapper, pen and paper. Collage by Trevor Blake, paper and spray paint. Sometimes people talk about underground music. But this is a letter from a time and place where real underground music was occurring; unauthorized bands were subject to arrest. Martin also sent photographs of bands playing in masks (to hide their identities from police) and on boats in the middle of a lake (to be able to quickly evade authorities).

ovo0108 - Phone Tag. This is the first published occurrence of the phrase 'phone tag.'

ovo0109 - Shit Sperm Monster. Drawing, pen and paper.

ovo0110 - Letter from the Graveyard Shift. Gerry Reith. I never corresponded with Gerry Reith; he killed himself in the early 1980s before I learned of him. I always thought this text was stronger than much of what appeared in Reith's posthumous book *Neutron Gun*.

ovo0111 - Back Cover.