**Q:** **What do you think sets you apart from all the other heavy metal bands?**A: I think that our main differentiating factor that separates us is our ability, and need, to mix multiple styles together. We all have very diverse musical tastes from one band member to the next and we believe that comes through in our music. Of course, we know the value of having a ‘sound’ as well and try make sure no matter how much we mix and match genres that it still sounds distinctly like Theory of Noise.

Another thing we think sets us apart, is our ability to perform our songs live and our work ethic. We put a lot of effort into making sure we can proficiently perform every song we write live. We all believe that it is a bands live show that makes or breaks them (outside of good songs of course). Any band can go into the studio and perform a song when you have unlimited takes to get it right, but being able to pull it off every night and have it sound just as tight as the album takes hard work and dedication to each members instrument. We take a lot of pride in that.   
  
**Q**: **How did Theory of Noise start? How did you all get together and know each other?**  
A: Well, the true roots started a couple years after I was out of High School and I met Paladino, who was graduating high school (or just finished). I met him through a mutual friend, and we hit it off immediately. I remember sitting on the breeze way at his moms house and he was playing acoustic guitar. Somehow it came up that I played guitar, he handed me the guitar to play something, and I think I butchered a Metallica song or something! We had talked about jamming out and such since Chris and our mutual friend had fooled around in a couple bands before I met him, but nothing really materialized till a bit later when we got together with two other friends and started jamming out in his mom’s basement.

We stayed like that for a while. Rock star dreams and lots of partying and all, but it was seriously semi-serious. It wasn’t until we moved out of Chris’ moms’ basement into our current rehearsal space we started to really get into things and started getting smarter about what it would take to realize our dreams of being musicians. Around that time we were already on our third drummer…we went through a lot of drummers. It was this third drummer that actually worked with Darian at a Supermarket and brought him in since we still needed a bass player. I think I taught Darian close to 5 songs in rapid succession on the first day and he muscled through them and we could tell right away that we all gelled pretty well. In a strange twist of events it was actually Darian that got the duty of kicking out the drummer that got him in the band! But it all worked out cause out of the two Darian was obviously a friend we could make music with whereas the drummer maybe not so much. If it’s one major lesson we had learned in this time it’s that if you plan on seriously following a dream in music, you must make sure that you surround yourself with people of the same mindset, anchors will only slow you down and keep you from progressing forward.

So we brought another drummer in and finally had a handful of songs to start gigging with. We started hitting the scene pretty hard, played every single place in the Philadelphia/New Jersey scene that would let us muddle through a set, recorded a 6 song EP in my dad’s studio and slowly started to figure out more and more about the industry. It was in this time that we officially named ourselves Theory of Noise. Eventually we parted ways with that drummer and brought in another one, then another, then finally we found Alex roughly in December of 2009. During all this time we were building a stronger and stronger internet presence and slowly making a name for ourselves. When we got Alex in the band we felt like we finally had the serious lineup with all talent and dedication that was needed to push into more serious territory. We recorded our first full length album with Alex in 2010 at Soundmine Studios, just recently shot our first music video for Cradle, and that brings us to the present! We are now 4 people with the talent and dedication to finally take Theory of Noise to the place we have wanted since we first started playing music!  
  
**Q: How would you sum up for music in as many words as is comfortable.**   
A:   
  
**Q: When you guys sit down to write a song (or whatever you process is) who has the most imput on it? Is there a definite captain of the ship or does each person sacrifice a bit of the song to incorporate everyone else's ideas?**A: We actually mix up our process a lot; we don’t have one single songwriting method. Sometimes one person will bring in a riff or melody and we will all build upon it or sometimes it happens much more organically where we all just spontaneously bust into a jam, get excited about a riff, and then a song materializes by the end of rehearsal. There are also times when someone will bring in a generally completed song, everyone adds their ideas and twists, and we sculpt out the song. Then we keep polishing the song and tweaking small parts till we record it and HAVE to let it go. Paladino and I generally write most of the Vocal melodies and Lyrics, but Darian and Alex also chime in from time to time with their ideas. So it’s really a combination of a couple different ways and we feel it really helps keep all of our music ‘different’ in its own regard because, not only are we incorporating different styles and feels, it’s also a different form of creation for each song.  
  
**Q: What's been your biggest promoter as an independent band? (Internet, live shows, word of mouth, etc.)**A: The internet. We have slowly built a bigger and bigger internet presence to the point where if you type ‘Theory of Noise’ into Google we take up all of the first 2 pages. We were all born in an age where the internet has come into power and we believe it will continue to become a larger and more profitable medium for us in terms of exposing our music to a wider audience. We have some plans set in place to run some live streaming concerts to help push us onto an international audience without the aid of a world tour, millions of dollars, and the backing of a Major Label. This would have never been possible without the internet and we want to try and stay ahead of the curve as the internet develops further.

Live shows and word of mouth have definitely also played a role in at least forming a name for ourselves in the local scene. Unfortunately, we still do struggle with actually forming an inset fan base in our local area because we haven’t actually seen much interest in local music. Every place we play is ‘bring your own crowd’ which is fine but shows that no one just goes to local shows just to see whose playing or find a new act. That’s how it seems to be around us at least and this is why we have turned to the internet for the majority of our promotions.

Of course, we are always looking for new ways to expand our name and garner more attention to ourselves, but money seems to be our biggest short coming when it comes to getting any serious promotion going!   
  
**Q: What do you plan to do with this so-called "job" down the road? Do you guys want to continue making music, get signed to a label, or stay where you are?**A: We all agree that we want to make this our career. Hopefully we can pick up a label sometime in the near future to help with the financial burden that comes with a band, but we will always continue to write music. We have well over 3 albums worth of songs, ideas, riffs, and melodies so we have definitely been busy!

**Q: How do you guys see music? Is it a job for you, a hobby, or a chore? (Feel free to give your own answer).**A: It is our life, but we want to be able to feed ourselves off of our music too! We are all on the same page with this and we all know that it’s going to take a lot of work. There are times when, just like any job, things get tedious. Sometimes rehearsals drag and sitting in front of the computer sending out emails and digging for new promotional avenues does wear on your sanity at times, but it all comes with the territory. The times when you’re on stage or the feeling when a song comes together are some of the high points that come with the job that never get old! Just can’t wait for stadiums full of people to be jamming out with us!

**Q: What does the Theory of Noise have in store for us? Any record label news? New album coming soon?**A: Well…nothings set in stone…but we do have some interested parties as far as labels are concerned. Either way there will be new Theory of Noise music coming in the near future ;)  
  
**Q: How has it been recording on your own? Do you feel at a disadvantage or wish you had something more?**A: It’s kind of neutral. If you have the money to self-fund an album then I would consider it an advantage. You have the freedom to choose everything yourself; from the studio to the producer. Of course, the recording industry has changed with the advent of digital recording which, I think, has evened the playing field for independents and do-it-yourselfers. No longer do you need some gigantic live room and 90 channels on some ludicrous SSL board, but just a computer and some know-how and you can produce an album of professional level. I would suspect with a label the one thing that is advantageous is the money. With more money means you get more time, with more time you can tweak and perfect sounds and generally make sure you’re putting out a bang on product. We recorded ’13 TONS’ in roughly two weeks; One week for instruments, one week for vocals. It was a really strict schedule and we knew we were going in with a budget and had to stick to it. We wanted to record everything live, but with the time constraints we weren’t able to. We also weren’t able to tweak as much of the sound as we may have liked because there just wasn’t enough money to allot time for ‘knob turning’. We still came out with an awesome product, but we learned a lot from the experience and know what to take into the next sessions.

So the only real factor that sets it apart in my mind is the money. I’m sure bigger labels want to pigeon hole you into a sound but that’s a whole other discussion and I’m relatively confident that most independent labels are more lenient on that sort of thing…but I don’t really know for sure since we’ve never been on a label!

**Q: If you could go back in time and write any song that's ever been made, which one would it be?**A: This is an extremely hard question to answer! We all fumbled around with this one for a while and were complaining there are just too many good songs for us to choose! There were many classics brought up (Zeppelin, Floyd, etc…) and some newer bands (Foo Fighters, Tool, etc…) but we finally narrowed down one for each of us. So Chris Paladino picked Led Zeppelin – Over the Hills and Far Away. Darian picked The Ramones – Beat on the Brat. Alex picked Blink 182 – Anthem part 2. I (Chris Stehm) picked