

= R U Professional =

" R U Professional " is a 2009 satirical song by the American indie rock band The Mae Shi , inspired by a July 2008 outburst by actor Christian Bale on the set of Terminator Salvation . Bale was filming with actress Bryce Dallas Howard when he berated director of photography , Shane Hurlbut , for walking into his line of sight . An audio recording of the incident appeared on website TMZ on February 2 , 2009 . The Mae Shi composed and recorded the song later in the same day , and released it the next day . The group stated that the piece was created to honor Bale . The song parodies Bale by sampling his voice from the 2008 diatribe . The chorus incorporates Bale 's use of the word professional from his flare @-@ up . The lyrics reference several films the actor starred in , including Newsies , Swing Kids , American Psycho , and The Dark Knight .

The song was made available on YouTube and via download on MediaFire the next day . " R U Professional " received a generally positive reception , and was praised as an effective parody of Bale 's on @-@ set disturbance . MTV compared its style to new wave groups like Devo . The Los Angeles Times described it as a lively pop music tribute to the actor . USA Today categorized the song as fun dance music and called it creatively motivated . The Toronto Sun wrote positively of its creative lyrics and use of audio from the Bale oration . El País classed the piece as an electropop song that contributed to the viral spread of the Bale rant online . Dose placed the song within the genre of an electro jam session . Publications including The A.V. Club and Pitchfork Media were impressed with the group 's ability to compose and release the song twenty @-@ four hours after the audio of the incident appeared online . The Irish Independent wrote that they thought the group may have used a melody they already had and adapted it for the song to release it so quickly .

= = Background = =

In July 2008 , actor Christian Bale was immersed in shooting a scene for the film Terminator Salvation in New Mexico . While performing with actress Bryce Dallas Howard , Bale shouted at the film 's director of photography , Shane Hurlbut , for walking into his line of sight . Hurlbut responded calmly , apologized to Bale , and continued shooting for seven hours after the incident .

An audio recording of the incident appeared on the website TMZ on February 2 , 2009 . During the four @-@ minute audio recording , Bale can be heard shouting and swearing at Hurlbut and threatening to quit the film if Hurlbut did it again and was not fired . Prior to releasing the audio on the internet , TMZ had reported on the incident on their website in July 2008 . TMZ reported that film executives for Terminator Salvation had sent a copy of the audio recording to the film 's insurance company in case Bale quit the film .

In a statement to Los Angeles radio station KROQ @-@ FM on February 6 , 2009 , Bale said he had behaved inappropriately , and that he and Hurlbut had talked after the incident and fully resolved the issue . Bale acknowledged that the two worked together for several hours after the incident , and for a month afterwards as well . He noted that he had viewed a draft version of the film and praised the cinematography work done by Hurlbut .

= = Inspiration and composition = =

The Mae Shi explained the group 's inspiration to write the song in a statement . The group felt Bale 's outburst was irrational and was motivated to write a piece about it . The Mae Shi emphasized in their statement that this was not a traditional song associated with their group 's normal work , but rather a homage to Bale .

The Mae Shi drummer Brad Breeck commented in an interview that the band decided to make a song about the incident late in the evening of February 2 , 2009 . Breeck noted that they listened to the audio of the Bale diatribe and put together their tribute piece within a span of two hours before putting it online . Jacob Cooper , another drummer in the band , commented to The Arizona Daily Star that he was surprised how popular their piece became when they had devoted relatively little time to composing and recording it .

The lyrics of the song include references to films Bale appeared in including Newsies , Swing Kids , American Psycho , and The Dark Knight . The song begins with the phrase , " He is the Dark Knight , he is professional . " The piece incorporates audio clips from the incident through the use of sampling . The chorus of the song references Bale 's use of the word professional in his altercation : " Oh , whoo wow / He is professional / But I think he 's lost control " . Lyrics include : " Swing Kid with a violent streak " , " Step back , stay out of his light / Better not try to put up a fight / Newsies will get you tonight / ' Cause they 're professional ! " , and " Don 't look too deep in his eyes / he can 't hide what 's inside of his mind / and it might get a little bit ugly / and you might meet an American Psycho " .

= = Release and reception = =

" R U Professional " was made available on YouTube and MediaFire on February 3 , 2009 . The video description on YouTube by the group stated , " Song By The Mae Shi celebrating the life and work of Xtian Bale . Bale 's performance as John Connor in the upcoming Terminator 4 ' Redemption ' Film will no doubt be one of the greatest of all time . He will win every Oscar for his performance , even the special effects and animation ones . " The Independent reported that the band would appear at a music festival , " The Fans Strike Back " , and requested they perform " R U Professional " .

Several media outlets attempted to place the work within a particular genre . MTV compared the song 's style to the group Devo and new wave music . El País described the piece as an electropop song that contributed to the viral spread of the Christian Bale rant after its release on the Internet . Dose described it as an electro jam session which made adept use of sampling from the audio of Bale 's rhetoric . The Los Angeles Times called the piece a lively pop music tribute to the actor . USA Today called the song fun dance music and creatively motivated . The Toronto Sun praised its original lyrics and use of audio from the incident , and described the piece as a fusion of electro @-@ pop styles and a good song for dancing . New Musical Express recommended the piece , and described it as electro @-@ rock which astutely sampled Bale throughout the song . The St. Louis Post @-@ Dispatch described the piece as a form of new wave music which used the most spasmodic segments of the incident , and commented that the end product was comedic . The Arizona Daily Star described the piece as a pop music dance song .

Multiple sources remarked upon the speed with which The Mae Shi were able to put the song together and release it . The A.V. Club highlighted the song among Internet memes inspired by the Bale melee , and wrote that though the piece was put together quickly it was quite entertaining and inventive . The Irish Independent was surprised at the speed multiple different satirical adaptations of the Bale commotion audio including " R U Professional " were put together . The newspaper questioned whether the song was composed in one day , and speculated that the melody might have been written by the group previously and modified to use with audio from the Bale incident . Pitchfork Media was impressed that " R U Professional " was made in twenty @-@ four hours .

Various websites commented that the song was a unique way to pay tribute to Christian Bale and his body of work . Boing Boing called the song an amusing homage to Bale . C7nema commented that the song was hilarious and dedicated to Bale 's odd behavior . The Celebrity Cafe wrote that the piece was better than " Bale Out " by RevoLucian which also dealt with the incident . Chicagoist wrote that the song by The Mae Shi was their favorite of the Christian Bale remixes . Chico News & Review called the piece a caring accolade to Bale 's on @-@ set tirade .