

= Say Anything ( band ) =

Say Anything is an American rock band from Los Angeles , California . The band was formed in 2000 by Max Bemis and four of his friends . Within two years , they self @-@ released two EPs , Junior Varsity and In Your Dreams , and the full @-@ length Baseball : An Album by Sayanything .

In 2003 , the band signed with their first label , Doghouse Records . A year later , they released ... Is a Real Boy . To support the album , they picked up new members and began touring ; however , despite rapidly growing critical and fan acclaim , Bemis ' health problems , including bipolar disorder and drug addictions , sidelined the band in 2005 as five band members left during the year .

Say Anything signed with J Records in 2005 and , following Bemis ' successful rehabilitation , re @-@ released ... Is a Real Boy on J Records . They went on co @-@ headlining tours with Saves the Day in 2006 and Hellogoodbye in 2007 . On October 23 , 2007 , the band released their third full @-@ length album , In Defense of the Genre . In 2008 , Say Anything went on a headlining tour across the US and UK and appeared on every date of Warped Tour . Their fourth album , entitled Say Anything , was released on November 3 , 2009 .

= = History = =

= = = Early Years ( 2002 ? 2004 ) = = =

Sometime around 2002 , Sayanything added a space to their name to become Say Anything . In late 2002 , Bemis and Linder recorded the Menorah / Majora EP and released the album online . By this point , Say Anything 's releases had generated " a major bidding war . " Drive @-@ Thru Records pursued the band and called Max Bemis " the next Bob Dylan . " Brett Gurewitz of Epitaph Records recorded " A Boston Peace , " one of the dorm @-@ room demos , with the band . In early 2003 , Say Anything signed with Doghouse Records stating sarcastically that Doghouse " put out such obscure , borderline D.I.Y. records as The All @-@ American Rejects . "

After signing with the label , Bemis began writing songs for his band 's Doghouse debut . With tremendous self @-@ created pressure , he threw himself into pushing the sonic boundaries of the band and maturing their sound , incorporating elements of math @-@ rock , indie @-@ pop and theatrical pomp . He and Linder also started the search for a producer . The two met several producers but eventually decided on Tim O 'Heir and Stephen Trask . Bemis struggled with different ideas for the record and decided the album should focus on " the artistic struggle , the fact that every creative person has this sick ambition to affect some sort of change in society with their art , to be more than just a guy in a band or a poet or a sculptor . " Bemis originally intended the album to be a rock opera with a full script , narration , and a cast of characters . It was tentatively titled Zona ! Zona ! However , Bemis became overwhelmed by the entire process of writing and playing most of the instruments and had a breakdown .

" I literally lost my mind while we were recording , " stated Bemis regarding the breakdown . The breakdown was precipitated by a mockumentary discussed by Bemis and O 'Heir . Bemis ' condition led him to believe he was being secretly filmed for the mockumentary ; the situation culminated in him walking the streets of Brooklyn thinking he was being filmed while encountering friends ( who were actually strangers ) . After recovering , Bemis decided to focus solely on the music and dropped the idea of a script . Around July 2003 , the band began recording ... Is a Real Boy , their first album with Doghouse Records . Bemis said the two people he wanted to " outdo with ... Is a Real Boy were Andy Warhol and Jesus . " In addition to working with O 'Heir and Trask , Say Anything worked with Forrest Kline ( of power pop band Hellogoodbye ) to record the For Sale ... EP , released in 2004 . The band also worked with ECA Records to record a promotional album that was never released .

... Is a Real Boy was released August 3 , 2004 . The album featured Linder on drums and Bemis on vocals , guitar , bass guitar , and keyboard . ... Is a Real Boy received positive reviews , including a 99 % from AbsolutePunk.net and four and a half stars ( out of five ) from Allmusic . When the band

began touring in support of ... Is a Real Boy , they picked up Dan DeLauro , Casper Adams , and Kevin Seaton .

Say Anything signed with J Records in 2005 , owned by Sony BMG Music Entertainment , one of the " big four " record labels . When asked why he signed with a major label , Bemis stated , " We were looking to expand our fan base as well as have more money to tour comfortably . I also wanted enough money to work with an awesome producer for [ In Defense of the Genre ] . " In June 2005 , Say Anything was forced to cancel a six @-@ week headlining tour with Circa Survive and Emanuel on the third day of the tour due to health problems with Bemis , including " full @-@ on paranoid delusions " in Austin , Texas . At this point , Bemis ' bipolar disorder and drug addictions were wreaking havoc on the band . Bassists DeLauro and Seaton had already parted ways with the band . Andy Jackson left in September after only a few months of touring with Say Anything . Casper Adams , who was clashing personally with Bemis despite a close friendship , was fired after a show .

On October 3 , 2005 , Bemis had another breakdown ; this time , it involved harassing children , spitting in food at an outdoor cafe , spending a " half @-@ hour pouring a bowl of soup onto the floor , one spoonful at a time , " engaging in a street fight and finally being admitted to a mental hospital by an off @-@ duty policeman . This incident forced Say Anything to cancel another tour , this time with Bemis ' personal idols Saves the Day , along with Senses Fail and The Early November . The band was replaced by Emanuel . After returning from his stay in the hospital , Bemis ' mother and the remaining members of the band selected the Menninger clinic in Houston , Texas , to rehab Bemis . Eventually , Bemis approved of their decision , admitted himself to the Menninger clinic , and has reportedly not had a relapse since .

= = = ... Is a Real Boy ( 2005 ? 2007 ) = = =

Under J Records , Say Anything re @-@ released ... Is a Real Boy with a bonus CD entitled ... Was a Real Boy on February 28 , 2006 ( although the album was originally slated for release on October 18 , 2005 and later January 17 , 2006 ) . However , copies were leaked before the release by Tower Records and His Master 's Voice , with some copies selling on eBay at inflated prices . According to the album 's liner notes , ... Was a Real Boy was originally intended as a charity album , but the band dropped the project . This charity project was to be called Vs . AIDS and was recorded in Kevin Seaton 's garage . Bemis said that " it was J Records ' idea to reissue ... Is a Real Boy . They believe it has a mainstream appeal that wasn 't really reached when Doghouse released the record . " Around this time , the band also released " Alive with the Glory of Love " as a single .

Alex Kent joined the band to play bass guitar after the band met him while touring with Lance 's Hero . Jake and Jeff Turner joined to play guitar and help with backup vocals after Adams and Jackson left . Parker Case completed the sextet when he joined to play guitar and keyboard after his previous band JamisonParker broke up . At the time , JamisonParker and Say Anything shared the same manager , Randy Nichols ; the band met Case while at a train station on the way to Nichols ' wedding .

In summer 2006 , Say Anything toured with Dashboard Confessional ; Ben Lee was with the tour in the US , while John Ralston joined the tour in Canada . The band was asked to be a part of the Warped Tour 2006 , but instead opted for the Dashboard tour . Bemis later made statements implying he did not feel he was emotionally ready for a Warped Tour .

Say Anything completed one of their first headlining tours in fall 2006 , when they toured with Piebald and mewithoutYou . Days Away , Brazil and Forgive Durden opened for the band on select dates . In February 2007 , Say Anything performed on Last Call with Carson Daly . The band also released their second single , " Wow , I Can Get Sexual Too , " which was from the ... Was a Real Boy bonus disc . Also in that month , the band announced a co @-@ headlining tour with Saves the Day and The Almost , John Ralston , The Dear Hunter , and Manchester Orchestra as openers on select dates . The band completed the tour successfully during April and May of that year . In August , Say Anything announced a co @-@ headlining tour with Hellogoodbye sponsored by MySpace . The tour took place during fall of the same year with shows in the US and Europe .

= = = In Defense of the Genre ( 2007 ? 2008 ) = = =

In the weeks before the release of their third album , Say Anything released several songs from the album on MySpace . They also announced pre @-@ ordered copies could be ordered with a signed CD booklet . The band released their first single from the new album , " Baby Girl , I 'm a Blur " , on October 2 , 2007 . In Defense of the Genre was released on October 23 , 2007 . It was released in a dual @-@ disc format complete with 27 songs and contained many guest vocals . When asked about the name of the record , Bemis said , " Whatever ' genre ' ( or music ) one loves needs a defense , because half the world is too ignorant to really understand something before they dismiss it . " Before recording the record , Bemis stated , " I hope that [ In Defense ] will be more inspiring and uplifting . I want [ the record ] to be The Joshua Tree with balls on laughing gas . "

Andy Jackson , a former member of the band and close friend of Bemis , was responsible for recording many of the cameo appearances . He recorded some cameos while at the Warped Tour 2007 with Hot Rod Circuit and others in his home studio . Jackson recorded vocals from several musicians , such as Gerard Way , Adam Lazzara , Anthony Raneri , Anthony Green , Hayley Williams , Aaron Gillespie , Jordan Pundik , and Chad Gilbert . Chris Conley and several others also provided guest vocals . Alternative Press called the record " a truly magnificent sophomore effort " and gave it a 4 @. @ 5 / 5 , while Spin gave the album four stars and Corey Schmidt of PastePunk said , " There are a few really great songs here . "

In January 2008 , Say Anything announced a US headlining tour with Manchester Orchestra , Biffy Clyro and Weatherbox . The tour took place in March and April of that year . After finishing this tour , Say Anything announced a headlining tour in the UK that took place in June . The tour was in support of In Defense of the Genre , which was released in the UK on June 23 , 2008 .

Say Anything released the video for " Shiksa ( Girlfriend ) " on April 9 , 2008 . On April 25 , Say Anything performed on Late Night with Conan O 'Brien . During summer 2008 , Say Anything joined the Warped Tour for the first time , appearing on all dates . On August 1 , 2008 , Say Anything announced the Max Bemis Song Shop , through which users could pay \$ 150 for Max Bemis to write a song based on a short writing by the customer . However , by the end of the night , the item was no longer available with the following text displayed on the item listing : " We 're sorry but Max can 't write songs as fast as you are requesting them . As soon as he catches up we will start again . Thank you so much for believing in our crazy idea . " The Song Shop has reopened a few times since its initial launch , and taken down after about a week each time . This aforementioned message has been displayed each time the Song Shop was discontinued .

= = = Say Anything ( 2008 @-@ 2009 ) = = =

In an online chat with fans on March 14 , 2008 , Max Bemis stated that the band has plans to record a new record called This Is Forever . He said it will be " about God and how we relate to Him . " AbsolutePunk.net reported on August 1 , 2008 , that J Records " picked up the option for Say Anything 's next release . " On November 10 , Bemis announced that the focus of the fourth album changed and the new record will be self @-@ titled . He noted that the album , which will be released in 2009 , will ask " what the point of all of it was . "

Though Max has explained that he was very proud of In Defense of the Genre , he described it as being more of an " homage to sort of a lot of the bands that we liked and , like , a style that we respected . " He then explained that the new album would be " more concise and would be a bit more original , I want to say , and sort of pop out like Is a Real Boy did . " He also explained that this CD has both the catchiest and most mature songs they 've ever recorded and called it a " step forward . "

During a concert at the College of Saint Rose in Albany , New York on April 25 , 2009 , Max Bemis proclaimed to the crowd that the newest album titled " Say Anything " is complete , and will be released " early summer , " after stating that he was married three weeks prior to the event on April 4 , 2009 .

According to Say Anything 's In Studio website , on May 21 , 2009 , Max posted a blog stating " I just wanted to let you guys know we ? re done recording our new record , entitled " Say Anything " , and we ? re moving into the mixing phase . It should be out this fall . This record is kind of a new start , or at least a new phase in the Say Anything story . "

Max posted a blog on Myspace.com saying that the new album will be released October 13 , 2009 , and will be titled Say Anything . The self @-@ titled album will be released by RCA Records and will have 13 tracks , including " Hate Everyone " , the album 's first single . " Hate Everyone " was officially released on August 25 , 2009 , after WBRU FM in Providence , RI became the first radio station to debut the single on the 17th . Lead singer Max Bemis also premiered the song " Crush 'd , " performing the song acoustic in WBRU 's studio . The corresponding video for Hate Everyone was released on MySpace Music on September 1 , 2009 . The new album 's release date had been delayed by three weeks and was officially released on November 3 , 2009 , after being posted to the band 's Myspace page on October 28 .

Max also posted on Twitter on 2 / 14 / 10 that the band plans to release " Do Better " as the next single from the album .

On August 19 , 2010 it was confirmed that Say Anything and RCA Records had parted ways . Max Bemis also announced via his Twitter account that big changes were to be announced during the following week .

On September 29 , 2010 it was announced via Say Anything 's official website that Alex Kent would be leaving the band , and that Kenny Vasoli of The Starting Line would be temporarily taking over as bassist for their upcoming tour . On October 24 , 2011 it was announced that Adam Thadius Siska A.K.A Sisky Business was officially joining Say Anything .

= = = Side projects ( 2008 ? 2011 ) = = =

After recording In Defense of the Genre , Say Anything band members Max Bemis and Coby Linder worked with Saves the Day 's Chris Conley and David Soloway on a side project named Two Tongues . The group features Bemis and Conley sharing lead vocals and guitar duties with Soloway on bass guitar and Linder on drums . Thirteen songs were recorded in Electric Ladybug Studio , Conley 's home studio in Chico , California . Bemis , Conley , and Linder previously collaborated on a cover song of Bob Dylan 's " The Man In Me " for the compilation album Paupers , Peasants , Princes & Kings : The Songs of Bob Dylan released by Doghouse Records in 2006 . The group 's self @-@ titled debut was released on February 3 , 2009 .

Say Anything band members Jake and Jeff Turner self @-@ released their six @-@ track EP Some Day in May 2008 under the name XO . They recorded it with Matt Malpass in Atlanta in January 2008 at Monsters and Marigolds Studio . The album features both brothers on vocals , guitar , bass , and keyboard , with Jeff also playing drums . Around the same time , Parker Case embarked on a solo project named I and the Universe , while Alex Kent started a record label , Gnome Records and began work on his own solo effort under the name Alexander T. Kent . Alex also has a side project with members of Japandi and Witt called Qwermicide .

In 2008 , Say Anything featured on the Punk Goes Crunk album covering Ol ' Dirty Bastard 's " Got Your Money " .

In 2009 , Max and his wife , Sherri DuPree ( From the band Eisley ) formed a small side project named " Perma " and were selling the demo during the 2009 tour .

In early 2010 , the band announced that they will be opening for Angels and Airwaves on their LOVE tour which kicked off on April 5 .

In August 2010 , Max announced that he will be releasing a " lo @-@ fi " post @-@ punk album in Fall 2010 under the name " Max Bemis and The Painful Splits . "

Say Anything also toured with the bands Motion City Soundtrack and Saves the Day in the fall of 2010 . Bemis commented on it on his Twitter , claiming that Say Anything 's fans might want to come up with their favorite Two Tongues songs , insinuating that the group will play a few songs on the tour .

== = Anarchy , My Dear ( 2011 ? 2013 ) == =

On 13 July 2011 , Max Bemis posted a video on the band 's website announcing that the band has officially signed with Equal Vision Records , he also stated that Tim O 'Heir , who produced their second record ... Is a Real Boy would be producing Say Anything 's fifth studio record . Additionally , Bemis stated Equal Vision had acquired the rights to Say Anything 's past releases , as he cited the proposed re @-@ release of Baseball . Bemis announced via an October 6 interview with AltPress.com that the name of the new record was Anarchy , My Dear , and this was later confirmed by Bemis and the rest of the band via Twitter . Anarchy , My Dear was released on March 13 , 2012 . On April 20 , 2012 , the music video for the song " Say Anything " premiered on mtvU .

On November 9 , 2012 , Equal Vision announced a statement that confirms the release of the long @-@ awaited re @-@ release of the Say Anything record Baseball , the Menora / Mejora EP , the " Dormroom Demos " , Junior Varsity , and other various rarities in a triple @-@ CD box set that are limited to 5000 physical copies . A citation and more information can be found at Equal Vision 's website .

On December 28 , 2012 , It was announced via Say Anything 's Facebook page that Coby had left the band on good terms . Max Bemis stated the following in regards to seeking a new drummer " Say Anything will continue on without Coby but we will not be seeking a replacement drummer to play on the records we put out , as Coby and his style of drumming is , in many senses , irreplaceable ; rather we plan on having a multitude of drummers play on our material . Say Anything on record will now be identified in the same way Nine Inch Nails is , in that it ? s pretty much me and whoever I choose to play with at the time . Live shows will continue to have their own identity including Jake , Jeff , Parker , Adam , and whoever plays drums for us live . The band couldn ' t be further from breaking up , and as I ? ve said recently , we plan on releasing music as Say Anything forever , and already have a lot in the works . "

== = All My Friends Are Enemies : Early Rarities ( 2013 @-@ 2014 ) == =

On January 22 , 2013 , Say Anything released All My Friends Are Enemies : Early Rarities , a three @-@ disc compilation consisting of all of the material recorded by Say Anything prior to the release of ... Is a Real Boy . Disc one of this compilation is a copy of Baseball : An Album by Sayanything ; disc two is Menorah / Majora EP and the Dormroom Demos ; and disc three is titled Junior Varsity and includes all the songs from the first Junior Varsity ( in Your Dreams ) EP , in addition to other tracks . Overall , the album contains 45 remastered B @-@ side tracks from the early days of Say Anything .

The band toured from June 6 , 2013 to late summer to promote this album .

== = Hebrews ( 2014 @-@ 2015 ) == =

On January 13 , 2014 , wife of Max Bemis , Sherri DuPree @-@ Bemis published an instagram photo stating that the new Say Anything album is almost mixed . The band 's record , Hebrews , was released June 10 , 2014 on Equal Vision Records . The album was the first album that was self @-@ produced by front @-@ man Max Bemis . Bemis worked in the studio with audio engineer Garron DuPree for many months while recording the album at Bemis and Dupree 's own studio in Tyler , TX . The album was mixed by mix engineer Brad Wood , and mastered by Emily Lazar . The album was met with generally positive reception by fans and critics upon its release , and the group embarked on a successful headlining tour in support of the album in the summer of 2014 .

== = I Don 't Think It Is ( 2016 @-@ Present ) == =

At about midnight EST on February 4th , 2016 Say Anything released I Don 't Think It Is without any prior announcement besides several teaser posts the day before .

= = Style = =

= = = Themes and influences = = =

Say Anything 's music falls into the indie rock , emo and post @-@ punk genres . They can most easily be identified by their sardonic , literary sense of humor balanced out with a sense of intense catharsis . The band , as well as certain artists within the indie scene such as Cursive , MewithoutYou , Brand New , Bright Eyes , Motion City Soundtrack , and Manchester Orchestra tend to straddle the line between older fans and a youth oriented audience . Their style incorporates pieces of hardcore , bombastic arena rock and post @-@ punk . Bemis , the primary songwriter of Say Anything , stated , " I believe that an artist should let his art be appreciated by anyone who 's interested and not ' play favourites ' . " He also said that lyrics are " based on experience . " However , due to Bemis ' bipolar disorder and strange , dark mentality , the themes of the songs are often bleak , irreverent , personal , and autobiographical . Other themes include distaste with snobbery and hypocrisy . Drugs and mankind 's relationship with drugs are also a popular subject in Say Anything 's songs , especially on In Defense of the Genre , which was written and recorded after Bemis ' several drug @-@ fueled breakdowns . Specifically , " Admit It ! ! ! " , " Yellow Cat ( Slash ) Red Cat " , " Try To Remember , Forget " , " The Writhing South " , and " Sorry , Dudes , My Bad " include references to Bemis ' drug usage . In general , Say Anything tends to draw inspiration from alienation from a flawed society but confers a sense of hope .

Max Bemis was raised " in a strong Jewish environment . " Many of Bemis ' lyrics borrow from his Jewish roots . While most of band 's earlier songs are free of any such inspiration , the songs of ... Is a Real Boy and In Defense of the Genre include references to Jewish heritage . " Alive with the Glory of Love , " Say Anything 's first single , has a main subject of a relationship affected by World War II and the Holocaust , based on Bemis 's grandparents , while " Wow , I Can Get Sexual Too " includes mentions of " the old shul " and a rabbi 's teachings . A strong example from In Defense comes from the lyrics of " Died a Jew " . The song includes several references to the Jewish people and its history along with mentions of " the murder of God " and Bemis ' departures from kosher . References to religion come again in " Fed to Death " on Say Anything , referring to a ' man from Nazareth ' who would one day ' spring to life to smile and clear your name ' but until then ' nail yourself upon the cross and hang your head in shame.'

In regards to writing songs for ... Is a Real Boy , Bemis stated , " The songs were jam packed with fairly blatant nods to bands I dig ( Queen , Saves the Day , Pavement , Faith No More , Fugazi , etc ) . " These can be considered some of Say Anything 's influences . Other influences at some point cited by the band include Botch , Weezer , The Stooges , Neutral Milk Hotel , Sunny Day Real Estate , Wilco , and the Foo Fighters . Also of note , the band has covered songs by Ol ' Dirty Bastard ( " Got Your Money " ) , Notorious B.I.G. ( " No Soul " contains the same hook as the sample in " Juicy " although it adheres more closely to the original song " Juicy Fruit " from which the sample for the Notorious B.I.G. song was taken ) , The Four Tops ( " Sure , Baby ... Hold Back " features a chorus lifted from " Sugar Pie Honey Bunch " ) , Safety in Numbers ( " Dealer " ) , Saves the Day ( " Jessie and My Whetstone " ) , and Bob Dylan ( " The Man in Me " ) .

Max Bemis expounded upon the story of In Defense of the Genre as well as the differences between that album and ... Is a Real Boy in an interview with AbsolutePunk.net on June 19 , 2007 .

= = = Live shows = = =

During live shows , some members of the group ( other than Bemis ) sing backing vocals . Bemis often sings parts he wrote , but which were sung by guest vocalists on studio recordings . In recent years , Bemis has switched up the lineup of performing musicians , using some permanent members of the groups , while rotating other musicians in and out of the live lineup . Beginning on the " All My Friends Are Enemies - Rarities Tour , " Bemis added drummer Reed Murray , and bassist Garron DuPree . In summer of 2014 on the Hebrews tour , Bemis recruited ex @-@ Taking

Back Sunday member Fred Mascherino , Moneen guitarist Kenny Bridges , and Moving Mountains vocalist Greg Dunn to replace the Jake and Jeff Turner and Parker Case , who were at the time performing with their band XO . The status of long time guitarists Jake and Jeff Turner is , as of yet , unclear due to their commitments to XO .

= = = Remixes = = =

Albany , New York emcee Dezmatic remixed " Wow , I Can Get Sexual Too " on his mixtape , Bigfoots Dick .

Georgia emcee Kyle Lucas remixed " Wow , I Can Get Sexual Too " on his mixtape , Kyle Lucas Is Still My Favorite .

= = Discography = =

Studio albums

Baseball : An Album by Say Anything ( 2001 )

... Is a Real Boy ( 2004 )

In Defense of the Genre ( 2007 )

Say Anything ( 2009 )

Anarchy , My Dear ( 2012 )

Hebrews ( 2014 )

I Don 't Think It Is ( 2016 )

= = Members = =

= = = Current members = = =

Max Bemis ? vocals ( 2000 ? present )

Parker Case ? keyboards , guitar , backing vocals ( 2005 ? present )

Reed Murray ? drums ( 2013 ? present )

Garron DuPree ? bass ( 2013 ? present )

Current touring members

Kenny Bridges ( Moneen ) - guitar , backing vocals ( 2014 ? present )

= = = Former members = = =

Evan Span ? guitar ( 2000 ? 2001 )

Michael Levin ? bass ( 2000 ? 2002 )

Josh Eichenstein ( 2000 )

Dan DeLauro ? bass ( 2003 ? 2004 )

Alex Hedrick ? guitar ( 2004 )

Kevin Seaton ? bass , guitar ( 2004 ? 2005 )

Casper Adams ? guitar ( 2004 ? 2005 )

Alex Kent ? bass guitar , backing vocals ( 2004 ? 2010 , 2016 )

Coby Linder ? drums , backing vocals ( 2000 ? 2012 )

Adam Siska ? bass guitar ( 2011 @-@ 2013 )

Jake Turner ? guitar , backing vocals ( 2005 ? 2014 )

Jeff Turner ? guitar , backing vocals ( 2006 ? 2014 )

= = = Notable Touring Members = = =

Andy Jackson ( Hot Rod Circuit ) ? guitar ( 2005 )

Kenny Vasoli ( The Starting Line , Person L ) - bass guitar , backing vocals ( 2010 @-@ 2011 )  
Fred Mascherino ( Taking Back Sunday , The Color Fred , Terrible Things ) - guitar , backing vocals  
( 2014 )  
Chris Conley ( Saves the Day , Two Tongues ) - guitar , backing vocals ( 2014 )  
Greg Dunn ( Moving Mountains ) - guitar , keyboards , backing vocals ( 2014 ? 2016 )

= = = Timeline = = =