



An interview with

Queen of Jeans

At this semester's Tastemaker's Presents, we were lucky enough to take in a set from "CrockPot Pop" outfit Queen of Jeans. Before their show they sat down with our writer, Pratik Reddy for an interview. Check out the conversation below!

Tastemakers Magazine (TMM): So y'all are a self described "CrockPot Pop" band. It is such an interesting term and describes your sound pretty well. How would you guys describe CrockPot Pop to a potential listener?

Nina Scotto (NS): We sort of came up with it as a joke.

NS: I think we said something else into the iPhone voice recorder. I forgot what it was. But it came out as CrockPot and we just went with it

TMM: I listened to Dig Yourself in one sitting and especially loved its experience as a quick, 30 minute, album. So many artists in the Spotify/Apple music era have been trending towards 15-plus song albums to capitalize on streaming revenue. How have you guys been able to avoid that temptation, focusing on quality over quantity. Was it intentional or unintentional?

NS: We didn't really pay much attention to album length. We just included the songs we felt should go together. Like yeah, some songs did end up on the cutting room floor.

Miriam Devora (MD): As far as shorter albums, like Mitski, my favorite artist, she just puts out 30 minute albums. And if you are thinking about strategy, which we weren't, put out 30 minute album this year and another one next year. Because attention spans can be really short.

TMM: Yeah so I was going to ask whether it was intentional but it seems pretty organic.

Patrick Wall (PW): The idea of revenue from streaming songs didn't even cross our minds till you brought it up now.

MD: We are absolutely not at a point where that's like a thing we are considering because at the end of the day we are only getting fractions of pennies. So adding songs is not a thing we even think about now.

TMM: How do you feel up-and-coming bands should be competing, if at all, nowadays to get a slight edge in streaming/online sales?

MD: I mean with revenue, if you are an up-and-coming band you are not really making money off of your music. So I think the best way is to have clever merch and put on really good shows. That's how you make enough money to keep your expenses in the green, so you can still tour. But we are no experts, that's just our observation.

TMM: Your album definitely indicates that y'all know a lot and have some feelings about relationships, romantic or otherwise. Could I get a phrase of relationship advice from each of you? Just one sentence off the top of your head.

NS: Take space so you can love yourself independently before pursuing someone else.

Matheson Glass (MG): There's a podcast called Two Dope Queens and one of their mom's came on so I'm gonna steal what she said. She said to fill your lovers tank, do small things for each other to build up everyday goodwill.

MD: Always be nice.

PW: I would just say to try to go into every relationship in a good headspace. So you aren't focused on other things or situations.

TMM: I read your bio. You discuss the misogyny encountered while touring and how it really shaped your on-stage energy for the better. Do you have any interesting or appalling "concert asshole" stories from your time performing?

NS: Do we ever. There was a sound guy who asked if we knew what monitors were. A ton of security guards would just refuse to let us in assuming we were just girlfriends of the "actual band". They would always drill us or try to stop us. One guy tried to make us sign his boob. There's just a ton of micro...things where guys would come up to us saying "I didn't think you guys would be good." Which is like, thanks but no thanks. We don't snap at them but it's just something that should be brought up. Like how guys treat women who perform.

MD: I just wanted to note a caveat. None of the guys we have played with have been an issue. They have all been pretty respectful.

TMM: So let me ask you about your hometown, Philly, for a bit. I'm from Jersey so I'm pretty close by. What's your favorite place to perform in the city. Like best energy, venue, etc.

MD: There's a lot. You are basically asking what's the best clam chowder place in Boston.

TMM: To be honest, I am not really a big chowder guy. I probably shouldn't even say that on record.

PW: Are there a lot of places to get Clam Chowder in Boston?



TMM: There are for sure, especially by the coast. But it's so fatty, I just stay away from it.

MD: Smart. But, In terms of actual space, playing at Union Transfer was really cool. It's my favorite place to see shows and it's a beautiful venue.

TMM: I mean there are no right answers. It's whatever your gut says

PW: I mean there are plenty of wrong answers for sure. I think we'd go with Union Transfer.

TMM: Best Philly bar?

NS: Lucky 13 Pub!

TMM: Lucky 13 Pub? So that's unanimous consensus? Why's that?

MD: The week when Nina and I first moved in to our neighborhood, we just decided that would be our spot. We live in an area where bars are either super bougie and expensive or like really scary and shitty. So this is like the perfect dive where you may think it's a bit scary but the older dudes, the regulars, are super nice.

■ Pratik Reddy (/Math & Econ/)

