**Letters Burning**

**Tal Mir - Lead Vocals and Guitar**

**Gabe Kubanda - Lead Guitar and Vocals**

**Taka - Drums**

**Carl Buena - Bass**

**Sounds Good) How did you guys come up with your band's name? What is the meaning behind it?**
Tal) When we decided to form the project we wrote down hundreds of words that described the music we wanted to play. We picked “Letters Burning” because it just sounded great and painted a vivid image of the lyrical and emotional direction we wanted to convey through our music. It was also a great symbol to represent the honesty behind my words, because when I was 16 I wrote an apology letter to a girlfriend who refused the apology by lighting it on fire and giving it back.
 **SG) What music genre would you guys categorize your band?**
Tal) We constantly come up with many different ways to describe our sound and it’s funny because depending on who we are promoting to, we manipulate the description of our music to appeal to them, because we know our music speaks for itself. We basically consider ourselves a current rock band that infuses aggressive music with pop.
Gabe) It's hard even for us to pin down exactly what we sound like because we do incorporate a lot of variety in every song.  But when we play a high school, and a 15-year-old freshman and the 64-year-old school principal both say they love your songs, that's a good testament and barometer of a song's longevity and crossover appeal.  I hope I'm not sounding too cocky, but for the most part, if a person is a true music lover, and not just a fad/trend-follower, they will probably like our music.

**SG) Do you guys have side-jobs that make it difficult to practice on a frequent-basis?**
Tal) Years ago we realized how important practice really was and since then have made a pact to practice as a band at least two times a week, regardless of shows or jobs or whatever. Not many jobs are willing to understand that, so it can be very difficult sometimes when we play two to three shows a week in addition to all that.
 **SG) Your current album has eight songs on it. Do you have plans to make a full-length album in the near future?**

Tal) A lot of our fans have two things in common: they are broke and love new music. By putting out more frequent EP albums, we conquer both of those issues.
Gabe) We have tons of new material that we can't wait to record and get to our die-hard fans, so yes, we can't wait to get back into the studio.

**SG) "Critics Last Stand" and "Strip Me Down" are songs played on KROQ's Locals Only show. How did you manage to get in contact with them to air your music?**
Gabe) Kat Corbett started a show where unsigned local bands could have a chance at some airplay on a major rock radio station, and when we heard about that, we just mailed our music in, and she listened and chose those two songs, which coincidentally we had already thought of as being our singles.  She actually does listen to everything, so it's really nice to know that quality music can get heard and exposed to new ears.

**SG) You guys are battling it out again to play at the Vans Warped Tour this summer in Carson, California. Do you think you have what it takes to win the Ernie Ball Battle of the Bands again?**Tal) Well two years ago we went ahead and signed up for the contest with no real expectations. During the voting stages of the contest, we did what we always do: played a bunch of shows, promoted and passed out cards at every local and relevant show, emailed and messaged all our followers and fans on MySpace, put out bulletins about the contest and held our very own contests for the fans that voted for us like free warped tour tickets. Then about a week before the Carson Warped Tour we got a call telling us we won the contest and if we preferred to play Pomona or Ventura. It was real hot, so we chose Ventura to be by the beach. Since then, we have only increased the amount of shows we play and the amount of fans we have without compromising our interaction with any one of them. Plus, we are setting up a secret show for those who vote for us this year and we have some of the best fans out there. Maybe we don’t have a million fans yet, but the "cookie cutter killers" who love our band will be voting everyday and do everything they can to help us.

Gabe) If anyone reading this wants to be a part of the action, go to [www.BattleOfTheBands.com/LettersBurning](http://www.BattleOfTheBands.com/LettersBurning) and vote!

 **SG) You play many shows at high schools and all-age venues in the Los Angeles area. Do you have plans to tour more of California or other states?**

Gabe) We are currently looking into a southwest high school/college tour, which would incorporate California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico and possibly Texas, but of course, it's just in the pre-planning stages.  We love playing high schools; I wish more bands did that back in the day.  All we had was an acapella group do "Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego" at my high school.  **SG) What can fans expect to get out of joining the "Cookie Cutter Killer Fan Club"?**

Tal) If you don't like winning free custom Letters Burning merch or signed CDs and if you dislike finding out about last-minute Letters Burning shows in your area or dislike actual real personal responses to any of your comments, emails or messages, then this is definitely not the fan club for you.  Our fans are like our family and we take pride in the fact that we hang out with them after our shows and keep in touch in between shows.  We appreciate anyone who has ever taken a moment to find out anything about our band and anyone who has ever spread the word about us.
Gabe) We really do love our fans. They've gotten us where we are today and we honestly appreciate that fact tremendously.  Our "fannies" (as Tal calls them) are truly the best!

For more information about Letters Burning, go to [www.MySpace.com/LettersBurning](http://www.MySpace.com/LettersBurning).

-Stephanie Hemmens