

## The Event



I got to Royal Hall about 11am, which gave me ample time to get set up & to mingle - the turnout was v good, in terms of zines represented & public attendance. Note: if you participate in conferences, bring at least 1-2 other people with you to man the venues in shifts. I would have loved to have seen more of the speakers, but I end up going back & forth, MIMEZINE being essentially a 1-man operation.

The panel discussion started at 12 noon - it was basically an introduction to all of the guest speakers inv to the event, the line-up alone being worth the (cheap) price of admission: Seth Friedman of FACTSHEET 5; Jeremy McConnell, local zinester - FLAVORPAK; V. Vale, half of the incredible & infamous Re/Search publish & now his current V. Search stable; & Ian McKaye of FUGAZI making a rare appearance.

I had a tape recorder with me, planning to tape most of the speakers - unfortunately, my recorder decide to have major problems (Always, ALWAYS, Check Your Equipment!). I did get all of the introductory remarks from everyone, so here's a distillation of what was said.

I didn't get the chance to see Seth's workshop or to go up & say hi - he was pretty besieged by rabid publishers - mainly his intro was about how he got involved with FACTSHEET 5. He made a valid point about economics & censorship - for major distribution in supermarkets (which are the largest markets for magazines, t the way), or your local corporate chain bookstore, you have to pay big money to distributors for them to even consider carrying your publication, And, of course, anything objectionable or not up to "standards" won't even make it to the distributor