

V. Vale talked about his years in publishing, when he started SEARCH AND DESTROY (now reprinted & available in book form), with donations from Allan Ginsburg & Lawrence Ferlinghetti. I caught the latter Part of his forum later, so I'm not sure if the topic of his split with Andrea Juno was approached or not. As to why he started S&D, he answered that he wanted to do more of an anthropological project - a cultural document of the scene & time, rather than the usual rock-star journalism. That ethic & purpose eventually led to the Re/Search series.



The highlight was Ian McKay - he was bright, funny & totally gave a no-bullshit vibe. His talk, which was the last scheduled pulled in a lot of people - he covered a whole range of topics, from the music business, the DIY ethic, "punk" & tales from the last time Fugazi played in KC. Thanks to the tape player, I can't reproduce that here, but there were a couple of video cameras there, so there is documentation, in someone's hands. His remarks in the panel session were just a taste - a little personal history; went from Ted Nugent to punk, wanted to play music, so he started a band, wanted to do a record, so he ended up starting a label. Couple of choice quotes: "In America, the idea is to start a business, grow it, then sell it." - hence the rise of corporations absorbing everything in sight. And, "if you don't play in their ballpark, then their rules don't matter." Sounds a bit corny to say this, but it was inspiring and simple advice - If you want to do something, do it.



All in all, it was a great event for a first attempt, with no major crises that developed. In addition to the speakers, & the booths of zinesters, there was an exhibition by Victoria called ZINE: THE STORY OF A FOUR LETTER WORD, which featured many zines that have come under censorship,

Planning is underway for MUMS II - for more info, contact Anne at 816/333-3301, or stop by Recycled Sounds in Kansas City & leave any pertinent contact info with them.

For more info on that, and other events, contact GKCCAC.

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