

THE HIGH TIMES INTERVIEW

"Well, this is just so ridiculous, all this is bullshit" ... so they can mask themselves under all the bullshit.

So it's hard to tell what's real and what isn't nowadays. But I gotta tell you, with William Cooper and the things that Alex Jones has been talking about for the last 10, 15 years, those are all factual fucking things. They proved all their shit.

Have you ever thought about releasing any Cypress Hillbranded pot paraphernalia? B-REAL: Yeah, it's always been something in the back of our minds, to create things like that, Let's be realistic: Not only do we have the hip-hop and alternative following, but we've also got the pro-legalization culture that follows what we do because of what we talk about on the record. So, obviously, you wanna do something for them, like create a bong or whatever you can put out that people might like, so we're doing something with Roor Bongs. They've created two bongs for us. One is called Excalibur-it's actually our second version of Excalibur.

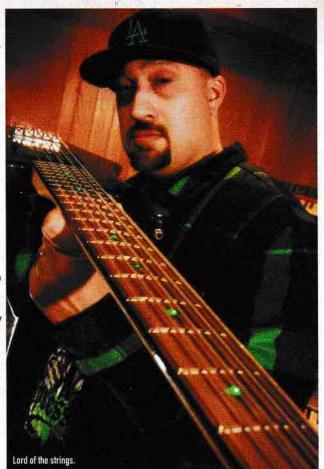
That eight-footer?

B-REAL: Well, this one's just over six feet, but they also

made another one that's rare. I've rocked that one because the other one, it's in a travel case—you need a truck to bring it. But we're putting out these bongs with Roor close to the release of the album. And we're also releasing the Funky Feel Tip [joint filters]. So we're putting little things out there, but we've never really gone full-grown on it—because, really, at our base, we're about music. The music comes before anything else.

Tell me about the skits Cheech & Chong did for the LP.

B-REAL: We had Chong on the previous LP; we couldn't use half of the shit because I was laughing through the whole thing, so I fucked it all up. But getting them for this, we were lucky, because we were asking them if they would host the Cypress Hill Smoke-Out. Chong was like, "Yeah, fuck, for sure I'll do it, but on one condition: We get an ounce of B-Real's greenest weed." [laughs] So I obliged him, gave them their shit, and they hosted the Smoke-Out and then came and did these drops for the album. They're really funny still, to this day—like, they just ad-libbed it. They were like, 'Okay, let's talk about what we're gonna do real quick. Okay, yeah, this, that, that, okay, let's go.' And they knocked it out in minutes.



B-REAL: 'Not only do we have the hip-hop and alternative following, but we've also got the pro-legalization culture that follows what we do because of what we talk about on the record.'

Has it gotten easier to do Smoke-Outs over the years? I don't know if you had any resistance to it in the beginning.

B-REAL: When it really got off the ground, we had a little resistance from the authorities in the city we were throwing it in at that point, because they didn't really understand what we were doing; they thought we were just trying to throw it in their face. But when we brought it back just recently, they were so cool about it, you barely noticed they were there—they didn't really mess with anybody, because they understood what we trying to accomplish. And there was no violence of any sort. Not that many people were taken to jail. Certain people got their marijuana confiscated, but you don't wanna blow smoke in a cop's face. If he's letting you be in the spot smoking, don't rub it in his fucking face. Those were probably the people that went to jail, the people that were rubbing it in his face-or maybe they had more than herb, who knows? But it was a great event, and the authorities were pretty helpful on the whole shit. So I can't really say that when we relaunched it this year, anybody put up any resistance. There was one group that said they were gonna picket our event, but they never showed up [laughs]. So we didn't take it seriously.





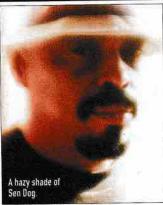
Have there been any pitfalls that have come with being so visibly aligned with pot? If so, how have you dealt with them?

SEN DOG: Well, the pitfalls of it are when you're taking your kids on vacation to Disney World, and some Texas lawman pulls you over and figures out who you are and tears your RV apart, swearing you've got weed on you. But that's minimal compared to the perks of it. There's a lot of people like me around the world, and everywhere I go, there's always somebody willing to have some good herb or some hash or a good spliff to share with you. And that's cool. We've had our points where we've gone into countries, and they swear it's hard getting into certain countries, or going out or whatever-but, for the most part, we've never gotten no major shit.

ERIC: We never really have disrespected ...

SEN DOG: Except for that time in France when they caught you fuckers with four pounds of shit on the bus. Remember that? When you had that little bag with like 10 balls of hash in it? Remember the dog found it on you? ERIC: Do we have to talk about that? [laughs]

SEN DOG: Except for that time. ERIC: Except for that one time. But yeah, it's been crazy. We've gotten out of a lot of things, let's put it that way. I remember one time we were driving to the airport—and this was right after 9/11-and we were smoking out a van. And then there was a checkpoint, right? And we kind of totally forgot about it, and so it was: "Oh, whoa—shit, they're gonna check us!" The dude opened up, and all this smoke just came out. He looked in and he said, "Oh, y'all ain't got nothing-y'all ain't got no bombs or anything. You all are good." [laughs] B-REAL: We were bombed out! ERIC: We just looked at him with a smile. We're like, "Hee-ey!"



SEN DOG: 'I love when people think you're done and you know you're not, and you come back and slap them in the face once again.'

What keeps Cypress Hill going after two decades?

B-REAL: We still love doing this shit. We love to make music, we love performing it. We're blessed to be able to do what we do. And we've always been competitive, so we hear other shit out there and we're like, "Oh, we gotta make something that's gonna kill that." That's what keeps us going. SEN DOG: I love when people think you're done and you know you're not, and you come back and slap them in the face once again. And to be able to have a band 20 years old-and our friendship goes back even further than that-that's some special shit that I don't feel like fucking stopping. And I'd like to accomplish some more goals with the group as well. Because there's only one Cypress Hill, and I'm in it. And it's a pretty kick-ass feeling to be part of a group that has the longevity that we have, the history ... and we smoke weed wherever we go. *