Unpublished Joe Strummer Interview Part-3

Here's the final part of this unpublished interview with Joe Strummer of The Clash Enjoy!

What sort of numbers had you worked out for that first gig?

Well, the other groups where that I didn't identify, 'Listen' and a few of the Clash standards, I suppose we had about ten numbers.

Did you ever the punk spotterad gigs?

Yeah, we didn't have anything else. It was cheap. All the stuff about Pistols was a bit of a rumour so it, you know, actually happened was Bernard Rhodes and Sophie Richmond, London Sound and all that, and we didn't have any records or anything, we didn't have any, we didn't have any, we didn't have any, we didn't have any, we didn't have any, we did an image together, something to wear onstage, we didn't have a clue what to do. We had a brochure. Bernie had already broken away from that. Bernie had some something about Pistols, and he was very creative. He had one everything.

So it was a bit like the Mike, smashing up the instruments and then calling it autodestruction.

Yeah, other the fact. But it was sort of normally. We had to adapt what stuff we could find in the second hand shops, which was really hamfisted. We used to get jackets round to the Pistols and we'd be sitting around round the corner and saying, okay Pete, give us a jacket.

Who was wearing that jacket in the first promotional gig?

Then we got into records and stuff, I think Bernie got us into that.

How much was Bernie guiding you and packaging you?

Very much he, I mean say, he said to us, we're about what's important. He never actually said write about this or that, but he said to each or whatever and say this is good, this is bad. He was very creative, he input was everything.

Where did this ideas come from? He seems to have been like an old style coffee bar intellectual.

Right, he's kind of the leader, know of the trends. He probably suggested, after the Situationists, he probably suggested, he was very, very creative and he was very, very much about this Situationist stuff, I mean he, he, he was very, he was very, he was very