



# Ultraxine

Ultraxine doesn't do anything by the book. To this Brit-based trio, there is no book. There's a movie, screening in their heads on a loop, telling the story of their lives via the medium of 'xine'. The Made-Up Dictionary of Rock tells us that the word 'xine' encompasses "joyful, power-pop-punk-rock, tea-drinking, and most importantly having a laugh with your mates whilst rocking out".

Everyone should xine at least twice a day. I'm xine-ing right now.

But for Kate, Taz and Rick a standard level of xine is far from adequate. Instead, they must Ultraxine, which is how they got their name. They must drink more tea than was previously thought possible, laugh insanely with strangers while rocking out in the street and play the most wonderful, catchy, melodic power-pop-punk-rock ever heard by human ears. Or any other ears.

Suddenly it all makes sense, right?

Not to everyone. There was a band in Flint, Michigan, called Hyperxine who just couldn't cut the mustard. It all got too much for them, and they're currently gibbering in a tea-addiction rehab facility.

But there's more to Ultraxine than hot drinks and quirky fun.

First off, there's the fact that the 2 girls live in separate cities (Leeds and London), and therefore must show the utmost dedication to their cause in order to simply exist. Their drummer, Rick, is Mancunian – a fact which Leeds-based Taz prefers to brush over for fear that rain from the wrong side of the Pennines will pollute the atmosphere permanently.

Ultraxine's debut album, *Taking Sweets from Strangers* was recorded in under a year and was completely self-funded. This is a band that is fiercely proud of their DIY ethics. Still, they couldn't do everything by themselves, so they roped in a guru in the shape of GMT / Gillan / Ozzy Osbourne guitarist Bernie Tormè (yes, THAT Bernie Tormè), who would handle production and engineering duties.

With Taz taking a year off band duty to look after her new baby (not a musical side project – an actual baby) Ultraxine's follow up E.P. *Danger of Death* was released in December 2010, recorded, mixed and mastered by those fine chaps at 309 Studios in Leeds. The hook-ridden threesome lists their influences as "The Wildhearts, GMT, Ramones, Abba, Silver Sun, Cheap Trick, The Sweet, Devin Townsend and The Beach Boys". If it has sunshine-y melodies and / or sweet harmonies, it had an impact. And let's face it; all of those bands have xine-d at one time or another.

From here, things can only go up. The band is busy writing for their second album, and they are happy to play anywhere that will have them. Catch them at a toilet near you, and offer them a teabag instead of a beer. They'll love you forever.



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Press for *Taking Sweets From Strangers*:

“This is dirty-mouthed poprockpunk with a huge dollop sweet stuff guaranteed to endanger your dentures, not save them....Riffs (though loud) are kept simple; nods towards rioting girls and punking instigators are clear from ‘Aldgate’. Lead vocals are erudite and succinct...For the most part it is simply Kate and Taz having huge amounts of fun...revelling in rollicking choruses, and making a scrappy heartfelt noise...It’s the sort of thing I get when I listen to Eureka Machines - catchy tunes and happy times (Rob Wright – *Sandman Online*)

“Ultraxine are unashamedly good fun... Stand out track “What I Want” is everything pop-punk should be: exhilarating riffs played at double speed and upbeat, sugary lyrics that are

guaranteed to leave a smile on your face... In a stroke of genius, Taz and Kate frequently combine their voices to deliver a double-layered vocal that’s sweet and charismatic, but has an abrasive punk edge.”

(Jessica Thornsby, *Leeds Music Scene*)

“...sounds fittingly like The Wildhearts would have if they’d preferred e-numbers to opiates. And been girls” (Alison B - *Bubblegum Slut*)

Press for *Ultraxine Live*:

“...But then I’m roused sharply by Ultraxine. Bass player Taz has a touch of Ginger about her, whilst guitarist Kate just looks like she’s having fun. The punk is poppy, the drums are loud...the camaraderie and the joy is there – and ultimately that’s what it’s all about” (Rob Wright - *Sandman*). times.” (Rob Wright, *Sandman Online Magazine*].

“It’s a good mix of catchy melodies, well rehearsed harmonies and decent guitar work from a band that I think could do well with having a go at some more acoustic stuff.” (Patrick Gunn, *Sandman Magazine*)



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