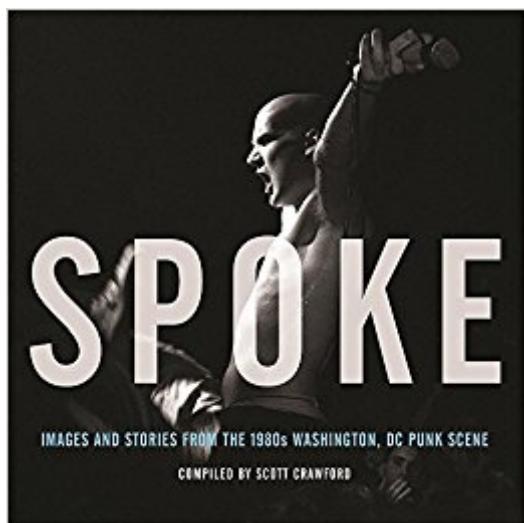


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# Spoke: Images And Stories From The 1980s Washington, DC Punk Scene



## Synopsis

"The pictures, which include some posed portraits but are mostly concert shots, are the chief attraction. They freeze moments of adolescent release, vein-bulging intensity and sweaty communion that fuses performer and audience...Vivid and evocative."--Washington Post"Scott Crawford, the man behind the acclaimed documentary *Salad Days*, has given us another taste of the best-kept secret of 80s in his new book *Spoke: Washington DC's hardcore punk scene*."--Dazed"With music by Minor Threat, Void, Rites of Spring, Government Issue, and many others propelling the story of hardscrabble, Reagan-era D.C. as the hotbed for a new artistic outlet in *Salad Days*, Crawford saw the book as a way to scoop up important narrative from the cutting-room floor and find a new home for it."--Fast Company"Pockmarked with burned-out buildings and boarded-over storefronts, Northwest DC was once home to a vibrant and sometimes violent punk movement beginning in the early 1980s. For geeky 12-year-old Scott Crawford, that changed everything: He chucked comic books for punk rock and self-published a music zine from his mother's kitchen table in Silver Spring. This month, Crawford releases a book about those days, *Spoke*--a companion to his 2014 documentary, *Salad Days*--featuring stories from local players such as Dave Grohl, Henry Rollins, and Ian MacKaye."--Washingtonian Magazine"Spoke...adroitly uses both photographs and oral histories to capture the importance of what can best be described as a cultural revolution within the nation's capital."--Shepherd Express"This coffee table version of the documentary [Salad Days] follows the D.C. scene's often politically-charged brand of punk rock, from Bad Brains to Jawbox, and of course the legendary Fugazi. And there's even the near-forgotten SOA, whose frontman Henry Rollins took his D.C. energy to L.A. where he stepped in as the singer for Black Flag."--Yellow Scene Magazine"A must-have for any rock historian or pop-culture buff...The perfect punk coffee table book."--Shockwave Magazine"Highly recommended...A must read for punk fans."--Chorus.fm/HiFiNoise"A worthy addition to the growing amount of literature on the American hardcore/punk scene, *Spoke* will look great on any aging punks' coffee table as a document to a vital, electric time."--Ink19.com"A forthright testament to a kaleidoscopic community. This is a rounded collection, with surprises on every page...It's collection that rocks."--Shelf Awareness for ReadersThe Washington, DC punk music scene of the 1980s gave birth to influential bands like Bad Brains, Minor Threat, and Fugazi. Here that era is portrayed in its purest form: an oral history by the creators themselves, including nearly two hundred photographs capturing the power and spirit of this politically progressive corner of American underground music. This stunning and intimate collection features rare images from Jim Saah, Cynthia Connolly, Bert Queiroz, and many

others who documented this vibrant community. Compiled by Scott Crawford's critically acclaimed film *Salad Days* provided an unprecedented exploration into the 1980s DC punk scene; *Spoke* delves deeper into one of the most dynamic movements in US music history. Featuring: BAD BRAINS, THE TEEN IDLES, BLACK MARKET BABY, SOA, MINOR THREAT, GOVERNMENT ISSUE, VOID, IRON CROSS, THE FAITH, SCREAM, MARGINAL MAN, GRAY MATTER, BEEFEATER, KING FACE, RITES OF SPRING, DAG NASTY, EMBRACE, SOULSIDE, FIRE PARTY, SHUDDER TO THINK, IGNITION, FUGAZI, SWIZ, THE NATION OF ULYSSES, and JAWBOX.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"As a visual record, the coffee-table book succeeds commendably with page after page of gorgeous, oversized, black-and-white images of the prime movers in D.C. punk circa the Me Decade. So you get the expected--Bad Brains, Minor Threat, Fugazi--but also a hefty dose of the underdogs--Fire Party, Beefeater, Nation of Ulysses. The photos tell the story better than accompanying texts--all kinetic action, the pages are almost humid with sweat and spit."--Orlando Weekly

"This book has been published to accompany the recent (and rather excellent) documentary *Salad Days*, which was directed by this book's creator, Scott Crawford. The core of the book features over 200 high quality photos from the likes of Jim Saah, Cynthia Connolly and Bert Queiroz. Most of these are monochrome (some with a sepia tone, a few others in full colour), several never published before and all strikingly clear and evoking the era perfectly. These images

alone captivate, bringing this most influential and politically progressive Punk scene to life."--Scanner Zine"Features profiles of more than two dozen bands, beginning with the Bad Brains and including Fugazi, Minor Threat, Shudder To Think, Jawbox, Government Issue, and SOA (with a young Henry Rollins)."--Bay Area Reporter"This volume serves as a visual and narrative companion to *Salad Days*, a 2014 documentary, also by Crawford, that explores the 1980s Washington, D.C., hardcore punk scene. Like the film, the book sheds light on the ways in which the music coming out of the nation's capital, by bands such as Bad Brains and Fugazi, served as a mode of political and economic critique."--Publishers Weekly"Loaded with photos (lots from photographer Jim Saah), the volume is a joy to thumb through, or read cover-to-cover. The images practically jump off the page and a reader can't but help be energized just looking at this."--A Pessimist is Never DisappointedPraise for the film *Salad Days*:"Acts not only as a musical primer but as a monument to a moment: when punk was both a way to find kinship with like-minded oddballs and a tool for fighting issues like racism and economic disparity."--Rolling Stone"An enlightening documentary."--New York Times"A sharp exploration into what made DC punk tick, and how it continues to inspire."--MTV News

Scott Crawford is a filmmaker, music journalist, and graphic designer. As a teenager, he founded Metrozine, a fanzine dedicated to the DC hardcore punk scene. In 2001, he launched Harp magazine and served as its editor-in-chief for over seven years. His documentary debut, *Salad Days*, played around the world and received critical accolades from the New York Times to Rolling Stone. He lives in Washington, DC.

Scott focuses on a time and place, and coveys what it was like. I saw the first era of bands profiled in *Spoke*, and I played in one of them: Government Issue. I left the D.C. area in 1983, a year before Scott started going to shows as a 12-year-old, and so I appreciate reading about how the scene evolved. Some people say that the book does not fully cover the music scene in and around Washington, D.C. The same has been said about Scott's documentary, *Salad Days*. But that misses the point: Scott set out to make a film and a book that's a labor of Scott's love. So there's no point in asking why so-and-so's band was not included. *Spoke* is well produced, and contains incredible photos, band histories and anecdotes. If you took part in the scene, or just loved the music that came out of it, get this book. I believe you'll value owning it.

Loved the personal stories from the bands. Fun read. Beautifully put together.

Great book. The hardcover piece has so many great pix, bands and anecdotes from the scenesters. its clean, big, and cool. Love it.

Such a cool book!!!!

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