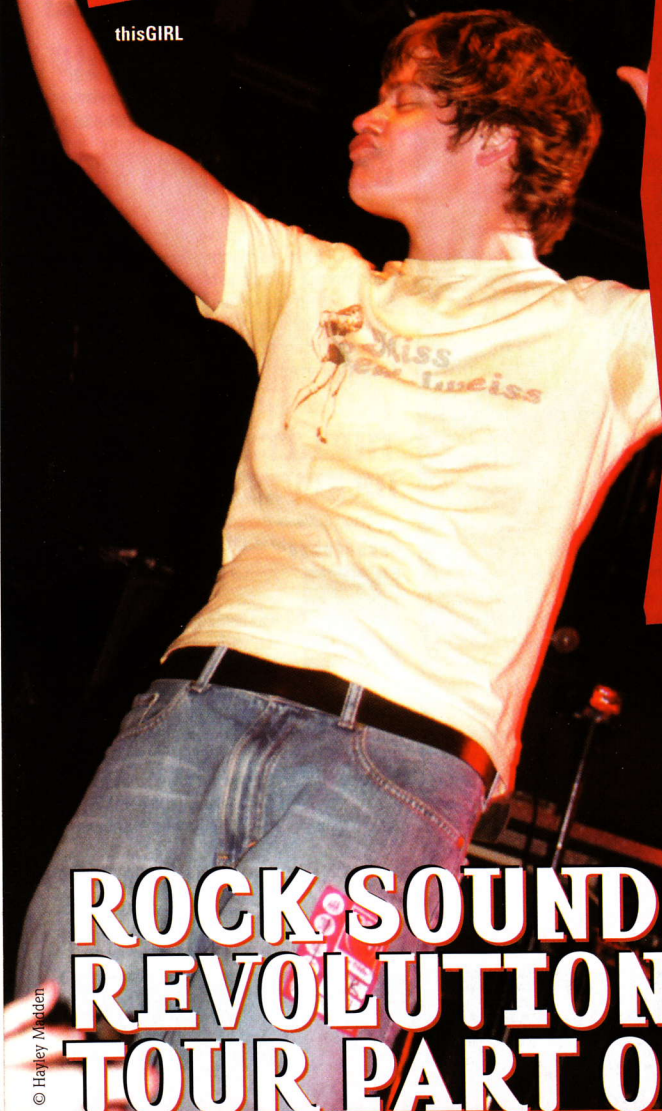


live

rock sound

touring with attitude

thisGIRL



The Blueprint



Tyler

ROCK SOUND REVOLUTION TOUR PART ONE

© Hayley Madden



Vacant Stare

Rio's, Bradford

With its circular dancefloor and dive-friendly stage, Rio's is a great venue and first to tread the boards tonight are Exeter quintet **Tyler**. Their brooding post-punk/Godspeed meanderings are enhanced by live cello, broadening the introspective sound. 'Second Best' is, ironically, their best song, with interplay between two vocalists and subtle guitar nuances. Next, **The Blueprint** fire things up with some intense post-earth-tone9 rock. Their debut mini album sounds fantastic live, Karl's metal-Morrissey vocals cutting through an expansively heavy though punkily driven sound. An untitled newie that whips along on a dirty grinding bassline points at more great things to come from this band. "Don't let the energy level dip 'cos it's been frankly soaring so far" – a touch of sarcasm, Mr Middleton? The unresponsive

crowd doesn't faze **thisGIRL**, who sprint through a squally set of relentless fervour. Thrashing around dementedly, singer Liam's warned by the soundman to be careful of the equipment, but goes even more ape, swinging his microphone like a rather expensive lasso. **thisGIRL** are only bairns – drummer Ryan, the old man of the band, turns 21 at midnight – but they're definitely on a fast upward trajectory. That's more than can be said for headliners **Vacant Stare**. Tonight they seem to be on autopilot, running through punchy though generic nu-metal workouts. 'A Head Start' is the highlight of the set, but they've yet to write anything to eclipse it, and there's a definite sense that they're treading water. After the revelation of **The Blueprint**, a disappointing end to the night.

JANE BOXALL

VOX ROCK

It's made its way to the Revolution Tour when it hit London's Mean Fiddler. Here's what some of you thought of the show.



I've seen **thisGIRL** about four times and the first time I saw them they blew me away, they are very good live. Liam gets a bit carried away I think.
Dean Lewis, Hounslow



I've never seen **Vacant Stare** live before but I've heard a lot of good things about them, they seem like a really good band with a really good vibe. **The Blueprint** were really good too.
Sammm Agnew, Boreham Wood



A lot of hardcore acts out there are lacking melody and what **Vacant Stare** have been able to do is to put the melody into the metal and Manning – with his choir-boy training – has been able to take to that really well.
Katie Parsons, South London



I've been a **Vacant Stare** fan for quite a long time and I thought I'd come down and check them out. I think this tour is really good for the underground scene, and to support bands like Johnny Truant.
Amar Sur, Hounslow



I think **Tyler** are probably the most original and exciting band around at the moment, they're smashing boundaries by being a good band with good ethics and nice people – they like fanzines!
Robin Christian, Southwark