

**W**olf pack bonded by brotherly love and music One Hundred Proof is marking their territory all over the trees of Redlands with their highly anticipated debut album "Wolf Among the Sheep," with the help of their new label, Sullen Musik. They are spreading the Inland Empire music scene to the coast of Southern CA and beyond. Their sound is a mix of rock and hip-hop, with a touch of blues and soul. With their melodic, fast tempo, in-your-face rock n roll, it's no wonder CEO Jeremy Hanna signed them to his Sullen Musik label. One Hundred Proof is an example of what hard work, blood, sweat, and tears can do. Not only do these guys rock, but they also have a heart of gold, and want to give other bands from the IE a platform to stand on. I sat down with One Hundred Proof at the Sullen headquarters to follow up on what they have been up to since I first met them almost one year ago, on the O' Brown Show for B Real TV.

100 Hundred Proof is:

Double E (Vocals & Lead Guitarist) – Eric Estrada  
Famous Jamous (Vocals & other Instruments)– Jimi Estrada  
Bminor (Rhythm Guitar) – Mike Bminor  
Vasquez (Bass) – Steven Vasquez  
Mike P (Drums) – Mike Pasillas



**Tell me about your new album, "Wolf Among the Sheep?"**

Eric: This is our debut album off our new label, Sullen Musik. Robert Rios did the artwork, and made it look SICK! We are really excited about it. We put together some really heavy tracks. It's a good mix of rock and hip-hop. The recording process was great. Any time we get into a room there is magic. The new album came together perfectly. We did it down at Lunch Box Studios. Lunch Box is a great person to work with. It was a short and sweet process. It came out perfectly in my eyes.

**There is a lot of harmonica on the new album. Whose influence is this?**

Jimmy: I picked up the harmonica years ago. I was at first very hesitant about bringing harmonica in a hip-hop band because it is a more of a blues sound, and I was afraid people were not going to really dig that. We come from a background of different types of music, and my brother Eric said to just try it! He said put it in there and he kept pushing me to do it. Sure enough I did, and it was awesome! It's one of those things people always ask about. It's just something you don't hear in the rock and hip-hop scene.

**Tell me about you upcoming tour?**

Mike Bminor: It's in the planning phases now, but we are going to tour starting in February to March. We are touring with five of the best bands out of the IE! It's been a long time coming, and we are pretty stoked about it.

Jimmy: We are excited because we have Low Life Music, who just got signed by Sullen Musik, and they are going on tour with us. We got approached by Dos of Adolescents, and Assuming We Survive, who are some kind of veterans; I guess you could say, as far as some of the music scene in the Inland Empire.

**What have you been up to since I saw you last on the O' Brown Show earlier this year?**

Eric: We got signed to Sullen Musik back in August. We just released our debut album, "Wolf Among the Sheep," on Sullen Musik.

Jimmy: I missed the O' Brown Show but we have been doing some really great shows at HOB Anaheim. We are killing it in the Inland Empire. Recently had a show at the Universal City Walk at the Jon Lovitz Club. We played with Static Fiction and The Chimps. We have been pushing other things out such as merchandise, and now we have definitely moved forward and progressed as a band.

**How did you get signed to Sullen Musik?**

Jimmy: I got in touch with Jeremy Hanna a couple years ago. I had been out to some shows, and I had been a fan of the sullen brand for quite a while. I didn't know that they had anything to do with bands and music. At first Jeremy was hesitant, but once I told him what we are all about he said, "Well, let's just take it slow or whatever and see what happens." Pretty soon we became a part of the Sullen family, getting sponsored by the clothing. We had just invested so much time with the Sullen family that we were stoked when we got signed officially to Sullen Musik.

It's really cool to see the strong force of these bands coming together and representing the IE. We are planning on going up North and out of state, playing some shows and making a statement, letting people know that you don't have to just go to LA to experience a music scene. You can come to the Inland Empire there is a lot of talent out there. We are going to be representing Sullen Musik, Inland Empire, and One Hundred Proof!

**What's unique about the Inland Empire music scene that the rest of the world needs to know?**

Eric: There are a lot of bands that just bust their ass. They throw great shows but they are just so overlooked. So many people say you need to go to LA to see a good show. The point is there are so many good bands that work their asses off from where we are from, that don't get the recognition that they should. I guess I would be crushed if people didn't pay attention to the music that we did, but we make a statement, and we hold our fists high, and that's how we approach it. Other bands have the same drive, they just don't have that platform yet, and that's what we are hoping to do. We want to open up a platform so all these other bands can step up and have a chance to do what we are doing.

**What's your favorite song on your new album?**

Steven: "Stronger." It was simple at first then I added the bass part to it and made it awesome!

**What's the creative process when you are writing One Hundred Proof's music? I notice instruments, beats, and harmonica.**

Jimmy: That's funny that you mentioned beats. Eric, who is the original member of the band, makes beats and does this whole hip hop thing on the side. We are all into different types of music, but as for the

beats, we wanted to do them live and include them in the music. And that's how we got the hip hop and rock sound! As far as the majority of the writing, my brother Eric does it. He comes up with the ideas of the songs. As for the band collectively, we throw in all the touches. My brother and I write our own lyrics. I write a lot of the chorus lines. Everyone puts in their ideas and their touches.

Eric: Jimmy has a real good way of writing a lot of the big strong choruses. It is easy for people to sing along with it. When I play Jimmy a beat, I can actually see him mouthing a chorus line to himself, which is awkward, but he is "so on point," he is great to work with. With these guys, any time we start to work, building ideas, they earn things and move things so quickly, that when I walk into a room with what I think is a small idea, we already have a full song to perform. It is just really easy to get these ideas out there.

**What makes One Hundred Proof's sound so unique?**  
Jimmy: As for myself, the harmonic is different and people seem to like it. They ask for "more harmonical More harmonical!" (Laughs). I think it is dope. The uniqueness is the overall use of rock and hip-hop. We are not saying it has never been done, but I think it is just the musical background and different types of music that we throw in there. I throw in the hip-hop and my brother has more of that Jim Morrison voice when he is singing and screaming. He really never thought he was going to be a singer until a few years ago. He is a good singer. What makes us unique is our drive in general. We work our asses off. We do it 100 percent, and we go above and beyond. And that's because what we want is only up to us, and we have to go grab it ourselves. No one is going to hand it to us.

**What can your fans expect from you next year?**

Eric: More shows, and a new album. We are already in the studio writing. I always want to give the fans the biggest show possible. We are playing at cool venues, and I know we have plenty lined up for the New Year, so get ready!

Jimmy: You are going to see a lot more of us, everything that is going on with Sullen, and the new label. You will see us right here in RNR Magazine! We appreciate it. We are going to keep pushing, not just for ourselves, but also for our fans. They are so die hard that we owe it to them, so we have to continue doing what we do as long as they keep fueling our fire to keep running with it. Nothing is stopping us now! NAMM is really big for us and we will be super aggressive this year. The first year you go to NAMM, it's like Disneyland. The second year, you look around at everything and start meeting people. This year, we have so much more ammo. This year will speak for itself. We have to present it in the best way.

**How can your fans keep in touch with you?**

Mike: Look up Official100proof on all social media, reverb, iTunes.... GO BUY OUR ALBUM!

-Raquel Figlo

