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A.R.E. Weapons

Free In The Streets

Defend Music

In the beginning, Rough Trade signed The Strokes, The Moldy Peaches and then reluctantly A.R.E. Weapons. They were like this modern day Suicide who were more urban than any band out there. They had this reputation for being East Village scumbags. They were The Warriors. They were harder and scarier than any band out there. Even Jarvis Cocker of Pulp started a new band Relaxed Muscle that was partly like an A.R.E Weapons tribute band. Rough Trade didn't even want to release the record. The label was afraid of them. While NYC bands became the fashion, A.R.E. Weapons was the secret fave of every reader of VICE Magazine. Who really cares about what Carlos D. does anymore? A.R.E Weapons also refused to be this minimal noise band too. On the second record, they have a real drummer and a fuller sound. All their greatest is contained on tracks like "These Tears" and "Who Rules The Wasteland?" On songs like "Last Cigarette" you feel that they nailed the coffin on all the trendy bullshit forever. This is a message to all urban hustlers everywhere: You are over!