

Rock Drummer snared in "Taxicab Confession"

Mark O'Toole, Irish drummer & lyricist for upcoming New York rock band Audio Fiction is an unwitting star of the series premiere of HBO's Emmy- award winning show Taxicab Confessions: New York, New York: America Undercover. O'Toole and a friend hopped into one of the shows rigged cabs on the way home from a party. None of the passengers were aware that their conversations were being captured with hidden lipstick cameras and microphones until the ride was over.

New York, NY ([PRWEB](#)) February 1, 2005 -- Mark O'Toole, Irish drummer & lyricist for upcoming New York rock band Audio Fiction is an unwitting star of the series premiere of HBO's Emmy- award winning show Taxicab Confessions: New York, New York: America Undercover. O'Toole and a friend hopped into one of the show's rigged cabs on the way home from a party. None of the passengers were aware that their conversations were being captured with hidden lipstick cameras and microphones until the ride was over. During the ride from Avenue C to Manhattan's Upper West Side, O'Toole and his friend Kim discussed topics such as a failed sex romp during the New York City blackout and their crazy mothers.

“The whole ride was surreal. The cab driver was attractive and took an unusual interest in talking to me. How could I not respond to that?” mused O'Toole. “When she told us we were on Taxicab Confessions at the end of the ride, I thought “Oh Christ! What exactly did I do and say?” I was horrified. I realized I told her personal details about dating, that I casually slagged off my mother while declaring my love for an ex-girlfriend I don't love anymore.”

The driver encouraged them to keep talking, prompted by the directors who were following in a van behind the cab. They could see and hear everything that was going on inside the car. They were taped for about forty minutes driving around Manhattan as the taxi driver kept making wrong turns to keep them in the cab. O'Toole remembers the taxi driver being surprised that they were single.

“I recall my responding that us going into a bar is like two blind men going into a porn store, trying to pick out the best video. Just as hopeless at dating. Maybe it's an Irish thing.” It's not like volunteering to be on a show like Survivor or The Bachelor. You don't get to prepare beforehand. “I felt a huge sense of complete paranoia that lasted for days after I got out of that taxi. The old adage of 'what you say in the cab stays in the cab' didn't apply here. I even wondered was there a hidden camera behind the newsstand and in my bedroom.”

The producers have said their ride is hilarious. "Mark told us several compelling stories from his true life experience. He is so funny and charismatic, we couldn't resist putting him on the show." said Joe Gantz, co creator and director of the show. O'Toole added, “Believe me, with some of the crap that came out of my mouth I'm seriously thinking of getting out of town the week the show airs.” O'Toole negotiated with the producers to come down and film his band, Audio Fiction, which they did. “If I was going to make a fool of myself on national television, I could at least point out that it keeps with the image of the crazy rock drummer.”

Audio Fiction has been described as a cross between Blondie and No Doubt with a touch of The Pretenders. Audio Fiction releases their debut EP Songs in the key of Orange Alert on April 4th, in addition to a radio promotion organized by The Planetary Group. They plan a short tour of the Northeast from April 2005 on.



Early reviews have raved about the record. The record's title, Songs in the key of Orange Alert, is inspired by the New York "terror alert" status under which the songs were written. Mark O'Toole has also worked as a filmmaker, writer and theatre producer. Audio Fiction plays Arlene's Grocery, New York City Feb 10th.
www.audiofictionband.com

Taxicab Confessions returns to its roots in New York City, with the 2005 premiere of Taxicab Confessions: New York, New York. Outrageous stories of life, love and loss are highlighted in this 11th installment of the popular late-night HBO America Undercover franchise, directed by Joe & Harry Gantz. The show has previously featured one of the Goo Goo Dolls and Guinevere Turner. The show airs Saturday February 5th, 2005 at 10.30pm & repeats thereafter the rest of February.

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