

KINO



Once again we're presenting a band in Damage Inc. that probably doesn't belong in this mag. Why, you might ask yourself? Well, because they're a pretty damn good band, they've got a unique style, and they hail from the U.S.S.R.

KINO's music is cult music of a kind you haven't heard before — there's a Russian touch to everything they do. This band has not been approved by the state-controlled record company Melodia, the only one in the Soviet Union. For this reason they haven't been allowed to make a record. All the same, they were featured on a compilation double album with three other bands from the U.S.S.R. called **Red Wave**. The record was recorded by smuggling tapes of the groups out of the U.S.S.R. The woman who dared to do this was the 25-year old Joanna Stingray of Stingray Productions in Los Angeles. Well, over to the band themselves.

Kino consists of Victor Tsoi/vocals, Yuri Kasparyan/guitar (and also Stingray's fiancé), Gustav Gurianov/drums and Sasha Titov on bass. Victor is the songwriter of the group, and his lyrics are very simple yet easy for people to identify with, especially the young. He writes about day to day things that everyone can relate to.

Kino, probably the best band in Leningrad. From left: Gustav, Yuri, Victor and Sasha.



Kino is one of the trend-setters for Russian youth. They're all good musicians, and they deserve to be heard in the West. So if you've always believed that the only music to come out of Russia is folk music, or that the Soviet Union is only a target for the West to drop bombs in, well, you were wrong. Russia is a country with the same kind of people just as any other country in the world, and good music is also being made there — Kino is living proof of that.

Let me just also say that the guys in this band are not posers, wimps, synthfreaks, etc. etc. These guys are the **real hardcore** for daring to do this in the U.S.S.R.

If you want to know more about Kino, and you really should, they can be contacted through:

Stingray Productions
9000 W. Sunset Blvd.
Suite 405
Los Angeles CA
90069 USA