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# REVOLVER



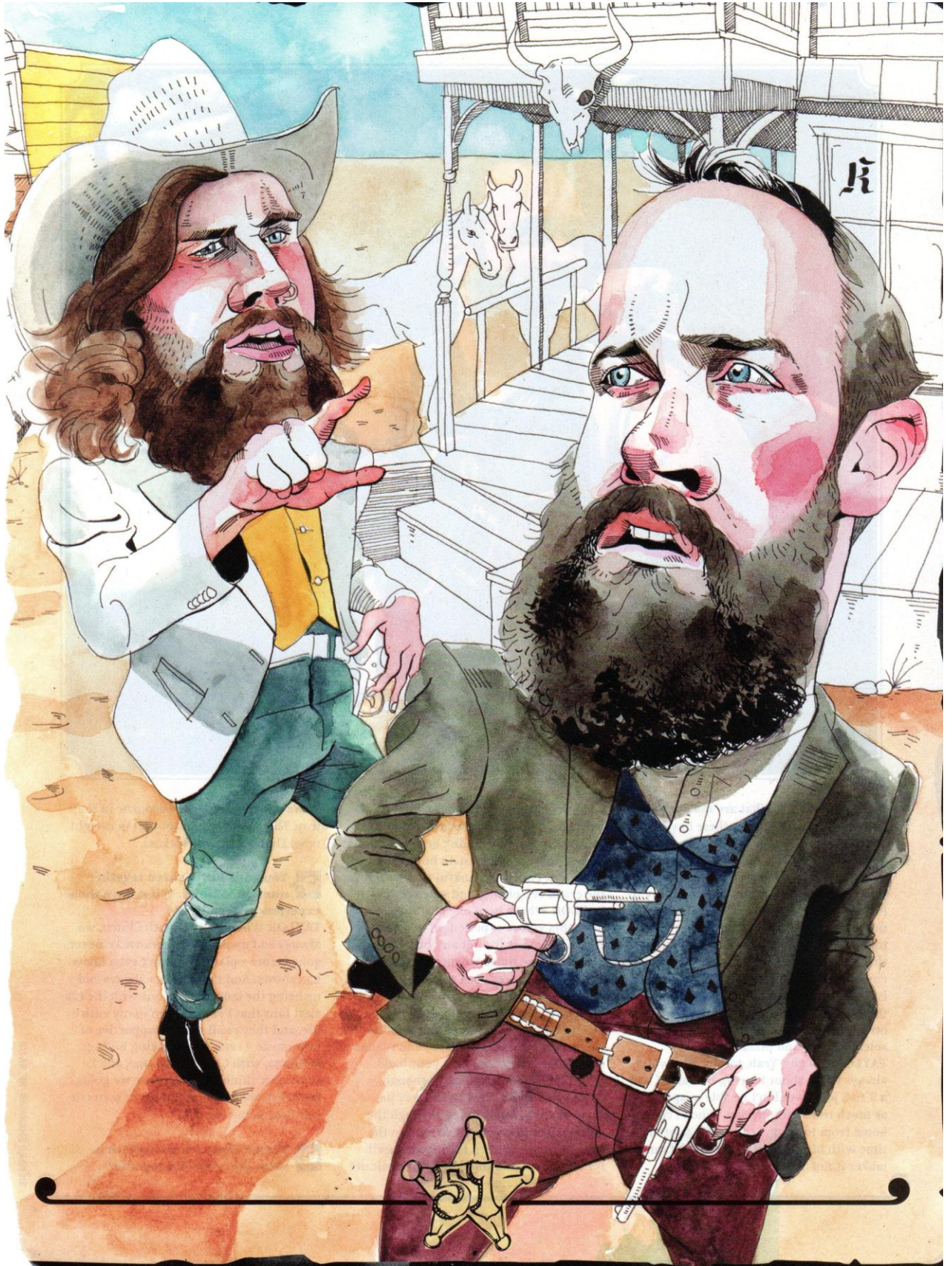
## MAYLENE AND THE SONS OF DISASTER'S HIRSUITE HOWLER FACES OFF WITH CLUTCH'S ROCK-AND-ROLL OUTLAW

**I**N REVOLVER'S ONGOING QUEST to bring together like-minded musicians of different generations for our "Rebel Meets Rebel" series, we knew we were onto something when we decided to pair up Clutch's Neil Fallon with Maylene and the Sons of Disaster's Dallas Taylor. For starters, both frontmen hail from the Southeast, and their bands have toured together three times now. Then we heard Maylene's latest single, "In Dead We Dream," off the band's new album, *IV*, and the deal was sealed. "We're all huge Clutch fans," Taylor enthuses. "I've also always liked Mastodon a lot, and they have this song called 'Blood and Thunder.' In the video, there's this big guy in a clown suit doing vocals. I just figured it was one of their buddies, but I've loved that vocal style ever since. I was actually trying to do something like that on 'In Dead We Dream,' and I only found out recently that it was Neil."

As it turns out, the love is mutual. "Maylene are a band that's doing their own thing," Fallon offers. "I've sometimes heard them described as Southern rock—as we are—but I think that's probably due to the fact that there's a classic-rock influence in both bands. But just seeing them play live, I know they're not posing. They're playing music for the love of it and for the fans' love of it."

BY J. BENNETT ILLUSTRATION BY PAUL KISSELEV





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• Clutch's Neil Fallon

**DALLAS TAYLOR** What are the ups and downs of touring for you these days?

**NEIL FALLON** I guess the main down is just being away from family. The older you get and the deeper your roots go, the more responsibilities you have. It's easy to leave home when you're 19 or 20 and living in your parents' basement. You want to leave home. But I always remind myself that I'm not going off to live in a submarine for six months or something. Touring isn't the worst thing in the world, but that doesn't make it any easier. Diet is the other shitty part of touring—subsisting solely on beer and pizza.

**TAYLOR** [Laughs] Yeah, totally. The way I always think about touring is that if I had a 9-to-5 job, I wouldn't be able to spend as much time with my son. When I come home from touring, I can spend a lot of time with him. But, yeah, having a family makes it not as easy as it used to be.

**FALLON** I play a similar head game. I figure if I had a 9-to-5 job and had to sit in traffic, I probably wouldn't be able to speak to my family for at least an hour after I got home. But I'm very thankful that we live in the era of cell phones and video chat.

**TAYLOR** What's been one of the greatest moments you've experienced in a band?  
**FALLON** I guess it's not any one specific event, but the times whenever we go to places we've never been to before and I see people singing the songs we wrote, that's pretty awesome. Sometimes you don't believe a place exists until you've been there. And once you get there and realize that people know and love your band, it's a thrill. More specifically, though, we opened up for Ozzy in Norway [in August]. I was kinda going through the motions because you get so used to the tour routine and then I stopped myself for a moment and thought, Wait a minute.

We're opening for Ozzy Osbourne in Norway. This might be as cool as it gets right now. That was pretty kickass.

**Q:** You guys have toured together numerous times. What have those experiences been like?

**TAYLOR** When we tour with Clutch, we always end up playing places we've never gone before—places we didn't even know had shows. And those places always end up being the most packed-out with the craziest fans that I've ever seen in my entire life, and they're all totally supportive of new music. I remember playing Billings, Montana, with Clutch years ago, and I remember thinking, *Where are we going?* But when we got there, I'd never seen crazier fans in my life.

**Q:** Wasn't there a huge fight at a show you guys did together



recently at the State Theater in St. Petersburg, Florida?

**FALLON** For some reason, the crowd there in St. Petersburg is one of the most violent. Why, I don't know. Maybe it's the heat.

[Laughs] But it's always hard to judge when you should stop a show because of a fight. Sometimes they end just as quickly as they start. But other times, the fight becomes the show, and nobody wants anyone to get hurt.

**TAYLOR** I'm from Florida, so the State Theater in St. Pete is where I'd go for shows when I was younger. There're always fights at shows there.

**FALLON** For a while, violence at our shows seemed to be a regular thing—particularly in the '90s. But that's faded, thank God, and when we do see it, I think it makes us madder now just because it's so old and tired.

**Q:** Dallas, we were at a Maylene show outside of Chicago in 2008, where a fight broke out when you guys were playing. Do you know what happened?

**TAYLOR** Yeah, and I actually got into that fight. I didn't intend to, but my wife had basically just separated from me, and I was not in my right mind. My friend and his wife were up front, and during the first song I saw these dudes start pushing them hard, like, hitting them almost. My friend asked the guy to stop, and the dude basically started choking my friend. Then they started choking his wife! So I jumped into the crowd and started punching him. I mean, a dude can stick up for himself, but if you start choking someone's wife, that's just wrong. I'm not a violent person, and I hardly ever get good punches in, but I got some good ones in on those guys. And then I looked down and they both had Maylene shirts on. They were completely trashed and didn't even realize what they were doing. They ended up apologizing.

**FALLON** They just showed their love in an inappropriate way.

**Q:** Former Disney star Demi Lovato has said that Maylene are one of her favorite bands. Did you know about that, Dallas?

**TAYLOR** I'd heard that, yeah. I don't know if she's still into us, though. She might've grown up. [Laughs] I'm just kidding. She came out to a show before and hung out with us. But I guess she's just another person that likes heavy music.

**Q:** Neil, have you had any experiences with celebrity types being into Clutch?

**FALLON** The only thing that comes to mind, and I guess it just illustrates my ignorance, is that one of the first times we went to London, there was this guy in

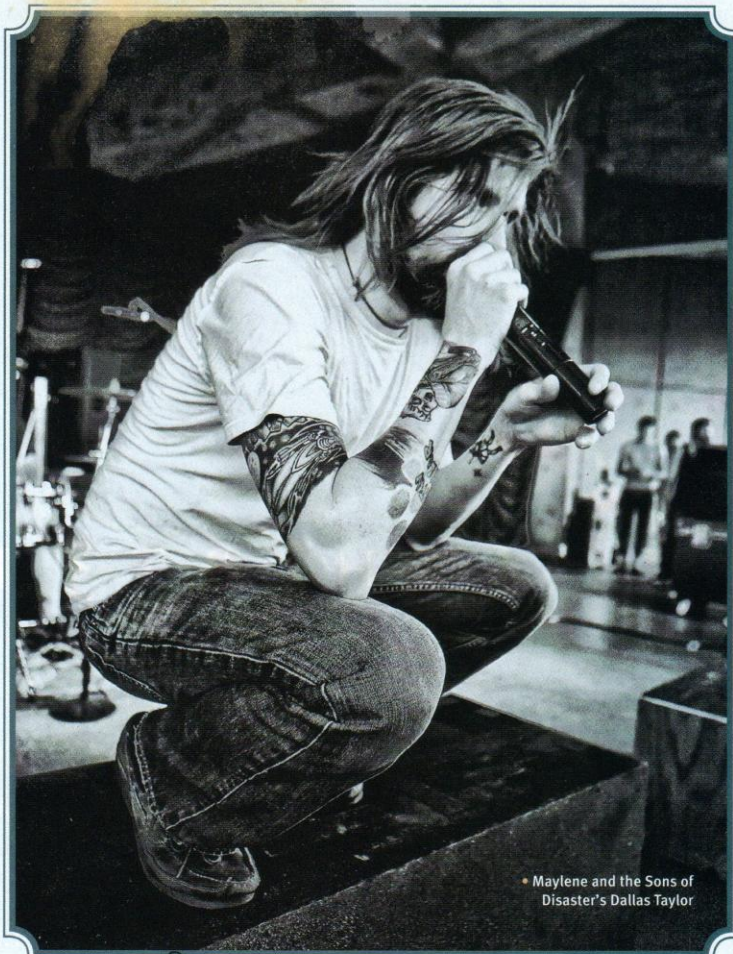
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NEIL FALLON

the dressing room who was just gushing about the band. When he left, all the locals just freaked out. Turns out he was that pop star Robbie Williams. I think the locals were befuddled by how relaxed I was, but that was only because I had no idea who the guy was.

**TAYLOR** I remember playing with you guys in LA, and it was crazy because the RZA was there, the bass player from System of a Down, and that porn star Janine—and they were all singing the words to your songs!

**FALLON** Yeah, that was pretty wild. I knew the RZA was coming, and I was a little freaked out because the Wu-Tang Clan is one of my favorites. But he was just a dude, you know? The idea that there was gonna be some sort of music-video background to his entrance immediately disappeared. But I was tickled pink when I saw him out in the crowd. 🤪



• Maylene and the Sons of Disaster's Dallas Taylor

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