

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## King Youngblood “Yakubian Antics” Song & Video Portrays the Fight to Know Justice - “America Deserves a Black Future”

### Black Art as Resistance

Ya-Ku-Bian An-Tics (/yah\*koo\*bee’an ann\*tiks/)

Noun

The outlandish actions desires and consequences of White Supremacy which require immediate identification, deconstruction and finally abolition.

SEATTLE, WA – alt rock band King Youngblood’s Black/Jewish leader Cameron Lavi-Jones spent the 2020 Covid-Pandemic summer writing songs and actively protesting within his Black Lives Matter community. He staged an epic teach in called This Ain’t No Picnic on the steps of the Seattle Police Department’s 12<sup>th</sup> precinct. He has been outspoken on social media, with the press and consulting with regional political candidates about what “Defund the Police” really means. Lavi-Jones and his band underscore the reality that the Black Lives Matter movement is not an all of a sudden day of reckoning but rather the necessary build of uprisings responding to American’s history of slavery through colonization, police brutality and the industrial prison complex – all of which and more create America’s inescapable legacy of systemic racism. For Lavi-Jones and King Youngblood and so many other BIPOC people, the reaction has to be to create social justice music and art as a form of Black resistance.

Yakubian Antics, the song and the visual do exactly that. Lavi-Jones’ lyrics reflect the reality that there is still so much work to do in the fight to know justice.

*Why when you manifest destiny someone has to die?  
You better hope I don’t catch you when I’m decolonized  
I’m holding rage in my chest, no patience for ignorance,  
I educate only once, no second chances to give*

The video itself is a mini movie giving us the true-life story of one prominent black woman protest leader - activist, actor, musical artist Jaiden Grayson (see @soultypechild), and how she snaps leaving a disrespectful racist corporate crew, of frankly Yakubian idiots to take to the streets. As she is handed the mic, we feel her sense of purpose. We also get a glimpse of what happened for real in Seattle’s CHOP on Capitol Hill. Says Lavi-Jones, “Jaiden Grayson nailed it making this visual life imitating art imitating life like mirrors facing each other forcing us all to face ourselves and our roles of what causes systematic racism and how to heal a nation on fire.”

Making a guest appearance, Josephine Howell, Seattle's first lady of gospel and soul, plays "the grandmother in this visual and offers up a tremendous monolog right in the middle of the video that really says it all about how "We are all in the soup fighting- the protestors, the police, the mayor, poor people, black people, white people, and the real question is whose holding the lid?"

Says award winning black film director and queer afropunk musician Danny Denial, who directed the video, "Yakubian Antics – the visual is a very visceral and true-to-life depiction of what black bodies go through every day fighting within an oppressive system and operating among their oppressors. Working with Cameron and King Youngblood was a fantastic experience because they really wanted me to portray truth in the black protestor experience; as someone living through the CHOP and daily protests since the summer, it resonates on a level I'm not seeing out there yet. What I love about working on this is we took the ideal of black artists working together, and having each other's backs, and made it a reality. I hope if we learn anything from this year it's that we are stronger as BIPOC artists together, and together can make work that endures all of this."

This is King Youngblood's most intense music visual. The band offers no apologies for their position that Yakubians – i.e. White Supremacists – need to be called out and abolished because *"The system's getting sick, it's all Yakubian Antics."*

Pushing hard for youth voter registration through their Make Your Voice Heard Loud & Vote shows and online messaging to reach youth voters, King Youngblood, through their activism, music and their social media platform continually presses hard for social justice at a time when young people have to fight in order to get to a place of healing for their future.

Lavi-Jones is also a second-generation black activist whose father Maurice Jones Jr. was a member of the Black Panther Party and is the Program Manager at the community radio station, KVRU FM servicing South Seattle (the city's most diverse district).

King Youngblood's Yakubian Antics song was written by Lavi-Jones, produced by Lavi-Jones and Phillip Peterson (A\$OP Rock, Portugal The Man) with co-mix credits to music producer and industry community leader Eric Lilavois (Ayron Jones, Pearl Jam) who is one of the owners of the historically famous London Bridge Studios in Seattle. Says Lilavois, "21-year-old Cameron Lavi-Jones is a powerful force as a young producer, social justice activist, public speaker and take no prisoners rock artist. Watching his rise is riveting."

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:**

<https://www.kingyoungblood.com/>

[Authorized Photos: Danny Denial, King Youngblood, Jaiden Grayson with Josephine Howell](#)

**About Yakubian Antics:**

Iconic young black alt rocker Cameron Lavi-Jones & his band King Youngblood reflect current social commentary in their cathartic high energy rock sound & impactful lyrics. From these young socially conscious front-liners comes their newest anthem for a better world - Yakubian Antics by Lavi-Jones, Produced by Lavi-Jones & multi-gold composer/producer Phillip Peterson (A\$OP Rocky, Portugal The Man) & Mixed by Eric Lilavois (Ayrton Jones, Pearl Jam) & Lavi-Jones. Full team & Mktg support!

**About the director:**

Danny Denial, also known for his work in Seattle band Dark Smith, is a solo artist and filmmaker listed in Status Magazine as the "POC of the Queer Punk & Alternative Scene to Watch" and in Afropunk as one of the "8 Punkest Bands on the Planet Right Now". His work in Dark Smith has been highlighted in NPR and The Seattle Times, and his first feature film *Kill me to death* has screened in festivals such as the 43rd Portland International Film Festival and LA Punk Film Festival 2020.









