



TREATMENT – SIXNATIONSTATE “KEEP DANCING”

Shooting format: Super16

As with all my videos, this is not a performance video. The band's got 2 or 3 good performance videos already; time for something different.

My concept is basically to give the band their own mini version of SCARFACE. The song, to me, is about spinning out of control and I want to shoot the whole thing in Madame Jojo's with the band as gangsters. Hugely stylised. Colours are sharp black suits, red walls, lots of smoke, very few colours used but the ones that are, are very rich. Noirish lighting, naturally.

In the opening verse (0.00-, the band, in sharp suits and with guns, stand around a girl gangster - a redhead - who's tied to a chair. Maybe, in a nod to the band's previous performance videos, have a bar or two of the bass line "played" on one of the tommyguns. The lead singer lectures the girl: "I don't want this any more than you...". She struggles to get free and snarls at him. At the beginning the chorus (0.28, "And I feel like going down...") he pulls out a gun and (shot very GET CARTER-style) shoots her.

During the rest of the chorus, the lead singer staggers down into Madame Jojos, as if drunk. Lots of nice noirish shots of hot female dancers doing their thing around the pole (on all the "Keep Dancing" lines). A blonde waitress catches his eye. Through the middle eight he literally showers the blonde with money, and she joins him on a whirlwind of debauchery. The band similarly go crazy, drinking, partying, throwing cards, breaking glasses (in slo-mo). But then it starts getting ugly as the next verse comes in. The chick pours wine down her face, she's a beast, and she steals his wallet. He's barely coping having gone on such a bender (on "I don't need you in my life no more" I'd like to have him blowing a silver tray full of white powder at the camera, as if he's trying to get rid of it/give it up). Finally he catches the girl stealing from him, she throws a drink on him, and on "I feel I'm going down", he snaps his fingers and his band grab the blonde and drag her away.

For the rest of the chorus, the camera twirls around him and cranes up to an overhead shot, still spinning around him, in one long, fluid take - to emphasise the degradation around him and how his world is spinning out of control. He's laughing, half ruefully.

Middle eight: more hot dancing girls - a few dancing on tables around the band, who are passed out or just don't care. Then the girls all look over their shoulder and part/leave. A spotlight sears down onto the pole, on it is a perfectly still, doll-like brunette dancer. (For this I'd use a burlesque performer I know of, who does an amazing china doll-like performance on a pole). Pan back to the singer who stops, entranced. He takes a step towards her and opens his mouth, "I don't want it any other way". On the repeat of that line, cut to:

"I don't want it any other way" we see the band, now dressed as cops, pressed up against a wall, listening to what's happening in the next room (with the singer & girl) with a stethoscope.

Back to the main room. The girl beckons him. He walks towards her, possessed. She, still suspended on the pole, reaches out and grabs his tie, pulling him closer. SHE mouths the "And I feel like going down" at 1.56 and he mouths the response "And I keep dancing". Then the door is kicked down by a bunch of girl gangsters - all the girls he's wronged, coming back for vengeance, with automatic weaponry. They raise the guns. The girl on the pole flips up, over his head, as the girl-gangsters open fire. On "Down Down Down" (2.22) the bullets hit (eg squibs go off in his jacket) and, arms outstretched, he falls in slow motion backwards. The end, naturally, will have to be one of the girl gangsters blowing smoke from her gun.

- END OF VIDEO -