



MIKE DAMANTE



1
00:00:04,580 --> 00:00:00,170
there

2
00:00:08,860 --> 00:00:08,630
[Applause]

3
00:00:22,000 --> 00:00:08,870
[Music]

4
00:00:30,980 --> 00:00:24,320
greetings citizens and welcome to

5
00:00:33,200 --> 00:00:30,990
unknown I'm Jason McClellan thanks for

6
00:00:35,180 --> 00:00:33,210
hanging out with me journalist and

7
00:00:36,920 --> 00:00:35,190
author Mike Demonte recently announced

8
00:00:39,619 --> 00:00:36,930
that he's written a follow-up to his

9
00:00:42,020 --> 00:00:39,629
book punk rock and UFOs cryptozoology

10
00:00:46,100 --> 00:00:42,030
meets anarchy the new book is titled

11
00:00:47,600 --> 00:00:46,110
punk rock and UFOs true believers rogue

12
00:00:49,729 --> 00:00:47,610
planets Shane hurt and I recently

13
00:00:53,900 --> 00:00:49,739

chatted with Mike to learn more about

14

00:00:55,850 --> 00:00:53,910

this upcoming UFO book well Mike I want

15

00:00:57,680 --> 00:00:55,860

to jump into talking about your new book

16

00:01:00,200 --> 00:00:57,690

because I'm really excited about it but

17

00:01:03,709 --> 00:01:00,210

first I guess we'll we'll roll back a

18

00:01:06,380 --> 00:01:03,719

little bit and I'd like to know when did

19

00:01:09,230 --> 00:01:06,390

you make the decision to transition from

20

00:01:12,020 --> 00:01:09,240

a casual observer to someone who

21

00:01:16,279 --> 00:01:12,030

actively journalistically explores the

22

00:01:18,770 --> 00:01:16,289

UFO topic ooh good question so I think

23

00:01:20,029 --> 00:01:18,780

you know one of the things I mentioned

24

00:01:22,730 --> 00:01:20,039

in this book is there's a commonality

25

00:01:24,350 --> 00:01:22,740

between people who are into this stuff

26
00:01:26,240 --> 00:01:24,360
and researchers and usually starts with

27
00:01:28,820 --> 00:01:26,250
an experience whether it's a sighting or

28
00:01:32,090 --> 00:01:28,830
something something sparks that or

29
00:01:33,890 --> 00:01:32,100
ignites that flame in our heads and for

30
00:01:35,330 --> 00:01:33,900
me you know as a kid I was really into

31
00:01:38,899 --> 00:01:35,340
this stuff because my mom used to get me

32
00:01:40,130 --> 00:01:38,909
the the time-life books every there's

33
00:01:43,370 --> 00:01:40,140
like a book series every month there was

34
00:01:45,560 --> 00:01:43,380
a new book and one month would be like

35
00:01:48,139 --> 00:01:45,570
mysterious creatures or the UFO

36
00:01:51,050 --> 00:01:48,149
phenomenon and all all the unknown stuff

37
00:01:53,600 --> 00:01:51,060
really interests me but my interest

38
00:01:55,999 --> 00:01:53,610

really didn't skyrocket until I first

39

00:01:57,800 --> 00:01:56,009

saw something you know I saw a very

40

00:01:59,990 --> 00:01:57,810

familiar side and I saw an orb in the

41

00:02:02,830 --> 00:02:00,000

sky then ever since then I just felt

42

00:02:05,600 --> 00:02:02,840

were compelled to kind of dig deeper and

43

00:02:09,109 --> 00:02:05,610

after I wrote the first book the first

44

00:02:12,490 --> 00:02:09,119

book is very very driven this one I

45

00:02:14,479 --> 00:02:12,500

think it's it's a better more focused

46

00:02:15,920 --> 00:02:14,489

version of what I was going for because

47

00:02:17,840 --> 00:02:15,930

there's more research involved and

48

00:02:20,740 --> 00:02:17,850

there's other people's inputs including

49

00:02:23,180 --> 00:02:20,750

yourself so thank you for your help

50

00:02:26,090 --> 00:02:23,190

absolutely Shane did you have that time

51
00:02:28,310 --> 00:02:26,100
life series book the the book series you

52
00:02:32,839 --> 00:02:28,320
know as a matter of fact yes I thought

53
00:02:37,099 --> 00:02:32,849
you believed it yeah

54
00:02:40,670 --> 00:02:37,109
pre-internet days yeah that's right oh

55
00:02:43,429 --> 00:02:40,680
absolutely well so after the release of

56
00:02:45,229 --> 00:02:43,439
your first book Mike did you experience

57
00:02:47,330 --> 00:02:45,239
any kind of I love asking people

58
00:02:49,819 --> 00:02:47,340
question this question people who get

59
00:02:51,500 --> 00:02:49,829
involved in UFO research and certainly

60
00:02:53,390 --> 00:02:51,510
people who release a book because when

61
00:02:55,940 --> 00:02:53,400
you release a book you know your friends

62
00:02:57,410 --> 00:02:55,950
and family like clearly see that you

63
00:02:59,240 --> 00:02:57,420

release this book because you're posting

64

00:03:00,890 --> 00:02:59,250

about it on on social media and stuff so

65

00:03:02,750 --> 00:03:00,900

after the release of your first book did

66

00:03:04,520 --> 00:03:02,760

you experience any kind of increased

67

00:03:10,190 --> 00:03:04,530

interest in the subject from friends and

68

00:03:12,289 --> 00:03:10,200

family more so from outsiders okay for

69

00:03:16,250 --> 00:03:12,299

people who I shared mutual friends with

70

00:03:17,330 --> 00:03:16,260

that I eventually met or for example I

71

00:03:19,789 --> 00:03:17,340

would have a friend who would share

72

00:03:22,129 --> 00:03:19,799

something about it and then and then it

73

00:03:24,619 --> 00:03:22,139

would kind of snowball from there but

74

00:03:26,300 --> 00:03:24,629

the the increased interest really came

75

00:03:27,890 --> 00:03:26,310

from I mean honestly I'm not just saying

76

00:03:30,530 --> 00:03:27,900

this really started with the first time

77

00:03:31,879 --> 00:03:30,540

I was on row planet okay about the first

78

00:03:34,640 --> 00:03:31,889

podcast that we did you were the first

79

00:03:37,280 --> 00:03:34,650

one to really kind of discover me so the

80

00:03:39,469 --> 00:03:37,290

interest in the book and the brand I

81

00:03:41,659 --> 00:03:39,479

guess started with with you so I'm very

82

00:03:45,140 --> 00:03:41,669

thankful and grateful for that well I

83

00:03:47,599 --> 00:03:45,150

couldn't be not not be intrigued because

84

00:03:49,479 --> 00:03:47,609

you know punk rock and UFOs or two of my

85

00:03:53,409 --> 00:03:49,489

favorite things in the world so

86

00:03:56,270 --> 00:03:53,419

naturally it was a perfect fit yeah so

87

00:03:58,189 --> 00:03:56,280

no I appreciate that but it's where you

88

00:03:59,659 --> 00:03:58,199

know Targa's like that sometimes you try

89

00:04:01,159 --> 00:03:59,669

to have conversations with people even

90

00:04:02,599 --> 00:04:01,169

like your close friends and you know

91

00:04:05,330 --> 00:04:02,609

sometimes you're kind of dismissive and

92

00:04:07,339 --> 00:04:05,340

sometimes family's open-minded but it's

93

00:04:10,189 --> 00:04:07,349

still hard to really engage certain

94

00:04:11,300 --> 00:04:10,199

people actually a few weeks ago I was in

95

00:04:15,289 --> 00:04:11,310

Chicago I was there with my girlfriend

96

00:04:16,819 --> 00:04:15,299

and her friends and they saw something

97

00:04:18,379 --> 00:04:16,829

we actually they saw something when

98

00:04:22,279 --> 00:04:18,389

we're on a boat tour I didn't see

99

00:04:24,279 --> 00:04:22,289

exhaust too busy yeah actually I post

100

00:04:27,580 --> 00:04:24,289

about this on my blog they actually saw

101

00:04:30,560 --> 00:04:27,590

orb in the sky that split up into

102

00:04:31,879 --> 00:04:30,570

various other orbs and it was like it

103

00:04:32,810 --> 00:04:31,889

wasn't just them yeah they weren't

104

00:04:35,120 --> 00:04:32,820

playing a trick um I asked other people

105

00:04:36,469 --> 00:04:35,130

on the bow and they saw too so that and

106

00:04:37,610 --> 00:04:36,479

I afterwards you know we kind of had the

107

00:04:39,890 --> 00:04:37,620

conversation and they're asking me

108

00:04:42,649 --> 00:04:39,900

questions and they were very open-minded

109

00:04:45,439 --> 00:04:42,659

and fascinated and one of her friends

110

00:04:46,129 --> 00:04:45,449

brother was there and he's going to get

111

00:04:48,529 --> 00:04:46,139

his master

112

00:04:51,129 --> 00:04:48,539

in physics he's gonna be a physicist mhm

113

00:04:54,379 --> 00:04:51,139

and he was very open-minded and he says

114

00:04:57,469 --> 00:04:54,389

absolutely mathematically there's other

115

00:05:01,640 --> 00:04:57,479

life forms and universes in the universe

116

00:05:03,019 --> 00:05:01,650

just mathematically makes sense so it's

117

00:05:04,459 --> 00:05:03,029

always good to have those conversations

118

00:05:08,899 --> 00:05:04,469

or people open-minded to want to know

119

00:05:10,339 --> 00:05:08,909

more and yeah I'm sure after after the

120

00:05:12,019 --> 00:05:10,349

first book that those those

121

00:05:14,800 --> 00:05:12,029

conversations happened a lot more I love

122

00:05:17,420 --> 00:05:14,810

that Shane what about you after you

123

00:05:20,809 --> 00:05:17,430

started working with MUFON as a field

124

00:05:22,760 --> 00:05:20,819

investigator did and people in your your

125

00:05:24,260 --> 00:05:22,770

closed circle found out about that did

126

00:05:27,890 --> 00:05:24,270

did more people start talking to you

127

00:05:29,600 --> 00:05:27,900

about UFOs yeah surprisingly I was quite

128

00:05:32,959 --> 00:05:29,610

nervous about it I was kind of in the

129

00:05:35,300 --> 00:05:32,969

closet on it for quite some time but as

130

00:05:37,480 --> 00:05:35,310

I you know kind of presented it to

131

00:05:41,179 --> 00:05:37,490

people especially from you know an

132

00:05:42,409 --> 00:05:41,189

investigative standpoint and and they

133

00:05:44,779 --> 00:05:42,419

were kind of shocked to hear that

134

00:05:47,300 --> 00:05:44,789

there's an organized effort and you know

135

00:05:50,149 --> 00:05:47,310

and it is taken seriously then you know

136

00:05:53,209 --> 00:05:50,159

it raised a few eyebrows they you know

137

00:05:55,219 --> 00:05:53,219

we're acceptive of it and you know I'm

138

00:05:56,779 --> 00:05:55,229

going good and strong right now and I

139

00:06:00,140 --> 00:05:56,789

get a lot of support from my family

140

00:06:02,450 --> 00:06:00,150

that's fantastic yeah now Mike your new

141

00:06:04,369 --> 00:06:02,460

book is a follow-up to your first book

142

00:06:06,260 --> 00:06:04,379

like you mentioned and you kind of

143

00:06:08,779 --> 00:06:06,270

already touched on this but asked you

144

00:06:10,999 --> 00:06:08,789

more directly so how does the focus of

145

00:06:15,670 --> 00:06:11,009

the new book differ from that of the

146

00:06:17,659 --> 00:06:15,680

first book it's more focused in general

147

00:06:19,610 --> 00:06:17,669

I'm try think the best way to describe

148

00:06:21,589 --> 00:06:19,620

it so basically it's you know it kind of

149

00:06:23,300 --> 00:06:21,599

plays off some of the the concepts that

150

00:06:26,360 --> 00:06:23,310

I talked about in the first one you know

151

00:06:29,480 --> 00:06:26,370

in terms of a process of belief and but

152

00:06:33,110 --> 00:06:29,490

this one more concentrates on two main

153

00:06:35,629 --> 00:06:33,120

goals why we should care about this how

154

00:06:37,339 --> 00:06:35,639

do we get there and also the

155

00:06:38,659 --> 00:06:37,349

commonalities between the people who

156

00:06:41,749 --> 00:06:38,669

research this stuff and the everyday

157

00:06:43,610 --> 00:06:41,759

people am I trying to so the book is

158

00:06:45,589 --> 00:06:43,620

basically written where as compelling

159

00:06:47,269 --> 00:06:45,599

enough for people who've been interested

160

00:06:49,159 --> 00:06:47,279

in this stuff for years to still find

161

00:06:52,850 --> 00:06:49,169

something new and interesting in it it's

162

00:06:54,170 --> 00:06:52,860

also written accessible enough for

163

00:06:55,730 --> 00:06:54,180

people who are not familiar with the

164

00:06:58,060 --> 00:06:55,740

topic to read it and learn something as

165

00:06:59,830 --> 00:06:58,070

well so that was the main goal

166

00:07:01,510 --> 00:06:59,840

of the book and it's really I always

167

00:07:04,420 --> 00:07:01,520

told people it's kind of a call to arms

168

00:07:05,800 --> 00:07:04,430

for try to try to get people to care you

169

00:07:08,070 --> 00:07:05,810

know to care about this stuff because we

170

00:07:09,880 --> 00:07:08,080

have a lot of barriers and a lot of

171

00:07:12,280 --> 00:07:09,890

factors that kind of get in the way of

172

00:07:14,350 --> 00:07:12,290

that so that's the main goal of the book

173

00:07:17,130 --> 00:07:14,360

and I think the name true believers it

174

00:07:19,780 --> 00:07:17,140

all kind of goes together very well

175

00:07:21,250 --> 00:07:19,790

you mentioned barriers and obstacles we

176

00:07:22,600 --> 00:07:21,260

want to touch on that a little bit what

177

00:07:24,490 --> 00:07:22,610

what do you see is is some of the

178

00:07:27,100 --> 00:07:24,500

barriers and obstacles that we face when

179

00:07:28,720 --> 00:07:27,110

trying to address this um so I mean

180

00:07:30,790 --> 00:07:28,730

there's multiple ones one of the things

181

00:07:32,260 --> 00:07:30,800

that I actually quoted you about is you

182

00:07:34,450 --> 00:07:32,270

know you do such a great job on your

183

00:07:35,950 --> 00:07:34,460

website of choosing articles to run and

184

00:07:37,660 --> 00:07:35,960

how you source those articles and how

185

00:07:40,510 --> 00:07:37,670

you're able to differentiate between

186

00:07:42,760 --> 00:07:40,520

what's hoaxes and what's not obviously

187

00:07:44,470 --> 00:07:42,770

you know hopes videos and all those

188

00:07:46,240 --> 00:07:44,480

things are barriers as well but I think

189

00:07:47,650 --> 00:07:46,250

the main thing is you know we kind of

190

00:07:50,830 --> 00:07:47,660

live in a world where this is just not a

191

00:07:52,300 --> 00:07:50,840

priority people the capacity which is

192

00:07:53,530 --> 00:07:52,310

the universe I mean I understand people

193

00:07:55,750 --> 00:07:53,540

have families they have you know

194

00:07:58,750 --> 00:07:55,760

finances you know things that that take

195

00:08:00,790 --> 00:07:58,760

presents I get that but you know I

196

00:08:01,960 --> 00:08:00,800

mentioned that so much of a you know so

197

00:08:04,030 --> 00:08:01,970

many of us you know we just this is a

198

00:08:07,060 --> 00:08:04,040

hobby you know a lot of us don't do this

199

00:08:09,040 --> 00:08:07,070

for a living yeah so you know we devote

200

00:08:13,300 --> 00:08:09,050

a lot of our free to free time and sit

201
00:08:14,950 --> 00:08:13,310
on the word free yeah you know looking

202
00:08:17,260 --> 00:08:14,960
into this stuff so I think the main

203
00:08:18,460 --> 00:08:17,270
barrier is getting people to care you

204
00:08:20,590 --> 00:08:18,470
know just a little bit just to kind of

205
00:08:23,220 --> 00:08:20,600
question things and just to you know

206
00:08:25,960 --> 00:08:23,230
start looking at you know history and

207
00:08:27,250 --> 00:08:25,970
start looking at you know some puzzle

208
00:08:28,840 --> 00:08:27,260
pieces and try to put them together on

209
00:08:30,570 --> 00:08:28,850
their own and start doing some of their

210
00:08:33,190 --> 00:08:30,580
own research and just start reading more

211
00:08:35,980 --> 00:08:33,200
you know for things that they never read

212
00:08:38,350 --> 00:08:35,990
before in terms on the subject you know

213
00:08:41,159 --> 00:08:38,360

even back when I was working with open

214

00:08:46,720 --> 00:08:41,169

minds that was a big challenge back then

215

00:08:50,250 --> 00:08:46,730

just trying to dig into sources for

216

00:08:53,350 --> 00:08:50,260

particular stories and you know try to

217

00:08:56,820 --> 00:08:53,360

validate the the the news that was being

218

00:08:59,760 --> 00:08:56,830

delivered or or you know actually

219

00:09:02,830 --> 00:08:59,770

authenticate them as as valid sources

220

00:09:04,210 --> 00:09:02,840

because even if the publication that the

221

00:09:08,350 --> 00:09:04,220

media outlet that was reporting the

222

00:09:10,390 --> 00:09:08,360

story was a respected outlet you still

223

00:09:12,220 --> 00:09:10,400

have to look at

224

00:09:15,460 --> 00:09:12,230

where they're citing where that

225

00:09:17,890 --> 00:09:15,470

information is coming from and what to

226

00:09:19,540 --> 00:09:17,900

make of that you know it was a big

227

00:09:22,150 --> 00:09:19,550

challenge back then it's an even bigger

228

00:09:23,950 --> 00:09:22,160

challenge now I think because even if

229

00:09:27,520 --> 00:09:23,960

you're looking at like a Google news

230

00:09:30,630 --> 00:09:27,530

feed you know for a site to get listed

231

00:09:34,120 --> 00:09:30,640

under Google News Google has

232

00:09:37,540 --> 00:09:34,130

requirements of a site to regularly

233

00:09:41,770 --> 00:09:37,550

publish stuff you know on a daily basis

234

00:09:43,420 --> 00:09:41,780

and essentially have some meat to the

235

00:09:46,930 --> 00:09:43,430

the content they're posting you can't

236

00:09:49,240 --> 00:09:46,940

just be like a paragraph of reposted

237

00:09:52,530 --> 00:09:49,250

stuff from somewhere else so they have

238

00:09:55,600 --> 00:09:52,540

some requirements but at the same time

239

00:09:57,520 --> 00:09:55,610

not so much so as long as people are

240

00:10:00,460 --> 00:09:57,530

posting to sites regularly they can

241

00:10:02,470 --> 00:10:00,470

apply to be Google News sources to come

242

00:10:05,650 --> 00:10:02,480

up in Google news feeds and things like

243

00:10:07,570 --> 00:10:05,660

that and if you look now well if you've

244

00:10:11,200 --> 00:10:07,580

looked at all over the over the past few

245

00:10:13,480 --> 00:10:11,210

years it's just become filled with

246

00:10:17,320 --> 00:10:13,490

absolute garbage websites when it comes

247

00:10:19,630 --> 00:10:17,330

to sources for UFO news a lot of sites

248

00:10:22,180 --> 00:10:19,640

that have names that sound like

249

00:10:24,580 --> 00:10:22,190

legitimate media outlets but they're not

250

00:10:26,770 --> 00:10:24,590

they're just absolute garbage sites that

251
00:10:29,080 --> 00:10:26,780
are that are somebody's blog trying to

252
00:10:31,990 --> 00:10:29,090
make money but they're posting the most

253
00:10:34,810 --> 00:10:32,000
absolutely ridiculous news stories with

254
00:10:37,360 --> 00:10:34,820
no credibility behind them no sources to

255
00:10:39,730 --> 00:10:37,370
cite from just this most ridiculous

256
00:10:42,700 --> 00:10:39,740
information possible with UFOs and that

257
00:10:46,000 --> 00:10:42,710
is the majority of the site's posting

258
00:10:48,400 --> 00:10:46,010
UFO news now so as a journalist when I

259
00:10:51,820 --> 00:10:48,410
look at UF UFO stories now it's

260
00:10:53,560 --> 00:10:51,830
increasingly difficult to quickly

261
00:10:56,770 --> 00:10:53,570
without you know spending a lot of time

262
00:10:58,540 --> 00:10:56,780
again our free time diving in to a lot

263
00:11:01,300 --> 00:10:58,550

of these sources to determine what's

264

00:11:04,810 --> 00:11:01,310

legit and what's complete be us yeah

265

00:11:07,930 --> 00:11:04,820

exactly I think just the nature of the

266

00:11:09,430 --> 00:11:07,940

subject itself you know you always have

267

00:11:11,050 --> 00:11:09,440

to kind of look at it with a skeptical

268

00:11:14,320 --> 00:11:11,060

eye just because I said just the nature

269

00:11:16,660 --> 00:11:14,330

of the topic well let me ask you because

270

00:11:19,270 --> 00:11:16,670

as a journalist what's your opinion of

271

00:11:22,150 --> 00:11:19,280

how the media in general treats the UFO

272

00:11:23,320 --> 00:11:22,160

topic I think I mean I think it's

273

00:11:25,870 --> 00:11:23,330

getting better

274

00:11:27,220 --> 00:11:25,880

in general you know one of things I had

275

00:11:28,990 --> 00:11:27,230

talked about in the first book was you

276

00:11:30,720 --> 00:11:29,000

know there'd be a story but they usually

277

00:11:35,410 --> 00:11:30,730

wouldn't be too much follow up on it

278

00:11:36,580 --> 00:11:35,420

right I think now it is a so it's hard

279

00:11:38,170 --> 00:11:36,590

but you have to understand how you know

280

00:11:40,090 --> 00:11:38,180

the media works the media is very it's

281

00:11:43,450 --> 00:11:40,100

it's ratings driven it's it's clique

282

00:11:45,760 --> 00:11:43,460

driven so when this stuff runs in print

283

00:11:48,160 --> 00:11:45,770

or when it's given you know proper

284

00:11:50,350 --> 00:11:48,170

proper television time that means you

285

00:11:52,540 --> 00:11:50,360

know it's obviously getting interest

286

00:11:54,520 --> 00:11:52,550

from people which is a good and I think

287

00:11:55,870 --> 00:11:54,530

it's getting more respected now so more

288

00:11:57,730 --> 00:11:55,880

than ever just because you know the

289

00:11:59,230 --> 00:11:57,740

pentagon UFO story and how mainstream

290

00:12:00,370 --> 00:11:59,240

outlets are covering it seriously

291

00:12:04,480 --> 00:12:00,380

they're taking it seriously

292

00:12:06,130 --> 00:12:04,490

so so that's a positive it's just it's

293

00:12:07,630 --> 00:12:06,140

just keeping keeping those stories in

294

00:12:10,330 --> 00:12:07,640

the new cycle is really hard just

295

00:12:12,220 --> 00:12:10,340

because I mean I worked you know in the

296

00:12:14,560 --> 00:12:12,230

media for for seven years full time I

297

00:12:16,600 --> 00:12:14,570

understand how how hard it is to get

298

00:12:18,220 --> 00:12:16,610

stories to stay up you know even just

299

00:12:20,800 --> 00:12:18,230

for a day for a couple of hours

300

00:12:23,110 --> 00:12:20,810

you know just short it's not clicking

301
00:12:26,170 --> 00:12:23,120
well on a website you know it gets moved

302
00:12:29,110 --> 00:12:26,180
it gets moved you know or buried or the

303
00:12:30,370 --> 00:12:29,120
same thing with broadcast as well yeah

304
00:12:33,220 --> 00:12:30,380
that's right and you know we talked

305
00:12:34,990 --> 00:12:33,230
about obstacles and I think you know

306
00:12:36,970 --> 00:12:35,000
there are plenty of internal obstacles

307
00:12:39,310 --> 00:12:36,980
too and I'd love to hear your thought on

308
00:12:41,560 --> 00:12:39,320
this but internal being inside the the

309
00:12:45,370 --> 00:12:41,570
UFO research community or the you know

310
00:12:47,440 --> 00:12:45,380
UFO community as we call it with just a

311
00:12:49,660 --> 00:12:47,450
lot of conspiracy driven stuff a lot of

312
00:12:53,170 --> 00:12:49,670
infighting things like that and also

313
00:12:55,420 --> 00:12:53,180

there's this idea of the media and it's

314

00:12:57,370 --> 00:12:55,430

on the same page as the government you

315

00:12:59,770 --> 00:12:57,380

know the government is this big singular

316

00:13:03,070 --> 00:12:59,780

thing people like to think of the media

317

00:13:05,350 --> 00:13:03,080

is this big singular thing just this one

318

00:13:09,490 --> 00:13:05,360

thing that's controlled by some evil

319

00:13:11,590 --> 00:13:09,500

force but it has some agenda and you

320

00:13:15,250 --> 00:13:11,600

know controls what what news gets

321

00:13:18,010 --> 00:13:15,260

released and as a journalist you know we

322

00:13:19,810 --> 00:13:18,020

we know that's not not the case you know

323

00:13:21,490 --> 00:13:19,820

and I like to point out many times that

324

00:13:24,160 --> 00:13:21,500

the editors the people who are choosing

325

00:13:28,540 --> 00:13:24,170

the stories to be published you know are

326

00:13:29,680 --> 00:13:28,550

often just young kids who have a number

327

00:13:31,449 --> 00:13:29,690

quoted of me

328

00:13:33,550 --> 00:13:31,459

they're just thirsty for content and

329

00:13:35,020 --> 00:13:33,560

they need more content they don't care

330

00:13:36,640 --> 00:13:35,030

what it is they're gonna put it up on

331

00:13:39,670 --> 00:13:36,650

the site and see what works

332

00:13:41,380 --> 00:13:39,680

so you know what's your take on that do

333

00:13:44,140 --> 00:13:41,390

you think that you know for that you

334

00:13:45,910 --> 00:13:44,150

work for many big media outlets do you

335

00:13:48,970 --> 00:13:45,920

think there's some evil overlord

336

00:13:50,680 --> 00:13:48,980

controlling what stories get published I

337

00:13:53,440 --> 00:13:50,690

wouldn't say there's like a big evil

338

00:13:55,060 --> 00:13:53,450

over a roar that's trying to censor

339

00:13:57,160 --> 00:13:55,070

stuff I don't think it's in that case I

340

00:13:59,170 --> 00:13:57,170

think in my experience is the the

341

00:14:04,090 --> 00:13:59,180

overlords were supervisors who were

342

00:14:07,330 --> 00:14:04,100

wanting kind of more salacious clickbait

343

00:14:10,960 --> 00:14:07,340

be celebrity bases it was a conspiracy

344

00:14:12,460 --> 00:14:10,970

to hide real news or their UFO story I

345

00:14:16,810 --> 00:14:12,470

don't think that was it at all it was

346

00:14:18,460 --> 00:14:16,820

just more of a vested interest in them

347

00:14:20,410 --> 00:14:18,470

to just kind of milk as many clicks as

348

00:14:23,260 --> 00:14:20,420

possible through you know write more

349

00:14:25,510 --> 00:14:23,270

tabloid stories yeah yeah that's

350

00:14:26,950 --> 00:14:25,520

certainly been my experience too and you

351
00:14:28,950 --> 00:14:26,960
know some of the the bigger outlets I've

352
00:14:31,660 --> 00:14:28,960
written for you know required a lot of

353
00:14:33,880 --> 00:14:31,670
keyword research and and things to

354
00:14:36,010 --> 00:14:33,890
determine what stories were generating a

355
00:14:38,320 --> 00:14:36,020
lot of buzz at that time because you're

356
00:14:40,150 --> 00:14:38,330
right the focus is on the clicks it's on

357
00:14:42,580 --> 00:14:40,160
the attention it's on whatever is gonna

358
00:14:44,620 --> 00:14:42,590
make the biggest splash so and certainly

359
00:14:46,690 --> 00:14:44,630
UFOs do that so it's kind of

360
00:14:50,230 --> 00:14:46,700
counterproductive counterintuitive to

361
00:14:52,630 --> 00:14:50,240
say that people are sort of blocking or

362
00:14:56,490 --> 00:14:52,640
rejecting UFO stories because for some

363
00:14:59,440 --> 00:14:56,500

reason that information can't get out

364

00:15:01,390 --> 00:14:59,450

well you're a journalist you teach

365

00:15:03,340 --> 00:15:01,400

journalism and you've now authored two

366

00:15:05,680 --> 00:15:03,350

books writing is clearly something you

367

00:15:08,050 --> 00:15:05,690

enjoy but it seems like you focus on

368

00:15:10,480 --> 00:15:08,060

nonfiction is nonfiction writing what

369

00:15:14,100 --> 00:15:10,490

you prefer or do you also enjoy writing

370

00:15:16,240 --> 00:15:14,110

fiction okay so really good question so

371

00:15:17,950 --> 00:15:16,250

growing up I was really into writing

372

00:15:20,170 --> 00:15:17,960

fiction as a kid I used to draw my own

373

00:15:22,810 --> 00:15:20,180

comic books I mean my heart was awful

374

00:15:25,180 --> 00:15:22,820

the storylines were they're nice to

375

00:15:26,770 --> 00:15:25,190

write moon-like horror fiction and then

376

00:15:29,020 --> 00:15:26,780

when I was in high school I discovered

377

00:15:30,850 --> 00:15:29,030

journalism so that was my first love of

378

00:15:32,980 --> 00:15:30,860

writing something that's nonfiction yeah

379

00:15:34,990 --> 00:15:32,990

and this is something that we've

380

00:15:38,050 --> 00:15:35,000

discussed I've courted you on the for

381

00:15:41,260 --> 00:15:38,060

that a lot of people in our in our

382

00:15:43,450 --> 00:15:41,270

industry especially authors are drawn to

383

00:15:45,420 --> 00:15:43,460

writing fiction as well yeah and I

384

00:15:47,650 --> 00:15:45,430

always question if the lines blur and

385

00:15:49,360 --> 00:15:47,660

that's something I talk about I go into

386

00:15:52,720 --> 00:15:49,370

detail and the book about as well

387

00:15:54,130 --> 00:15:52,730

about you know the dude do we blur the

388

00:15:55,990 --> 00:15:54,140

lines when we decided to write fiction

389

00:15:58,300 --> 00:15:56,000

and nonfiction especially on this topic

390

00:16:01,269 --> 00:15:58,310

because it comes to the point where it's

391

00:16:03,130 --> 00:16:01,279

hard to you know one of the points I

392

00:16:05,950 --> 00:16:03,140

make in the book is that uh it comes a

393

00:16:08,350 --> 00:16:05,960

point where everything kind of ties

394

00:16:10,360 --> 00:16:08,360

together whether it's mythology religion

395

00:16:11,950 --> 00:16:10,370

fiction and nonfiction they all come

396

00:16:14,950 --> 00:16:11,960

from something they're all influenced by

397

00:16:16,540 --> 00:16:14,960

something that possibly happened so in a

398

00:16:18,310 --> 00:16:16,550

weird way they all kind of come together

399

00:16:20,829 --> 00:16:18,320

I used to be really opposed to the idea

400

00:16:22,870 --> 00:16:20,839

of you know the lines being blurred but

401
00:16:25,390 --> 00:16:22,880
I kind of get it more now I see how they

402
00:16:27,010 --> 00:16:25,400
how just through history and time how a

403
00:16:28,750 --> 00:16:27,020
lot of these crazy fictional stories

404
00:16:30,760 --> 00:16:28,760
that we read whether it's their comic

405
00:16:33,870 --> 00:16:30,770
books movies pop culture were influenced

406
00:16:37,300 --> 00:16:33,880
by true events you know you're also a

407
00:16:39,070 --> 00:16:37,310
big music fan or music journalist too so

408
00:16:41,829 --> 00:16:39,080
let me ask you this have you have you

409
00:16:44,800 --> 00:16:41,839
thought at all about your opinion your

410
00:16:47,590 --> 00:16:44,810
thoughts on the possible connection or

411
00:16:51,070 --> 00:16:47,600
or why it is that so many musicians seem

412
00:16:52,720 --> 00:16:51,080
to be drawn to the UFO topic that's a

413
00:16:55,120 --> 00:16:52,730

really good question I would just think

414

00:16:57,010 --> 00:16:55,130

because people who are easily drawn to

415

00:16:59,769 --> 00:16:57,020

the Arts or a bit more open-minded I

416

00:17:01,480 --> 00:16:59,779

guess so yeah I think that's probably

417

00:17:03,790 --> 00:17:01,490

the best way to answer that one yeah

418

00:17:05,199 --> 00:17:03,800

that's an opinion that a lot of people

419

00:17:07,049 --> 00:17:05,209

share I've heard that answer many times

420

00:17:10,090 --> 00:17:07,059

and I think that's probably right

421

00:17:12,280 --> 00:17:10,100

all right so name of your new book is

422

00:17:16,380 --> 00:17:12,290

punk rocks and UFOs true believers it's

423

00:17:19,120 --> 00:17:16,390

out July 31st where can people find it

424

00:17:23,500 --> 00:17:19,130

amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com and

425

00:17:25,809 --> 00:17:23,510

also you know with all digital assets

426

00:17:27,160 --> 00:17:25,819

like iTunes Kindle etc all right and

427

00:17:30,040 --> 00:17:27,170

talk a little bit about your your

428

00:17:32,290 --> 00:17:30,050

website because after your first book

429

00:17:36,220 --> 00:17:32,300

came out you launched a website and

430

00:17:39,610 --> 00:17:36,230

really have developed that into its own

431

00:17:41,860 --> 00:17:39,620

kind of awesome media destination so

432

00:17:43,600 --> 00:17:41,870

tell us about your website so I decided

433

00:17:46,330 --> 00:17:43,610

to start the website after the book just

434

00:17:48,040 --> 00:17:46,340

because you know the book I get got a

435

00:17:50,200 --> 00:17:48,050

good reception and I started getting a

436

00:17:52,960 --> 00:17:50,210

small following I just want to continue

437

00:17:55,150 --> 00:17:52,970

the research and I want to do things

438

00:17:57,330 --> 00:17:55,160

different there's plenty of sites out

439

00:18:02,070 --> 00:17:57,340

there that do a really good job of

440

00:18:04,769 --> 00:18:03,570

own content of easily coming up with

441

00:18:06,180 --> 00:18:04,779

their own contents I want to do

442

00:18:08,370 --> 00:18:06,190

something it was slightly different and

443

00:18:10,380 --> 00:18:08,380

also something that I wouldn't have to

444

00:18:13,649 --> 00:18:10,390

work on every day just because of time

445

00:18:15,570 --> 00:18:13,659

constraints right teaching full-time you

446

00:18:17,159 --> 00:18:15,580

know it takes up a lot a lot of the time

447

00:18:19,769 --> 00:18:17,169

so I want to come up with something that

448

00:18:23,070 --> 00:18:19,779

was a little bit more magazine II sure

449

00:18:25,259 --> 00:18:23,080

but the same time it's hard hard to

450

00:18:26,880 --> 00:18:25,269

scribe I want to do something that kind

451

00:18:29,009 --> 00:18:26,890

of blended the ideas of you otology

452

00:18:32,250 --> 00:18:29,019

cryptozoology and culture together so I

453

00:18:33,960 --> 00:18:32,260

kind of want to I kind of aim to do

454

00:18:35,700 --> 00:18:33,970

something that was featured but at the

455

00:18:37,409 --> 00:18:35,710

same time still be to be able to break

456

00:18:39,419 --> 00:18:37,419

news when I was able to as well

457

00:18:41,490 --> 00:18:39,429

so one of the things I like to do I like

458

00:18:42,090 --> 00:18:41,500

to interview the researchers of people

459

00:18:43,860 --> 00:18:42,100

involved in it

460

00:18:45,480 --> 00:18:43,870

yeah I'm get your experiences get their

461

00:18:46,919 --> 00:18:45,490

opinions on stuff try to do different

462

00:18:49,830 --> 00:18:46,929

things like getting to know you things

463

00:18:53,039 --> 00:18:49,840

as well and also just you know going

464

00:18:55,049 --> 00:18:53,049

behind the scenes I think one of the

465

00:18:58,560 --> 00:18:55,059

bigger things I was proud of his when I

466

00:19:01,500 --> 00:18:58,570

interviewed Ralph Blumenthal who helped

467

00:19:03,600 --> 00:19:01,510

break the New York Times pentagon UFO

468

00:19:05,759 --> 00:19:03,610

story yeah and just to get his thoughts

469

00:19:06,750 --> 00:19:05,769

on kind of behind the scenes of the

470

00:19:08,279 --> 00:19:06,760

story and there wasn't anything

471

00:19:10,169 --> 00:19:08,289

earth-shattering in there but it was

472

00:19:13,529 --> 00:19:10,179

just something good for readers to see

473

00:19:14,789 --> 00:19:13,539

how he how they how did have a screen

474

00:19:17,009 --> 00:19:14,799

that story how do they came to the

475

00:19:19,200 --> 00:19:17,019

conclusion that yes this is credible yes

476
00:19:20,720 --> 00:19:19,210
this is neither newsworthy so I tried to

477
00:19:22,919 --> 00:19:20,730
be more serious stuff like that as well

478
00:19:25,230 --> 00:19:22,929
so yeah that's kind of the site's goal

479
00:19:26,850 --> 00:19:25,240
is just just be an extension of the book

480
00:19:29,490 --> 00:19:26,860
and the brand and I hate saying that

481
00:19:32,279 --> 00:19:29,500
word brand but yeah yeah I hear ya but I

482
00:19:33,930 --> 00:19:32,289
will say I I do that that is an element

483
00:19:36,960 --> 00:19:33,940
or the element of your site that I

484
00:19:40,169 --> 00:19:36,970
really really enjoy is you showcasing

485
00:19:41,759 --> 00:19:40,179
your your strong interview chops you

486
00:19:43,590 --> 00:19:41,769
know that that's fun to see because

487
00:19:45,810 --> 00:19:43,600
that's that's something where you have

488
00:19:47,669 --> 00:19:45,820

tremendous skill it's where you have a

489

00:19:49,919 --> 00:19:47,679

lot of experience so showcasing that on

490

00:19:52,879 --> 00:19:49,929

the site in the articles that you you

491

00:19:57,750 --> 00:19:52,889

put out it's pretty badass I like it

492

00:20:01,500 --> 00:19:57,760

thank you so the site is punk rock and

493

00:20:04,350 --> 00:20:01,510

UFOs calm right right alright so aside

494

00:20:07,379 --> 00:20:04,360

from that how can people contact you or

495

00:20:11,730 --> 00:20:07,389

follow your work punk rock in your foes

496

00:20:13,919 --> 00:20:11,740

calm and at Twitter at Mike Demonte yeah

497

00:20:15,950 --> 00:20:13,929

those probably the best ways awesome

498

00:20:17,630 --> 00:20:15,960

well Mike I'm so excited for you can't

499

00:20:20,090 --> 00:20:17,640

for the book to come out make sure to

500

00:20:21,010 --> 00:20:20,100

get a copy to me soon because I'm dying

501
00:20:24,250 --> 00:20:21,020
to read it man

502
00:20:27,560 --> 00:20:24,260
awesome I think I see the PD opportunity

503
00:20:29,390 --> 00:20:27,570
sweet I'm gonna dive in Co but good luck

504
00:20:30,610 --> 00:20:29,400
with everything and keep us posted it

505
00:20:34,550 --> 00:20:30,620
can't wait to hear how the book does

506
00:20:37,100 --> 00:20:34,560
awesome thank you that's all for this

507
00:20:40,550 --> 00:20:37,110
episode of unknown this show is produced

508
00:20:43,010 --> 00:20:40,560
by rogue planets rogue planets TV is

509
00:20:45,440 --> 00:20:43,020
where we explore and celebrate all the

510
00:20:47,600 --> 00:20:45,450
strange you can find rogue planet on

511
00:20:49,100 --> 00:20:47,610
Twitter and Instagram and you can join

512
00:20:51,890 --> 00:20:49,110
in the conversation in our Facebook

513
00:20:54,380 --> 00:20:51,900

group you can always email me at Jason

514

00:20:58,130 --> 00:20:54,390

at broke planet TV find me on Facebook

515

00:21:00,020 --> 00:20:58,140

and I'm on Twitter at Ace centric thanks

516

00:21:02,930 --> 00:21:00,030

again to Mike for taking the time to

517

00:21:05,450 --> 00:21:02,940

tell us about his new book and thank you

518

00:21:08,000 --> 00:21:05,460

for hanging out with me today I'm Jason