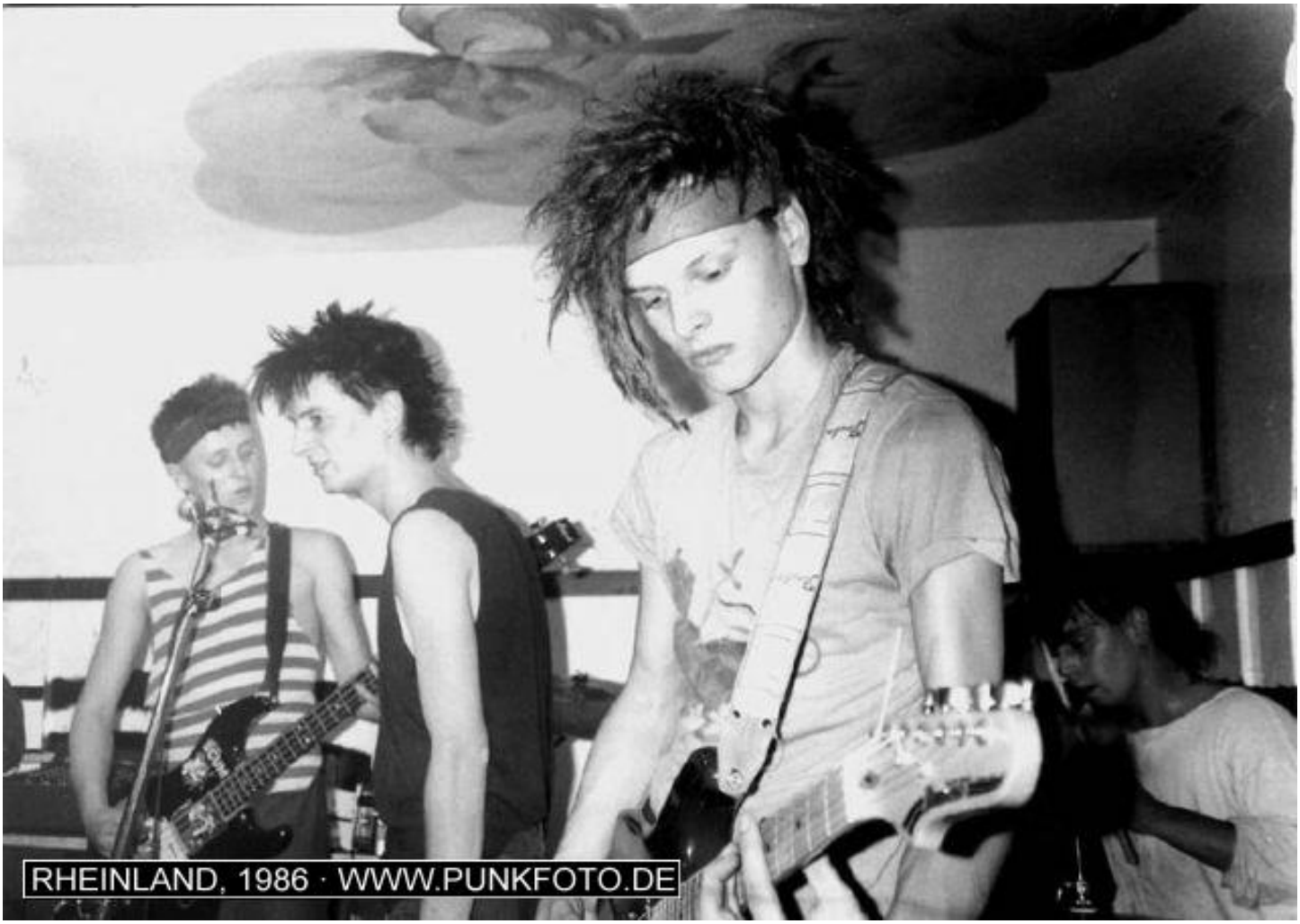

Jeff Hayton: Punk was a mixture of tendencies that often were at odds. . .On the one side were those youths committed to experimental music who pushed the limits of what constituted rock ‘n’ roll. . .On the other side were youths more oriented towards the hard rock end of punk—who rejected. . . experimental instruments and sounds.

Jeff Hayton: Bored with the external demands such as school and work, youths attracted to punk saw in the genre a means of being true to their inner selves which helped restore authenticity and meaning to their lives.

Jeff Hayton: Punk fashion in the first years was unrestricted, indicating the importance of originality over conformity since the key aspects of this revolt were spontaneity, elasticity, and the ability to change course quickly.

Jeff Hayton: The reactions punks produced are important because the pleasure came from social response. . .When putting together one's outfit, irony and exaggeration were key themes. Punks used irony to draw attention, sarcasm to insult, and exaggeration to deflate imagined ideals of beauty.

Jeff Hayton: Punk was a practical carnival of individuality, a technicolor of heterogeneity that seemed to point more imaginatively towards West Germany's democratic and diverse future.

Jeff Hayton: The slogan “No Future” was a condemnation of past accomplishments and traditions, but more importantly, a belief that the future was a blank slate full of possibilities to be shaped freely.

Jeff Hayton: Through DIY ("Do-it-yourself") practices—whether making clothes or producing independent records—Punks sought to attain a sense of autonomy, originality, and meaning they felt was lost in Western consumer culture.