

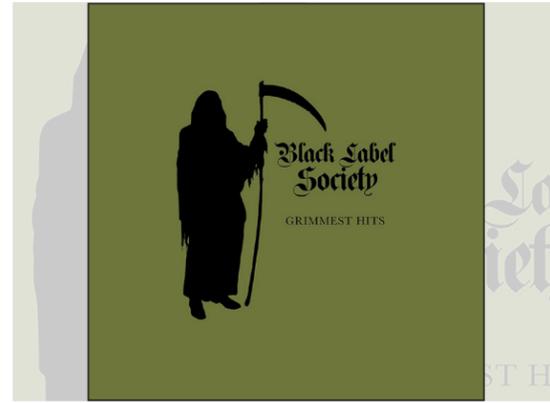
POP EVIL
POP EVIL
EONE

Pop Evil smashes through the odds like a battering ram, weathering the trials and tribulations of paying dues with a steadfast resilience that owes much to their blue collar and middle-class backgrounds. As the moniker promises, **Pop Evil** conjures aggressive riffs and hard charging sing-a-longs with emotional heft and melodic power in equal measure. It's music by the people, for the people – and they continue to build a worldwide audience one fan at a time. Their self-titled new album is the sound of a band in love with itself. “A different kind of confidence is flowing through the band,” says vocalist Leigh Kakaty “And we can't wait to take our live show to the next level.”



AMERICAN NIGHTMARE
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RISE RECORDS

To call **American Nightmare** an iconic hardcore band is an understatement. The enigmatic act may have only released two full-length albums since forming nearly two decades ago, but the band has risen from the ashes with an album that expands their legacy and reestablishes them as titans of the genre. In making this record we had one goal,” frontman Wes Eisold explains. “To make a hardcore punk album that was true to **American Nightmare**, who we were then and who we are now.” Correspondingly **American Nightmare** is a dark hardcore record that pays homage to groups who have always influenced the band ranging from Negative Approach, SSD, and The Cro-Mags to Joy Division and Siouxsie And The Banshees.



BLACK LABEL SOCIETY
GRIMMET HITS
EONE

Black Label Society bandleader **Zakk Wylde** wields his guitar like a Viking, bashing out thick riffage and squeezing out expressive squeals as if the glory of his Berserker brotherhood depends on it. A charismatic beast and consummate showman, Wylde puts his massive heart and earnest soul on display with unbridled, unchained, animalistic passion in **BLS** – and while each album is another opportunity to top the one before it, like AC/DC or The Rolling Stones, they're not here to reinvent the wheel. If it ain't broke, don't fix it. **Grimmet Hits** submits new anthems like radio single “Room of Nightmares,” the bluesy “Seasons of Falter,” and Southern-fried “The Day That Heaven Had Gone Away” to the **BLS** faithful.



SAXON
THUNDERBOLT
MILITIA GUARD MUSIC

Since the 1970s, **Saxon** has consistently showcased an ability to take rock 'n' roll and give it an electrifying edge, cementing their status as pioneers of the British heavy metal wave along the way. “This is album 22 and it's called **Thunderbolt**. It's a storming smashing thundering collection of tracks... Stand clear and fasten your seat belts!” says frontman Biff Byford. In other words, you can expect **Thunderbolt** to be fast and furious, dark and brooding with monumental riffing and screamed vocals galore. The new collection features stunning original artwork by long time **Saxon** collaborator Paul Raymond Gregory, who produced epic, Tolkien-inspired fantasy artworks for the likes of Dio, Molly Hatchet, Motörhead and Blind Guardian.



WE SELL THE DEAD
HEAVEN DOESN'T WANT YOU AND HELL IS FULL
EARMUSIC

“What if Jack the Ripper had played in a heavy metal band?” This is the question that formed and influenced **We Sell the Dead**. The band go beyond the strains of conventional storytelling and create a multi-media experience of premium quality heavy metal music embedded in visually stimulating and atmospheric visuals. **Heaven Doesn't Want You And Hell Is Full** is the band's debut. Heavy, yet melodic sounds transport the listener into a Victorian inspired world that is defined by pompous manors and daunting luxury standing in deep contrast to the harshness and cruelty of the gutter. It is a world that reeks of hysteria, but above all a sense of mysticism and dark romanticism.



ANGRA
ØMNI
EARMUSIC

Angra's trademark formula – a Brazilian style mixed with classical music and heavy metal – transforms its albums into a swirl of modern and familiar. Think Sepultura meets Manheim Steamroller (with a touch of Judas Priest). **ØMNI** is a concept album: A set of science fiction short stories that take place at various places in time, simultaneously. The album connects the concepts of previous albums (*Holy Land*, *Rebirth*, *Temple of Shadows*) to one main system, **ØMNI**, which in Latin means “everything.” **ØMNI** fabricates an interconnectivity that shines light towards a universal truth: everything that has happened, led to what the band is today. **ØMNI** celebrates and unites the whole history of **Angra** to this exact, current moment.



HEAVATAR
OPUS II - THE ANNIHILATION
EARMUSIC

Heavatar, the classical inspired metal band revolving around Van Canto mastermind Stefan Schmidt (vocals, guitar), drummer Jörg Michael (former Stratovarius), Sebastian Scharf (lead guitars), Daniel Wicke (bass) and some of the greatest classical composers of all time are releasing their sophomore album, **Opus II - The Annihilation**. The purpose of **Heavatar** is not in just adapting classical compositions to new instrumentations. **Heavatar's** music is an answer to the question “What would it sound like, if Beethoven, Mozart, Chopin and friends joined a metal band?” If *Opus I - All My Kingdoms* was a stepping stone into the unexpected waters, **Opus II - The Annihilation** is a cliff-dive into the same water that bravely challenges the very barriers and possibilities of it.



TWITCHING TONGUES
GAINING PURPOSE THROUGH PASSIONATE HATRED
METAL BLADE

While channeling a variety of hardcore and metal influences, **Twitching Tongues'** unique sound is esoteric and resists lazy classification, yet it is equally dynamic, powerful, and instantly gripping. The title of their fourth full-length, **Gaining Purpose Through Passionate Hatred** [a quote by famed social philosopher Eric Hoffer], reflects the band's mentality in approaching the record: Paying homage to those who supported them while belligerently responding to their detractors. Directly inspired by film scores, the record has a strong epic feel, the band realizing their vision of having the music flow like a story being told. With interconnected parts, musical references and callbacks in each song, everything is tied together in a manner unlike any of their previous releases.



JUDAS PRIEST
FIREPOWER
EPIC

Judas Priest could easily rest on their laurels at this stage of their highly successful and influential career. However, the legendary metal band, refuse to do so, as evidenced by the arrival of their 18th studio album, **Firepower**. The record is comprised of 14 tracks of pure and highly inspired metal. **Firepower** marks **Judas Priest's** reunion with producer Tom Allom (the man behind the board from 1979-1988). “Tom Allom has been with us since 1979, so his knowledge of ourselves and our music in general is immense,” says bassist Ian Hill. “We went back to the organic way of recording where it's all of us in a room and we got to play together.”



HYBORIAN
VOL. 1
SEASON OF MIST

Swirling sounds and mysterious voices introduce **Hyborian Volume I** – drawing you in. But when the guitars burst into life on “As Above, So Below”– you'll be hooked! The opening cut on the debut release from the Kansas City quartet **Hyborian** is a powerful attack of guitar interplay, sure to appeal to any fan of High On Fire's stoner riffage or the progressive lyrical strengths of Mastodon. Looking to the low fantasy, sword-and-sorcery pulp of Robert E. Howard's Conan for inspiration, **Hyborian - Volume I** is the first in a series of legends from different epochs as told by a figure named “The Traveler” – a being that exists outside of humanity's understanding of space and time.