



ONCE HUMAN
STAGE OF EVOLUTION
EARMUSIC

Evolution was not just the title of **Once Human's** sophomore release last year — it was an armor-plated declaration. And it evolved into something big. **Stage Of Evolution** is the consequential mutation of the *Evolution* album from studio to stage. “I know it’s uncommon for a band who is not headlining to record a live album,” says Logan Mader, who metalheads know as a member of Machine Head, Soulfly, and his production and mixing work for Gojira, Fear Factory and Devildriver. “We had loads of fun on tour with Dragonforce. I’m so glad we captured a nice piece of it to share with all our fans.” **Stage Of Evolution** makes it clear that this is a band pushing itself to deliver something that truly stands apart.



FIT FOR A KING
DARK SKIES
SOLID STATE RECORDS

No matter the pristine picture of self-worth we project, in the unquenchable pursuit of recognition and affirmation, the gnawing anxiousness of guilt and brokenness chews away at our spirits, uncovering new pain and vulnerability. **Dark Skies** is **Fit For A King's** evocative declaration of a hard won victory. “This album is far from happy. It’s about personal struggles,” explains singer Ryan Kirby. “It touches on many subjects relevant to all of our daily lives.” “Tower of Pain” takes unbridled heaviness to breathtaking heights. “Shattered Glass” is a killer throwback to the band’s most aggressive earlier work. Songs like “Price of Agony” see the quartet soaring to new melodic heights with unrestrained urgency. Yet all of it is anchored in **Fit For A King's** signature sound.



PYREXIA
UNHOLY REQUIEM
UNIQUE LEADER RECORDS

Long standing New York death metal legends **Pyrexia** return with its newest and, arguably, most devastating album, **Unholy Requiem**. Recorded, mixed, and mastered by guitarist Chris Basile, **Unholy Requiem** finds **Pyrexia** revisiting its filthy, pulverizing, classic sound. Basile said of the album, “This album is definitely the band returning to its roots. It’s dirty. It’s raw. It’s punishing. It’s us. It’s a hungry album and we fed it a strict diet of pain, sweat, and blast beats.” However, these nine slabs of blistering, pulverizing menace also find the band pushing themselves forward, determined to continue raising the bar for extreme music. **Unholy Requiem**, with all of its pummeling groove and signature riff-laden violence is nothing less than pure sonic vitriol.



HORRENDOUS
IDOL
SEASON OF MIST

Horrendous explode out of the underground with its incredible new album **Idol**. Drawing inspiration from both personal and national crises, **Idol's** music is a methodical and unapologetic take on dynamic, progressive death metal. Thematically, the ambitious new album is an exploration of defeat, of the gods we build in our minds to escape the responsibility of action and change as we relinquish our agency. **Idol** musically mimics this act of deity building, with sprawling compositions that are imposing in scope and mirror the great turmoil of our times. Tracks such as “Soothsayer,” “Golgothan Tongues” and the monumental “Obolus” position the band in a league of its own as one of the death metal’s leading new entities.



REVOCATION
THE OUTER ONES
METAL BLADE

Pushing both the death metal and progressive elements of its signature sound harder than ever, **The Outer Ones** represents **Revocation** at its boldest, most aggressive and complex. Moving away from the societal and historical themes that informed 2016’s *Great is Our Sin*, vocalist/guitarist Dave Davidson has immersed himself in the fantastic – evoking one of the great writers of the sci-fi/horror genre: “The title is my ode to H.P. Lovecraft and the entities of pure cosmic horror that rule that universe he created.” A potent uneasiness bleeds through the swirling, slashing violence of the title track, while the unrelenting edginess and creeping threat of “That Which Consumes All Things” marks it as one of the most demanding yet essential additions to **Revocation's** arsenal.



WINDHAND
ETERNAL RETURN
RELAPSE

Eternal Return, the fourth full length from Richmond, Virginia’s heavy psychedelic quartet **Windhand** represents a new era for the group – a chrysalis moment that takes them to new and unforeseen heights. Across nine songs and 63 minutes, **Eternal Return** offers an infectious display of songcraft cloaked in alluring atmosphere, molten fuzz, eerie psychedelia and ethereal vocals. The album was once again produced by Jack Endino (Nirvana, Soundgarden) with vivid artwork by Arik Roper (Sleep, High on Fire). Equally informed by heavy, fuzzed-out psych along with the iconic grunge/alternative groups of the ‘90s, **Windhand** have crafted a record brilliant in scope, powerful in execution, and perfect for an era of increasingly blurry – yet heavy – borders.



BEHEMOTH
I LOVED YOU AT YOUR DARKEST
METAL BLADE

Blasphemy is a passion. **Behemoth** have channeled that passion into **I Loved You At Your Darkest**. A crushing salvo of black metal majesty, songs like “God=Dog,” “Ecclesia Diabolica Catholica” and “Sabbath Mater” feature nimble-fingered rock guitar solos. “I really wanted to redefine ourselves with this record,” **Behemoth** mastermind, Nergal. “It’s extreme and radical on one hand, but it’s also more rock-oriented.” Nergal views the rock as a renewed interest in the historical origins of the music he makes. “We simply create what naturally comes to us” he says. “But 15 years ago, if you had asked me who I thought was the best band on the planet, I probably would have said Mayhem or Morbid Angel. Today... I’d say AC/DC.” How’s that for blasphemy?



MONSTER TRUCK
TRUE ROCKERS
MASCOT RECORDS

The term “Rock n’ Roll” gets thrown around pretty haphazardly. One can go as far as stating it’s been bastardized to the point of being unrecognizable – ironically shouted on stages worldwide and classified dead (or MIA) by the very musicians that once upheld its standard. Enter **Monster Truck**. **True Rockers** is the sound of a band letting loose and having fun – personified in the title track, which features a passionate speech about the virtues of rock by Mr. “I Wanna Rock” himself, **Dee Snider** of Twisted Sister. “We want people to listen to it and have fun,” says vocalist Jon Harvey. “As much fun as possible.” Don’t tell **Monster Truck** that rock is dead!



HIGH ON FIRE
ELECTRIC MESSIAH
EONE

“I had a dream about Lemmy...” says Matt Pike, explaining the inspiration behind the title of **High on Fire's** triumphant eighth album, **Electric Messiah**. But if there’s one aspect of the band that warrants comparison to Lemmy’s mighty Motörhead, it’s longevity. 2018 sees them celebrating 20 years of thunderous heavy metal, with brothers-in-arms Pike, bassist Jeff Matz, and drummer Des Kensel having been firmly intact for the last dozen years. Along the way, the band has forged a distinct identity of towering riffs, a propulsive rhythm section, shredding solos, and Hessian poetry. “This is by far the best record I’ve ever made with the **High on Fire** stamp,” Pike adds. “I just love everything on it... It’s great when you think that about your record.”