

HEADBANGER'S WALL



SUICIDE SILENCE SUICIDE SILENCE

NUCLEAR BLAST

Imagine a high-speed bullet train in the throes of a 275 mph run as it suddenly makes a sharp turn without a single second to slow down. That's the sound of **Suicide Silence**. The tight-knit band's mash-up of death metal, grind and time-signature bending dissonance with structured, focused and undeniable grooves unquestionably shaped and led the emerging "deathcore" subgenre from the arrival of their 2007 debut, *The Cleansing*. As evidenced most defiantly and definitively with the self-titled fifth album by **Suicide Silence**, the best in music, literature, and all creative arts is born from pain, birthed in truth, drawn from harrowing life experience. It mines the inner depths of the soul to snatch authentic beauty from the jaws of an otherwise certain death. Plenty of heavy bands pay lip service to the idea of overcoming the odds, persevering through adversity, and finding strength from within, but few live it as triumphantly as **Suicide Silence**.



AMERICAN GRIM FREAKSHOW

E1

America: "Land of the cell phones, Home of the enslaved." Free thinking visionaries are vanishing one by one, replaced with cookie cutter carbon copies of one another. Wandering through a battlefield full of ulterior motives, contradicting safe zones filled with fragile pacifists brainwashed for a black and white word. The kids have been raised on pacifier pills for problems that don't exist, stuck in a cycle of ignorant bliss. Our culture sweeps issues under the rug, right along with the kids who have them. The sadistic ritual of loaning money that doesn't exist to under-qualified kids that can't pay it back, to train them for jobs that no longer exist. We are the kids swept under the rug. We are the change. We are pissed. Welcome to **American Grim**. Welcome to the *Freakshow*.



IMMOLATION ATONEMENT

NUCLEAR BLAST

Since the release of their debut album *Dawn of Possession* in 1991, **Immolation** has been a driving force in the extreme metal scene that they helped define. Never a band to rely on their previous efforts, **Immolation** has continued album after album to refine and hone their unique style and sound, creating some of the darkest and most adventurous death metal the scene has ever heard. 2017 marks 29 years for **Immolation** and *Atonement* will prove that this is one band that does not look back, continuing to push the limits and remaining a vibrant force for the future of a genre they helped define. *Atonement* is truly a defining moment for **Immolation**. *Atonement* goes beyond all expectations and will leave its listeners crumbled on the ground in a pile of ash -- and thanking **Immolation** for every minute it took them to get there!



HARK MACHINATIONS

SEASON OF MIST

With their second full-length *Machinations* **Hark** deliver a perfectly crafted vision of sludge-infused hard rock, while further expanding on their simultaneously progressive and muscular sonic palette. Taking cues from Jimbob Isaac's sludge metal legacy in Welsh underground heroes *Taint*, *Machinations* is an intelligent, forward-thinking rock record, in an age where cult nostalgia trips and retrogressive throwbacks are all too common. In addition to Simon Bonwick's bombastic drumming, the hard-hitting rockers have meanwhile expanded their line-up to include the virtuoso chops of lead guitarist Joe Harvatt, while bassist Tom Shortt holds the low end down with weighty grind and dexterity. Isaac's soaring and gritty lead vocals convey the existential angst of living in the media saturated and economically unstable climate from which *Machinations* was born. His fragmented and deeply subconscious lyrical flow, talks of abstracted emotions, spiritual disintegration, toxic encounters, psychic endeavors, and technological overload. **HARK V2.0** is now officially in widescreen.



THE WILD! WILD AT HEART

E1

Shooting guns, setting fires and shaking shackles with half-stacks make for the type of nights that separate the men from the boys and **The Wild!** from the other 99% of what some people are calling rock'n'roll these days. Anybody who's ever been told to turn it down, clean it up or to go home lives inside of what the God Damn Wild Boys are all about. Driven by long, hard nights, the love of playing music, rural roots, and a no-bullshit mentality, **The Wild!** play the soundtrack for freedom seeking renegades & real deal rock'n'rollers alike. Take the gritty authenticity of the Delta Blues and speed it up with a reckless punk rock attitude. Now roll that into a southern rock cigarette. You feelin' that yet? Throw that shit into 5th and tighten your grip around the neck of your electric guitar. The result is **The Wild!**



POWER TRIP NIGHTMARE LOGIC

SOUTHERN LORD

Power Trip executes music with raw energy. They've trimmed the fat on every reference they pull from - whether that's Hardcore, Metal or Punk - to make music that actually cuts in 2017. *Nightmare Logic* has taken **Power Trip's** classic Exodus-meets-Cro-Mags sound to new places. With hooks and tightness rivaling greats like Pantera or Pentagram and production by the esteemed Arthur Rizk, *Nightmare Logic* punishes fans not only sonically but with pure songwriting skill. The sophomore release and second on Southern Lord Records, raises the bar and pushes **Power Trip** to new extremes. Since 2013's *Manifest Decimation*, the band admits they've not only gotten better at their instruments, but have also reinvented their songwriting process into a more nuanced and clever system. The shift shows on this record and does so without losing any of the aggression so essential to the band.

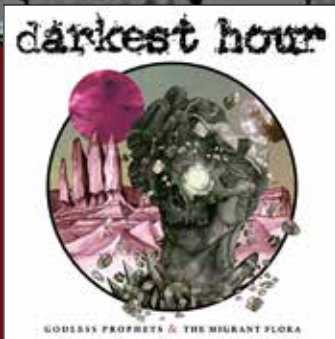
HEADBANGER'S WALL



UNWILL PAST LIFE

E1

Past Life the debut album from NYC's **Unwill**, features eleven songs that are unrelenting in their dark honesty. *Past Life* deals with themes of identity, faith, self-doubt, solipsism, regret, and the truest parts of our natures. Beneath the dark exterior of these songs, however, are shreds of light. Musically, **Unwill** has been compared to the likes of Linkin Park, Deftones, Chevelle, Underoath, and other highly influential rock and metal bands. But the band doesn't shy from putting its own spin on alternative rock. Within the journey of *Past Life*, listeners will come across the many sides of Rocco Sylvia's voice, smooth on one end and coarse on the other. They will also hear cleaner guitars mixed in with the dirtier tones, and soaring melodies alongside unapologetic heavy riffs.



DARKEST HOUR GODLESS PROPHETS AND THE MIGRANT FLORA

SOUTHERN LORD

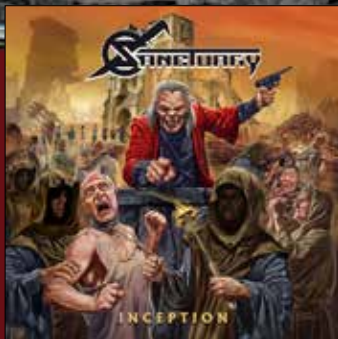
A bastard child born of the mid 90s punk/metal/hardcore movement, Washington, DC's **Darkest Hour** combine the passion, energy, and soul of punk/hardcore with the style, speed, vengeance and fury of melodic speed/thrash/death metal. **Darkest Hour** has helped defined the entire New Wave of American Metal sound as one of the pioneers of modern metal/core. A sound that gave the metal and hardcore/punk world the revitalization it surely needed. This style blended the raw, hardcore punk of the 80s, with the Scandinavian death metal of the 90s and forged a sound that would later become the template for modern metal. Drawing from the bands 21 years' experience, **Darkest Hour's** 9th full length record, *Godless Prophets and the Migrant Flora* is set to solidify its legacy as a metal power house. Raw as all hell, musically complex, melodic, yet cutting with razor blade precision, *Godless Prophets and the Migrant Flora* is fierce and hungry for blood.



HAVOK CONFORMICIDE

CENTURY MEDIA

Superlatives are usually used to describe new albums. Great. Greater. Greatest. Thrash metal is full of superlative albums. In the shop for almost three years, **Havok's Conformicide** is undoubtedly their *Master of Puppets* or *Rust in Peace* moment. True, the Denver-based rippers have bled out guts, brains, and cash on previous albums *Unnatural Selection*, *Time is Up*, and *Burn*, but none of them compare to ear-destroying, mind-frying *Conformicide*. "*Conformicide* is faster and way angrier than *Unnatural Selection*," says vocalist/guitarist/founding member David Sanchez. "On this album, the music is very layered and dynamic and the lyrics say a lot about the current state of the world." With *Conformicide*, **Havok** prove they're undoubtedly thrash metal scions, ready for their time in the spotlight. "This band was essentially started as a nod to the old-school greats," Sanchez says. "When they all retire, **Havok** will be there to fill the thrash metal void. That's why this band exists."



SANCTUARY INCEPTION

CENTURY

Inception, is the official prequel to **Sanctuary's** classic 1988 debut *Refuge Denied*. *Inception* contains presumed lost 1986 studio recordings, which guitarist Lenny Rutledge discovered recently and which were magically restored, remixed and remastered by Zeuss (Queensrÿche, Hatebreed). "I found the masters in my barn," says guitarist Lenny Rutledge. "The second floor of the barn is on top of our current recording studio and is very rough and open to the elements. The ground level is where we recorded the bulk of *The Year The Sun Died*. We found the masters in an unknown box in the barn, full of water and just wasting away." Recorded in March of 1986 at Triad Studios in Redmond, Washington and Studio One in White Center between April and July 1986, *Inception* offers such previously unreleased highlights as "Dream of The Incubus" and "I Am Insane" as well as several classic *Refuge Denied* songs that are burning with fervor and intensity.



ONCE HUMAN EVOLUTION

EARMUSIC

Evolution is not just the title of **Once Human's** sophomore release, it's an armored declaration. Having made waves with their 2015 debut, *The Life I Remember*, the band have progressed beyond melodic death metal into something more complex, distinct, and devastatingly heavy. "I had not picked up the guitar out of passion for twelve years but as soon as I started writing with Lauren (Hart, vocals) I fell in love with what we were making, and I wanted to play in the band and get back on stage," states Logan Mader, whose name will be familiar to metalheads not only for his production and/or mixing work on records by Gojira, Fear Factory, and DevilDriver, but also as the original guitarist in Machine Head and his late 90s stint in Soulfly. "Our first record was getting the ball rolling," he says. "But now it's as if we're a totally different band... what we're doing is really on fire."



WITHIN THE RUINS HALFWAY HUMAN

E1

Born and bred in the same heavy metal rich Northeast soil as New Wave Of American Heavy Metal progenitors Killswitch Engage, All That Remains, Unearth and Shadows Fall.... Weaned on the dark sounds of classic death metal, the technical melodicism of Scandinavia and the precision staccato crunch of Meshuggah, **Within The Ruins** have busted their collective ass to carve out a unique identity for themselves from those ingredients and have succeeded like never before with this year's *Halfway Human*. "The writing process was a bit different for this album," says cofounder Joe Cocchi "We took a step back and kind of reviewed some of our older material. Typically, we'd rush and blast out a group of songs and then hit the studio. Now because of a combination of maturity and honestly just feeling sick of the same old formula, we really focused on creating something different sounding."