

HARD ROCK INFO

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ETERNAL VOYAGER: The Battle Of Eternity - Album

ETERNAL VOYAGER has been around since 1998, in some form or another, and comes from U.S.A. The first lineup recorded a couple of demos and played a few shows, but that didn't last for too long. The members parted ways and nothing happened with the band for a couple of years.

In 2008 the band was back with a new lineup. They did some recordings and people came and left. In 2013 they finally started to record their first full length album, "The Battle Of Eternity", which was released in 2014. Since then people have continued to come and go. The latest member joined the band in August 2015, and the band is now working on their second album.

How about the music they play then you might ask by now? Well, I would describe it as US power metal, or heavy metal with a lot of melody. They are very good at what they are doing, so this could actually be worth a try. It's a very long album as many of the songs are around 6-8 minutes.

(Self released? Distribution through [Online Metal Promo](#))

www.voyagermetal.com

OCTOBER 25, 2015

KILLEN: Killen - Album

The name of this band sounds a little stupid here in Sweden, as it means something like "the guy" or "the kid". But this band is not from Sweden. This band comes from New York, and they play heavy metal.

This is a re-release of their debut album (originally released back in 1987). As a bonus you also get the "Restless Is The Witch" EP (from 1989).

KILLEN was formed in 1986 and went separate ways in the early 1990s. Now the band is active again with a couple of new members, like Carl Canedy (The RODS, CANEDY) for example.

Good stuff indeed. Simply classic heavy metal. But 15 tracks at once is a little too much for me. Small dozes works better though. Could be worth checking out.

(Sonic Age Records / Cult Metal Classics)

OCTOBER 25, 2015

VÄNLADE: Rage Of The Gods - Album

The second album from this American heavy/power/speed metal band. True American steel is a easier way to describe them. ..or simply just call it heavy metal.

They comes from Kansas City and formed in 2006. But it wasn't until 2009 that they had a complete lineup and started to do some shows. Their first album, "Iron Age", came out in 2012.

You can easily hear that they have borrowed elements from several other bands. But they do it with style, so it's not like they don't have their own songs. They definitely have their own songs, but the sound is that good old familiar melody.

They definitely have some really good songs here, like "Jaws Of Life" for example, so this is something that I think you should check out at once.

(Metalizer Records)

facebook.com/vanlade

OCTOBER 25, 2015

GRAVEYARD and NIGHT VIPER at Pustervik in Göteborg, Sweden on October 23, 2015

OCTOBER 24, 2015

DEAFHEAVEN: New Bermuda - Album

There's just 5 songs, but they are so long (8.39-10.15 minutes) that this is definitely a full length and not a EP.

The band comes from San Francisco, and this is their third album. They have been compared with WEAKLING and MY BLOODY VALENTINE. Not bands that I listen to, so I don't know if that's correct. On this album they say that they are influenced by bands like DISSECTION, MORBID ANGEL, BEHEMOTH and Cliff



This site has been online since 2001.
All reviews and photos/images by Jimmy Blom.

Burton-era METALLICA.

It's a pretty intense, but yet atmospheric, album. Hard and heavy, fast and slow. But honestly, I don't really know what to think about this. It's like it's neither good or bad. It's just there. And it sounds more like atmospheric black metal than any of the mentioned bands. Which they mix with some kind of post rock. It's like being swallowed by the Bermuda triangle.

(ANTI-)

OCTOBER 23, 2015

ATRAMENT: MMXV - Demo

Crust punk with a pinch of black and death metal. Not so bad. It's over pretty quick though (about 5 minutes) as there's just 2 songs.

This is their first release, and they are compared with bands like SKITSYSTEM, TRAGEDY, FROM ASHES RISE and WOLFPACK/WOLFBRIGADE. So if you like that kind of stuff, this could be worth checking out for you.

It seems like they had a hard time to come up with a good title for this demo, as it got the same boring title as the ALTARAGE demo from the same label.

([Sentient Ruin Laboratories](#) / Sol Y Nieve Records)

OCTOBER 23, 2015

ALTARAGE: MMXV - Demo

It starts good, but then it becomes just a hell of a noise. Luckily it's just 2 songs, but it's still ear torture. The songs are around 5 minutes each, and that's way too much of this shit. The only positive I can think of is that it's a pretty good sound quality for being a demo recording.

It's probably supposed to be metal, but the best way to describe this is an extreme noise terror. I hate noise! I like music! They describe it as "avantgarde blackened death metal of the most twisted and hallucinated craft" though. Avantgarde.. That's a word I don't like, even though I'm not really sure what it means. But when they use it to describe music, it usually sucks.

([Sentient Ruin Laboratories](#))

OCTOBER 23, 2015

FABRIKEN: Där Det Alltid Regnar - EP

More or less a Swedish all-star trallpunk band, with Stefan "Stipen" Karlsson (DIA PSALMA, STREBERS), Åke Noring (ROLANDS GOSSKÖR), Jonas Mårtensson (SLUGGER) and Curt "Curre" Sandgren (COCA CAROLA, KRYMPLINGS, ROLANDS GOSSKÖR).

This is not really the traditional Swedish trallpunk though, that was so popular in the 90s. This is more like melodic punk rock, but still in the good old Swedish way. I think of COCA CAROLA for example (mainly because of the singer Curre), and it's not impossible that they would have sound like this if they had continued.

We get 5 really good songs here that shouldn't dissappoint any fan of Swedish 90s punk rock. Definitely worth checking out as punk rock dad would have said.

([Beat Butchers](#))

OCTOBER 22, 2015

STATEN BRINNER: Punk På Svenska - EP

Punk rock in the good old Swedish tradition, but maybe a little bit more raw.

In Swedish of course. The members might be well-known, or at least the bands that they have played or play with: Jocke (DESPERAT, PARANOID, TOTALT JÄVLA MÖRKER), Patrik (POPTERROR), Viktor (KORK KIR, BRENT UNKBELT, ANA BARATA) and Emil (ANA BARATA).

You get 6 tracks which are over pretty fast as they're no longer than 1-2 minutes. Really good though, so this is definitely worth checking out.

Not much else to add..

([Luftslott Records](#))

www.statenbrinner.com

OCTOBER 22, 2015

TRANSPORT LEAGUE: Napalm Bats & Suicide Dogs - Album

Mainman Tony Jelencovich return with his band TRANSPORT LEAGUE, and give us another doze of evil and powerful metal. I liked their last album, "Boogie From Hell", from 2013, and this album is just as great as that album was. So I can't see any reason why you should not check this out. Especially if you like heavier but powerful metal with groove.

Best tracks: "Hallelujah Vampire", "Burning Bible" and "Dark Days, Evil Ways (Tomorrow)".

No need to say anything else..

Release date: October 23, 2015 ([Metalville Records](#))

[facebook.com/transportleague](https://www.facebook.com/transportleague)

OCTOBER 21, 2015

BROKEN TEETH: Bulldozer - Album

Yeah! It's rocking, baby! This sounds really good! Another hard rock n roll band that seems to know how to kick some arse and rock the shit out of it. But they're not just another AC/DC copy, because there's more hard rock and metal in their brew. They end the whole thing with a cover by MOTÖRHEAD, so it's a piece of that involved here too. But there's also a cover of AEROSMITH. It's a little like AC/DC and MOTÖRHEAD would have teamed up with the singer from a classic hard rock band like UFO for example.

You will understand what I'm talking about when you hear it. And you will listen to this. Otherwise you're probably stupid or something.

Favorites? Well, all songs are good, but I think that "The Rough And The Tumble" is a little extra good.

Release date: October 23, 2015 ([TMU Records](#))

OCTOBER 21, 2015

CHARTA 77: Salt - Album



It was many years ago since I heard a new album with CHARTA 77 last time. But now they have a new album out (well, on Friday). And it sounds familiar, even though it's not really the same old sound. But to say that it's not punk is probably not right. No, development is the right word. Because they're still a very good punk rock band, and I don't think that too many old fans will be dissappointed in songs like "Soldat Soldat" and "Det Finns En Luther" for example. How can you call that anything else but punk?

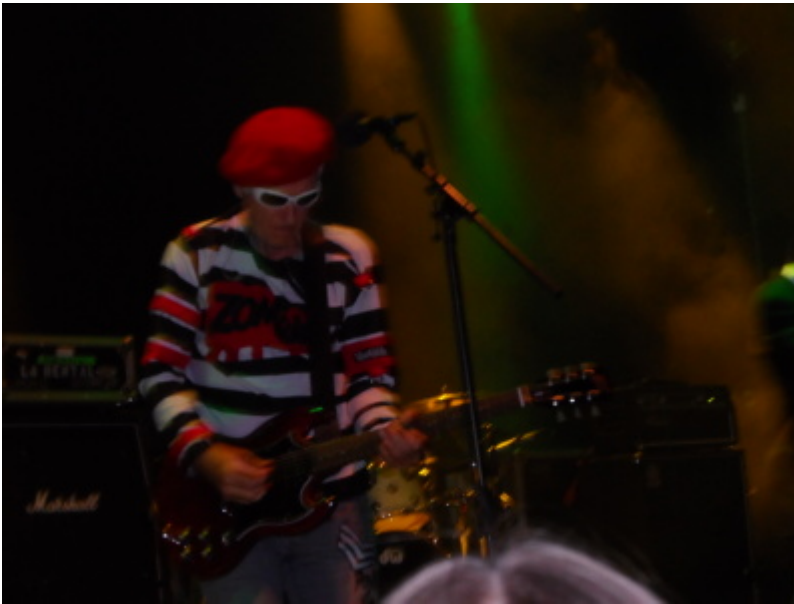
This band is veterans in the Swedish punk scene. They formed in the mid-80s already and was probably as most popular in the 90s.

Release date: October 23, 2015 (vinyl version comes later) ([Birdnest Records](#))

www.charta77.se

OCTOBER 20, 2015

The DAMNED: 35 Years Of Anarchy, Chaos And Destruction 35th Anniversary Live In London - Double Album



This is a recording from their 35th anniversary tour, recorded at the Roundhouse in London, UK in 2011 (they celebrate their 40th anniversary on May 20 next year at Royal Albert Hall by the way). You get a total of 16 tracks here, and there's both well-known classics as well as some stuff that I didn't recognize. A total of 27 tracks from their whole career.

Very good stuff as always with this band, so it could definitely be worth checking out (if you still got any cash left after spending money on the records that came out just about a month ago).

Release date: October 23, 2015 (Westworld Recordings)

www.officialdamned.com

OCTOBER 20, 2015

CASABLANCA: Miscatonic Graffiti - Album

This band doesn't save the powder. They start the fire with a 10.31-minute song, and end it with a 8.38-minute song. Luckily the songs between those 2 are not that long.

It's a pretty soft start actually, but after a couple of minutes they begin to rock a little more. I guess we can describe their music as hard rock with a lot of melody, and 1 foot in the 70s and the other in the 80s. But it's not really another one of all those retro/vintage bands that are so popular nowadays. It's done with a modern production.

This is actually a concept album with a story that is described as "like if Ziggy Stardust met H.P. Lovecraft in Twin Peaks". The story is based on the Chuthulu mythology, but with a twist.

It's a good album, but somehow I expected it to be even better. It's still worth checking out though, as it's the kind of album that grow stronger the more you listen.

Best tracks: "Closer" and "My Shadow Out Of Time".

(Despotz Records)

facebook.com/casablanca

OCTOBER 19, 2015

PARKWAY DRIVE: Ire - Album

The fifth album from this Australian band is the first since 2012's "Atlas". I have nothing to compare with though, as I have only heard 2 songs with them before, and both is from this album. But it's said that they really have developed since the last album.

Progressive metalcore might be a easy way to describe this. It's hard and heavy, but also soft and melodic. That perfect combination to keep it interesting all the way.

The 4 first tracks - "Destroyer", "Dying To Believe", "Vice Grip" and "Crushed" - are among the strongest material on this album, even though there's a couple of more good songs too. But stuff like "Writings On The Wall" (soft hip hop with violin?) wasn't so good.

(Epitaph Records)

OCTOBER 19, 2015

ALONZO & FAS 3 with guests and KNIVDERBY at Sticky Fingers in Göteborg, Sweden on October 17, 2015

OCTOBER 18, 2015

STREBERS and ÅFYSATAN at Pustervik in Göteborg, Sweden on October 16, 2015

OCTOBER 17, 2015

STRYPER: Fallen - Single

I haven't heard STRYPER since I was a kid in the 80s. I really liked their albums "Soliders Under Command" and "To Hell With The Devil".

This song might not be as good as it was back in the 80s, but it's definitely a good song. No doubt about that. So it could actually be worth checking out.

This single comes from their new album, which will be released on October 16 via Frontiers Slr.

([Frontiers Slr](#))

OCTOBER 16, 2015

SHIRAZ LANE: Mental Slavery - Single

Sleaze rock in the same league as 80s SKID ROW, as well as a modern band like CRASHDIET for that matter. Sounds really good anyway, so this could really be worth checking out if you're into that kind of stuff.

SHIRAZ LANE is said to be Frontiers newest and hottest signing. It's a Finnish band who will release their debut album early next year. While you wait for that there's a EP, "Be The Slave Or Be The Change", (where this song comes from) that you can check out. Do that!

([Frontiers Slr](#))

OCTOBER 16, 2015

JUNKSTARS: Romance Of Death - Single



New single from Swedish rock n roll punks JUNKSTARS, taken from their third album, "This Means War", which will be released on October 16 via Despotz Records.

The band took their first rock n roll steps in 2012, and released their first album, "With A Twist Of Lemon", the same year. They released their second album, "French Hot Dog", in 2013. Among their influences are bands like RANCID, The DISTILLERS, The CLASH and The RAMONES. But I think they sound more like early The HELLACOPTERS and BACKYARD BABIES than any of those bands.

The new album was actually recorded live in just 5 days, with just vocals, 1 guitar, bass and drums. Nothing extra at all. And it sounds really good as usual, but we have heard it all before. It's like they haven't developed their sound at all.

([Despotz Records](#))

www.junkstarsofficial.com

OCTOBER 16, 2015

Flora Cash: Shout It Out Loud - Single

This song comes from the female KISS tribute album "Kiss And Makeup", and

it was actually hand-picked by KISS members Gene Simmons and Paul Stanley themselves. It's definitely not what I expected. I have liked KISS since I was a kid, so how can you make such a typical party anthem like "Shout It Out Loud" into a soft singer/songwriter lullaby? If this is representative for the whole album, then it's a big AVOID! Unless you actually like lullaby versions of your favorite KISS songs.. I don't!

And that thing about Gene and Paul.. It wouldn't surprise me if they have hand-picked every song on the album, because they always want to be involved in everything that have to do with their lovechild KISS. And I don't really trust greedy old-men.

(Icons Creating Evil Art)

www.floracash.com

OCTOBER 16, 2015

DANKO JONES and GIUDA at Pustervik in Göteborg, Sweden on October 14, 2015

OCTOBER 15, 2015

The SECRET VI: Mixed Episode - EP

Guitarist Scotty CH was previously a member of OTEP, with whom he spent 3 years together with. He left the band in 2009, and shortly after that he formed The SECRET VI, who released their first album, "Eclipse Of The Soul", in 2010. This EP begins with the mid-tempo rocker "Plastic Smile". To me it sounds like KORN or something. But to my defense I would like to say that I have not heard that much with them. So I'm probably totally wrong there. Hard and heavy, but melodic anyhow.

"You're All Bark" is almost like rap metal meets industrial metal in a skull-crusher game. For some reason I think of KORN here too.

The last song, "Driven", is the most aggressive track on this release. And guess what? This one also sounds like KORN to me.

Pretty o.k. stuff, but not a band that I want a whole album with.

(Label and release date unknown..)

OCTOBER 14, 2015

ZIERLER: ESC - Album

ZIERLER is the brainchild of Danish prog metal keyboardist Finn Zierler. This international band consist of current and former members of BEYOND TWILIGHT, HALFORD, SCAR SYMMETRY and FIREWIND, among others. There's plenty of influences here, like QUEEN, Devin Townsend and DREAM THEATER for example. They are often on the thin line between genius and insanity. But that's probably just a prog metallers wet dream I suppose. All musicians are good of course, but the one that impress me most is the vocalist, Kelly Sundown Carpenter. That man can really sing! He really save it and make this album a little better. Because if this would have been an instrumental orchestra, they would probably drive me insane more or less. If you're a fan of progressive metal, then this is something you have to check out of course.

Release date: October 16, 2015 (Vanity Music Group)

www.zierler.net

OCTOBER 14, 2015

TOPPER: Get In The Line - Album

Punk rock from Sweden in the old British tradition. Bands like STIFF LITTLE FINGERS, BUZZCOCKS and The CLASH are mentioned as influences for this band. So it's pretty melodic stuff, but not pop punk because of that. There's still energy in their songs.

TOPPER comes from Stockholm and formed in 2000. But the members have been playing in different bands since the 80s. "Get In The Line" is their third full length, and it was recorded and produced by Ulf Ivarsson (Thåström, Olle Ljungström, HEDNINGARNA etc.).

The English might not always be that good, but it's a little charming and something you can smile at. Otherwise there isn't much to complain about, because this is a really good album with many nice songs.

Release date: October 16, 2015 - vinyl: Dec. 11 (AMTY Records)

www.topperonline.com

OCTOBER 13, 2015

MINDLESS SINNER: The New Messiah - Album

They might not be as well-known as HEAVY LOAD for example. But they were around at the same time as them. I didn't know about them anyway, and I have lived in Sweden all my life. On the other hand this band was from the small town Linköping and not 1 of the big cities.

MINDLESS SINNER released their first EP, "Master Of Evil", in 1983, and their first album, "Turn On The Power", in 1986. The second album, "Missin' Pieces", and the single "Heaven Will Know" was released in 1989. That became their last releases, because in 1990 the band split up. But now a new album is finally here after 29 years of silence. It's very catchy and melodic, but still heavy metal. Or pure Swedish steel as I prefer to call it. These guys can really play, and they deliver a lot of good songs on this album. So you would not want to miss this album. It's a must if you like good old heavy metal!

Release date: October 16, 2015 ([Pure Steel Records](#))

[facebook.com/mindlessinnerofficial](https://www.facebook.com/mindlessinnerofficial)

OCTOBER 12, 2015

GRAVE: Out Of Respect For The Dead - Album

Well, I guess it's not exactly any news to you that these Swedish death metal veterans have been around since the late 80s. Members have come and left through the years. An album have been released a little now and then. And so on.. No matter if death metal have been "trendy" or not, the band has always been there. And they are definitely not about to get any weaker.

Vocalist/guitarist Ola Lindgren have been sailing this metal ship on the sea of death through all the years. Today's lineup also consist of Ronnie Bergerståhl on drums, Tobias Christiansson on bass and Mika Langrén on guitar.

This album is full of excellent death metal songs that everybody into this genre should like. It might not be the album of the year, but it's definitely much better than some other stuff in this genre of a million bands.

Release date: October 16, 2015 ([Century Media](#))

www.grave.se

OCTOBER 11, 2015

[MÄRVEL and HONEYMOON DISEASE at Sticky Fingers in Göteborg, Sweden On October 9, 2015](#)

OCTOBER 10, 2015

Roger Karlsson: Kysser Sörmlands Jord - Album

A Swedish singer/song writer might not be what you expect to read about here, but I like this stuff, and it doesn't happen too often that I get this kind of music (and that's alright, because I don't want to get an overdose of it).

Roger doesn't just give us slow and melancholy songs, there's actually a little action (in lack of a better word) sometimes. But it's actually more pop than rock to be honest.

This man has been playing with the Swedish bands INFERNO and TUK TUK RALLY. But that was many years ago. This is his sixth solo album.

Could be worth checking out if you like singer/song writers like Stefan Sundström, Lars Demian and Lars Winnerbäck.

([Beat Butchers](#))

[facebook.com/rogerkarlssonofficiell](https://www.facebook.com/rogerkarlssonofficiell)

OCTOBER 9, 2015

James Stevenson: Everything's Getting Closer To Being Over - Album

This was much more calm than what I usually use to get for review. Some kind of melodic rock for lazy days. It seems like this guy concentrate more on making a good song than to rock hard. I think that a band like TOTO rock harder than this.

But it's of course not how hard you rock that matters. It's how good your songs are that counts. And I think he has a couple of good ones here, but none of them will be a hit.

What got me interested in this man was that he has been a member of the punk rock bands CHELSEA and GENERATION X, as well as rock bands like The CULT and The ALARM. But I can't hear anything of that here. And then I read that the album is produced by Peter Walsh (SIMPLE MINDS, Peter Gabriel, Scott Walker). How rock n roll is that? Not so much. But among the guest artists are actually members from JETHRO TULL, KILLING JOKE, SEX PISTOLS, The CULT etc.

He obviously wanted to do his own thing, and I think he have definitely done that. Which doesn't mean that it's weird or something. So don't you worry about that. But this is just a album for those who are looking for something soft.

Release date: October 9, 2015 (Pink Gun Records)

www.jamesstevenson.info

OCTOBER 8, 2015

TRANCEMISSION: Paranoia - Album

Welcome to a night at the opera! Because that is what these 55.21 minutes sounds like. A hard rock and heavy metal opera with catchy songs and very good vocals.

This German band was formerly known as TRANCE, and that band existed already in the 80s, and have released 4 albums through the years.

This album is full of really good songs, that I think everybody who like hard rock and heavy metal should like. 14 songs is a little too much though. They could easily have thrown away 4 tracks (like the German opera intro and the title track for example).

Release date: October 9, 2015 ([Pure Rock Records](#))

www.trancemission-music.com

OCTOBER 7, 2015

CREATURE: Ride The Bullet - Album

German melodic heavy metal band that is back after 10 years of silence. It sounds like back in the 80s and it's pretty good stuff. There's definitely some really good songs here. But "Bitch Part I" was very corny. And "Bitch Part II" got very silly lyrics ("I am the best, fuck the rest", come on, that was something you said when you were a kid). Some of the songs actually sounds like something from the JUDAS PRIEST albums "Turbo" or "Point Of Entry". 15 tracks is much, but it could be worth a try at least. There's no doubt about that.

([Karthago Records](#))

www.creature.rocks/

OCTOBER 6, 2015

POWER THEORY: Driven By Fear - Album

US power/heavy metal band from Pennsylvania who released their first album, "Out Of The Ashes...", in 2011. Their next album, "An Axe To Grind", came out in 2012. And after 3 years their third album, "Driven By Fear", is here.

They have a new singer, Jeff Rose (METADOX, ex-LIVESAY), but otherwise it's the same thing as before. The album has been produced by ACCEPT bassist Peter Baltes.

They have some very strong songs here, so this could definitely be worth checking out. Especially if you're into bands like ICED EARTH, IRON MAIDEN, ACCEPT, SAXON, JUDAS PRIEST and HAMMERFALL for example.

There's no idea to mention any favorite songs, because all songs are great (or at least good).

Release date: October 9, 2015 ([Pure Steel Records](#))

www.powertheory.net

OCTOBER 6, 2015

NUCLEAR DETONATION: Living Dead, Sons Of The Lobotomy - Album

NUCLEAR DETONATION was born in 2012 in Reggio Calabria, in the southern part of Italy. They play thrash metal in the good old way, and this is their first album, which was first released on cassette. Now it has been released on CD as well.

8 tracks is what you're going to get if you check this out. And I actually think that you should check this out, because this is a pretty good band.

But o.k., they have their weaker material too, like the heavy second track, "Slow Decay" and the instrumental stuff for example.

The last song, "Nuclear Detonation", is my favorite. It reminds me a little of early METALLICA actually.

([Iron Shield Records](#))

OCTOBER 5, 2015

LACHRYMOSE: Carpe Noctum - Album

First a useless intro, and then false female vocals. Couldn't they have found a better singer? It seems like she's trying to sing like all these opera/metal bands, but unfortunately it end up sounding like shit. I might be a little too brave now, but I actually think that even I could do it better. The other members seems to be good though, but that doesn't help much as the damage is already done.

So what should they do then? As I see it they have 2 options: Learn the singer how to sing the way she wants to, or kick her and get somebody better (I'm not interested by the way).

This band comes from Greece and play dark melodic doom metal. This is their first album, so there's still some hope at least.

([Pure Steel Publishing](#))

www.lachrymose.gr

OCTOBER 5, 2015

SCYTHE FOR SORE EYES: Dawn Of A Darker Horizon - Album

This is a Helsinki, Finland based melodic "dark n jolly" band founded in 2013. This is their debut album, which is a combination of rough rock n roll groove and dark-flavored metal atmosphere. It was released in June, but I have been very busy with a lot of stuff to review (and still is).

Pretty good stuff. Best tracks: "Bring The Bottle" and "Selfkiller"..

(Inverse Records)

[facebook.com/scytheforsoreeyes](https://www.facebook.com/scytheforsoreeyes)

OCTOBER 3, 2015

RIFFTERA: Pitch Black - Album

The first seconds is the best part of this album, because then it sounds like good old heavy metal. But RIFFTERA is a band from Vaasa in Finland who are influenced by melodic death metal and thrash metal, among many other genres. To me it sounds like groove metal though.

The band took its first steps in 2010, but it's not until now that their first album has been released (about a month ago to be more exactly).

Good, but I have heard better than this.

(Inverse Records)

[facebook.com/rifftera](https://www.facebook.com/rifftera)

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