

Slayer, the long-reigning titans of thrash, returns with *Repentless*, the band's 12th studio album and its first album for Nuclear Blast. Produced by Terry Date, *Repentless* was written and recorded by guitarist Kerry King and singer/bassist Tom Araya at Henson Studios in Los Angeles along with returning drummer Paul Bostaph and guitarist Gary Holt. *Repentless* is crushing and brutal, steadfastly refusing to cater to the mainstream.

Thirty-four years into its career, Slayer remains the preeminent punk-thrash band that helped establish the genre and that up-and-coming metal heads continue to revere and emulate. Slayer is a five-time nominated, two-time Grammy Award-winning metal juggernaut that writes songs which mirror the turmoil and aberrations of our society. *Repentless*, the band's first new album in six years, continues the Slaytanic offensive with a twelve-song, blood-shaking sonic attack. *Repentless* is dark, fast, aggressive and without mercy. It was also the most challenging record Slayer has ever had to make.



In 2013, the world mourned the loss of guitarist Jeff Hanneman who died from complications following a two-year illness. A co-founder of Slayer, losing Jeff was very difficult for the band. During Jeff's illness, friend of the band, guitarist Holt stepped in to help out on tour with Jeff's blessing and stayed on. Around that time, drummer Dave Lombardo exited the band for the third time and Paul Bostaph, (who played with the band from 1992 to 2001), returned to take over the throne. Slayer never skipped a beat and since Holt and Bostaph both played in Exodus, it was all-in-the-thrash-family.

But it didn't come easily. As guitarist and Slayer co-founder Kerry King puts it, "I remember the day that Jeff died. It was the day of the Revolver Golden Gods Awards. We knew he'd been sick but nobody expected it to be so quick. I assumed I'd be able to go out there and see him after I got done with whatever business I had to do and that day never came.

"We went out and toured afterwards to see how we felt about it. That's what you do as a musician: you either go out and tour or you stop working. Even though we'd been touring for two years without Jeff, thinking he was going to come back, now there was finality to it. And the thing with Gary was that we were all friends. Exodus was the first band we'd ever met that became our friends immediately and we stayed friends throughout the years. Gary is just a guitar dynamo and he was the guy."

Tom Araya agrees. "Jeff would want us to continue. I'd think that if something were to happen to someone else in the band, whoever it was would feel the same way. Just get on with it. Gary's a friend, a friend of Jeff's, he knew what was going on and he wanted to help in any way he could, so Gary made Slayer a comfortable place to be. Having Paul back was also a comforting feeling. He's a former member and that's the best thing about it. It wasn't some other guy. Having Paul and Gary made everything a little easier to handle. It's about the band. Slayer was a big thing for Jeff, and so I'm looking at it in that sense. It was his baby, too. And we hope we've done Slayer and him justice."

King said that Slayer still had to test the water. "Now we were out to see if it made sense to continue, to see if we liked it, to see if the band still enjoyed it. And the way I looked at it was, if it wasn't this, it was going to be something that sounded exactly like this, so why not continue doing this? It's super-potent. We're really tight right now and we're stoked that we're still doing it. Once we had that under our belts, we started thinking about a record and never looked back."

After two decades with American Recordings, Slayer found a new home with Nuclear Blast, the German independent label known for its metal roster. King is enthusiastic about the move, "I like it," he declares, stressing the work like. "Having been with American for so long, we wanted to give them first right of refusal because that's how we are. I think continuity is far stronger than switching all the time. But at the end of the day, Nuclear Blast made us a great offer and so it was time to move on. At Nuclear Blast, people go to work, they do their job, get paid and they fuckin' like it. All hands. So it was the right choice."

When the time came, Slayer entered the studio with producer Terry Date. Date is the first producer the band has worked with since leaving American, where all their albums were produced or executive produced by Rick Rubin. On working with Date, Tom says, "He'd done all these great albums - Soundgarden, Pantera - and as a singer I need someone I respect who can tell me whether he likes it or not as opposed to telling me how to do something I've been doing for 30 years. He would guide me. That's why I really liked working with him, because he was so cool. I regard him as a friend, for sure."

Kerry adds, "It was as business as usual as it could be. The oddest thing for me was Jeff's presence... not being there. When we were recording, in the past, whether he played or not, having him there and having his opinion and stuff like that, that was what I missed. Jeff's not being there was the oddest thing."

Gary Holt came on board to help out with tour commitments when Jeff first became ill. "My role in Slayer started out as a tour guitarist and happened to come when I was taking time off from Exodus. I spoke to Kerry who asked if I could help out. I went down to rehearsal and Jeff showed me some things. I've known Jeff forever but it wasn't until his memorial that I learned how much of his blessing I really had. At the end of the day, we all wanted Jeff to come back and then tragedy struck, so here we are five years later and *Repentless* is coming out and I think Jeff would have loved it. I'm super-excited. It's a good feeling and I know it's got to be a great feeling for Tom and Kerry for all the work they've done - and Paul as well. Everybody's excited."

Repentless marks the return of drummer Paul Bostaph, who was extremely enthusiastic. "Before I was in the band I was a fan and just because I'm the drummer doesn't mean I stop being a fan, it just means my tickets are cheaper. After I left in 2002 I never thought I'd be sitting on the drum throne with the band again. This particular style of music delivers something for me, musically and physically, that's challenging and exciting. I feel better as a player and I'm more mature and the band is maturing and getting better, like fine wine. It feels natural to be back and it's good to be back with Kerry and Tom. The San Francisco Bay-area metal scene is very tight knit, everybody knows everybody. I consider Slayer to be part of that even though they're from Southern California. Gary I played together in Exodus and he's amazing - one of the godfathers of thrash with Exodus - so it's like coming home for me. And we're having fun and I think if we weren't having fun, we wouldn't be doing this."

Repentless marks a number of transitions for the band, but with their undisputed attitude, Slayer emerges triumphant, says Tom. "After 35 years, the thing that Kerry and I share is our dedication to the band, and Jeff's included in that. It's the same with Gary. He's been doing this a long time and he's had the same commitment. It's a common bond we share with a lot of musicians out there. I'm really excited about the new album, we've put a lot of work into it, Kerry especially, and it was all for Slayer."

Repentless is loaded with sensational songs, from the hyper-aggressive metallic blasts of the title track, "Take Control," "Implode," and "Atrocity Vendor" to the ferocious thrash pounding of "Vices," "When The Stillness Comes," and "Pride in Prejudice," the album is Slayer through and through. For Paul Bostaph it's simple: "The songs are awesome." Tom puts it bluntly, "This is definitely Slayer. No one will be disappointed with what we've done."

For Kerry King, the feeling is mutual. "Musically for me - it's certainly not an 'I told ya so' because Jeff's not a part of it - but I do know that a lot of people assumed Slayer's not going to be functional with Dave not being here and Jeff never being here again. But we did it and it fuckin' sounds like Slayer - period."

Slayer's place in music history is secure as one of The Big Four (alongside Metallica, Megadeth and Anthrax); they helped define the thrash-metal genre. With *Repentless*, Kerry, Tom, Paul and Gary affirm that Slayer is unstoppable. Slayer continues fearlessly, aggressively and without contrition, and most importantly, fucking Slayer still rules!

“‘Repentless’ is the sound of Slayer telling you that it still recognizes its essence...it’s loud and precise.” — New York Times

The Basics...

Band Members...

Kerry King • guitars - 1981-present
 Tom Araya • bass/vocals - 1981- present
 Jeff Hanneman • guitars - 1981- 2013
 Paul Bostaph • drums - 1992-1996, 1997-
 2001, 2013 - present
 Gary Holt • guitars - 2013 - present
 • • •
 Tony Scaglione • drums - 1986-1987
 Dave Lombardo • drums - 1981-1986,
 1987-1992, 2002 - 2013
 Jon Dette • drums - 1996-1997

“...lean, quick, precise and brutal...”

-- Rolling Stone

R.I.A.A. Certified...

REIGN IN BLOOD • **Gold** (Nov. 20, 1992)
 SOUTH OF HEAVEN • **Gold** (Nov. 20, 1992)
 SEASONS IN THE ABYSS • **Gold** (April 9, 1993)
 DIVINE INTERVENTION • **Gold** (December 6, 1994)
 WAR AT THE WARFIELD (Video) • **Gold** (February 6, 2004)
 STILL REIGNING (Video) • **Gold** (July 20, 2005)

SLAYER: Through the Years...



1985

Tom Araya, Dave Lombardo,
Jeff Hanneman, Kerry King



1990



2006

Lombardo, King,
Hanneman, Araya



1988



2010



1993

Tom Araya, Jeff Hanneman,
Paul Bostaph, Kerry King



1997

Araya, King, Jon Dette, Hanneman

2001

Araya, Hanneman,
King, Paul Bostaph



2015

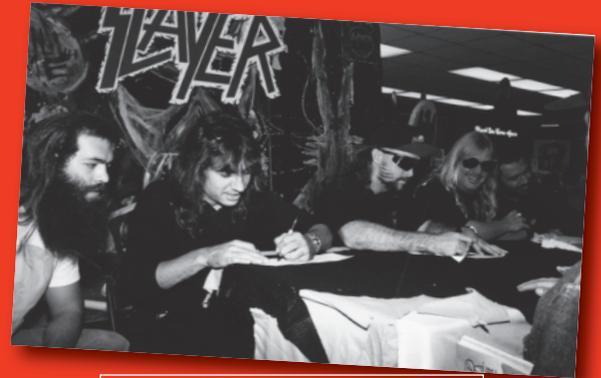
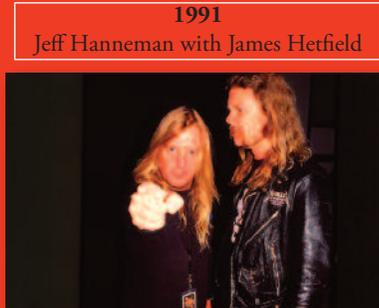
King, Gary Holt,
Paul Bostaph, Araya

“Slayer still snarls every syllable, slams every chord, and never lets its pace slacken below all-hell’s-breaking-loose level.” -- New York Daily News

“...one of the great American rock bands of the last 30 years; forget about genre.” -- Chicago Tribune



CLASH OF THE TITANS, 1991
Megadeth's Dave Mustaine,
Anthrax's Scott Ian, Slayer's Tom Araya



1990
Rick Rubin with Slayer at a
Tower Records, Hollywood in-store

Awards and other Notables . . .

- ESQUIRE'S ESKY AWARD** • “Resurgence of Heavy Metal” for *Christ Illusion* (2002)
- GRAMMY NOMINATION** • “Disciple” • Best Metal Performance from *God Hates us All* (2002)
- REVOLVER READER POLL** • Best Band (2004)
- REVOLVER READERS POLL** • Best Live Band Ever (2004)
- METAL HAMMER GOLDEN GOD AWARD** • Best Live Act (2004)
- GRAMMY AWARD** • “Eyes of the Insane” from *Christ Illusion* • Best Metal Performance (2006)
- KERRANG! HALL OF FAME AWARD** - presented to Slayer (2006)
- KERRANG! SPECIAL “BEST ALBUM OF THE LAST 20 YEARS”** award for *Reign In Blood* (2006)
- METAL HAMMER** - Icon award for Slayer (2006)
- SPIN READERS' POLL** - Best Live Band (2006)
- REVOLVER READERS' POLL** - Best Guitarist/Guitar Team - Kerry King and Jeff Hanneman (2007)
- REVOLVER READERS' POLL** - Best Drummer - Dave Lombardo (2007)
- GRAMMY AWARD** • “Final Six” from *Christ Illusion* • Best Metal Performance (2007)
- METAL HAMMER GOLDEN GOD AWARD/Kerry King** (2008)
- REVOLVER GOLDEN GOD AWARD/KERRY AND JEFF** • Most Mind-Blowing Guitarists (2009)
- GRAMMY NOMINATION** • “Hate Worldwide” • Best Metal Performance (2010)
- GRAMMY NOMINATION** • “World Painted Blood” • Best Metal Performance (2011)
- KERRANG! LEGEND AWARD** Presented to Slayer (2013)



Slayer Goes For the GOLD • Rick Rubin hosted a Gold Record Presentation party at Hollywood's famed Magic Castle in August, 1993. L-R: Kerry King, Paul Bostaph, Jeff Hanneman, Tom Araya, band manager Rick Sales, American's Renay Palome, Rick Rubin.



Grammys 2007 - Tom accepts the Grammy for “The Final Six”

1992 • Slayer collaborates with Ice-T on “Disorder,” written and recorded for the “Judgment Night” soundtrack. 📀



“Still slaying after all these years****”

-- The Guardian

“Metal Album of the Year”

-- Guitar World

[*Repentless*; 2015]

Main CD Discography...



SHOW NO MERCY • December, 1983 • Metal Blade Records • Exec. Prod.: Brian Slagel • Producer: Slayer • King, Hanneman/guitars; Araya/bass; Lombardo/drums



HELL AWAITS • 1985 • Metal Blade Records • Producers: Slayer, Brian Slagel • King, Hanneman/guitars; Araya/bass; Lombardo/drums



REIGN IN BLOOD • October, 1986 • Def Jam • Producers: Rick Rubin, Slayer • King, Hanneman/guitars; Araya/bass; Lombardo/drums



SOUTH OF HEAVEN • July 5, 1988 • Def Jam • Producers: Rick Rubin, Slayer • King, Hanneman/guitars; Araya/bass; Lombardo/drums



SEASONS IN THE ABYSS • October 9, 1990 • Def American • Producers: Rick Rubin, Slayer, Andy Wallace • King, Hanneman/guitars; Araya/bass; Lombardo/drums



DIVINE INTERVENTION • October 3, 1994 • American • Exec. Prod.: Rick Rubin • Producers: Slayer, Toby Wright • King, Hanneman/guitars; Araya/bass; Paul Bostaph/drums



UNDISPUTED ATTITUDE • May 28, 1996 • American • Exec. Prod.: Rick Rubin • Producers: Slayer, Dave Sardy • King, Hanneman/guitars; Araya/bass; Paul Bostaph/drums



DIABOLUS IN MUSICA • June 9, 1998 • American • Producers: Slayer, Rick Rubin • King, Hanneman/guitars; Araya/bass; Paul Bostaph/drums



GOD HATES US ALL • September 11, 2001 • American • Exec. Prod.: Rick Rubin • Producers: Slayer, Matt Hyde • King, Hanneman/guitars; Araya/bass; Paul Bostaph/drums



CHRIST ILLUSION • August 8, 2006 • American • Exec. Prod.: Rick Rubin • Producers: Slayer, Josh Abraham • King, Hanneman/guitars; Araya/bass; Lombardo/drums



WORLD PAINTED BLOOD • November 2, 2009 • American • Exec. Prod.: Rick Rubin • Producer: Greg Fidelman • King, Hanneman/guitars; Araya/bass; Lombardo/drums



REPENTLESS • September 11, 2015 • Nuclear Blast • Producer: Terry Date • Araya/bass; King, guitars; Paul Bostaph/drums, Gary Holt, guitars

Live CDs, Compilations, Video/DVD...



HAUNTING THE CHAPEL (EP) • 1984 • Metal Blade Records • Exec. Producer: Brian Slagel • Producer: Slayer; King, Hanneman/guitars; Araya/bass; Lombardo/drums



LIVE UNDEAD • 1985 • Metal Blade Records • Producers: Slayer, Bill Metoyer • King, Hanneman/guitars; Araya/bass; Lombardo/drums



DECADE OF AGGRESSION • October 22, 1991 • American • Producers: Slayer, Rick Rubin • Recorded live in 1990 and 1991 in Lakeland, FL, London, and San Bernardino, CA • King, Hanneman/guitars; Araya/bass; Lombardo/drums



LIVE INTRUSION (Video) • October 31, 1995 • American • Director: Phil Tuckett • Filmed on March 12, 1995 at the Mesa Amphitheatre in Mesa, AZ • King, Hanneman/guitars; Araya/bass; Paul Bostaph/drums



WAR AT THE WARFIELD (DVD) • July 29, 2003 • American Recordings • Director: Anthony Bongiovi • Filmed at the Warfield Theatre in San Francisco, CA on December 7, 2001 • Kirk Hammett and Scott Ian make special appearances • King, Hanneman/guitars; Araya/bass; Paul Bostaph/drums



STILL REIGNING (DVD) • November 2, 2004 • American Recordings • Director: Dean Karr • Recorded live July 11, 2004 at the Augusta Civic Center in Augusta, GA.



UNHOLY ALLIANCE LIVE (DVD) • October 30, 2007 • American Recordings • Director: Adam Rothlein • King, Hanneman/guitars; Araya/bass; Lombardo/drums • Includes performances by Lamb of God, Mastodon, Children of Bodom and Thine Eyes Bleed.



SOUNDTRACK TO THE APOCALYPSE (Box set, 3/4 CDs, 1 DVD) • November 25, 2003 • American Recordings • Producers: various • Studio, live, demo, rehearsal and other rarity recordings • King/Hanneman/guitars; Araya/bass; Dave Lombardo, Paul Bostaph, Jon Dette/drums



SLAYER LIVE DVD 3-PAK (Box set, 3 DVDs) • August 17, 2010 • American • “Live Intrusion,” “War at the Warfield,” “Still Reigning” reissued, first time “Live Intrusion” had been available on DVD • King/Hanneman/guitars; Araya/bass; Dave Lombardo, Paul Bostaph/drums



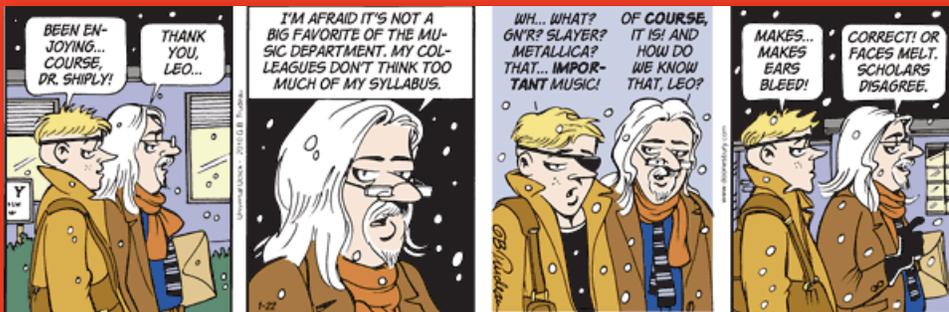
THE VINYL CONFLICT • October 12, 2010 • High-end, limited edition Box set • American • All of Slayer’s main albums from *REIGN IN BLOOD* to *WORLD PAINTED BLOOD* remastered from the original analog flat master tapes, pressed on 180 gram vinyl, housed in high-quality litho-wrapped jackets

Soundtracks Slayer has appeared on . . .

- “River’s Edge” • August 24, 1986 • “Die By The Sword,” “Captor of Sin,” “Evil Has No Boundaries,” “Tormentor” • Film starred Crispin Glover and Keanu Reeves
- “Less Than Zero” • November 6, 1987 • “In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida” • film starred Andrew McCarthy, Jami Gertz, Robert Downey Jr., James Spader
- “Judgment Night” • September 14, 1993 • “Disorder” (Slayer and Ice-T) • film starred Emilio Estevez, Cuba Gooding, Jr., Denis Leary, Jeremy Piven
- “Bride of Chucky” • October 6, 1998 • “Human Disease” • film starred Jennifer Tilly, Brad Dourif, Ketherine Heigl
- “Dracula 2000 “ • December 12, 2000 • “Bloodline” • film starred Gerard Butler, Christopher Plummer, Jonny Lee Miller
- “Jackass: The Movie” • October 25, 2002 • “Angel of Death” • film starred Johnny Knoxville, Steve-O
- Guitar Hero III: Legends of Rock (Xbox 360) • October 28, 2007 • “Raining Blood”
- Grand Theft Auto: Vice City (Playstation) • October 29, 2002 • “Raining Blood”
- “Jackass Number Two” • September 26, 2006 • “Spill The Blood” • film starred Johnny Knoxville, Steve-O
- “Saw III “ • October 24, 2006 • “Eyes of the Insane” • film starred Tobin Bell, Shawnee Smith, Angus Macfadyen, Donnie Wahlberg



Doonesbury by Garry Trudeau - January 22, 2010



“...taut, polished, and breathtakingly aggressive...”

-- Metal Hammer

Slayer Tribute Albums . . .

- *Slatanic Slaughter* • July 3, 1995 (Blackened Records, UK) • featuring Hypocrisy, At the Gates, Cradle of Filth, Vader, more
- *Slatanic Slaughter II* • December 19, 1996 (Black Sun Records) • featuring Cradel of Filth, Sinister, Anathema, Disaffected, more
- *Straight to Hell: A Tribute to Slayer* (Dead Line Music) • February 16, 1999 • featuring Brutal Truth, Jungle Rot, Naked Lunch, Electric Hellfire Club, more
- *Gateway to Hell: A Tribute to Slayer, Vol. 1* (Dwell Records) • June 1, 1999 • features Sadistic Intent, Monstrosity, Thy Darkest Empire, Coffin Texts, more
- *Gateway to Hell: A Tribute to Slayer, Vol. 2* (Dwell Records) • August 22, 2000 • features Perverseraph, Angel Corpse, Hate, Mystifier, Equinox, more
- *The String Quartet Tribute to Slayer: The Evil You Dread* (Vitamin Records) • June 10, 2003
- *Hell at Last: A Tribute to Slayer* (Direct Music Group) • September 9, 2003 • features Deteriorot, Diabolic, Engrave, Nephasth, Serberus



Some cool Slayer swag....

“...assured of their permanent status as one of the greatest metal bands of this, or any, age; Slayer continue to reign.” -- Kerrang!



February 25, 2008 - Slayer's Rockhard Limited Edition Helmets are introduced.

April 7, 2012 - Slayer launches its own brand of wine, a Cabernet Sauvignon from California called "Reign in Blood Red." Housed in a coffin-shaped box, the wine features dark berry fruits and spicy oak flavors. Available only in Sweden.



December, 2012 - Slayer offers an ugly Christmas sweater, black and red that includes festive skulls and pentagrams. The sweater proves to be so popular, it's brought back for the 2013 and 2014 holidays.

October, 2013 - Slayer and Arnette collaborate on a capsule collection featuring matte black and blood red artwork on Arnette's flagship Witch Doctor sunglasses, Series 3MX and Skylight snow goggles. The items were made available in limited amounts globally.



January, 2015 - Slayer teams up with Venice Beach, CA store Ave to launch an exclusive line of footwear. Some designs are on black Converse high-tops and others on black or white Van shoes.



June, 2013 - Slayer's Pinball Rocks, an app for iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch - features a skull that eats your ball and spits it out through its eye socket. Includes original voiceovers from Slayer members as well as songs from the band's *World Painted Blood*.

April 6, 2015 - With its unveiling at the New York International Audio Show, Scion designs a one-of-a-kind vehicle inspired by Slayer. The build centers around a tC sports coupe whose exterior look features the band's logo; the interior features a tower of speakers, a custom mixer and amps, as well as a 32-inch monitor for media playback.



Slayer Timeline...

“***still crazy after all these years.” -- Mojo



1981 – Slayer has its genesis in Huntington Park, CA. Jeff Hanneman, a telemarketer at the time, and Kerry King first met when they auditioned for the same band. Tom Araya had played with Kerry in another band called Quits, and at the time was working in a hospital as a respiratory therapist. Dave Lombardo was the last to join – his path crossed Kerry and Jeff’s when he delivered a pizza to them. • Slayer plays its first show as a band – at the Southgate Park Auditorium on Halloween.

1982 – Metal Blade founder/president Brian Slagel sees Slayer for the first time at a club in Anaheim, CA playing mainly Iron Maiden and Judas Priest covers.

1983 – Slayer signs with Brian Slagel’s Metal Blade Records and begins recording their first album, *SHOW NO MERCY*. Upon its release, the band embarks on its first major U.S. tour. • Slayer records their *Haunting the Chapel* EP which consists of three tracks – the title song, “Chemical Warfare,” and “Captor of Sin.”

1985 – *Hell Awaits*, the band’s second album, is released and sells more than 100,000 copies in the U.S. alone. • Slayer tours Europe for the first time, their first show being in Belgium as part of the Dynamo Festival. • The band comes to the attention of producer Rick Rubin who signs them to his Def Jam Recordings label.

1986 – *Reign in Blood* is released and hailed as the best thrash-metal album of all time. • “Angel of Death,” a song that deals with Nazi doctor Joseph Mengele and the experiments he did on his patients during the Holocaust, plus Hanneman’s interest in and collection of Nazi-era paraphernalia, led people to believe that Slayer were Nazis. *Reign in Blood*, which ran only 23-minutes, sold well over a half-million copies, becoming Slayer’s first Gold album. • Dave Lombardo quit the band just before the *Reign in Blood* tour was set to begin; Tony Scaglione from Whiplash joined Slayer for that tour. • Dave rejoined the band in time for the RiB European dates.

1988 – Slayer records *South of Heaven*. With the speed, intensity and over-the-top success of *Reign in Blood*, for the first and last time, the band members discussed slowing their playing down for *South of Heaven*. Tom “sang” more than “screamed,” and the album was much heavier and more instrumental than was *Reign in Blood*. It wasn’t until later that everyone – fans and the band – realized that while it had a different sound than its predecessors, it was still a classic. It also yielded two of the best songs the band ever wrote and recorded – the title song and “Mandatory Suicide.”



1990 – Slayer writes and records *Seasons In The Abyss*, then traveled to Egypt to shoot the video for the title track. • Slayer co-headlines - with Megadeth - the inaugural “Clash of the Titans” tour, first in Europe, and then in the U.S. the following May. 1991 - The “Seasons in the Abyss” limited edition single was packaged and released as a “blood pack,” and featured the title track, an experimental mix of the title track, and a “fast version” of “Aggressive Perfector.” • Dave Lombardo leaves Slayer for the second time. “I was absolutely burned out. It was album after album, tour after tour – it was never-ending. I was done.”

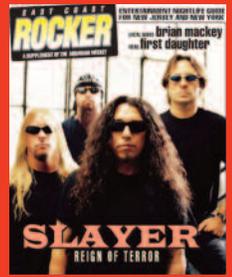
1992 – Paul

Bostaph, formerly drummer with Forbidden, joins Slayer, and the band heads out on the “Monsters of Rock” tour. • The band collaborates with Ice-T on “Disorder,” written and recorded specifically for the “Judgment Night” soundtrack. The song also appeared on Slayer’s *Soundtrack to the Apocalypse* box set in 2003.



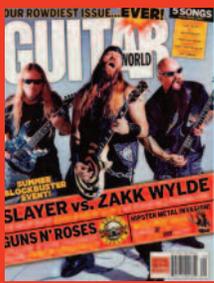
October 3, 1994 –Slayer releases *Divine Intervention*, the first album recorded with Paul Bostaph on drums. The album debuts on the *Billboard* charts at #8 and quickly achieves Gold status. The CD booklet for *Divine Intervention* also boasts the controversial photo of Mike Meyer, the fan who carved the word “Slayer” on his arm with a razor.

1996 - Slayer is sued by the parents of a 15-year old girl who claim that the band’s lyrics influenced their daughter’s murderers. It took five years for the suit to be thrown out of court. • *Undisputed Attitude*, an album of punk song covers (Black Flag, Minor Threat) plus three new Slayer tracks, is released. • Paul Bostaph quits Slayer to concentrate on his new band, The Truth about Sea Food. John Dette, drummer for Testament, signs on. • Slayer plays major festivals in Europe and then co-headlines the first edition of Ozzfest in America. • Things didn’t go smoothly with Dette, and The Truth about Sea Food didn’t work out, so Bostaph returned as Slayer’s drummer.



“Best Live Band”

Revolver, SPIN, Metal Hammer



2001 – *God Hates Us All* was recorded in Vancouver and released on September 11. The night before, American Recordings hosted a release party in a mausoleum at the Hollywood Forever Cemetery; the band then drove to an in-store where they autographed copies of the new disc from midnight to about 4AM. Slayer had been scheduled to fly to Europe the evening of the 11th to begin the “Tattoo the Planet” tour, but all flights had been halted due to the terrorist attacks, and the tour was postponed. The band toured the U.S. behind *God Hates Us All*, and a few days before that tour ended, Bostaph quit again. And Dave came back to stay. **July 11, 2004** – Slayer films the DVD “Still Reigning” in Augusta, ME, plays the entire *Reign in Blood* album start-to-finish, and gets drenched in fake blood at the end of the performance.



2006 – Slayer begins work on *Christ Illusion*, a blistering critique of the Bush administration and the first album in 15 years recorded with the original band lineup. The album was released on August 8, and debuted at #5 on *Billboard's* 200 Albums charts, the band's highest-ever chart debut. Kerry: “The album was originally supposed to come out on 6/6/06, but we decided we didn't want to be part of what ended up as parody.” With the vocals for just one song – “Final Six” – to complete, Tom Araya has to have an emergency gall bladder operation.



June 6, 2006 – The first “International Day of Slayer” is celebrated - 6/6/06. Those who observe the IDoS are encouraged to stage “Slay-outs” - “Listen to Slayer at full blast in your car, in your home, at your place of employment, and in any public place you prefer.” Headphones are considered an offense to the movement. The objective is to have the Government declare June 6 an official national holiday.



August, 2006 – The City of Fullerton, CA demands that 17 promotional bus benches scattered throughout the city promoting *Christ Illusion* be immediately removed. The city does not like the name of the band, which they feel refers to murderers. They are also offended by the Antichrist and skull logo on the bench artwork.



October, 2006 – *Christ Illusion* is banned in India due to the album's cover art and the track “Skeleton Christ,” as “the lyrics are an insult to Christianity,” stated Joseph Dias, General Secretary of the Mumbai-based Catholic Secular Forum (CSF). The CSF also sent a memorandum to Mumbai's police commissioner adding that the album "will affect the sensibilities of the Muslims on the track 'Jihad' and secular Indians who have respect for all faiths." EMI India recalled the album.



November, 2006 – Slayer makes its first visit to a military base – 52nd Services Squadron located on the Spangdahlem U.S. Air Force base in Germany – to hang out with the troops.



January 19, 2007 – makes network TV appearance on “Jimmy Kimmel Live.”

February 11, 2007 - Slayer wins its first Grammy Award - “Eyes of the Insane” - Best Metal Performance - from *Christ Illusion*.

October, 2008 - Slayer records three brand-new songs to be included on what will be their next album.

January, 2009 - Slayer returns to a Los Angeles studio with producer Greg Fidelman to finish recording their next album.

April 18, 2009 - “Psychopathy Red,” the first new track from Slayer's next album, is made available as a limited-edition 7-inch vinyl single for “Record Store Day.” The blood-red vinyl disc is packaged in a special “Russian crime scene evidence envelope,” as the song was inspired by the heinous Russian serial killer, Andrei Chikatilo, who confessed to murdering 56 children.



June 24, 2009 - Slayer kicks off a four-date Canadian tour co-headlining with Megadeth. These are the first dates these bands have played together in more than 15 years.

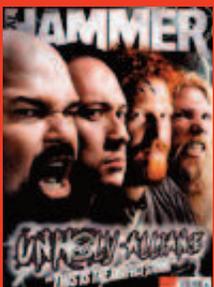


July 10, 2009 - The Mayhem Festival 2009 begins in Sacramento with Slayer and Marilyn Manson co-headlining.

November 2, 2009 - *World Painted Blood* is released and debuts at #12 on *Billboard's* Top 200 Albums chart, and was a Top Ten debut in numerous countries outside of the U.S., including Germany, Australia, Japan and Canada. The album is named one of the “Top 40 Extreme Albums for 2009” by *Decibel* magazine. In addition, “Playing with Dolls,” a 12-episode video-graphic novel created by “Metalocalypse” director and huge Slayer fan Mark Brooks, is released. The short, a visual nightmare that breathed corrupt life into Slayer's syllabus of stalkers, psychopaths and serial killers, took its title from Hanneman's “Playing With Dolls” track, was inspired by all of the songs on *World Painted Blood*, and blended elements of animation and still-photography into a visual style similar to that of a graphic novel.



December 3, 2009 - “Hate Worldwide” is nominated for a Grammy Award as “Best Metal Performance.” This is Slayer's fourth Grammy nomination.



January 7, 2010 - After postponing its UK and European tour dates originally set for November/December 2009, and then rescheduling them for March 2010, Slayer cancels all tour dates through April due to Tom Araya's severe pain, numbness and muscle spasms that he had been suffering for months. "Right now," said the band's manager Rick Sales, "our main concern must be the full and permanent recovery of Tom, so we have decided to clear the calendar and give him the extra time he needs to concentrate on good health."



Late January, 2010 - Tom Araya undergoes surgery to deal with his ongoing neck and spine problem. After three months of healing, the procedure is proclaimed a success.

May 20, 2010 - For the second time, Slayer is the musical guest on "Jimmy Kimmel Live." For broadcast, the band performs "Hate Worldwide," and for the web-only, "World Painted Blood." Araya does not head-bang.

June 22, 2010 - Slayer, along with Metallica, Megadeth and Anthrax - The Big Four - perform together for the first time ever at the Sonisphere Festival in Sofia, Bulgaria. Portions of the bands' sets were aired in more than 1000 theatres worldwide on the same day. The Big Four played at a total of seven Sonisphere Festivals. • Slayer's "Pinball Rocks," an app for the iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch, is released through iTunes.

July 23 - 30, 2010 - Slayer co-headlines the Canadian Carnage tour with Megadeth, performing its *Seasons In The Abyss* album in its entirety.

August 10, 2010 - Slayer makes its debut performance on "Late Night with Jimmy Fallon," performing "Hate Worldwide" on air, and an exclusive web performance of "Dead Skin Mask."

August 11 - September 4, 2010 - The American Carnage tour kicks off in Glens Falls, NY, with Slayer and Megadeth co-headlining.

August 17, 2010 - Slayer's live-in-concert DVDs "War at the Warfield" and "Still Reigning," are reissued, and "Live Intrusion," originally released only on video, is made available as a DVD. The three-DVD titles are also available as a special 3-pak box set.



"Slayer remains the heaviest of the Big Four of thrash metal - out-shredding Metallica, Megadeth and Anthrax - more than 30 years into their career." - L.A. Weekly



September 24 - October 21, 2010 - Slayer co-headlines (with Megadeth) the “2010 Jagermeister Fall Music Tour.” Anthrax supports, uniting the original 1991 “Clash of the Titans” tour lineup.

October 12, 2010 - *The Vinyl Conflict* high-end box set is released, with the tech publication *Tone Audio* commenting, “The Vinyl Conflict’ takes its unique place as the hands-down best-sounding metal package ever produced.”

November 26, 2010 - For “Black Friday,” Slayer releases a special limited-edition, red vinyl 7-inch single, “Atrocity Vendor” exclusively through Metal Club, the North American indie store consortium.

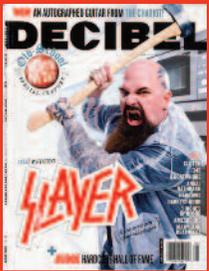
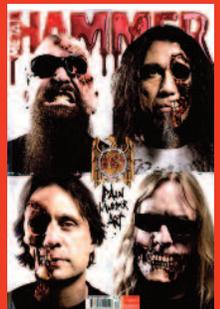
Written by Kerry King, the previously unreleased track was recorded during the 2009 *World Painted Blood* sessions. The 7-inch also featured the album’s title track.



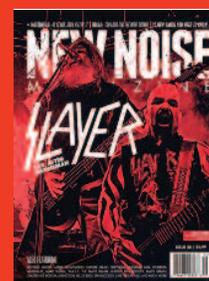
December 1, 2010 - Slayer receives its fifth Grammy Nomination - “Best Metal Performance” for the track “World Painted Blood.”

January, 2011 - Jeff is bitten by some sort of an insect, doctors diagnosed necrotizing soft tissue fasciitis, indicating it is likely rooted in an spider bite. He undergoes surgery on his right arm. Slayer is set to tour Australia, and brings on guitarist Gary Holt to fill in for Jeff. “Jeff’s totally on board with this decision,” said King, “so we will tour as planned. At this point, we can’t pinpoint exactly what day he’ll be back, but he’ll be back as soon as he possibly can. And we don’t wait for him to get his ass back out on the road.”

April 23, 2011 - The Big Four plays Southern California at the Empire Polo Club in Indio, the site of the Coachella Music Festival. Jeff Hanneman, who had not performed with the band since the last date on the Jagermeister Fall Music tour, October 21, Gibson Amphitheatre, Hollywood, defiantly cut the sleeve off his shirt to reveal the scarring from his spider bite-related surgeries and joined the band onstage for the two encore songs, “South of Heaven” and “Angel of Death,” marking what was his final performance with the band.



September 14, 2011 - The Big Four play to some 50,000 fans over a six-hour period at their second-ever U.S. concert held at Yankee Stadium in New York City. Gary Holt fills in for still-recuperating Hanneman. According to the *Village Voice*, “The whole set was a blur of roars and blastbeats, and by the time they’d reached ‘Angel of Death,’ it was hard to not be gloriously spent.”



October 31, 2011 - Thirty years ago this day, Slayer played its first date together at the Southgate Park Auditorium in Huntington Park, CA

February 23, 2013 - After many months of unresolved negotiations, Dave Lombardo ceases communication with the band and fails to confirm travel arrangements for Slayer's upcoming Australian tour. At the last minute, John Dette is asked to sit in on drums for the dates, and upon Slayer's return to the U.S., Tom, Kerry and Jeff decide not to renew Lombardo's employment contract.

May, 2013 - Paul Bostaph rejoins Slayer. "We spent a very intense ten years of our lives together, had a lot of fun, made a lot of great music, so for me, this feels like coming home."

May 2, 2013 - At 11AM PT near his Southern California home, 49-year-old Jeff Hanneman passes away from liver failure.

"Tonight one less star will be shining and sadly, the stage got just a little bit darker." -- Dave Mustaine • "RIP Jeff Hanneman. One of the greatest songwriters in all of metal let alone music." -- Machine Head • "RIP brother, you will be missed." -- Zakk Wylde • "Sad to hear of Jeff Hanneman's passing. R.I.P." -- Geezer Butler • "RIP Jeff Hanneman." -- Metallica • "Brutal news about Jeff. Like a punch in the gut." -- Scott Ian

May 23, 2013 - The Memorial Ceremony for Jeff was held at the Hollywood Palladium. Open to the public, some four thousand people attended. Fans starting to arrive as early as 6AM to insure entry and a good spot, and the lines went completely around the venue. The event was hosted by Nick Bowcott, and guest speakers included Brian Slagel of Metal Blade Records, Dino Paredes of American Recordings, Slayer's long-time manager Rick Sales, Robert Trujillo of Metallica, System of a Down's Shavo Odadjian, and bandmate Kerry King. Some of those paying their respects included Slayer's Paul Bostaph, Gene Hoglan (Dethklok, Testament), Chuck Billy (Testament), Gary Holt (Slayer, Exodus), Dave Navarro, John Tempesta (The Cult), Robb Flynn (Machine Head), John 5, Alexi Laiho (Children of Bodom, Mark Heylman (Suicide Silence), and more.



Dan Kenny, Robb Flynn



John Tempesta, Rob Holliday



Kerry King



Gary Holt, Logan Mader, Shavo Odadjian



Jeff's guitars, Marshall speakers and amps, and other tributes

Decibel and *Guitar World* publish special tribute issues 📖

October 28 and November 27, 2013 - Slayer plays two venues it hasn't played in 25 years - the Hollywood Palladium and New York's Theatre at Madison Garden.

March, 2014 - Slayer goes into the studio with producer Terry Date and records the track "Implode," offered as a free download on April 24. This marks the first Slayer track to be released by Nuclear Blast, closing out a 28-year relationship with Rick Rubin and American Recordings.

September, 2014 - January, 2015 - Slayer, with producer Terry Date, record on-and-off at Los Angeles's Henson Studios.

June 26 - August 2, 2015 - Slayer headlines the summer's Mayhem Festival.



"Mayhem Festival is Slayer's child. They're the biggest band out there and it shows. When the guys took the stage there wasn't a single seated person in the stadium. They asked for horns in the air, and they got them. If you're a metal fan and you haven't witnessed/participated in a Slayer chant, you haven't lived." — FuseTV

August 5, 2015 - Slayer officially becomes an American institution: The Smithsonian Institute releases “Slayer and the Origins of Thrash,” a mini-documentary on Slayer as part of its “Places of Musical Innovation” exhibit at its National Museum of History.

August 27, 2015 - With *Rolling Stone* on hand to document the day, Slayer shoots the music video for the track “Repentless” at east L.A.’s Sybil Brand women’s prison . The video was directed by B.J. McDonnell and featured cameos by some of the most iconic horror genre film actors, including Tony Moran, Danny Trejo..... The video logged more than six-million views by the end of the year.



Slayer with some of the video’s cast and crew: Gary Holt, Kerry King, Tony Moran, Jason Trost, director B.J. McDonnell, Tom Araya, Danny Trejo, Paul Bostaph, producer Felissa Rose



Prisoners riot while Slayer performs “Repentless”

September 11, 2015 - *Repentless*, Slayer’s 12th studio album, is released. The album marks the band’s career-highest debut (#4 on *Billboard’s* Top 200 Albums charts, debuted in the Top Ten in 25 countries, and was the #2 best-selling album of the week (United World Chart).

“It’s thrash redefined; upgraded and reborn. The songs sound as if they were written by a much younger Slayer. Repentless is a return to the essence of who Slayer is.” – Houston Press

“...stark; speedy; ferocious...’Repentless’ is conclusive proof that there will be life for Slayer after death.” – Q

“Slayer are as brutal as ever. In fact; this album is probably a return to the more punk thrash bite of 2001’s ‘God Hate Us All’ or maybe even bits of ‘South of Heaven.’” – Wall of Sound (Australia)

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