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**Basic Background Info on Slayer, Primus, Ministry and Philip H. Anselmo & The Illegals**

**ABOUT SLAYER -**[**www.slayer.net**](http://www.slayer.net/)

In January 2018, thrash titans SLAYER devastated metalheads across the globe announcing they were calling it a day, along with a mammoth final world tour.  After 37 years, 12 studio releases, five Grammy nominations and two wins, an abundance of Gold albums and "Best..." awards from media outlets all over the world, including *Kerrang*!, *SPIN*, *Metal Hammer*, *Revolver*, *Loudwire* and *Esquire*, 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.  Even among peers of that quality, Slayer still proudly stands alone and remains one of the most influential bands in heavy metal history. With Tom Araya’s unmistakable vocals, Paul Bostaph’s hostile drums, Kerry King and Gary Holt's slaughtering guitar riffs, and nasty as fuck lyrics, Slayer continues to whip its fans into anarchistic, antichrist-fueled frenzies unmatched by any other act on the planet.

Throughout Slayer's history, the band has never faltered in unleashing its extreme and focused sonic assault, and Slayer has remained crushing and brutal, steadfastly refusing to cater to the mainstream.  Slayer's founding member, guitarist Jeff Hanneman passed in 2013, and Exodus guitarist Gary Holt has been filling in for him since.  Paul Bostaph, who was Slayer's drummer from '94 - '01, rejoined bassist/vocalist Tom Araya and guitarist Kerry King in 2013, and is back behind the kit to the very last show.

In January 2018, Slayer announced they were calling it a day and would be doing one final world tour to thank its fans for their support over the years.  Launched on May 10, 2018, by the time the 18-month tour wraps on November 30, 2019, Slayer will have said goodbye to fans in 30 countries around the world and in 40 U.S. states. All Hail Slayer.

**ABOUT PRIMUS - http://www.primusville.com**

Taking inspiration from a wide range of influences is part of what made Primus one of the most distinctive, innovative bands to come out of the 1990s. The trio’s alt/punk/avant-garde/psychedelic/country attack, along with Les Claypool's surreal, fever-dream lyrics, resulted in some of rock’s unlikeliest hits, including "Tommy the Cat," "Jerry Was A Race Car Driver," and "Wynona's Big Brown Beaver". Starting as an underground phenomenon in San Francisco, the band’s cult grew rapidly with now classic albums such as *Sailing the Seas of Cheese* (1991), *Pork Soda* (1993), and *Tales from the Punch Bowl* (1995) all reaching gold status. Over the course of multiple decades Primus has toured with some of rock's biggest names including U2, Jane's Addiction, Public Enemy, Rush, and many more. They've headlined the third Lollapalooza and maintained being a global music festival staple with notable appearances including Woodstock, Bonnaroo, Big Day Out, and Hellfest to name a few.

**ABOUT MINISTRY - http://ministryband.com**

Born in 1981 in Chicago, Ministry has been the lifetime passion project of founder Al Jourgensen, considered to be the pioneer of industrial music. In its early days, Ministry was identifiable by its heavy synth-pop material in line with the new sounds and technology that were being developed in the ‘80s. Ministry’s output began with four 12” singles on Wax Trax! Records in 1981 before the first LP *With Sympathy* in 1983 via Arista Records. As time progressed however, so did Ministry, quickly developing a harsher, and more stylized sound that the band soon became infamous for on seminal albums *Twitch* (1986), *The Land of Rape and Honey* (1988), and *The Mind Is A Terrible Thing To Taste* (1989). With the release of *Psalm 69: The Way to Succeed and The Way to Suck Eggs* (1992), Ministry hit an all time high in the mainstream musical realm and received its first Grammy nomination. In total, Ministry has been nominated for a Grammy award six times. After an indefinite hiatus in 2013, Ministry’s latest album, 2018’s *AmeriKKKant*, continues to reflect Jourgensen’s views on the frightening state of society and politics. With the latest lineup featuring Sin Quirin and Cesar Soto on guitars, John Bechdel on keys, Derek Abrams on drums and the newly appointed Paul D’Amour on bass, Ministry continues touring in 2019 with new music and a few more surprises planned.

The latest studio album, *The Desaturating Seven*, released in late 2017 on ATO Records, marks the return of the definitive Primus line-up: Claypool, guitarist Larry “Ler” LaLonde, and drummer Tim “Herb” Alexander — for its first album of original music since 1995.

**ABOUT PHILIP H. ANSELMO - http://philanselmo.com**

Philip H. Anselmo hasn’t just paved his own path; he’s bulldozed it. From Pantera, Down, and Superjoint to Scour, En Minor, and so many other projects past, present and future, Anselmo’s well of creativity runs deep. However, Anselmoand his bandmates in The Illegals open up another doorway altogether with their most recent release, 2018’s *Choosing Mental Illness As A Virtue*, available through the vocalist’s own Housecore Records. Extreme, abrasive, aggressive, and anthemic, the record hinges on no holds-barred lyrical misanthropy and insurgent instrumental intricacy as it sharpens any and all edges to guillotine precision.

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