

INFERNO

METAL FESTIVAL NORWAY

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1-4. APRIL 2015: 15 YEARS INFERNO ANNIVERSARY

FIRST FIVE BANDS READY FOR INFERNO METAL FESTIVAL 2015

It is with great pride that we present the first five bands for Inferno Metal Festival 2015! Next year marks our 15th year and it will of course be celebrated in grand style. From April 1st to 4th we stage our biggest year ever with new stages for the club night and a look back at some of the favorites that have appeared on Inferno through 15 years. We are thereby the oldest and biggest metal festival in Norway and one of Europe's most important festivals for extreme metal. And not least, we have worked all these years to promote Norwegian metal and is a key stage for Norwegian artists. We are looking forward to welcome guests from far and near and together we will make Inferno Metal Festival 2015 something special. We know the artists are amazing and we give you: BEHEMOTH, ENSLAVED, MY DYING BRIDE, SEPTICFLESH and ANTICHRIST!

BEHEMOTH



The Polish death metal legends in Behemoth are ready for Inferno Metal Festival 2015! The band performed at Inferno on our second edition in 2002, and we are proud to have them back with us. Since then the band has grown to a giant and is today probably the most famous metal band from Eastern Europe. The band has never been lazy and constantly releases great albums. Most recently this year with the awesome "The Satanist". The band is tighter than ever and this is definitely going to be a gig for the ages.

www.behemoth.pl

ENSLAVED



Enslaved headlined Inferno at our very first year in 2001 and are now headlining again 15 years later. Enslaved started out in 1991 and has since then released a series of albums and is considered today as one of the major Norwegian metal bands. The band has been an important part of the Inferno's very start when they headlined our first year in 2001. Much has happened since then and the band has moved in a more progressive direction and all albums are loved by both critics and fans. The band now has 12 full-length albums in their back catalog and have more than enough material to select from when they finally are back at the Inferno Metal Festival. Read about Enslaved's own thoughts how it's going to be to play at Inferno again in the interview at the bottom.

www.enslaved.no

MY DYING BRIDE



When My Dying Bride started in the early 90's there was not a band on this earth that sounded gloomier than the English doom metal kings. In 2004, the band created magic at Inferno Metal

Festival with their dark music and the gig stands as a pole in Inferno's history. The band has only gotten better in the decade that has passed just like fine wine and is now back at Inferno Metal Festival 2015 stronger than ever.

www.mydyingbride.net

SEPTICFLESH



Greek Septicflesh started way back in 1990 and in 2009 they show us what they were good for to a critical Inferno public. They came, they played and they won - thus fitting that they visit us during the Inferno Metal Festival 2015! They have recently released one of their most impressive work, "Titan", which has received excellent reviews worldwide. Their concert at Inferno Metal Festival 2015 will be just as good – if not better!

www.septicflesh.com

ANTICHRIST



At Inferno the audience has always had the chance to discover smaller bands before they got big. And if you haven't discovered Antichrist yet – you must do it at Inferno Metal Festival 2015. This is black thrash at its very best and the Swedes are now ready to destroy at Inferno Metal Festival 2015! The band released their debut album "Forbidden World" in 2011 and it still kicks ass. Something the band is going to do during their Inferno concert. Fans of artists like Deathhammer, Nekromantheon and Nifelheim should definitely check out Antichrist. This is music that leads to steep bottle drinking and neck pain for days. Metal attack!

www.militiaofdeath.com

TICKETS:

4 days festival pass (including club night) 1500,- nok. (including ticket fee)

<http://www.billettservice.no/event/435491>

3 days festival pass (including club night) 1250,- nok. (including ticket fee)

<http://www.billettservice.no/event/435501>

Tickets available at Billettservice (<http://www.billettservice.no/>). Phone: +47 81533133

<http://www.infernofestival.net> / <http://www.facebook.com/InfernoMetalFestival>

ENSLAVED – HEADLINING AFTER 15 YEARS

It is now almost 15 years since you headlined the first Inferno Festival in 2001. You've done many albums, festivals and concerts since then, including the fact that you played at Inferno in 2004. And now you'll play again in 2015. What do you recall of the first festival in 2001, and how was it to play back then? I remember it was smoky (hah, three years before the smoking ban) ... Grutle remember the gig well!

- It's the first and only time we've had flame throwing on stage! We got a good friend of ours that has been doing much of that kind of stuff, so he was blowing flames during the intro of the song "Ormgard". He was standing right next to me, and with the big mouth that he has, he could pour insanely much gasoline in his mouth. It was hot as hell, and if he'd been 20 cm closer to me my hair would've burnt! Another memory is that Roy, our guitarist at the time, used crutches. It was the result of him, which is something that probably VERY few others could have done, managing to end up in a wheelchair after a rehearsal. Those days were rough in the Enslaved camp. It may have not been as glamorous as throwing a TV out of the hotel window, but definitely something unusual.

Enslaved has played a lot of live shows and travelled around the world with the band and crew. What have you learnt from this, that you can bring with you and use at the next concert? It happens that you go on stage just doing a job, while other times everything feels right and it gives you the great extra, Grutle?

- Here we strive to live a little after Bon Scott's philosophy. Every gig counts equally, and each gig will be performed as if we were doing a giant stadium gig. It is of course not always easy, but as long as that attitude is in your mind and in the spinal cord, you can strive to achieve it. It is often also so much better to play in front of 300 enthusiastic fans in a sweaty venue than it is to play in front of 15.000 people at a festival. It is ultimately about creating a sort of symbiosis between the band and the audience, that we all go in the same direction. When it works it's really cool to play live!

I've probably asked you this before, but what is the difference for you guys to play at a festival, be it Wacken and Inferno vs. to play a headlining gig, as you did in Drammen on 22th of September 2010, an outstanding concert... And Enslaved has also done special things like playing at Henie Onstad Art Centre in 2011, where every other song was a cover... Sparkling, Ivar?



- Cool that you enjoy the madness! The difference can best be described as energies at different speeds. At a club gig - such as that mentioned great evening in Drammen - the energy exchange and intimacy is there right from the start. To us in the band and those who know us well this can happen even some time before it becomes apparent "outside". That's why we can make a concert Monday night in a godforsaken dump on the way between an American and a Canadian city, with 104 grumpy people; and end up with heels in the ceiling and all teeth nailed in an upside down cross pattern on the wall when we get to the extra numbers. A festival is a different shape and dimension of the energy waves, and when you get comfortable with the big, tough exchanges between stage and audience, it doesn't matter how big or small the festival is. When we become more and more ourselves it is easier to be in more and more different and challenging situations. And to do those totally weird things, like the one you mentioned, is to go even deeper into our own identity. Not everything is as successful but it gives us a better understanding of this project of life we call "Enslaved".

Inferno Metal Festival takes place in Norway. Happy Easter. One thing I wonder about is how do people react to the different songs around the world? Is it like everyone scream when you play "ISA", while people Mexico go crazy when they hear "Allfáðr Oðinn", while here in Norway people don't care about that one since so few may know the song? It is not that simple, according to Grutle.

- Well, the stuff where there is sometimes a bit tricky! You mentioned renditions in place, and after the already mentioned Henie Onstad appearance we continued some time after to play "Immigrant Song" by Led Zeppelin. On our own headlining tour in the United States, it worked really well (we even had Tony Harnell on vocals in NYC), while certain places in Europe it did not catch on at all. We played some gigs together with Cannibal Corpse, and that audience really disliked the 70s rock... he he.

When it comes to our own songs, then "ISA" was a sure winner and something for the encore. It's a song people remember and want to hear, a bit like Motörhead and "Ace of Spades" to pull a weird comparison. It works pretty much everywhere, along with "As Fire Swept Clean the Earth", "Ethica Odini", "Allfáðr Oðinn" and "Slaget I Skogen Bortenfor". When it comes to us Norwegians and what we don't care for I do not think this is the right forum to explain that. It's more for a thesis for professors.

You have so many songs to choose from and I hope it becomes a sort of retrospective of your albums (like one song from each album), but there is hardly enough time to do that (if you take only the longest songs, hah). What can we expect, Ivar? And can you give some hints if the Inferno show will have something extra during the evening you will be playing?

- Well, we haven't come that far in the planning - a new album will be done before we play Inferno - but it's not a bad idea at all. Obviously a bit smaller within time frames. It is after all a 15-year anniversary for the festival and we played on the first edition. These kind of anniversaries must be celebrated with something special.

Quite briefly, what happens in the rest of the Enslaved camp these days? A few years have passed "RIITIIR" was released, so there might be something new going on? Ivar informs.

- Sure thing. We enter the studio in mid-September and work a few months with it before we release the album early next year; in any case well before Inferno 2015. Prior to that we will deliver a special show at Eidsvoll in connection with the constitution anniversary (September 13th) and make a last concert based on the "RIITIIR" album in Bergen! Then we just go into merciless rehearsals for Inferno Metal Festival 2015!

Interview by Roy K. K. Bakland.

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