

When **THANATOS** emerged in the metal scene of the early 80's of the previous century, 'metalheads' were still more or less seen as outcasts. Both the fans and the music itself were raw, unpolished and there was a huge 'us against the world' feeling. We were at war with the establishment, organised religion and disco. The latter turned out to be the least dangerous enemy, but hey, we're talking about the eighties, right?!

The current metal scene has lost a lot of its rough edges. A lot of bands have adopted a polished, plastic sound and a somewhat happy, politically correct attitude. Thank god, or rather Satan, for bands that still choose to go against the grain, stir up some controversy and never let go of the 'us against the world/fuck the mainstream!' attitude. Bands like **THANATOS**...an illustrious name that has been haunting the Underground Metal scene since 1984.

After several demo tapes and line-up changes, Thanatos released two classic Death/Thrash Metal albums in the early 1990's via the notorious Shark Records: '*Emerging From The Netherworlds*' and '*Realm Of Ecstasy*'. The band shared the stage with the likes of Kreator, Sepultura, Death, Napalm Death, Bolt Thrower, Autopsy and Death Angel to name but a few. In 1992 Thanatos split up due to a variety of reasons but was revived in 1999 by founding member Stephan Gebédi featuring a new line-up. The third Thanatos album, '*Angelic Encounters*', was released in 2000 via Hammerheart Records.

In 2002 the band recorded four new songs and two cover songs in a small 8-track studio to attract some interest from record companies. Baphomet Records/Red Stream released these recordings as the 'Beyond Terror' Mini CD.

In 2003 Thanatos signed a recording deal with Greek label Black Lotus Records, resulting in the release of '*Undead. Unholy. Divine.*' in 2004. This album was mastered by Attie Bauw, the man responsible for mixing Judas Priest's classic 'Painkiller' album amongst others.

At the end of 2006 Stephan formed **Hail of Bullets** which grew into the monster that none of us had expected. Guitarist Paul also joined the reformed **Asphyx** and drummer Yuri and bass player Marco joined **Melechesh**. In the years that followed, all band members were extremely busy with their other bands/projects, but in 2009, a quarter of a century after the band's first incarnation, '*Justified Genocide*' was finally released by Dutch label Deity Down Records.

In 2012 Thanatos signed a deal with the mighty Century Media Records to re-release their complete back catalogue and in April 2013 Century Media offered the band a multiple album deal.

To coincide with the band's 30th anniversary in 2014, Thanatos released their 6th full length studio album upon mankind. Produced by the band themselves and mixed and mastered by Dan Swanö, '*Global Purification*' saw the band outdoing themselves in terms of power and sheer aggression. '*Global Purification*' combines elements of aggressive Thrash Metal and old school Death Metal and takes you back to the days when Metal was about breaking rules and boundaries instead of creating them...

In 2017 long time drummer Yuri Rinkel called it quits and he was replaced by Martin Ooms (ex-**Liar Of Golgotha** and ex-**Melechesh**)

2019 marks the band's 35th anniversary! Instead of slowing down, the band is currently writing new material and is eager to start recording their next album later this year.

Thanatos



Discography

Emerging From The Netherworlds 1990
Realm Of Ecstasy 1992
Angelic Encounters 2000
Beyond Terror (MCD) 2002
Undead. Unholy. Divine. 2004
The Burning of Sodom/And Jesus Wept (7 inch) 2006
Justified Genocide 2009
Official Live Tape 1987 2011
Imperial Anthems: Asphyx vs. Thanatos (7 inch split) 2011
Global Purification 2014

Internet/Social Media

www.thanatos.info
www.facebook.com/thanatos333
www.youtube.com/thanatos616

Line-up

Stephan Gebédi – Vocals / Guitar
Paul Baayens - Guitar
Marco de Bruin - Bass
Martin Ooms – Drums

