



# VOIVOD

**Brand new studio album 'Voivod' released March 3rd on Surfdog/Chophouse Records thru Cargo.**

Denis Belanger - aka Snake - Voice  
Denis D'Amour - aka Piggy - Guitar  
Jason Newsted - aka Jasonic - Bass  
Michael Langevan - aka Away - Drums

"I guess, over the years at different times, it was always a secret, true aspiration to be the bass player of Voivod. We've talked somewhat seriously about this actually happening since 1995. I also feel strongly about my hard-earned ability to bring some long deserved recognition to these brilliant musicians, whom I've looked up to since the early days of this music that the four of us helped to invent. I'm not starting over again... I'm just continuing. A positive rebirth has occurred for me in the case of joining Voivod. It is a new beginning for all four of us." Jason Newsted, November 2002.

Voivod's 2003 line-up is the strongest yet. Core members Away (Michel Langevin, drums) and Piggy (Denis D'Amour, guitar) have reunited with original vocalist Snake (Denis Belanger), recruited longtime friend/noise conspirator Jasonic (Jason Newsted, Bass), and recorded *Voivod*, their stunning, 13th full-length album, set for release on Newsted's Surfdog / Chophouse Records label, distributed by Cargo, on March 3rd 2003.

Formed in Canada in 1982, Voivod began by cranking out Venom, Motörhead, Tank and Judas Priest covers, but it didn't take long for them to attract worldwide attention for their own, highly unconventional, avant garde, Thrash Metal songs.

By 1984, the quartet of Away, Piggy, Snake and original bassist Blacky had been introduced to the world on Metal Blade's *Metal Massacre* compilation series. Their first album, *War And Pain*, followed later that year and brought the band to global notoriety thanks to its frightening amalgam of ugly noise and youthful spontaneity. Capitalizing on the debut's most chaotic aspects, 1986's *Rrrööaaarrr* offered diseased clusters of thrashing, headache-inducing neo-industrial warheads.

The band's unique vision came crashing headlong into 1987 with their first truly progressive album, *Killing Technology*. Boasting a spacier yet no less teeth-rattling adventure, *K.T.* remains a high point in the band's discography. The album's technical noise-metal epics like "Forgotten In Space" and "Overreaction" merely hinted at what was to come on 1988's *Dimension: Hatross*, which remains one of the most innovative albums in the metal genre and saw Voivod assume the role of pioneers in the metal firmament.

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1989's *Nothingface* capitalized on the lab-borne science-metal of *Hatross* while injecting a heightened sense of accessibility. A landmark tour with Soundgarden and Faith No More brought the band roaring into the '90s.

Voivod's cosmic drama continued with *Angel Rat* (1991) and *The Outer Limits* (1993), and more than ever influences such as progressive rock were taking hold of song construction and twisting the band's narratives into new and brilliant shapes.

Blacky left after *Angel Rat* and Snake exited after *The Outer Limits*, and then Voivod, with new recruit bassist/vocalist Eric Forrest, unleashed a ferocious album in 1995's *Negatron*. The trio continued this hard-hitting space-metal vibe while easing the pace and offering huge slabs of hypnotic sound on *Phobos* (1997). Following that were a bits-and-pieces release (*Kronik*, 1999) and a live album (*Voivod Lives*, 2000).

The musical seeds between Voivod and Jason Newsted were laid in the early '90s, when Away, Piggy and Jasonic wrote some songs together under the banner of TARRAT. (*Phobos*' "M-Body" evolved from those sessions.) Away explains that "We kept jamming with Jason through the years because we really get along, musically and spiritually. It was bound to happen that he would be part of Voivod eventually. You can really feel the excitement on the album. Everybody has something to prove."

Voivod's latest, 13-song monster, simply titled *Voivod*, carries on the tradition of moving metal forward into new dimensions. *Voivod* rips and roars throughout its 60-minute duration. No filler, no dumbing down, no bullshit. Jason: "We know what this band has to offer, the longtime fans and friends know what this band is about, and now we're going to show VOIVOD to the rest of the world! That's the name of the band, that's the name of the album."

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