



For more than 25 years, Death Metal has been the most maniacal and vicious form of rock. Covering the obscene and praising the perverse, extreme Death Metal still reigns as the driving force that continues to devour all other forms of hard rock. As each year passes in this brutal movement, it becomes increasingly difficult to find suitable leaders to carry the torch and continue to entice and surprise an audience that certainly isn't shocked or impressed by much. That search has ended. Allow us to introduce **CARNIFEX**.

Derived from the Old English word for "executioner," their moniker could not be more appropriate. It's a word that reeks of death and destruction from the Dark Ages to describe a fiercely morbid death metal band. It's hard to imagine that San Diego - known for its white sand beaches, endless sunny days and astronomical real estate - is also home to the brutal beat down that is **CARNIFEX**.

In 2005, vocalist Scott Lewis had a chance meeting with like-minded, gifted drummer Shawn Cameron. Having both played in a countless number of bands over the years that just didn't "seem to fit," the connection between the two was felt instantly. Together, they began a search to fill the musical void that had existed in each of their lives. They quickly formed a group and hit the road. **CARNIFEX**, being the serious-minded musicians that they are, hit the road hard. Refusing to be another "here today, gone tomorrow" trend, **CARNIFEX** let nothing stop them from perfecting their live show, touring relentlessly, and writing brainsick, yet intelligent, songs. Having endured everything from tour cancellations, van breakdowns and inevitable line-up changes, that "magical fit" was solidified by the end of 2007. Scott and Shawn were complemented by the intensity of guitarists Cory Arford and Ryan Gudmunds. Bassist Fred Calderon rounded out the furious fivesome.

The non-stop touring and methodical songwriting eventually resulted in **CARNIFEX** selling over 5,000 copies of their first full-length album, *Dead in My Arms*, with little publicity. Not surprisingly, industry types started to notice; however, none as quickly as Victory Records. The men of **CARNIFEX** were welcomed to the Victory family almost immediately after they showcased their brilliance to the staff in November 2007. Having spent a lot of time writing during the previous year, **CARNIFEX** was primed to get into the studio to begin the masterpiece that is *The Diseased and the Poisoned*. Zeuss (Unearth, Shadows Fall, Hatebreed) at Planet Z Studios was a natural choice for producer, and they entered the studio rapidly and intently.

CARNIFEX is something musically unique. What really makes **CARNIFEX** stand out from the throngs of other hard rock acts currently scouring the planet are their savage live performances. Their declaration to make every night an "experience" for fans rather than just a "show" has proven to be the most appreciated trait of the band among fans. But you can keep your pyrotechnics and other special effects at home. . . **CARNIFEX** relies solely on the power of their music. "Every night, we strive to play extremely tight. Sometimes it can be difficult to make such an intense show so interactive, but we make sure that everyone is getting involved," says Lewis.

In 2008, **CARNIFEX** proudly delivered their first Victory album to the metal masses. Intriguing and armed to the teeth with an arsenal of blast beats, machine gun riffs and vocals exorcised from the deepest pits of hell, *The Diseased and the Poisoned* is the soundtrack to your worst nightmare. Having sold 25,000 copies in the U.S. alone, this record was a huge success, solidifying their spot in the American Death Metal realm.

On February 16th, **CARNIFEX** will debut the highly anticipated *Hell Chose Me*, taking a darker and more blasphemous approach to their already visceral sound. Musical growth and a higher level of aggression coupled with themes of despair and isolation make for an abrasive new record. Blood curdling screams, guttural growls, bottom heavy baselines, and razor-sharp guitar riffs make for dark and brutal work.

Fresh off the European Bonecrusher Fest with The Black Dahlia Murder and 3 Inches Of Blood, the band plans to tour extensively in 2010. In March and April 2010, **CARNIFEX** will participate in the Atticus Metal Tour with Unearth, Stick To Your Guns, Veil Of Maya, and The Ghost Inside then headline a U.S. tour.

CARNIFEX is
 SCOTT LEWIS - Vokills // FRED CALDERON - Bass
 CORY ARFORD - Guitar // RYAN GUDMUNDS - Guitar
 SHAWN CAMERON - Drums



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