



Megadeth in the Studio for *Endgame*'s Follow-up

DAVE MUSTAINE SAYS NEW TRACKS ARE "FASTER, HEAVIER AND MORE PISSED OFF" By Jon Wiederhorn

▶ WHEN MEGADETH RELEASED *Endgame*, their 12th album, in 2009, critics and fans praised it as the band's heaviest, most well-crafted disc since 1990's *Rust in Peace*. At the time, frontman Dave Mustaine agreed. But that was before all the pieces were in place for the band's as-yet-untitled follow-up.

"*Endgame* was as good a record as I could have made at the time, but the new songs feel even more on point," he says after a long day in his studio, Vic's Garage, where Megadeth are recording with producer Johnny K (*Disturbed*, *Machine Head*). "The new stuff is faster, heavier and more pissed off, and it seems like something that has been missing from our music for a long time. We just did a track that's heavier than anything off *Endgame*. It's almost as fast as '(Good Mourning) Black Friday' [from *Peace Sells... But Who's Buying?*]."

The reason is partly because Mustaine wrote some of the songs on the new album back in the Eighties. But it's also because the disc will be

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the first Megadeth album in 12 years to feature bassist and band cofounder David Ellefson, who rejoined in February 2010. "Having David back is such a rush," Mustaine says. "He must have worked his butt off when we were apart, because he plays better now than ever. And he was great before!" [See Ellefson's *Mega Bass* column in this issue.]

The forthcoming album will mark ex-Nevermore guitarist Chris Broderick's second studio appearance with the band. Broderick replaced Glen Drover in 2008 and has become fully integrated in the Megadeth lineup. "For him, playing with Megadeth is what flying is like for a bird," Mustaine says. "On the new album, he gets to do a lot of the flavorful parts and melody lines, and I'm focusing more on the difficult rhythms, because I'm a better rhythm guitarist than I am a lead guitarist."

The new album should be finished by the time Megadeth play this summer's Rockstar Mayhem Festival. On September 14, they'll perform at the second U.S. Big 4 thrash festival with Metallica, Slayer and Anthrax. The gig will take place at Yankee Stadium in New York. "I just wish it was the original Yankee Stadium [which was torn down in 2010]," Mustaine says. "But it certainly is rewarding to be nearing the end of my professional career and not be playing Waffle Houses."

What's on My iPod?



PLAYLIST



JEFF JAMES
OF EGYPT CENTRAL

1

"Bridge Burning"
Foo Fighters

"It's the first track off their latest album, *Wasting Light*. I love the tones on this song."

2

"The Cave"
Mumford & Sons

"Not a lot of bands out there use banjos. I dig it."

3

"Love Is Dead"
Koepke

"They're an awesome band from Ireland. It's a great record, with awesome guitar tones."

4

"Time"
Pink Floyd

"This song is the reason I started playing guitar."

5

"Know Your Enemy"
Rage Against the Machine

"Hands down, my favorite riff ever."