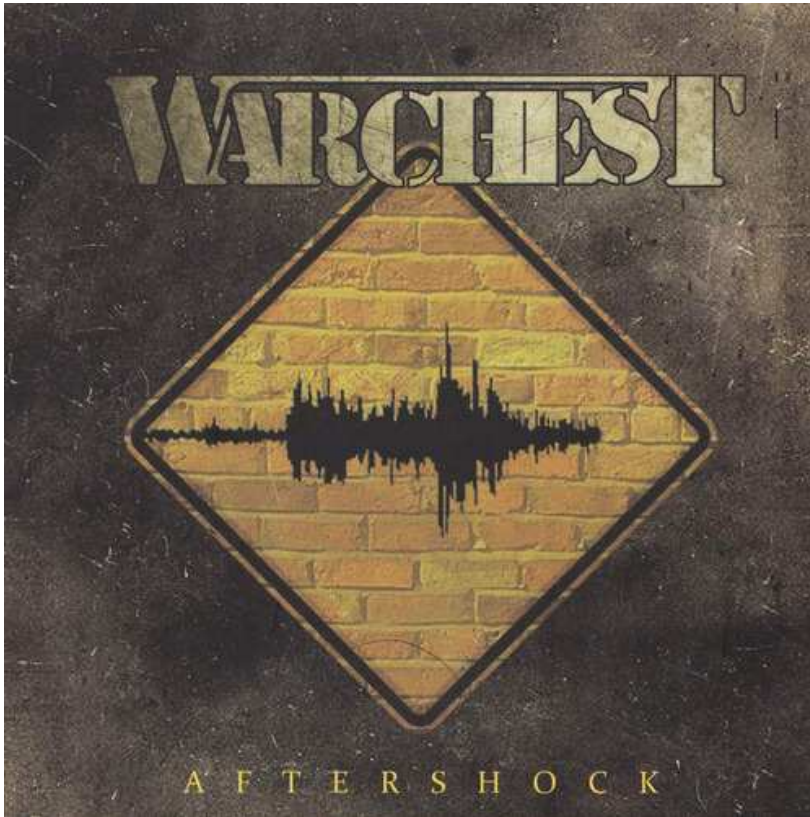


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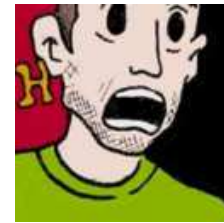
The Impaler Speaks

Warchest - Aftershock



Warchest – Aftershock (MVD Audio)

Many have been talking about the rebirth of thrash metal over the past few years, but most of the conversation revolves around American and British acts that, largely, simply ape aspects of the classic thrash sound without offering much in the way of originality or true respect for the tenants of the genre. Chile's Warchest, however, appear to be the real deal. 'Aftershock' kicks off with the blistering 'Fear Of The Machine', which comes off like the bastard child of Bulldozer and Sepultura, then charges straight into the Exodus-ish 'Army Of Revolution', where things really start to get interesting. And heavy. Without ripping off or even truly mimicking any of these vintage acts, Warchest runs through the gamut of Bay Area heaviness (from Heathen to Sodus and back again) with a unique style that recalls the greats of the 80s but never settles into straight-up copycat-ism. There are blast-beats aplenty, to keep the death metal crowd interested – a must for a band from South America, I'd say – but the riffs are all pure chugga-chugga thrash, the solos scream in all the right ways, and the vocals are melodic in the way that Chuck Billy's vocals are melodic – which is to say that they bore straight through your skull while inexplicably leaving you humming melodies that you may have overlooked while banging your head furiously to the jackhammer tempos of the drums and guitars. True fans of old-school thrash will find 'Aftershock' a welcome addition to their collection in every way, from the somewhat muted production values to the pacing of the album – yes, there is a Testament-ish 'ballad'; yes, there is a just-under-one-minute clean-guitar interlude; yes, there is a single two-minute explosion of fury to offset the eight roughly-five-minute tracks that constitute the gist of things here – and if any of that sounds in any way like a less-than-glowing review to you, let me be the one to break it to you: you don't know thrash. 'Aftershock'. Yes, please. **The Impaler** [@impalerspeaks](https://twitter.com/impalerspeaks)



The Impaler Speaks... supporting local music worldwide, from Austin TX to the United Kingdom and everywhere else. The Impaler has been a member of the Mass Movement creative team since it was a cut-n-paste fanzine many years ago. This is a way to add some depth to the coverage I am able to provide in MM, and so much more.... Support indie music. Support indie film. Support indie life.

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If you have a serious question or comment, this is the place for it.

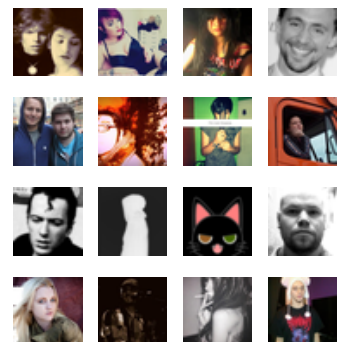
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