



## MALEVOLENT CREATION

'Envenomed II'  
'The Will To Kill'  
ARCTIC MUSIC

Artistically speaking, these two longplayers – the first the continuation of MC's short-lived reunion with original vocalist Brett Hoffman, the second featuring Hateplow howler Kyle Symons – needed a re-release about as much as Slayer's albums from the same era. So whether they're worth having really depends on where you stand. See the glass as half-full, and you'll doubtless observe that these Kreator-inspired, USDM-powered pair are punchy, crunchy and thoroughly brutal – far more faithful to the legacy Slayer left behind than 'Diabolous In Musica' or 'God Hates Us All'. But if it's your curse to perceive the half-emptiness in things, Malevolent Creation's lack of forward motion will be the first thing to strike you as you spin these consecutive releases. One almost wonders whether this band's creative development is handled by mob-dominated unions. Never deviating from a Slayer-derived lyrical blueprint – no killing is too small or too big to escape MC's notice, but unless a subject involves at least *some* kind of killing, it never seems to 'inspire' them – these two albums are thoroughly unremarkable, but if you're looking for an aggressive fix and you see them going cheap, bear in mind that 'Envenomed II' includes bonus tracks and 'The Will To Kill' includes a guest solo spot from Testament's James Murphy.

100% G! PAUL SCHWARZ

# FEAR CANDY 49

ELECTRIC WIZARD + NIFELHEIM  
ENDSTILLE + ATAVIST + HERMANO  
DEVILISH IMPRESSIONS + AMONG THE MISSING  
INNER RAGE + LAZARUS BLACKSTAR  
ADASTREIA + STRANGERS + EBOLIE + SHIPWRECK A.D.  
PULLING TEETH + WAKO + BROKEN FAITH + SOUL DESTROYER