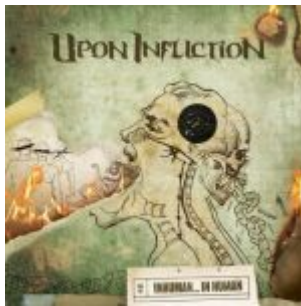


[http://gaspetc.com/Trax\\_Fall10.html](http://gaspetc.com/Trax_Fall10.html)

## UPON INFLICTION

*Inhuman...In Human*

### Arctic Music Group



Florida's Upon Infliction slay us with their second release, *Inhuman...In Human*, out now via Arctic Music Group. On this recording, the band consists of three current and/or former members of Malevolent Creation in drummer Gus Rios, Guitarist Gio Garcia and vocalist Kyle Simmons, along with guitarist Seth Ringler. These guys are no strangers to death metal, so it should come as no surprise to you that is what they deliver here.

Death metal comes in many varieties nowadays. You have you're old school, technical, and super brutal varieties, and you also have the evil that is deathcore getting in the way of good music. Upon Infliction would teeter on the edge of the old school and super brutal categories, while also visiting the technical side on occasion. "Blackout" is a great opener, with enough brutality to get things situated, some pretty good drum work, and a couple of really good guitar leads to showcase a bit of technicality. It is the second track, though, where I really started to get into this a bit more. "Morbid Obsession" starts off a bit slower, with a seemingly heavier and more brutal attack that just begs you to bang your head along with it. I always like the crazy, dive bombing whammy bar laden guitar leads, and we get one here, so it gets a horns up from me \m/. "Eternal Nightmare" is another standout track, with a bit more of a technical feel to it, and a totally vicious breakdown just after the 2:00 mark. The production here is decent, but not perfect. I find the drums to be a bit too loud in the mix, especially the cymbals and bass drums, while the guitars are sometimes a bit stifled, particularly the second guitar when they do trade-off guitar solos.

Upon first listen, I wasn't all that impressed with Upon Inflection. Then it started to grow on me, and I started noticing the different things that they stuffed into each song, and I found myself grabbing for the disc quite a bit more often. While it may not be the absolute best death metal to come out this year, it is still a pretty strong release.

**B** -Goz