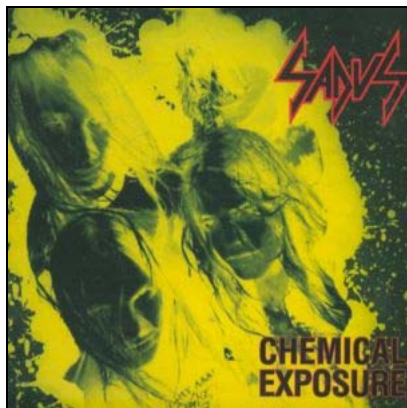


REVIEWS : ALBUMS : SADUS, "CHEMICAL EXPOSURE [REISSUE]"

**SADUS****CHEMICAL EXPOSURE [REISSUE]**METAL MIND RECORDS
2007

BAND INFORMATION

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God, this album is RIPPING. That's the only good word I can find that encompasses the whole of it.

I have always been a Sadus fan... being that Death is my favorite band, and Steve DiGiorgio's previous fame was Sadus, it was only a matter of time before I did some hunting. "A Vision Of Misery" was decent, albeit a little too technical and a little too midpaced. "Swallowed In Black" was a trash classic, and on cassette it accompanied me through many CD-player-less endeavors. "Chemical Exposure" though... absolute masterpiece.

This album is actually a reissue of Sadus's first album, "Illusions"; they changed the title to "Chemical Exposure" on its first reissue by Roadrunner. Now it has been reissued once again through Metal Mind Productions, and completely remastered with 24 bit audio quality, which probably accounts for why the production is razor sharp and thick as a brick (sorry, Jethro Tull fan here!). The booklet contains a comprehensive history of the band and the disc is colored gold all around.

I can't remember being this blown away by a thrash album in the intensity category since I first heard Kreator's "Pleasure To Kill". I can't come up with enough words for fast, so I'll just tell you that whatever you think fast means, this album should redefine it. Sure, some grind or death metal band may have higher BPM drumming or some slightly higher speed riff - but rarely does an album have the air of such a sheer tornado of sound. It's relentless in the way that hearing Slayer's "Necrophobic" and Kreator's "Ripping Corpse" for 30 minutes straight would be relentless, like getting your face dragged on the highway. The album doesn't let up for a second, with the exception of the title track, which is a 2 minute drone reminiscent of old Boris. Turn it up loud and let it rip.

Death is certainly not Steve DiGiorgio's only claim to fame, and this album is where he broke into the spotlight. He's at the forefront on this album and adds character to every song, which is rare for bassists in most metal bands. Drummer Jon Allen makes some of the fastest beats I've ever heard that weren't blast beats, and he throws some of those in there too - such as on tracks like Hands Of Fate where he rolls them out mechanically like a gatling gun. Lastly, I think albums like "A Vision Of Misery" and onward are lacking a lot of their depth due to the lack of second guitarist Rob Moore, who tears it up while Darren Travis seems to handle the slightly more technical stuff.

What more is there to say? Pick this up and get your head torn off, this is one of the pinnacles of thrash's extremity. Besides the remastered tracks from "Illusions", you have two tracks on the end from their "Death to Posers" demo which essentially sound like a faster version of old Bathory and Toxic Holocaust. If you're not a wimp, you should want this.

STANDOUT TRACKS

Certain Death
 Hands Of Fate
 Twisted Face

ERIC.S

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REVIEWED BY PETER JOHNSTON



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