



If Judas Priest define Heavy Metal, then Dethonator are Damascus Steel; metal forged true with myriad layers of influence drawn from the many stylistic paths explored by their forebears over the past half a century.

After 4 years of writing and recording, Dethonator realised their most diverse and colourful project to date: a double album named *Race Against The Sun*, released in two distinct parts. Part One was digitally released through Pavement Entertainment Inc and distributed to all streaming platforms via The Orchard Enterprises. In addition to this, the band self-released the physical edition of *Race Against The Sun: Part One*. This album features current live favourites “Nightmare City”, “Pyroclastic” and “When Lucifer Fell.”

Dethonator’s new record, ‘*Race Against The Sun: Part Two*’ brings together the worlds of classic horror and Heavy Metal. ‘*Race Against The Sun: Part Two*’ is a forty minute narrative composition based upon Bram Stoker’s gothic novel ‘*Dracula*’. With a dedication to faithfully capturing the atmosphere and tone of the original story, ‘*Race Against The Sun: Part Two*’ offers the listener Dethonator’s most dramatic music yet.

Bassist Adz explains how the album came together:

“Bram Stoker’s *Dracula* was a story that loomed large for me in childhood. I always felt that one day Dethonator would do a song based on this story; after all, Dethonator are a story telling band. During the 2015 writing sessions for the *Race Against The Sun* albums, I received the sad news of Sir Christopher Lee’s passing. In the spirit of tribute, it seemed to be the right time to make a start on our *Dracula* song. From the beginning I felt strongly that it was going to be an epic; a narrative concept piece retelling the novel with music. The writing sessions that followed were a surreal purple patch. I was writing daily, often from the early morning to past lunchtime. Sometimes I woke up having dreamed about riffs. Evenings were spent rereading the book. A weekend in Whitby was spent following in Bram’s footsteps. Evenings were spent absorbing cinematic adaptations of the story.

Recording for the albums that would become *Race Against The Sun: Parts 1 and 2* took place in 2017. It soon became apparent that Part One was much closer to completion than Part Two, so the decision was taken to split the two sides of an intended double album into two individual releases. The *Dracula* concept song would have to stand on its own. To ensure the coherency and quality of the piece, I returned to the novel once more to write the vocal and lyrics in 2019. Many hours spent sitting in a chair with a note pad and a battered book full of underlinings and annotations. It had always felt important that our musical retelling of *Dracula* should be as faithful to the original novel as possible. Almost all prominent adaptations and even some significant pieces of *Dracula* scholarship have built a labyrinth of changes, insertions and confusion around the story. Our version would give Bram Stoker his due respect. In accordance with this fidelity, the original words and tone of Stoker’s novel are well represented in the album’s lyrics.”

We hope that *Race Against The Sun: Part Two* should bring our “Race...” cycle to an end in fittingly ambitious fashion.

Dethonator are (depending on the set list)

Tris: Vocals, Guitars

Matt: Guitars

Adz: Bass, Growls, Backing vocals

Johnny Mo: Drums

H: Keyboard, Backing Vocals