

I.R.S.

BLACK SABBATH Launches Major U.S. Tour Upon the Release of Their Latest Album ***FORBIDDEN***

"There is one easy way to figure out the lasting power of Black Sabbath. There's always certain bands that get a great reaction and Black Sabbath is always one of them." says Rob Zombie of *White Zombie*.

Black Sabbath's latest release, *FORBIDDEN*, due in stores June 20th, is a "raw, crunchier, back to Sabbath roots, spontaneous approach," claims Tony Martin, Sabbath's main lyricist. "We figured it was time for a change-Sabbath can do that-and it survives by doing that."

FORBIDDEN reunites Sabbath founder Tony Iommi, and long time collaborator, vocalist Tony Martin, with drummer Cozy Powell and bassist Neil Murray. This present line-up also produced the critically acclaimed *HEADLESS CROSS* and *TYR* albums in 1989 and 1990. With producer Ernie "Body Count" C, Sabbath has delivered an album which captures the compulsive, raw power of the band at its best.

BLACK SABBATH/ Motorhead tour dates are as follows:

June	29	Toad's, New Haven, CT
July	1	Bud Light Amphitheater, Wilkes Barre, PA
	2	Nautica Stage, Cleveland, OH
	3	Newport Music Hall, Columbus, OH
	4	Pine Knob, Clarkston, MI
	6	State Theatre, Kalamazoo, MI
	7	The World, Chicago, IL
	8	Alpine Valley, Milwaukee, WI
	10	Roseland, New York, NY
	12	Tower Theatre, Philadelphia, PA
	13	Great Woods, Boston, MA
	14	Casino, Hampton Beach, NH
	15	Sting, New Britain, CT
	17	Palonia Park, St. Catherine's
	18	Warehouse, Toronto, ONT

For further information, tickets, interviews please contact:
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BLACK SABBATH

Ask any of the frontline fighters on the heavier, harder edge of today's rock music who their biggest influences are and chances are, they'll reply, "Black Sabbath." Just last year, everyone from Megadeth to Therapy? was queing up to pay homage to their heros on *Nativity in Black* and their recently released **CROSS PURPOSES LIVE CD & HOME VIDEO**. But Black Sabbath themselves aren't content to rest on their laurels. Despite the fact that they have now passed their 25th successive album - and their latest record, **FORBIDDEN**, is no exception.

FORBIDDEN reunites Sabbath founder Tony Iommi and his long-time collaborator, vocalist Tony Martin, with drummer Cozy Powell and bassist Neil Murray, in the line-up which produced the critically acclaimed *Headless Cross* and *Tyr* albums in 1989 and 1990. And with the additional involvement of avid Sabbath fan Ernie C. from Body Count, in the producer's chair, the Sabbath sound has been brought bang up to 1995.

When the band first started to work on their new record, their aim was, Iommi explains, "to go back to our roots again with a more basic, raw sound that we have had on the past few albums." With this intention in mind, the two Tonys and the band's onstage keyboard player, Geoff Nichols, retired to Wales, where, with occasional visits from Cozy and Neil, wrote the album within three weeks before summoning Ernie from the States.

"We were going to try Ernie on four tracks to see how it sounded and go on from there," remembers Iommi, "but he came over with the idea of doing the complete album - so we went for it!"

After recording the complete album in just ten days at Parr Street Studios in Liverpool, Ernie mixed the tracks and the end result is an album that captures the compulsive raw power of the band at its best. As Iommi himself says, comparing it with the last few Sabbath albums, "It's got more crunch to it!" The trademark dark riffs and monstrously heavy rhythms being spotlighted and enhanced by the stripped back production.

The spontaneous approach used on the recording was also extended to the lyrics, resulting in verses which are more personal and emotive than some of the recent Sabbath epics. "I wanted to do this one differently," explains Martin, Sabbath's main lyricist. "I wanted to put something down that was more accessible, so what I chose to do was to concentrate on human emotions - and the only way I could do that was by not actually writing any lyrics! I just went into rehearsals with what was in my head and what I sang was how it was written, so the whole concept came from the inside."



The finished album contains a wide diversity of material, from the awesome title track to the racey "Get A Grip" and from the instantly memorable "Can't Get Close," "Enough" and "Shakin Off The Chains" to the vehement ballad "I Won't Cry For You." And for the first time in Black Sabbath's history, they are joined by a guest vocalist, another fan of the band, **Ice-T**, lending a hand on the socially conscious "Illusion Of Power."

FORBIDDEN's cover art was designed by Paul Sample, one of Britain's foremost animators and creator of the cult cartoon character Ogri, and long-time Sabbath fans should have hours of fun, identifying a number of in-jokes incorporated within the illustration!

Tony Martin sums up the new album: "We figured it was time for another change - Sabbath can do that - and it survives by doing that." And with another fresh and original record to add to their awe-inspiring back catalogue, there's no danger of Black Sabbath running out of steam as they roll towards the millenium - and beyond!

RELEASE DATE: JUNE 1995



Neil Murray

Tony Iommi

Tony Martin

Cozy Powell

BLACK SABBATH

