



CARCASS

Torn Arteries

Release Date: September 17, 2021

Line up:

Bill Steer | Guitar, Vocals
Jeff Walker | Bass, Lead Vocals
Daniel Wilding | Drums
Tom Draper | Guitars

CARCASS online:

www.facebook.com/OfficialCarcass
www.instagram.com/carcassband
www.twitter.com/carcassband
www.linktr.ee/carcass

Ferocious and uncompromising in their execution, **CARCASS**'s ability to intricately dissect the innards of death metal, and display them for us to sonically understand has been their point of excellence for over three decades. Last December (2019) the band released their first single in over 5 years "Under The Scalpel Blade," followed by a 4 song EP entitled *Despicable* (October 2020), setting a potent precedent for the full-length album to come in 2021: **TORN ARTERIES**. With the album title itself referencing an old demo created by original drummer **Ken Own** back in the 80's, **TORN ARTERIES** sits as a bookend on the modern side of the **CARCASS** discography, connecting directly back to where everything began over 30 years ago.

The album artwork also rings reminiscent of the grotesque photography that appears on classic **CARCASS** album covers like *Reek Of Putrefaction* of *Symphonies of Sickness*. Artist **Zbigniew Bielak** traveled outside his normal wheelhouse to bring forth a time lapsed set of photos showing vegetables shaped like a heart, rotting over time upon a white plate. This

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form of artwork was influenced by Japanese Kusôzu, meaning: *'painting of the nine stages of a decaying corpse.'*

"It's very clean, white, which we've never done before," explains Vocalist and Bassist **Jeff Walker**, *"it doesn't look evil, or typically death metal, but I like how clean it is; almost like a coffee table book."* This new album presents images, lyrics, and sounds that so distinctly scream **CARCASS**, but ferry us into a new era of production, songwriting, and art all together.

"I think as our 7th album, it does stand out from the others both sonically and stylistically," explains **Walker**. *"You can definitely tell that it's **CARCASS**; when you drop that needle on the vinyl, when you hear that guitar tone, you can tell it's **Bill Steer**, but each album is always a product of its time."*

The general approach to writing hasn't changed much over the years for **CARCASS**. *"There's no real designed method,"* analyzes **Walker**, *"no one's writing a song, coming in the room, and saying: 'this is how the song goes.' A lot of these songs are written around a rhythm, or an idea: have we ever had a song with this type of intro? Have we ever had a song with this type of drumming? If we didn't care, we'd do the same generic, verse-chorus songwriting bullshit, but we don't want to repeat ourselves. We're always trying to remain creative and have a valid purpose in what we're doing."*

With **TORN ARTERIES**, each track stands unique from the rest in its approach to guitar, bass, vocals and drumming, along with all the finer details. Filthy and dominating guitar work creates thick layers of tone and melody, piling on top of each other like the weight of dead flesh in tracks like "Kelly's Meat Emporium."

"The working title for Kelly's was originally 'Stock Carcass,'" laughs **Walker** *"we knew that one was a real meat and potatoes track for the album."* Meanwhile the elevated speed and catchy beat in "Dance of Ixtab" tell a robust and airier story, one that is certain to get a reaction from live crowds. *"We built this song around the beat,"* explains **Walker**, *"we had an approach to each song that was a definite idea. It's all about 'what haven't we done before?'"*

Curious about the lyrics? **CARCASS** bets you are, but don't expect them to be an easy puzzle to solve. Over the years metalheads the world over have referenced **CARCASS**'s complex, bizarre, and gore-filled lyrics with affection, humor, and fascination. This time around will require fans to actually purchase the physical album, and closely examine the artwork in order to place the lyrics in their proper order. *"I'd rather people spend time actually going through the record, listening to it, taking the words out as they hear them, and from there try*

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to draw their own conclusions of what the lyrics are, instead of delivering them on a plate,” chuckles **Walker**.

Recording and Production for **TORN ARTERIES** wasn't as simple as sitting down for a few weeks and knocking it all out, but rather spread out over the course of approximately 1 year bouncing back and forth between England and Sweden. Initially, drummer **Daniel Wilding** did session work in Sweden at **Studio Gröndahl** with **David Castillo** while guitars were recorded at **The Stationhouse** with **James Atkinson** in Leeds, England. Eventually needing some form of residential location to finalize vocals, bass, and other guitar work, the band headed back to studio **Gröndahl** in Sweden to continue work in a very relaxed atmosphere with Castillo. “*There was no real big plan to do it this way, the process just organically grew on its own,*” says **Walker**.

Most will find that the only real struggle when indulging in **TORN ARTERIES** is fighting the desire to start it over the second it finishes. It covers substantial new ground for a band with such a reputation, while still retaining that addictive, time-honoured **CARCASS** sound that has come to represent the face of true death metal.

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