



## HAND OF FIRE NUCLEAR SUNRISE

In this day and age, we are succumbed to genres of music that have no meaning or easy to produce for masses.

The hard-working band tends to be a multitude but not many bands get the cut or have the life or road experience behind them. Hand Of Fire is one of those bands through hard work and through mass determination to get things done and being picked up quite quickly by fast growing and diverse label Rottweiler Records, Thrash Metal is a genre that still has a grounded fan base and foundation in the underground, but with this years (2017) coming releases of Deliverance and Hand Of Fire, makes them the most anticipated bands of the year with their all upcoming releases. Jim Settle (Vocalist) isn't a stranger to the metal scene, through years of toil he has also made the role as the vocalist of Vengeance (Formerly Vengeance Rising) one of Christian music's well known Thrash metal bands.

"Nuclear Sunrise" is the debut album of Hand Of Fire that really reaches to the thrash metal roots of the genre. "Let the Killings Begin", started so much differently as I would have thought since it's head showed up last year in 2016 on Volume 1 of the Rottweiler Records sampler. I was quite disappointed at first hearing the song as I thought it lacked the punch it once had, however I realised that they were keeping to the traditions of those before them in made what it has been made today. But still a kick butt song. "Some Will Say" I'm being judgemental in my thoughts but, I speak my mind in what I think, the next track cranks it to the higher level of crunching guitars from Tiago Souza who reaches the definition of reaching the climax of thrash metal, this track mixes vocals very well with Jim's raspy voice (very similar to Devon Townsend) and clean vocals, the solo's kick butt and keep with the tempo of the song, a really great mix of current thrash melodramatics which takes it to the next level.

"The Prophecy" is my favourite of the album, usually the third song within the album is the song you need to hear to understand the heart of the band in sound and message. Brutal and fast this melodic masterpiece with a bout of low-down's. Sheer brilliance if I don't say myself. Brings you back the old Slayer days of intense action seen on any special album, again the solo kicks and has the right touch to keep with the structure of the track. We all "Reap What You Sow" is the next track that is more melodic throughout, speaking on the current stance on America at present times or if not in Western society in general. Listening to lies that are given to us via media (NOT US) during division of what is going on with politics and the opposite actions of others. Keeping with the old hard music ways, a truly thought-provoking song. "Nuclear Sunrise" is next on the bill floats on the same boat as the last, equally complimenting each other in musically equity. Quite an intense song that speaks truth no matter how you put it, it has that ......



.....spark musically and lyrically that makes you seriously think about how we are.

"Bleeding Out" seriously takes you on a journey continuing on with the message perceived, just think of old school Vengeance Rising coming through this song, intensity with an edge that has not be heard for a very long time, with the quality and the maturity found in the Hand Of Fire as this. Aggression used in the right way, to use it to the intended needed, fast paced and traditional from the word go. The deepened foundations of the band are finding their niche and grasp as "Burn It Out" gains control, melodic in pieces it mixes the old and the new into a whole new perspective, keeping with current thinking and trends within our current societies, Hand Of Fire touch on very close and personal issues among the problems of today in a real and in your face way, but keeping to the intensity of the structure of the song. Then we "Walk" into the last track, completely in awe of the seriously Old School thrash metal can muster, with shouts that give that extra boost with gut wrenching licks, riffs and a solo that engages the listener to the wholeness that Hand Of Fire have brought for the whole album.

End note: A truly great release from the band, we have been waiting a long time for this. But I guarantee you this album **Nuclear Sunrise** is worth the wait.

Christian Sullivan 2017 - Rating 9/10



