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Show Review: Motorpsychos CD release show at the 31st Street Pub

Written by: Heather Kilgore | Category: Show Reviews

It was a great night for a show at the pub, no rain to speak of and a cooling temperature with a breeze outside for the non smokers to catch some air. There were boxes of goody bags for all the patrons who came out on this CD release night in addition to the new album and shirt design for sale. Joel Greenfield, 31st Street Pub owner was outside in a chair chit chatting when I arrived.

There is a certain welcome feeling of nostalgia that you can experience when going to the 31st Street Pub, it having been around for 25 years now. It's a popular venue to play with affordably priced drinks, ample parking and consistently pleasant audibility. I've attended around 2 dozen shows here at the pub in the past year and I can't say the sound has ever been terrible.

The predominantly instrumental Solarburn opened the night up with their energetic and crunchy sound. The density of this threesome is apparent as they infuse a mellow, smooth nature right inside a cauldron of crackly, bubbly metal. Rogue Signals seemed slightly unfitting in this particular showcase, but had fan base cheering them on nonetheless. This band sandwiched in between Solarburn and Motorpsychos more than likely attributed to the eclectic crowd.

The *Sheppard's File* album is the 4th release for the trio. The set blasted the crowd with Protocol as the opener which filled the room with strong vocals and long jams, finishing with a guitar solo from Pam. The very thrashy Shunned featured the main wail from Amy Bianco who definitely showed up with her rock pants on! Marionette's thick bass was layered on top of heavy, hard drums from Dennis and Pam's grisly, growly vocals complimented the mostly instrumental song. No Motorpsychos show is complete without a little Mudbucket thrown in there from 2009's *Coming of Rage* which is probably still stuck in all of our heads.

Dissecting the Queen switched back to Bianco as lead throat, a part that she has grown to own since the Motorpsychos first album. There was a monster masyh funeral metal feel to this song that made it seem as if there was some sort of ceremonial dissection occurring. The mellow creeping 1000 Eyes was followed up with Binks, both also releases from the new album.

We revisit *Piston Whipped* with The Story of Suzy Sydal and the super fast starting Bullshit. This was a treat towards the end of the night, making you want to run in circles and kick things. That being said, appropriately, it led into Scratch Fight which was slower and slightly doomy sounding. This track also contains a distinct and interesting bass drum and symbol sound that demands the listener's attention.

The show was finished off with Victim and billows of fog from the machine. If a pit had erupted, it would have been a certain disaster. Although this crowd was energetic, they were well behaved and not feeling rowdy in nature considering the punk infused metallic energy of the music.

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