

= Down (band) =

Down is an American heavy metal supergroup that formed in 1991 in New Orleans , Louisiana . The band 's current lineup consists of vocalist Phil Anselmo (Pantera) , guitarist Pepper Keenan (Corrosion of Conformity) , guitarist Bobby Landgraf (Honky) , bassist Pat Bruders (Goatwhore) , and drummer Jimmy Bower (Crowbar , Eyehategod , and Superjoint Ritual) . Since their formation , Down has gone on hiatus twice . To date , Down has released five studio albums . The first three were LPs entitled NOLA (1995) , Down II : A Bustle in Your Hedgerow (2002) , and Down III : Over the Under (2007) . In 2008 , the band began working on additional material , which resulted in two EPs entitled Down IV ? Part I , released in September 2012 and Down IV ? Part II , released in May 2014 .

= = History = =

= = = Formation and NOLA (1991 ? 1998) = = =

Down formed in 1991 with vocalist / songwriter Phil Anselmo of Pantera , guitarist Pepper Keenan of Corrosion of Conformity , second guitarist Kirk Windstein and bassist Todd Strange of Crowbar , and drummer Jimmy Bower of Eyehategod . All of the band members were longtime friends , and shared interest in bands such as Black Sabbath , Trouble , and Saint Vitus , which would significantly influence the music they made . The band made a three @-@ track demo for underground trading . In an effort to build a fan base , the band would ask heavy metal fans if they had ever " heard of this band , Down " and hand them copies of the tape without telling the person that they were in the band . Eventually , the tape was distributed throughout the United States and Down played a small concert in its hometown . A record executive from Elektra Records was attending the show . When he found out who the members of the band were , he signed Down to a recording contract .

Down released its debut album , NOLA , on September 19 , 1995 , debuting at number 55 on the Billboard 200 . AllMusic reviewer David Reamer gave the album a nearly perfect 4 @.@ 5 out of 5 stars , praising the songs " Temptations Wings " , " Stone the Crow " , and " Bury Me in Smoke " . Reamer stated that " this is a landmark album that combines the talents of dedicated rock musicians , and should be included in any collection of heavy metal music . " NOLA was supported by a 13 @-@ date tour , and afterward the band went on hiatus in order to return to their respective bands .

= = = A Bustle in Your Hedgerow and Over the Under (1999 ? 2008) = = =

In 1999 , while Down was on hiatus , Strange left the band and was replaced by Pantera bassist Rex Brown . In late November 2001 , Down came back from hiatus to make another record . The band wrote and recorded Down II : A Bustle in Your Hedgerow in 28 " drug and booze induced " days in Philip 's barn called " Nödferatu 's lair . " The album was released on March 26 , 2002 , but was not received with the same positive reviews as NOLA . Blabbermouth.net reviewer Borivoj Krgin stated , " Down II appears to have been thrown together more haphazardly , with much of the material falling short of the standard set by the Down 's classic debut offering . " Despite poor reviews , the album debuted at number 44 on the Billboard 200 . To support the album , Down toured on the second stage of Ozzfest in 2002 . Afterward , the band once again entered an indefinite hiatus to focus on their respective bands .

Newly signed to Warner Bros. Records , Down once again reformed in 2006 . The band wrote an album over the course of a year . The lyrical content of Down III : Over the Under covers subjects such as the breakup of Pantera , the murder of ex @-@ Pantera guitarist Dimebag Darrell , the band 's anger at the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina , and Anselmo 's recovery from back surgery and drug addiction . Debuting at number 26 on the Billboard 200 , the album was released on September 25 , 2007 , and received generally positive reviews . Kirk Miller of Decibel Magazine said

of the album , " for almost an hour , it 's like the metal world was set right again . "

The release of Down III was preceded by a tour with Heaven & Hell and Megadeth . To further support their album , Down headlined a tour starting at the end of September 2007 .

On April 22 , 2008 , the BBC Radio 1 Rockshow broadcast a new session of Down recordings featuring alternate versions of " NOD " , " Beneath the Tides " , and " Jail " , along with a cover of " When The Levee Breaks " (written by Kansas Joe McCoy and his wife Memphis Minnie , and famously covered by Led Zeppelin) .

= = = Diary of a Mad Band (2008 ? 2010) = = =

On July 24 , 2008 , frontman Phil Anselmo mentioned in a post on the band 's Myspace blog that Down had been " fucking around with some new material " and had " enough material already recorded " ? at least six new songs in addition to those that did not make the final cut on Over the Under . Just what or how much will be included on the tentative Down IV is uncertain , but according to Anselmo , there is " definitely enough for an awesome EP , with some surprises within . "

Asked in November 2008 what the current status of the new album was , bassist Rex Brown told Billboard.com that Down had been " writing constantly on the road . We still have all these ideas , and we play a lot of new stuff at sound check , just to feel it out . Hopefully , we can get back in the studio in the fall and work on something . "

On February 3 , 2009 , Down was announced on -and later removed from- the lineup for the 2009 Bonnaroo Music Festival in Manchester , Tennessee , a large annual outdoor music festival since 2002 . On February 18 , 2009 , Down was announced in the lineup for the 2009 Roskilde Festival in Denmark . Following these live dates , the band toured the USA and Canada during August and September 2009 . On March 30 , 2009 , Down posted a statement on their message board indicating that they will be back in the studio from October through November writing and recording what will eventually become Down IV . In the summer of 2009 , Down began a US tour without Rex on bass , who had developed acute pancreatitis .

On January 27 , 2010 , it was announced that Brown had nearly fully recuperated from his fight with pancreatitis . Down had discussed reconvening in New Orleans sometime after the 2010 Super Bowl to begin work on a new album . With a release date yet to be announced , the new album will be the band 's fourth studio offering . After legal issues with Warner Brothers Records regarding the rights to the music , Down released Diary of a Mad Band : Europe in the Year of VI CD / DVD on October 5 via Roadrunner Records . The title is a reference to Diary of a Madman , an Ozzy Osbourne album .

= = = Brown 's departure and EPs (2011 ? present) = = =

In 2011 , Phil Anselmo commented on the future of Down , stating : " Man , there will be a time for Down . Matter of fact we had a meeting this past week , and I know Jimmy 's gotta go do an Eyehategod tour in February . But after that , I think we 're looking to do some shows starting in March . Maybe local around here , maybe even some Mardi Gras gigs . But yeah , last week we sat around and they played me some new stuff they 're working on , and it sounds good . Sounds like it 's got a lot of promise , and really they just need me in the fuckin ' practice room . So all this is going to happen this year . It has to happen . I know there 's a responsibility here . Down has a fanbase and they are very very very loyal . So I don 't want to let those people down . They deserve some new music , we have it . We 've demoed other songs , there 's songs that haven 't even been released that people have never heard , so there 's always Down there . For all you people out there , don 't you stress . We got the Down coming . "

On May 11 , 2011 , Down announced on their Facebook page that they " demoed a brand new tune . " Down played at Download Festival on Saturday 11 June 2011 . They played alongside System of a Down , Avenged Sevenfold and Alice Cooper . Rex did not tour with Down during their spring 2011 shows . Crowbar bassist Pat Bruders filled in for Rex during those shows . " Rex is not gonna be with us , " said Keenan . " He 's got things he needs to deal with , and we gave him an ultimatum

and he 's trying to work things out . We 've got Pat (Bruders) from Crowbar playing bass , and he 's ass @-@ kickin ' in the same way . He plays with his fingers ? which is really cool ; he 's got the whole Geezer Butler thing going on . " When asked whether or not Brown was still considered a part of the band , Keenan was hopeful but hesitant : " I don 't know what to really say on that ; he 's not out of the band , but he 's not playing with us live . " On June 22 , 2011 , Jimmy Bower announced that Rex Brown would not be returning to Down , and that Pat Bruders is his replacement .

The band spoke on their Facebook page and said they started recording new material on October 20 . On January 16 , 2012 , they revealed track names for the new EP on Facebook . Initially , rumors spread about the possibility of Down releasing four EPs , instead of an album . However , when asked about it in an interview with Scuzz TV , Anselmo said that " It would be too pretentious , we try not to think as far ahead as that , and just go with what we feel at the time . " In the summer of 2013 , Kirk Windstein quit the band and was replaced by Bobby Landgraf . Down IV ? Part II was released on May 13 , 2014 .

Following Phil 's Nazi salute controversy during the Dimebash event in the US , the organizers of FortaRock Festival decided to cancel the appearance of the band for the 2016 event .

= = Band members = =

= = = Timeline = = =

= = = Gallery from Hellfest 2013 = = =

= = Discography = =

= = = Studio albums = = =

= = = Extended Plays = = =

= = = Live albums = = =

= = = Singles = = =