

= Rise Against =

Rise Against is an American melodic hardcore band from Chicago , Illinois , formed in 1999 . The band 's current line @-@ up comprises vocalist / rhythm guitarist Tim McIlrath , lead guitarist Zach Blair , bassist Joe Principe and drummer Brandon Barnes . Former members are guitarists Dan Wlekinski , Kevin White , Todd Mohny and Chris Chasse , and drummers Toni Tintari and Dan Lumley .

The band spent its first four years signed to the independent record label Fat Wreck Chords , on which it released two studio albums , The Unraveling (2001) and Revolutions per Minute (2003) . Both the albums met with considerable underground success , and in 2003 the band signed with the major label Geffen . Their major label debut Siren Song of the Counter Culture (2004) brought the band mainstream success , producing several successful singles . Their next two albums , The Sufferer & the Witness (2006) and Appeal to Reason (2008) , were also successful and peaked at number ten and number three on the Billboard 200 chart , respectively . Appeal to Reason was followed three years later by Endgame (2011) . All four albums released via Geffen were certified platinum in Canada , while three of these albums were certified gold in the United States .

Rise Against is also known for their advocacy of progressivism , supporting organisations such as Amnesty International and the It Gets Better Project . The band actively promotes animal rights and most of the members are straight edge (excluding Barnes) , PETA supporters and vegetarians .

= = History = =

= = = Early years , The Unraveling and Revolutions Per Minute (1999 ? 2003) = = =

Following the disbandment of the Chicago hardcore punk band 88 Fingers Louie in 1999 , bassist Joe Principe and guitarist Dan Wleklinski began recording demos in the hope of using them in a new band . The two recruited drummer Toni Tintari , and auditioned several vocalists before settling on former Baxter and Arma Angelus member Tim McIlrath , whom Principe had met at a Sick of It All concert . The group called themselves Transistor Revolt , and released a self @-@ titled extended play in 2000 .

The band changed its name to Rise Against in 2001 and released their first album , The Unraveling , via Fat Wreck Chords that same year , produced by veteran punk producer Mass Giorgini . Wlekinski left the band in 2001 , and was replaced by former The Killing Tree guitarist Todd Mohny . After touring in support of The Unraveling , the band returned to the studio in December 2002 to work on their second full @-@ length studio album , Revolutions per Minute , which was released in 2003 . The band toured extensively in support of its first two albums , opening for Sick of It All , NOFX , Agnostic Front , No Use for a Name , AFI , and Strung Out . In addition , Rise Against participated in the 2003 Warped Tour .

= = = Siren Song of the Counter Culture and The Sufferer & the Witness (2004 ? 2007) = = =

After the release of Revolutions per Minute , Rise Against was approached by several major record labels , and eventually signed with DreamWorks Records in December 2003 . However , DreamWorks Records folded into Geffen Records the following year , forcing the band to switch labels . Rise Against were also to switch guitarists , following Mohny 's departure in 2003 ; he was replaced by former Reach the Sky member Chris Chasse . Under the new lineup , Rise Against made their major record label debut with Siren Song of the Counter Culture in August 2004 . It became the band 's first album to reach the Billboard 200 music chart , where it peaked at 136 , and was certified gold by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) , denoting shipments of 500 @, @ 000 copies . The album received generally positive reviews from critics , but drew criticism for its accessibility and melodious sound compared to previous Rise Against works . In giving the album 3 out of 5 stars , Johnny Loftus of Allmusic commented " Siren Song of the Counter Culture

sometimes gets carried away with its own melodic urgency . " However , he also stated that because of the album being the band 's major @-@ label debut , " maybe the fuller sound and occasional forays into acoustic guitars and cello overdubs ... are OK . " Rise Against toured North America , Europe , Australia , and Japan in support of Siren Song of the Counter Culture . Some of the most notable mentions include performances on the first international Taste of Chaos tour in 2005 (with Funeral for a Friend , Story of the Year , The Used , and Killswitch Engage) , a worldwide tour to the UK , Germany , Australia , New Zealand , and Japan , the Give It a Name tour in the UK , the Reading Festival and Leeds Festival in the UK , a US tour with Alkaline Trio , and the Warped Tour in North America .

In January 2006 , after touring in support of Siren Song of the Counter Culture , Rise Against recorded their fourth studio album at the Blasting Room studio in Fort Collins , Colorado with producers Bill Stevenson and Jason Livermore . Mixed by Chris Lord @-@ Alge at Resonate Sound in Burbank , California , The Sufferer & the Witness was released on July 4 , 2006 . The album peaked at number 10 on the U.S. Billboard 200 chart , selling 48 @,@ 397 copies in its first week of release ; it was eventually certified gold by the RIAA in 2008 . The Age newspaper said that with The Sufferer & the Witness , the band " returns to their punk roots . " In addition to earning Rise Against its best chart and sales numbers at the time , the album was generally well received by critics . Corey Apar of Allmusic , in giving the album 4 out of 5 stars , said of it , " the band 's inner grit is aptly drawn out amid all the pit @-@ ready choruses and fist @-@ in @-@ the @-@ air , stirring lyrics . " and also commented that " Rise Against continue to muscularly confront political and personal grievances to the tune of swirling guitars , assertive rhythms , and Tim McIlrath 's sandpapered vocals . " Contrastingly , Christine Leonard of Fast Forward Weekly said of the band , " Returning to their old school form with the ballistic intensity of " Bricks , " they just as quickly lose focus with questionable efforts such as ' Worth Dying For ' and ' Prayer of the Refugee . ' "

A DVD titled Generation Lost was released on December 5 , 2006 to promote the band and their new album . It contained a documentary of the careers of the band members , as well as live performance videos and making @-@ of clips . Rise Against toured in support of The Sufferer & the Witness throughout the second half of 2006 and all of 2007 . The band was a headliner in the 2006 Warped Tour . In late 2006 , the band co @-@ headlined a tour with Thursday that included the bands Circa Survive and Billy Talent . In early 2007 , the band supported My Chemical Romance as openers on the first half of their arena tour . On February 23 , 2007 , Rise Against announced the departure of guitarist Chris Chasse , who left on his own accord because the touring schedule was becoming " too much , " on the band 's official website . Chasse was replaced by longtime friend Zach Blair from Only Crime . On June 15 , 2007 , the band began their first official headlining tour in support of The Sufferer & the Witness ; it was a North American tour that lasted throughout the summer months . During this tour , on July 3 , 2007 , Rise Against released an EP in Canada titled This Is Noise , which was subsequently released in the United States on January 15 , 2008 .

= = = Appeal to Reason (2008 ? 2010) = = =

Rise Against played at the sixteenth annual KROQ Weenie Roast on May 17 in Irvine , California , and at the sixth annual Download Festival on June 13 at Donington Park , England . They also played at Switzerland 's Greenfield Festival as well as Germany 's Hurricane Festival and Southside Festival . Like several previous years , the band participated in the Warped Tour , although they decided only to perform on the tour 's west coast swing from August 6 to August 17 .

Rise Against 's fifth studio album Appeal to Reason was released on October 4 in Australia , October 6 across Europe , and October 7 in the United States . The album sold 64 @,@ 700 copies in its first week and peaked at number three on the U.S. Billboard 200 , making it Rise Against 's highest @-@ charting album to date . Appeal to Reason was met with generally positive reviews . However , critics did not rate it as highly as The Sufferer & the Witness , mostly blaming the movement toward the mainstream and away from faster hardcore punk . Giving the album a C + rating , Marc Weingarten of Entertainment Weekly said the album is filled with " protest anthems that lean closer to the burnished angst of such bands as New Found Glory and Fall Out Boy than the

genuine outrage of brainy Green Day " and songs that are " peppy but pretty empty , power @-@ chord downers with little bark or bite . " Kyle Anderson of Rolling Stone stated that the songs on Appeal to Reason " are driven by an ever @-@ sharpening pop sensibility . " He also said that " Rise Against may be nervous about leaving the underground behind , but with sharp songs like these , they 're ready for the rest of the world . "

Rise Against released a song called " Death Blossoms " for DLC on Guitar Hero : World Tour on March 12 , 2009 . " Ready to Fall " and " Audience of One " were also added for a track pack . Another song called " Sight Unseen " was released on the Internet at about the same time . " Death Blossoms " and " Sight Unseen " were later released on the compilation album Long Forgotten Songs : B @-@ Sides & Covers (2000 @-@ 2013) as tracks 2 and 10 respectively . Two previously unreleased songs from the Appeal to Reason recording sessions were released on Fat Wreck Chords on May 12 , 2009 , as a self @-@ titled 7 " vinyl . The release included the songs " Grammatizator " and " Voice of Dissent " and was released on 7 inch vinyl , with 1010 pressings made on coloured vinyl and a further 4008 made on black vinyl . Another split 7 " shared with Anti @-@ Flag was released that same year , originally given away with any merchandise purchase on the 2009 Rise Against / Anti @-@ Flag / Flobots UK tour .

Rise Against embarked on a North American tour with bands Rancid , Billy Talent , Killswitch Engage , and Riverboat Gamblers in June and July 2009 . They were also on a short tour of the UK in November , which was supported by the bands Thursday and Poison the Well . The band also played at KROQ 's Almost Acoustic Christmas in December 2009 , playing right before AFI . After completing a European tour from October to November 2009 , an Australian tour in January and February 2010 and a summer European festival tour , Rise Against began recording their next album in the fall of 2010 . In September 2010 , Rise Against took part in A.V. Club Undercover by covering the song " Sliver " by Nirvana . On September 7 , 2010 , it was announced on their official website that Rise Against would be releasing their second live DVD entitled Another Station : Another Mile on October 5 , 2010 . According to the band this DVD will focus more on the band 's live , unreleased footage than a documentary , but will show backstage , on tour , and on the road footage as well .

= = = Endgame (2010 ? 2013) = = =

On September 14 , 2010 , according to guitarist Zach Blair , Rise Against had begun recording their sixth studio album for a 2011 release , at the Blasting Room in Fort Collins , Colorado . On Rise Against 's latest DVD Another Station : Another Mile , there are samples of possible songs for their upcoming album played throughout the beginning of the DVD . Rise Against has announced two South American shows in Brazil and Argentina and a run of European shows in late February and March 2011 respectively .

Rise Against finished recording their sixth studio album , Endgame , in January 2011 , after recording some last @-@ minute guest vocals . The lyrics of the album focus on real world events , such as Hurricane Katrina and the Deepwater Horizon oil spill . According to McIlrath , although the lyrics discuss grim topics , they actually take on a positive view and were written from the perspective of : " What if the place on the other side of this transition is a place we 'd all rather be living in ? " On January 12 , 2011 , Rise Against announced the release date of Endgame as March 15 , 2011 . Although Spin Magazine labeled Endgame as a concept album , on January 7 , 2011 , McIlrath tweeted a clarifying message stating that " the record is not a concept record and , fret not , has absolutely nothing to do with the Dixie Chicks . " The first single from the album , " Help Is on the Way " , debuted on KROQ on January 17 . A second song from the album , " Architects " , was debuted and released digitally on February 15 . As a promotion effort , the band embarked on a short tour of South America in February and then a month @-@ long tour of Europe in March . Upon returning to the United States , the band announced a U.S. spring tour with Bad Religion and Four Year Strong .

Endgame is notable for being the first album to establish Rise Against 's stance on homophobia with the third song on the album , " Make It Stop (September 's Children) , " which references the

September 2010 suicides of teenagers in the LGBT community , specifically mentioning Tyler Clementi , Billy Lucas , Harrison Chase Brown , Cody J. Barker , and Seth Walsh . Upon the album 's release , the band put a message on their website inviting listeners to apply the songs ' messages to current events , in addition to those on which they were originally based .

On May 10 , 2011 , the band released a 7 " split vinyl with Face to Face . The 7 " features 2 songs , with each band covering a song by the other band . In August 2011 , Rise Against made appearances at the Reading and Leeds Festivals . The band was the main support act for the Foo Fighters ' fall US tour 2011 . Rise Against supported the Foo Fighters on 9 dates in September , with Mariachi El Bronx as the opening act . After this , the band announced a tour of Canada throughout October 2011 , supported by Flogging Molly and Black Pacific . The tour consisted of nine dates . Rise Against contributed a cover of " Ballad of Hollis Brown " to Chimes of Freedom , a tribute album of Bob Dylan songs produced in February 2012 to commemorate Amnesty International 's 50th anniversary .

Rise Against embarked on a two @-@ leg US tour with A Day to Remember and The Menzingers in the spring of 2012 . Leg one ended with the band launching another European tour . The band continued back to Europe for the summer months . Doing a slew of festivals along the way . To end 2012 , the band announced the return to the US with a fall tour with Gaslight Anthem and Hot Water Music . The tour will include two stops in Arizona , which the band has not played since 2009 due to the Sound Strike . On January 2 , 2013 , vocalist Tim McIlrath told Rolling Stone that Rise Against was " focusing on recharging [their] batteries " after two years of touring in support of Endgame . In March 2013 , Rise Against played their first ever performances on African soil when they performed in South Africa for the Durban , Johannesburg and Cape Town legs of RAMFest , where they headlined the festival along with the UK band Bring Me the Horizon .

= = = The Black Market (2013 ? present) = = =

On May 22 , 2013 , Principe told AbsolutePunk.net that Rise Against was going to begin work on their seventh studio album around the end of the year for a 2014 release . On September 10 , 2013 , Rise Against released a compilation of B @-@ sides , sampler contributions and covers titled Long Forgotten Songs : B @-@ Sides & Covers 2000 ? 2013 . In an interview with ESPN on the same day singer Tim McIlrath was asked about the next record 's progress and said " ... We are getting together periodically all fall to put some ideas together and then we 'll hit the studio when we are ready . It 's been a good breather , but now I can 't wait turn up some amps and scream . "

On April 14 , 2014 , the band posted a short video on their Facebook page teasing a new album with the message " Coming Soon " . On May 5 , 2014 , the band posted another short video indicating that a new album would be released in the summer of 2014 . On May 27 , 2014 , the band released a short video with a teaser of a song from the new album , and clarified the summer release date to be July 2014 . On June 4 , 2014 , a new teaser was released on Facebook revealing the album title The Black Market and release date of July 15 , 2014 . The album 's first single , " I Don 't Want To Be Here Anymore " , was released on June 10 , 2014 . In an interview with Kerrang ! Magazine , Tim McIlrath gave an insight into The Black Market and also confirmed five song titles for the new album : " I Don 't Want To Be Here Anymore " , " The Great Die Off " , " People Live Here " , " Zero Visibility " and " Awake Too Long " . On June 13 , 2014 , the band unveiled the official album artwork for The Black Market on their website . The track listing for the album was released one week later on June 20 , 2014 , on their website and other social media sites . On June 23 , 2014 , " The Eco @-@ Terrorist In Me " was leaked on iTunes and became available for purchase . The Black Market was released on July 15 , 2014 . Following the release of The Black Market , Rise Against obtained its second no . 1 on Billboard 's Top Rock Albums with 53 @,@ 000 hits , according to Nielsen SoundScan . Their first no . 1 was their previous album , Endgame .

= = Politics and ethics = =

All of the group 's members are vegetarians and active supporters of PETA , an animal rights

organization . Their video for the single " Ready to Fall " contains footage of factory farming , rodeos , and sport hunting , as well as deforestation , melting ice caps , and forest fires . The group has called the video the most important video they have ever made . In February 2012 the band released a cover of the Bob Dylan song Ballad of Hollis Brown as part of a benefit for Amnesty International . The Director 's Cut of the video was first made available to a PETA website . In 2009 , the band was voted Best Animal @-@ Friendly Band by PETA . In addition to being vegetarians , all the members of Rise Against , with the exception of Brandon Barnes , are straight edge ; that is , they refrain from consuming alcohol or using drugs .

In addition to their support of animal rights , the band has voiced their support for Democratic causes . During the 2004 United States presidential election , the band was part of Punkvoter , a political activist group , and appeared on the Rock Against Bush , Vol . 1 compilation . The Rock Against Bush project raised over \$ 1 million for then presidential candidate John Kerry . During the 2008 presidential election , the band members endorsed Barack Obama . In a news bulletin in early 2009 , the band stated : " Few things are more exciting than watching Bush finally release America as his eight year hostage . "

= = = Vans shoes = = =

On May 23 , 2007 Rise Against announced their endorsement of a new line of Vans shoes that would be " completely vegan in consideration to [their] animal rights efforts " . In response to criticism spawning from rumors of Vans ' use of sweatshops , Rise Against released a statement to address the matter on both their MySpace profile and website saying ,

= = Musical style and influences = =

Rise Against 's musical style throughout the band 's career has been described by most critics as melodic hardcore , punk rock , and hardcore punk . The band has cited numerous punk and hardcore bands as influences to its music . In 2004 , drummer Brandon Barnes stated : " I think we have a lot of different influences from hardcore like old Cave In , to a lot of punk like Face to Face , Screeching Weasel , and Down By Law . "

In 2006 , Tim McIlrath stated of the band 's style : " We ? re emulating Minor Threat and Black Flag . Who knows , maybe if Ian MacKaye was wearing eyeliner then I would be . " Other bands that have influenced Rise Against include Descendents , Dead Kennedys , Refused , Bad Brains , and Bad Religion .

= = Band members = =

= = = Timeline = = =

= = Discography = =

The Unraveling (2001)
Revolutions per Minute (2003)
Siren Song of the Counter Culture (2004)
The Sufferer & the Witness (2006)
Appeal to Reason (2008)
Endgame (2011)
The Black Market (2014)

= = Awards and nominations = =

