

= Daybreaker (Architects album) =

Daybreaker is the fifth studio album by British metalcore band Architects . It was released on 28 May 2012 in the United Kingdom and most of Europe and on 5 June 2012 in the United States . It was the last album to feature guitarist Tim Hillier @-@ Brook , who left the band on 16 April 2012 . Daybreaker was co @-@ produced by the band and Ben Humphreys at Outhouse Studios in Reading , Berkshire , and used the same team and studio that were used for recording the band 's third studio album , Hollow Crown . Daybreaker was praised by music writers for its variety and marks Architects ' return to the technical sound of their earlier albums ? especially Hollow Crown ? while incorporating several melodic elements from their fourth album , The Here and Now .

The album debuted on charts in five countries but failed to appear on any mainstream top 40 . To promote it , Architects released five music videos , toured five continents (2012 's Almost World Tour was filmed for the documentary One Hundred Days) and issued a re @-@ release of the album to commemorate their departure from Century Media Records . Daybreaker received a mixed to positive response from critics ; some praised its use of atmospheric elements and the return to a heavier style , while others criticised it as uninspired .

= = Background and recording = =

In the band 's fourth album , 2011 's The Here and Now , the band set out to mix their typical sounds with the music they were listening to at the time . The response was polarised : critics applauded the style while many fans criticised the album and accused the band of selling out . During the publicity for The Here and Now , the band praised it as a progression for them ; they did not want to reject an album they had just released . But their own lack of belief in the record and their growing concern that they were irrelevant started to severely affect the band 's confidence in themselves and their style .

Songs recorded during early demo sessions after The Here and Now became b @-@ sides for re @-@ releases . During this time , the band became certain they wished to make another " heavy " record . Tom Searle said , " some people might say we 've regressed , but I think we 've found our enthusiasm for playing heavy music again . I 'm excited again by what I 've come up with on guitar and lyrically it 's much more political and less personal . " The band started to write socially aware lyrics during the writing phase of Daybreaker ; vocalist Sam Carter said this was a result of the band touring the world and seeing things he felt were downplayed by the media .

The band recorded Daybreaker at Outhouse Studios in Reading , Berkshire , where they had previously recorded Ruin (2007) and Hollow Crown (2009) . Daybreaker had the same production and engineering team as did Hollow Crown ; John Mitchell acted as Daybreaker 's mixing engineer , and Mitchell described Daybreaker as " the album they should have made after Hollow Crown " . Tom Searle said that during the recording , he and Hillier @-@ Brook were constantly practising to perfect the highly technical guitar riffs .

Architects invited Jon Green from Deez Nuts , Oliver Sykes from Bring Me the Horizon , and Drew York from Stray from the Path to sing on the album . They invited Green because they believed his screaming vocals had a " Satanic " quality , while a collaboration with Sykes was something the band considered " long overdue " , since Carter had sung on Bring Me the Horizon 's 2008 album Suicide Season . On 16 April 2013 , shortly before Daybreaker 's release , Hillier @-@ Brook announced he would leave the band to pursue other projects . The band had thought Hiller @-@ Brook seemed unhappy while he was a member of Architects .

= = Release and promotion = =

Daybreaker was first announced with a tentative release date of " summer " . The album was released in the United Kingdom on 28 May 2012 . In June 2013 , Century Media Records re @-@ released it in North America exclusively for the band 's performance at Warped Tour 2013 . This version includes their single " Black Blood " and covers of Bon Iver 's " Blood Bank " and Thrice 's "

Of Dust and Nations " .

= = = Singles = = =

In early November 2011 , Architects announced a plan to release " Devil 's Island " , the first song from the then @-@ unnamed follow @-@ up to their fourth studio album The Here and Now . They released it on 4 December 2011 , with a b @-@ side song called " Untitled " . Both the song and the accompanying music video reference rioting in England in 2011 , and the music video features clips of the riots . " Devil 's Island " was well received by critics for its return to the mathcore style of their third album , Hollow Crown . Thrash Hits said , " more @-@ melodic aspects of Architects are still very much on show " , that the song used " increased harsh vocals " and that the guitar tones were reminiscent of those on " Early Grave " , the opening track of Hollow Crown . J.J. Natrass of Bring The Noise said , " the track is sweeping and melodic in parts , whilst bursting with high tempo and visceral raw energy in others . " Tim Dodderidge , writing for Mind Equals Blown , praised the song 's lyrics , saying , " Architects has taken on an important issue in Britain today and made a song that questions humanity ; it may have a lasting effect on listeners that bands like Rise Against have been able to do , though they sound nothing alike " . The band supported the single 's release with a five @-@ day UK headline tour in December 2011 ; supporting acts were Deaf Havana , Tek @-@ One and Heights .

On 26 March 2012 Architects released a typography @-@ styled music video for " These Colours Don 't Run " . The music video was designed to " capture the madness that is America , be it good or bad " . Tom Searle wanted the video " [to get] people thinking and talking . And in the land of the free ? you know nothing comes for free ! " The band 's third single " Alpha Omega " was released on 7 May 2012 after a radio debut on Daniel P. Carter 's BBC Radio 1 Rock Show podcast on 24 April 2012 . The music video for the song was posted on 10 May 2012 . On 12 December , Architects released another typography @-@ styled video for " Even If You Win , You 're Still a Rat " .

" Black Blood " was released on 3 June 2013 to promote the re @-@ released version of Daybreaker ; the single also had a typography @-@ style video . The song was released in conjunction with Architects ' performances at Warped Tour 2013 ; it was featured on the Warped Tour sampler that was released for free download on Amazon.com. The band initially wanted to record a music video for the song but they cancelled shooting because Tom Searle was afflicted with skin cancer .

= = = Live performances = = =

Throughout March 2012 , Architects and Touché Amoré supported Rise Against on their European tour . Hillier @-@ Brook 's last tour with Architects was the April 2012 British tour with Rolo Tomassi and Stray from the Path . Between March and June that year ? the last few months before the large tours in support of Daybreaker ? Architects performed at several festivals ; the Swedish Konzerthaus Schüür in Lucerne , the La Boule Noire near Paris , Groezrock Festival in Belgium , British touring festival Slam Dunk Festival in Leeds and Hatfield , and German festivals Summerblast Festival , Traffic Jam Festival and Summerbreeze Festival . Because Hillier @-@ Brook had announced he would leave Architects on 16 April 2012 after his final performance with the band at Groezrock Festival , Josh Middleton of Sylosis joined the band as touring guitarist . In late April , Architects supported The Devil Wears Prada and Whitechapel on a six @-@ day tour of South America .

Architects began promoting Daybreaker by playing several large European festivals throughout June and July 2013 , before embarking on tour legs in south @-@ east Asia , Australasia , North America and Europe , which were dubbed the The Daybreaker Almost World Tour . Most of the tour dates were published in July , the first leg of the tour began in August with 16 dates in Canada with support from Struc / tures and Asightforsewneyes . In September , the band headed to Asia to play dates in Hong Kong , Malaysia , Thailand , Singapore , Indonesia and China . In late September and early October , the band played 12 gigs in New Zealand and Australia supporting The Amity

Affliction ? it was Architects ' first tour of Australia since December 2010 . The final leg of the tour took place in Europe , with supporting bands While She Sleeps and Heights in mainland Europe , and Deez Nuts , Bury Tomorrow and The Acacia Strain in the UK . The tour 's British leg included a gig at UK Warped Tour , a one @-@ day festival headlined by Lostprophets and Bring Me the Horizon at Alexandra Palace in London on 10 November . A documentary about Architects ' touring experiences was titled " One Hundred Days : The Story Of Architects Almost World Tour " .

In 2013 , Architects expanded their promotional reach to the United States , a country they were not confident in . They were " tired of losing money " with their tours in the US and " [the band] were about ready to give up on America " . Starting in March , with opening act Crossfaith they supported Enter Shikari and then joined the American Warped Tour 2013 in June . The band also made single appearances in Europe at several summer festivals , including Download Festival 2013 in the UK . The band announced they would tour the US for the third time in 2013 in November and December with co @-@ headliners Protest The Hero and support from The Kindred and Affiance . They also announced plans to tour Australia before the end of 2013 . Architects ' final performance in support of Daybreaker and their first in India occurred at the Saarang culture festival on 11 January 2014 .

= = Themes = =

= = = Music = = =

According to Andrew Kelham , Daybreaker is an " urgent and resurgent " record ; it has been identified by critics as metalcore , progressive metal , mathcore and post @-@ hardcore . Architects have been credited for fusing the intense technicality and metallic style of Hollow Crown with the " soaring vocals " and the much improved production of The Here and Now . The album is defined by a number of features , including a contrast of singing and extreme metal screaming , and melodic choruses complemented by " soaring " vocals , technical guitar work with palm muted breakdowns and the use of string instruments and piano to generate atmosphere . Daybreaker is noted for fusing influences from Architects ' previous two albums The Here And Now and Hollow Crown ; many reviewers have cited the album as a return to the band 's heavier , more technical roots . When he interviewed the band , Kelham wrote , " some will see Daybreaker as an apology , but it 's not . Others will view it as a hasty attempt to claw back the glories of third album Hollow Crown , but it 's not that either . It 's a collection of songs about moving on , growing up and making sense of what has come before " .

The record 's opening track is " The Bitter End " , an introduction built on skittish electronics , dark piano chords , xylophone notes , orchestral harmonies , haunting vocals and lyrics . The album then breaks into intense and heavy songs such as " high @-@ octane " tracks " Alpha Omega " and " These Colours Don 't Run " , which are full of " interesting rhythms and powerful melodies " .

The piano @-@ led track " Truth Be Told " gives the record a break from the chaos ; it explores post @-@ hardcore territory by following a " loop @-@ like rhythmic structure " . " Outsider Heart " has been compared to the math rock guitar playing of Meshuggah . " Devil 's Island " has been described as " a full @-@ body seizure set to electric guitar " . Architects began to experiment with elements such as the addition of string instruments and piano that would help generate atmosphere . This is evident in the melodic songs " Truth Be Told " , " Behind The Throne " and " Unbeliever " . " Behind the Throne " is an intense , atmospheric , ambient @-@ rock song with a grandiose , electro @-@ drummed backdrop .

= = = Lyrics = = =

Lyrically , the album discusses negative aspects of religion and society , and is seen as a " companion piece " to Enter Shikari 's A Flash Flood of Colour . Daybreaker 's lyrics were written by Carter and Tom Searle , who focused on political and " bigger picture " themes . Carter described " Devil 's Island " as " one of the hardest songs to write " because of the prominence of its theme of

rioting . Searle , who focused on its lyrics , said , " With money firmly ingrained into our global society we really need to look to alternative solutions when problems like the riots occur because violence is never the solution " . Carter said " Black Blood " , which was included on the re @-@ release , is about the oil industry , society 's strong dependence on oil and the way " short term profit is the only thing these people think about , instead of the longevity of what we really could do and how we could stabilize what 's really going on in the world right now " .

= = Reception = =

= = = Commercial performance = = =

Daybreaker debuted at number one on the UK Rock & Metal Albums Chart and at number 42 on the UK Album Charts for selling 3 @,@ 208 copies . It became the highest @-@ charting release by Architects in their five @-@ album career ; The Here And Now had reached number 57 . The next week , the album fell to number 12 on the Rock & Metal , then to number 33 , and it left the chart the following week . The album debuted on the US Top Heatseekers chart at number 28 , selling 1 @,@ 200 copies in its first week . In Belgium , the album charted at number 182 , and in Germany at number 93 .

= = = Critical reception = = =

Daybreaker received mixed to positive reviews from music critics . Some reviewers praised the band for texturing and progressing their sound , and for writing socio @-@ political lyrics . The album was criticised for sounding forced or formulaic . At Metacritic , which assigns a normalized rating out of 100 to reviews from mainstream critics , Daybreaker received an average score of 73 , based on 8 reviews , which indicates generally favourable reviews .

About.com writer Ryan Cooper praised the album , awarded it four stars out of five and said it " laughs in the face of those who think passionate realism , artistic integrity and mass commercial appeal are all mutually exclusive . Daybreaker balances all three with pretty much perfect dexterity . " Raziq Rauf writing for the BBC praised the band for the album 's musical diversity with its use of electronic songs like album @-@ opener " The Bitter End " and the band 's use of technicality and melody in songs . He summarised the album by saying , " Daybreaker is a great album . It ? ll go down as one of Architects ? finest works ? it ? s certainly their most well @-@ rounded release to date . " Big Cheese writer Paul Hagen praised the album 's lyrical content , saying , " Socially turbulent times seems to produce the best music and if bands can keep channelling genuine anger into their art , there are going to be some more really great albums released over the next few years " .

Canadian music magazine Exclaim ! published two reviews of Daybreaker . Bradley Zorgdrager gave an unfavourable review of the album 's sound . He said although the tracks are " catchy and occasionally compelling , they 're essentially identical and formulaic , as the atmospheric build @-@ ups and soaring riffs make way for boring breakdowns . The metal @-@ influenced parts sound forced to appease fans disappointed with their last release , which results in Daybreaker sounding more like a business move than a work of art . " Scott Harms ' review was more favourable , praising the band 's return to a much more aggressive style . He credits it for incorporating influences from previous albums , saying " they have found a balance in which to return to the Searle brothers ' heavy sounds while carefully incorporating Sam Carter 's soaring clean vocals " . Harms summarised his review by saying , " as a whole , [Daybreaker] sounds epic " . Adam Rees of Metal Hammer rated the album 7 out of 10 , acknowledging the " abundant " inclusion of string instruments and piano and the way these instruments create atmosphere . Rees ended his review by calling Daybreaker , " A brave and brilliant British metal album " . Canoe.ca author Darryl Sterdan awarded the album 2 @.@ 5 stars out of 5 , saying it " balanc [es] their newfound sensitivity and maturity with plenty of good old @-@ fashioned techno @-@ metal frenzy and primal @-@ scream aggro .

Pity they didn't write memorable songs while they were at it . "

Alt Sounds writer Candice Haridimou gave the album a rating of 94 % out of 100 % and praised the album 's lyrical content . She said the political nature of the album also uses emotional dramatisation to capture the listener , particularly in songs like " Devil 's Island " . Haridimou states the song " drives remorse into the cold hearts of those involved . It ' s a severe and poignant song that will stand the test of time . " Ryan Bird , in an otherwise positive review of Daybreaker , criticised it upon first hearing it ; he said it struggled to settle into any distinctive rhythm or groove . However , Bird concluded his review by saying , " but despite its relative (and relatively few) faults . ' Daybreaker ' represents a victory for a band who some had once been so eager to write off , suggesting that maybe ? just maybe ? they 've got what it takes to bring both sides [of their fanbase] together " .

= = = Accolades = = =

Daybreaker featured on several lists of best albums of 2012 , including Rock Sounds top 50 at number 48 , Kerrang ! ' s 101 at number 36 and Ourzone 's at number 23 out of 25 .

= = Track listing = =

All music composed by Architects .

= = Personnel = =

= = Release history = =

= = Chart performance = =