

= Soundtrack to the Apocalypse =

Soundtrack to the Apocalypse is a box set by the American thrash metal band Slayer . Released November 25 , 2003 through American Recordings , the four ? disc CD and DVD set features music from previous albums , unreleased material , and live film . A deluxe edition version (which has the alias " ammo box ") was released and featured everything from the standard edition , with the addition of 14 live tracks . The box set 's name originated from an alternative title for 2001 's God Hates Us All . After discussing among themselves the idea of the box set , the band informed their record company , who initially disliked but later approved the idea .

Many dates were stated by band members as to when it would be released . The official release date was not announced until late October 2003 . The box set has been released into the public domain five times between late 2003 to early 2007 . There were several producers and film directors that were involved with the box set . The set received positive reviews from critics , but was not well received by fans , with the set debuting on no notable charts .

= = Conception = =

Around the time Slayer thought of the album title for 2001 's God Hates Us All , Soundtrack to the Apocalypse was considered an alternative name . Vocalist Tom Araya then suggested that if they ever opted to issue a box set , Soundtrack to the Apocalypse would be the most appropriate title . This inspired discussion regarding a possible box set release , which continued for several months . The group decided that once the label agreed to a release , they would be given a little more time to compile the material . Slayer approached the record company regarding a box set release , and discussions lasted roughly a year , since the band had to negotiate with the record company concerning plans they had with the box set which were not in their contract . In September 2003 , the record company granted permission to issue the box set and wanted an immediate release for the holiday season .

Slayer submitted a range of material for the record company to choose from , instructing them to return a track list of what they felt to be the best items . Following this , Slayer looked at the returned material ; if the recorded track was a ? good ? performance but the band " didn ? t care for the song " , they asked the record company to select another track .

Guitarist Kerry King commented " there 's tons of stuff on there " , citing the amount they had to choose from as a problem . King himself owned five large Tupperware storage boxes full of material amassed over the years . Having every magazine had ever seen the group inside , King also possessed roughly 70 VHS and 8mm videos dating back to 1983 . Nick John of Slayer ? s management team sifted through every video and transferred them to DVD .

= = Production = =

Soundtrack to the Apocalypse 's ideal release date was in early November 2003 . However , on September 25 , 2003 , it was announced by employees of MTV that the box set 's release date had been pushed back to November 18 , 2003 . On October 23 , 2003 , employees of MTV announced that the box set 's release date was pushed back to November 25 , 2003 . Since November 25 , 2003 , Slayer has released the box set five different times . The first three times were each released in 2003 , the first being released through Universal Records , and the other two , one being a Deluxe Edition version , were released through American Records . The set 's fourth release , which was packaged with only three discs , was released through American Records in 2006 . The box set 's final release was in 2007 , where it was released through WEA International . It was also released in the United Kingdom on December 8 , 2003 . It was produced with three Compact Discs , one DVD , and a booklet .

The packaging was praised by PopMatters , insisting that the box set is " very nicely packaged , in a swanky fold @-@ out digipak with a clear plastic slipcase . The 72 @-@ page accompanying booklet is outstanding , with extensive liner notes , loads of photos , and many memories from the

band members . " USA Today related : " [it is] a combination of the metal grinders ' best @-@ known tracks , with live and studio rarities plus 17 DVD selections . A deluxe edition (\$ 100) adds a live disc and a few souvenir extras . " Soundtrack to the Apocalypse was produced by Matt Hyde , Dino Paredes , Rick Rubin , D. Sardy , and Andy Wallace and was executively produced by Nick John and Rick Sales . The film on the fourth disc was directed by Di Puglia , Gerard . The set includes many Slayer tracks since 1986 with several rarities and b @-@ sides , and includes a remastered DVD of live performances spanning 20 years . A fifth disc was released with fourteen more tracks than the set 's standard edition . The bonus live tracks are were recorded at The Grove In Anaheim , California , on May 2 , 2002 , several months following the return of original drummer Dave Lombardo . The extra tracks are packaged in a " blood pack " sleeve , which is decorated with faux blood and skulls .

= = Reception = =

Although it did not enter any charts , Thom Jurek from AllMusic praised Soundtrack to the Apocalypse , rewarding the box set with four out of five stars . Jurek said it had " a whopping four CDs and one DVD . " Jurek noted that discs one and two " feature tracks from Reign in Blood , and all the albums that proceed from it , and includes bonus cuts previously only released in Japan , and cuts from soundtracks . " He also said that the third disc " is , appropriately , titled ' Shit You Never Heard ' because that 's what it is ? sixteen tracks that have been unissued anywhere ? from rehearsals , to in @-@ concert recordings , demos , and one ' No Remorse , ' a collaboration with Atari Teenage Riot , from the Spawn soundtrack , " and that the fourth disc are " an electronic press kit video for Diabolus in Musica , and an appearance at the Kerrang magazine awards . " Adrien Begrand from PopMatters favoured the album , lauding the packaging but stating that " like any other CD box set that has come out in recent years , the band seems torn about whom to appeal to , longtime fans , or newcomers . " Begrand noted that the first disc " is especially great , as it captures Slayer at the peak of their career , starting with the classic 1986 album Reign in Blood . " PR Newswire said it was " a Slayer fan 's ultimate experience , " and The Dallas Morning News called it " a fat new audiovisual box set . "

= = Track listing = =

= = Personnel = =

Slayer

Tom Araya ? bass , vocals

Jeff Hanneman ? guitar

Kerry King ? guitar

Dave Lombardo ? drums on disc # 1 tracks 1 ? 18 , disc # 2 track 15 , disc # 3 tracks 1 ? 7 , 10 ? 11 and 16 ? 17 , disc # 4 tracks 1 ? 10 and 15 ? 17 , disc # 5 tracks 1 ? 14

Paul Bostaph ? drums on disc # 2 tracks 1 ? 14 and 16 ? 22 , disc # 3 tracks 12 and 14 ? 15 , disc # 4 track 14

Jon Dette ? drums on disc # 4 track 11

Production