

= Metallica =

Metallica is an American heavy metal band formed in Los Angeles , California . Metallica was formed in 1981 when vocalist / guitarist James Hetfield responded to an advertisement posted by drummer Lars Ulrich in a local newspaper . The band 's current line @-@ up comprises founding members Hetfield and Ulrich , longtime lead guitarist Kirk Hammett and bassist Robert Trujillo . Guitarist Dave Mustaine and bassists Ron McGovney , Cliff Burton and Jason Newsted are former members of the band .

The band 's fast tempos , instrumentals , and aggressive musicianship placed them as one of the founding " big four " bands of thrash metal , alongside Anthrax , Megadeth , and Slayer . Metallica earned a growing fan base in the underground music community and won critical acclaim with its first four albums ; their third album Master of Puppets (1986) was described as one of the most influential and heaviest of thrash metal albums . The band expanded its musical direction and achieved substantial commercial success with its eponymous fifth album Metallica (1991) , which resulted in an album that appealed to a more mainstream audience . The album was also their first to debut at number one on the Billboard 200 , a feat that they also achieved on their following four studio albums . In 2000 , Metallica was among a number of artists who filed a lawsuit against Napster for sharing the band 's copyright @-@ protected material for free without consent from any band member . A settlement was reached and Napster became a pay @-@ to @-@ use service . The release of St. Anger (2003) alienated fans with the exclusion of guitar solos and the " steel @-@ sounding " snare drum , and a film titled Some Kind of Monster documented the recording of St. Anger and the tensions within the band during that time . The band returned to its original musical style with the release of Death Magnetic (2008) , and in 2009 , Metallica was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame .

Metallica has released nine studio albums , four live albums , five extended plays , 26 music videos , and 37 singles . The band has won eight Grammy Awards and five of its albums have consecutively debuted at number one on the Billboard 200 . The band 's eponymous 1991 album has sold over 16 million copies in the United States , making it the best @-@ selling album of the SoundScan era . Metallica ranks as one of the most commercially successful bands of all time , having sold over 110 million records worldwide . Metallica has been listed as one of the greatest artists of all time by many magazines , including Rolling Stone , which ranked them 61st on its list of The 100 Greatest Artists of All Time . As of December 2012 , Metallica is the third @-@ best @-@ selling music artist since Nielsen SoundScan began tracking sales in 1991 , selling a total of 54 @.@ 26 million albums in the U.S. Metallica collaborated over a long period with producer Bob Rock , who produced four of the band 's studio albums between 1990 and 2003 and served as a temporary bassist during the production of St. Anger . In 2012 , Metallica formed the independent record label Blackened Recordings and took full ownership of its albums and videos . As of 2016 , the band is in production of its tenth studio album , which is expected to be released later in the year .

= = History = =

= = = Formation and early years (1981 ? 82) = = =

Metallica was formed in Los Angeles , California , in late 1981 when Danish @-@ born drummer Lars Ulrich placed an advertisement in a Los Angeles newspaper The Recycler , which read , " Drummer looking for other metal musicians to jam with Tygers of Pan Tang , Diamond Head and Iron Maiden . " Guitarists James Hetfield and Hugh Tanner of Leather Charm answered the advertisement . Although he had not formed a band , Ulrich asked Metal Blade Records founder Brian Slagel if he could record a song for the label 's upcoming compilation album Metal Massacre . Slagel accepted and Ulrich recruited Hetfield to sing and play rhythm guitar . The band was officially formed in October 1981 , five months after Ulrich and Hetfield first met .

Ulrich talked to his friend Ron Quintana , who was brainstorming names for a fanzine . Quintana had proposed the names MetalMania and Metallica . Ulrich named his band Metallica . A second advertisement was placed in The Recycler for a position as lead guitarist . Dave Mustaine answered ; Ulrich and Hetfield recruited him after seeing his expensive guitar equipment . In early 1982 , Metallica recorded its first original song " Hit the Lights " for the Metal Massacre I compilation . Hetfield played bass on the song and Lloyd Grant was credited with a guitar solo . Metal Massacre I was released on June 14 , 1982 ; early pressings listed the band incorrectly as " Mettallica " . Although angered by the error , Metallica created enough " buzz " with the song and the band played its first live performance on March 14 , 1982 at Radio City in Anaheim , California , with newly recruited bassist Ron McGovney . The band 's first taste of live success came early ; they were chosen to open for British heavy metal band Saxon at one gig of their 1982 US tour . This was Metallica 's second gig . Metallica recorded its first demo , Power Metal , a name inspired by Quintana 's early business cards in early 1982 .

The term " thrash metal " was coined by Kerrang ! ' s journalist Malcolm Dome in reference to Anthrax 's song " Metal Thrashing Mad " in Kerrang ! ' s issue 62 , page 8 , published on February 23 , 1984 . Prior to this , James Hetfield referred to Metallica 's sound as " power metal " . In late 1982 , Ulrich and Hetfield attended a show at the West Hollywood nightclub Whisky a Go Go , which featured bassist Cliff Burton in a band called Trauma . The two were " blown away " by Burton 's use of a wah @-@ wah pedal and asked him to join Metallica . Hetfield and Mustaine wanted McGovney to leave because they thought he " didn 't contribute anything , he just followed " . Although Burton initially declined the offer , by the end of the year he had accepted on the condition the band move to El Cerrito in the San Francisco Bay Area . Metallica 's first live performance with Burton was at the nightclub The Stone in March 1983 , and the first recording to feature Burton was the Megaforce demo (1983) .

Metallica was ready to record their debut album , but when Metal Blade was unable to cover the cost , the band began looking for other options . Concert promoter Johnny " Z " Zazula , who had heard the demo No Life ' til Leather (1982) , offered to broker a record deal between Metallica and New York City @-@ based record labels . After those record labels showed no interest , Zazula borrowed enough money to cover the recording budget and signed Metallica to his own label , Megaforce Records .

= = = Kill ' Em All and Ride the Lightning (1983 ? 85) = = =

In May 1983 , Metallica traveled to Rochester , New York to record its debut album , Metal Up Your Ass , which was produced by Paul Curcio . The other members decided to eject Mustaine from the band because of his drug and alcohol abuse , and violent behavior just before the recording sessions on April 11 , 1983 . Exodus guitarist Kirk Hammett replaced Mustaine the same afternoon .

Mustaine , who went on to found Megadeth , has expressed his dislike for Hammett in interviews , saying Hammett " stole " his job . Mustaine was " pissed off " because he believes Hammett became popular by playing guitar leads that Mustaine himself had written . In a 1985 interview with Metal Forces , Mustaine said , " it 's real funny how Kirk Hammett ripped off every lead break I 'd played on that No Life ' til Leather tape and got voted No. 1 guitarist in your magazine " . On Megadeth 's debut album Killing Is My Business ... and Business Is Good ! (1985) , Mustaine included the song " Mechanix " , which Metallica reworked and retitled " The Four Horsemen " on Kill ' Em All . Mustaine said he did this to " straighten Metallica up " because Metallica referred to Mustaine as a drunk and said he could not play guitar . Metallica 's first live performance with Hammett was on April 16 , 1983 , at a nightclub in Dover , New Jersey called The Showplace ; the support act was Anthrax 's original line @-@ up , which included Dan Lilker and Neil Turbin . This was the first time the two bands performed live together .

Because of conflicts with its record label and the distributors ' refusal to release an album titled Metal Up Your Ass , the album was renamed Kill ' Em All . It was released on Megaforce Records in the U.S. and on Music for Nations in Europe , and peaked at number 155 on the Billboard 200 in

1986 . [1] Although the album was not initially a financial success , it earned Metallica a growing fan base in the underground metal scene . To support the release , Metallica embarked on the Kill ' Em All for One tour with Raven . In February 1984 , Metallica supported Venom on the Seven Dates of Hell tour , during which the bands performed in front of 7 @, @ 000 people at the Aardschok Festival in Zwolle , Netherlands .

Metallica recorded its second studio album , Ride the Lightning , at Sweet Silence Studios in Copenhagen , Denmark . It was released in August 1984 and reached number 100 on the Billboard 200 . A French printing press mistakenly printed green covers for the album , which are now considered collectors ' items . Mustaine received writing credit for " Ride the Lightning " and " The Call of Ktulu " .

Elektra Records A & R director Michael Alago , and co @-@ founder of Q @-@ Prime Management Cliff Burnstein , attended a Metallica concert in September 1984 . They were impressed with the performance , signed Metallica to Elektra , and made the band as a client of Q @-@ Prime Management . Metallica 's growing success was such that the band 's British label Music for Nations released Creeping Death as a limited edition single , which sold 40 @, @ 000 copies as an import in the U.S. Two of the three songs on the record ? cover versions of Diamond Head 's " Am I Evil ? " and Blitzkrieg 's " Blitzkrieg " ? appeared on the 1989 Elektra reissue of Kill ' Em All . Metallica embarked on its first major European tour with Tank to an average crowd of 1 @, @ 300 . Returning to the U.S. , it embarked upon a tour co @-@ headlining with W.A.S.P. and supported by Armored Saint . Metallica played its largest show at the Monsters of Rock festival at Donington Park , England , on August 17 , 1985 , with Bon Jovi and Ratt , playing to 70 @, @ 000 people . At a show in Oakland , California , at the Day on the Green festival , the band played to a crowd of 60 @, @ 000 .

= = = Master of Puppets and Burton 's death (1986 ? 87) = = =

Metallica 's third studio album , Master of Puppets , was recorded at Sweet Silence Studios and was released in March 1986 . The album reached number 29 on the Billboard 200 and spent 72 weeks on the chart . It was the band 's first album to be certified gold on November 4 , 1986 , and was certified six times platinum in 2003 . Steve Huey of AllMusic considered the album " the band 's greatest achievement " . Following the release of the album , Metallica supported Ozzy Osbourne on a U.S. tour . Hetfield broke his wrist while skateboarding ; he continued with the tour , performing vocals , with guitar technician John Marshall playing rhythm guitar .

On September 27 , 1986 , during the European leg of Metallica 's Damage , Inc . Tour , members drew cards to determine which bunks on the tour bus they would sleep in . Burton won and chose to sleep in Hammett 's bunk . At around sunrise near Dörarp , Sweden , the bus driver lost control and skidded , which caused the bus to overturn several times . Ulrich , Hammett , and Hetfield sustained no serious injuries ; however , bassist Burton was pinned under the bus and died . Hetfield said :

I saw the bus lying right on him . I saw his legs sticking out . I freaked . The bus driver , I recall , was trying to yank the blanket out from under him to use for other people . I just went , ' Don 't fucking do that ! ' I already wanted to kill the [bus driver] . I don 't know if he was drunk or if he hit some ice . All I knew was , he was driving and Cliff wasn 't alive anymore .

Burton 's death left Metallica 's future in doubt . The three remaining members decided Burton would want them to carry on , and with the Burton family 's blessings the band sought a replacement . Roughly 40 people , including Hammett 's childhood friend , Les Claypool of Primus , Troy Gregory of Prong , and Jason Newsted , formerly of Flotsam and Jetsam , auditioned for the band . Newsted learned Metallica 's entire set list ; after the audition Metallica invited him to Tommy 's Joynt in San Francisco . Hetfield , Ulrich , and Hammett decided on Newsted as Burton 's replacement ; Newsted 's first live performance with Metallica was at the Country Club in Reseda , California . The members initiated Newsted by tricking him into eating a ball of wasabi .

After Newsted joined Metallica , the band left its El Cerrito practice space ? a suburban house formerly rented by sound engineer Mark Whitaker dubbed " the Metalli @-@ mansion " ? and relocated to the adjacent cities of Berkeley and Albany before eventually settling in the Marin County

city of San Rafael , north of San Francisco .

Metallica finished its tour in the early months of 1987 . In March 1987 , Hetfield again broke his wrist while skateboarding , forcing the band to cancel an appearance on Saturday Night Live . In August 1987 , an all @-@ covers extended play (EP) titled The \$ 5 @.@ 98 E.P. : Garage Days Re @-@ Revisited was released . The EP was recorded in an effort to use the band 's newly constructed recording studio , test Newsted 's talents , and to relieve grief and stress following the death of Burton . A video titled Cliff ' Em All commemorating Burton 's three years in Metallica was released in 1987 ; the video included bass solos , home videos , and pictures .

= = = ... And Justice for All and Metallica (1988 ? 93) = = =

Metallica 's first studio album since Burton 's death , ... And Justice for All , was released in 1988 . The album was a commercial success , reaching number six on the Billboard 200 , and was the band 's first album to enter the top 10 . The album was certified platinum nine weeks after its release . Newsted 's bass on the album was purposely attenuated as part of the continuous " hazing " he received , and his musical ideas were ignored ? though he received writing credit for the track " Blackened " . There were complaints about the production ; Steve Huey of AllMusic said Ulrich 's drums were clicking more than thudding , and the guitars " buzz thinly " . To promote the album , Metallica embarked on a tour called Damaged Justice .

In 1989 , Metallica received its first Grammy Award nomination for ... And Justice for All in the new Best Hard Rock / Metal Performance Vocal or Instrument category . Metallica was the favorite to win but the award was given to Jethro Tull for the album Crest of a Knave . The award was controversial with fans and the press ; Metallica was standing off @-@ stage waiting to receive the award after performing the song " One " . Jethro Tull had been advised by its manager not to attend the ceremony because he was expecting Metallica to win . The award was named in Entertainment Weekly 's " Grammy 's 10 Biggest Upsets " .

Following the release of ... And Justice for All , Metallica released its debut music video for the song " One " , which the band performed in an abandoned warehouse . The footage was remixed with the film Johnny Got His Gun . Rather than organize an ongoing licensing deal , Metallica purchased the rights to the film . The remixed video was submitted to MTV with an alternative , performance @-@ only version that was held back in case MTV banned the remixed version . MTV accepted the remixed version ; the video was viewers ' first exposure to Metallica . In 1999 it was voted number 38 in 1999 in MTV 's " Top 100 Videos of All Time " countdown ; it was featured in the network 's 25th Anniversary edition of ADD Video , which showcased the most popular videos on MTV in the last 25 years .

In October 1990 , Metallica entered One on One Recording 's studio in North Hollywood to record its next album . Bob Rock , who had worked with Aerosmith , The Cult , Bon Jovi , and Mötley Crüe , was hired as the producer . Metallica ? also known as The Black Album ? was remixed three times , cost US \$ 1 million , and ended three marriages . Although the release was delayed until 1991 , Metallica debuted at number one in ten countries , selling 650 @,@ 000 units in the U.S. during its first week . The album brought Metallica mainstream attention ; it has been certified 16 times platinum in the U.S. , which makes it the 25th @-@ best @-@ selling album in the country . The making of Metallica and the following tour was documented in A Year and a Half in the Life of Metallica . The tour in support of the album , called the Wherever We May Roam Tour , lasted 14 months and included dates in the U.S. , Japan , and the UK . In April 1992 , Metallica appeared at The Freddie Mercury Tribute Concert and performed a three @-@ song set . Hetfield later performed " Stone Cold Crazy " with the remaining members of Queen and Tony Iommi .

On August 8 , 1992 , during the co @-@ headlining Guns N ' Roses / Metallica Stadium Tour , Hetfield suffered second and third degree burns to his arms , face , hands , and legs . There had been some confusion with the new pyrotechnics setup , which resulted in Hetfield walking into a 12 @-@ foot (3 @.@ 7 m) flame during " Fade to Black " . Newsted said Hetfield 's skin was " bubbling like on The Toxic Avenger " . Guitar technician John Marshall , who had previously filled in on rhythm guitar and was now playing in Metal Church , replaced Hetfield for the remainder of the

tour ; Hetfield was unable to play guitar , although he was able to sing . Later in 1993 , Metallica went on the Nowhere Else to Roam Tour , playing five shows in Mexico City . Live Shit : Binge & Purge , the band 's first box set , was released in November 1993 . The collection contained three live CDs , three home videos , and a book filled with riders and letters .

= = = Load , Reload , Garage Inc. and S & M (1994 ? 99) = = =

After almost three years of touring to promote the album Metallica , including a headlining performance at Woodstock ' 94 , Metallica returned to the studio to write and record its sixth studio album . The band went on a brief hiatus in the summer of 1995 and played three outdoor shows that included headlining at Donington Park , where it was supported by Slayer , Skid Row , Slash 's Snakepit , Therapy ? , and Corrosion of Conformity . The short tour was titled Escape from the Studio ' 95 . The band spent about a year writing and recording new songs , resulting in the release of Load in 1996 . Load debuted at number one on the Billboard 200 and ARIA Charts ; it was the band 's second number one album . The cover art of Load , called Blood and Semen III , was created by Andres Serrano , who pressed a mixture of his own semen and blood between sheets of plexiglass . The release marked a change in the band 's musical direction and a new image ; band members ' hair was cut . Metallica headlined the alternative rock festival Lollapalooza in mid @-@ 1996 .

During early production of the album , the band had recorded enough material to fill a double album . It was decided that half of the songs were to be released ; the band would continue to work on the remaining songs and release them the following year . This resulted in the follow @-@ up album , Reload . The cover art was again created by Serrano , this time using a mixture of blood and urine . Reload debuted at number one on the Billboard 200 and reached number two on the Top Canadian Album chart . Hetfield said in the 2004 documentary film Some Kind of Monster that the band initially thought some of the songs on these albums were of average quality ; these were " polished and reworked " until judged to be releasable . To promote Reload , Metallica performed " Fuel " and " The Memory Remains " with Marianne Faithfull on NBC 's Saturday Night Live in December 1997 .

In 1998 , Metallica compiled a double album of cover songs titled Garage Inc . The first disc contained newly recorded covers of songs by Diamond Head , Killing Joke , the Misfits , Thin Lizzy , Mercyful Fate , Black Sabbath , and others . The second disc featured the original version of The \$ 5 @-@ 98 E.P. : Garage Days Re @-@ Revisited , which had become a scarce collectors ' item . The album entered the Billboard 200 at number two .

On April 21 and 22 , 1999 , Metallica recorded two performances with the San Francisco Symphony conducted by Michael Kamen , who had previously worked with producer Rock on " Nothing Else Matters " . Kamen approached Metallica in 1991 with the idea of pairing the band 's music with a symphony orchestra . Kamen and his staff of over 100 composed additional orchestral material for Metallica songs . Metallica wrote two new Kamen @-@ scored songs for the event , " No Leaf Clover " and " -Human " . The audio recording and concert footage were released in 1999 as the album and concert film S & M. It entered the Billboard 200 at number two , and the Australian ARIA charts and Top Internet Albums chart at number one .

= = = Napster controversy , Newsted 's departure and St. Anger (2000 ? 05) = = =

In 2000 , Metallica discovered that a demo of its song " I Disappear " , which was supposed to be released in combination with the Mission : Impossible II soundtrack , was receiving radio airplay . Tracing the source of the leak , the band found the file on the Napster peer @-@ to @-@ peer file @-@ sharing network , and also found that the band 's entire catalogue was freely available . Legal action was initiated against Napster ; Metallica filed a lawsuit at the U.S. District Court , Central District of California , alleging that Napster violated three areas of the law : copyright infringement , unlawful use of digital audio interface device , and the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) .

Ulrich provided a statement to the Senate Judiciary Committee regarding copyright infringement on

July 11 , 2000 . Federal Judge Marilyn Hall Patel ordered the site to place a filter on the program within 72 hours or be shut down . A settlement between Metallica and Napster was reached when German media conglomerate Bertelsmann BMG showed interest in purchasing the rights to Napster for \$ 94 million . Under the terms of settlement , Napster agreed to block users who shared music by artists who do not want their music shared . On June 3 , 2002 , Napster filed for Chapter 11 protection under U.S. bankruptcy laws . On September 3 , 2002 , an American bankruptcy judge blocked the sale of Napster to Bertelsmann and forced Napster to liquidate its assets according to Chapter 7 of the U.S. bankruptcy laws .

At the 2000 MTV Video Music Awards , Ulrich appeared with host Marlon Wayans in a skit that criticized the idea of using Napster to share music . Marlon played a college student listening to Metallica 's " I Disappear " . Ulrich walked in and asked for an explanation . Ulrich responded to Wayans ' excuse that using Napster was just " sharing " by saying that Wayans ' idea of sharing was " borrowing things that were not yours without asking " . He called in the Metallica road crew , who proceeded to confiscate all of Wayans ' belongings , leaving him almost naked in an empty room . Napster creator Shawn Fanning responded later in the ceremony by presenting an award wearing a Metallica shirt , saying , " I borrowed this shirt from a friend . Maybe , if I like it , I 'll buy one of my own . " Ulrich was later booed on stage at the award show when he introduced the final musical act , Blink @-@ 182 .

Newsted left Metallica on January 17 , 2001 , as plans were being made to enter the recording studio . He said he left the band for " private and personal reasons , and the physical damage I have done to myself over the years while playing the music that I love " . During a Playboy interview with Metallica , Newsted said he wanted to release an album with his side project , Echobrain . Hetfield was opposed to the idea and said , " When someone does a side project , it takes away from the strength of Metallica " , and that a side project is " like cheating on your wife in a way " . Newsted said Hetfield had recorded vocals for a song used in the film South Park : Bigger , Longer & Uncut , and appeared on two Corrosion of Conformity albums . Hetfield replied , " My name isn 't on those records . And I 'm not out trying to sell them " , and pondered questions such as , " Where would it end ? Does he start touring with it ? Does he sell shirts ? Is it his band ? "

In April 2001 , filmmakers Joe Berlinger and Bruce Sinofsky began following Metallica to document the recording process of the band 's next studio album . Over two years they recorded more than 1 @,@ 000 hours of footage . On July 19 , 2001 , before preparations to enter the recording studio , Hetfield entered rehab to treat his " alcoholism and other addictions " . All recording plans were put on hold and the band 's future was in doubt . Hetfield left rehab on December 4 , 2001 , and the band returned to the recording studio on April 12 , 2002 . Hetfield was required to limit his work to four hours a day between noon and 4 pm , and to spend the rest of his time with his family . The footage recorded by Berlinger and Sinofsky was compiled into the documentary Some Kind of Monster , which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in January 2004 . In the documentary , Newsted said his former bandmates ' decision to hire a therapist to help solve their problems which he felt they could have solved on their own was " really fucking lame and weak " .

For the duration of the recording period , producer Bob Rock played bass on the album and in several live shows at which Metallica performed during that time . Once the record was completed in early 2003 , the band started to hold auditions for Newsted 's permanent replacement . Bassists Pepper Keenan , Jeordie White , Scott Reeder , Eric Avery , Danny Lohner , and Chris Wyse ? among others ? auditioned for the role . After three months of auditions , Robert Trujillo , formerly of Suicidal Tendencies and Ozzy Osbourne 's band , was chosen as the new bassist . As Metallica moved on , Newsted joined Canadian thrash metal band Voivod in 2002 , and was Trujillo 's replacement in Osbourne 's band during the 2003 Ozzfest tour , which included Voivod .

In June 2003 , Metallica 's eighth studio album , St. Anger , debuted at number one on the Billboard 200 , and drew mixed reactions from critics . Ulrich 's " steely " sounding snare drum and the absence of guitar solos received particular criticism . Kevin Forest Moreau of Shakingthrough.net said , " the guitars stumble in a monotone of mid @-@ level , processed rattle ; the drums don 't propel as much as struggle to disguise an all @-@ too @-@ turgid pace ; and the rage is both unfocused and leavened with too much narcissistic navel @-@ gazing " . Brent DiCrescenzo of

Pitchfork Media described it as " an utter mess " . However , Blender magazine called it the " grimmest and grimmest of the band 's Bob Rock productions " , and New York Magazine called it " utterly raw and rocking " . The title track , " St. Anger " , won the Grammy Award for Best Metal Performance in 2004 ; it was used as the official theme song for WWE 's SummerSlam 2003 .

Before the band 's set at the 2004 Download Festival , Ulrich was rushed to the hospital after having an anxiety seizure and was unable to perform . Hetfield searched for last @-@ minute volunteers to replace Ulrich . Slayer drummer Dave Lombardo and Slipknot drummer Joey Jordison volunteered . Lombardo performed " Battery " and " The Four Horsemen " , Ulrich 's drum technician Flemming Larsen performed " Fade to Black " , and Jordison performed the remainder of the set . Having toured for two years in support of St. Anger on the Summer Sanitarium Tour 2003 and the Madly in Anger with the World Tour , with multi @-@ platinum rock band Godsmack in support , Metallica took a break from performing and spent most of 2005 with friends and family . The band opened for The Rolling Stones at AT & T Park in San Francisco on November 13 and 15 , 2005 .

= = = Death Magnetic , Lulu and Beyond Magnetic (2006 ? 11) = = =

In December 2006 , Metallica released a DVD titled The Videos 1989 ? 2004 , which sold 28 @,@ 000 copies in its first week and entered the Billboard Top Videos chart at number three . Metallica recorded a guitar @-@ based interpretation of Ennio Morricone 's " The Ecstasy of Gold " for a tribute album titled We All Love Ennio Morricone , which was released in February 2007 . The track received a Grammy nomination at the 50th Grammy Awards for the category " Best Rock Instrumental Performance " . A recording of " The Ecstasy of Gold " has been played to introduce Metallica 's performances since the 1980s . Earlier that year , Metallica announced on its official website that after 15 years , long @-@ time producer Bob Rock would not be producing the band 's next studio album . Instead , the band chose to work with producer Rick Rubin . Metallica scheduled the release of Death Magnetic as September 12 , 2008 , and the band filmed a music video for the album 's first single , " The Day That Never Comes " .

On September 2 , 2008 , a record store in France began selling copies of Death Magnetic nearly two weeks before its scheduled worldwide release date , which resulted in the album being made available on peer @-@ to @-@ peer clients . This prompted the band 's UK distributor Vertigo Records to officially release the album on September 10 , 2008 . Rumors of Metallica or Warner Bros. taking legal action against the French retailer were unconfirmed , though drummer Lars Ulrich responded to the leak by saying , " ... We 're ten days from release . I mean , from here , we 're golden . If this thing leaks all over the world today or tomorrow , happy days . Happy days . Trust me " , and , " By 2008 standards , that 's a victory . If you 'd told me six months ago that our record wouldn 't leak until 10 days out , I would have signed up for that . "

Death Magnetic debuted at number one in the U.S. selling 490 @,@ 000 units ; Metallica became the first band to have five consecutive studio albums debut at number one in the history of the Billboard 200 . A week after its release , Death Magnetic remained at number one on the Billboard 200 and the European album chart ; it also became the fastest selling album of 2008 in Australia .

Death Magnetic remained at number one on the Billboard 200 album chart for three consecutive weeks . Metallica was one of two artists whose album ? the other being Jack Johnson 's album Sleep Through the Static ? remained on the Billboard 200 for three consecutive weeks at number one in 2008 . Death Magnetic also remained at number one on Billboard 's Hard Rock , Modern Rock / Alternative and Rock album charts for five consecutive weeks . The album reached number one in 32 countries outside the U.S. , including the UK , Canada , and Australia . In November 2008 , Metallica 's record deal with Warner Bros. ended and the band considered releasing its next album through the internet .

On January 14 , 2009 , it was announced that Metallica would be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame on April 4 , 2009 , and that former bassist Jason Newsted ? who left the band in 2001 ? would perform with the band at the ceremony . Initially , it was announced that the matter had been discussed and that bassist Trujillo had agreed not to play because he " wanted to see the Black Album band " . However , during the band 's set of " Master of Puppets " and " Enter

Sandman " , both Trujillo and Newsted were on stage . Ray Burton , father of the late Cliff Burton , accepted the honor on his behalf . Although he was not to be inducted with them , Metallica invited Dave Mustaine to take part in the induction ceremony . Mustaine declined because of his touring commitments in Europe .

Metallica , Slayer , Megadeth , and Anthrax performed on the same bill for the first time on June 16 , 2010 , at Warsaw Babice Airport , Warsaw , as a part of the Sonisphere Festival series . The show in Sofia , Bulgaria , on June 22 , 2010 , was broadcast via satellite to cinemas . The bands also played concerts in Bucharest on June 26 , 2010 , and Istanbul on June 27 , 2010 . On June 28 , 2010 , Death Magnetic was certified 2X platinum by the RIAA .

Metallica 's World Magnetic Tour ended in Melbourne on November 21 , 2010 . The band had been touring for over two years in support of Death Magnetic . To accompany the final tour dates in Australia and New Zealand , a live , limited edition EP of past performances in Australia called Six Feet Down Under was released . The EP was followed by Six Feet Down Under (Part II) , which was released on November 12 , 2010 . Part 2 contains a further eight songs recorded during the first two Oceanic Legs of the World Magnetic Tour .

On November 26 , 2010 , Metallica released a live EP titled Live at Grimey 's , which was recorded in June 2008 at Grimey 's Record Store , just before the band 's appearance at Bonnaroo Music Festival that year .

In a June 2009 interview with Italy 's Rock TV , Ulrich said Metallica was planning to continue touring until August 2010 , and that there were no plans for a tenth album . He said he was sure the band would collaborate with producer Rick Rubin again . According to Blabbermouth.net , the band was considering recording its next album in the second half of 2011 . In November 2010 , during an interview with The Pulse of Radio , Ulrich said Metallica would return to writing in 2011 . Ulrich said , " There 's a bunch of balls in the air for 2011 , but I think the main one is we really want to get back to writing again . We haven 't really written since , what , ' 06 , ' 07 , and we want to get back to kind of just being creative again . Right now we are going to just chill out and then probably start up again in , I 'd say , March or April , and start probably putting the creative cap back on and start writing some songs . "

In an interview at the April 2011 Big Four concert , Robert Trujillo said Metallica will work with Rick Rubin again as producer for the new album and were " really excited to write some new music . There 's no shortage of riffage in Metallica world right now . " He added , " The first album with Rick was also the first album for me , so in a lot of ways , you 're kind of testing the water . Now that we 're comfortable with Rick and his incredible engineer , Greg Fidelman , who worked with Slayer , actually , on this last record ? it 's my hero ? it 's a great team . And it 's only gonna better ; I really believe that . So I 'm super @-@ excited . " In June 2011 , Rubin said Metallica had begun writing its new album . On November 9 , 2010 , Metallica announced it would be headlining the Rock in Rio festival in Rio de Janeiro on September 25 , 2011 .

On December 13 , 2010 , the band announced it would again play as part of the " big four " during the Sonisphere Festival at Knebworth House , Hertfordshire , on July 8 , 2011 . It was the first time all of the " big four " members played on the same stage in the UK . On December 17 , 2010 , Another " big four " Sonisphere performance that would take place in France on July 9 was announced . On January 25 , 2011 , another " big four " performance on April 23 , 2011 , at the Empire Polo Club in Indio , California , was announced . It was the first time all of the " big four " members played on the same stage in the U.S. On February 17 , 2011 , a show in Gelsenkirchen , Germany , on July 2 , 2011 , was announced . On February 22 , a " big four " show in Milan on July 6 , 2011 , was announced . On March 2 , 2011 , another " big four " concert , which took place in Gothenburg on July 3 , 2011 , was announced . The final " big four " concert was in New York City , at Yankee Stadium , on September 14 , 2011 .

On June 15 , 2011 , Metallica announced that recording sessions with singer @-@ songwriter Lou Reed had concluded . The album , which was titled Lulu , was recorded over several months and comprised ten songs based on Frank Wedekind 's " Lulu " plays Earth Spirit and Pandora 's Box . The album was released on October 31 , 2011 . The recording of the album was problematic at times ; Lars Ulrich later said Lou Reed challenged him to a " street fight " . On October 16 , 2011 ,

Robert Trujillo confirmed that the band was back in the studio and writing new material . He said , " The writing process for the new Metallica album has begun . We 've been in the studio with Rick Rubin , working on a couple of things , and we 're going to be recording during the most of next year . "

Metallica was due to make its first appearance in India at the " India Rocks " concert , supporting the 2011 Indian Grand Prix . However , the concert was canceled when the venue was proven to be unsafe . Fans raided the stage during the event and the organizers were later arrested for fraud . Metallica made its Indian debut in Bangalore on October 30 , 2011 . On November 10 , it was announced that Metallica would headline the main stage on Saturday June 9 , 2012 , at the Download Festival at Donington Park and that the band would play the The Black Album in its entirety . Metallica celebrated its 30th anniversary by playing four shows at the Fillmore in San Francisco in December 2011 . The shows were exclusive to Met Club members and tickets were charged at \$ 6 each or \$ 19 @. @ 81 for all four nights . The shows consisted of songs from the band 's career and featured guest appearances by artists who had either helped or had influenced Metallica . These shows were notable because Lloyd Grant , Dave Mustaine , Jason Newsted , Glenn Danzig , Ozzy Osbourne , Jerry Cantrell , Apocalyptica , members of Diamond Head , and King Diamond joined Metallica on stage for all appropriate songs . In December 2011 , Metallica began releasing songs that were written for Death Magnetic but were not included on the album online . On December 13 , 2011 , the band released Beyond Magnetic , a digital EP release exclusively on iTunes . It was released on CD in January 2012 .

= = = Metallica : Through the Never and tenth studio album (2012 ? present) = = =

On February 7 , 2012 , Metallica announced that it would start a new music festival called Orion Music + More , which took place on June 23 and 24 , 2012 , in Atlantic City . Metallica also confirmed that it would headline the festival on both days and would perform two of its most critically acclaimed albums in their entirety : The Black Album on one night , and Ride the Lightning on the other . In a July 2012 interview with Canadian radio station 99 @. @ 3 The Fox , Ulrich said Metallica would not release its new album until at least early 2014 . In November 2012 , Metallica left Warner Bros. Records and launched an independent record label , Blackened Recordings , which will produce the band 's future releases . The band has acquired the rights to all of its studio albums , which will be reissued through the new label . Blackened releases will be distributed through Warner subsidiary Rhino Entertainment in the U.S. and elsewhere through Universal Music . On September 20 , 2012 , Metallica announced via its official website that a new DVD containing footage of shows it performed in Quebec in 2009 would be released that December ; fans would get the chance to vote for two setlists that would appear on the DVD . The film , titled Quebec Magnetic , was released in the U.S. on December 10 , 2012 .

In an interview with Classic Rock on January 8 , 2013 , Ulrich said regarding the band 's upcoming album , " What we 're doing now certainly sounds like a continuation [of Death Magnetic] " . He also said , " I love Rick [Rubin] . We all love Rick . We 're in touch with Rick constantly . We 'll see where it goes . It would stun me if the record came out in 2013 . " Also in 2013 , the band starred in a 3D concert film titled Metallica : Through the Never , which was directed by Antal Nimród and was released in IMAX theaters on September 27 . In an interview dated July 22 , 2013 , Ulrich told Ultimate Guitar , " 2014 will be all about making a new Metallica record " ; he said the album will most likely be released during 2015 . Kirk Hammett and Robert Trujillo later confirmed the band 's intention to enter the studio . At the second Orion Music + More festival held in Detroit , the band played under the name " Dehaan " ? a reference to actor Dane DeHaan , who starred in Metallica : Through the Never . The band performed its debut album Kill ' Em All in its entirety , celebrating the 30th anniversary of its release . On December 8 , 2013 , the band played a show called " Freeze ' Em All " in Antarctica , becoming the first band to play on all seven continents . The performance was filmed and released as a live album the same month .

At the 56th Annual Grammy Awards in January 2014 , Metallica performed " One " with Chinese pianist Lang Lang . In March 2014 , Metallica began a tour called " Metallica By Request " , in which

fans request songs for the band to perform . A new song , titled " Lords of Summer " was written for the concerts and released as a " first take " demo in June 2014 . In June 2014 , the band headlined the Glastonbury Festival in an attempt to attract new fans . Ulrich said , " We have one shot , you never know if you 'll be invited back " . In November 2014 , Metallica performed at the closing ceremony of BlizzCon 2014 . In January 2015 , Metallica announced a " Metallica Night " with the San Jose Sharks , which featured a Q & A session with the band and a charity auction benefiting the San Francisco Bay Chapter of the Sierra Club , but no performances . They were announced to headline Lollapalooza in March 2015 , returning to perform there for the first time in 20 years . On May 2 , 2015 , Metallica performed their third annual Metallica Day at AT & T Park . Metallica were also announced to play at X Games for the first time at X Games Austin 2015 in Austin , Texas . On June 14 , 2015 , Hetfield and Hammett performed The Star @-@ Spangled Banner live via electric guitars prior to game 5 of the NBA Finals between the Cleveland Cavaliers and Golden State Warriors at Oracle Arena in Oakland , California . In late October , the band unveiled a new website with an introduction from Ulrich containing footage from the studio of the band working on new material . On November 2 , Metallica were announced to play " The Night Before " Super Bowl 50 at AT & T Park . Metallica announced they would be opening the U.S. Bank Stadium on August 20 , 2016 , with Avenged Sevenfold and Volbeat as support .

In April 2016 , during the week leading up to Record Store Day , for which the band was its ambassador for 2016 , Ulrich told Billboard that the band 's expanded role within the music industry had played a part in the amount of time that it had taken to write and record the album . " The way we do things now is very different than the way we did things back in the days of Kill ' Em All and Ride the Lightning . Nowadays we like to do so many different things . " Ulrich was also optimistic that production of the album had almost reached its completion . " Unless something radical happens it would be difficult for me to believe that it won 't come out in 2016 " .

= = Style and lyrical themes = =

Metallica was influenced by early heavy metal and hard rock bands and artists Black Sabbath , Deep Purple , Kiss , Led Zeppelin , Queen , Ted Nugent , AC / DC , Rush , Aerosmith , Judas Priest , and Scorpions . New wave of British heavy metal bands Venom , Motörhead , Saxon , Diamond Head , Blitzkrieg , and Iron Maiden , and early punk rock bands Ramones , Sex Pistols , and the Misfits also influenced Metallica 's style as did post @-@ punk band Killing Joke . The band 's early releases contained fast tempos , harmonized leads , and nine @-@ minute instrumental tracks . Steve Huey of AllMusic said Ride the Lightning featured " extended , progressive epics ; tight , concise groove @-@ rockers " . Huey said Metallica expanded its compositional technique and range of expression to take on a more aggressive approach in following releases , and lyrics dealt with personal and socially conscious issues . Religious and military leaders , rage , insanity , monsters , and drugs ? among other themes ? were explored on Master of Puppets .

In 1991 , Huey said Metallica with new producer Bob Rock simplified and streamlined its music for a more commercial approach to appeal to mainstream audiences . Robert Palmer of Rolling Stone said the band abandoned its aggressive , fast tempos to expand its music and expressive range . The change in direction proved commercially successful ; Metallica was the band 's first album to peak at number one on the Billboard 200 . Metallica noticed changes to the rock scene created by the grunge movement of the early 1990s . In Load ? an album that has been described as having " an almost alternative rock " approach ? the band changed musical direction and focused on non @-@ metal influences . Metallica 's new lyrical approach moved away from drugs and monsters , and focused on anger , loss , and retribution . Some fans and critics were not pleased with this change , which included haircuts , the cover art of Load , and headlining the alternative rock concert Lollapalooza . David Fricke of Rolling Stone described the move as " goodbye to the moldy stricture and dead @-@ end Puritanism of no @-@ frills thrash " , and called Load the heaviest record of 1996 . With the release of ReLoad in 1997 , the band displayed blues and early hard rock influences , incorporating more rhythm and harmony in song structures .

St. Anger marked another large change in the band 's sound . Guitar solos were excluded from the

album , leaving a " raw and unpolished sound " . The band used drop C tuning ; Ulrich 's snare drum received particular criticism . New York Magazine 's Ethan Brown said it " reverberates with a thwong " . The album 's lyrics deal with Hetfield 's drug rehabilitation and include references to the devil , anti @-@ drug themes , claustrophobia , impending doom , and religious hypocrisy . At the advice of producer Rick Rubin , for its ninth studio album Death Magnetic , the band returned to standard tuning and guitar solos . As a return to Metallica 's thrash roots , Death Magnetic was a riff @-@ oriented album featuring intense guitar solos and subtle lyrics dealing with suicide and redemption .

= = Legacy and influence = =

Metallica has become one of the most influential heavy metal bands of all time , and is credited as one of the " big four " of thrash metal , along with Slayer , Anthrax , and Megadeth . The band has sold more than 110 million records worldwide , including an RIAA @-@ certified 66 million and Nielsen SoundScan @-@ reported 53 @,@ 642 @,@ 000 in the U.S. , making Metallica one of the most commercially successful bands of all time . The writers of The Rolling Stone Encyclopedia of Rock & Roll said Metallica gave heavy metal " a much @-@ needed charge " . Stephen Thomas Erlewine and Greg Prato of Allmusic said Metallica " expanded the limits of thrash , using speed and volume not for their own sake , but to enhance their intricately structured compositions " , and called the band " easily the best , most influential heavy metal band of the ' 80s , responsible for bringing the music back to Earth " .

Jonathan Davis of Korn said he respects Metallica as his favorite band ; he said , " I love that they 've done things their own way and they 've persevered over the years and they 're still relevant to this day . I think they 're one of the greatest bands ever . " Godsmack drummer Shannon Larkin said Metallica has been the biggest influence on the band , stating , " they really changed my life when I was 16 years old ? I 'd never heard anything that heavy " . Vocalist and guitarist Robb Flynn of Machine Head said that when creating the band 's 2007 album , The Blackening , " What we mean is an album that has the power , influence and epic grandeur of that album Master of Puppets ? and the staying power ? a timeless record like that " . Trivium guitarists Corey Beaulieu and Matt Heafy said that when they heard Metallica they wanted to start playing guitar . M. Shadows of Avenged Sevenfold said touring with Metallica was the band 's career highlight , and said , " Selling tons of records and playing huge shows will never compare to meeting your idols Metallica " . God Forbid guitarists Doc and Dallas Coyle were inspired by Metallica as they grew up , and the band 's bassist John Outcalt admires Burton as a " rocker " . Ill Niño drummer Dave Chavarri said he finds early Metallica releases are " heavy , raw , rebellious . It said , ' fuck you ' " , and Adema drummer Kris Kohls said the band is influenced by Metallica .

Kerrang ! released a tribute album titled Master of Puppets : Remastered with the April 8 , 2006 , edition of the magazine to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Master of Puppets . The album featured cover versions of Metallica songs by Machine Head , Bullet for My Valentine , Chimaira , Mastodon , Mendeed , and Trivium ? all of which are influenced by Metallica . At least 15 Metallica tribute albums have been released . On September 10 , 2006 , Metallica guest starred on The Simpsons ' eighteenth season premiere , " The Mook , the Chef , the Wife and Her Homer " . Hammett 's and Hetfield 's voices were used in three episodes of the animated television series Metalocalypse . Finnish cello metal band Apocalyptica released a tribute album titled Plays Metallica by Four Cellos , which features eight Metallica songs played on cellos . A parody band named Beatallica plays music using a combination of The Beatles and Metallica songs . Beatallica faced legal troubles when Sony , which owns The Beatles ' catalog , issued a cease and desist order , claiming " substantial and irreparable injury " and ordering the group to pay damages . Ulrich , a fan of Beatallica , asked Metallica 's lawyer Peter Paterno to help settle the case .

MTV ranked Metallica the third " Greatest Heavy Metal Band in History " , was listed fifth on VH1 's 100 Greatest Artists of Hard Rock , and the band was number one on VH1 's 20 Greatest Metal Bands list . Rolling Stone placed the band 61st on its list of " The 100 Greatest Artists of All Time " ; its albums Master of Puppets and Metallica were ranked at numbers 167 and 252 respectively on

the magazine 's list of The 500 Greatest Albums of All Time . Master of Puppets was named in Q Magazine 's " 50 Heaviest Albums of All Time " , and was ranked number one on IGN 's " Top 25 Metal Albums " , and number one on Metal @-@ rules.com 's " Top 100 Heavy Metal Albums " list . " Enter Sandman " was ranked number 399 on Rolling Stone 's " 500 Greatest Songs of All Time " .

On March 7 , 1999 , Metallica was inducted into the San Francisco Walk of Fame . The mayor of San Francisco , Willie Brown , proclaimed the day " Official Metallica Day " . The band was awarded the MTV Icon award in 2003 , and a concert paying tribute to the band with artists performing its songs was held . Performances included Sum 41 and a medley of " For Whom the Bell Tolls " , " Enter Sandman " , and " Master of Puppets " . Staind covered " Nothing Else Matters " , Avril Lavigne played " Fuel " , hip @-@ hop artist Snoop Dogg performed " Sad but True " , Korn played " One " , and Limp Bizkit performed " Welcome Home (Sanitarium) " .

The Guitar Hero video game series included several of Metallica 's songs . " One " was used in Guitar Hero III . The album Death Magnetic was later released as purchasable , downloadable content for the game . " Trapped Under Ice " was featured in the sequel , Guitar Hero World Tour . In 2009 , Metallica collaborated with the game 's developers to make Guitar Hero : Metallica , which included a number of Metallica 's songs . Harmonix ' video game series Rock Band included " Enter Sandman " ; " Ride the Lightning " , " Blackened " , and " ... And Justice for All " were released as downloadable tracks . In 2013 , due to expiring content licenses , " Ride the Lightning " , " Blackened " , and " ... And Justice for All " are no longer available for download .

= = Band members = =

= = = Timeline = = =

= = Awards = =

Grammy Awards

1990 : Best Metal Performance ? " One "

1991 : Best Metal Performance ? " Stone Cold Crazy "

1992 : Best Metal Performance ? Metallica

1999 : Best Metal Performance ? " Better than You "

2000 : Best Hard Rock Performance ? " Whiskey in the Jar "

2001 : Best Rock Instrumental Performance ? " The Call of Ktulu "

2004 : Best Metal Performance ? " St. Anger "

2009 : Best Metal Performance ? " My Apocalypse "

2009 : Best Recording Package ? Death Magnetic

= = Discography = =

Kill ' Em All (1983)

Ride the Lightning (1984)

Master of Puppets (1986)

... And Justice for All (1988)

Metallica (1991)

Load (1996)

Reload (1997)

St. Anger (2003)

Death Magnetic (2008)

Untitled tenth album (2016)