

= We 've Come for You All =

We 've Come for You All is the ninth studio album by American thrash metal band Anthrax . It was released on May 6 , 2003 through Nuclear Blast in Europe and Sanctuary Records in North America . This was the first Anthrax record to feature Rob Caggiano on lead guitar and their final studio album with John Bush on vocals . The album was recorded over one @-@ year span at the BearTracks Recording Studio in Suffern , New York . The cover art was designed by comic book artist Alex Ross , while the production was handed by Scrap 60 Productions team . The Who vocalist Roger Daltrey and Pantera guitarist Dimebag Darrell made guest appearances on the album .

The album received positive reviews by contemporary music critics , with About.com crediting it for " getting the band back on track " . Despite this , the album only reached number 122 on the Billboard 200 , with first week sales of 10 @,@ 000 copies . To date , We 've Come For You All has sold over 62 @,@ 000 copies in the United States .

= = Background and recording = =

This album followed Volume 8 : The Threat Is Real , which was released in 1998 . Anthrax decided to sign with record label Nuclear Blast for the release of their upcoming album . Asked if changing the record company will affect the songwriting , guitarist Scott Ian replied : " To be honest , I don 't care about that at all . You know , business is business and the creative side is the creative side . Creatively , there was no big challenge . We just wanted to try to make the best record we can . "

The band started writing new material during the months of May and June 2001 , and entered the studio in November the same year . The recording process was shortly interrupted because the band went on a tour with Judas Priest early in 2002 . They returned to the studio in March and in the next few months worked on the record and successfully finished it . According to Ian , the whole process of making the album took the band a year . Ian also said that there is no leftover material out of the recording sessions , except for the song " Ghost " , which was released as a B @-@ side on the single " Taking the Music Back " . The Who vocalist Roger Daltrey and Pantera guitarist Dimebag Darrell made guest appearances on the album . Daltrey was featured in the song " Taking the Music Back " , while Darrell contributed to the songs " Cadillac Rock Box " and " Strap It On " . The band explained their appearances by saying they " felt the need to invite some friends to make something special for the album and the result is simply fantastic . "

The album was produced by Scrap 60 Productions team , consisted of Anthrax guitarist Rob Caggiano , Eddie Wohl , and Steve Regina . The front cover was designed by comic book artist Alex Ross . Vocalist John Bush stated that the band was honored to work with Ross , who also did the artwork for their previous pair of recordings . Bush explained that the band gave Ross a complete freedom over the concept of the artwork . Apart from suggesting the album 's title as an idea , Bush said that the other members had not participated much in creating the cover art .

= = Release = =

The release date of the album was delayed several times . The album was originally set for a release on February 4 , 2003 in Europe and Japan , and on February 24 in the US and Canada . After the prolongation of the release date for territories outside Japan and Europe , drummer Charlie Benante posted an explanation on the band 's official website : " I hate to tell you this but ... the record got pushed back to April 15 . It 's only been 73 years since Vol . 8 [was released] , what 's another week or two ? The record company needed the extra time to put more time into the promotion . One day all this crap will be over , you 'll be rocking out to some killer shit . " It was later announced that the release date for Europe would be also pushed back to March 3 , 2003 , eventually setting it on May 6 . The problems occurred after a breakdown in negotiations between Beyond Records and Sanctuary Records over a buy @-@ out of the band 's contract . According to Blabbermouth , Beyond Records was in the process of selling their entire catalog to Sanctuary , but

the arrangement have fallen through . However , the problems were resolved and the record was successfully distributed through Sanctuary in North America and Nuclear Blast in Europe .

The album debuted at No. 122 on the Billboard 200 chart with first week sales of just under 10 @, @ 000 units . Since its release in May 2003 , We 've Come For You All sold about 62 @, @ 000 copies in the United States . Apart from entering the French Albums Chart at number 95 , the record did not manage to chart in any other country . Referring to the low record sales , Ian posted a message on the band 's official web site saying : " That 's more than I thought it would do after five years away . That 's basically what [the group 's last album] Volume 8 did in its first week and this one was based on mostly just Internet promo . "

= = Composition = =

Bush opined that this record wasn 't very different from their previous releases . " It 's still an Anthrax album with many different parts that can appeal to a wide audience . Our sound is recognizable each time you listen to one of our songs and that 's something we really want for our music . You have the fastest rhythms , the more danceable ones , you have everything you can expect from an Anthrax record . " Benante said that elements from their earlier albums are still present on the record , though it explores " other territories " .

Johnny Loftus from AllMusic described the music as a strained fusion of thrash and traditional heavy metal , accompanied by the harsh vocals of Bush . He noted the record for using modern production techniques , as well as displaying melodies and instrumentation that have always been Anthrax 's trademark . Magazine Rock Hard observed that the record was a combination of " tradition and modernity " , with strong vocals and " thrashy " tunes . They pointed that the sound was extremely complex with " super fat " production , having nothing similar with the nu metal sound of the early 2000s . Exclaim ! wrote that the songs had rock @-@ based structures , unlike the band 's earlier releases which featured " brutal beats and razor riffs " . Gregory Bradley also noted that couple of songs had " distinct hard @-@ rock vibe " , while others demonstrated " very metal " sound . In their guide to Anthrax discography , Kerrang ! wrote that We 've Come for You All was " leaning towards a groove @-@ orientated hard rock sound " with several slower and radio friendly efforts .

= = Critical reception = =

We 've Come for You All received positive reviews upon release , with About.com crediting it for " getting the band back on track " . Allmusic 's Johnny Loftus noted the album for its " pile @-@ driving thrash " sound , which reminded him of the group 's earlier days . Loftus concluded that We 've Come for You All was the definitive thrash metal album , released in a period when albums from that genre were not common . In a review for Raidió Teilifís Éireann , Harry Guerin wrote that the band has preserved their sense of melody and aggression . He praised the fast blast beat percussion on " Black Dahlia " , and finished the review by saying that the album would likely exceed the expectations of their most devoted fans .

Writing for Metal Review , Gregory Bradley stopped short of calling the album a return to form , but asserted that the record was an " acceptable " release . Bradley did , however , credit the album for having some " very metal " songs , singling out " What Doesn 't Die " and " Black Dahlia " in particular . Chris Ayers from Exclaim ! opined that We 've Come for You All was the band 's strongest release since Sound Of White Noise (1993) and easily the best of the John Bush era : " Grittier and more confident , the self @-@ produced We 've Come for You All is a certified classic that proves the ageless Anthrax are still a viable metal option . " Vik Bansal , of MusicOMH , summarized the album as " a bold , sleek and raucous slab of modern metal " , containing elements that were absent from many heavy metal albums at the time . Bansal cited " What Doesn 't Die " for particular praise , noting the " razor @-@ sharp " riffs on the song . He noted " Cadillac Rock Box " for sounding similar to bands like Lynyrd Skynyrd and Black Sabbath . Bansal summed up his review by stating that We 've Come for You All is a " mighty album from a still mighty band " .

= = Track listing = =

All songs written and composed by John Bush , Rob Caggiano , Scott Ian , Frank Bello and Charlie Benante , except where noted .

= = Personnel = =

Credits are adapted from AllMusic .

Anthrax

John Bush ? lead vocals

Rob Caggiano ? lead guitar , backing vocals

Scott Ian ? rhythm guitar , backing vocals

Frank Bello ? bass guitar , backing vocals

Charlie Benante ? drums

Guest musicians

Dimebag Darrell ? guitar on " Strap It On " and " Cadillac Rock Box "

Roger Daltrey ? additional vocals on " Taking the Music Back "

Technical personnel

Rob Caggiano ? producer

Steve Regina ? mixing , producer

Eddie Wohl ? mixing , producer

Paul Crook ? assistant engineer

Anthony Ruotolo ? assistant engineer

George Marino ? mastering

Alex Ross ? cover art concept and illustration

Brent Thompson ? art direction , graphic design , illustrations

= = Charts = =

= = Release history = =