



ASSACRE

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ASSACRE
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ASSACRE was formed by artist Ben Aqua in Austin, Texas in September of 2003. A native of Brooklyn, New York, Ben spawned ASSACRE as an outlet for his fascinations with extreme/experimental music and performance art. After self-releasing a demo in 2004 entitled *Impossibly Silent*, ASSACRE began making a name for himself throughout Texas with his wild, confrontational and unpredictable performances.

ASSACRE ambitiously toured the USA in the summer of 2005 in support of his first full-length release, *Fantastic Illusions Worth Dying For* (Awthum Records, August 2005). The album features eight tracks of fantasy, death, and thrash metal mixed with bizarre, abstract sound collages, displaying a wide variety of musical influences - from Death to Klaus Nomi to Mr. Bungle to Sun Ra.

ASSACRE has shared stages with the Sword, the Gossip, Japanther, Paper Rad, At All Cost, Horse the Band and Zom Zoms. Festival performances include the South By South West Music Festival in 2005 in Austin, Texas and the Homo A-Go-Go Festival in 2006 in Olympia, Washington.

Selected Press

ASSACRE is a one-insane-man metal band.

- *Spin Magazine*, July 2006

ASSACRE is but one man, but he wails like a metal symphony: thrashing guitar riffs interspersed with teeth-chattering beats and disturbing glimpses of humanity. Prog metal meets performance art...ASSACRE's combination of classic metal and samples from evangelist sermons, vintage TV shows, and sound effects brings metal out of the bonehead genre into a thinking man's game.

- Darcie Stevens, *The Austin Chronicle*, January 2006

"Gay" gets thrown around the metal world pretty casually as a general insult or as a catch-all for all that is not metal. Ben Aqua, AKA ASSACRE, throws a wrench into that by being an openly gay artist working with metal aesthetics.

- *Punk Planet*, Issue 73

Rob Halford, eat your heart out.

- Benjamin Leatherman, *Phoenix New Times*, August 2005