

Roadburn Festival Daily Fanzine Sunday 23rd April 2017

ACB of Caina / Author & Punisher / Come To Grief / Emma Ruth Rundle / Faal / Gong / Hypnopazūzu / Inter Arma / Jaye Jayle / Les Discrets / Mannheim / Oxbow / Pallbearer / Pillorian / Pontiak / Radar Men from The Moon / Sink / Stone in Egypt / Sumac / Temple of BBV (GNOD - AIR) / The Doomsday Kingdom / Turia / Ulver // Valborg

Review: Roadburn Saturday 22nd April 2017 by José Carlos Santos

Oh, there you are. Sorry, hadn't seen you. In fact, it's a miracle this text exists at all, given how viciously my eyes were assaulted last night. All the images they can currently provide are of flashing Baphomets, tanks or the number 666. Also, my ears are pounding with incessant, ruthless martial beats and my body is most likely possessed by Satan with a dance wish. It's all good, though.



All these symptoms are worthy, for they are the result of having witnessed one of unique and memorable the most Roadburn performances ever, courtesy of Mysticum, those three men up there on the platforms closing out the Main Stage. I could say the day started innocently enough, but no, it was a crescendo of strong emotions and music cutting through the soul right from the very beginning. Having to host the "definition of heavy" and My Dying Bride panels meant that I had to leave The Bug vs. Dylan Carlson just as the beats and the textures were getting louder and starting to creep under the skin, and that I missed Cobalt entirely, but I did manage a sneak peek at most of Razors in the Night's show, and what

a tremendously fun celebration of old punk that was. Curator John Baizley put together yet another remarkable string of unique bands on the Het Patronaat, but one of the most vital-sounding ended up being this gathering of friends, with Pete Adams, also from Baroness, Marek Sarba from Mönster and the great Scott Kelly. From Misfits to Iggy and the Stooges to Ramones, their good taste and enthusiasm was positively spontaneous and contagious. This is what Roadburn is all about!



From then on, it was mostly a question of hanging out on the Main Stage and making sure tissues were handy. Warning let the floodgates open with their flawless rendition of *Watching from a Distance*. Patrick Walker is a fantastic frontman, calm and yet expressive, letting all the emotions in the music flow through him, from joy to sadness, from euphoria to quiet contemplation. "Yet here I stand, a broken soldier, shivering and naked, in your winter light," goes the last line of "Footprints," and when Patrick let it loose fiercely, I think I heard something break inside me.

Something quickly fixed by Memoriam, kind of the opposite band to Warning in terms of feeling. Chugging ahead, proper death metal made by legendary dudes with nothing left to prove, and on top of it we still got some old Bolt Thrower in the middle of the setlist. It was a reinvigoratingly metallic hour of straightforward bludgeoning.



A quick run by the Cul De Sac had to be made for Slow Crush, a recent discovery that read more like instant crush to me their Ease EP is shoegaze of the highest order and they know how to deliver it live too, coming across as both dreamy and super-heavy at the same time. Then it was back to the Main Stage because another very high point of the festival was about to take place. As Aaron Stainthorpe and Shaun Macgowan stepped on stage for a heart-stopping rendition of "Sear Me MCMXCIII," the poignant opening track of their classic Turn Loose the Swans album that was played in full (minus "Black God"), the audience was theirs for the taking, and yours truly over here is said to have "lost his shit." No regrets!

From the utterance of the very first line, an elegantly passionate, "Pour yourself into me," to the horrid scream of, "I wanted to touch them all," that closes out the title-track, it was indeed a true

rollercoaster of feelings, as the album's poetic tragedies unfolded one after the other via the band's incredible performance. Having the original "Sear Me" from the debut, "Your Shameful Heaven" and "The Cry of Mankind" were the closing bonuses, and we all lapped them up hungrily.



Unfortunately this meant that getting into Disfear turned into an impossible task, so I hope all you lucky bastards who got inside liked it — it was apparently awesome, and I wouldn't have expected anything less. The final quick stop before that Mysticum eye and ear-shattering climax ended up being Serpent Venom, and even from the back of the Extase they were still rocking out like a mighty hammer of doom being swung by a giant god.

Before dashing off to enjoy Oxbow, Caïna, Gong, Hypnopazūzu and the day's other delights, a quick aside – kudos to the dude with the accordion playing outside, alright? He's been there since last year, always with a huge smile on his face and ready to get in our manic swing of things, and last night there was a little afterparty forming outside with people dancing around him. This is Roadburn too, even when it's technically not.

John Dyer Baizley Interview Part III

What kind of art do you find most interesting and exciting?

I have never payed favorites. If it moves me, I'm a fan. I cycle through different phases, as I think most people do. I am a pretty excitable person, so I don't have to look far to be interested. If in getting artistically bored by what I see/hear/read, I'll just move onto something new; that usually kick starts something in me. I will say this, however: the single greatest turnoff is when art fails to elicit an intense reaction. I'd much rather feel hate than apathy. Give me 1s & 10s over 5s any day of the week.



In addition to booking a whole day of bands and an art show, Baroness will be headlining the Main Stage on Friday night. It's been a while since you've played Roadburn together. How would you compare your headspace now to how you felt when you played in 2009?

It would be impossible to compare Baroness 2009 to Baroness 2017. That was a different lineup, operating under different circumstances. At any moment in our history, context is a critical component of self-awareness. I expect that our context will change

continually, and I'm not disappointed. Along with a change in context comes a change in perspective, motivation, and intent. In 2009, we had an entirely different point to prove than we do in 2017. I'll probably only have the perspective to talk about it in hindsight anyhow.

What can fans expect to see and hear from you all on that night?

A couple of legit surprises.

What do you hope to when you're out there onstage?

We hope to show our audience that, while things have never predictably or easily to this band, our dedication and commitment to our art is more ingrained and focused now than it has ever been. We have never about things with gone expectations or assurances, and we have, at times risked more than we ever stood to receive. In spite of all this, whether in fair weather or foul, the music we've made, and continue to make, we create in earnest and without regret. It is this particular music, often born out of or in the face of difficulty and pain, that has helped us find direction and purpose, and which we hope (in the best case) may help inspire others to do the same.

What is your personal goal for Roadburn 2017?

At this point, I'll be pleasantly surprised if everything I've committed to doing actually happens... win lose or otherwise. – *Kim Kelly*

That Roadburn Feeling

by Guido Segers

For this year's *Weirdo Canyon Dispatch*, I intend to describe that Roadburn feeling. We all know perfectly well that something special happens when the banners go up around the 013 and strange visitors from far and wide converge upon Tilburg. It's something peculiar that no other festival has, and it makes our eyes and ears open just a bit wider. At the same time, you feel that craving for the surprises this year's festival will offer.

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This craving stays with you for three or even four days (and if it's three you always wish it was four). Some approach every venue with an urgency, anxiously checking their program for where to go next and need to taste as much as possible from the lineup. Others just need to be in the vicinity of the venue, standing in Weirdo Canyon around the corner from the 013. It's something special in the air (and I'm not talking about particular fumes that cloud the air during those days). A special feeling of warmth and welcome.

It's because you know that you're about to be treated to a buffet of great music hand-picked by people who want to share those great artists and sounds with you and have you experience them at their best. Not to rip you off, but to share that joyous event. It creates an enormous pile of trust and love, because it's like Christmas for us fans. It's why we come back every year.



If we somehow become detached and stop going, we still feel like we need to apologise and explain why and how. That's that special Roadburn feeling when I completely trust in Walter and his crew to take the best possible care of my musical desires for four days. It's why I come back, every time.

Roadburn 2018 Wishlists

Cavum

- 1. Tom Waits
- 2. Brant Bjork
- 3. Kongh
- 4. Yuri Gagarin
- 5. Belzebong

Ben Handelman

- 1. Psychic TV (yes, I'll say this every year until it happens)
- 2. Nadja
- 3. Dead Procession
- 4. Mortuary Drape (perfect for Patronaat, naturally)
- 5. Deathstench

Kim Kelly

- 1. Ragana
- 2. Cloud Rat
- 3. Vile Creature
- 4. The Secret Sisters
- 5. Sangre de Muerdago

JJ Koczan

- 1. Atavismo
- 2. Mike Scheidt artist-in-residence (YOB, Vhöl, solo, panel talk, etc.)
- 3. Los Natas reunion
- 4. Sons of Otis
- 5. Spaceslug

José Carlos Santos

- 1. Darkthrone playing a secret unannounced gig, preferably at the Cul de Sac
- 2. Sarcófago playing *I.N.R.I.* in full with the classic lineup
- 3. Autopsy playing *Mental Funeral* in full
- 4. Planes Mistaken for Stars
- 5. Katatonia playing *Brave Murder Day* with Mikael Åkerfeldt on vocals

Dom Lawson

Drug Honkey Rikard Sjöblom's Gungfly Nunslaughter Necrophagia Cultes des Ghoules

Becky Laverty

Bossk Insect Ark Vektor Absent in Body Cave In

Jamie Ludwig

Årabrot Alunah The Crazy World of Arthur Brown NOÊTA Wolfbrigade

Andreas Kohl

Enablers
Todd (first lineup reunion please!)
\$hit & \$hine playing Ladybird
Blown Out
Godspeed You! Black Emperor

Sander van den Driesche

All Them Witches Pigs Pigs Pigs Pigs Pigs Pigs Atavismo Wiegedood Domkraft

Paul Verhagen

- 1. Pan.Thy.Monium plays *Dawn of Dreams* in its entirely
- 2. Hail Spirit Noir
- 3. Pentacle
- 4. Thy Catafalque
- 5. Satan's Wrath

Guido Segers

- Panopticon
 Wolcensmen
- 3. Wolf Eyes
- 4. Darkthrone
- 5. Spaceslug

Niels Vinck

- 1. Treha Sektori
- 2. Alice in Chains
- 3. Goatsnake
- 4. ISIS, Panopticon set!
- 5. YOB! We almost lost Mike!

Albums Of The Year So Far - Part III

Oxbow, Thin Black Duke



Royal Thunder and the soulful, fiery emotions of *Wick*? Gold and the supremely mature and unique-sounding *Optimist*? Unearthly Trance and the gigantic monster of a return album that is *Stalking the Ghost*? It was frustratingly scattered, my choice of favourite album of 2017 so far, and I stretched the delivery of this piece until the very last moment in hope of hearing the new Tau Cross record, which I have a feeling will

obliterate everything else. I didn't, but in the meantime, Oxbow's *Thin Black Duke* dropped on my lap when I wasn't expecting it, and that was it. Elegant and subdued, to the point of feeling like a sublime exercise of restraint and tension-accumulation, particularly on the part of guitarist Niko Wenner, jazzy and lounge-y but not at all in a relaxing way (far from it!), with Eugene S. Robinson at his most versatile, deeply poetic and contemplative, yet without dropping the feeling that rage is about to be lashed out, *Thin Black Duke*'s collection of eight songs in 39 minutes is untouchable and unrivaled in 2017 so far. The fact that Oxbow are also playing Roadburn this year and we'll be able to all hear this for ourselves in the first-person is the final cherry on top of the duke's head. - *José Carlos Santos*

Ragana, You Take Nothing

I've been waiting anxiously for new material from this Oakland duo, and come April



15, they finally granted my wish with *You Take Nothing*, a breathtaking mélange of principled, heavily atmospheric black metal, doom, and neocrust. Ragana's power lies in their willingness to expose their own vulnerabilities, balancing howling anti-capitalist fury with raw, naked emotion – when the title track's strident howls dissolve into ragged sobs, it chills to the core (they had the song "You Take Nothing" available

on Bandcamp before the release with proceeds going to the water protectors at Standing Rock). Like their friends in Thou, Ragana carefully tinker with extreme metal's tension, melody, and intensity in order to make the ugly, jagged parts of being human sound beautiful, enshrouding hate and horror in a storm of golden light. You won't hear anything better than *You Take Nothing* in 2017. – *Kim Kelly*





Ow man, this is so difficult. I'm going for the amazing *Upholder* EP from Albinö Rhinö. Oh wait, was this last year? Crap. Then let's try something different. Martyrdöd with *List*. Wait... are we still in 2016? November? Okay, let's try this: The best release in the four months of 2017 so far is... wait for it... Violet Colt with *Anomie*. Just because it makes me all floaty. It relaxes me and yet disturbs me. Great

H

spectacle sounds by this Azerbaijanian one-man band. Would love to see this live at Roadburn next year. - *Niels Vinck*

Roadburn 2017 In Photos



Special surprise set by Icelandic black metalers Mishyrming





Once again Roadburn has far surpassed our expectations, and at the time of writing, we still have another full day ahead of us! Each and every year, Roadburn delivers a whole host of unusual surprises, unique moments and memories that we'll hold onto for years to come. The vibe has been incredible, and the sense of community is strong - we couldn't really ask for any more!

For many, Jinx Dawson casting a spell over us all on Thursday was a serious contender for high point of the festival. For others, John Dyer Baizley's curation, culminating in a majestic Baroness performance on Friday night, is what made Roadburn a must-do for the year. Every euphoric high (thank you, Perturbator), every crushing low (hats off to you, Patrick Walker) that you have felt — we have felt it too.

Disfear turned Het Patronaat into a moshpit like never seen before at Roadburn, whilst Mysticum raised the bar in terms of incredible production and visuals. Roadburn 2017 has truly been all about the unexpected, the unrestricted, creative freedom, and the pushing of boundaries. Who could ever think that the left-field bands would leave such an imprint – Dälek, Zeal & Ardor, Perturbator, Zu, GNOD, Carpenter Brut, Whores., and Big Business?

It's hard to process Roadburn once it's all done and dusted, never mind when it's still in full swing, such is the scope of emotions that power through us, so forgive us if we're still computing the after-effects of the rawness of Wear Your Wounds, the lasting neurologic damage sustained during three (so far!) Gnod sets, and the sheer ice-cold brilliance of Wolves in the Throne Room. We kind of hope we'll never be the same again... - Walter & Becky





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