

**MASTODON ANNOUNCE NEW ALBUM — *EMPEROR OF SAND* —TO BE RELEASED MARCH 31ST VIA REPRISE RECORDS**

****

January 27th, 2017 (Burbank, CA) — Internationally celebrated heavy rock icons [**MASTODON**](http://www.mastodonrocks.com)are proud to announce the title, track-listing, and release date of their eighth studio album, ***Emperor Of Sand*** — the follow-up to their universally praised 2014 album ***Once More ‘Round The Sun***. The album will be released on March 31st via Reprise Records. ***Emperor Of Sand*** will be available for pre-order beginning today at [**www.mastodonrocks.com**](http://www.mastodonrocks.com)**.** Thedeluxe pre-order package will contain the album on double 180-gram vinyl housed in a gatefold jacket along with a bonus Color-In-Your-Own vinyl jacket, plus an exclusive box of **Mastodon** colored pencils. In addition fans will also receive a digital copy of the entire album on March 31st, along with an instant download of the album track **“Sultan’s Curse.” *Emperor Of Sand*** will also be available digitally and on CD. Click [**here**](http://eos360.mastodonrocks.com/)to view the typically stunning album artwork by [**Alan Brown**](http://cargocollective.com/medusawolf/About) in a glorious, full 360-degree view. Alan Brown, aka **Medusawolf**, created the cover and inside gatefold images. Click [**here**](https://www.instagram.com/_medusawolf_/?hl=en) to learn more about the artist.

***Emperor Of Sand*** finds **Mastodon** returning to a deeply imaginative and complex conceptual storyline that ponders the nature of time. Threading together the myth of a man sentenced to death in a majestically malevolent desert, the band conjures the grains of a musical and lyrical odyssey slipping quickly through a cosmic hourglass. “***Emperor of Sand***is like the grim reaper,” says drummer/vocalist **Brann Dailor**. “Sand represents time. If you or anyone you know has ever received a terminal diagnosis, the first thought is about time. Invariably, you ask, ‘How much time is left?’”

“We’re reflecting on mortality,” adds bassist/vocalist **Troy Sanders**. “To that end, the album ties into our entire discography. It’s 17 years in the making, but it’s also a direct reaction to the last two years. We tend to draw inspiration from very real things in our lives.”

***Emperor Of Sand*** was recorded at The Quarry Recording Studio in Kennesaw, just outside **Mastodon’s** hometown of Atlanta, with producer **Brendan O’Brien** (Pearl Jam, Neil Young, AC/DC, Rage Against The Machine), whofirst worked with **Mastodon** on their seminal 2009 album ***Crack The Skye***.

Over the course of Mastodon’s career, the band members have fearlessly continued to push themselves towards greater creative heights on their recorded output. Each studio album has united an ever-expanding worldwide legion of fans who have come to expect the unexpected twists and turns that have elevated **Mastodon** to become one of the most respected and influential creative forces in rock music.

“Mastodon are the greatest metal band of their generation – no one else comes close.” ***Rolling Stone***

“The coolest band in rock!” ***Drum! Magazine***

“Chances are you could use heavier rock in your life, and Mastodon’s riff-heavy epics are as friendly to non-metalheads as they are to heshers.” ***New York* magazine**

**\*\*\***

**Mastodon** kick off a Spring U.S. headline tour in support of ***Emperor Of Sand*** beginning April 14th in Missoula, MT, with support from **Eagles of Death Metal** and **Russian Circles**. The tour also includes stops at several festivals, including the Carolina Rebellion Festival on May 5th.

**Tour Dates:**

**#** indicates festival date. All other dates are headline shows.

04/14 Missoula, MT Wilma Theater

04/15 Seattle, WA Paramount Theater

04/16 Portland, OR Roseland Theater

04/18 San Francisco, CA The Warfield

04/20 Los Angeles, CA The Palladium

04/21 Phoenix, AZ Comerica Theatre

04/23 Salt Lake City, UT Complex

04/24 Denver, CO Fillmore

04/26 Kansas City, KS Uptown Theater

04/27 St. Louis, MO Pageant

04/28 Birmingham, AL Iron City

**#** 04/29 Jacksonville, FL [**Welcome to Rockville Festival**](http://welcometorockvillefestival.com/)

**#** 04/30 Ft. Myers, FL [**Fort Rock Festival**](http://fortrockfestival.com/)

05/02 Washington, DC Fillmore

05/03 Toronto, ON Rebel

05/04 Cleveland, OH Agora Theater

**#**05/05 Concord, NC Caroline Rebellion Festival

05/06 Philadelphia, PA Electric Factory

05/08 Boston, MA House of Blues

05/09 Portland, ME State Theater

05/11 New York, NY Hammerstein Ballroom

05/12 Pittsburgh, PA Stage AE

05/13 Chicago, IL Aragon Ballroom

05/14 Cincinnati, OH Taft Theatre

05/16 Detroit, MI Royal Oak Theater

05/17 Nashville, TN Ryman Auditorium

05/18 Memphis, TN Minglewood Hall

05/19 Dallas, TX Gas Monkey Live

05/20 Austin, TX ACL Live

For further tour and ticket info visit: [**www.mastodonrocks.com/tour**](http://www.mastodonrocks.com/tour)

The track-listing for ***Emperor of Sand*** is as follows:

Sultan’s Curse

Show Yourself

Precious Stones

Steambreather

Roots Remain

Word To The Wise

Ancient Kingdom

Clandestiny

Andromeda

Scorpion Breath

Jaguar God

**# # #**

**Mastodon:**

[**Troy Sanders**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Troy_Sanders)

[**Brent Hinds**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brent_Hinds)

[**Brann Dailor**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brann_Dailor)

[**Bill Kelliher**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Kelliher)

**Follow Mastodon:**

[**www.mastodonrocks.com**](http://www.mastodonrocks.com)

[**https://www.facebook.com/Mastodon**](https://www.facebook.com/Mastodon)

[**https://www.youtube.com/mastodonmusic**](https://www.youtube.com/mastodonmusic)

[**https://twitter.com/mastodonmusic**](https://twitter.com/mastodonmusic)

[**https://www.instagram.com/mastodonrocks**](https://www.instagram.com/mastodonrocks)

**Mastodon Press Materials:**

[**http://press.wbr.com/mastodon**](http://press.wbr.com/mastodon)