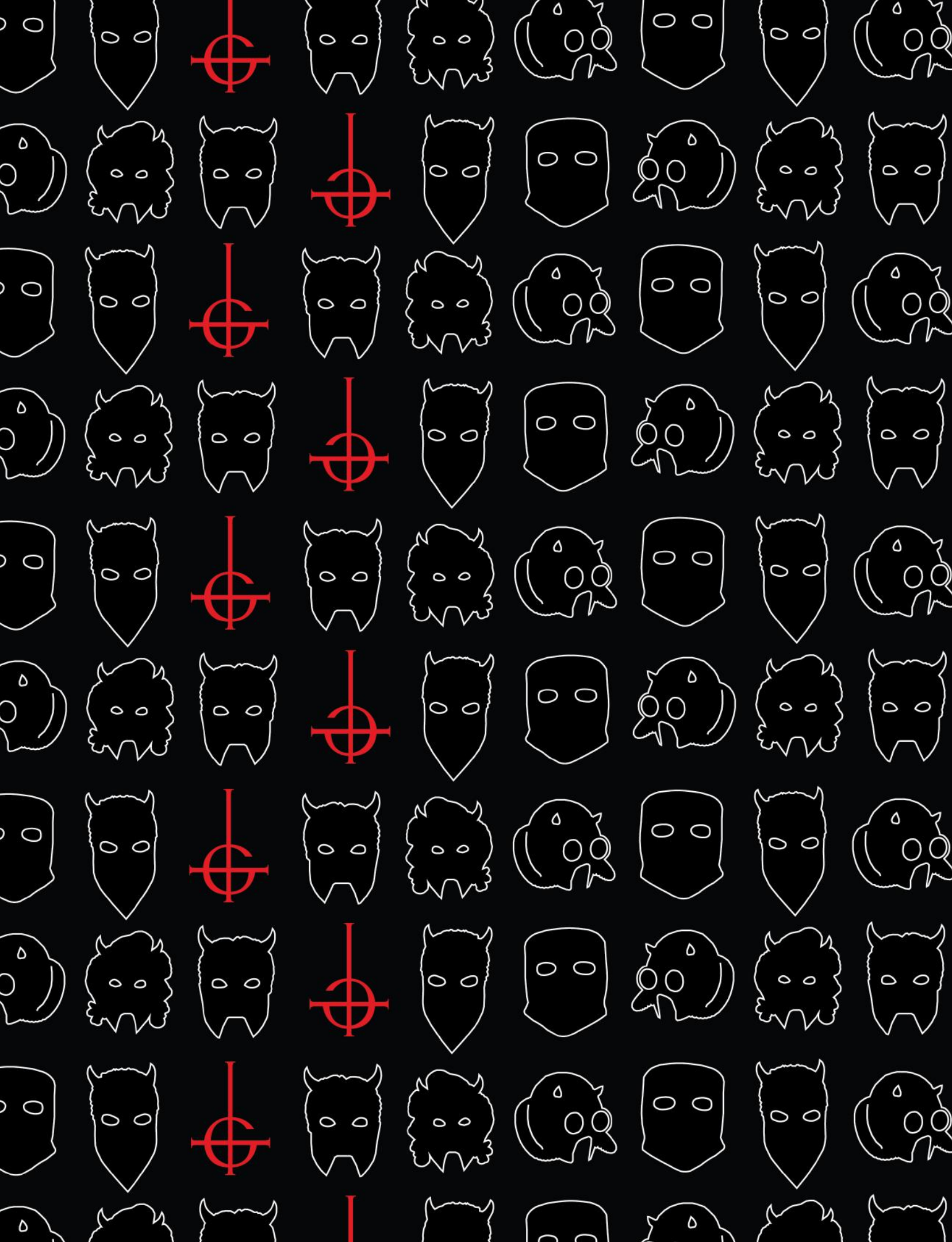
GHOST





GHOST MAGAZINE ISSUE 01

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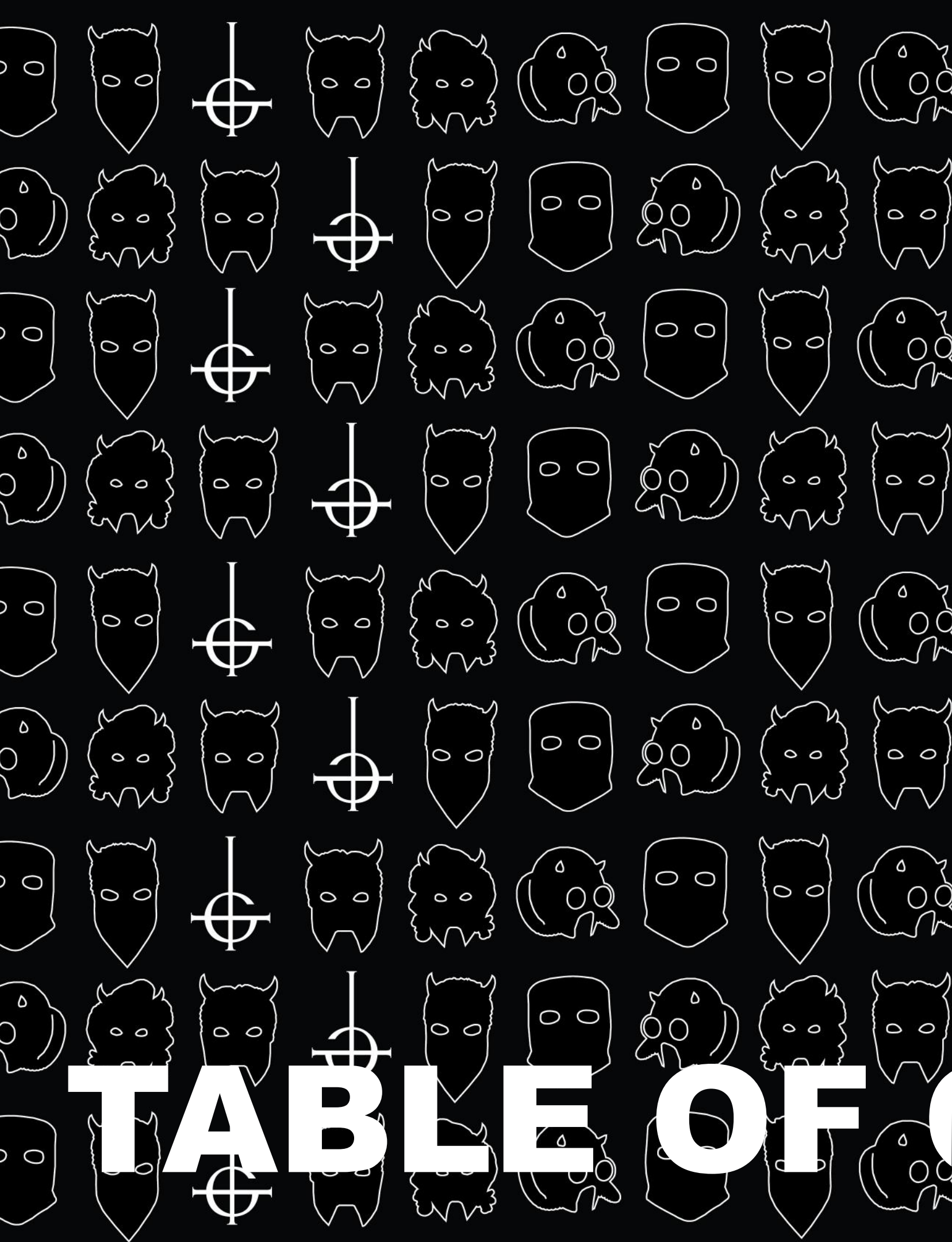


TABLE OF

CONTENTS

06 Editor's Note

08 History of the Band

10 Timeline of Notable Dates

12 The Lore of Ghost

14 Live Performance Culture

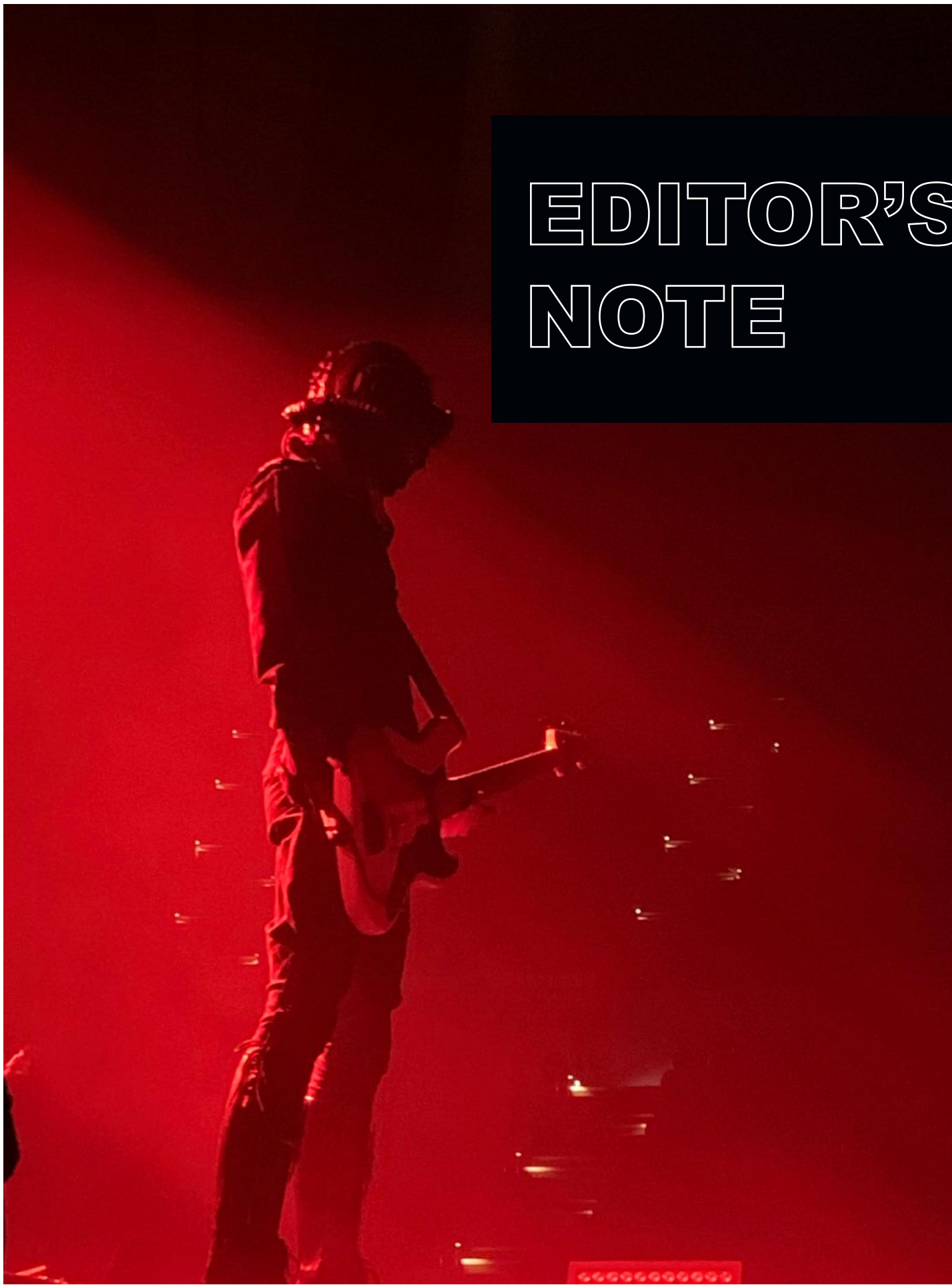
16 Map of U.S. Tour Dates

18 Interviews With the Fans

22 Cosplay

24 Editor's Recommendations/ Final Thoughts

26 Credits



EDITOR'S NOTE



LETS TALK ABOUT GHOST

As a hardcore fan of this wonderfully Satanical, Swedish rock band, I feel it is my duty to share their lore and music whenever the opportunity arises. I have been a part of the Ghost community since 2017, joining around the end of the Popestar tour. A great friend of mine was the one who introduced their music to me and I instantly fell in love. Discovering Ghost was such a refreshing change from the music I was listening to at the time, and it amazed me how diverse each of their albums sounded. In my mind, there's no dispute on how innovative and captivating Ghost songs are and later on, I found out about the whole other side to Ghost-the lore. The combination of the music and the story of the lore together is an entire experience on its own that can completely bewitch you into falling further down the Ghost rabbit hole.

This publication is meant to entertain current fans and inform newly interested readers on the subject of Ghost, and all the enrapturing material they gift us. I aim to provide curated content that will help inform new fans about the history, music, and lore of the band.

Nema,

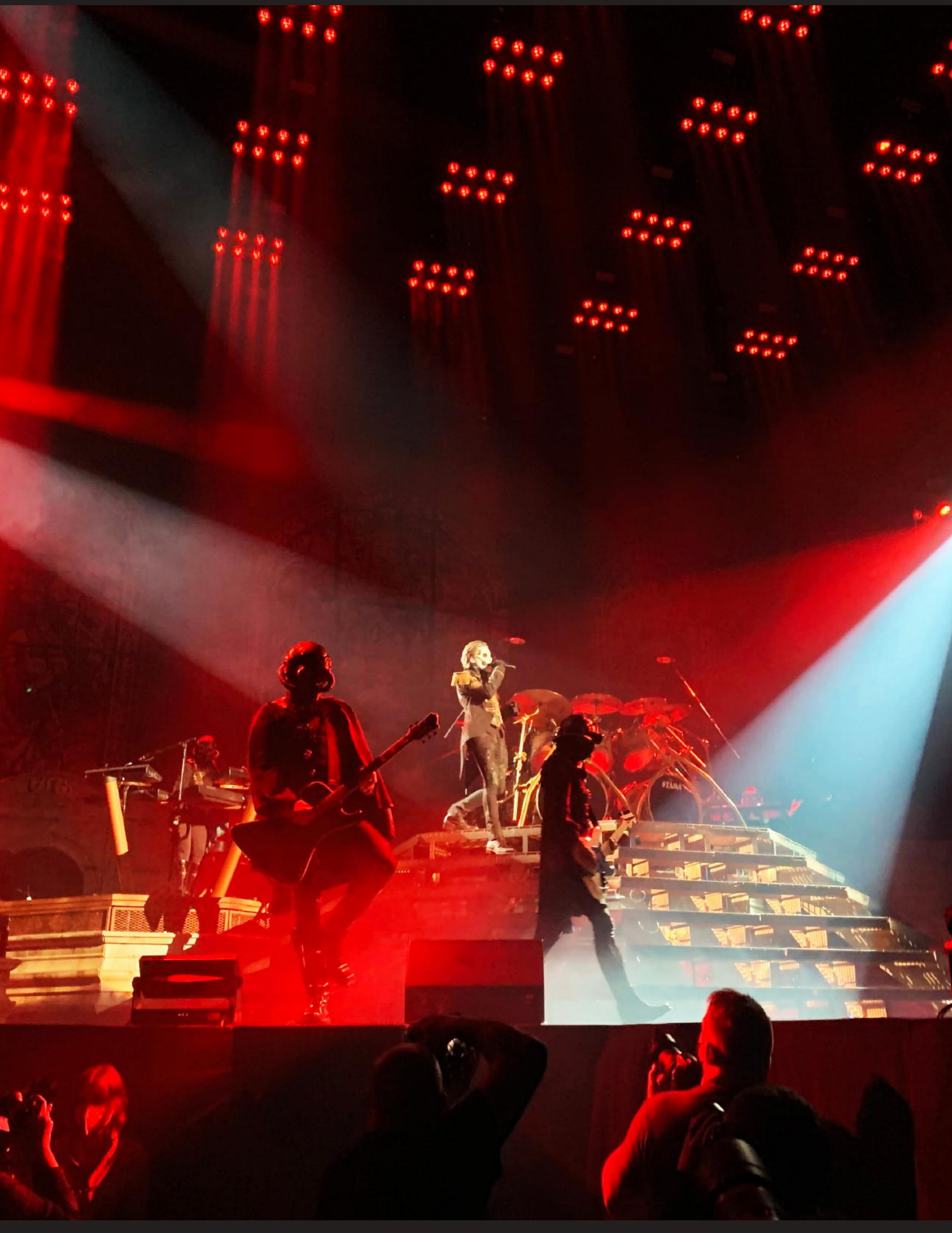


THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA

THE HISTORY AND BACKGROUND OF GHOST

Ghost, also formerly known as Ghost B.C. in the United States, is a Swedish rock band that was formed in Linköping in 2006. In 2010, they released a three-track demo followed by a 7-inch vinyl titled "Elizabeth", and later their debut full-length album Opus Eponymous. The song "Ritual" was chosen by Kerrang! as one of "The 50 Most Evil Songs Ever." The Grammis-nominated album was widely praised and significantly increased their popularity. Their second album and major label debut, Infestissumam, was released in 2013, debuted at number one in Sweden, and won the Grammis Award for Best Hard Rock/Metal Album. The band released their third studio album, Meliora, in 2015 to much critical acclaim and high record sales, reaching number one in their home country of Sweden, and number eight in the United States. Its lead single, "Cirice", earned them the 2016 Grammy Award for Best Metal Performance. The band released their fourth studio album, Prequelle, in 2018. The band released their fifth studio album, Impera, in 2022. Ghost is easily recognizable owing greatly to its eccentric on-stage presence. Seven of the group's eight members, its 'Nameless Ghouls', wear virtually identical, face-concealing costumes. The character Papa Emeritus, which consists of front man Tobias Forge in a prosthetic mask and makeup, can be best described as a 'demonic anti-pope'.

The Papa Emeritus character has gone through five incarnations: I, II, III, Nihil, and IV. From the release of the 2018 album Prequelle and subsequent world tour, Forge portrayed a character known as "Cardinal Copia", who is described as being unrelated to any of the Papa Emeritus characters and whose costume consists of either cardinal vestments or a black or white tuxedo alongside a prosthetic mask with black eye makeup and the multi-colored eyes which had been present in each Papa character. In March 2020, at the final show of A Pale Tour Named Death, Forge once again assumed the mantle of Papa Emeritus-Cardinal Copia being anointed to Papa IV.



TIMELINE
OF NOTABLE DATES

2006

The band Ghost forms in Linköping, Sweden

2010



Opus Eponymous is Ghost's debut studio album. It was released on October 18

2010

Debut of Papa Emeritus I
First official show at the Hammer of Doom festival in Würzburg, Germany.

2012

Live debut of Papa Emeritus II on December 15

2013



Infestissumam is the second studio album from Ghost. It was released on April 10

2013



If You Have Ghost is their first EP. It was produced by Dave Grohl and released on 20 November

2015



Meliora is the third studio album by Ghost. It was released on August 21

2015

Live debut of Papa Emeritus III on June 3



Popestar is the second EP. It consists mainly of covers. It was released on September 16

2016

2016

Cirice from the Meliora album won the Grammy Award for Best Metal Performance





The band released a live album called: Ceremony and Devotion on October 23

2017

2017

Papa Emeritus III is pulled off stage. Papa Nihil speaks "The party is over. The middle ages have begun" on September 30



Prequelle is the fourth studio album. It was released on June 1. peaked at number one for seven weeks on the Billboard Mainstream Rock Songs chart

2018

2018

First look at Cardinal Copia was teased in January

2019

Ghost is nominated for another Grammy Award for Best Rock Album



Impera is the fifth studio album by Ghost and most recent. It was released on March 11

2022

2020

At the last show of the Pale Tour Named Death, Cardinal Copia was anointed Papa Emeritus IV

YOUR DARK EXCELLENCY

AN IN DEPTH VIEW OF GHOST'S RICH LORE

Understanding the lore of Ghost is an entirely different beast that has so many layers to it. The lore becomes a combination of what is considered confirmed by the band and what is fan made and has been unanimously agreed upon. It's so vast that I will only be able to scratch the surface for the purpose of giving a new fan a brief summary. Firstly, we start with Papa Nihil or Zero as some call, he is the father of Papa Emeritus I, II, III, and it was most recently hinted that he is also the father of Cardinal Copia (now Papa IV). Papa Nihil was the front-man of Ghost during the 60's producing the EP "Seven Inches Of Satanic Panic" which was then brought back by Cardinal Copia and produced as Vinyl. Ghost was then brought back to public light in 2010 when Papa I became the front-man producing the Opus Eponymous album bringing the era of pride. Papa I is the eldest amongst the Emeritus brothers. Along with Papa I, was a set of nameless ghouls who play the instrumentals for the band. The lore of the nameless ghouls is that they are summoned from Hell to help with tasks the clergy gives them. The clergy or some would say the headquarters of Ghost is essentially the inner workings and behind the scenes of the band. It consists of Sisters and Brothers of sin, other nameless ghouls, and higher ranking members like Sister Imperator who help maintain the clergy while the current Papa Emeritus is away. Papa Emeritus II the middle brother, takes the stage as the new front-man around 2013, as his brother Papa Emeritus I steps down from his duties with the band. Papa II brings the era of wrath to the masses with the Infestissumam album. In 2015, Papa Emeritus III the youngest brother, is introduced bringing a new era of lust, as Papa Emeritus II steps down from his position as the bands lead. The Meliora album follows, with the song 'Cirice' winning Ghost a Grammy. The band appeared on the red carpet with both Papa III and the nameless ghouls in tow. In 2017, Papa Emeritus III is pulled off stage with Nihil addressing the crowd stating that "The party is over, the middle ages have begun". Thus the era of envy took place as Cardinal Copia took over, bringing the Prequelle album to fans across the globe. Cardinal Copia was first described as an outsider who was not related to the Emeritus bloodline, which to Papa Nihil was a very important aspect of the next Papa. Through Sister Imperator's insistence, Cardinal Copia was allowed to lead the band in order to prove himself as capable. At the end of a pale tour named death in 2020, the Cardinal's work has finally paid off as he was anointed Papa Emeritus the IV, the current lead of the band-two years later in 2022 he released the Impera album bringing an era of greed.

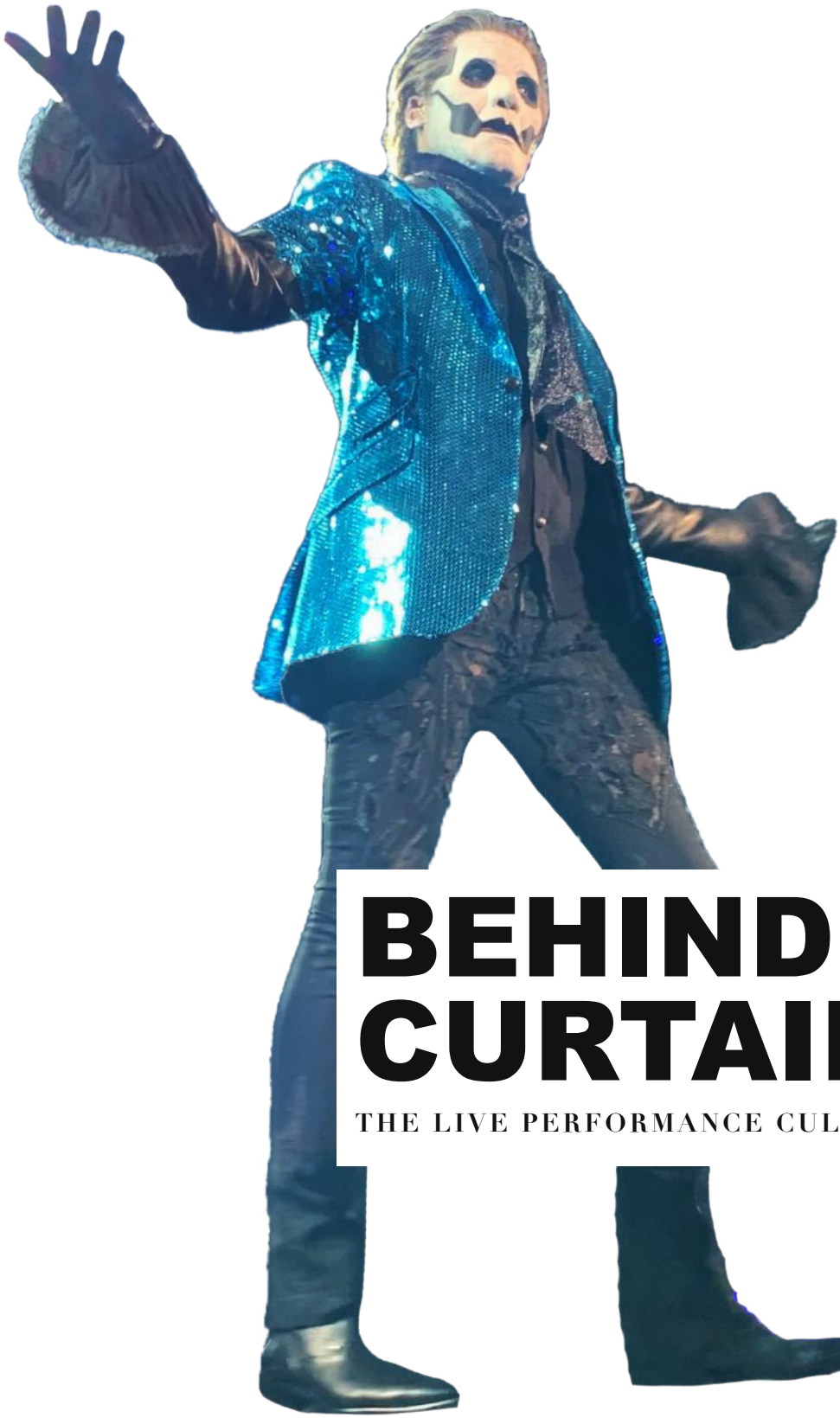














BEHIND THE CURTAIN

THE LIVE PERFORMANCE CULTURE OF GHOST

Concerts, live performances, shows, all different names for the same sensory experience of listening to live music. Within the Ghost community they are not simply called concerts they are called rituals, which serves the definition of a live performance from Ghost. They put a lot of effort into making sure each tour cycle set is unique from the last with new experiences, outfits, and audience interactions. I would even say it would be correct to call them theatrical music performances. They burn special blends of incense during the concerts to pull the audience into the space of a church, even hanging large cloth murals that look like stained glass windows. There were even special occasions during the earlier days of Ghost when they would invite audience members to portray sisters of sin and pass out communion crackers and wine to the front row. However since then, Ghost has grown a much larger fan base and tends to play only arena shows rather than the more intimate ones at the local theater. Ghost still puts just as much emphasis on fan interactions in the arena shows like the confetti cannons that go off during the song 'Mummy Dust', that shoots out fake money with Ghost themed art on them. Another example would be during the song 'Cirice', when Papa/Popia chooses a member of the audience to sing to. I was extremely lucky that I was able to experience being 'Ciriced' during the first ritual I ever attended. I highly recommend going to see Ghost live, it's an amazing experience and they put so much care and dedication into their craft.



Jan. 25 – Reno, Nev. @ Reno Events Center

Jan. 27 – Seattle, Wash. @ Climate Pledge Arena

Jan. 28 – Nampa, Idaho @ Ford Idaho Center Arena

Jan. 29 – Portland, Ore. @ Veterans Memorial Coliseum

Jan. 31 – West Valley City, Utah @ Maverik Center

Feb. 02 – Denver, Colo. @ Ball Arena

Feb. 04 – Lincoln, Neb. @ Pinnacle Bank Arena

Feb. 05 – Minneapolis, Minn. @ Target Center

Feb. 07 – Columbus, Ohio @ Nationwide Arena

Feb. 08 – Hershey, Pa. @ GIANT Center

Feb. 10 – Newark, N.J. @ Prudential Center

Feb. 11 – Worcester, Mass. @ DCU Center

Feb. 12 – Camden, N.J. @ BB&T Pavilion

Feb. 14 – Pittsburgh, Pa. @ Petersen Events Center

Feb. 15 – Toledo, Ohio @ Huntington Center

Feb. 16 – Grand Rapids, Mich. @ Van Andel Arena

Feb. 18 – Chicago, Ill. @ Allstate Arena

Feb. 19 – Cincinnati, Ohio @ Heritage Bank Center

Feb. 20 – Milwaukee, Wis. @ Fiserv Forum

Feb. 21 – St. Louis, Mo. @ Chaifetz Arena

Feb. 23 – Independence, Mo. @ Cable Dahmer Arena

Feb. 25 – Houston, Texas @ Smart Financial Centre at Sugar Land

Feb. 26 – Dallas, Texas @ Fair Park Coliseum

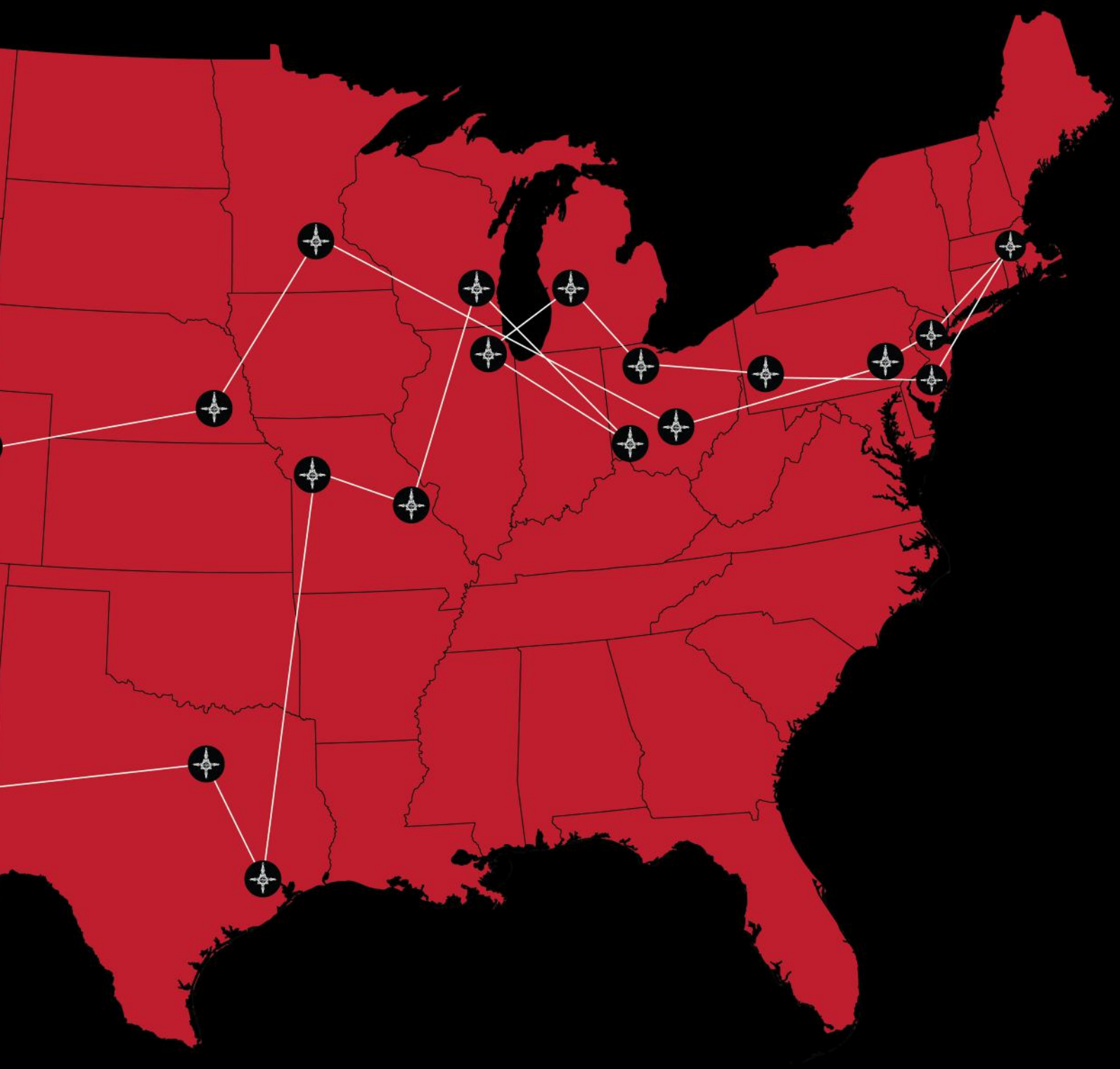
Feb. 28 – El Paso, Texas @ Don Haskins Center

March 01 – Phoenix, Ariz. @ Footprint Center

March 03 – Anaheim, Calif. @ Honda Center



GHOST:
PRE-IMPERATOUR U.S.A 2022



FANS FIRST

INTERVIEWS WITH SOME OF GHOST'S BIGGEST FANS

THEIR MUSIC PICK

ZENITH



Children of Ghost
Fan Account Owner: Alfie
Instagram: @childrenofghost
Facebook: ChildrenofGhost

How long have you been a part of the Ghost community?
I started Children of Ghost around September of 2014 so I would say for 8 years now.

How did you first discover Ghost/ What got you into Ghost?
I was scrolling through Facebook one night and there was a Metal website (Forgot which one) that posted an article of the "Best Music Videos of The Year". I was looking through it and saw the music video for "Secular Haze" was on there. The screenshot for the music video had this menacing-looking Pope that caught my interest. "Secular Haze" has that eerie carnival sound which I really liked. The camera pans out and showed the Nameless Ghouls in their church like robes. They looked amazing! I was like "holy s**t who is this band?". They had the looks. They had the sound. Everything seemed perfect until I heard the pope sing. I definitely did not expect this band with a dark image to have a singer with such a soft voice. It really threw me off. People have told me they had a similar experience so I'm glad I'm not the only one that was surprised.

How would you describe Ghost to someone who hasn't heard or listened to them before?
Pure entertainment with a hint of Satanic imagery. If you're mega religious then yea you're not going to like this band. But Ghost doesn't take themselves seriously and you shouldn't either. The singer rides a tricycle inside a church for God's sake.

What's your favorite Ghost song? Following up with what's a song you would recommend for first-time listeners?
I don't think one single fan has a favorite Ghost song because they're just so many. My two absolute favorites are "Zenith" and "Year Zero". I think "Call Me Little Sunshine" from their latest album is a good song for first-timers. "Rats" and "Circe" are also good. If you want to hear what Ghost used to sound like then I recommend "Ritual" or anything from their first album "Opus Eponymous" (My favorite).

Most people would just refer to live performances as concerts, but Ghost fans call them rituals. How many rituals have you attended? Would you be able to explain how the term ritual came about for a non Ghost fan?
I've been to 26 rituals. That may sound like a lot but I actually have a couple of friends that have been to 70. What can we say, we love Ghost. A "Ritual" just fits well with Ghost's image. When you're attending a Ghost show it's like going to a church gathering and the singer (Papa Emeritus) is giving the sermon. Also, they have a song called "Ritual" with lyrics that go "Tonight we're summoned for a divine cause". That's exactly what we're doing at a Ghost show. Getting together for a fun and divine cause.



Dare2cosplay

Fan/Cosplayer
Instagram: @Dare2cosplay

How long have you been a part of the Ghost community?
Since 2017! I got in right before Prequelle but before Popestar Tour ended.

How did you first discover Ghost/ What got you into Ghost?
I really became aware of Ghost in 2017 when they were playing on the radio! It was Square Hammer and I was so hooked to the song! My partner at the time was the one who deep-dived into the band more, and we were both hooked! I was at first in love with the music but seeing the costumes and lore really had me hooked. Also, Papa III. He drew me in the most.

How would you describe Ghost to someone who hasn't heard or listened to them before?
I would describe them as a funny Satanic-themed band that touches multiple genres of rock. Imagine all the fun things about 80's glam rockers but with a cult theme, and a song for every occasion! After that? I just say your guess is good as mine, but Satan is there at least.

What's your favorite Ghost song? Following up with what's a song you would recommend for first-time listeners?
That's such a hard question because so many songs are my favorite! If I had to absolutely choose one, it would be Monstrance Clock. That song got me through a lot of tough times. It depends on the person, but I always do a couple of go-tos: Cirice, since they won a Grammy with it. Dance Macabre, as it can be the most mainstream and easiest to listen to.

Most people would just refer to live performances as concerts, but Ghost fans call them rituals. How many rituals have you attended? Would you be able to explain how the term ritual came about for a non Ghost fan?
I've been to three as of last month! Hoping to triple that in the future! As for the term, I believe it comes from the band advertising itself to fit the Satanic church theme. Like calling something like a sermon but… you know, we're there to worship Satan and the female orgasm! (No really, that's what Papa always says!)

THEIR MUSIC PICK

MONSTRANCE CLOCK

THEIR MUSIC PICK

YEAR ZERO



Hail Ghost
Fan Account Owner: Jordan
Instagram: @hailghost

How long have you been a part of the Ghost community?
I've been a part of the Ghost community for around 6 years now.

How did you first discover Ghost/ What got you into Ghost?
I was into some more 'theatrical' bands since I was a kid as well as horror movies. I was always a fan of bands who put on a show, masks, costumes, and such. I remember the first Ghost song I heard was 'Cirice' in passing on the radio, at that time I wasn't into the music I'm into now. I was into more heavier music. However, I remember when Square Hammer was released, I heard it all the time on the radio. I was caught off guard by hearing "Swear before the Devil" on the radio, just not something you normally hear on American radio and I loved it. After doing a bit more looking into them, they had everything I really was looking for in a band at the time, an anti-church occult rock band that can be campy but also deathly serious at times. Not to mention the lore behind it, I was immediately hooked. I went and bought every album soon after, and 6 years later I still love what they do.

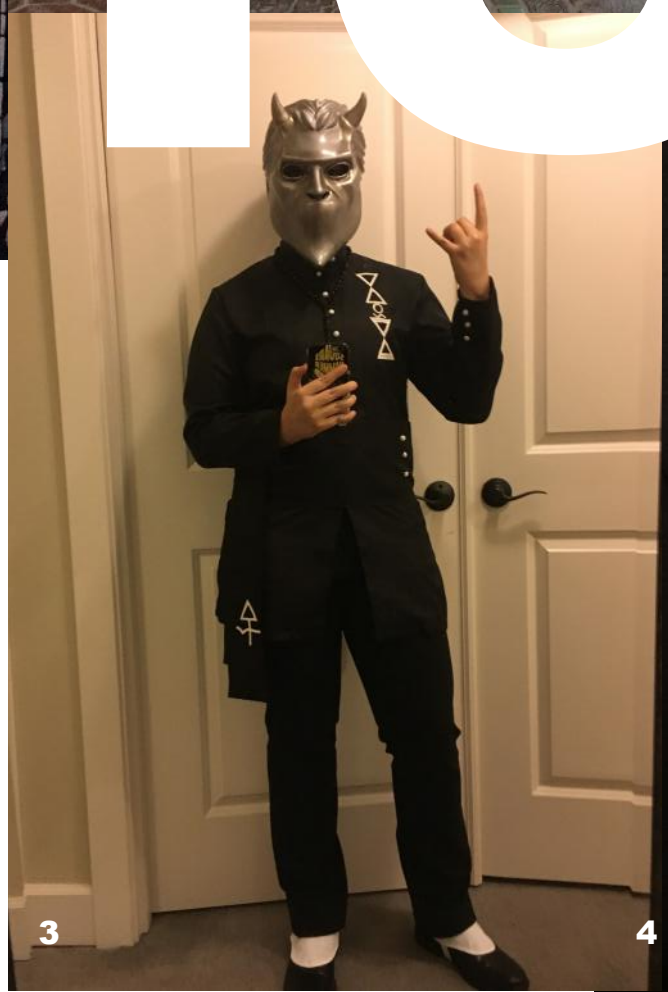
How would you describe Ghost to someone who hasn't heard or listened to them before?
They're just a band that can do it all, I've always described them as just an occult rock band, but they're so much more. It's getting harder and harder to put Ghost into a genre because they are continuing to evolve to a point that you can almost find a little bit of all genres somewhere in their discography. There's just something so special about Ghost that if you attended a ritual and never heard of a single song, I think you would walk out a fan. No matter who you are. They're just a fun band. They make you laugh, cry, sit and contemplate. They can do it all.

What's your favorite Ghost song? Following up with what's a song you would recommend for first-time listeners?
My favorite song still continues to be Year Zero, it's what I really love about Ghost. The intro, lyrics, the music, the outro everything about it is perfect to me. And it's hard to pick one song to suggest because even more so now with Impera I find their discography becoming more diverse. I find a lot of casual music fans or non Ghost fans love Dance Macabre, and will have it in their head for days. Even if they may necessarily like it they'll hear that chorus for a while.

Most people would just refer to live performances as concerts, but Ghost fans call them rituals. How many rituals have you attended? Would you be able to explain how the term ritual came about for a non Ghost fan?
I've been to 4 so far. I was pretty late to the Ghost party and just became a fan right as the Popestar tour passed by a small theater near my small town. I wish I would've attended but I just hadn't known them yet. My first Ritual was the Rats on the Road tour in St Louis. I think it's to set the experience from their concerts and others apart, but it truly does feel like something special, the feeling just before the "ritual" begins, the amount of fun that can be had, and the feelings I get after a ritual don't compare to normal concerts. So maybe there is something ritualistic about it. But I wouldn't read too far into that. Haha









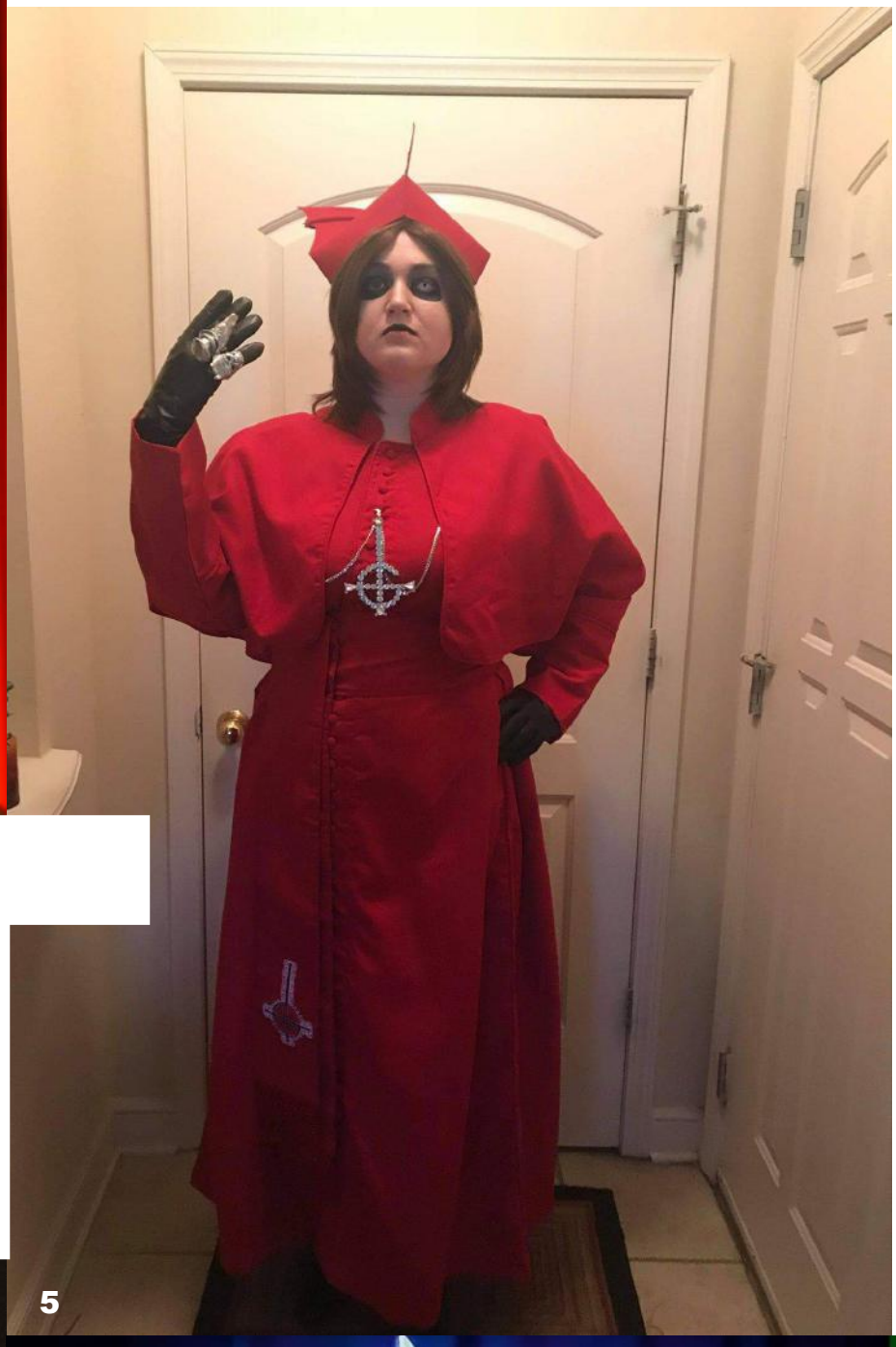
GHO

COS PLAY

Pictured:
1 Mothstomynature
2 Marinamcelrea
3 Me the Editor
4 Fauxbias.forge
5 Dare2Cosplay
6 Vitadevoid



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5



6

ERA IN REVIEW

EDITOR'S FINAL THOUGHTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Ghost is an absolutely amazing musical group that is so multi-faceted and continues to provide fans with carefully crafted music, lore, and entertainment-hands down will forever be my favorite band. They have also inspired plenty of my artistic projects, like this magazine for example, and I believe they will continue to do so. I've been able to explore so many different sides and aspects of my creative abilities because of the inspiration Ghost has given me. I highly recommend listening to their music and even attending one of their shows if you're able to. Some of my personal favorites from their discography include: 'Con Clavi Con Dio' from the Opus Eponymous album, the combination of 'Bite of Passage' and 'Respite On The Spitalfields' from the Impera album, 'Ghuleh/Zombie Queen' from the Infestissumam album, and 'From The Pinnacle To The Pit' from the Meliora album. One of the greatest things about Ghost is how uniquely distinctive each album sounds from one another. It gives the songs variety while at the same time still retains that iconic 'Ghost' sound throughout. I'm obviously a huge fan of the band and I always try my best to 'spread the good word' as they say, or in this case 'spread the word of Ghost' to anyone willing to listen to me gush about how much I love them and the music they create. The image I've included on this spread is a good indicator, as it's just a small glimpse of the large dedication I have for collecting Ghost merchandise. I can only hope that one day I am able to share this magazine with the band and express how much their fans love and support them. Nema!

MY MUSIC PICK

CON CLAVI CON DIO


Ghost
666
666
666
EVANESCENCE & WITHIN TEMPTATION
KERRANG!
6 POSTERS!
KNOCKED LOOSE
BABYMETAL
INSIDE THE MIND OF TOBIAS FORGE
GHOST
UNMASKED
POP! ROCKS Ghost 241
POP! ROCKS Ghost 125
HOT TOPIC EXCLUSIVE
PAPA EMERITUS II
VINYL FIGURE / FIGURINE EN VINYLE
FIGURA DE VINIL
POP! ROCKS Ghost 204
HOT TOPIC EXCLUSIVE
PAPA EMERITUS III
VINYL FIGURE / FIGURINE EN VINYLE
FIGURA DE VINIL
14
HOT TOPIC EXCLUSIVE
OPUS EPONYMOUS
Funko
REVOLVER
GHOST
Spirit Adrift // Underoath // War On Women // Run the Jewels // Icelandic Black Metal
Code Orange on Pantera // Yob // The Fever 333 // Lucifer // Devils Lettuce // Lace

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ROSS HAFLIN IMG pg.1

ALBUM IMG pg.10

PAPA EMERITUS IMG pg.13

