

# EVENT HORIZON



In 2011, the early foundations began to take hold for a new breed of progressive death metal. **Event Horizon**, based in Los Angeles, CA, is a project founded by guitarist/vocalist Max Sindermann. A classically trained guitarist, Sindermann began tinkering with the idea of building a bridge between metal and classical guitar. Taking inspiration from contemporary metal acts such as Opeth, Cynic, and Fleshgod Apocalypse, as well as classical composers like Sergei Rachmaninoff, Francisco Tarrega, and Igor Stravinsky, Sindermann began establishing a new musical formula that fused modern death metal with Romantic and Twentieth Century era classical music. Teaming up with Belgian vocalist Brandon Leigh Polaris, Event Horizon put out their first EP, *The Emancipation of Dissonance* in 2013.

“The name was taken from Arnold Schoenberg, who used it as a term to describe the budding atonal movement in the early twentieth century,” says Sindermann. “It established this new idea that dissonant harmony could exist in and of itself, without being bound by consonance. I thought this resonated very well with the metal genre, as it’s a brand of music that thrives best in sounds that make us uncomfortable.” *Emancipation* took hold as the foundation of what was to come. After taking on vocal duties himself, Sindermann began building a team of musicians to help further establish his vision. On guitar came David Cortes, a Spanish native with a background in classical guitar and orchestral composition. The bass role was filled by Vincent Medina, a classical and jazz bassist whose impressive virtuosity brought a new layer of dimension to the band’s sound. Lastly, the drum were filled in by Jacob Alves, who brought a technical foundation to the rhythm section with his background in progressive rock, metal, and jazz.

Event Horizon’s sound is marked by an array of musical influences and innovations that bring new flavors to the metal genre. But perhaps one of the most impressive aspects of their music is the new fingerstyle techniques developed to play the music. “I wanted to apply classical fingerstyle technique into the music as much as I could, but the more I began to do so, the more limiting I found it to be when I was stuck using a pick” says Sindermann. “I realized I would need total freedom to make it work, so I began developing new techniques to completely change the way I played my instrument.” Event Horizon’s live performance incorporates metal, classical, and flamenco style techniques that allow them to tackle their unique brand of technical music.

After several years of new challenges and growth, the now established union of Event Horizon are set to release their newest EP, *A Nightmare of Symmetry*. With the bombastic ferocity of metal and the lush, vibrant harmony of classical music, this new EP stands out as an exemplary model of what can be achieved through musical innovation. From the Spanish-inspired melodies of “The Light that Carries Me,” to the relentless aggression of “First World Phenomenon,” this new EP sets a whole new standard for progressive music that will shaken the foundations of the metal genre. Through ingenuity and creative exploration, Event Horizon are proving themselves to be a unique new voice in progressive music.