



Biography

GO! FIGHT! KILL! No sound truly defines Thrash Metal more than ASSASSIN. A hybrid of Speed Thrash Metal and Hardcore splashed with a sense of humor, it grabs you by the throat and kicks your ass.

Although a band photo predates the official band formation, ASSASSIN was officially formed in 1985 by original lineup Dinko Vekic (lead guitar), Scholli (lead guitar), Lulle (bass), Psycho (drums) and at last Robert Gonnella(vocals).

Dubbed the Holy Terror era, their first demo sold approximately 500 copies; a great feat considering there was no internet music sharing. A short time later, the Nemesis demo was released in 1986 and Assassin was signed to SPV. THE UPCOMING TERROR album was released 1987 and sold approximately 15,000 copies.

After some time off, the band regrouped with new members Michael Hoffmann (guitar) and Frank Nellen (drums). They released their second album, INTERSTELLAR EXPERIENCE in 1988 and quickly rose through the ranks as one of Germany's top 5 thrash bands. Supporting DEATH ANGEL on their first official tour in 1988, nearly all shows were sold out.

While working on the first tracks for their third album, all their equipment was stolen and ASSASSIN, having no funds to reinvest in equipment, problems with the new management and the change of band members lost their will to continue and shortly broke up thereafter.

Fast forward to 2002! After numerous chants of GO, FIGHT, KILL from the worldwide Thrash Metal community, the band regroups and the official ASSASSIN reunion is announced. This new lineup was Robert (vocals), Dinko (lead guitar), Scholli (lead guitar), Joachim (bass) and

Jason Kubke (drums), who was replaced by Atomic Steiff on year later . A new 5 track demo was recorded and played live at Wacken 2003 to the positive reviews of many critics.

Its incredible how quick the underground spreads the information, explains Rudy Schmitz, ASSASSINs manager. Suddenly, radio stations are playing ASSASSIN again in their rotations and the rabid fans want more and they want ASSASSIN live. Shows are booked and appetites are fed. „We made some shows and it was like coming home“, says singer Robert Gonnella. With Dinko gone most of 2005, it was decided that another guitarist would step in to fill the void and also support Dinko. Michael Hoffmann came in as the third guitarist. Atomic and Dinko left the band and Frank once again was back on skins.

In early 2005 their 3rd album “THE CLUB” was released, self-produced and self-released. In 2009, the drummer Frank Nellen left the band for personal reasons and was replaced by the Wicked Kema drummer Björn Sondermann. At the same time the problem of the occupation on bass was dissolved with the joining of Joachim Kremer.

In spring 2010, Assassin played some shows in Asia where the concerts in Japan were professionally recorded with the plan to release a DVD. In autumn 2010 the band signed a record deal with the German label SPV and recorded their new album with producer Harris Johns. The first two albums were re-released on vinyl (each as colored DLP) and also on DCD as the compilation “Chronicles of Resistance”. The 4th studio album followed in 2011: “Breaking the silence”. After a lot of shows around the world and the DVD Chaos and live shots was released in 2012, the song-writing for the next album started.

But in 2014 Robert Gonnella decided to leave the band and Assassin had to find a new singer. After 2 month they found Ingo Bajonczak. While the production of the next album “Combat Cathedral” Michael Hoffmann took only a little part on that and left the band before the release of the 5th studio album of Assassin in 2016. Frank Blackfire entered Assassin and they did some shows in europe and south america.

In the beginning of 2018 Frank returned to Sodom but still stayed at Assassin but in reality more likely as a live guitarist and specially as a good friend. So Assassin’s last album “Bestia Immundis” (which was assessed in a lot of reviews as the best album of Assassin after The Upcoming Terror) was done almost exclusively by 4 musicians and released in the beginning of 2020 by their new label Massacre Records shorty before Covid-19 stopped the world.

During the world stands still the german record label High Roller Records contacted Assassin. High Roller records is a well known small label which re-released legendary stuff from the past. As a result they present in march 2021 the first demos Holy Terror (1985) and The Saga of Nemesis (1986) in wonderful colored vinyl and also on CD.

The current line-up consists of:



Ingo Bajonczak, Vocals

Since 2014 with ASSASSIN

Ingo Bajonczak is singer and lyricist of all songs.



Jürgen ,Scholli' Scholz, Guitar

Founding member and musical mastermind of the band, who has shaped the style and sound of Assassin throughout the years.

Inspired by Venom, Tank, Motörhead, many bands of NWOBH and the punk movement 1977 to 1983.



Frank Blackfire, Guitar

Since 2016 with ASSASSIN

Has gained international notoriety as a member of the thrash metal bands ,Sodom' and ,Kreator', having been instrumental in shaping their style and thus their success. Since rejoining ,Sodom' in early 2018, he continues to be with Assassin, but accordingly primarily as a live guitarist.

**Joachim ,Die Kette (The Chain)' Kremer**

Since 2009 bass player with ASSASSIN

Since the age of 17 Joachim has been playing bass and guitar in metal and punk bands. He studied at the ,Hogeschool voor Muziek en Theater in Rotterdam', left it as a graduated musician and since then he works with various worldwide known musical productions. In addition, he has also been playing with the Düsseldorf Punk band ,NICHTS' since 2013.

**Björn ,Burn Specialman' Sondermann,
Schlagzeug**

Since 2009 with ASSASSIN

Already as a child he was drumming on everything that was somehow (un-) suitable for it. At the pubescent age of 14 he bought a used drum set for 435 DM on installments from his saved pocket money. The drum set had previously experienced several parties with the Punk band ,Public Toys' and stank extremely of cigarettes and beer every time it was cleaned. This purchase moved Björn to make drumming his passion and he immediately formed several bands to continue to give the experienced, smelly drum set the Rock'n Roll spirit.

Still enthusiastic, he studied drumming at the ,Drummers Institute' and with Dante Agostini in Düsseldorf.

As a professional musician he gave many international workshops and founded a drum school in Düsseldorf Lohhausen, which he still runs today.



Tobias ,Tobi Carrera' Cremer, Manager

In August 2019, Tobias Cremer, an experienced event and band manager, could be won to regulate and realign the fate / business of the band.

Back catalog / Releases:

- 1985: *Holy Terror* (Demo)
- 1986: *The Saga of Nemesis* (Demo)
- 1987: *The Upcoming Terror* (Album)
- 1988: *Interstellar Experience* (Album)
- 1989: *Demo* (Demo)
- 2005: *The Club* (Album)
- 2008: *Breaking the Silence* (Demo)
- 2011: *Breaking the Silence* (Album)
- 2011: *Chronicles of Resistance* (Compilation)
- 2012: *Chaos and Live Shots* (DVD)
- 2016: *Combat Cathedral* (Album)
- 2020: *Februar Bestia Immundis* (Album)

2021: *March Holy Terror Demo (1985) + The Saga of Nemesis Demo(1986)*
High Roller Records - Vinyl and CD

Appendix:

Web: assassin-band.de

Contact: tobi@assassin-band.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AssassinOfficial>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjq-vgyNkqQUjM3hP4HR5Bw/videos>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/Assassin_Thrash

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/assassinband>

Spotify: <https://open.spotify.com/album/1bOa0DzVTSMdGUc795DpN3>