2023 FULL PELT AWARDS!



Awards for Album, Single, EP, Artist, New Artist, Festival and Live Act of the Year!



To the Full Pelt Magazine!

Packed full of music news, reviews and more!

Happy New Year Full Pelt readers!

Before we look to 2024 in the next issue, we review 2023 and reveal the winners of our annual End of Year Awards!

Who will be crowned Artist, New Artist or Live Act of the Year? What will be Single, Album and EP of the Year? And what event will take home the Festival of the Year Award?

Throughout this special issue we will also share some of our favourite photos of the year, all taken by our





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BEANS ON TOAST



THE DOLLYROTS



CJ WILDHEART



REWS

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Ever since Full Pelt emerged in late 2020, these end of year reviews have by necessity discussed the impacts of the pandemic. 2023 we dearly hope will be the last! After all, this year has seen the uninterrupted full scale return of live music and an endless stream of incredible new releases. Yes, it really does feel like at its core the music industry has overcome the pandemic disruption.

That said, this year equally has highlighted many issues that still exist and many of those issues sadly tend to impact the little guy as it were. Be that customers being abused by ticket agencies, grassroots venues facing a cost of living crisis or smaller acts being held back by low streaming payouts. Unfortunately many challenges still exist as we enter 2024, and we couldn't write this review without acknowledging them.

Thankfully though 2023 has given us plenty to celebrate and we recently conducted our now traditional Album of the Year Top 50 Countdown across social media throughout December. This year's list was one of the toughest ever to compile and the top three all deserved the coveted number one spot. You'll see again shortly who did eventually take that crown along with shortlists and winners for all of our awards.





The biggest change for Full Pelt this year has seen our weekly music News Report morph into the Full Pelt Magazine and in this very special edition we'll announce the recipients of our Album, Single and EP's of the Year. We'll also reveal the best live act (formerly Gig of the Year), and best festival of 2023. Many individual acts have also had standout years in 2023 and we'll shortly proclaim our Artist and New Artist of the Year winners.



There have been many highlights in 2023 from acts old and new. At the legendary end of the spectrum, Elton John delivered one of the most iconic Glastonbury headline shows of all time, The Beatles made history as the band with the biggest gap between number one singles and The Rolling Stones surprised everyone with the release of 'Hackney Diamonds'.

There was glitz and glamour also as Eurovision arrived in Liverpool! Frankie Goes To Hollywood reformed for the first time in 36 years to play the opening ceremony, while John Lydon failed in his bid to represent Ireland. Whilst Sweden take the crown, the UK falters – only finishing above Lord of the Lost who would go on to support Iron Maiden! We meanwhile welcomed Blind Channel, who fared much better in 2021 to The Full Pelt Music Podcast (1 of 29 episode this year!) for our most listened to episode of all time!





Our 'Discover' New Music series continues to put the spotlight on some of the best upcoming acts from across the globe and again oversees our New Artist of the Year Award. We've featured 21 artists on our 'Discover' New Music Podcast this year including all eight shortlisted artists for this award. Each has had a breakout year from Rituals and ANTISAINT performing at Download's 20th Anniversary, to Kite Thief, Carsick and Hannah Rose Platt making a mark at 2000trees. There have been EP's and albums and packed live shows from all acts with Major Moment, North Atlas and headcage all able to look back on 2023 as a year of growth.

Speaking of live shows, the 8 acts shortlisted for Live Act of the Year have all blown audiences away this year with their stunning shows, musical acumen and consistent magnificence. Bob Vylan, Frank Turner and Creeper all took their brilliance on the road this year as well as playing some impressive festival shows.













Perhaps no festival show was as impressive this year as the crowning moment when Bring Me The Horizon finally headlined Download Festival. Huge shows are nothing new though for Muse who this year brought their spectacular show to the MK Bowl alongside a short run of arena dates. Those arena dates alongside a main stage slot at Download and an early UK Tour all evidenced the fact that Nova Twins are already established as one of the best live acts the UK has to offer. Meanwhile Fall Out Boy showed again that the US has a fair few fine live acts themselves and that Fall Out Boy may well just be the very best.



Following years of pandemic disruption it really did feel like live music was properly back this year and that is perhaps best encapsulated by the great British music festival. Great line-ups highlighted many of the large events this year including Glastonbury, Reading & Leeds and All Points East with Download celebrating their 20th Anniversary with a mega four day event.

Events of all sizes though delivered great times and it seemed that fans were desperate to get back to normality with events such as Slam Dunk and the Foolhardy Folk Festival selling out well in advance. Other events continued to show why festivals are about so much more than just the headliners with 2000trees and Teddy Rocks both producing memorable years.

Festivals are a great way for artists to elevate themselves and many of our Artist of the Year shortlist made big statements at festivals in 2023 including the already mentioned Bring Me The Horizon. Metallica also brought their new album to Download as did Foo Fighters with a surprise appearance at Glastonbury capturing headlines around the world.



Seven of the eight shortlisted released new albums in 2023 with Skindred's chart battle particularly capturing the hearts and minds of rock music fans. Indeed despite ending up in the number two spot, the campaign left plenty for fans of the band to 'Smile' about! Fans of Blink 182 were also given plenty to be happy about with the iconic trio reuniting for a new album and sold out UK Tour!

Creeper, Fall Out Boy and Queens of the Stone Age round out the shortlist for our big award with each backing up fantastic new albums with packed shows. That all brings us full circle to our opening observations that music is very much back. Live music is (mainly) thriving and the conveyor belt of superb albums evidence the creative mastery currently in play.



That said as we side-eye 2024, we can all do more to help ensure that the next wave of talent is able to come through. Go to shows (especially smaller ones), buy merch and physical releases and spread the word – when you discover your new favourite act, let the world know!















ALBUM OF THE YEAR

EP OF THE YEAR

SINGLE OF THE YEAR

FESTIVAL OF THE YEAR

LIVE ACT OF THE YEAR

ARTIST OF THE YEAR

NEW ARTIST OF THE YEAR

TELL US YOUR WINNERS ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA













ALBUM OF THE YEAR

2020

IDLES

ULTRA MONO

2021

WOLF ALICE

BLUE WEEKEND

2022

GHOST

IMPERA

PHEYIOUS WINEES



THE SHORTLIST!





















Black Honey Fall Out Boy

Creeper Jim Lockey and the Solemn Sun Hundred Reasons

Lottery Winners Enter Shikari Therapy?





CREEPER

'Sanguivore'

It's been an incredibly strong year for new album releases and the battle for our number one spot was indeed fierce. Ultimately though it's the rock opera that is 'Sanguivore' by Creeper that takes the crown!

SANGUIVORE CREPER





The influences on this album though stretch far and wide, with the scope of its sonic exploration only matched by its ambition. As the record progresses the listener is taken on a musical and mythical journey of vampires, horror and intrigue.

The word masterpiece is overused these days, but the urge to use it for 'Sanguivore' is just too irresistible. The problem that Creeper have produced is that with every release you think that they've peaked and couldn't possibly top what they've created... and then they go ahead and do just that!

It should probably be illegal to have this much imagination and ingenuity because it's simply not fair on the competition. The reality is though at this point, certainly in their chosen sphere, there is no competition and Creeper are in a league of their own.

It's easy to wax lyrical here about this album, because it's such a well rounded record. There are fantastic singles, or bangers as the kids would say, yet there is also such depth present as well. Prerelease singles such as 'Teenage Sacrifice' and 'Black Heaven', certainly gave a good insight into what to expect, but listeners really need to dig deep and immerse themselves into 'Sanguivore' to fully comprehend its brilliance!

WHAT THEY SAID

Vocalist William Von Ghould says, "This is Creeper at their most outrageous, harking back to a time where Jim Steinman ruled the airwaves in leather gloves and Aviators."

AOTY SPECIAL EDITION MAGAZINE

OUT NOW!





FULL PELT'S BEST OF

SPOTIFY PLAYLIST!

CREEPER HUNDRED REASONS
CRY TO HEAVEN REPLICATE
THERAPY? JIM LOCKEY &TSS
JOY RENO
LOTTERY WINNERS ENTER SHIKARI
WORRY IT HURTS
FALL OUT BOY BLACK HONEY
LOVE FROM THE OTHER SIDE OK

INCLUDING TRACKS FROM OUR ALBUMS OF THE YEAR!













EP OF THE YEAR

2020

NO AWARD 2021

NO AWARD 2022

AS SIRENS FALL

COMNAGEOF

PHEYIOUS WINIERS



THE SHORTLIST!

















MOSKITO



BLACKGOLD

Rituals

Dream State

Ghost

YONAKA
Yellowcard
Lake Malice



LAKE MALICE

'Post-Genesis'

Having spent the year building a devout following through their incredible live shows, October saw Lake Malice deliver a true statement of intent with their stunning debut EP 'Post-Genesis'!



FULL PELT'S BEST OF

SPOTIES PLAYLIST!

LAKE MALICE BLOSSOM

YONAKA
WELCOME TO MY HOUSE

BLACKGOLD

FREAK

YELLOWCARD CHILDHOOD EYES RITUALS LIVING BLIND

MOSKITO

517

GHOST

JESUS HE KNOWS ME

DREAM STATE TAUNT ME

INCLUDING TRACKS FROM OUR EP'S OF THE YEAR!















SINGLE OF THE YEAR

2020

BRING ME THE HORIZON

OBEY

2021

PRESS TO MECO

A TESSOLVOUR

2022

THE MYSTERINES

DANGEROUS

PHEYIOUS WINNERS



SHORTLIST!





















Saint Agnes Bob Vylan YONAKA

REWS

PVRIS

Creeper
The Xcerts
VUKOVI





CREEPER

'Cry to Heaven'

Following up on their victory in our fierce Album of the Year battle, Creeper also take home our award for 'Single of the Year'. 'Cry to Heaven' is a true earworm that once inside your head cannot be removed other than by Vampire conversion or simple beheading!



FULL PELT'S BEST OF

SPOTIFY PLAYLIST!

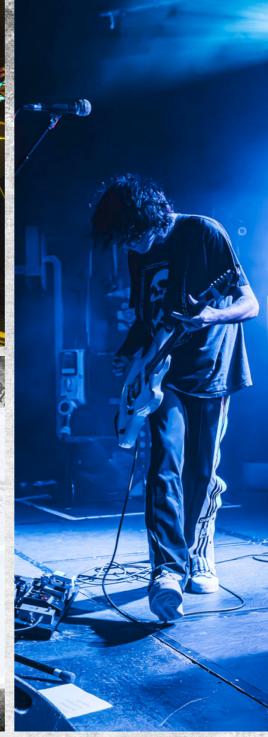
CREPER SAINT AGNES
CRY TO HEAVEN BLOODSUCKERS
YONAKA THE XCERTS
WELCOME TO MY HOUSE ACHE
PVRIS VUKOVI
GODDESS CREEP HEAT
BOB VYLAN REWS
DREAM BIG LOCK YOUR HORNS

INCLUDING FULL 'SINGLE OF THE YEAR' SHORTLIST!













EESTIVAL OF THE YEAR

2020

WILD FIELDS

2021

DOWNLOAD PILOT FESTIVAL 2022

READING & LEEDS

PHEYIOUS WINNERS



THE SHORTLIST!



















Download Festival 2000trees Reading & Leeds

Teddy Rocks

All Points East

Foolhardy Folk Festival Slam Dunk Glastonbury



2000TREES

In another hotly contested category, it's 2000trees that picks up our 2023 Festival of the Year award. As an event 2000trees is about so much more than the music, but musically the bill is stacked from top to bottom. Even in the smallest tent you'll not be able to pull yourself away from one of the best curated line-ups in the UK!















2020

FRANK TURNER 2021

BRING ME THE HORIZON

2022

RAMMSTEIN

PHEYIOUS WINNERS



THE SHORTLIST!





















Creeper Skindred Bob Vylan

Nova Twins

Frank Turner

Bring Me The Horizon
Fall Out Boy
Muse





BOB VYLAN

Whether they were packing out stages at festivals, selling out venues or playing their biggest headline show in Kentish Town, every performance from Bob Vylan had something in common in 2023. That is that every person in attendance left raving about what they'd just witnessed. This year Bob Vylan went from a great live act to the best live act!













ARTIST OF THE YEAR

2020

FRANK TURNER 2021

BIFFY CLYRO

2022

BRING ME THE HORIZON

PHEYIUUS WINNERS



FHE SHORTLIST!





















Fall Out Boy Queens of the Stone Age Bring Me The Horizon

Blink 182

Creeper

Foo Fighters skindred

Metallica





SKINDRED

What a year it's been for Skindred! An unprecedented battle for chart success, their best album in years and much lauded sets at Download and 2000trees. All punctuated by a sold out UK Tour and the announcement of their biggest ever headline show at Wembley Arena coming in 2024!



FULL PELT'S BEST OF

SPOTIES PLAYLIST!

CREPER FOO FIGHTERS
CRY TO HEAVEN RESCUED
SKINDRED BLINK 182
GIMME THAT BOOM EDGING
QOTSA METALLICA
CARNAVOYEUR LUX ÆTERNA
FALL OUT BOY BMTH
LOVE FROM THE OTHER SIDE LOST

INCLUDING SONGS FROM OUR ARTISTS OF THE YEAR!















2020

NO AWARD 2021

MISS VINCENT

2022

PET NEEDS

PHEYIOUS WINNERS



THE SHORTLIST!





















headcage Kite Thief Rituals North Atlas

Carsick

Major Moment ANTISAINT Hannah Rose Platt



Nobody can deny that 2023 was a breakout year for our 'Discover' New Artist of the Year Rituals. Having won 'The Deal', the band made a huge impression with their performance at Download's 20th Anniversary. They then proceeded to release one of the EP's of the Year in 'I Found Myself in the Dark' and have continued to wow crowds with their dominant live shows and have ensured that hordes have discovered their new favourite act!





THE FULL PELT MUSIC PODCAST

LISTEN ON SPOTIFY, APPLE PODCASTS, YOUTUBE, GOOGLE PODCASTS, AMAZON MUSIC, CASTBOX, DEEZER, RADIO PUBLIC, POCKET CASTS

YOU CAN LISTEN TO INTERVIEWS WITH THE FOLLOWING ARTISTS FROM OUR 'ALBUM OF THE YEAR' LIST NOW!



JAMES AND THE COLD GUN





BLACK WATER COUNTY



SAINT AGNES



RYAN HAMILTON



KING NUN



JIM LOCKEY AND THE SOLEMN SUN





DEMOB HAPPY



THE PEARL HARTS



THERAPY?



THE SUBWAYS



BLACK ORCHID EMPIRE



BEANS ON TOAST



SKINNY LISTER



SEAN MCGOWAN





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Can you name each song from the lyrics?

Go on give it a go - the theme this week is:

NEW BEGINNINGS

LINK IT TO THE WORLD
LINK IT TO YOURSELF

ALL IS LOST, SOLD YOUR SOULS TO THIS BRAVE NEW WORLD

WHAT DO I NEED TO START AGAIN
A NEW MILLENNIUM

WE WILL MAKE A BRAND NEW START FROM THE PIECES TORN APART THE BREAK OF DAY IS BEFORE US

> I CAN'T STOP IT SO NOW LET THE MADNESS BEGIN

FULL PELT MAGAZINE

VOL.18

2024

NEXT WEEK

With 2023 wrapped up, we delve into the year ahead and preview what 2024 has in store!



COMING SOON

<u>Listen, Follow and Discover your new favourite act on</u> <u>our 'Discover' New Music Playlist</u>

Then find out the stories behind the songs on our 'Discover' New Music Podcast!



DISCOVER

NEW MUSIC PODCAST

LISTEN ON SPOTIFY, APPLE
PODCASTS, YOUTUBE, GOOGLE
PODCASTS, AMAZON MUSIC,
CASTBOX, DEEZER, RADIO PUBLIC,
POCKET CASTS & MORE

RECENT GUESTS



HEADCAGE



NORTH ATLAS



KITE THIEF



DEATH OF ME



















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