



CRUCIAL VELOCITY started as a collaboration between songwriter/guitarist **Nate Bauer** and veteran mixing/mastering engineer **Gary Long**, owner of Nomad Recording Studio, in the Dallas/Ft Worth area. This morphed into the need for talented musicians to carry out Nate's vision. This vision consists of melding the dark atmosphere and complexity of Opeth, Black Sabbath and Voivod into shorter, more accessible songs with the hooks and vocal harmonies of Queen, Alice In Chains and Ghost.

Matt Thompson, Drums (King Diamond, Shaolin Death Squad). Matt has been the touring and studio drummer for King Diamond for 20 plus years. Powerful and inventive, Matt can do it all. @matthmpsndrums

Androo O'Hearn, Vocals, Keyboards (Shaolin Death Squad). Androo is a professionally trained vocalist and multi instrumentalist. Powerful and unique. His use of layered vocal harmonies and even Kargyraa (throat singing) is one of the most important ingredients to the sound of Crucial Velocity. @androoohearn

Michael Harris, Guitar Solos. Michael is a legend. He has recorded 18 albums consisting of solo projects, Thought Chamber (Inside Out label), Darkology and Arch rival. . He recorded an album with David Chastain and 3 albums with world renowned keyboardist Vitalij Kuprij. www.michaelharrisguitar.com

During the mixing/mastering, Gary Long's close friend and renowned producer **David Prater** (Dream Theater, Firehouse, Night Ranger) was listening to the Crucial Velocity mixes. It was David that recommended contacting record labels as he was blown away by the originality of the songs and the sonic quality of the mixes. 11 songs are completed.

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TRACK SYNOPSIS

LILIUM: This song is written about an actual weekend medical course spent dissecting a human cadaver. A thank you note of sorts to the female cadaver. She takes her name, Lilium, from the Lily which is the flower of death. Doubtful there are many songs written from this perspective!

SERPENT: This is a battle cry for the people of Ukraine. With the right exposure I firmly believe this could be a viral hit. The battle photo above was taken by the renowned photo journalist, **Bulent Kilic** on the front lines in Ukraine. Mr Kilic has graciously given me permission to use the photo for the album cover.

SINS OF PILATE: Written from the perspective of Pontius Pilate after he orders the death of Jesus Christ.

INVINCIBLE: An overview of the last 4 years of American stupidity.

SAVIOR: The 2023 version of "Leper Messiah".

SECRET: The search for the "secret" to life and the realization that there is no secret. This song features a beautiful extended outro complete with nylon string acoustic.

THE WAITING: Written about the final years of Nate's mothers's life spent in a nursing home.

VISITORS: A little sci-fi metal about aliens taking over. Very Voivod inspired.

DARKNESS: A song about depression with an uplifting message

RUN: A banger of a song about mental illness.

A MEMORY: A true story about a childhood regret.