

## \*\*\*US RAP METAL PIONEERS HEADLINE OCTOBER / NOVEMBER UK TOUR\*\*\*

Stuck Mojo, the visceral rock band from Atlanta who reformed earlier this year after a 5 year hiatus, return to the UK to play an 8 date tour kicking off late October, prior to recording what will be their fifth studio album, in 2006. Dates are:-

October 28 <sup>th</sup>	Margate Lido (+ Panic Cell, Four way Kill & Forever Never)
October 29th	Birmingham Barfly (+ Panic Cell, Four way Kill & Forever Never)
October 30th	London Garage (+ Panic Cell, Four way Kill & Forever Never)
October 31st	Leeds Josephs Well (+ Died Smiling, Four way Kill & Forever Never)
November 1st	Liverpool Barfly (+ Died Smiling, Four way Kill & Forever Never)
November 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Cardiff Barfly (+ Died Smiling, Four way Kill & Forever Never)
November 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Swindon Furnace (+ Died Smiling, Four way Kill & Forever Never)
November 4th	Camberley Agincourt (+ Panic Cell, Four way Kill & Forever Never)

Tickets, priced £7 in advance and £9 on the door, (everywhere except London - £10 in advance and £12 on the door), are on sale from Ticketweb.co.uk (08700 600100) and Seetickets.com (0870 264 3333).

Stuck Mojo trail blazed the rap-rock genre by melding their heavy metal-bred Southern heritage with a frontman who bled hip-hop and rap. Formed in 1989 by guitarist Rich Ward, Stuck Mojo set out to experiment with this genre-blending musical hybrid, inspired by bands such as the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Aerosmith, Run DMC and Urban Dance Squad.

At the time, Ward was working delivering pizzas to support his musical habit. One of his co-workers, Bonz, was, as he recalls, "the most annoying person I've ever met. All he did while making pizza was blast the fucking boom-box and rap along with it from the moment he came to work until the moment he left. I could tell that hip-hop was not just what he wanted to do, it was who he was." So he asked Bonz to try working together musically, with Rich writing the music and Bonz the lyrics. There was such a happening vibe struck while jamming they decided to call their outfit 'Mojo', in recognition. They threw that name around for a year and then put the word "Stuck" before it since they were 'stuck' in that vibe.

The band began building a following in dozens of cities across the Southern States, but a bi-racial heavy rock band fronted by a rapper often met with prejudice and animosity from predominantly white audiences and club owners, which often resulted in physical confrontation. However, this only added to their ever growing reputation as a 'kick ass band'.

In 1993 Stuck Mojo recorded their first 3-track demo and were soon snapped up by European label Century Media Records, who were so knocked out by the tracks that they signed the group with even having seen them live first!

'Snappin' Necks', Stuck Mojo's hard hitting debut album, was unleashed in March 1995, after which the band toured for three months with Machine Head in America. This exposure cemented their reputation as one of metal's best live acts.

In 1996 Stuck Mojo joined four other bands on the "Crossover 2000" tour across Germany, France, Italy, England, Austria, Denmark, Poland, Belgium and the Czech Republic, culminating with a slot on the main stage at the prestigious Dynamo Festival in Eindhoven, Netherlands. Stuck Mojo were proclaimed that year's best live band by MTV Europe, at the end of 1996.

The group returned to the States and entered the studio with co-producers Devin Townsend and Daniel Bergstrand to begin work on their second album, "Pigwalk." This vocally aggressive, over the top album changed the musical landscape and rapcore was born.

In 1997 Stuck Mojo toured America with Type O Negative, Life of Agony, Testament and set off for a second tour of Europe, performing over 250 shows for the 3<sup>rd</sup> straight year, before entering the studio with notable producer Andy Sneap at the helm to begin sessions for their third release "Rising."

A professional wrestling-themed video with appearances by Diamond Dallas Page and other WCW stars was filmed in support of "Rising", released in March 1998. Thanks to the airing of the "Rising" video on MTV and "WCW Monday Nitro" on the eve of the album's release, Stuck Mojo experienced their highest sales to date and became the first Century Media band to hit the top 100 Billboard charts. A headlining tour of Europe then followed in June and ended with another appearance on the main stage at Dynamo. This was followed by a week of dates opening for Pantera, and an Autumn tour with Clutch along with fellow Atlanta group Sevendust. Stuck Mojo notched up over 300 performances that year.

In 1999 Stuck Mojo headlined a six month tour with the last date being at their home venue, the Masquerade in Atlanta. During this performance the band recorded a live album. Titled "HVY 1," the disc also featured two new studio tracks. Released in September, the band followed up with yet another headlining tour to support it.

In 2000, after years of living out of suitcases, occasional substance abuse, and friction between the band's management and Century Media, Stuck Mojo drifted apart. Rich Ward began working on the band's fourth studio album, "Declaration of a Headhunter" but proceeded to write not only all the music but the lyrics as well. Bonz was not happy with this situation and the band decided not to tour. After only four regional shows Stuck Mojo drifted apart.

Rich Ward subsequently launched himself into various side-projects, (not least as WWE wrestler Chris Jericho's lead guitarist in Fozzy), and diversified into producing other artist's music.

Late in 2004 Rich was producing Allison, a new artist, and invited Bonz to lay down some guest vocal tracks. Working together again made both realize that the desire, the fire to work together and make music, was very much alive. They decided to reform Stuck Mojo and tested the waters with a 14 date tour of Europe in February and March 2005. Not only were the gigs incredibly well attended but the live reviews in the press were ecstatic.

Stuck Mojo returned to Atlanta and began writing and recording a new album; the tracks put down so far are being heavily protected until the entire project is done. Stuck Mojo will be road testing select tracks from their upcoming album on their Autumn UK tour.

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