

Ah 'Garage Inc.', Metallica's double album of cover songs. I hate to say this Metallica, but it's one of your best releases. That must be depressing for you. Imagine showing your music to someone and them saying it's incredible. Then you explain the music's not really yours, and you get the one word response 'Oh'. How would you feel? It's miles better than the band's 'St. Anger.' Even the latter's name is arguably the worst they've come up with. It's even worse than their 'Kill 'em All' with its cover art of a hammer. And how are you going to kill everyone with a hammer? You have more than 7 billion people to murder, so not only do you have to kill constantly as you travel the entire planet, you have to be the smartest person ever. How will you take on entire armies, exactly? Back to my point or at least one of them, I find it hard picturing a saint of anger. What kind of stuff would he preach? Maybe something like 'SIN AND I'LL KILL YOU!' After the complaints, someone would say 'You seriously have to change your name to something more holy...' How would the saint respond? Maybe by saying 'Ok, how about this? St. Burglary.'

Having said that, St. Anger HAS grown on me. It's weird when something you first heard maybe 15 years ago and didn't like much at all, sounds pretty cool of a sudden. I was so inspired, I wanted to share my revelations on Facebook. e.g. 'Wow I finally like St. Anger! :O' But of course, would most people know what I was on about? 'Simon, you like Saints of Anger, now? What are they?' Then I'd have to explain I don't know. If I was being thoughtful and quoting Google, I guess I'd explain 'anger leads to sin' which obviously wouldn't make sense. But the metal heads out there would know what I mean, surely. Either that or they'd just presume I was angry, albeit in a very strange way. Anyway, the perfectly reasonable sounding Garage Inc. Does it mean it was recorded in a garage? If so, it proves the band has wasted huge amounts of money with their so called 'more polished' albums. It's like Black Sabbath's and Creed's debut albums. They were made very cheaply and sound as good as anything. Metallica, for all your other albums (apart from St. Anger which is supposed to be raw), you've been tricked.

You know what the cover art of St. Anger is? It's a fist. Come on, name me one priest who has ever punched someone, it simply doesn't happen. (Unless the guy's punching the super-annoying guy in my old mental home I once talked about, maybe. Bartek, I believe his name was). And how do you explain album songs such as 'Purify'? No, if you punch someone you are not pure. If you do think of yourself as violent and pure, you're a madman and an idiot. Oh yes, Garage Inc., I do apologise. Judging by the album cover, it seems someone has farted, but who? Jason looks most disgusted, but maybe it's a trick. (Lots of tricks in the music business as hinted at earlier). James looks the most casual, so maybe it could be him. Kirk looks angry, if anything. Maybe that's because of genuine anger OR shame. Is it called 'projection'? Something like that, anyway. Whatever the case, another peculiar idea for cover art. Sometimes I wonder what being in the band must be like. Unless the picture was a freakish one off, it suggests a deep and prolonged paranoia in the band and constant childishness, possibly explaining infamous lyric 'My lifestyle determines my deathstyle.' God that was bad.

So, what have we learnt with this review? The band act tough, but really they behave like children. I get it, they feel stupid, just take another picture, right? It doesn't have to be of them, it could be a nuke. At least THAT could end the world. To be clear, a single hammer can't possibly 'kill 'em all'. They also have a very warped and even

offensive view of religion, and they're often at their best when they play music that isn't their's. Maybe St. Anger would be better if it was named after another song off the album. 'Frantic' could work, there's nothing odd about being frantic. (Unless driving or smiling at someone, obviously. Driving frantically whilst smiling is a big no-no). I hate to bring up Bartek again (I really am quite fascinated by him), but interestingly many of the LP's songs could relate to him. The just mentioned Frantic could; 'St. Anger' (i.e. anger that's directed at him) could, too; 'Some Kind of Monster' is a bit far, I wouldn't say he was that bad, but it's a title not fact; and of course 'All Within My Hands' also relates to him. Because he got punched. Anyway, the rating of Garage Inc.? 9.25/10! Bye!