

ers," "Fade To Black" and "One" are speed metal. Just call it Metallica baby, that's all you got to do.

How do you feel now, looking back on the older stuff?

There's no regrets whatsoever. *Ride The Lightning*, maybe next to the new album, is the best album ever. I'm not so sure about some of the things our music has inspired, like death metal. Some of that stuff just doesn't have a lot of music happening in it. I guess we've just kind of grown up as a musician. I just need to hear a bit of melody. I think no matter what, even if you still listen to *Kill 'Em All* there's still melody.

How did your new producer Bob Rock (The Cult, Mötley Crüe) influence the band's sound?

It was the smartest career move we've made in a long time. He opened our eyes to a lot of new things and helped us create sounds that we always wanted to get: big, heavy sounds. He has an amazing vision and also, is just a very gifted listener, which is really what it comes down to as a producer. He really helped me to develop a confidence and find a sound that would work without killing the bass drum or messing with the lower end of the guitar, which has been a real big problem with me. I hope we could do the next one with him also.

Do you think the reason for your chart success has something to do with heavy bands having more influence?

Well *Metallica* is definitely the heaviest album that's ever hit number one. It's a damn good sign. People are finally coming around to what we've known all along, heh, heh, heh.

How does it feel to hit number one after being a fringe band for so long?

It's the name of the game. We've never side-stepped our beliefs, or our true selves. It's taken a bit longer but it's stronger than something that just comes up like a flash in the pan. It's the best thing that we could possibly have, when you work that hard on something and then for people to take it in, it's really a great thing. You get recognized more, it's a little weird but I'm the kind of person that gets off on it. If anyone tells you they don't like attention, they're just pulling your chain.

How do you feel about the attention you got when you were known as Alcoholica?

Oh sure. Everybody likes to have a drink but I don't think we thrive so much on being called that anymore. We have a few beers after the show every night but it's not like we can go out and drink bottles of vodka like we used to. We have much more riding on our togetherness, on holding up our part of the deal. You've got to make sure you're strong so you can be the best for yourself and the rest of the band.

How do you feel about your influence on other bands?

We're a band from the '80's and '90's that is gonna influence kids for the early years of 2000 and maybe further on, hopefully. The wheel turns around. It's very flattering, and surprising because I still feel 17 years old, so it's kind of hard for me sometimes. The only thing I don't like, is when it's like blatant rip-offs of Metallica. If they would really look a little bit deeper, they'd see that Metallica's whole message is that you pick your own path.

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 11
8PM



SARAH MCLACHLAN

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