

# IGNITE

## *“A War Against You”*

Available as: Ltd. Edition CD Box Set, Ltd. CD Digipak, CD Jewelcase, LP+CD, Digital Album

**Release Date: January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

*“A War Against You”* is the sound of IGNITE taking a stand and delivering a record without borders or boundaries. The much-anticipated follow-up to the Southern California band’s 2006 watershed moment, *“Our Darkest Days”*, *“A War Against You”* affirms that IGNITE is still rooted in the energy and melodicism of hardcore’s salad days, while proving themselves not merely a great punk or hardcore band, but a great band in their own right.

Formed in 1993 in the suburbs of Orange County during the height of Seattle Grunge and the Epitaph Records punk revival, IGNITE have made a career defying convention with against the grain music and thought provoking, politically charged lyricism. From prior efforts including *“Call On My Brothers”* (1995), *“Past Our Means”* (1996) and *“A Place Called Home”* (2000), the band’s records have distinguished themselves with complex arrangements, triumphant hooks and IGNITE’s calling card: frontman Zoli Teglas’ unmistakable, soaring vocals.

Not only have IGNITE become an international touring force, headlining sold-out venues and festivals across the world, but recent history also found the band members individually exploring new creative avenues that have only served to galvanize IGNITE itself. Most notably, Teglas took up vocal duties for Cali punk mainstays, Pennywise, whom he fronted on their critically well-received 2012 album *“All Or Nothing”*. *“From the outside, it may have looked like we took our time between records, but it was probably the busiest time of our lives,”* Brett Rasmussen (Bass) says. *“Zoli played in Pennywise. Craig [Anderson Drums] was playing in Strife. Brian [Balchack - Guitar] was writing and recording with Into Another. I was touring with Nations Afire. But through it all, IGNITE continued to tour and grow.”*

*“Playing in Pennywise was amazing but playing in IGNITE I can focus just as much on the message as well as the music,”* says Teglas, recounting his time outside of the IGNITE fold. *“For 20 years, Pennywise had a message that their other singer [Jim Lindberg] wrote. I appreciate both bands and what they each have to say. I’m thankful for the time I had in Pennywise, but in IGNITE I can speak my mind about social issues. My calling has always been to play music to make a change. I still have that calling. As clichéd as it sounds, I still have that fire that burns inside of me.”*

Cut to early 2014. IGNITE found themselves reenergized, rededicated and back in the studio with longtime producer, Cameron Webb (Motörhead). *“This is the third record we’ve worked on with Cameron,”* says Zoli. *“He understands us as people and as a band better than almost anyone.”* The sessions became a collective soul-searching for the band; who spent the better part of a year and a half writing songs for *“A War Against You”*. *“When we started writing the album, we were kind of trying to force the record be a certain thing,”* states Rasmussen. *“Once we finally let go and let the songs happen like they were supposed to happen, the songs took their own direction.”*

*“IGNITE is in a different place from when they made ‘Our Darkest Days’,”* says producer, Webb. *“I think after being a band for a long time, it was healthy for them to go off and play in other bands and then bring those experiences back to make this record. They found out that Ignite is where their passion really lies.”*

From the album’s strident opener, *“Begin Again”*, the inspirational *“Where I’m From”* to the driving *“Nothing Can Stop Me”*, which was written about a friend of the band’s battling cancer, *“A War Against You”* not only sums up the classic IGNITE sound but expands on it, proving the veteran band a musical force to be reckoned with. In fact, IGNITE have long distinguished themselves beyond the punk and hardcore sects, playing packed acoustic performances in Europe and Southern California. Recent years have even found the band sharing European festival stages with the likes of Twisted Sister and Rise Against, amongst countless others, and winning over the most varied of crowds every time.

*“We’ve always tried to play to the most diverse crowds we can,”* says Brett. *“We’ve gone out on the road with punk and hardcore mainstays like Bad Religion, Misfits and Suicidal Tendencies but we have also*

ventured out with bands like Goldfinger, Sevendust, and of course, in Europe we play with tons of metal bands like Machine Head, In Flames and Motörhead.” In fact, Machine Head themselves, recently covered IGNITE’s classic “Our Darkest Days/Bleeding” on a recent release to critical and fan acclaim.

In true IGNITE fashion; “A War Against You” speaks volumes from both personal and political perspectives. Teglas’ lyrics remain as positive and upbeat as ever, yet tempered with age and experience. “A lot of this album is an ode to my family, an ode to the immigrant struggle,” says the frontman, who has long written about his own Hungarian heritage in IGNITE’s lyrics; a topic that surfaces on the track, “Alive,” as well as the album’s haunting closing track, “Work.”

Current events including the Syrian refugee crisis in Europe as well as man’s ruination of the environment (which comes to the fore on the track, “The Suffering”) echoes throughout “A War Against You”. IGNITE has long been a band with a message and the new album broadcasts that news from the front in no uncertain terms. For example. “Oh No Not Again,” a massively anthemic track on the album, provides a stirring snapshot of life during the everyday wartime. On the meaning of the album’s title, “A War Against You”: “It’s about humanity and the sadness that war has always brought and how hard it is to be a bystander, a displaced person, an immigrant,” the frontman states. “That is ultimately all of us. The war-mongers make a ton of money and everyone else gets to pay to the price.”

“One of the first songs I ever wrote said; ‘Education without action does nothing’,” remarks Teglas, who is actively involved with Sea Shepherd as well as his own Pelican Rescue Team, which has rescued untold numbers of injured and endangered seabirds. For IGNITE’s frontman, this has always been a “more than music” proposition. “My calling has always been to play music to make a change,” says Teglas. “If I’m not going to do that then I shouldn’t be onstage.”

Two decades in, IGNITE are still screaming for change and here are the postcards from the war against you.

### IGNITE “A War Against You”

1. Begin Again (3:22)
  2. Nothing Can Stop Me (3:18)
  3. This Is A War (3:25)
  4. Oh No Not Again (3:42)
  5. Alive (3:15)
  6. You Saved Me (3:03)
  7. Rise Up (3:46)
  8. Where I’m From (3:21)
  9. The Suffering (2:18)
  10. How Is This Progress? (3:12)
  11. You Lie (2:27)
  12. Descend (3:02)
  13. Work (6:44)
- Total playing time (45:01)

### Line-Up:

Zoli Teglas - Vocals  
Brett Rasmussen - Bass  
Brian Balchack - Guitar  
Kevin Kilkenny - Guitar  
Craig Anderson - Drums

### Selected Discography:

Call On My Brothers - 1995  
Past Our Means - 1996  
A Place Called Home - 2000  
Our Darkest Days - 2006  
Our Darkest Days Live - 2012  
A War Against You - 2016

### IGNITE online:

[www.igniteband.com](http://www.igniteband.com)  
[www.facebook.com/igniteband](https://www.facebook.com/igniteband)  
[www.twitter.com/ignite2](https://www.twitter.com/ignite2)  
[instagram.com/igniteband](https://instagram.com/igniteband)

### EMP Persistence Tour 2016

#### IGNITE, Terror, H20, Iron Reagan, Twitching Tongues, Wisdom In Chains and Risk It

- 13.01.16 (PL) Warsaw - Progresja \* 14.01.16 (DE) Berlin - Astra \* 15.01.16 (DE) Hamburg - Grosse Freiheit 36 \*  
16.01.16 (DE) Oberhausen - Turbinenhalle \* 17.01.16 (B) Torhout - De Mast \* 18.01.16 (F) Paris - Gibus \*  
19.01.16 (CH) Pratteln - Z7 \* 20.01.16 (DE) Saarbrücken - Garage \* 21.01.16 (DE) Munich - Backstage \*  
22.01.16 (DE) Wiesbaden - Schlachthof \* 23.01.16 (DE) Dresden - Alter Schlachthof \* 24.01.16 (NL) Utrecht - Tivoli  
**Headlining:** 28. and 29.01.16 (H) Budapest - Barba Negra



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