

A Monster of a Comeback: The Haunted North Unchains 'The Beast'

New Release September 22, 2025



Rapid City, South Dakota Aug 22, 2025 (Issuewire.com) - Independent metal act The Haunted North roars back with “The Beast” — a fierce, adrenaline-fueled track that blends classic heavy metal grit with modern melodic hooks. Born from a creative resurgence, it delivers pounding drums, searing riffs, and a chorus built for fists in the air. With shades of Metallica, Avenged Sevenfold, and Alter Bridge, “The Beast” is both a battle cry and a statement piece: rock isn’t dead, it just got meaner.

The Haunted North (THN) is a heavy groove-rock band built on primal riffs, haunting hooks, and unapologetic authenticity. Formed by powerhouse vocalist and producer Randy V (Damien, Fetish Doll) and Canadian guitarist Sean Francis, the group first captured attention with their 2018 debut *Monster*, a record that blended steamroller heaviness with raw emotional depth. Featuring contributions from Black Label Society's John "JD" DeServio (bass) and Jeff Fabb (drums), *Monster* showcased the band's ability to merge modern metal grit with classic rock swagger.

The band's origin story is as fated as it is fierce: after Randy was inspired by a meeting with Layne Staley's mother that led to the heartfelt single *Body & Soul*, he crossed paths with Sean Francis at a Black Label Society show in Seattle. A shared vision and relentless drive brought their collaboration to life, setting the foundation for The Haunted North's signature sound.

In 2024, the lineup solidified further with the addition of veteran bassist Troy James, whose career spans from Bay Area acts in the '80s and '90s (including Capitol's *Tsunami* and Atlantic's *Dave Helwig Project*) to decades of session work, production, and live performance across the U.S. His dynamic style and deep roots in both rock and metal add new weight to THN's rhythm section.

Today, The Haunted North continues to evolve, embracing a heavier, hungrier edge. While the band does not currently have a permanent drummer, longtime collaborator Jeff Fabb (Black Label Society, *Zakk Sabbath*) has returned to handle studio duties, bringing his trademark precision and power to the new material.

With songs like *21 Grams*, *Medusa*, *Black Flag Flying*, and their newest single, *The Beast* (September 22, 2025), The Haunted North remains true to its ethos: raw, honest, and undeniably relevant. In a world of trends, THN stands apart with music that is as authentic as it is crushing.

The Haunted North is:

- Randy V – Vocals
- Sean Francis – Guitar
- Troy James – Bass
- (Studio) Jeff Fabb – Drums

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