
Foetus

Rife

(Invisible CD)

Jim Thirwell (a.k.a. Clint Ruin) has been issuing records since 1981. His band, Foetus, is the prime example of what an industrial band nowadays should be. The band's new live album, *Rife*, is a solid and impressive offering. Joined by a number of collaborators (or co-conspirators), including Algis Kizys, Norman Westberg, Ted Parsons and Raymond Watts, Thirwell gears Foetus to deliver the type of non-stop industrial assault that bands like Ministry or Skrew were once known to do (before they became too steeped in heavy metal).

Labeled as "the ultimate bootleg," *Rife* not only highlights the band's considerable creative energy, but also shows how strong the songs are in a live format. The distortion of the first track, "Fin," leads directly into the slow plodding of "Honey I'm Home." Another gem on this release is "English Faggot," a song that speaks of revenge; complete with the sample of a pig squealing and Thirwell declaring, "I know where you live." The pig squeal carries over into the superb "Grab Yr. Ankles."

This 11-track release will certainly satisfy Foetus fans eager for a excellent live recording: One listen is enough proof that Thirwell thrives off live performances. For those who have yet to listen to the band, they could do no wrong by checking out *Rife*, and they'll be glad they did.

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