

# Bay Area Legends FORBIDDEN Announce OmegAfest Featuring BIOHAZARD, WARBRINGER, EXCITER and Five More Bands

SAN FRANCISCO, CA, UNITED STATES, March 20, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Bay Area metal legends [FORBIDDEN](#) announce their first annual [OmegAfest](#) on May 4, 2024 at [The UC Theatre](#) in Berkeley, CA. When Forbidden was reborn last year things got off to a raucous start. One of the first things the band wanted to do is to be able to control their own flow. Choose where, when and what they play.

Thats why they created our own festival...OmegAfest!

OmegAfest 2024 Lineup:

May 4, 2024  
The UC Theatre  
Berkeley, CA  
Biohazard  
Forbidden  
Warbringer  
Exciter  
Hatriot



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OmegAfest will be FORBIDDEN's ONLY Bay Area appearance of 2024.”  
*FORBIDDEN*

Bewitcher  
Death Grave  
Frolic  
Hellbender

Tickets for OmegAfest are availalbe at:  
[https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/95832592/omega-](https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/95832592/omega-festbiohazard-forbidden-berkeley-the-uc-theatre)

[festbiohazard-forbidden-berkeley-the-uc-theatre](https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/95832592/omega-festbiohazard-forbidden-berkeley-the-uc-theatre)

This will be the first of hopefully many more European-like festivals that the band will throw annually at the UC Theater in Berkeley. An amazing venue with a 1,400 capacity, excellent sound, stage & lights.

The idea is they get to hand pick the bands they play with every year covering multiple genres of heavy music. This year they have BIOHAZARD co-headlining with FORBIDDEN. BIOHAZARD's first gig back in the Bay in 30 years!

Each year moving forward the band will select national acts as well as a few strong up and coming local bands. A genre blend creating a more European style of eclectic talent.

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### About Forbidden

Originally founded in 1985 as Forbidden Evil by singer Russ Anderson, guitarists Craig Locicero & Robb Flynn, basses John Tegio and drummer Jim Pittman, the quintet started playing house parties and Bay Area clubs such as the Legendary Ruthie's Inn soon after.

After a couple of lineup changes (Paul Bostaph / drums & Matt Camacho / bass) in '86, the band quickly rose through the ranks of Bay Area Thrash to gain a massive following and worldwide notoriety.

In 1986, the band added Glen Alvelais as the second guitarist. It was this lineup that cemented itself into the Bay Area scene and soon after recorded 1988 release 'Forbidden Evil' for Combat Records changing the band's name to simply Forbidden.

In May of '89 while on a European tour with Sacred Reich, Forbidden played their first appearance at the Legendary Dynamo Open Air in Eindhoven, Netherlands. It was here that Forbidden made their European mark and recorded the Raw Evil EP.

The band returned Stateside and replaced Alvelais with Tim Calvert. Calvert was a missing ingredient that brought the band closer together as a team. They continued to tour the U.S. first with Exodus and then again with Sacred Reich with Calvert on second guitar.

The band went on to release Twisted Into Form in 1990, Distortion in 1994 and Green in 1996 however the band having gone through many lineup changes disbanded in 1997.

In 2008 Craig being inspired at a screening of the movie Get Thrashed, called the other members of the band and suggested getting back on stage to see if they could reignite the Forbidden machine. With Anderson, Locicero, Camacho back in the mix along with new additions Glen Alvelais and Gene Hoglan they played two sold out Death Angel shows in San Francisco.

Steve Smyth came into the mix in place of Alvelais and Mark Hernandez took Hoglan's place, the band then released Omega Wave, the 5th in the catalog and went on a US tour with Overkill. European festivals were next but afterwards Hernandez had to walk away due to personal reasons leading to a tour cancelation.

Sasha Horn was the answer to fill the drummer's spot.

After playing Bonded By Baloff with Exodus and one Bay Area show, Forbidden embarked for Chile to play the Metal Fest in Santiago. It was on this flight back home that Russ informed the band that he couldn't tour anymore because of the physical toll it was taking on him. With that, the band dissolved once again for 11 years.

Fast forward to 2023. The once improbable and impossible happened. Forbidden is reforming with new blood! Locicero, Camacho & Smyth remain from the Omega Wave lineup.

New vocalist Norman Skinner will take the elite position that belonged to Russ Anderson. Norman shocked everyone who witnessed his performance of Chalice of Blood with LA thrashers Warbringer accompanying him as the band. It was undeniable to all in attendance. Norman grew up in the Bay Area. His first thrash metal show was seeing Forbidden at the Omni. Russ would point to Norman at shows and call him "Little Russ" on the mic. It could ONLY be Norman Skinner that stands aside the band.

The Bay Area thrash / punk drum Legend Chris Kontos takes over the drum throne. In a long line of world renown drummers, Kontos is the most logical & qualified man for the job. Bostaph, Jacobs, Hoglan, Hernandez, Horn... World class talents. Now Kontos.

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