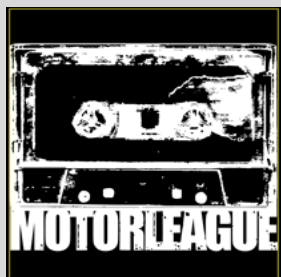


## Discography



*Black Noise – May 2009  
– Forward Music Group*



*White Tape - May 2007  
- Gun To Head*

“The Motorleague is one of those rare bands that can perfectly balance aggression with catchiness”

*Josh Hogan –  
Diminished 5<sup>th</sup> Records*

The Motorleague play fast and riffy, pelvic rock and roll that is catchy as sin but won't leave you feeling guilty for liking it.

Their appeal lies in songwriting that is chemically addictive and a spits out product drenched in sarcasm. - Simply put – the anthem to every bad break-up, asshole boss, or shit job you've ever had.

The Motorleague's debut full length was recorded in 2008 with veteran producer Ian Blurton at Toronto's Chemical Sound Studios. It was released on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009 by the Forward Music Group.

“Black Noise” is 10 relentless tracks of fury driven rock and roll with a BPM that won't drop below 140 with energy and raw aggression rarely captured when recording.

Since the release of the record, the band has been touring hard with dates all over The Atlantic Provinces, Quebec and Ontario. With stops at ECMA, North by North East, and COCA 2009 – the band has racked up more km's this year than most will see throughout a career.

The Motorleague will continue to support Black Noise with heavy touring for the remainder of 2009.



[www.themotorleague.ca](http://www.themotorleague.ca)

The Motorleague – C/O Don Levandier – 106 Pleasant Street – Moncton, NB – E1A :  
506-382-9717 – don@guntohead.com

MOTORLEAGUE

"I first had the chance to see and hear the Motorleague at a dingy bar in St. John's, Newfoundland. They played to a small, but appreciative crowd that braved a snowstorm to see them perform. Their love for playing straight up rock and roll music came through quite clearly to the audience, with everyone in attendance walking away with new CDs and shirts. The Motorleague are a testament that the passion for music as a listener is just as important as from a musician. They are a band whose energy and talent is quite clear, with great things to come." *Eric Warner – We Are Busy Bodies Records / Over The Top Fest – Toronto, On*

"In an age where corporate rock is becoming the norm it's bands like The MotorLeague who are keeping the music real. Is it rock, hard rock, punk or alternative? The Motorleague music can't be labeled, only experienced." – *Jason – CapitolRockShow.ca - Ottawa, On*

"The Motorleague bring a new meaning to punk rock. They're totally kicking punk rock in the mouth. Go to one of their shows and try to not rock out, I dare you..... you won't succeed." – *Gillian Hiller – Capr Radio – Sydney, NS*

### Selected 2007 & 2008 Tour Dates

Friday, Sept 21st, 2007	Toronto, On @ The Horseshoe	w/ C'mon, Quest For Fire
Sat, Sept 22nd, 2007	Toronto, On @ The Bovine	w/ HYFY & Zuku
Tues, Oct 2nd, 2007	Charlottetown, PEI @ Hunters	w/ C'mon
Wed, Oct 3rd, 2007	Sackville, NB @ Campus Bar	w/ C'mon
Tues, Oct 9th, 2007	Sydney, NS @ Bunkers	w/ C'mon
Wed, Oct 10, 2007	Fredericton, NB @ Vixen's	w/ C'mon
Thurs, Oct 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2007	Saint John, NB @	w/ C'mon
Fri, Oct 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2007	Moncton, NB @ The Paramount	w/ C'mon
Sat, Oct 13, 2007	Halifax, NS @ Gus's	w/ C'mon
Thurs, Oct 25, 2007	Toronto, ON @ Whippersnapper	w/ Japanther / Teenager
Thurs, Oct 25, 2007	Toronto, ON @ Silver Dollar	w/ Maximum RnR
Friday, Oct 26, 2007	Hamilton, ON @ Casbah	w/ Sons Of Butcher
Thurs, Nov 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2007	Fredericton, NB @ Capital	w/ White Cowbell Oklahoma
Friday, Nov 16, 2007	Moncton, NB @ Manhattan	w/ White Cowbell Oklahoma
Sat, Nov 17, 2007	Halifax, NS @ The Attic	w/ White Cowbell Oklahoma
Friday, Dec 14, 2007	Toronto, ON @ Lee's Palace	w/ White Cowbell Oklahoma
Sat, Dec 15, 2007	Hamilton, ON @ Casbah	w/ White Cowbell Oklahoma
Sat, April 19th, 2008	Fredericton, NB @ Back Nine	w/ Grady
Thurs, Nov 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	Cornerbrook, NL @ Whalen's	w/ From Outer Space
Fri, Nov 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	St. John's NL @ Junctions	w/ Catcher
Sat, Nov 11, 2008	Stephenville, NL @ Clancy's	w/ From Outer Space
Thurs, Nov 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	Montreal, PQ @ Barfly	w/ Ashtray Heart
Fri, Nov 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	Quebec City, PQ @ L'Agitee	w/ Creepshow
Sat, Nov 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	Halifax, NS @ Hell	w/ Myles Deck & The Fuzz

### Selected 2009 Tour Dates

Sat, Jan 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	Halifax, NS @ Seahorse	w/ Shelter With Thieves
Fri, Feb 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	Moncton, NB @ Oxygen	w/ Divorcees
Fri, Feb 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	CornerBrook, NL @ Marble Mtn.	<b>ECMA Showcase</b>
Sat, Feb 28th, 2009	CornerBrook, NL @ Whelans Gate	<b>Music NB Showcase</b>
Sat, Feb 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	CornerBrook, NL @ Blackthorn	All Ages Showcase
Thu, March 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	Moncton, NB @ Paramount	w/ KSG
Thu, March 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	Fredericton, NB @ Cellar	w/ Real McKenzies
Sat, March 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	Halifax, NS @ Gus's	w/ Real McKenzies
Sun, April 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	Fredericton, NB @ Capital	w/ Pride Tiger
Fri, May 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	Moncton, NB @ Paramount	CD Release Show
Fri, May 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	Halifax, NS @ Paragon	Tattoo Convention
Thu, May 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2009	Sydney, NS @ Civic Center	CD Release Show
Fri, May 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2009	CornerBrook, NL @ Blackthorn	All Ages Show
Fri, May 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2009	CornerBrook, NL @ Whelans Gate	w/ From Outer Space
Sat, May 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2009	St. John's, NL @ Distortion	All Ages Show
Sat, May 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2009	St. John's, NL @ Distortion	w/ Class War Kids
Thu, May 28, 2009	Fredericton, NB @ Capital	CD Release Show
Wed, June 10th, 2009	Charlottetown, PE @ Hunters	CD Release Show
Fri, June 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	Montreal, PQ @ Barfly	CD Release Show
Sat, June 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	Ottawa, On @ Maverick's	w/ To The Rescue
Fri, June 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	Toronto, ON @ Cathedral	<b>North By North East Showcase</b>
Sat, June 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	St. John's NL @ Club One	<b>COCA Showcase</b>
Wed, July 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	Halifax, NS	w/ Clothes Make The Man
Thu, July 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	Fredericton, NB @ Capital	w/ Clothes Make The Man
Fri, July 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	Moncton, NB @ Paramount	w/ Clothes Make The Man
Tue, Aug 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	Guelph, On	w/ Clothes Make The Man
Wed, Aug 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	Peterborough, On	w/ Clothes Make The Man
Thu, Aug 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	Toronto, On	w/ Clothes Make The Man
Fri, Aug 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	Ottawa, On	w/ Clothes Make The Man
Sat, Aug 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	Montreal, PQ	w/ Clothes Make The Man
Sun, Aug 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	Sherbrook, PQ	w/ Clothes Make The Man

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**Reviewing:** The Motorleague – Black Noise CD

**Review Type:** Online

**Review From:**  
Chart Attack

**Date Posted:** May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**Review Url:**  
<http://www.chartattack.com/reviews/69907/the-motorleague-black-noise>

## full review



MUSIC

### The Motorleague – Black Noise

Black Noise

Forward

Keith Carman (CHARTattack)

05/20/2009 11:36am

CCCCC

0 comments

9  love it

4  hate it

Canada has always lacked a version of The Hellacopters, Backyard Babies and, on a more nostalgic level, Thin Lizzy. That was until Maritimes-based outfit The Motorleague came along.

This quartet unleash a devastating debut that harnesses the harmonious capabilities of the aforementioned acts without sacrificing the viciousness of Turbonegro and Zeke's ravenous fury, and prove the Great White North is completely capable of providing a pelvic-based four-chord bombast that's as indelibly catchy as it is forthright and explosive.

From the instant assault of opener "Big Times" through the driving pace of "Fossils" and gritty stoner influence of "Facetime With The Boss," *Black Noise's* aggression, bottom-heavy groove and just-enough nod to pop music spells instant classic for dirtbag rockers.

login to post comments

**Tags:** [The Motorleague](#)

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**Reviewing:** The Motorleague – Black Noise CD

**Review Type:** Online

**Review From:**

The CanCon Containership / CIVL Radio at The University Of Fraser Valley

**Date Posted:** May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**Review Url:**

<http://canconcontainership.blogspot.com/2009/05/monctons-motorleague-makes-straight-up.html>

**25 MAY 2009**

**Moncton's Motorleague Makes Straight-up Forward Music**



If one cannot get enough of the balls-to-the-wall, thumping rock and roll to practice one's air-guitar to, Moncton's Motorleague has it covered. Motorleague has this sound that harkens to the Queens of the Stone Age and Wolfmother. But for a more appropriate local comparison look to rockers Pride Tiger and Spreadeagle. To find the source of these comparisons, check out tracks like You Wear Me Down and Face Time With The Boss. This is where the sometimes dueling and often harmonizing guitars come out with the drums and bass to give one's ear drums a pleasant and unfettered what for. Certainly a gem of the Maritime music milieu, Moncton's Motorleague makes music fit for cyclists and rampant runners to give'r on the straightaway like there is no tomorrow.

Unfortunately, this need to keep pushing for heavy, distorted and fast phrasing begets Motorleague's sonic strengths a wee bit. Sometimes it seems as though the musical ideas were rehashed and reordered to slap something together that was already heard a few tracks prior. Sometimes the drums, although very solid, is haphazardly juggling the polyrhythms to the point where the seams are about to rip apart. An example would be during the bridge in the track Fossils. It must be noted that these are but minor infractions in the path to putting out something that gives New Brunswick something else to be proud of.

**[www.themotorleague.ca](http://www.themotorleague.ca)**

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**Article:** Back To The Motorleague

**Article Type:** Print & Online

**Publication:** The Scope – St. John's, NL

**Author:** Christa Cram

**Date Published:** May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**Article Url:**

<http://thescope.ca/2009/05/back-to-the-motorleague/>

thescope

City Comics DIY Food Nerd Free Will Astrology Music Resto review

Classifieds

Back to the Motorleague

Thu, May 21, 2009



Christa Cram speaks with Ryan McDonald of Moncton's ECMA-nominated punk band The Motorleague.

"If you haven't heard of The Motorleague, all I can say is we're a band that you're not going to fall asleep to," says drummer Ryan McDonald. "That pretty much sums it up. It's catchy, it's rock and roll, and you're in for a good time."

The Moncton punk band's fast live sound, with the help of producer Ian Blurton, was captured on their latest release, *Black Noise*. They're coming to town to support the album after stirring up buzz and attention at the ECMAs in Corner Brook earlier this year.

Ian Blurton has produced albums for bands such as Tricky Woo as well as The Weakerthans, and The Motorleague are very pleased with *Black Noise*'s outcome.

"It was awesome working with Ian. The guy lives and breathes music," says McDonald.

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"It was awesome working with Ian. The guy lives and breathes music," says McDonald. Blurton wanted the record to sound a little faster than the songs had been prepared but The Motorleague found it easy to work with the idea.

"I didn't argue with him at all. I just kinda did what he said," says McDonald. "It's not like he changed the whole record, just certain little parts."

The addition of a trumpet on "Hymn For The Newly Departed" was one change that they were very pleased with.

"You almost don't really notice the trumpet. It's in there, and if you really listen for it, you're hearing the trumpet and it sounds great," he says. "At the end of the song, it hits you really hard and it gives the song a really cool vibe."

Blurton was trying to achieve a certain sound and knew exactly what he was going for.

"He really extracted it from us. He would be firing off – 'don't do that, do this instead' and at the same time I was thinking, 'woah, where's wrong with the way I'm doing it?' When you see the outcome of the record, it sounds that much extra cool and catchy, but still serious rock and roll"

It's not just the band that is pleased with the record either, their fans are giving lots of positive feedback as well.

"*Black Noise* is already one of my favorite records of 2009," wrote Eric Lewis, a music journalist of a well known music blog East Coast Noise. "Hardly a day goes by where I don't have one of the guitar riffs or choruses on repeat in my head... The Motorleague should be essential listening for anyone who wonders what happened to rock."

The Motorleague have a pretty hectic schedule line up for Newfoundland. Two shows in Corner Brook on Friday, immediately followed by two shows in St. John's the day after. Despite this intense schedule, they're really excited about getting back on the rock.

"It's going to be pretty insane, but we're definitely looking forward to that," says McDonald. "Newfoundland is always a ridiculous time."

But McDonald is issuing a warning for anyone attending these shows.

"Bring an extra pair of underwear, or some Depends, because it's like 'oh man, these guys are so good! ...Woah.'"

You can catch The Motorleague at Distortion on May 23 at their all ages show from 3pm, or at their bar show at 10pm.

[www.themotorleague.ca](http://www.themotorleague.ca)

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**Article:** Motorleague Running On All Cylinders

**Article Type:** Print & Online

**Publication:** The Troubadour –  
College Of The North Atlantic –  
Stephenville, NL

**Author:** Christa Cram

**Date Published:** March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009

**Article Url:**

[http://www.cna.nl.ca/troubadour/Entertainment/Entertainment\\_child6.html](http://www.cna.nl.ca/troubadour/Entertainment/Entertainment_child6.html)



## Motorleague running on all cylinders

*Text by Christa Cram*

*Audio slideshow by Joseph May and Christa Cram*

First-time ECMA nominees The Motorleague stole the show at the Rock Stage at Marble Mountain Friday night.

About 200 people were lingering around the stage Friday night, but when The Motorleague struck their first few chords, the crowd suddenly began dancing and screaming along. By the end of the set, everyone was sweating – but also smiling.

“The Motorleague just gave me a heart attack,” said Mike Bennett, who was singing his heart out and bouncing about for their whole set. “They rocked my soul into oblivion.”

The Motorleague, who come from the Moncton, New Brunswick area, have a difficult time trying to classify their music.

“I always say rock, or if you’re talking to anybody who knows anything about music, we just say stoner punk,” said Don Levandier, the band’s lead singer.

“I’ve also said ‘Thin Lizzy on speed,’” said drummer Ryan McDonald. “It’s hard to describe. It’s a little bit of this and that . . . Everyone in the band has got different tastes, but some similar taste, so it kind of meshes together really well.”

So far, the band is really enjoying the ECMA experience. During the set, Levandier called it “the best ECMAs ever.”

“Corner Brook is surprisingly neat,” said Levandier. “The first time we were here we didn’t get to experience the city at all. It was just in and out...It’s a great ECMA. I think this is my ninth or tenth. It definitely stands up with all the rest of them, but I’ve noticed that the people here are really cool, and the hospitality is a lot greater in Corner Brook.”

McDonald is excited about being nominated for this year’s ECMA Fan Choice Award.

“I actually love fans! I can’t even sleep without a fan. Wintertime, fan. Full-blast, right in my face,” said McDonald, laughing. “I’m pumped that my fan would nominate me.”

Along with a sincere appreciation for what the fans do for them, Levandier is a strong advocate of just coming out to the ECMAs to make friends, and of leaving the business aside.

“The more bands you meet, the more friends you make,” he said. “Those are the guys that you’re going to be seeing for the rest of your musical career. Just make friends, be down to earth and be legit with people, instead of throwing yourself in people’s faces.”

**[www.themotorleague.ca](http://www.themotorleague.ca)**

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506-382-9717 – [don@guntohead.com](mailto:don@guntohead.com)

**Article:** The Motorleague

**Article Type:** Print & Online / Cover Story

**Publication:** Here Magazine – Provincial - NB

**Author:** Ken Kelley

**Date Published:** May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**Article Url:**

<http://herenb.canadaeast.com/rss/article/659211>

Moncton punk rock band The Motorleague has been growing their fan base in New Brunswick and throughout the Maritimes based on the strength of their live show and their melodic, high-energy songs.

The group is getting ready to celebrate the release of their first full-length record Black Noise, which hits stores nationwide May 19.

For their brand-new record, The Motorleague find themselves associated with Fredericton's Forward Music Group.

Although they were intending to release the record independently, Forward stepped up to the plate and offered to lend the band their expertise to make sure maximum listeners will be exposed to the group. "It's fantastic because it feels like we have a team working on the record and pushing the record on our behalf," says vocalist/guitarist Don Levandier.

"The label has a library of resources and contacts that we wouldn't have had access to. Plus, having our record associated to a label will help it be taken more seriously by those who don't know the group.

"Going with Forward seemed like the most logical way to help bring the band to the next level."

With distribution through indie distribution powerhouse Sonic Unyon in Hamilton, Ont., not only will this be The Motorleague's first full-length release but it will also be the first national release for the group.

Forward is home to many other New Brunswick bands, but The Motorleague's record sees the label moving away from the perception it being jam-band oriented.

Guitarist Nathan Jones concurs, stating: "I think our record is definitely outside of the Forward norm to date in terms of expanding the diversity of the genres on their label.

"I think that James (Boyle, label owner) doesn't want Forward to be pigeon-holed into a certain type of band or sound."

Black Noise was recorded in June 2008 in Toronto at the famed Chemical Sound studio where others such as Death From Above 1979 and The Weakerthans made records before them.

Ian Blurton, current front man for Canadian rock band C'mon, oversaw the proceedings in the role of producer.

Although The Motorleague and C'mon have shared many concert stages in the past, this was the first instance where the group had a chance to work with Blurton in a different capacity.

"Ian had us try a number of things on this record that were different from what we were used to," says Levandier.

Asked to elaborate, Levandier said Blurton eliminated him doubling his vocal tracks while also adding other instruments like the trumpet on Hymn For The Newly Departed to help flush out the sound.

"I wasn't a fan of the trumpet in the beginning," admits Levandier, "but the more and more I heard it, the more I got used to it. Now, I can't picture it not being in the song."

In addition to having a new record to release, the group also has a video for their song Hymn For The Newly Departed being shown on the night of their CD release at the Paramount Lounge.

**The Motorleague**  
Published Thursday May 7th, 2009

Moncton punk rockers craft honest hymns for the present and departed.

A1 Ken Kelley

SPEAK UP EMAIL PRINT FACEBOOK DIGG DEL. I.O.U.S STUMBLE UPON

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**INSIDE PHOTO** FREE TAKE ONE  
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**Reviewing:** The Motorleague – Black Noise CD

**Review Type:** Online & Print

**Review From:**  
Here Magazine – Provincial - NB

**Date Posted:** May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009

**Review Url:**  
<http://herenb.canadaeast.com/reviews/article/675922>

The long-awaited debut record from Moncton band The Motorleague has finally reached consumers greedy hands. Black Noise is packed to the rim with 10 energetic rawk n roll tracks with the pace barely dropping below relentless and verging on punishing. And as fast and powerful as their songs are, they retain melodic qualities throughout that will have you singing along in earnest. Just try NOT to sing along to likeable first single Hymn For The Newly Departed, Fossils and The Ones You Left Behind.

Please consult your doctor prior to consuming The Motorleague's fantastic new record, especially if you are taking any heart medication. Otherwise, let 'er rip.

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**The Motorleague – Black Noise (Forward / Sonic Unyon)**  
Published Friday May 22nd, 2009

**Cd review**

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**Article:** The Motorleague Make Black Noise

**Article Type:** Online

**Publication:** East Coast Noise

**Author:** Eric Lewis

**Date Published:** May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**Article Url:**  
<http://www.eastcoastnoise.com/2009/05/08/the-motorleague-makes-black-noise/>



The Motorleague makes Black Noise



The Motorleague rose from the ashes of Moncton rockers The Ditchpigs a few years back. They've quickly developed a reputation for high energy shows and catchy-as-hell songs that blend poppy hooks with an onslaught of noisy, loud guitars and a driving rhythm section - feelings of frustration and anguish turned into anthems that have rocked bars from Halifax to Toronto.

The Motorleague rose from the ashes of Moncton rockers The Ditchpigs a few years back. They've quickly developed a reputation for high energy shows and catchy-as-hell songs that blend poppy hooks with an onslaught of noisy, loud guitars and a driving rhythm section - feelings of frustration and anguish turned into anthems that have rocked bars from Halifax to Toronto. The band features the talents of singer-guitarist Don Levandier (The Ditchpigs), guitarist Nathan Jones (I Capture The Castle), bassist Dana Robertson (HOPE) and drummer Ryan McDonald (Broken Radio Sound).

Tonight in Moncton, the band will release its first full-length album Black Noise (the follow up to EP White Tape). The band has teamed up with Fredericton-based Forward Music Group to release the album nationwide on Tuesday, May 19. Black Noise was recorded in June 2008 in Toronto at Chemical Sound studio with producer and guitar-god Ian Blurton at the helm as producer.

First single "Hymn for the Newly Departed" is now at radio and the band has a video in the works for the tune. A series of east coast dates are planned (see their official site for details).

The Motorleague singer/guitarist Don Levandier answered some questions from EastCoastNoise via e-mail this week. Guitarist Nathan Jones pitched in a few comments of his own. Read on ...

EastCoastNoise: Black Noise is coming out May 19, CD release is Friday in Moncton ... what else is happening or on the horizon? Don Levandier: Right now we're excited to get the first video out and see how that goes. We'll be making the usual stops around the Maritimes for May then gearing up to break our 'we've never been further west than Toronto' mould. That won't happen until the fall though. Other than that we were supposed to do a gig with Fred Penner in Newfoundland at a conference - but it looks like we'll be playing the day after him with Tom Fun - which is equally cool - but not really - I mean ... FRED PENNER.

ECN: What's the scoop on the video for "Hymn for the Newly Departed"?

DL: The scoop is that it should be out soon - I'm not 100 per cent sure on the timeline but we're going to show a version of it at the CD release - then launch it officially on Eastcoastnoise.com. After that we'll see who'll play it.

The video itself was shot by The PostMen who are a local production company that shoots for CBC / CTV / STARS and more - they wanted to try making a music video because they'd never done so before - we wanted to make a music video for the same reasons - voila.

Nathan Jones: Video was produced by our friends at The Postman. We were lucky enough to have 40 friends come and hang out with us for a day while we put everything together. The final version is going to be publicly debuted on Friday, May 8 at The Paramount during the album release party. After that it will sent to Much Music/MTV and other places as well as being plastered all over the Internet. Special thanks to Marc Savoie, Marcel Gallant, Felice Grana, Michael Cowie and Mel Flanagan.

ECN: You guys recorded this album last year with Ian Blurton in Toronto ... what was that experience like for you as a band? How did it compare to recording CDs here in Moncton in the past and what did you learn from it?

DL: It was a lot tighter. We had one week to do the entire record - where at home you record as you please - and take as long as you like. It was also weird having more than one person (record) your band. In Moncton we're used to working with Kyle McDonald, so it's very one-on-one, whereas in Toronto we had Ian as a producer and two engineers for the drums and bass parts.

The guitars and vocals were done with Ian after that - it was really weird playing or singing in front of the guy. It wasn't too bad until we're sitting in the studio and a studio hand starts going 'OH MY GOD...THAT'S IAN BLURTON' - then it started getting a bit weird. But after the first day or two of doing vocals and guitar - the jitters were gone and it was down to business.

As far as Blurton goes - he's way smarter than you think. I always got this hairy caveman vibe from him - but he's actually really articulate and well spoken. You don't expect that from him - because at shows he's quiet - but the guy is very smart and great with computers.

As for learning - I think he took away a lot of my crutches. Things like doubling up vocals or tons of vocal harmonies are what I'm used to doing - but in this case 90 per cent of the vocals are straight - one vocal, no harmonies - so it really made me push to sing better rather than rely on layering. He taught us that simple is often the best approach.

NJ: It was awesome having an outsider's opinion on the songs, especially an opinion that we all so obviously respect. Ian has had a hand in some of the best rock records this country has produced, whether it's his own bands or something he's produced.

Being in Toronto was probably the best part of making this record. When you're at home trying to do something like this there's a lot of distractions going on - work, family, day-to-day life stuff. When you're away from home and out of your comfort zone, all you have to really focus on is the task at hand, there's no putting things off until next week or next month. Things had to be done so they got done.

ECN: Why did you choose Blurton to produce and what was he specifically like to work with?

DL: Originally we wanted to do the next Ditchpigs record with Jon Cummins (Doughboys / Bionic) and that plan carried over to The Motorleague. We never had any solid plans - just an idea of that's what we want - and we had heard that Cummins was up for the idea (although I never spoke to him personally). At North-by-Northeast 2007, I mentioned to Ian - who was hanging out with PJ (Dunphy, former Motorleague bassist) - that Cummins was hopefully going to produce. Ian said, 'Fuck him, I'm doing it.' EXACTLY one year later we were in Toronto making the record.

Blurton produced 2 of my all time favourite records (by The Weakerthans) and played on another two (Steel Teeth by Change Of Heart and Blurtonia) - it was a no brainer. We knew the guy a little, so that helped too, it wasn't like going into the studio with a stranger. And we knew he'd know our sound - we weren't worried about him changing it too much.

[www.themotorleague.ca](http://www.themotorleague.ca)

The Motorleague - C/O Don Levandier - 106 Pleasant Street - Moncton, NB - E1A 2V2 - Canada

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**Article:** The Motorleague

**Article Type:** Online

**Publication:** Canadian Musician -  
Online

**Author:** Andrew King

**Date Published:** April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**Article Url:**

<http://canadianmusician.com/blog/index.php?/archives/188-The-Motorleague.html>

This past weekend in Moncton for MIMFest offered up plenty of good times for those in attendance. The event featured great live music, informative educational sessions, and some all-around fun at some of Moncton's establishments. The highlight for me, though, was watching the event organizer (Don Levandier)'s band The Motorleague, who, though I'd had a few beers down by the time they were pressured into playing two songs, put on a great, high energy show.

The last song they played, called "Hymn For The Newly Departed," was in my head all of Sunday, and I sought out YouTube videos of the band playing that song and others for part of the afternoon. Needless to say, I think these guys are worth a listen - straight up punk/rock with some gruff-but-welcoming vocals. Check 'em out [here](#).

The screenshot shows the Canadian Musician website interface. At the top left is the 'CANADIAN MUSICIAN CM' logo. A navigation menu on the left lists: CONTENTS, FREE PRODUCT INFO, NEWS, FEEDBACK, CLASSIFIEDS, BLOG, BACK ISSUES, CM TRIAL SUBSCRIPTION, NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBE, CANADIAN ARTISTS, SHOWCASE, BOOKSTORE, and LINK TO US. Below this is a 'MANAGE SUBSCRIPTIONS' section with a promotional banner for a 2-year subscription for \$21.35 (50% off newsstand price) and buttons for 'Subscribe Now', 'Renew Subscription', and 'Change Your Address'. At the bottom left is a 'music BOOKS+PLUS' logo. The main content area features the article title 'The Motorleague' and 'Canadian Musician Blog'. A 'SHARE' button with social media icons is visible. The article is dated 'Monday, April 6, 2009'. The article text is identical to the provided text, including the 'here' link at the end.

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**Article:** CD Pick Of The Week

**Article Type:** Print & Online

**Publication:** The Chronicle Herald –  
Halifax, NS

**Author:** Stephen Cooke

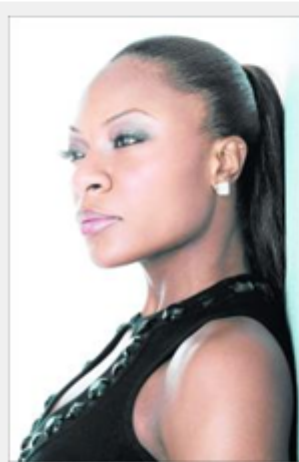
**Date Published:** May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**Article Url:**

[http://thechronicleherald.ca/Search/  
1121969.html](http://thechronicleherald.ca/Search/1121969.html)

## CD Pick of the Week

Thu, May 14 - 4:46 AM



Toronto artist July Black will appear at From Victims to Victors: A Motivational Event at the World Trade and Convention Centre tonight.



### The Motorleague

#### BLACK NOISE

(Forward Music)

Thanks to bands like Iron Giant and Galactus we already know that Moncton likes it loud, and the Motorleague keeps that reputation going strong with the densely packed songs on *Black Noise*.

Featuring former members of the Ditchpigs and the Monoxides, the Motorleague hired rock master Ian Blurton to take their songs of struggle beyond fast and loud into jet-propelled territory, with an abrasive edge that preserves vocal harmonies and the songs' melodic hooks. No mean feat, although the CD still sounds plenty mean.

The Motorleague launches *Black Noise* on Friday night at the Paragon Theatre with Broken Ohms, Shelter With Thieves, Children of Eve and Orchids Curse.

( [scooke@herald.ca](mailto:scooke@herald.ca) )

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**Reviewing:** The Motorleague – Black Noise CD

**Review Type:** Online

**Review From:**  
RockFreaks.net - Denmark

**Date Posted:** June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009

**Review Url:**  
<http://www.rockfreaks.net/index.php?page=albumreviews&id=1883>



# The Motorleague - Black Noise

Written by: PP on 3/6-09 at 13:07:57

In recent years pure rock 'n' roll releases have become more or less a rarity on our review lists. You wouldn't imagine that such a timeless genre would ever fall out of fashion, but so it has, consequently resulting in less and less such bands arriving on our review lists. The Motorleague is precisely the type of band that I've been missing on my review list, a rowdy, dirty rock n roll outfit without the slightest tinge of metal in it. Their new record "Black Noise" is ROCK in the purest sense of the word; punked up, high-tempo, groovy, riff-oriented and aggressive rock 'n' roll with a simultaneous penchant for catchy melodies. Me like.

Essentially, The Motorleague sound like the polar opposite of the image-conscious emo bands that we've been plagued with for the better part of this decade. This is the sound of real rock 'n' roll, it is a sound that on first listen screams of no concern for things like marketing, Myspace plays, or none of that crap that doesn't really have anything to do with rock music. Think of the way how Lemmy of Motörhead emits that attitude on every line, or the way how Dave Grohl is a rock star in the traditional sense. That's how I'd describe songs like "Big Times", "Fossils" (which starts with a Wolfmother-esque guitar drive), "The Ones You've Left Behind" and others, they sound like Foo Fighters meets Motörhead and QOTSA in a massive explosion of rock energy.

The best song on the record is "Let It Go", an aggressively rumbling punk 'n' roll track full of angry yelling and smash hotel rooms-type attitude. The latter is a vibe omnipresent throughout the album; that dangerous, out-of-control feeling that these days only appears on chaos hardcore records like Converge or The Dillinger Escape Plan. The band does go a little softer on a few tracks like "You Wear Me Down" and "Series Vs Parallel" - these two songs feature cleaner vocals and catchier guitar/vocal interplays, and are the ones that really remind you of the earliest Foo Fighters material (think "Stacked Actors" etc), except even at their softest, The Motorleague is much sleazier and dirtier, and I suppose you could say heavier as well. So if you're at all tired of the pretentiousness of today's music genres, "Black Noise" is exactly the album that'll make you think traditional rock hasn't died just yet.

[7]

**Download:** Let It Go, You Wear Me Down, Big Times

**For the fans of:** Foo Fighters, Queens Of The Stone Age, Velvet Revolver, Wolfmother

**Listen:** [Myspace](#)

Release date 19.05.2009  
Forward Music Group

[www.themotorleague.ca](http://www.themotorleague.ca)

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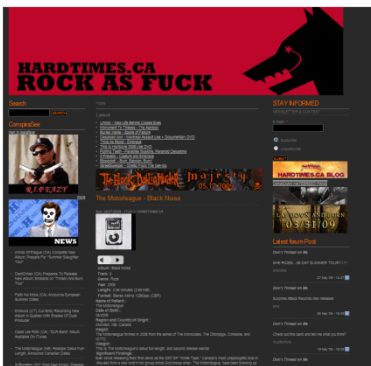
**Reviewing:** The Motorleague  
– Black Noise CD

**Review Type:** Online

**Review From:**  
Hardtimes.ca – Montreal,  
Canada

**Date Posted:** June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**Review Url:**  
<http://www.hardtimes.ca/blacknoise>



Ever since releasing their first demo as the 2007 EP “White Tape,” Canada’s most unapologetic kick-in-the-ass from a new rock’n’roll group since God knows when, The Motorleague, have been brewing up a dirtier, meaner, and even more barroom-friendly collection of revival rock anthems. What has resulted in their long-awaited full-length, “Black Noise,” is over two years of the band loosening up in the songwriting department and in turn displaying a growing fearlessness of sounding like an arena rock band of the Seventies which seems to be their true destiny, for the time being at least.

While ultimately not heard by many considering the band’s intermittent tour schedule, scant distribution of their demo, and simply being older local musicians who ended up slaves to the daily grind like the rest of us, the lo-fi, stoner/desert rock vibe of “White Tape” had a distinctive charm comparable to Queens Of The Stone Age’s finest moment, their self-titled debut, as well as Kyuss, Fu Manchu, Goatsnake, Masters Of Reality, and other Nineties acts affiliated with Man’s Ruin Records and the stoner rock emergence at large. Most bands during the demo phase are still finding their identity, and The Motorleague apparently were no exception, judging by the evolution their sound has undergone with “Black Noise.” Throughout the album, whether on sure to be instant favorites like “Big Times,” “Let It Go,” “No Rest,” or energetically re-recorded versions of “Series Vs. Parallel” and “Face Time With The Boss,”

The Motorleague thunders forward like a muscle car that has just been blessed with a fresh engine under the hood. And one of the most noticeable areas that has benefitted from a Nitrous Oxide boost is the percussion department, which sees seasoned Motorleague live drummer make his recorded debut with the band. Baritone-voiced and barrel-bodied young drummer Ryan McDonald seems to have truly lit a fire under the veteran asses of his gracefully-aging bandmates on “Black Noise.”

It doesn’t hurt having legendary producer Ian Blurton (Cursed, The Illuminati, Tricky Woo, Arise and Ruin, The Weakerthans) produce, mix, and engineer your debut album either. Blurton sure didn’t pull a Rick Rubin-esque vanishing act here, and his qualified presence in the studio can be heard in the final product.

**Possible Diagnosis:**

Between Blurton’s involvement in the recording, McDonald’s imposing presence destroying the skins, and their more boisterous influences like Thin Lizzy, Kiss, The Hellacopters, Turbonegro, and their Canadian brethren in Bionic and Tricky Woo shining brighter than before, The Motorleague successfully capture the intensity of their mighty live performance to record for the first time on “Black Noise.” The frontline vocal tandem of Don Levandier and Nathan Jones is also given prominence in the recording, lurching out of the speakers and practically shouting into the ears of listeners. Even the unmistakable authority of Iron Giant bassist PJ Dunphy, who provides his final recorded work with the band here, can be heard loud and clear in the mix.

**Recommendation:**

Given the proper distribution and promotion of the just-released “Black Noise,” The Motorleague could very likely be travelling from country to country rather than merely province to province as word spreads about Canada’s best kept, dirty rock’n’roll secret.

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## Press Taglines – 2009

*Compiled from various articles*

“Canada’s best kept, dirty rock n’ roll secret”

*-Hardtimes.ca (Canada)*

"Black Noise" is ROCK in the purest sense of the word; punked up, high-tempo, groovy, riff-oriented and aggressive rock 'n' roll with a simultaneous penchant for catchy melodies... "Black Noise" is exactly the album that'll make you think traditional rock hasn't died just yet.

*-RockFreaks.net (Denmark)*

“Black Noise's aggression, bottom-heavy groove and just-enough nod to pop music spells instant classic for dirtbag rockers”

*-CHARTattack (Canada)*

“Black Noise is packed to the rim with 10 energetic rawk n roll tracks”

*-HERE NB (Canada)*

“CD Pick of the Week”

*-Chronicle Herald (Canada)*

“Top 10 Bands Of NXNE 2009”

*- Too High To Get It Right*

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