

GABRIEL FIGUEREDO MUSIC RECORD REVIEWS:

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ARTIST: Mastodon

RECORD TITLE: Hushed And Grim

YEAR: 2021

COUNTRY: United States Of America

“**M**astodon” are revived in 2021, with their newest double-length album, “Hushed And Grim.”

Adding producer David Bottrill (via Peter Gabriel, Tool, King Crimson) helps to expand the “Mastodon” soundscape, into their exploration of grief, within a concept album.

Specifically, there are sounds of melodic Progressive Metal mixed with Avant-Garde Metal musings.

The double-album contains 15 tracks: 9 “Noteworthy Songs” & 6 “Below Average Songs.”

Overall, the second disc is stronger musically, compared to the first disc.

Dramatic melody, combined with sharp synths, define the song, “Skeleton Of Splendor.”

Otherworldly intensity, and conceptual leanings of grief, highlight the very original-named track: “Teardrinker.”

Noteworthy song, “Dagger,” provides a glimpse of the tribal, and sitar-laced complexities, that the band could elaborate on future releases.

Guest guitar solo, by Kim Thayil (via Soundgarden), on the track, “Had It All,” deftly adds to the somber tone of the slowest, and most accessible ballad on the album.

Remorse and ravage, encapsulate the song, “Savage Lands,” with thundering drums and provocative vocals.

In the last song of the second disc, called “Gigantium,” the band flex their creative muscle, and build a veritable, gigantic wall, of visceral sound: incorporating sneering guitar solos, pulsating drums, and melodically hopeful lyrics (like “I Just Need You To Whisper”).

“**M**astodon” fans have been waiting for a conceptual masterpiece, and this record is epic.