

# The Wraith

## Roll Call

Davey Bales : Vocals

Kaz Alvis : Guitar

Paul Rogers : Bass

Anatolii Lövochkin : Drums

## When did the band get started and what was the original intention of the band?

The Wraith : The Wraith was started in late 2016 in Los Angeles. We were writing a lot and recording demos. We released our first EP *Shadow Flag* in January 2017. The intention of the band was to play 80s inspired dark punk, post punk, etc. We wanted a style that infused the heavy drum sound of Killing Joke but with melodic guitar tone of The Chameleons.

## Tell us more about your name. How does it communicate the sound or vibe of the band?

TW : We were throwing names back and forth for a while until we finally agreed on The Wraith. I believe it's of Scottish origin. It basically means a ghost or apparition. It's kind of a dark word so we felt that fit the tone of the band well.

## How would you describe your music to someone who has not yet checked you out?

TW : I'd say it's dark punk, post punk, or deathrock. We incorporate things like synths and lots of goth style guitar tones into our sound but still are a heavy guitar based band.

## What inspires you to create this style of music?

TW : It's just a type of music we enjoy and listen to the most. It really just feels easy and natural to us. Plus we don't feel like we're boxed in creatively. We like to experiment and try new things. We've also been working on straight forward synth based songs.

## What influences in fashion, literature and culture impact your creativity?

TW : For fashion, music, and culture we're definitely inspired by the 1980s. The band's aesthetic is influenced by post punk, goth, new wave, and punk music of that time period. Fashion was a little more fresh and adventurous then. Stylistically, we prefer the timeless tone of leather and denim. As for poetry we're influenced by confessional poets such as Sylvia Plath, Jim Morrison, Anne Sexton, and Charles Baudelaire.

## What other bands are inspiring you right now?

TW : We're inspired creatively by Death Cult, New Model Army, TSOL, Killing Joke, The Chameleons, Blitz, UK Subs, early Cure, Little Nemo etc.

## How would you describe the current alternative music scene where you live?

TW : LA is a great place to be a musician. The bands in the scene are really supportive of one another. There's always new groups popping up. The venues and promoters here are very supportive of newer acts also.

## What are your favorite tour or stage stories? Share 'em here.

TW : I guess a couple of our favorite stories are playing the LA Dark Fest. It's a fest we put together in Hollywood with Rikk Agnew of Christian Death and Joe Wood of TSOL headlining. It was packed and everyone had a blast. Also opening for Zakk Wylde was pretty crazy. We were completely surprised how well we went over with a huge metal crowd like that.

## Tell us about your latest release.

TW : Our latest release is entitled *Gloom Ballet*. It came out last November on Southern Lord Records. It was produced and engineered by Puscifer guitarist Mat Mitchell. We spent six weeks in his Hollywood studio recording twelve songs for the record. We chose Mat as a producer because he's familiar with our influences and he understood the style we were looking for. His studio is filled with tons of vintage 80s gear so that helped with the tone we wanted for the album also.

## What's next for your band?

TW : We're going out on a west coast tour in May. Then we'll probably head east later this year. We've already started working on the follow up to *Gloom Ballet* also.

## Where can people find out more about your band and any other projects members are involved in?

TW : [facebook.com/TheWraithPunk](https://www.facebook.com/TheWraithPunk), [instagram.com/thewraithpunk/](https://www.instagram.com/thewraithpunk/), [twitter.com/TheWraithpunk](https://twitter.com/TheWraithpunk), [thewraithsh.bandcamp.com/releases](https://www.thewraithsh.bandcamp.com/releases), [open.spotify.com/artist/7GZmwPyRerSHUUCPrYvQ9](https://open.spotify.com/artist/7GZmwPyRerSHUUCPrYvQ9), [youtube.com/channel/UCR0KmmhIXgY9n6wRke3ZOwg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCR0KmmhIXgY9n6wRke3ZOwg)



THIS PAGE  
Photos by  
Michelle Shiers.