



BIOHAZARD

Means to an End

(SPV)

Reviewed by : **Jeff Nau**

Rating : **8.0**

While not without its weak spots - wisely left towards the album's end - the Brooklyn bad-asses' latest, *Means to an End*, is a welcome throwback to the definitive Biohazard sound (sorely missing on their last CD, *Kill or Be Killed*). Nice to see that despite the fearsome four's progressive outlook some things will always be (thankfully) marred by certain welcome traditions: Evan Seinfeld's phlegm-fueled, anti-government rhetoric is, once again, the perfect paradox to Billy Graziadei's venomous ranting - and being pissed has never sounded so damn satisfying. Having extended their collective middle fingers to that omnipresent, often pesky metalcore scene, the band sounds much more at home churning out their aforementioned trademark sound, while simultaneously embracing the metal lushness of fellow New Yorkers Anthrax: Think the steel locomotive chug of Scott Ian's white-noise thrash, perhaps spattered with solos from (insert '80s thrashers of choice here); yet don't be shocked when you realize said leads are better than those of the legions of imitators that decade spawned. The lyrics, as always, are unapologetic and infectious, and these tattooed wise guys ain't afraid to wear emotions on their sleeves - Graziadei especially, who has himself remarked that one of the sources behind the album's cynical prose is the thought of his own daughter's future in a post-Bush economy. The anger is honest, it's potent, and it's what is helping keep them alive in what is often such an emotionally shallow genre.