



[www.drop8.net](http://www.drop8.net)

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The high-energy hard rock/metal band Drop8 brings together 5 intense musicians with a wide spectrum of experience and ability. Hailing from the Inland Empire, Southern California, Drop8 pulls from a multitude of influences, from classic rock and metal to the new sounds of modern metal. Drop8 represents the best of all those worlds. Armed with support and endorsements from great companies such as Krank Amplification, Dean Guitars, Dunlop Music Accessories, Knucklehead Strings and My Star Sound, the band has shown their hard work and abilities are recognized outside their local and regional scene.

Drop8 has been compared to the likes of Disturbed, Metallica, Godsmack, and Black Label Society. Their live show has been the band's trademark for the last 8 years and continues to propel the group to the highest level. As the fan base of Drop8 continues to grow, so does the band's commitment writing high level, energy driven, fist pumpin' music that does not fall short of the expectations of their supporters, endorsers and fans. Stand by, because Drop8 will capture your mind and leave you wanting more...



## Drop8 Biography

The high-energy hard rock/metal band Drop8 brings together 5 intense musicians with a wide spectrum of experience and ability. Hailing from the Inland Empire, Southern California, Drop8 pulls from a multitude of influences, from classic rock and metal to the new sounds of modern metal. Drop8 represents the best of all those worlds. Armed with support and endorsements from great companies such as Krank Amplification, Dean Guitars, Dunlop Music Accessories, Knucklehead Strings and My Star Sound, the band has shown their hard work and abilities are recognized outside their local and regional scene.

Drop8 has been compared to the likes of Disturbed, Metallica, Godsmack, and Black Label Society. Their live show has been the band's trademark for the last 8 years and continues to propel the group to the highest level. The full frontal assault of crushing guitar tones, a rock solid rhythm section and powerful vocals makes Drop8's high energy stage show a must see.

Drop8 proved to be on their game with the debut CD "Brand New Aggression (BNA)." Comprised of songs with catchy melodies, powerful lyrics, solid rhythms, hooks, screaming riffs, and an aggressive punch that makes their sound unique and distinctive, Brand New Aggression proved to be a breath of fresh air for rock and metal fans. The CD was mixed by James Lugo (Vocal Asylum, Hollywood, CA) who has worked with major record labels such as Capitol, Sony, Lava/Atlantic, and Warner Brothers. BNA was mastered by Bill Dooley (Paramount Recording Studios, Hollywood, CA) whose intimidating resume speaks volumes, working with rock legends such as Ozzy Osbourne, AC/DC, Judas Priest, Motley Crue, and Black Label Society.

The band is currently working on their next CD tentatively titled "Hopeless: A World Undone." This new batch of songs represents an even wider spectrum of influences and styles in combination with the sound that Drop8 fans have grown to love. Expect to see these songs incorporated into the live show and released in late 2011/early 2012.

Drop8 is truly humble and appreciative of all support they have garnered over the last 8 years. They have a deep respect for their peers as well as a strong appreciation for the local and regional music scene that spawned them. As the fan base of Drop8 continues to grow, so does the band's commitment writing high level, energy driven, fist pumpin' music that does not fall short of the expectations of their supporters, endorsers and fans. Stand by, because Drop8 will capture your mind and leave you wanting more...

# History

Initially formed in 2002, the band began performing as Drop8 in late 2003. Over the next 8 years, Drop8 would perform countless shows throughout Southern California building a fiercely loyal following. In 2005, Drop8 moved from the local pubs and bars in the Inland Empire of Southern California to the larger and more prestigious venues of Hollywood and Orange County. Performing at venues such as The Whisky a Go-Go, The Roxy, The Key Club as well as Orange County venues like The Hard Rock Café and The Galaxy Theater. In 2006, the bands performance schedule began to take them out of state performing in places throughout the southwest region as well as making multiple appearances in Las Vegas. This also coincided with the release of "Brand New Aggression" through CSG Music. This release elevated the band to a new level attracting the support of music companies such as Krank Amplification, Dean Guitars, Dunlop Music Accessories, Knucklehead Strings and My Star Sound. After three years and 250 plus shows, the band took some time to regroup and begin the writing of their next CD. Drop8 welcomed Max Hoagland to the fold and began writing sessions for the new release. The current line-up, which includes the additions of Jamie McCollum on guitar and Ryan Calamusa on drums, are firing on all cylinders with shows booked in Hollywood as well as recording tracks for the their new CD.

Drop8 has performed with a wide variety of national tour acts over the years. Metal bands like Full Blown Chaos, Scars of Tomorrow and Powerman 5000 as well as Rock acts LA Guns, Jani Lane of Warrant, Beautiful Creatures, Bang Tango and Faster Pussycat have included Drop8 on shows on multiple occasions. The band will begin making appearances at The Coach House, The Canyon Club and The Brixton South Bay with a number of National Acts beginning in the fall of 2011.



The graphic features two photographs: the top one shows the band Powerman 5000 performing on stage, and the bottom one shows the band Drop8 standing together. Text elements include the band names, ticket price, event location, and date.

Powerman 5000  
Doors Open @ 7:30  
Tix \$15  
Drop 8  
SUNSET LIVE PRESENTS  
**KEY CLUB**  
HOLLYWOOD  
wed, Aug 24th

# The Band



Ryan Calamusa – Drums: Ryan uses Ludwig and Bonzofoot Drums as well as "Neil's" Cymbals and Vic Firth Drum Sticks. Current and previous projects include Magic Salad, Jalapeno on a Stick, Laughing Stalk and Mars in Zero.



Jimmy Ferro – Bass: Jimmy uses Dean Edge Pros and Dean Hard Tails Basses as well as GK Amps/Cabinets and Dunlop Accessories. Previous Projects include Monarch, Tin City and C4.



Max Hoagland – Guitar: Max uses Dean EVO 7s as well as Rivera Amps, Krank Cabinets and Dunlop Accessories. Previous projects include Monarch, Tin City, Zone and Larry.



Jamie Mc Collum – Guitar: Jamie uses Dean MLs and Split Tails as well as Krank Amps/Cabinets and Dunlop Accessories. Previous projects include Hammerhead and Kultivar.



Kevin Thomas – Vocals/Guitar: Kevin uses Dean Solteros as well as Krank Amps/Cabinets and Dunlop Accessories. Current and previous projects include Laughing Stalk, Mars in Zero, C4 and Hammering Process.

# INLAND **EMPIRE** WEEKLY

## Band of the Week

Volume 4 Issue 50 March 15<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> 2010





By: Waleed Rashidi

#### CITIES OF ORIGIN:

Upland, Rancho Cucamonga

#### MEMBERS AND INSTRUMENTS:

Jimmy (bass); Max (lead guitar); Mike (rhythm guitar); Neil (drums); Kevin Thomas (vocals).

#### KINDRED SPIRITS:

Pantera meets Metallica wouldn't be insanely far off the mark. Add some Staind and maybe a sampling of Sepultura in the queue, too.

#### RECENT RELEASE:

Brand New Aggression (CSG; 2006)

#### WEBSITE:

[www.drop8.net](http://www.drop8.net)

[www.myspace.com/drop8](http://www.myspace.com/drop8)

Drop8's forthcoming album—slated to hit within the year—is titled *Hopeless*, but in spending a quick minute to exchange a few words with the local metal act, one will discover that they're anything but.

In fact, for the past seven years, Drop8 has been putting an optimistic spin on a genre that's not always known for heralding such a sunny outlook. Ask 'em about their shows and they'll tell you how every gig ends up being a great experience. Ask about their songs and they're quick to note that their material is largely about aiming to conquer any negativity tossed their way. Heck, they play fair on all levels, voting on everything in what seems to be a civilized, democratic procedure. There's probably more hope installed here than in Obama's presidential campaign.

But don't think that their hard rock flavoring is diluted and bland. In fact, the power-chord laden riffs from guitarists Max and Mike could rile up even the most (initially) docile of audiences. And drummer Neil's potent rhythms—linked with bassist Jimmy's sub-octave fortitude—provides much of the propulsion that further serrate this fivesome's sharpened edge, leaving nothing but sonic dross floating in its wake. Bottom line: This metal act ain't rolling out the frail aluminum foil you'd use to cover your leftovers.

Vocalist Kevin Thomas tells us that the genesis of Drop8 hails back to his school days. "We came together through several stages of 'the six degrees of separation' so to speak," he says, adding that the band is a combination of high school friends.

Drop8 released its debut, *Brand New Aggression*, four years ago. Since its release, the members of the group (which is named after a variation of Neil's former address in South Dakota—yeah, we're still a bit puzzled, too) say they've received substantial love from instrument manufacturers and local venues, including Yucaipa's Angels Roadhouse, where they're slated to play again this week, hooking up the heavy and hopeful on all fronts.

"The bottom line in all of it is no matter what brand of metal you play, metal is the common bond," says Jimmy. "No one subgenre of metal is better than another."

Drop8 at Angels Roadhouse, 32464 Dunlap Blvd., Yucaipa, (909) 795-0665;  
[www.myspace.com/angelsroadhouse](http://www.myspace.com/angelsroadhouse). Sat, March 20, 7PM. \$10.

The Dean Artists



## Kevin Thomas of DROP 8

Kevin is the **Guitarist and Lead Vocalist** for the high energy hard rock/metal band **DROP 8** which hails from Southern California. Signed by independent music label "CSG Music," **DROP 8** has a sound representative of Nu-Metal with influences of some older rock and metal roots.

Kevin started playing music at 8 years-old and has played full and part time for the last twenty years. With varied inspirations, Kevin's experience and distinct influences all lend to his unique sound, crunchy rhythms, and tasteful leads. Kevin stated the following regarding Dean, "My Cadillac, V and Razorback are part of my guitar arsenal when playing live as well as in the studio. Dean Guitars are by far the best instruments I own." \m/

**DROP 8** is on their game with their debut CD "Brand New Aggression (BNA)."

The compilation is comprised of songs with catchy melodies, powerful lyrics, solid rhythms, hooks, screaming riffs, and an aggressive make-up that makes their sound unique and distinctive. Brand New Aggression was mixed by James Lugo (Vocal Asylum, Hollywood, Ca.). BNA was mastered by Bill Dooley (Paramount Recording Studios, Hollywood, Ca.). Look for the CSG Music and D1 Distribution release of **DROP 8's** BNA in the near future.

More On These Guitars



[Dean Razorback Series](#)

Artist's Home Page



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The Dean Artists



## Jimmy Ferro of DROP 8

**Jimmy is the bassist** for the high energy hard rock/metal band **DROP 8** which hails from Southern California. Signed by independent music label "CSG Music," **DROP 8** has a sound representative of Nu-Metal with influences of some older rock and metal roots.

Jimmy started his bass plucking at 9 years-old and has played full and part time for the last twenty years. With varied inspirations, Jimmy's experience and distinct influences all lend to his unique sound, punchy rhythms, and style. He is very critical on the sound, feel, and chemistry of the instruments he plays and has experimented with dozens of bass brands. Jimmy stated the following regarding Dean, "My Edge Pro 5-strings, with the EMG HZ pick-ups, blow all other basses I have ever played clear off this globe."

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More On These Guitars



[Dean Bass Guitars](#)

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**KEVIN THOMAS**  
**DROP8/HAMMERING PROCESS**





**JIMMY FERRO**  
**DROP8**





**MAX HOAGLAND**  
**DROP8**





**JAMIE Mc COLLUM**  
**DROP8**





**RYAN CALAMUSA**  
**DROP8**

