

IN THE STUDIO

# decibel

SHOWS

If I was in this for the

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## FALSE ALARM

The god of thunder can't be happy about this: two sub-Spinal Tap bands appropriating his name and the tablature books of Metallica and Maiden in the name of making the metal music. Presenting *Decibel's* second installment of False Alarm, guest judge Thor presiding. "I heard of Thor the former bodybuilder way back in the '70s, but who's this Valient bitch? Doesn't he know how to spell either?" asks the Norse icon, heavy hammer in hand ready for smashing. —ANDREW PARKS



**Defendant** Valient Thorr ↗

**Accessory** *Legend of the World* VOLCOM, [2006]

**Thor** ↗

*Devastation of Musculation*  
SMOG VEIL [2006]

**Bid For Universal Supremacy Via Bio** "*Legend of the World* finds the band trying to save [the] planet the only way they know how: through the power of the almighty riff."

"Blowing up hot water bottles, bending steel, and having cinder blocks broken over his chest are all in a night's work."

**Best Hair In The Band** Valient the vocalist has a red beard, which his record label makes sure to point out in their bio. Righteous!

Jon Mikl Thor, of course! Dude was on the Merv Griffin Show way back in 1973 and still looks as ripped as 50 Cent!

**Ironic** **Speak/Sing Vocals** Check

**Everything** Check

**Riffs** "**Dazed And Confused**" Check

**"For Whom the Bell Tolls"** Check

**"Mystical" Song Titles, Bro** "Triceratops," "Fall of Pangea"

"Queen of the Damned," "The Return of Odin's Son" (i.e. Thor!)

**Projected Pitchfork Rating** 6.66 (for sounding like a second stage Ozzfest version of the Hold Steady)

8.0 (for doing what Priestess does now three decades ago)

**Questionable Signs Of Intelligence** "I wanna see everyone in here banging their head" (while speaking to no one in particular) and "This mission is fucked/ This mission is fucked."

There aren't any, although one must admit that repeated choruses like "release the beast!" are quite catchy and consistently evilllll.

**Cred Check** Valient claims his kindred spirit is Rob Tyner of MC5. Well, well, well—why don't you kick out some jams then, motherfucker?

Um, hello? Thor's been working it in full-on gladiator regalia since before you were born.

**Verdict** **THOR SAYS, "HAMMER FALL! MUST CRUSH PUNY HUMANS!"**

**THOR SAYS, "THIS GUY'S STILL AROUND? I'M CALLING MY LAWYER."**