



In Session 1 of Artist to watch, GJD's Ken Volpe talks with Jim Kaufman of *Opiate for the Masses*. Jim talks about how he started as a keyboardist and later transitioned into a lead guitarist. He also tells Ken about how the band deals with the challenge of being in today's music scene.

Enjoy Session 1 with Jim Kaufman on The Jamcast! {enclose JIM1.mp3}

About Opiate for the Masses: In an ever-changing and volatile music industry, it remains a constant challenge for new bands to break out and make a name for themselves on their own. However, one quartet from Los Angeles that simply refuses to let the state of the industry deter them is OPIATE FOR THE MASSES, whose undying, unparalleled work ethic and captivating live performances ultimately caught the attention of Century Media Records. The label has never seen anything quite like OPIATE FOR THE MASSES, whose sheer collective talents and hunger to succeed is refreshing to find in this day and age. Century Media quickly signed the band to a worldwide deal and are beyond ecstatic to bring something this innovative to the forefront of the scene. They recently completed work on their much anticipated new full-length album, Manifesto, recorded by two Grammy-nominated, multi-platinum producers: Ulrich Wild (Slipknot, Deftones) and John Travis (Kid Rock, Buckcherry). The new offering is a propulsive mix of sheer hard rock aggression, soaring melodies and electronic experimentation that could be best described as Alice In Chains meets Prodigy. The disc is destined to breathe some new life into the ever changing and sometimes stagnant musical climate. Manifesto is slated for a July 8th release. Feel free to visit www.myspace.com/opiateforthemasses to check out more about the band. Guitarist, Jim Kaufman further comments: "Since its conception, OPIATE FOR THE MASSES has been a band in a constant state of transformation. Unwilling to change course merely to fit in among the flavors of the week, this band has gained popularity by blazing new trails for others to follow. The completion of our latest and boldest album, Manifesto, signals a new era for the band's experimentation, yet the resulting sound is something more accessible to the masses.