

## Chelsea Wolfe and A Dead Forest Index – Live at Théâtre Fairmount – May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – Montreal, QC.

Boy was I stoked for this show. I'd been anticipating this night for months, so obviously when the night arrived, I was incredibly excited. Being a relatively newer fan of Chelsea Wolfe, one of the first things I had heard when I first discovered her last year was that her shows were quite phenomenal experiences, being equal parts a musical and physical experience. Of course, it's one thing to read something like that on the internet, and another to experience it for yourself. That description could've easily been an overstatement by some die-hard, excited fans. Here's the thing though, it's really not. I'd even go as far as to say that it's an understatement. This was, without a doubt, the best show I've seen this year, so far. I have a hard time believing any other show I see this year will top it.

The evening began with a band called [A Dead Forest Index](#), from New Zealand. Normally, I'd make it a point to check out, and listen to, any opening band I'll be seeing before the date of the show, but this time around I simply wasn't able to get around to it. That being said, I knew they had to be, at the very least, a decent band, considering they're opening for Chelsea Wolfe and also happen to be on the same [record label](#) as her. So, it was no surprise to me when the band hit the stage and played a completely wonderful and beautiful set. Comprising of only two members (Brothers Adam Sherry on vocals and guitars, and Sam Sherry on drums), the band are a wonderful mix of Experimental Music and Dream Pop, and it was the perfect way to start off the evening. Adam's voice is indescribable, to be honest. Throughout their set, I kept trying to think of who he might sound like in order to make a comparison for this review, and truthfully, Adam's voice stands out as completely unique to anything I've ever really heard. If I had to even attempt to make a comparison, I'd say he's a strange mix of [Brian Molko](#) and [Sinead O'Conner](#). Really though, you're better off just checking the band out for yourself and drawing your own conclusions. Their entire set was approximately 40 minutes in length, and both members seemed to be completely musically connected throughout that entire period. It's very clear that these two aren't just brothers by blood; they were born to play music together. My only regret is that I couldn't name any of their songs, because it was literally my first time hearing them, but that didn't stop me from enjoying their wonderful songs of dreamy melodies and soaring vocals that washed over the music like a waterfall. Needless to say, I turned into a fan immediately after their set was over.

When [Chelsea Wolfe](#) hit the stage at around 10:00pm, something truly magical began to happen. If you've ever seen Chelsea live, or if you're just a fan of her music in general, then you know what I'm talking about, and no amount of words I write can truly describe this woman as an artist (But hey, I'll at least try). Chelsea began her set with an older track titled "Demons", which was a really nice surprise. Following that, Chelsea and her band launched into some new tracks from her latest record, [Abyss](#). It's amazing how heavy these songs sound live. "Dragged Out" may as well be a Doom Metal track. After a few songs off of that record, they returned to older

material. It was at this point that Chelsea had to apologize and take a five minute break, as she was unable to stop coughing. Unfortunately, she's been battling various illnesses that are easy to pick up when you're a touring musician. But Chelsea was a trooper and came right back after five minutes and continued the set flawlessly. The funny thing is, you'd never know she was actually sick, because her voice sounds equally as beautiful live as it does on her records, and there was absolutely no way of telling she was ill other than her coughing a few times. One of the highlights of the evening, for me, was when Chelsea and her band played two songs from the [Pain is Beauty](#) record, my personal favourite Chelsea Wolfe album. "Feral Love" and "House of Metal" are simply stunning songs. My absolute favourite moment of the evening, however, was when she played "Movie Screen", a track from her [Apokalypsis](#) record. For those of you that know this song, you know how the beginning of the track goes. When Chelsea began to softly sing the opening, you could hear a pin drop in the entire room. Not a single sound could be heard except for Chelsea's voice, soaring through the crowd. Really, what I else can I say about this show? Not a single person in the room was talking, or looking at their phones, or distracted in any kind of way. All eyes were on Chelsea and her band for the entire evening. I'm locked in as a fan for life, and although this was my first Chelsea Wolfe show, it most certainly won't be my last. If she's coming to your town, i'd consider it a crime to miss her show.