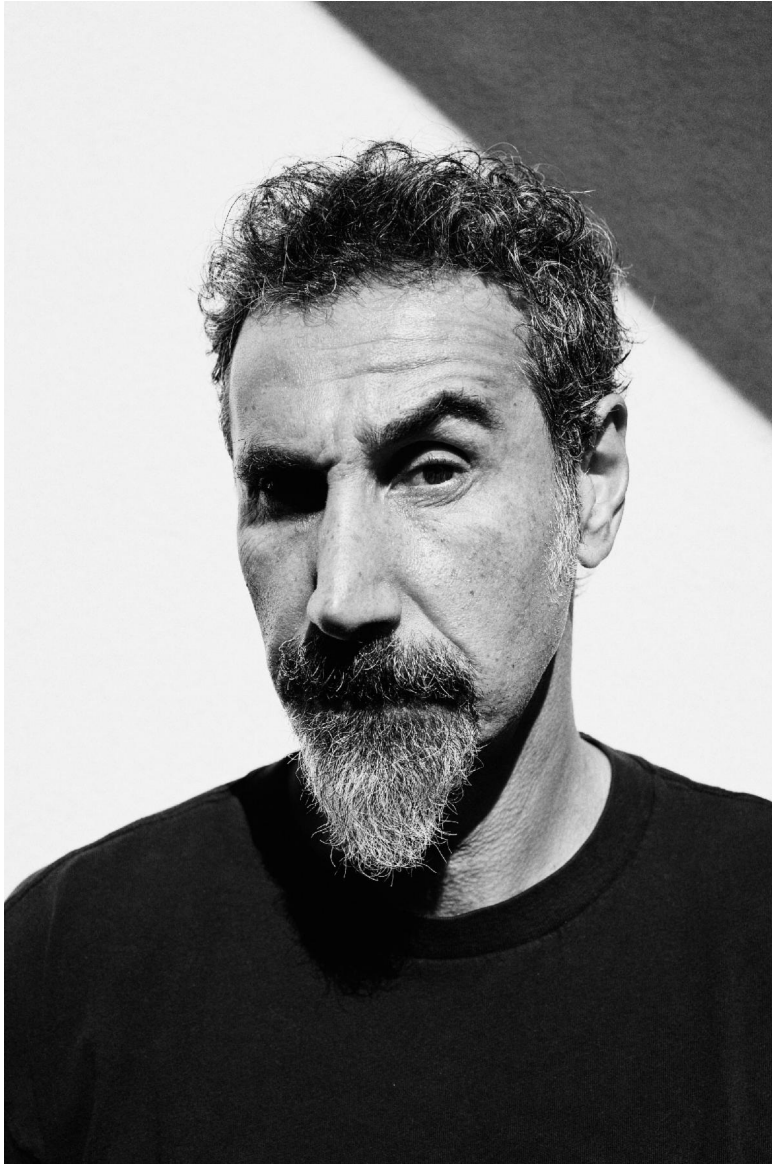




Serj Tankian

Credit: Travis Shinn

Download assets: [HERE](#).

"[The FOUNDATIONS EP] shows why Tankian is considered one of his generation's great songwriters."

--BLABBERMOUTH (9/10 star review)

Today, singer, poet, songwriter, visual artist, film producer, activist and author SERJ TANKIAN, lead singer and lyricist for the GRAMMY® Award-winning rock band System Of A Down has debuted the new video for the song "Life's Revengeful Son." The song is the fourth single and video off SERJ TANKIAN's 5-Song EP of new music titled [FOUNDATIONS](#), which is available worldwide via Gibson Records [HERE](#). "Life's Revengeful Son" incorporates a variety of instrumentation, including acoustic and electric guitars and dramatic orchestration, into an epic closer with unmatched imagery: "The final revolution will occur when the arms of the clock fall," Tankian sings. "Jesus seen in the streets, dragging a car axel instead of the cross."

Watch/share the new video for SERJ TANKIAN's song "Life's Revengeful Son":

[WATCH](#)

"LIFE'S REVENGEFUL SON"



[LISTEN](#)

SERJ TANKIAN's FOUNDATIONS (Gibson Records)

1. "A.F. Day"
2. "Justice Will Shine On"
3. "Appropriations"
4. "Cartoon Buyer"
5. "Life's Revengeful Son"

Check out early press acclaim for SERJ TANKIAN's FOUNDATIONS:

“‘AF Day’ is fast and angry capturing the listeners into the frantic journey to this madness. ‘Justice Will Shine On’ pays homage to the ones that fought and survived. The beautiful, sorrowful song awakens the warrior spirit for justice for all that suffered in the genocide of the Armenian people. “Appropriations” starts slow with vocals smooth and gentle, and then with swift echoes of guitars and vocals blending, this creates the soundtrack to the escape of the people running from their doom and destruction. ‘Cartoon Buyer’ expresses, with riveting lyrical content, how humans separate thoughts and themselves from what is really happening across the world. “Life’s Revengeful Son” is groundbreaking and heartfelt, with beats pounding and roaring vocals conjuring the spirit of all that suffered.”

--NEW NOISE (4-1/2 out of 5 stars)

“[The FOUNDATIONS] songs feature some of the detuned and palm-muted metal aggression we’ve grown to expect, with riffs that feel reminiscent of Alice in Chains and Slayer, as well as more acoustic-driven and experimental moments.”

--GUITAR WORLD

“‘Justice Will Shine On,’ might just one of the most important songs of Tankian’s musical career, as he recalls the atrocities of the Armenian Genocide that his family and so many other families were victims of, including the families from members of System Of A Down. The track is easily the highlight of the FOUNDATIONS EP, and its haunting melodies brilliantly accentuate it’s dark yet poignant subject matter.”

--FORBES

“[On ‘Justice Will Shine On’ thunderous rhythms, dramatic chord swings and an impassioned, multi-layered vocal performance where Tankian considers the Armenian genocide that took place during WWI, and how the horrors of that period of history unquestionably still impact his family and the broader Armenian community to this day. “[On ‘Cartoon Buyer’] The tune takes a giant swerve towards the electric, though, with huge and punky guitar riffs and crack-of-thunder drumming soon complementing Tankian’s signature higher-range vibrato. The lyrics then take the frontman from California to Argentina, to Saudi Arabia, to Tunisia and more.”

--REVOLVER

“A.F. Day’ is a heady, punk-influenced rocker about how religion can’t keep us afloat.”

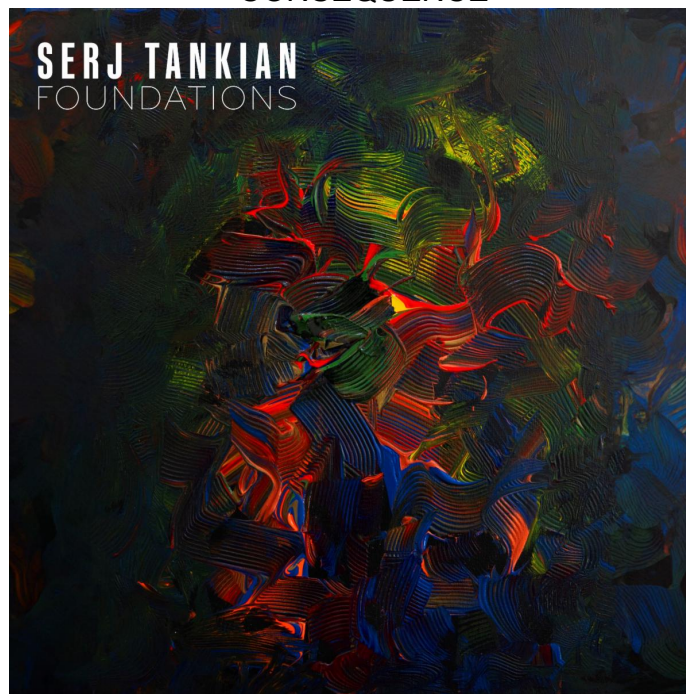
--STEREOGUM

“The heavy new single ‘A.F. Day,’ boasts frantic screams from the System Of A Down frontman as he howls ‘Another fucking day’.”

--NME

“A.F. Day” (short for ‘Another Fucking Day’) features Tankian in full scream mode during the chorus, and would fit right into the System of a Down catalog both musically and lyrically. The song includes lines like, “Why do religions require from their faithful blind and questioning servitude?/ If thy path is so righteous, then why the use of forcing all attitude.”

--CONSEQUENCE



Above: Cover artwork for SERJ TANKIAN’s FOUNDATIONS features one of his original paintings titled “Sunburst” [HERE](#).

SERJ TANKIAN’s FOUNDATIONS mines music and lyrics from previous decades and reframes them in a hard-hitting, intensely focused collection. Like all of TANKIAN’s work, the five songs that comprise FOUNDATIONS encompass a wide range of sounds and styles. It is music that traverses multiple

eras and vast swaths of emotions. It is also very much a rock album – 'music of rebellion,' says TANKIAN.

FOUNDATIONS kicks off with “A.F. Day,” a raging, heavy-riffing track that sounds like classic TANKIAN. The origins of the song date back almost three decades, to his earliest days with System of a Down. TANKIAN never brought it to the band to record, and when he happened upon “A.F. Day” more recently he “felt it should finally be released.” In doing so, he retained much of the original music, including his vocals – a decision that was partly pragmatic: “My voice has naturally changed over time,” TANKIAN explains. As the lyrics demonstrate, his attitude has not. “Medieval educators locking horns at the playground at 5 / Real live police crime shows submission of the population at large,” he rails, expressing disgust with indoctrination and blind deference to authority at every turn.

Listen/watch the official video for SERJ TANKIAN’s “A.F. Day” [HERE](#).

WATCH

“A.F. DAY”



“A.F. Day” is followed the album’s most anthemic track, and also its emotional centerpiece: “Justice Will Shine On.” Another song whose compositional roots date back to the early SOAD days, the impassioned hard rocker is nonetheless instilled with a message that is as hard-hitting and vital today. Over potent riffs and pummeling rhythms, TANKIAN grapples with the atrocities of the Armenian genocide experienced by his grandparents firsthand. He addresses their suffering in jarringly personal and direct terms, singing, “Can you tell me dear grandfather of your childhood so far away / You can see the death of laughter in his teared eyes disarray / Can you tell me dear grandmother of your childhood from hunger and pain / Of the orphans you called brothers in her teared eyes disarray.” As the song launches into its soaring chorus, TANKIAN declares that his grandparents’ torment, and the anguish experienced by all Armenian victims, will not be in vain. “We are the children of all the survivors / Justice will shine on!”

Elsewhere on FOUNDATIONS, “Appropriations” (an older song I’ve ‘re-appropriated’ to modern times,” he says) juxtaposes a snake-y, arpeggiated verse with a crushing chorus in a clash of eastern and western modalities, as TANKIAN unspools lyrics that play off complementary sounds and contrasting sensibilities: “Resignation, provocation, segregation... imagination and creation,” he croons. And “Cartoon Buyer,” which dates to a period just prior to TANKIAN’s first solo record, 2007’s *Elect the Dead*, begins in hushed, almost folk-y mode, and gradually builds – both in intensity and actual tempo – before exploding in sonic and spiritual catharsis. Throughout the track, TANKIAN scrutinizes the divides within humanity (“You see me without emotions / I see you across the oceans,” he intones) before ultimately declaring our oneness: “California to Argentina...Saudi Arabia to Tunisia...Armenia to Australia...Israel to Indonesia / They are us and we are them.”

Finally, “Life’s Revengeful Son,” originally recorded prior to TANKIAN’s 2010 *Imperfect Harmonies* album, incorporates a variety of instrumentation, including acoustic and electric guitars and dramatic orchestration, into an epic closer with unmatched imagery: “The final revolution will occur when the arms of the clock fall,” TANKIAN sings. “Jesus seen in the streets, dragging a car axel instead of the cross.”

A true creative tour de force, TANKIAN recorded FOUNDATIONS primarily at his own Serjical Strike Studios in L.A. He wrote, performed, orchestrated and produced all the material, as well as contributed the artwork – an original piece titled “Sunburst” – that adorns the album cover. Additional instrumentation on the record was provided by Dan Monti (guitars, bass and drum programming) and, on “Cartoon Buyer,” by bassist Mario Pagliarulo, and SOAD drummer John Dolmayan.

FOUNDATIONS, TANKIAN says is, “A retrospective of songs from different eras of my life, meant to complement the memoir,” and caps what has been an incredibly prolific year for TANKIAN, from the release of his memoir the New York Times bestseller [Down with the System](#), to the massive, sold-out System of a Down headlining show at Golden Gate Park in San Francisco with over 50,000 fans. But even as he is now revealing his “foundations,” TANKIAN is already looking ahead. “The next record will likely be a record of covers, collaborations and collages,” he envisions.

Credit his restless, ever-curious creative spirit. “I’m always moving in different directions,” TANKIAN says. “Repetition is boring, and the death of art.”

Watch/share the official video for SERJ TANKIAN’s “Justice Will Shine On” [HERE](#).

[WATCH](#)

"Justice Will Shine On"



Listen/watch the video for "Appropriations" [HERE](#).

[WATCH](#)

["APPROPRIATIONS"](#)



Listen/watch the video for "Cartoon Buyer" which also features SERJ's System Of A Down bandmate, John Dolmayan on drums: [HERE](#).

[WATCH](#)

["CARTOON BUYER"](#)



Above: Serj Tankian. Photo credit: Travis Shinn.

As previously announced, on November 1, TANKIAN will release a diverse selection of limited edition variants of the FOUNDATIONS EP on colored vinyl with an etching featured on Side B of every package. The FOUNDATIONS vinyl package includes a Red & Black Starburst vinyl (pictured below) available on TANKIAN's own official webstore [HERE](#), and an Opaque Purple version only available in U.S. record stores nationwide.

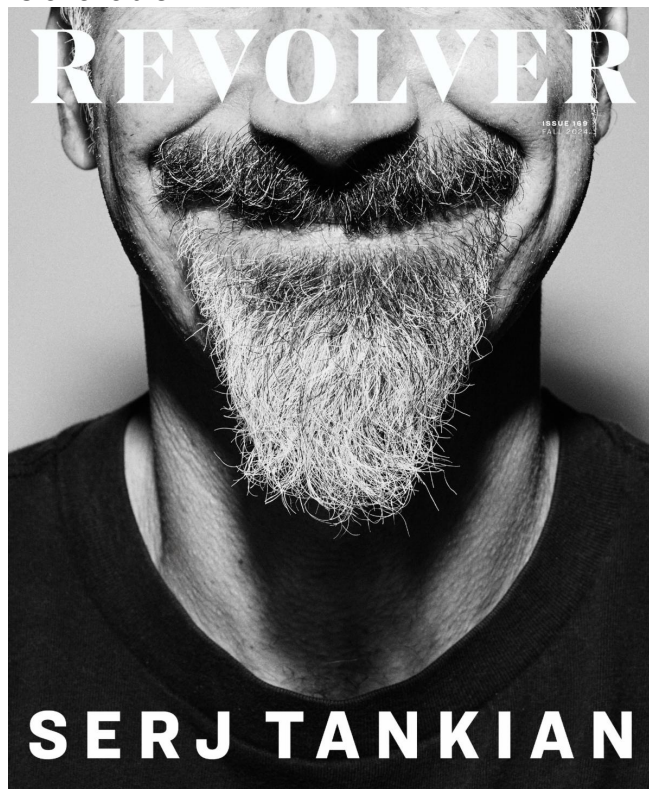


Above: SERJ TANKIAN's FOUNDATIONS in Red & Black Starburst vinyl.



Above: SERJ TANKIAN's FOUNDATIONS in Red & Black Starburst vinyl with etching pictured on Side B.

In celebration of TANKIAN's Fall 2024 [REVOLVER magazine cover story](#), an exclusive and limited edition vinyl in a striking Dark Blue Marble, is bundled with a special edition of the cover story wrapped in a one-of-a-kind photo slipcase. The limited edition REVOLVER bundle of FOUNDATIONS with the magazine and vinyl is available [HERE](#).



Above: SERJ TANKIAN Fall 2024 REVOLVER magazine cover story, cover image. Photo credit:

Travis Shinn.



Above: The limited edition REVOLVER magazine version of SERJ TANKIAN's FOUNDATIONS in Dark Blue Marble vinyl.

Serj Tankian:

Gibson Records:

[GIBSON RECORDS](#)

Gibson:

About SERJ TANKIAN:

As the lead singer and songwriter for System Of A Down, SERJ TANKIAN has released five studio albums, winning a GRAMMY® Award in 2006 for “B.Y.O.B.” he’s performed for millions of fans and sold more than 42 million albums worldwide. Serj is also a solo artist, composer, activist, painter, poet, and filmmaker. TANKIAN was introduced to the melding of cultures, ideas, and ideals from a very young age. An Armenian born in Lebanon and raised in Los Angeles, the principles learned from this integration have led to his understanding of the oneness of all things and have since maneuvered and transfigured into the music and art that he lives to create. A proud Armenian American and a dedicated activist; along with Tom Morello, TANKIAN co-founded the non-profit organization Axis of Justice, which strived to bring together musicians, music fans, and grassroots political organizations to fight for social justice. He has composed scores for many films and television series, had his paintings exhibited in galleries in the U.S. and New Zealand, and released two books of his own poetry. He has also been an executive producer on multiple documentaries, including I Am Not Alone, which tells the story of Armenia’s 2018 revolution, and which won awards at the Toronto International Film Festival, DOC NYC, The American Film Institute Festival, and the Palm Springs International Film Festival, among others. SERJ TANKIAN released FOUNDATIONS, his EP of new music, worldwide September 27 on Gibson Records [HERE](#). FOUNDATIONS mines music and lyrics from previous decades and reframes them in a hard-hitting, intensely focused collection.