

# VANISHING POINT

Vanishing Point return with new album: Distant is the Sun



## THE NEW CHAPTER

So says long time **Vanishing Point** members Silvio Massaro and Chris Porcianko. It was 2007 when the band's last album, *The Fourth Season*, was released and much has happened in the band, the ever fickle music industry and indeed the world itself since then. But this is a band that prides itself on sticking to its guns, and staying true to its roots and vision, regardless of what's current.

In the time since **Vanishing Point's** inception, this band has just about seen it all and done it all. The four full length albums the band has released since 1997 is just the beginning. **Vanishing Point** have toured its native Australia and the world many times over, played some of the biggest and most important rock festivals the world has to offer (they were the first unsigned band ever to play the prestigious

Wacken Festival in Germany) and shared the stage with a who's who of the hard rock and metal world, including **Iron Maiden**, **Nightwish**, **DragonForce**, **Helloween**, and **Joe Satriani**, to name just a few.

"It's been a lot of hard work. We've definitely suffered for the joy of creating music, yet we have no regrets!" But it is in the future where the real excitement for this band lies.

The fifth album has been a long time in the making, but both Silvio and Chris are quietly confident that the band's many fans worldwide will see a positive progression since *The Fourth Season*, whilst retaining the core elements of the soaring melodic metal sound that they have grown to know and love over the years. Chris describes, "it's a little more technical, more progressive, more of a step forwards compared to how we were previously, yet keeping our melodic feel intact. But at the same time, our existing fans will love it as well."

It's a safe bet that **Vanishing Point's** fifth album will further cement the band as one of Australia's premier melodic metal outfits, and will expand their international reputation. "For us, playing music is a cathartic release," Chris says, "It's how we get our feelings out. We are hoping to reach out to more people this time in many places we have never been to before, as well as the established fans. All we want to do is to get back out there with our music, just do it, put in the hard yards... again."

## QUICK BIO

- **Vanishing Point** was formed in the early 1990's.
- In *Thought*, the band's debut album was released in 1997 and reissued in 1998.
- In 1999 **Vanishing Point** supported **Yngwie Malmsteen**.
- In 2000 **Vanishing Point** performed at Germany's prestigious Wacken Open Air Festival, and later that year *Tangled in Dream* was released to great critical acclaim.
- In late 2001 the band toured Europe in support of **Gamma Ray** and **Sonata Arctica**, and then **Edguy** around Australia in 2002.
- In 2003 work started on their third album, and *Embrace The Silence* was released in 2005. Later that year the band supported **Nightwish**, then **Black Label Society** in 2006 and finally **DragonForce** in 2007.
- The band's fourth album, *The Fourth Season* was released in 2007.
- 2008 was a busy year. The band supported **Iron Maiden**, and later **Helloween** and **Joe Satriani**. Another European tour with **Sonata Arctica** and **Pagan's Mind** was completed.
- 2009 the band began working on their fifth album, and a shift in band membership occurred, which resulted in some delays.
- Between 2010 and 2012 the band emerged with a new lineup.
- February 2014, band signs with AFM records and releases the band's latest 'Distant is the Sun'.

# BAND BIOGRAPHY

**Vanishing Point** was formed in the early 1990's with the line up of guitarist Tommy Vucur, drummer Jack Lukic and bassist Joe Del Mastro, from an earlier band called **Eye**. Vocalist Silvio Massaro and keyboard player Pep Sammartino joined the band in the mid 90's and the band changed it's name to **Vanishing Point**. Soon after Andrew Whitehead joined as a second guitarist. The band concentrated their efforts on songwriting and recording and their first album, and In Thought was recorded in 1996, and released in Europe by German label Angular Records in 1997. The following year it was re-issued in Australia by Melbourne label Metal Warriors. The re-issue featured a bonus track, Inner Peace, which featured new guitarist Chris Porcianko, who replaced Andrew Whitehead.

In 1999, the band supported **Yngwie Malmsteen** before Pep Sammartino amicably left the band to pursue other avenues. He was replaced by Danny Olding. Soon afterward, **Vanishing Point** headed to Germany for the 2000 Wacken Open Air festival. Later that year the band's second album Tangled in Dream was released in Australia by Metal Warriors and internationally by Germany's LMP

label. The following eighteen months was a busy period for the band. In late 2001, **Vanishing Point** returned to Europe for a tour with **Gamma Ray** and **Sonata Arctica**, during which Olding provided live keyboards for **Gamma Ray**. Returning to Australia in 2002, they toured the country with German band **Edguy**. Olding resigned from **Vanishing Point** shortly after the tour was completed.

**Vanishing Point** worked on their next album throughout 2003 before making a rare live appearance at the annual and prestigious, yet now defunct Metal For The Brain festival in Canberra. Leonard Kopilas from **Manic Opera** joined the band in place of Olding as recording continued,

but **Vanishing Point** was forced into an involuntary hiatus due to ongoing differences with Metal Warriors. This led to **Vanishing Point** discontinuing their management with Metal Warriors. However, in 2005 the band returned to a live performances at Metal For The Brain, and then a show with **Nightwish** on the Melbourne leg of their Australian tour. Embrace The Silence was released mid-year internationally by their new label, Germany's Dockyard 1 and in Australia by the Wollongong-based Riot! label. Late in the year, Joe Del Mastro announced his departure from **Vanishing Point**. After completing a final round of live shows with the band, he was replaced by Steve Cox from Melbourne Hard Rock band **Teargas**, and Thrash Metal band **Black Like Vengeance**.



During 2006, **Vanishing Point** supported **Black Label Society** and **Gamma Ray** on the Melbourne leg of their Australian tours. On 7th of December Jack Lukic announced his departure due to family commitments and 22 days later Cox also left. He was replaced by Adrian Alimic, also of **Manic Opera** and Christian Nativio took the place of Jack Lukic (on drums). Jake Lowe was enlisted to perform live keyboards, and in May 2007, **Vanishing Point** supported **DragonForce** in Australia and New Zealand.

The band's fourth album The Fourth Season was released on the 24th August 2007, through Dockyard 1. In February 2008 **Vanishing Point**

supported **Iron Maiden**, performing a single show in Perth and two shows in Melbourne.

**Vanishing Point** appeared alongside fellow Australian power metal band **Black Majesty** on tour with **Helloween** in February 2008.

In July 2008 Vanishing Point supported **Joe Satriani** for his two Melbourne shows.

In late September 2008 **Vanishing Point** once again took off for Europe this time supporting good friends **Sonata Arctica** with Norway's **Pagan's Mind**, the tour was a success and the band played in many new countries where the band had never been to before. **Vanishing Point** returned home to Australia for a short break and then to fully

concentrate on writing the follow up album to The Fourth Season.

2009 was spent writing and playing shows both locally and interstate where the band was received positively. Unfortunately the writing process had hit a dead end with some members wanting to pursue different avenues musically. Eventually this led to a shift in band membership.

In 2010 co-founding member Tommy

Vucur left the band due to musical differences. Adrian Alimic and Jake Lowe also departed the band in 2010. In 2011 Simon Best joined the band on bass, followed by Scott Griffith on guitar and in February the recording for the fifth album began. Progress was slower than the band anticipated with there being personal/family loss and Scott Griffith departed the band.

In May 2012 **Vanishing Point** added James Maier as the new second guitar player, completing the lineup once again. As of late 2012, the new album is completed, and early 2014 the band signed with AFM and released the much anticipated 5th album, 'Distant is the Sun'.

IN THOUGHT

(1997, REISSUED IN 1998)

TANGLED IN DREAM

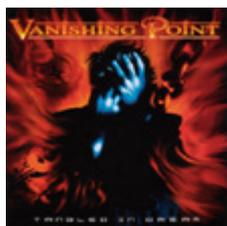
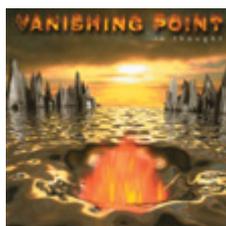
(2000)

EMBRACE THE SILENCE

(2005)

THE FOURTH SEASON

(2007)



5HCHZVDGDOWCF0EVI  
 KWWWSTYUJHGNTOPDDITHERPDDUEKI  
 ZYYPHWDOREVVHVVRHWDTVKIISRITW  
 GLVWDMVWKHV  
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 UHCHZI  
 KWWWVWKHPVIFERPDUHCHZVDEPI  
 DIVKIISRITWGLVWDMVWKHVFWHGDEWDEFI

"In Thought is a very good debut album that does exactly what it was meant to do: Demonstrate the talent and creativity of **Vanishing Point**. Their ability to create good melodic riffs is showcased on this album, and the maturity of the songs is quite impressive considering the band members were about 19-20 years old back then."

8.5/10

Eric Chiasson, **MetalEater.com** reviewer

"The first thing that impressed me was the excellent musicianship and songwriting of the album, the guitars and keyboard makes an terrific duo, while the vocals are delightfully interpreted, a good mix of power with emotion. As for the cover art, let's say no more, see it for yourself, just gorgeous, you don't get this kind of enthusiasm in each album you buy. Looks aside, I must say that this sounds great too, almost each song is a killer one, full of catchy rhythms, great keyboards and emotional yet potent vocals."

9/10

Undercraft, **MetalStorm.net** reviewer

"...this album just proves why I'm so goddamn obsessed with the Australian Metal scene! It's brilliant and diverse! This album is just majestic / epic / all those other adjectives used to describe the best of the best in Melodic Metal."

100%

Kerry Mustaine, **Metal Archives** reviewer

"Beautiful, epic, powerful, not cheesy, not lame, heavy, technical, brilliant, a f\*\*king masterpiece."

96%

Wahnsinn, **Metal Archives** reviewer

"For all the reasons you can think of, "The Fourth Season" is an album of flagrant melodic and lyrical brilliancy, whose elegance and emotional strength will be hard to even equal. Those happy to know the band have here yet another reason to deepen their devotion for the Australians, while those that don't know them have in "The Fourth Season" an irresistible reason to meet their music."

95%

Hiryu, **Metal Archives** reviewer

"...something that really struck me on this album was the level of musicianship that the band has put on display. Be it the hauntingly emotive sounds of front man Silvio Massaro, the fantastic lead lines of axemen Chris Porcianko and Tommy Vucur, or the exceptionally tight rhythm section of drummer Christian Nativo and bassist Adrian Alimic, the boys have clearly kicked things well into overdrive."

9/10

Aedan Siebert, **TheMetalForge.com** reviewer

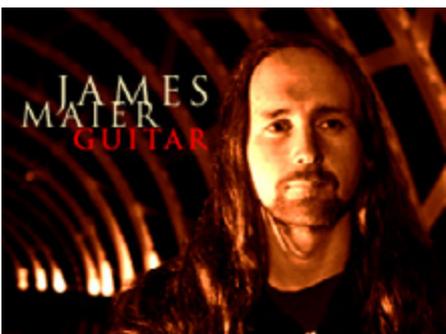
# THE BAND



**Silvio Massaro** has been the vocalist and front man of Vanishing Point since the name change from Eye in 1995. Silvio's unique vocal ability and range is the trademark sound of Vanishing Point and is recognised throughout the Metal scene. Silvio lent his skills to Leonard's Manic Opera project in 2005 for their Promo Demo release. Silvio and John Cavaliere of Black Majesty have often shared the stage and performed duel vocals for both Vanishing Point and Black Majesty's live performances.

**Chris Porcianko** joined Vanishing Point in 1997 as the debut album, *In Thought*, was being released. When it was re-issued in 1998, the bonus track *Inner Peace*, featured Vanishing Point's new guitarist, marking this as Chris' first input with the band. The rest is history. Chris' guitar work and ability to bring a sense of melody to the band is inarguably a great asset to Vanishing Point. Chris has written Vanishing Point's fifth album entirely on his own, and is immensely looking forward to sharing it with the fans in 2012.

Chris uses Ibanez guitars exclusively, Dean Markely Blue Steel guitar strings, Hughes and Kettner amplification, DSL guitar straps and Jim Dunlop "Big Stubby" 2mm guitar picks.



**James "Bushy" Maier** is the newest addition to Vanishing Point. James has been playing guitar for 12 years and is one of the youngest guys in the band who brings with him a wealth of knowledge, enthusiasm and technical ability within his playing.

He was asked to join Vanishing Point after a series of auditions and questions from the existing members of the band who took to his quiet manner, his quick skills in improvising and his willingness to create melodic music with ease.

James' gear of choice is Ibanez guitars, Brock guitars (which he uses a custom 8 string), Line 6 and Fractal Audio Systems (Axe Fx II).

**Simon Best** joined Vanishing Point mid-way through 2011 during a major transitional period for the band. Vanishing Point were facing the prospect of finding a new bassist and guitarist whilst attempting to complete their fifth album. Simon recalls "I can remember sitting in Silvio's yet-to-be-complete studio being asked to join the band. I was totally blown away that the band deemed me to be the perfect candidate! I remember sitting down with Chris for the first time to listen to the new material, trying to hide a smirk thinking 'I can't believe that I have been given this opportunity – this is now real!'"

Simon currently using the following gear: Sadowsky M5-24, Gallien Kruger 700RB II, Gallien Kruger 410, Ampeg BSE115.



**Christian Nativo** is a drummer and educator based in Melbourne, Australia. He has built a modest musical career over a number of years incorporating Rock and Jazz / Fusion influences into his playing. Christian's signature sound is a result of his musical sensibility and broad range of musical tastes.

Christian has been in Vanishing Point since early 2007 and has toured Australia, New Zealand and Europe with VP supporting international bands Iron Maiden, DragonForce, Joe Satriani, Helloween and Sonata Arctica.

Christian is an endorsee of Vic Firth drumsticks, Remo drum skins, and Zildjian. Christian exclusively uses and recommends Ear Monitors Australia and Mono cases.

# PRESS MATERIALS

Vanishing Point Logo:

[http://vanishing-point.com.au/vp/press/vp\\_logo.eps](http://vanishing-point.com.au/vp/press/vp_logo.eps)

Album Artwork

In Thought:

[http://vanishing-point.com.au/vp/press/In\\_Thought.jpg](http://vanishing-point.com.au/vp/press/In_Thought.jpg)

Tangled in Dream:

[http://vanishing-point.com.au/vp/press/Tangled\\_in\\_Dream.jpg](http://vanishing-point.com.au/vp/press/Tangled_in_Dream.jpg)

Embrace The Silence:

[http://vanishing-point.com.au/vp/press/Embrace\\_The\\_Silence.jpg](http://vanishing-point.com.au/vp/press/Embrace_The_Silence.jpg)

The Fourth Season:

[http://vanishing-point.com.au/vp/press/The\\_Fourth\\_Season.jpg](http://vanishing-point.com.au/vp/press/The_Fourth_Season.jpg)

Logo and albums, compressed:

<http://vanishing-point.com.au/vp/press/press.zip>

The photos on the Vanishing Point website may be used for webzines and other internet based fan sites and communities / social networks.

A handful of select songs can be downloaded in their entirety from the Vanishing Point website at this address:

<http://vanishing-point.com.au/vp/downloads/>

In addition, Vanishing Point's first two albums can be streamed directly from their Bandcamp page, here:

<http://vanishingpointaus.bandcamp.com/>

## CONTACT THE BAND

The band can be reached for management and booking enquiries through several channels.

Email:

[management@vanishing-point.com.au](mailto:management@vanishing-point.com.au) / [booking@vanishing-point.com.au](mailto:booking@vanishing-point.com.au)

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/vanishingpointaustralia>

Twitter: [https://twitter.com/vp\\_band](https://twitter.com/vp_band)

Bandcamp: <http://vanishingpointaus.bandcamp.com/>

Last.fm: <http://last.fm/music/Vanishing+Point>

Contact can also be made with the band on the Vanishing Point website by leaving a comment on either the Contact page (here: <http://vanishing-point.com.au/vp/contact/>) or the Guestbook page (here: <http://vanishing-point.com.au/vp/guestbook/>).

**facebook**  
**twitter**  
**bandcamp**  
**lost.fm**

