

# PROJECT DEVIATION

## FULL BIOGRAPHY:

January 2008, Nixon Cutz (*a.k.a. Nick James, co-founder of the musical acts Accident Prone and The Hydra*) formed rock duo, "Mary and The Black Lamb" with Lindsay Matheson (*Schoolcraft, Cradle of Filth*) for a full studio album. Being only two people (Lindsay on vocals and Nick on guitar/backing vocals) and having a finished album; they were tasked with finding musicians to fill the sounds on the record. A lengthy search finally ended in June of 2008. Matt Kelly (*Riot Act, keyboardist for Awakening State*) joined the live band as keyboard and synth player for Mary and The Black Lamb. He had worked with Mary and The Black Lamb in the studio to bring to the table the song "Stranger" (*featured at the Toronto International Film Festival for the "Blackbird" movie trailer*). The haunting melody and minor keys were something that changed and helped shape the future of the band.

Matt Kelly, whose influences came from many dark and dancey elements combined with his unmatched musical intuition were the perfect setting for the very personal lyric diary of Nixon Cutz. The two first collaborated away from the band on the *Nine Inch Nails* song "Reptile". Very soon after they would begin to write and record countless demos, riffs and ideas to which **Project Deviation** was forged. Project Deviation opened a handful of Mary and The Black Lamb shows while on tour in 2010. The tour had multiple stops including Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal. By 2012, Mary and The Black Lamb called it quits while Project Deviation continued to write and record over the years.

This unclassifiable sound grew quickly harnessing the influence and adoration from bands like, *Nine Inch Nails* and *Linkin Park*. February 2021 was the time Project Deviation decided to share with the world their first album entitled **Second Skin**. This debut album features songs of depression, confusion, loss, and internal struggle as showcased in the hard-hitting tune, "Another Piece of Me Dies" which features the thrashy vocals of Quebec goth rocker Herr Nox (*ex frontman for Daedalean Complex*).

Project Deviation is:

**Matt Kelly a.k.a Riot Act;** *vocals, piano, keyboards, synths, drum machines, the composer*  
**Nick James a.k.a Nixon Cutz;** *vocals, guitars, too many pedals, the lyricist*