

CONSUMPTION

Extreme Underground 'zine

Xul

Absu

Ancient

Aphasia

Sermon

Enslaved

Sickness

Duskfall

Avulsion

Soulburn

Wasteland

Sunchariot

Crypthowl

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Immortal Dominion

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Introduction

After a quite long period of time I have returned with the 2nd incarnation of ENCOMIUM. This issue was delayed a couple of times due to my engagements in several fields I pursue studies. So that's why I'd like to apologize for the inconveniences I caused. As you might see this issue has a bigger content with lots of in-depth interviews and more wide reviews. Regarding the quality it remained the same as it was for the debut issue, because it's impossible for me to release something better having \$20 per month. It's ridiculous, isn't it? However, this is the pure reality for the most inhabitants of Ukraine. Well, before I finish this short introduction there's one more thing I'd like to say for everyone: Support the ones who deserved to be supported, keep your faith alive and last but not least have a good time reading the second edition of the only Transcarpathian 'zine ever!!!

Death Metal Renaissance To Be Continued...

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MUSICIANS' PLAYLISTS

Basti Herzog (FLESHCRAWL)

1. Obituary - "Cause of death"
2. Slayer - "Reign in blood"
3. At the Gates - "Slaughter of the soul"
4. Accept - "Restless and Wild"
5. Carnal Forge - "Who's gonna burn"

Sanguine Asmodel Nocturne (AVERSE SEFIRA)

1. Satyricon - "Shadowthrone"
2. Deicide - "Deicide"
3. Dark Angel - "Leave Scars"
4. Immortal - "Battles in the North"
5. Sodom - "Persecution Mania"

Wrath Sathariel Diabolus (AVERSE SEFIRA)

1. Deicide - "Legion"
2. Celtic Frost - "Morbidity Tales"
3. Morbid Angel - "Altars of Madness"
4. Immolation - "Here in After"
5. Metallica - "...And Justice For All"

Here comes an interview with the old masters of Death Metal who once upon a time were the mighty ASPHYX and now they called SOULBURN, which seems to me the reincarnation of their previous band. Recently, the trio - Eric Daniels (guitars), Bob Bagchus (drums) and Wannes Gubbels (vocals/bass) whose name is well-known from an other Dutch Death Metal band, namely PENTACLE, as well - released their first album the highly acclaimed "Feeding On Angels" which follows the path and traditions of the old-school Death Metal style and keep it in the best form. I had a chance to speak with drummer Bob, who tell you some interesting facts about SOULBURN and its future plans.

Briefly tell us the story of SOULBURN's creation. Who are the bandmembers? And why you decided to call it SOULBURN?

- SOULBURN was formed out of the ashes of ASPHYX. ASPHYX ceased to exist in 1996 after the release of "Embrace the Death". But then Eric and me both wanted to continue playing old school Death Metal and we started SOULBURN. With this new project we have no obligations or whatever. We just do our thing. The bandmembers are Wannes Gubbels-Bass/vocals, Eric Daniels-guitars, Bob Bagchus-drums. We decided to call it SOULBURN 'coz I once dreamt about the name. So I told Eric and we both had a good feeling about it.

Your first album "Feeding On Angels" was released by CENTURY MEDIA. What can you say about this contract? And do you satisfied with the selling results so far?

- Same contract as ASPHYX and we are rather happy with the sales so far, concerning the economical situation in Germany as it is at the moment. I think we're doing quite well in Greece.

What is the basic concept of "Feeding On Angels"? What do you try to express through your lyrics?

- The typical Death Metal concept as always — Death, doom, Satan, Witches, demons, Stakeburnings, Hell, Chaos and Disaster, Mayhem and Armageddon as it is. Nothing else fits Death Metal I think. This is how real Death Metal lyrics should be! If you claim to be playing true Death Metal you can't sing about anything else, and if you do, you're not playing Death Metal! We're not expressing anything through our lyrics. We're not fucking messengers who claim to know it better. When you see our albumcover you know what to expect.

SOULBURN is a trio... Isn't too hard to play live in trio? What is your attitude to live performances? Is it possible to see you playing frequently and where you were treated best?

- No. We play as loud as an 4 piece. Live performances are good, of course, but we are in our element the most when we're inside the studio. However, SOULBURN will not play live that much as ASPHYX did. We played on 2 festivals so far, one of them was Wacken Open Air in Germany. We're more concentrating on festivals than on single gigs. We like playing in Germany the most! The crowd is always very great! The Ger-

man people can appreciate old fashion Death Metal alot more than the Dutch people for instance.

In most editions your music described as old-school Death Metal. And how you can explain us your style?

- Old School Death Metal, of course! In the very style of old VENOM, old CELTIC FROST, SLAUGHTER, BATHORY, MAS-SACRE etc. We all grew up with these gods and still love them!

Sometime Eric and you were the members of the mighty Death Metal band ASPHYX. What was the reason for ASPHYX's split up? Do you keep cultivating with Martin Van Drunen furthermore? Have you any news from his band SUBMISSION?

- After the release of Embrace the Death I thought that ASPHYX had given it's best shot and it was time to end that story. In fact Embrace the Death was actually the first ASPHYX album, before The Rack. It came out as last, so it was a good album to end it with. Embrace the Death does represent ASPHYX the best as it was, evil, obscure and heavy brutal death metal, recorded in a goddamn garage! ASPHYX was a true Death Metal band right from the start to the very end! We are most definitely not in contact with Van Drunen anymore....

It's time to ask you about... What bands or musical styles do you listen with pleasure? And what bands had in-

fluenced SOULBURN?

- The bands I prefer to listen to are old VENOM, HELLHAMMER, CELTIC FROST, EXCITER, SLAUGHTER, old METALLICA, SLAYER, MAYHEM, old DEATH, MASSACRE, BATHORY, INFERNÄL MÄJESTY, PROTECTOR, old METAL CHURCH, old DEATHROW, old KREATOR, DESTRUCTION, old SODOM, MESSIAH, OBSCURITY, old ENTOMBED/NILHILIST, POSSESSED, ASSASSIN, old BLACK SABBATH, TROUBLE, old VOIVID etc. etc..... So you also get a good description of what SOULBURN stands for.

Explain the ideas and beliefs behind SOULBURN. Are you guys satanists?

- Our belief concerning SOULBURN is that this is just our view of what real death metal should sound like! Nothing more, nothing less! We are no satanists, but do believe in the darker side of life and we are attracted to the occult. That's not an image, it's who we are.

What can you tell us about the future for SOULBURN? Have you any new songs, songnames and in generally tell us in what way you composed your songs?

- We're working on some new songs, but nothing is final yet. I think they will be a little slower than the ones on "Feeding on Angels" in general. Slower, heavier and even more "to the bone". Eric and me are doing the music and do it just by jamming and watching horror movies. Those give us a good feeling and the right mood for making doomy tunes.

Finally, tell your last burning words to the souls of ENCOMIUM 'zine readers...

- Thank you, Kornel, for doing this interview! Good luck with your magazine! To all the ENCOMIUM 'zine readers, check out SOULBURN and discover real true evil death metal the way it was supposed to be! Burn or be burned!



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Be composed of the darkest essence of evil & eerie arts ANCIENT CEREMONY have created a unique conception in their lyrics and music as well. "Fallen Angel's Symphony" is the second ultimate step for them and to be clear it will amaze every metal-listeners' mind to the core. I asked Chris to enlighten us more about the strange conception and further details of this release. So, let the ceremony begins...

Ancient Ceremony

Amidst crimson Stars; Devil's Paradise; Symphoni Satani; Vampyresque Weddingnight (Moonlight Love).

What are the inspirations for you to do such an unusual mix of atmospheric kind of Metal? What kind of musical styles do the members of ANCIENT CEREMONY listening to? What bands had influenced ANCIENT CEREMONY's development since 1989?

- The most significant aspect for our style is probably this special combination of so many different genres which we combine to a floating union (Black, Goth, Death, Darkwave, classics, soundtracks, Heavy...).

The individual influences vary a lot though there is certain stuff we all like to enchant our ears, senses and spirits through in common. Let me name THERION, IRON MAIDEN, CRADLE OF FILTH, SLAYER, CARCASS, EMPEROR, JUDAS PRIEST, LIMBONIC ART, MORBID ANGEL, KING DIAMOND, DEATH, BAL SAGOTH, METALLICA or old ENTOMBED here; some members prefer technical stuff (DREAM THEATER) whilst others are more keen on Death/Black or Heavy Metal and there's also appearing classical (Beethoven is God!) or soundtrack music in our playlists. Besides this musical enchantment we (mainly I) also get a lot inspirations through books and movies or by our individual dreams, visions and emotions.

We have many classical elements in our music, a very important aspect which evokes this ANCIENT CEREMONY-typical dramatic and symphonic mood.

The big advantage with ANCIENT CEREMONY is that we - in contrast to sooooo many other bands - never limited ourselves to this or that specific style (brutal Death, Scandinavian Black, fast Thrash etc., like band X, Y or whatever), we simply create the dark tunes which represent ANCIENT CEREMONY! This unlimited way of creating makes us and our compositions, our artwork, my poetry and so on something special and superior.

Could you briefly give us an insight into some of the lyrical concepts? The titles on "Under Moonlight We Kiss" were remarkable, so I'm wondering what the themes involved were. They don't seem to be cliché gore lyrics.

- My lyrics are written in a highly individual and very poetical way with many allegories, symbolisms, alliterations or adapted quotations for example. I get inspired to them by literature (Shelley, Byron, Stoker, Poe, Crowley, Nietzsche, deSade, LeFanu, Baudelaire, books on occultism,

Satanism, Magick, mythology...), movies (Omen, Interview with..., several Draculas, Haunted, Princess Snow-White...all such dark horror stuff) as well as music (classical, dark stuff mainly) and I adapt facets of those influences and combine them with my main motivation for writing such as my imaginations, my phantasy, my spirit, my dreams, my desires, my evocations, my decadence and the likes.

"Under Moonlight..." features a concept-story centered by a tragic Vampyre romance full of dark passion, revenge and mysticism. I already used such themes back in late 1993 when writing the lyrics for the MCD title-track "Cemetery Visions", a time in which such topics were to 99% used in the Goth-scene. Hence the poetical work for our debut full length is undoubtedly no trend shit besides the fact that I am too vain, individualistic and eccentric to create only cheap copies or such crap. I do not like the way too many silly bands abuse the fascinating Vampyre thing, they know nothing about the roots or the psychological and historical backgrounds for example and simply try to be "evil" by presenting us the image of a stupid bloodsucking monster. I prefer to shit on those fakes instead of granting them a small piece of respect.

The lyrics on the symphony of the fallen angel deal with different topics such as Satanism, occultism, Gothic horror, ghosts, mythology, Vampyres or angels, moreover I have used or adapted certain quotations/citations from for example Milton, Crowley, the Templar knights (13th/14th century), Shelley.

Cliche gore lyrics may be fine for bands that have a musical concept fitting to this, let me name for example AUTOPSY or CARCASS - but have never been a theme for ANCIENT CEREMONY...

What is your favourite quotation from the lyrics of ANCIENT CEREMONY and why?

- "Caine's Children born as Dragon's Seed, A new Lilith Pregnancy, Ready to rapture the Earth and the Seas, now bless the Prophet of the darkest Star, Most precious Gift to the Altar of Thine, is Blood of the, Weak, offered like Wine, Our Seal of Revenge is broken, the Slaves in Fear all flee, Their dying Screams - a Lovesong to our Tyranny

"Once I inspired the Judas Kiss, now resurrected from the deepest Abyss, Drink from my Chalice, the Origin of Sin and in Triumph and Glory we shall win!"

Enlighten me, oh Demon Whore, engulf me in Thy Magic, to spread the Crown of Daath, through Iadnah Mad, Mighty Empress of my Dreams, wed me as Khaos Bride, Flowers of Evil decorate our Bed in the Temple of the Serpent, The Gate of God decays whilst I kiss jewel-covered Breasts"

It is a long excerpt from the lyrics to the song "Babalon ascends" and I love it so much for it combines all things marking my individual style: dark poetry, superior spirituality, the Satanic philosophy, great images/metaphors, mythology, knowledge between the lines...

After the "Under Moonlight We Kiss" album you had some line-up problems. Tell us how is the current line-up looks like? What was the reason for guitarists to leave the band?

- In February/March 1998 our two guitarists had to leave due to a lack of motivation, they simply were not willing to invest the necessary time and energy any more; this makes me the only left member from the first day on!

The actual constitution of our majestic communion nowadays is: Stefan Müller (keyboard, 27); Christoph Mertes (drums, 27); Marc Barbian (guitar, 19); Patrick Meyer (guitar, 18); Michael "Jones" Jonas (bass, 22) and me, Chris Anderle (vocals, poetry and management, 27).

What can you tell us about the new material? Any song titles or song descriptions you can share? Is there any new elements or any experiments with the sound you think important to mention here?

- The new epic is entitled "Fallen Angel's Symphony" and CACOPHONOUS have released it on the 22nd February 1999. The recordings took place during August/September and we mixed it at the famous Danse Macabre Studios in October which led to a killer sound that is more dedicated to extreme Metal again, a better respect to the compositions on this opus. The epic lasts 54 minutes and especially the guitars are less Gothic but more Death/Black. Of course the new material still has this for us typical darkness and symphonic mood with many eerie, dramatic or romantic interludes evoked mainly through synths/orchestration; driving drums and a pulsating bass can also be heard. The vocals consist of many different facets, screams, grunts, narrations, whispers, two chicks singing and speaking...very horror-like anyway. On "Symphoni Satani" for example you can hear a choir with 14 voices, this song is a keyboard track with kettle drums and chants, a reminiscence to "The Omen" soundtrack or "Carmina Burana".

The tracklist for the new opus: Babalon ascends; Death in Desire's Masquerade; Bride's ghostly Grace; Black Roses on Her Grave (Desdemona's Secret); Bleeding October Kiss; The Tragedy of forsaken Angels;



Will the first demo "Where Serpents Reign" ever be pressed onto CD format? Maybe once on one CD together with your own-released MCD "Cemetery Visions" and some newer tracks or possible CD-Rom tracks. Your comments on it? And how do you estimate "Where Serpents Reign" from the point of '98 year?

- Wow, that's indeed a cool idea but it never happen regularly. Our demo is only for those who could get one in time (so hurry up, there are still 4 copies left, haha) and furthermore it does not represent ANCIENT CEREMONY in 1999. When we recorded the stuff in February 1993 we really were satisfied with it and today still think it was a cool piece of art but of course you have to keep in mind when it was done and under which circumstances, with which budget and all that stuff. As "Where Serpents reign" definitely was an original, good output that time which was a positive first step for us into the underground of the international extreme Metal scene and as we even nowadays think it is a cool song we intend to put the opener "Journey through the Gates" on our next album, though it will appear there in version that fits the style ANCIENT CEREMONY have at the edge of the new Millennium, hence more brutal but also symphonic and bombastic.

What can you tell us about your appearance as session vocalist of AGATHODAIMON on the Nuclear Blast festival-tour? Your opinion about AGATHODAIMON's album "Blacken The Angel"?

- The tour went really fine especially if you keep in mind that I had only one week to learn the songs and lyrics...which are partly in Romanian! Furthermore we could never rehearse together but again, it was successful. The average number of people was about 400 and the conditions in the

venues (catering, beer, stages etc.) were also cool.

I think their album is OK for a debut, there are far better and also far worse records out in my opinion. Luckily we only played the really strong tracks which are in the beginning and the end of the CD as the stuff in the middle is absolutely not good enough.

Your association with:

a.) darkness - One of the most intensive and challenging moods and constellation. I love it and its unique magic!

b.) depression - Nothing for me and my divine spirit!

c.) blood - The water of life has an immense power and outstanding meaning in Satanic and vampyric rituals (I practice)...and tastes fine.

d.) black magic - Helps me in becoming my deepest own God! Only for "chosen" people anyway...

e.) Holy Inquisition - Hate! Not only that they committed so many crimes against the people that became their direct victims, those fuckin' weak losers also destroyed so much wisdom and knowledge of ancient times to strengthen their feeble religion and hence committed sins to the following generations. I hate it so much, it is hard to describe!

Have you any news about such great bands as DESTRUCTION, HEADHUNTER, KREATOR, SODOM and TANKARD? Do you like these bands' materials at all? What is your first album which you bought and when it was?

- Well, KREATOR are actually in the studio to record a project work with "Grufftiact" LACRIMOSA. I do not have any news about the other bands but like and own the old releases of SODOM, DESTRUCTION, KREATOR and TANKARD and hence have the first 4 albums as well as some rarities of each of these formations on vinyl.

The very first LP in my life was "Dracula" with the age of 4, first I cried as my mother did now want to buy it for me and after that my I almost filled my slip with piss because of fear, haha. The debut Metal record I bought was a BLACK SABBATH collection with the age of 13 but it sounded a bit too wimpy to me so that I did not fall in love with it except for the song "Paranoid".

Tell us a little bit about your concert activities. What special effects you use when you play live? I mean blood, lights, projection, etc.

- We have several ideas concerning the presentation of an original, dark show whilst doing our concerts. Those anyway are not so easy to finance and also hard to realise. We have for example worked with Sadomaso-chicks as dancers but do not know whether to use this in the future or not so I can not give too many details here and now besides the fact that we of course spread a lot of sombre energy and sinister engagement during our appearance on stage.

Every time when you finished an interview or a letter you closed it with "Enflame the Satanic candle wisely" words. It seems to be ANCIENT CEREMONY's slogan, what basically does that mean?

- I created this sentence to express with some words in a short, highly individual form what to me means the spiritual and philosophical essence of existence!

Do you study in university? In what orientation you pursue studies?

- The beautiful 'n sexy chicks, the beer, the Internet for free, the cool library and parties, haha!!!

Thanks a lot, that's all I have, anything you have to add please add it.

- Many thanx for the cool questions and best luck with your publication! The very last copies of our 1993 "Where Serpents reign" demo are still available for 6 \$, the MCD "Cemetery Visions" is 10 \$ and those who can not find "Under Moonlight we kiss" elsewhere or want it with signatures, dedications etc. should send 18 \$ to the band adress (all prices include packing and postage; delivery by surface, airmail + 3 \$). People who just want to write or have certain questions should feel free to do so but no return postage means no sure reply. We have released two different own-produced T-shirts (one of them entitled "Seducing even Angels", the other one "Ancient Ceremony"; both high quality and XL size) which can be obtained from the band adress too for a price of 15 \$ plus 5 \$ postage.

Furthermore the darkest of all websites, the "official ANCIENT CEREMONY homepage" offers almost anything important and interesting regarding our majestic band, check it out at the new URL:

www.iki.fi/mega/AncientCeremony
Enflame the Satanic candle wisely!!!

ANCIENT CEREMONY

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PATHOLOGY STENCH is one of the few bands deserved to be known more in the Death Metal underground since they've released their first demo "Practical Brutality" back in 1994. Through seven years of existence their line-up changed and finally became concentrated in the incarnation of four members: Lubo Strauch -

PATHOLOGY STENCH

guitar, Vlado Slosiarik - drums, Marek Kucera - bass and Báro Barancík - vocals. In this line-up they've recorded the brilliant "Gluttony" album which overwhelmed the Death Metal scene with its uncompromising brutality. Well, it's time to leave you alone with the answers of Báro Barancík. Enjoy!

First of all, could you please give us a short introduction for the band. How long has PATHOLOGY STENCH been together?

- Hallo, all fans in your country. We're the group of four "grinders" from Slovakia in the middle of Europe. Everything started in June 1992 when the bass player and me decided to found a band of "madmen". More details you can find in info-materials.

Why did you choose this unusual name for the band? Is there any serious meaning behind of it?

- The name consists of two words — PATHOLOGY and STENCH. We put them together and you've got the name of our band. We want to point at this dying world and the reasons of this state that smell. And we think it's easy to remember it.

Not long ago, PATHOLOGY STENCH released their first CD entitled "Gluttony" through IMMORTAL SOULS Productions. How did this deal with I.S.P. come about?

- The first demo "Practical Brutality" got to the IMMORTAL SOULS in 1994, when they started to work. They liked it and they helped us with promo. The demo was quite successful. Jaro Harin (owner of the IMMORTAL...) lives 50 km from Banská Bystrica. Our co-operation started and he decided to release our first CD.

The "Gluttony" album sounds very brutal and professional. Where did you recorded this album? Will you record the next album at the same place?

- The album was recorded in the Exponent studio here in Slovakia. It was in February 1997, the album was mixed in March 1997 and then we did mastering. Another album we will hopefully record in this studio too.

Do you agree with me if I say that your sound is very similar to bands such as MORBID ANGEL and MONSTROSITY. Will that sound remain on the newer stuff?

- What is concerning the sound the reactions are great. We want to improve our sound. We know what to improve. It's good that you've compared us with those bands but we want to keep our originality with classical elements of this music.

Do you play live often? What kind of bands do you prefer to play with?

- We've played more than 160 live

shows, mostly here in Slovakia but many in Czech Republic. Some shows we've played in Germany, Poland and Hungary. These shows took place in classical underground clubs and in large concert halls too. We've played with many bands from our country and from other countries too, e.g. CANNIBAL CORPSE, VADER, KRA-BATHOR, BENEDICTION, VOIVOD, etc. We play 4-5 shows monthly. Last summer we played one of our best shows at Dynamo Czech. There were 10-15 thousand fans and 100.000 Watts.

Who write the music and in general tell us in what way you composed your songs?

- Lubo, the guitar player, is mad about new ideas. He brings the idea and we make some drums, I mean some skeleton, then vocals and bass. We play this preliminary version for many times until we are satisfied.

What bands or musical styles do you listen with pleasure? What other Slovakian bands can you recommend?

- We listen to everything, from jazz and blues to extreme brutal techno. If something is good we don't care what kind of music it is. I like Enya, ABBA, Elvis. I just don't like BEATLES, DOORS and stuff like that. Talking about the Slovak scene, there are many bands. Some of them are good, some not. I like bands like ABSTRACT, DEPRESY, PHANTASMA, UNCONCERN, DEMENTOR, ERYTROSY, etc.

Do you know something about

Ukraine and Ukrainian underground?

- I know quite a lot about Ukraine, because I'm interested in happening in the world. I know what's happening in your country, and we're neighbours. I got some information about your scene too. I keep touch with some bands from your country and I did some interview into a zine. Your scene is very good. The proof is the interest in P.S. I hope we come one day to your country to make a live show.

What literature you prefer to read? Name us some of your favourite books.

- This time I don't read as much as before, but I've read a lot of books. I like non-fiction, horrors, and books about Indians. I like watching TV, channels like BBC, CNN to know what's happening. Then I like movies like criminal stories, horrors, extreme massacres, documentary films, sci-fi etc. My favourite serial is M.A.S.H. And this everything helps me in my creating.

When we can expect the second album of PATHOLOGY STENCH? Is PATHOLOGY STENCH still on I.S.P.?

- We don't plan details. We rest after the concerts, then we make new songs, we play some shows etc. We want to do so much for P.S. and for the music scene.

Any last pathological words for the end.

- Thank you for the interview and for your support. You're great fans of P.S. and underground and we like you. Have fun, keep smiling. I know it's not easy in your country. Thanks a lot.



PATHOLOGY STENCH
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The most brutal psycho-penetrators of Ukraine strikes back again with their second masterpiece. This time they unleashed a stuff which can pretend, without doubt, to the throne of some so-called brutal Death Metal bands overhere. Musically, the path these five musicians follow can be described as a mix of CANNIBAL CORPSE and CRYPTOPSY, though their stuff not reflects the before mentioned bands' styles directly, but on the contrary they try to make their own original way of massive killing. Old (vocals) was cool enough and answered all the questions. Get ready and be prepared for the brutal invasion of MENTAL DEMISE.

First of all, describe to us the members of MENTAL DEMISE one by one. (Age, job, interests, etc.)

- O.K. Toukan (bass) 22 years old. He is a miner interests - bass, death metal. Tom Grinder (drums) 22 years old and he like brutal death and grindcore. Fester (guitar) 24 years old. He is a fan of death metal and works on photo-firm together with Tom. Pinky (guitar) 17 years old, he is a student. Interests are similar to other's members ones. And me, Old (vocals), I'm 20 years old and I'm student too. Interests - psychology and extreme music. So, that all, in common.

"Psycho-Penetration" is your second demo. What's the response to it been like? How have you been promoting the demo? Have you gotten any label interest at all? Is it available through any native or foreign distributors?

- We got good criticism, but promotion - it's a problem number one: if you want to promote your material good, so you must have a lot of money. Our underground too weak to support bands on worthy level (bad gigs organization, fucking government, poor economy), and if you want to become a professional band - no place for you in that country! "Psycho-Penetration" must be released on Imbecil Entertainment in MC format soon. Now this demo is distributed by Maniacal Brutality Productions and Distribution. Also we got a deals from some foreign distributors and we plan to release "Psycho-Penetration" in MC format on one of the foreign labels.

The biography says that your demo "Psycho-Penetration" including conceptual psychological lyrics. Could you please explain us this conception in details and how this conception came about?

- Conception came accidentally. It's about „mad genius". O.K. it's a old story! But there are many versions of it and we chose one of it. Once upon a time, unknown man want to change human's existence, by means of influence of their emotions. He want to erase all the negative emotions out, but something was wrong in his calculations and mankind begun to degenerate. In final: civilization



devoured itself...

What bands does MENTAL DEMISE see as being influential on the band? I hear a cross between the bands like CANNIBAL CORPSE and DEICIDE, do you agree with this?

- Bands as GUTTED, UNDERCRAFT, PYREXIA, SUFFOCATION, DEEDS OF FLESH, DEICIDE and, of course, CANNIBAL CORPSE are influent us. What about DEICIDE, maybe, some elements are meet in our music, but for a little...

You have a new demo coming out soon... Could you tell us a little about it? Where will it be recorded? Will the songs (length, lyrical content, song structure) be any different?

- Yes, our promo-tape will be out in 1999. Promo will include 5-6 new tracks + instrumental/outro in atmospheric wave. Songs' structure are more complicated. Lyrics - more abstract and crazy. Music - more brutal and extreme.

What is your opinion about the Black Metal genre?

- Black Metal in it original version - dull and monotonous thing. Moreover, many black metal ones spare their time to quarrel between other ones, but not to music! Of course, some black metal elements are decorate some kind of music, and it's cool!

Your music is full of brutality... Do you concentrate on making every song as brutal as possible, or are there other things you consider?

- Brutal death - in our blood and

brains. So, we concentrate on making every song as emotional as possible, and our emotions are brutalize day by day!

Have you played a lot of shows? Where have you played, who have you played with and are there any exciting stories?

- Not so lot, nearly 14. We have played in East Ukraine and there were local gigs. We have played with INFECTED, NOKTURNAL MORTUM, ECLIPSE, UNGOLIANTHA, BENIGHTED SKY, BLAST, ST. VALENTINE'S DAY, ARTEFACTED IRRELIGION and others. Exciting stories? Hm, our life - big and fucking exciting story!

What do you think about:

a.) the Ukrainian underground scene - Ukrainian underground has many good bands, but our fucking government is press this movement down. Hope, best times will come and Ukraine will present some excellent bands to world!

b.) the Scandinavian mythology - It is interesting! But mythology, as it is, in the past. We're live in real world.

c.) corpse-paint - Theatre and metal: it's romantic! Ha, ha!

d.) pain and pleasure - Pain for masochists, pleasure for sadists. Of course, we're all sado-masochists for a little... We like it, pleasure - most of all!

e.) good and evil - Everlasting battle in human mind. No reason to interfere there... It will last eternally...

What do you wish to do with MENTAL DEMISE in the future?

- In the future we'll wish to be alive! We and MENTAL DEMISE!

Tell us your last demise for the readers...

- Thanks for the interview. Look at world and being really without illusions and prejudices. Stay sick and brrrural!!!

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INTERNAL BLEEDING

INTERNAL BLEEDING is from the sort of uncompromisingly brutal Death Metal bands of New York. If you like gutripping guitar riffs, aggressive vocals and pure brutality built in technical Death Metal, that is surely for you. Everyone should know what brutal Death Metal is all about. That's why, I asked Chris Pervelis (guitar) to get a more clear picture of **INTERNAL BLEEDING's** activity and unbelievable brutality.

Your second album "The Extinction of Benevolence" is one of the most brutal Death Metal albums of 1997. What are your thoughts on the album at the moment? Who was the producer and where you recorded this stuff?

- I am very pleased with "The Extinction of Benevolence", with the way the whole process of writing and recording for that LP went. I think it was, at the time a perfect representation of where the band was at musically. Now, I feel that the music is outdated, as we have advanced musically as well as lyrically since then. The album was recorded at Gateway Sound Studios here in NY and it was produced by the band as well as a guy named Nick DiMauro. I still think it holds its own against many LPs that are being released today in 1999, and I do believe its one of the heaviest releases in the past 3-4 years.

Name us the current members of INTERNAL BLEEDING and say something about their interests.

- Well, me Chris Pervelis (guitar) my interests include American History as well as philosophy and art. Guy Marchais' (guitar) interests include collecting Star Wars figures and exotic guitars. Brian Hobbie's (bass) interests include video games and Star Wars. Ray Lebron's (vocals) interests include beer and women hahah, and Bill Tolley (drums) is interested in Firefighting.

How the deal with PAVEMENT Music came about? Do you satisfied with PAVEMENT Music?

- Well PAVEMENT saw us perform at the 1994 Milwaukee Metalfest, and it wasn't long after that until we were signed and in the studio recording our first album. I'd say we are pretty satisfied with PAVEMENT, although we'd like to see more promotion from them.

New York is famous by its brutal Death Metal bands such as SUFFOCATION, PYREXIA, MORTICIAN, DEHUMANIZED, etc. All these

bands sound similar to the other ones. How do you think can we speak here about some kind of NY sound? Do you concentrate on making every song as brutal as possible or are there any other things you consider?

- I do think there is a definite "NY" sound, one that was pioneered by bands such as SUFFOCATION and further expanded by bands like INTERNAL BLEEDING and PYREXIA and finally emulated by bands such as REPUDIATION, DEHUMANIZED, etc. I think the NY sound is focused on technicality as well as brutality. I also think the goal to make everything as brutal as possible is a definite factor. If you going to write death metal, why shouldn't it be as brutal as possible? We as a band don't concentrate on making everything as brutal as possible though. We try to create as much groove as possible, concentrating on the "pit" or "slam" aspect of our music, while also adding some technicality for interest.

In the same time New York is very famous by its HC bands. Many Death Metal bands from USA changed their music to this style. Will you be splendid to Death Metal in the future or change your style?

- FUCK NO! We are a DEATH METAL band, and always will be.

Explain us the meaning of your very unique cover.

- I think the cover of our CD represents the way we feel about the world. Hatred, frustration, lack of human rights, starvation, war and overall misery. It is like a window to our soul, a visual metaphor for all our songs. I worked very hard on the cover and I think it came out perfectly. I think it expresses our feelings and our outlook on life.

What can you tell us about the lyrics of INTERNAL BLEEDING? How do you think that lyrics fit into brutal Death Metal?

- Well, I don't think we write "brutal" death metal lyrics per se (???-ed.), I think our lyrics are a natu-

ral reflection on how we feel about the world and what is going on around us. I think lyrics are a very important part of any band's body of work. Just writing anything that fits the "brutal" category is stupid. I think it is imperative to have lyrics that reflect what the band is feeling at that particular time. Again, it's like a window into someone's personality, to his or her soul.

Have any of the new songs been recorded yet? Will the new material be in the vein of your last album or will there be a more prominent Death Metal influence?

- Well, we will go into the studio in April to record our new album, which should be out in the summer of 1999; a full US tour should follow, and hopefully a European tour after that. The new music is a bit more dynamic than what was on "Extinction". The music is more technical, more slam filled and much more diverse than the last album. It's also a lot faster than the last album too. I cannot wait to record it!

What do you think about this war between Iraq and USA that may happen in future? (Or it already happened?) It can be the prologue to the 3rd World War, isn't it?

- Well, personally I think if America is to do something about Saddam Hussein, they better do it now before it's too late. We must destroy the power structure that is holding Iraq together. If that takes bombing them into submission and killing the populace, so be it. I personally think that we should invade and just forcefully remove Saddam Hussein. As for being the prologue to WWII; it might be. If so, maybe it is good that this happens now before these psychotic Muslim fucks get ahold of nuclear technology and destroy themselves and the world!

What kind of bands the members of INTERNAL BLEEDING are listen to?

- Currently we listen to the following bands/artists: Frank Zappa, DYING FETUS, BLACK SABBATH, MORTAL DECAY, DISFIGURED, ENTORTUREMENT, BLACK FLAG, KISS, LED ZEPPELIN, Jimi Hendrix, SLAYER, FLESHGRIND, RIPPING CORPSE, MORBID ANGEL, DAMONACY, HUMAN REMAINS, HATEBREED, AGNOSTIC FRONT, Al Di Meola, Django Reinhardt, THE MAHAVISHNU ORCHESTRA, DEAD HORSE, MACABRE, etc...

Name us some of your favorite albums of 1998.

- Some of our favorite albums of 1998 include: PYREXIA "System of the Animal", FLESHGRIND "Destined for Defilement", CRYPTOPSY "Whisper Supremacy", OPPRESSOR "Elements of Corrosion", all the IRON MAIDEN Reissue LPs, BLACK SABBATH "Reunion" and many others.

Last bleeding words...

- Thanks for the interview! Check us out on the web at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~ibldng> or email us at: ibldng@aol.com. You can write to us at INTERNAL BLEEDING, P.O. BOX 1402, LAKE GROVE, NY 11755 (USA). Stay sick and support metal!



SERMON

The band was established in the fall 1990 by guitarist/vocalist Pavel Suslov under the name of SS-20. For the period since 1991-1994 the band recorded two demos, "Infernal Life" and "Preacher Of Death". In the fall 1994 the band played a final gig and then the history of SS-20 was ended because the band's leader Pavel Suslov decided to change its conception. Together with drummer Dmitry Osipov, Pavel started to complete a new line-up of the band under the new name - SERMON. At first they invited bassist Victor Kuragin (ex-ABYSS) and soon after the band was joined by second guitarist Sergey Smagin. In spring 1996 SERMON recorded its first album "Through Eternity", which contained 9 songs of melodic Death Metal combined with the elements of Thrash and Black Metal, and was released in MC format by a small label MDK Records. Their second step was in June 1997, when they recorded their second and most successfully to-date album "From Death To Death". This album was released in MC format by Russian Hobgoblin Records and later on CD by the American underground label Wild Rags. And now, read this interview, answered by Pavel Suslov, to get a more wide insight into SERMON's activity and future plans.

First of all, I'd like to know why did you change the whole booklet conception of the MC "From Death To Death" to another one on your CD version? I mean new cover, new photos, lay-out, etc.

- We used "Allsorts" picture by Danny Flynn, English painter, in the MC cover, though we had not turned to him for permission. Moreover, I have always wanted to have such a cover as on our CD. We were in a hurry so we took that picture for the cassette. The idea of the CD cover is fully mine. It goes well with the music and the lyrics. An embryo is a symbol of transition from death to life and from death to death.

The CD version was released by the American Wild Rags. What can you tell us about this contract? Is it a long-lasting contract or just for one album?

- Besides Wild Rags we got proposals from Shiver (Belgium) and Metal Agen (Russia), but we chose Richard's label, cause his terms were better. He also suggested us to release the next CD and if we do not get better proposals we will co-operate with Wild Rags.

I noticed that you like to mix different styles of Metal and not only Metal in your music. How all these influences came about? Do you like to listen to jazz and other fusion styles? Name us some of your favourite bands.

- Yes, I enjoy different music. Besides all styles of metal (death, black, gothic, thrash) I listen to classics and rock. On the next album there will be a cover of SMOKIE's "What Can I Do?". Jazz attracts me for it is opening unlimited space for improvisation. I listen to the following metal bands: ARCH ENEMY, DARKSEED, CARCASS, DEATH, SENTENCED, SADIST, NOCTURNUS and many

others.

The cassette version of "From Death To Death" was out in January '98 and was distributed by Hobgoblin Records in the territory of Russia. Will you working with them furthermore?

- I cannot say anything right now. They say, Hobgoblin Rec. is through hard times after the Russian crisis that broke out in August 1998. Of course, we would like to release a MC for Russia.

Your lyrics deal with life and death themes. What do you think about life and death in general? Are you believe in life after death?

- I would like to believe in life after death. But I think that a human has to pass through different lives in order to reach spiritual perfection. These are just my ideas. I try to express my ideas and my doubts in my lyrics.

Some of your songs were hardly influenced by german Thrash Godz KREATOR. What do you say about this? I suppose your previous band namely SS-20 was a Thrash Metal band as well. Correct me if I'm wrong.

- I do not conceal the fact I like KREATOR. Their last album "Outcast" is a real masterpiece. But you are the first to mention KREATOR while speaking about our music. Every magazine compares us with different bands. It's good. If the opinions differ so much, then we have our own style. As for SS-20, I would say it is the same SERMON - the music didn't differ. We just changed the name. I compose all music for SERMON as well as I did for SS-20.

It seems to me that the line-up of SERMON is very constant. So that's why I would like to hear some info about each member of the band (e.g. age, job, interests, etc.).

- Yes, since 1996 the line-up hasn't changed. We recorded 3 albums in the same line-up. I am the oldest in the band - I am 29. Victor, the bass-player is the youngest, he's 20. Our drummer is 26 and the guitar-player is 24. We all work in different places. Music is our main interest. Only our guitar-player Sergei Smagin is into computers.

What is the Moscow scene looks like? And what do you know about the ukrainian scene? Have you any contacts with bands from here?

- There are lots of bands in Moscow, but we do not have many contacts because of the lack of time. Now we co-operate with Michael from MENTAL HOME. He helps us and he will play the keyboards on the next album. We meet other bands at the concerts. As for the Ukrainian bands. I know NOKTURNAL MORTUM and MAD SANITY. We played in a concert with MAD SANITY and GODS TOWER in Kiev a year ago.

Could you please introduce us in what way will be your forthcoming album showing progression to its predecessors?

- As for the technics, the new album will not fall behind the previous one. And I am not to judge whether it will be better or not.

The biography says that you use the elements of Gothic and Black Metal in your music. How do you think are these elements necessary to play Death Metal in the way Death Metal should be?

- We don't play traditional death metal. It is too tight to be within a certain genre. I would call our music VERSATILE METAL or MANY-SIDED METAL. Though it's not the musicians who should describe the music, but you, the editors.

Where can we see you play live frequently? Do you like to play live?

- We enjoy to play live, but, unfortunately, this happens rather not very often. In the last few months we have played only in Moscow. There are few people who wish to organize these concerts here - there's no profit. And other cities cannot but pay the travelling expense for us! We are sick and tired of crisis and pop music!

What are the plans of SERMON for the near future?

- For the nearest future we plan to finish the recording of our new album and to release a CD.

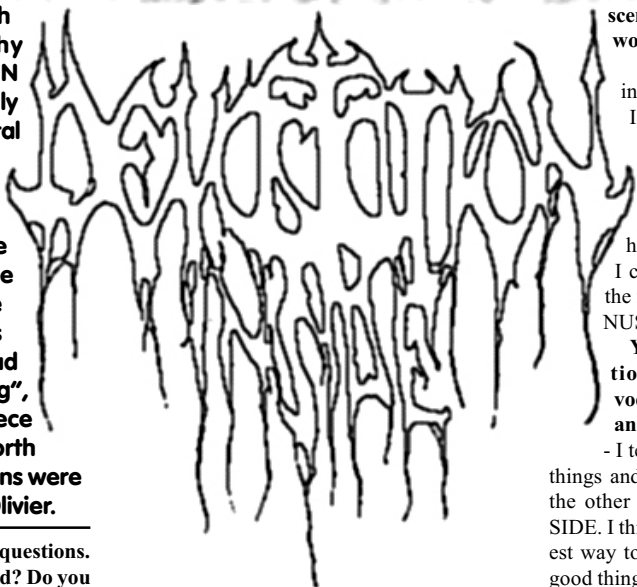
Finally, tell us some amazing stories of SERMON for the end. The space is yours...

- Sorry, I'm too lazy to write much. I will tell you some stories when we meet. There were lots of amazing stories in the 8 years of our existence. Thank you for the support. All the best!

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Another ambitious Death Metal band risen from thy ashes, namely DEVASTATION INSIDE. They come from Italy and play crushing Death Metal in the best interpretation of it. If you search for a band which can be able to create outstanding and memorable tunes nowadays and at the same time leaving all the traditional motives of its predecessors in it, go ahead and discover "Simply Nothing", the first demo of this five-piece band which is definitely worth of your attention. My questions were answered by the guitarist Olivier.



Let's start with some universal questions. How old are you? Are you married? Do you have jobs?

- Our average age is 22 and no one of us is married. Except me (Olivier) that I'm a student in Computer Engineering, all the others have a job.

"Simply Nothing" is your first demo. Moreover the output to be found there is more than perfect. Did you spend a lot of time and money to get such quality sound?

- When we started with the idea to make a demo tape we didn't think that it could be with a sound like that... You are not the first saying that it have a good sound. We spent time in songwriting, but the demo was recorded in two days and we are satisfact for our work, except by the vocals, maybe too much low. Our tape is totally autoproduced, so we spent much money for recording and producing it.

Your lyrics deal with human being and life in general. You based them on your personal experiences or... There is a live song "Why?" on the demo but I hadn't seen your lyrics of it on inlay. Tell me more about this song.

- Our lyrics are written by Emanuel and by me. They are based on our personal experiences and tell about our thoughts and about ourself. In our songs we want to say what we have inside of us. You didn't see the lyrics of "Why?" in the inlay because it's a song older than the others... In that song we talk about war and injustices made against people.

Are you guys looking for a label to sign onto or are you going to stay self-financed for your career? Do you have any offers for a full-length album?

- No, we don't have any offers from some label and I think we go to stay self-financed for a long time... maybe for all our career. In any case we are not looking for a contract to sign.

What can you tell us about DEVASTATION INSIDE's live performances. Do you play live often? What is the reason for you to play? Do you have any bands that you want to play with?

- We often play live, but we have never gone



over the limits of our region. We play because we like it, it's a way to relieve our feelings and to make people to know us. However, recently we have not played live so frequently, because we are waiting to have some new material composed.

What kind of music do you listen usually, and which are your greatest fonts of inspiration?

- Generally we would like to be a little original and to make something never heard, but unfortunately we are heavily influenced by the kind of music we listen. And every member of DEVASTATION INSIDE listens to music different from that listened from others. We are not so uniform in that way. We go from Black to Death Metal, from FEAR FACTORY to Bruce Springsteen!!! Personally, in this moment, I'm very influenced by Swedish melodic Death Metal: DARK TRANQUILLITY, AT THE GATES, EDGE OF SANITY... but I also listen to a wide range of musical genres, from commercial things to old METALLICA albums.

Could you analyse us your country's

scene? Any bands, labels or 'zines you would like to recommend for us?

- It's a hard question... I'm not so informed about our country's scene... I know that there are a lot of small bands, but only few of them can emerge. Take DEVASTATION INSIDE for example, we are more appreciated in foreign countries than here in Italy. A new italian band that I can suggest is LATHEBRA and for the fanzines MELMOTH 'zine, TETANUS...

Your opinion about: self-destruction, religion, violence, russian vodka, heaven and hell, Middle Ages and Black Metal.

- I tell my personal opinion about these things and it could be different from that of the other members of DEVASTATION INSIDE. I think that self destruction is the greatest way to be totally free, but it's not ever a good thing, we talk about that in two songs of our demo: Last Breath and Simply Nothing. I am not religious and I don't know if there's a God over us, but I'm not even satanic... In any case I'm against religious extremisms. I'm also against all kind of violence! I surely don't know how is the pure russian vodka, but here we like beer! :-). Heaven and hell are things created by humans because they fear what could be after their death. For me, after the death there's nothing. Our life is here and now. About Middle Ages? (no opinion). I like black metal music for its melodic stuffs, but I don't like its singing style. I don't even share the thoughts generally expressed in the black metal lyrics.

What will be your next material and when it will come? Have you any new songs, songnames and in general tell us in what way you composed your songs?

- We are composing new songs in this moment and we hope to put it in a new release (tape or mini-CD) but we don't really know when. The

title of an our new song is "Hate/Love". We general-ly compose our songs writing a lyric before, and then trying to make a musical "skeleton" with guitar riffs and drums. But we are never completely satisfied of our work the first time, so we make changes until we have the final song, that can be completely different from that we started to compose.

Last words from inside...

- It has been hard to answer to all your question in english (this isn't my main language), but me and DEVASTATION INSIDE have been glad to do it. So thank you for your patience and for all. And a special thank goes to all your readers that will be interested about our music and about what we think.

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Please give us a short background about SICKNESS and its members.

- SICKNESS was formed back in the Winter of '94 and since then our main goal has been to bring the music which started it all back into the Death metal public. We are basically a five piece of the Sickest Motherfuckers you have ever seen and we thrive on making good music for the love of it. Also it helps that we love to incite violence in more ways than one.

Your new album "Plague" in progress. Could you tell us more about this stuff?

- "Plague" is as sick as it's ever been, if you had a chance to check the "Ornaments" album then you will definitely be impressed by this effort the songs are more structured, and are way more aggressive. Be sure to pick it up you will not be dissappointed.

It will be released in Spring of 1999 by DELUSIONS OF GRANDEUR Records. How this sign came about?

- Well we've been looking for a label that wasn't going to dick us around and screw us over after an exhausted search we found JME Palacio (delusions), and he was willing to work with us. We still have alot of work to do so keep up for further developments.

Your previous release "Ornaments Of Mutilation" was produced by Dave Culross drummer of MALEVOLENT CREATION and SUFFOCATION. How do you see him as producer and as musician? What do you think about his drumming and bands in general?

- Well we first met Dave when he was in MALEVOLENT and he said that if we needed his help on the album he would be glad to offer it. After hearing our first mix with a different producer we decided to take him up on that offer. Dave knew what type of sound we were going for and he did a great job for us we really appreciate all that he has done for us. As for his bands MALEVOLENT and SUFFOCATION GODS!!!!!!

Have you played a lot of shows?



Here we have another great example of invincible forces of Death Metal in the embodiment of SICKNESS. A band which stands for total brutality since 1994. So, read what Sergio Cesario, the guitarist of SICKNESS, had told us in this informative conversation.



Where have you played and what bands you prefer to play with?

- We have definitely played alot of shows in our time and worth some of the best bands in the scene such as CRYPTOPSY, MALEVOLENT, GORGUTS, MORBID ANGEL, and ACHERON to name a few. We are very honered to share the stage with these greats and we would not trade these memories for anything.

Share with us the lyrical conception of "Plague". What are the motivations or inspirations for your lyrics?

- I'm sorry the lyrical content is to explicit to talk about. I can however can say this they are so sick in content, that we are going to be unable to print them on the sleeves of the CD's. Just picture this pure violence and murderous material.

What literature you prefer to read? Name us some of your favourite books.

- I prefer Steven King novels tell you the truth and of course Clive Barker. I believe that these books put me in the mood I want to be in. Sometimes I wish that life would imitate art.

Your band participated on the tribute album of METALLICA with the song "The Eye Of The Beholder". Did you change something in it or maybe you play it two times faster? Any special grinding beats? By the way, what do you think about METALLICA's last two albums?

- The song is different in some ways we put more double bass in it and we put more crunch on the guitars. Of course the singing is different, but we can't sing like Hetfield. As far as they're last two albums, I think that they wanted this change and if that's the way they want to be from now on let them be that way.

Your opinion about:

a.) politicians - can't stand them!

b.) christianity - don't care.

c.) catastrophes - love them

d.) computer technology - hey I'm on the internet, so it's good

e.) criminals - stay away from me or I'll kill you

f.) destiny - she's pretty cute, www.qstart.com/

destiny

What do you think about the European Death Metal scene? Compare it to the American. Do you like DISMEMBER, HYPOCRISY or VADER for example? What kind of bands the members of SICKNESS are listen to usually?

- I think that any scene regardless of where they originated from are good in their own way. As far as the bands mentioned I like all of those bands and look forward to listening to more from them. But our all time favorite extreme band goes to none other than SLAYER.

Last mutilated words for the end, please...

- I would like thank anyone who has supported us in the past and present, Cornelius for the interview and the scene for the sickest years of our lives. E-mail us at: sickness@geocities.com

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Your new material entitled “In The Eyes Of Ioldanach”. Will it be different in musical conception from the album “The Third Storm Of Cythraul”? Who was your producer and where you recorded this material?

- Yes and no: the euphonic approach on this mini-disque, I would state, has quite a few similarities as “The Third Storm Of Cythraul”; however, the arrangements are implemented more progressively and more banefully, utilizing faster-paced tempos this time around. Besides our debut album, I feel this mini-disque has the best studio production overall. It was recorded at Nomad Recording Studios in Carrollton, Texas by chief engineer ‘Sir Kol Marshall’, who is rather infamous for his aptness and skills in working on the latest KING DIAMOND and MERCYFUL FATE recordings. By his side was Vincent Rossi, who co-engineered it and is the owner of the notorious Plymouth Rock Recording Studios here in the Dallas area.

Who was Ioldanach, and what happened with his eyes? Can you explain us the lyrics of “In The Eyes Of Ioldanach”?

- “Ioldanach,” in Celtic mythos, is the mighty deus of magick and cunning dexterity, so his forecasts, his predictions are what we speak of in this mini-disque. The opening track, “V.I.T.R.I.O.L.”, narrates not only what occurs throughout our entire first album, but is the alchemical formula of the great “hidden stone in the Earth”, “the abyss” and “the Unicursal/ Universal Solvent” of the Primum Mobile. The initials of “Vitriol” concoct an acronym, and are made up of this alchemical formula (Latin Terminology: Visita Interiora Terrae Rectificando Invenies Occultum Lapidem; English terminology: We Shall Visit The Interior Parts Of The Earth {The Abyss} By Rectification, Thou Shalt Find Immortality Through The Hidden Stone). It represents a balanced mixture of the three elementations in this principle: sulphur, mercury, and salt. These names can also be represented by Atu I, III, and IV. What I am saying is that if you follow me to the inside portions of this particular planet, then I can show thee what the “underworld



The Cythraul Klan of ABSU strikes back again. About the new release and mythological themes behind it Sir Proscriptor McGovern told us a bunch of plentiful facts.



paradisio” is actually like in an escapaded afterlife. The second song, “Hallstatt” is a rather chronicled one intialized by Equitant Ifernain and thyself, concerning a lost and ancient culture in the southern, central portion of Austria. Roughly 2000 tombs of some of our ancestors were robbed by a “certain” enemy, a fiendish foe of ours, so they shall and will pay by the conclusion of the song. The did, indeed. “Manannan” is, by far, the most baneful and ferocious track on the MCD, due to the fact that he is the major deus of sea and wind and could famously cause horrendous storms and was able to make the sky/stratosphere literally fall/collapse in Celtic mythology. Lastly, “Never Blow Out The Eastern Candle” is a track based upon pure ceremonial magick, also concerning the bea-

con of Thoth. The symbolism behind this monumental track is like the ‘mother of science’ to me, as I claim that all “actual” objects were regarded as “dead” in one point in time; there was great difficulty in transmuting Moonfire because Moonfire, as she acts in nature, is distillation of power and magick. This goes back to bringing the soul to the process of immortality in a sort of “Otherworld” more or less. Now, the cover illustration represents ABSU, as it is called the “sigil of t’wa Cythraul Klan”. This is the best way I can explain it: the serpent represents the plight of immortality of each ABSU member, and it’s eyes symbolize Ioldanach for what he views within our past lives. The Scottish dirks have gold hafts at the end of each handle; one of them bearing the name “Cythraul”, while the other conducts the name “Vitriol”. The amputated hands symbolize what once was an ephemeral tyrant during these particular ancestral roots. In conclusion, put all of it to-

gether in place and formulate what I have been explaining throughout the interview thus far. It’s all in the glorious name of Ioldanach!

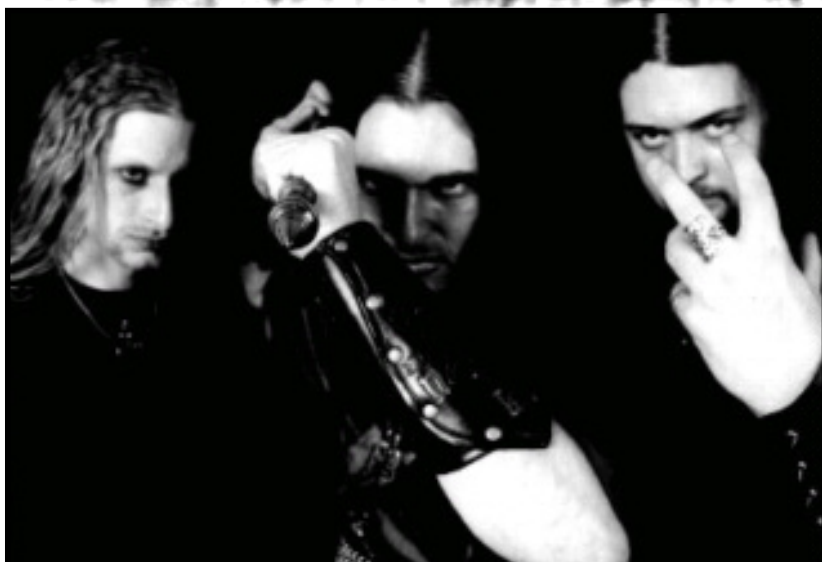
Your style called Mythological Okkult Metal. Why you decided to categorize your music in this way?

- Lyrically and image-wise, how could we possibly be a black or death metal outfit, poetically?!? The music, yes of course, we concoct these styles to-

gether, along with some thrash and progressive rock elements in order to come up with “mythological occult metal”. You know, we’re praising such themes like ceremonial/ritual magick, alchemical sciences, warding, Voudon gnostics, tasseographic rites, Sumerian/Mesopotamian/Assyrian mythology, Celtic/Pictish legends, knighthood, and especially the traits that lead back to our ancestral bloodlust. That’s right: Scottish & Irish attainments.

You are a very active person. Beside ABSU you have many projects like PROSCRIPTOR, MOON-ROOT... What things motivates the music of these projects?

- Magick, the occult, and thy complete adoration for musick.



Always when I listen to your album "The Third Storm Of Cythraul" it reminds me to the old thrash bands' atmosphere which was characteristic for bands like DESTRUCTION, KREATOR or SODOM. Was ABSU influenced by these bands? What's your opinion about the new albums of KREATOR and SODOM?

- We are influenced by those bands naturally, but we do not try to imitate them whatsoever! Of course, their newer material is not as monumental as their archives, but it's not too bad...well, especially the SODOM is not so bad at all! The KREATOR album, "Outcast", is not all that great, as I don't even believe there is one guitar solo throughout the entire recording! I personally thought "Cause For Conflict" was the best studio album KREATOR gave birth to since, oh...shall we say "Extreme Aggression" maybe?

You will performing drums on AVERSE SEFIRA's new album "Homecoming's March". Can you tell us more about this? What do you think about AVERSE SEFIRA in general?

- They selected a SR-16 drum mechanism over thy own abilities, but that's alright because I am too occupied with six other bands anyway. Yeah, Konx Om Pax Et Allaxitonia!

I've heard about the participate of ABSU on tribute albums of KREATOR and DESTRUCTION. What labels released these materials? Name us the tracks you played there?

- I am so fucking disgusted with both of those tributes, that they shouldn't even occur, dammit! Well, I know the DESTRUCTION one will not be released, unless another individual/label will decide to release it later on down the road! The KREATOR tribute will be released on FULL MOON Produc-

tions, which I assisted in putting together, but we refused to be a part of it, due to some of OSMOSE's laws! Anyway, we recorded "Flag Of Hate" by KREATOR and "Bestial Invasion" by DESTRUCTION and once we knew we were not going to feature them on the tributes, we then decided to contain them on a MCD we never released monickered "Thrashstorms". It's like a cheating cash-in to me.

You have your own label DARK AGE Productions. What materials has been released so far and what do you plan to release in the future?

- The label is currently on "pause" at the current moment, due to the fact that I am now the only "sole" who is operating it. When I have prompt time to start this enterprise up again, I shall. Some of the artists we have are PROSCRIPTOR, THE SOIL BLEEDS BLACK, NO FESTIVAL OF LIGHT, PROFANE GRACE, AKRABU, AKHKHRU, COMPENDIUM, LYTHRA, EQUITANT, VALOR, CERNUNNOS' WOODS, UNDER CRUSHING WINGS, etc.

What is your opinion about WWW



as the informational center? Nowadays we can get more information from Internet than from any magazine.

- It's efficient and sufficient to use for thy usage.

When your next European tour shall take place? With what bands you would like to play?

- We will perform on the "No Mercy" tour in April with EMPEROR, MORBID ANGEL, SIX FEET UNDER, LIMBONIC ART, and PECCATUM. It's all I know at the present moment.

Tell us your last visions for the end.

- Fuck, I am the burning of the ancient flame, you suckers! Thank all of you for reading this damned interview and remember your ancestors; it's only the truth locked within your liquid, glass-cased heart!

ABSU / DARK AGE Productions
c/o Proscriptor
P.O. Box 743307
Dallas, TX 75374-3307
USA

E-mail: proscriptor@webtv.net

The Cythraul Klan Of ABSU
www.geocities.com/EnchantedForest/Cottage/4241/
The Attack Of The Highland Tyrants!!!
www.geocities.com/SunsetStrip/Pit/2885/absu/
DARK AGE Productions
www.geocities.com/Vienna/Strasse/1749/dap.html
MOONROOT (Featuring Members From ABSU & THE SOIL BLEEDS BLACK)
www.geocities.com/Vienna/Strasse/1749

SHOCK! represents one of the best Hungarian publications which mostly deal with underground bands and do a big emphasis on the up and coming underground bands of Hungary. Here I have a talk with one of the female editors, namely Emese, whose name and works are well-known in the whole underground scene.

shock!

How did you become a fan of Heavy Metal and when had you listened to it first?

- I became fond of this music after hearing some melodious rock acts like ALICE COOPER, EUROPE, DEF LEPPARD, etc... Then I went to my first heavy metal gig ever, which was the concert of POKOLGÉP, the biggest HM group at that time. I fell in love with the whole thing then: the noise, the sight, the melodies, the feeling, to be a rebel in a way. I can say I like this music since about 1987.

Count us your favourite bands and why do you like them?

- At this moment I like a lot of musics within rock/metal. I'm into brutal energetic bands such as old ENTOMBED, SLAYER, SAMAEAL, MAYHEM, DECAYED, old CARCASS, DAWN, S.D.I. (R.I.P.), etc... I like them because of their intensity. Also I love bands like W.A.S.P., DREAM THEATER, TYPE O NEGATIVE, THEATRE OF TRAGEDY, old MÖTLEY CRÜE, ENSLAVED or the instrumental guitar music of Tamás Szekeres. These ones give me a very pleasant mood. Then I often listen to the Hungarian death/thrash/grind demos of 80's and the 90's. My biggest faves from among them are UNDERTAKING, TORMENTOR, SUBJECT, CASTRUM (really!), THE BEDLAM, LIFE DISCUSSION.

What 'zines you put out so far and in what 'zines you were as a contributor editor?

- My very first "working connection" with 'zines was in 1992, when I translated some NAPALM DEATH lyrics for a 'zine. In 1993 I became the fourth member of a mag called STROKE that was done by females only. After leaving them I founded my very own 'zine called STIFF AND COLD, in 1994. I put it to death in 1996 after 5 Hungarian and same English issues and I started to contribute DARK FLOWERS 'zine. Then I stuck with FREEZING FLAMES mag for 2 issues, and now I left F.F., too. (I can't find my fucking place!) At this mo-

ment me and 2 editor-mates are working on the next issue of the mag titled SHOCK!. It's done only in Hungarian and it deals with every style within rock and metal. It gives a bigger freedom for me, 'cause my former 'zines were about death/black mainly.

What were your most successful interviews til now?

- The most successful interviews were: THEATRE OF TRAGEDY, ESOTERIC, SIGH, EMPEROR, ENSLAVED, Stephan O'Malley of DESCENT mag., NUCLEAR DEATH, etc...

Have you some animals? And what do you think about the animal-human connection?

- Yes, I have a cat. I always liked animals. I had a lot of hamsters, lizards, a hedgehog, a parrot till now. I think animals can make people feel more balanced, they give pleasant feelings usually. At least for me. I hate assholes who torture and kill them (I mean bigger animals, insects are a bit

other topic). As I hate a lot of people, it's good to have an other kinda creature by my side.

Do you like your town Nyíregyháza and Hungary in general?

- Nyíregyháza is a good town, but people are quite boring and mean here unfortunately. I have very few friends here. I like Hungary also, the places, landscapes, history, traditions, but again I have a lot of shitty problems with tons of people.

What do you like to do in your free-time?

- In my spare-time I like playing the guitar, writing poems (mainly depressive and strange ones), solving crosswords, writing some letters (though nowadays I'm fed up with the pile of letters...), playing computer games, etc...

What can you tell us about the Hungarian underground line?

- In these days I rarely receive demotapes from Hungarian underground groups, I can't tell much about them. But I've heard some that are O.K. For me the underground scene of my country was the most interesting and remarkable until 1994. Since then it's not that exciting somehow. I think I have to mention some good bands still... So: DARK CLOUDS, CASTRUM, SEAR BLISS.

What do you hate in people?

- I hate lies, taking advantage of somebody, also I don't like when someone sees only the negative shit in the other person. Then I loathe pig-headedness, self-conceit, the big role of money, etc... I rarely meet kind of friendly people unfortunately. After some time all of them become a damned son-of-a-bitch.

Message...

- Thanx for asking me some questions, Georgius! I send my greetings to everyone who likes rock/metal in a fanatic way and to those who prefer being free to being a slave of others. Don't let yourself to be used as a servant!

SHOCK!, c/o Emese Tátrai,
Korányi F. str. 46, 1/5,
4400 Nyíregyháza, Hungary



Hail Tommy! How are you? My question number one is why did you choose this unusual name for the band? Is there any story behind this bandname?

- Well, it was kind of a coincidence. Me and my former bandmate Micael Larsson was having a couple of drinks while turning pages in a book about the late artist Salvador Dali and there was a painting with the name gooseflesh. We didn't thought much about the meaning of it, only that it felt good to say and since all the members in the band are fans of his work we later on decided to keep it.

"Welcome To Suffer Age" is the first MCD of GOOSEFLESH and was released by the spanish label namely Goldtrack Records. What can you tell about this contract? Do you satisfied with it? What is the selling results of the MCD so far?

- The contract with Goldtrack is a little bit of a try out for both parties. At first they offered us a deal for two albums but since they are such a new label we turned it down. They later on came up with the idea of releasing Welcome To Suffer Age as a MCD, which at that time was recorded already. We thought the idea was great and we're really satisfied with the work they have done on the album so far. As for the selling result it's a bit too early to say since it has different releasedates in different countries.

"Gooseflesh", "The Wraith" and "Glow" your previous materials. Are these materials still available for the metalheads? What kind of progression do you emphasize us? I mean songstructure, sound, lyrics, etc.

- All of our previous materials are sold out. Some of the songs might appear on coming albums because there are some really strong material on those tapes. Then of course they will be re-recorded. As for the progression I think we're always trying out new grounds. We never decide in advance which style we gonna play but on the other hand I think more and more you could always tell that it's GOOSEFLESH. I personally think that we have developed our own style and identity.

How would you like to define the sound of your band?

- Intense crossover Metal with a lot of aggression and attitude. All spiced up with groovy parts and dynamic drums.

What are the preferred themes of GOOSEFLESH? Name us your favourite reads.

- If you are referring to our lyrical side we're definitely not writing about demons

GOOSEFLESH

Swedish Metalband GOOSEFLESH have recently signed a deal with HIGH GAIN Records in Germany (the home of such bands like PRIMAL FEAR, TEMPLE OF THE AB-SURD, etc.) and DOLPHIN Entertainment in Japan. The band's debut-CD "Chemical Garden" will be released in Japan in March and Europe in April. GOOSEFLESH will also take part on ENERGIE Records IRON MAIDEN-tribute that will be released in Europe in March/April. They will contribute with their very own version of "Killers". Definitely something to look forward to, which also the reunion of IRON MAIDEN will be! I asked Tommy Scalisi Svensson (guitar) about the antecedents of the band.



or dragons. No on the contrary there's always something experienced or something that concerns us in our near environment that we write about, like betrayal, social injustice or inner anxiety.

You have played alot of shows so far and one with DISMEMBER too. What is your opinion about DISMEMBER's music and its members? What do you feel when you play live? How many gigs you play per month?

- We have done quit a lot of gigs but we hope that the amount will increase when we release our first full-length album. As far as my concern goes about DISMEMBER I think they're a hard working band that sometimes tries too hard to be true to their roots. Anyway they are nice fellows. GOOSEFLESH live is a kick in the face on everybody's watching. We just love it and the audience will notice that. There's a hell of lot of energy when GOOSEFLESH hits the stage I can promise you that.

Briefly say something about the

bandmembers' interests.

- Oh man, that varies a lot. We all like to drink, socialize and to have sex but that quite common among most living creatures I think. Of course we are all into music in many different ways. Some of us read books, some of us don't. Next question!!!

What's your point of view on today's music scene? What do you think is the strongest release of this year? Do you like Black Metal at all?

- Good and bad. Personally I'm not too keen on these "trying to sound like HELLOWEEN" bands. No I like bands that mix styles and that aren't afraid of going in new directions like SEPULTURA and ENTOMBED for instance. None of us are into Black Metal though we like some Death bands. The strongest release this year??? "Powertrip" by MONSTER MAGNET, that is if TESTAMENT doesn't release anything before New Years eve!!!

Give us a short background about Phantom Management.

- Phantom is a new management formed by a former chief editor on "Backstage" magazine. A well-known mag about Swedish rock. GOOSEFLESH was it's first signing and we're all good friends with each other and I think we'll work together for a long time to come.

Do you know something about Ukraine and its underground scene?

- Sorry, but I don't. The only thing that I have understood is that there is quite an interest for extreme metal in Ukraine. It would be great if you could enlighten us a little on this matter?

Finally, tell us when we can expect the new material of GOOSEFLESH and in what orientation will it be? Any upcoming plans for the future or whatever you would like to add?

- GOOSEFLESH have recorded it's full length debut called "Chemical Garden" and it will hopefully be released in Europe in March/April '99. It's a stampede of music in the vein of Suffer Age. On top of that there are plans for a tour in early summer.

Your wishes for ENCOMIUM 'zine readers in Swedish language...

- Tjena, tjena mittbena! Hoppas att Ni snart får tillfälle att lära känna GOOSEFLESH på ett vettigt sätt: HÄRT & INTENSIVT: Ha't gödd allihop!

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E-mail: timebomb@algonet.se
<http://hem.passagen.se/gooseweb>

APHASIA appeared in 1996. Describe us the main movements of the development since 1996.

- We have always the same kind of music since 1996. Little bit different... We had some line-up change but J-F and I are always there for the band. The difference since 1996 is the maturity acquire by the band and the drum have change from grind to technical (more bass-drum with a lot of good drumming riff).

What can you tell us about the bandmembers? Have you played in any other band before 1996?

- For now, we are just 2 (J-F and I) cuz the drummer lets the band like 1 month ago. I never played with other band. I play before with J-F but just for fun. To the other side, J-F played guitar for a band called DARK SUPREMACY. This band is no longer alive... He was dead a few month before their demo launching in 1994-5 (I think!).

I feel the strong influence of Gothenburg style in your music. How do you see it?

- Gothenburg style???? I don't really know what is Gothenburg style but I'm happy.... eheheh!!!! :-)

"Beyond The Infinite Horizon" is your first album. What was the fans' reaction and do you satisfied with the reviews you got so far?

- The fans seems like the CD... We had some very good review for the CD, to the other side, we had some bad review but it's good to have excellent and bad review, so you can have a good idea of the CD. But most of the time, we had good review, maybe I didn't see the bad review!!!!!! I'm very proud of the production of this CD, thanks to Jean-Francois Dagenais for his excellent work.

What is your lyrics about? Are there any messages or thoughts you find important to tell us more about.

- I talk about the nature (forest, winter, water...). It's some stories that everyone can imagine its own history of the song. I didn't talk about politic or society, I hate those subjects. I don't think that our lyrics have any messages, it's just a story.

Could you initiate us into the underground scene of Québec?

- The scene is very big here. We have a lot of show, like 1-2 shows per week. In general, everybody listen death metal bands like DYING FETUS, DEEDS OF FLESH but we can see Black Metal growing. We have very good bands here like CRYPTOPSY, GORGUTS, OBLIVION, KATAKLYSM... I think that Québec is a very good place for the underground stuff. All my friend that come from a different country or province find our scene very excellent, they never saw a scene like that. We have also a good selection in CD but we don't have a good selection for the t-shirt or long sleeve... Oh well, we can't have everything good!!!

You make gigs very often. Have you any special images on these gigs? Who have you played with and are there any exciting stories?

- We don't have any special images... When we play, we are like every day (funny!!!). We are playing just for fun so when we are on the stage, we play, make fun, drink beer, smoke joint (just before the show). We have nothing to prove, we play

Aphasia

The province of Québec getting stronger and bigger every day. I guess all of you know such monsters of Death Metal as CRYPTOPSY, GORGUTS or KATAKLYSM for instance. If so, you have the chance to discover another good technical Death Metal band, namely APHASIA, whose brand of active groups having 5-6 gigs per months. I asked Steph (guitar/vocals) to tell us more of their first release and local scene of Québec.



music cuz we like it so we play and make fun and if people thrash or make fun with us... We're very happy... We have played with a lot of local band like KATAKLYSM, DRAGON LORE, VOCIFERATION, FATALITY, RACE DEFECT, etc. and some bands outside Québec like: SARCOPHAGUS, MORTAL DECAY, etc... And maybe soon, a very big show but I can't say nothing... ehehe!!!

Give us more information about the contract with WARFARE Records.

- WARFARE Records is a distributor... So we don't have any contract with them, just a little one for the distribution. But WARFARE Records, it's a company born in Québec and they promote a lot of band from the province of Québec so we are very happy to be on their list. Cheer to WARFARE Records to help Québec bands to promote their album around the world. Soon, we will be distributed by RELAPSE Records (I must send the CDs this week) and maybe by SOUNDSCAPE Records for the Canada.

What can you say about the following points:

a.) nuclear weapons - Crap!

b.) terrorism - Maybe, it's usefull but we don't need terrorism every time, we can change thing without terrorism and without violence.

c.) religions - Stupid thing... I don't trust any religions. It's just some stories to get weak people....

d.) new wave of old styles (Heavy Metal, Thrash Metal, etc.) - Good thing for the old metal fan but personally, I don't like this kind of music. Maybe, people don't have any more idea to create new music or maybe they just like this kind of music. I don't really care about this, every body MUST do what they like and no what people want....

e.) life and death - Life: party, beer, weed... Death: Nothing!!!! No more party....

What are your plans for the future? In what way will be your next material?

- We have loss our drummer so for now, we are seeking for a new drummer and during this time, we compose new song. Always in the same kind of music, I hope that we can record a full length CD (about 60 minutes) in 1-2 years... But the next material will not change, we will have more experience so we will use this for our next materil but always in the same vein....

Last words from beyond...

- I would like to thanks everybody how support the underground scene, I'm very proud of you. Also thanks to Cornelius for this interview and for the break that I was taking at work to answer questions. eheheh!!! See you soon and I hope that we meet together one day... Bye!!!

**APHASIA,
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<http://tinpan.fortunecity.com/goldie/83>
Phone: (514) 521-7604 (Steph)

Emerging from the depths of the Canadian Black/Grind/Death Metal scene, comes **HORDE OF WORMS**. **HORDE OF WORMS** combines a potent mixture of extreme music to create their own unique brand of Metal. Utilizing speed, melody, texture and mood, the songs rip caverns in the listeners mind, soul and ears, leaving them salivating for more. **HORDE OF WORMS** are continuing the tradition of their predecessors, while carving their own brutal path into the future. **HORDE OF WORMS** was formed by three friends in the Spring of 1996. Then the line-up was the following: Alexander Erhardt (guitars/backing vocals/battery), Brent Assoun (guitars/backing vocals/battery) and Chris Stepniowski (lead vokills and throat cancer). Their debut album "Horde of Worms" was out in 1998 and released by Alexander's own label namely **BLOODBUCKET Productions**. By now their line-up is filled up by the force of Gord McCubbin (bass) and they plan to write music together for a long period of time. The horde of questions were answered by the collaboration of all the members of **HORDE OF WORMS**. Read these lines and discover the aggression and brutality **HORDE OF WORMS** offers you.



First of all, tell us a little bit about the bandmembers of HORDE OF WORMS (Age, job, interests, etc.).

Alexander: **HORDE OF WORMS** hail from Canada. The ages of the members range from 24 to 32. Everyone works full time jobs. We have a wide variety of intrests ranging from hockey and motorcross to drugs, drinking and chasing women!! But of course musick is our true calling.

Your album entitled by the same name as your band. Is it your first album or are there any other releases before it? Have you played in any other band before 1996?

Alexander: This is our debut album, so there are not any previous releases. I was in a band around 1993 called **IMMORTALLY DECEASED** and after that I formed a band called **FLESH EMPEROR**. I met Brent then.

Brent: I played in a band called **DECAYER** which was originally formed in 1985 and lasted until 1993. After that I then joined **FLESH EMPEROR** where I met Alex.

Gord: My first band was **FLESHLESS**, but things didn't work out. I really enjoyed their music but **HORDE OF WORMS** played better music and were a more established band.

Let's talk about your very original sound... How you got it? What effects did you use to make such an unusual distorting guitar-sound?

Gord: You really can't explain a good sound. We just plug in, kick the distortion pedal and play!!

I'm really impressed by the cover of the CD. What the hell is it? Have this cover any connection with the music or ideology HORDE OF WORMS stands for?

Alexander: The front cover is a picture of a solar flare captured passing by the earth at 52 Million M.P.H. Yes, because the solar flare is blistering fast!!!

You used drum machine on your album. Will you find a drummer instead of drum machine?

Alexander: Yes we used a drum machine because we were originally planning just to be a studio band. However things have changed and we now want to play live and are presently looking for a drummer.

What is your lyrics about? Are there any ideology behind your lyrics or it's just lyrics about your life-experiences?

Alexander: The lyrics are mainly bizarre fantasy based horror stories. No there is not too much ideology in the lyrics. As for personal experiences the song "Of Ice and Wind" was written after I had to walk through a brutal snowstorm!!

The CD was out on BLOODBUCKET Productions which is your own label exactly. What can you tell us about its bands, releases, merchandise... Are there any new releases coming out soon on BLOODBUCKET Productions?

Alexander: This is the first release on **BLOODBUCKET PRODUCTIONS**. We have some merchandise shirts, stickers, etc... We are looking for unique and brutal bands too! As for upcoming releases the new **HORDE OF WORMS** will rip the faces off humanity in early 1999. Also in association with **DEADSIX COMMUNICATIONS** the debut album from **NOISECORE FREAK**. Beware the Worms!!

I heard about new CD titled "Dreams and Dying Eyes" in progress. When it will come and will be any changes in your style musically or lyrically there?

Brent: Our new album "Dreams and Dying Eyes" is due out in early 1999. You can expect better song writing (H.o.W. style) with more intensity and faster pace, as well as a better production!

What bands you prefer to listen nowadays and what bands had influenced HORDE OF WORMS? What do you think is the strongest release of this year?

Brent: Our listening pleasures cover a wide variety of styles, from old school Black/Death, Modern Black/Death, Grindcore, Classical, Industrial

and Classic Rock. The best release of 1998 aside from our album is the new **CRYPTOPSY** "Whisper Supremacy".

Briefly tell us something about the Canadian underground scene. What bands, labels, distributors and 'zines can you recommend for us?

Alexander: The Canadian underground has never gone away but it is flourishing now with some really original and brutal bands like: **CRYPTOPSY**, **HORDE OF WORMS**, **NECRONOMICON**, **CONQUEROR**, **BLOOD OF CHRIST**, **SUMMERTIME DAISIES**, **FLESH FEAST**, **TRAUMATISM**, **SACREMENTARY ABOLISHMENT**, etc... As for contacts **CIVILIAN DEATH NETWORK** (Windsor) and **WARFARE RECORDS** (Montreal) are good contacts here in Canada. The best Canadian zine is **UNRESTRAINED!** They distro too!

Your opinion concerning:

a.) hatred

Gord: I hate everyone and everything about today's world! There are too many fucking people on this planet, we need another Ice Age!!!

b.) swedish blasphemers HYPOCRISY and Peter Tägtgren's projects THE ABYSS and PAIN

Alexander: I really like **HYPOCRISY** especially the older albums but I like the **ABYSS** albums better!!

c.) the new album of KATAKLYSM "Victims of this fallen world"

Chris: I don't like it at all! I don't see why a band that was so brutal decided to change their style of playing????!!

d.) satanism

Chris: I am Satan and that's that!

e.) the German Thrash Triumvirat: DESTRUCTION, KREATOR and SODOM

Brent: My biggest influences. If it wasn't for these bands and the mighty **BATHORY** and **VENOM**, I'm not sure what the extreme musick scene would be like, if any!!

f.) sexual maniacs

All: Yes we are! What's the next question!!!!!!

Explain us the meaning of your style: Canadian Blast Metal.

Alexander: It can be summed up like this. It is where we are from (Canada), it is what we do (We fucking Blast!) and it is what we are all about (Metal!). We cannot be lumped into a specific genre.

Are there any shocking plans for the near future you would like to mention here?

Alexander: We will find a drummer!!! We plan to take the underground by storm!

Last horde of words is yours...

Alexander: Thank you **ENCOMIUM** for being a supporter of the **TRUE** underground. Buy our albums! And **BEWARE OF WORMS!!! HAIL.**

**HORDE OF WORMS /
BLOODBUCKET PRODUCTIONS
c/o Alexander Erhardt
1 Anglesey Blvd, Suite B
Islington, Ontario
Canada, M9A 3B2**

E-mail: wormy_2@hotmail.com

Web Site: http://members.tripod.com/~WORM_3/index.html

The following is an interview with - the most successful Russian Black Metal band - SUNCHARIOT. I asked Stanislav Ivanoff to enlighten us some of the secrets of their fortunes and fresh news about their forthcoming and actually first full-length album. For those who not familiar with SUNCHARIOT, here's some info: the band was formed in 1996 by Stanislav Ivanoff (guitar/vocals) and Denis Shapovalov (guitar) upon the ruins of Black Metal band SACRIFICED. After numerous line-up problems, drummer Konstantin "Scur" Konstantinov was recruited from FUNERAL SPEECH to complete their line-up. Later, the trio was upgraded to a quartet with the addition of Olga (flute). In June 1997 this line-up recorded the band's first demo, "Betrayal Light of Fertile Ground". In October 1997, SUNCHARIOT concluded a licensing deal with Montreal-based indie label SOUNDScape MUSIC CANADA for the release of their debut demo on CD. Released in July 1998, "Betrayal Light Of Fertile Ground" have become the first Russian Black Metal release that hit North American Shores... An event which will most definitely going to be repeated before the end of the year with the forthcoming release of SUNCHARIOT.

First off, give us more info about the contract with Soundscape Music Canada. Are you satisfied with it? How is the response to "Betrayal Light of Fertile Ground" worldwide?

- The contract was signed in October 1997, not long after we recorded our first self-produced demo tape. Soundscape Music offered us to release this demo in CD format, so as the result of all this, we have now our debut mCD "Betrayal Light of Fertile Ground", which was released in the middle of the summer 1998. It's hard to say whether are we fully satisfied with this deal or not. The positive aspect of our cooperation with the foreign label is of course a good opportunity to spread our music all over the world. Besides, we became the first Russian black-metal band ever released on the other side of the ocean. On the other hand, as you probably know, Soundscape Music Canada was recently closed down. It means that we won't get a proper promotion of our album anymore, the fact which aggrieves us a little. Nevertheless, we still continue to receive many good replies from different parts of the world. Recently, we even have got the offer from one Singapore based label to re-release "Betrayal Light of Fertile Ground" both on MC and CD. Meanwhile, we still have several copies of our mCD left from Soundscape Music Canada. They are available directly from us for only 6\$US (Russia, CIS) and 10\$US (worldwide).

"Betrayal Light of Fertile Ground" is your debut MCD containing 5 tracks from which one is in Russian language and the rest in English. Do you consider yourselves a Black Metal or Pagan band? Will you sing in Russian in the future?

- I try to avoid straight claims and labels when it comes to the description of our music. One should say that we play traditional influenced melodic black metal, and maybe

it will be the right definition. As for the Russian lyrics of "BOPOHbI"... to my mind it fits quite well to the whole spirit of the song, which expresses the courage of the forgotten past and lost heathen domains, that once prospered upon our lands. Being a specific kind

of synth music, but conformably to our present material, I think that their using will be absolutely out of place. And even if one day we decide to introduce keyboards to our music, it will have nothing common with this primitive soapy backgrounds, which many of present black metal bands are evoking from their synthesizers.

How and when did you get acquainted with Olga? What's your opinion about bands where females featured only as backing vocalists and not as musicians?

- As I mentioned above, during the recording of "Betrayal Light of Fertile Ground" we intended to use some folk instrument, which could help us to complete the overall picture of the sound, make it more rich and original. The guitars were already recorded, but we still hadn't decided what kind of instrument should we use. Thus, we started hastily to seek the proper musician and the proper instrument, which would fit both our music and our band. The friend of mine told me, that he knew the girl who played flute well, and she even performed the flute parts in Satyricon cover at one of the concerts in their university. He also said, that she had nothing against playing in black metal band. And I thought that was what we needed: not only a player, but the one with desire to play. So Olga became the part of Sunchariot. Speaking about the bands with female back-vocalists, I can only say that it's only up to the band to decide how and who will feature in its music. If they're choosing girl to sing only backgrounds, well, it's on their own. At least, a pretty girl with good voice and musical ear is much better than primitive keyboard samples.

Your music is filled with emotional, melodic and at the same time brutal and grinding parts. It seems to me that the members of Sunchariot are influenced by different styles of Metal. Do you like to mix all these



of instrument, vocals have their own melody, which consists of a certain phonetic set. This set, just like the folk music itself, is distinctive for every single nation, and the proper using of your native language certainly makes you closer to your origins. That's why we are going to continue this tradition in the future, so you should expect at least one more song performed in Russian on our forthcoming album.

Why did you decide to use flute instead of the high-popular keyboards? It's interesting but how do you think that flute parts fit into Black Metal?

- It just came naturally for us to add some kind of a live traditional instrument, which could create the unique folk atmosphere, that any kind of synthesized sound is not able to perform. Personally, I have nothing against keyboards. Moreover, I find interest into many



aspects as one into the genre of Black Metal?

- Yes, of course. Each of us has his own ideas, influenced on him not only by metal, but by the other genres of music as well. We've always tried to widen the borders of black metal and that was one of the main reason why the life was given to Sunchariot in the beginning of 1996. We're using black metal as a basis, as some kind of experimental ground, upon which we can sow and reap the sprouts of new musical cultures. And I hope, that the results of our work will become more evident in the nearest future.

You live in Rostov-on-Don. Do you like it? Tell us something about the sights of the town.

- Yes, I'm living right in the core of this dirty city with its daily occurrence and industrial turmoil. I really can't stand this, that's why I often like to walk alone outside the town, into the neverending steppes and groves, along the riverbanks and mirror waters of the pools, surrounded by quietly rustling cane. The autumn solitude of Nature holds much more beauty for me than everyday life in the hell of ordinary people whose customs and mentality are completely alien to me.

What is the scene around you where you live? (I mean bands, labels, music-shops, magazines, etc.)

- I'm not interested in Rostov-on-Don metal scene anymore, because to my mind it has been dead since 1995. Besides, we've always been apart of this crap, which is called Rostov metal underground. Though, there were many black metal bands here, but all of them died naturally, 'cause their music was poor and their heads were empty. Only those, who have enough strength, skills and ideas will survive.

What are your thoughts on religion? Do you or any other band members practice any?

- I can't answer for the rest of the band, so I will speak only for myself. I'm indifferent to any kind of religion, which enslaves your mind

and turns you into brainless cattle-like creature. I'm not a convinced atheist though. I have my own angels and demons, which lead me through this life of loneliness and deep depression.

Have you or any of the other members ever been involved in other musical side-projects?

- Until now no one from the band ever took part in any musical side-projects. But personally I'm nurturing the idea of creating my own electronic project which definitely will have nothing to do with metal. I hope that this idea will be finally realized this year.

What can you tell us about the new material of Sunchariot? When will it come and in what orientation will it be? Shall we listen something about the lyrical conception of it. Count us some fresh songnames.

- The material for the new full-length was ready long time ago. All we have to do now is to enter the studio, an event which will happen very soon, this month probably. I don't want to describe it in details, just wait a little and you will hear it yourself. All I have to say, is that this would be an album full of sad and enchanting folk moods, created by dominating ultra-melodic guitar parts and plenty of atmospheric flute breaks. Also, it will be most likely the last folk oriented album for Sunchariot. After that we're planning to explore new dimensions which could be revealed by the combination of black and gothic musical genres.

Say something about your live shows. Do you play live often? Do you have any bands that you want to play with?

- To that moment Sunchariot attended only one gig. It was "Rock-City Fest II: Black Metal Invasion" which took place in Moscow on the 15th of November 1998. We were recognized as one of the best black metal bands ever played on this performance. Nevertheless, we don't like to participate in live shows at all. It could be explained mainly by our negative attitude to audience and of course bad orga-

nization of the concerts, so you shouldn't expect to see Sunchariot live again soon. I don't care with what bands should we play. We've never been a part of any musical or ideological organizations. We are developing in our own way, counting only upon our own desires and abilities.

You have your own website. Has the website helped spread the name of the band at all or things still mostly snail mail-based? What is your opinion about WWW?

- Internet indeed is a great information source. It helps people to communicate each other in fast and most reliable way. Wherever you live you could easily reach any corner of the planet, set the personal contacts with any band or label, in which you get interested. We proceeded all our conversations with Soundscape through the Internet only, and the results were better than great. In my opinion, every serious label or band must have their own website. Otherwise, they are simply losing another powerful form of advertising, presented by this boundless community, called WWW. That's why Sunchariot is fully presented in Internet. Besides Sunchariot, I recently managed to open The Official Homepage for the unique Norwegian band Penitent. It can be found at: <http://penitent.ic.ru>. Those, who find their interest in dark and majestic neo-classical music, should definitely check this page out.

To finish with. Tell us your final thoughts...

- Thank you for your time. Live by your heart and stay true. That's all.

SUNCHARIOT
P.O.Box 526

344010 Rostov-on-Don
Russia

E-mail: stiv@don.sitek.net
<http://www.don.sitek.net/home/stiv>



Here some interesting moments and positions about F.S., told by
Ares (drums). Inhale The Ancient
Slavonic Spirit!!!

Give
the de-
scription
of the un-
derground
in Sumy.

- In fact
there's no any
underground in Sumy.
The only bands are
BRAINSTORM, ARTE-
FACTED IRRELIGION
(the band of our
mananger), and ours.

Have you any
difficulties with gigs' organisations (I
mean different judeo-christian assholes-
organizers).

- We don't have contacts with idiots and that
goes to our earlier line-up which was consisted
of 50% of idiots. I am the one who remained
from the earlier stuff and started all from the
beginning again. As for gigs, we receive help
from NOKTURNAL MORTUM and all the gigs
in Sumy are organized by me.

Have you any contacts with foreign
bands and labels?

- Suchlike contacts is the matter of our
mananger and vocalist. I cannot tell more
about it.

I heard that many Ukrainian Black
Metal bands are ignore the Belorussian
magazine namely LEGION. Why it is hap-
pens and what is your positions about it?

- It all started due to NOKTURNAL
MORTUM who are very conflictable band.
Many people call LEGION a pop magazine.
But we don't care. If someone interests in our
music, so why not? The main things are the
music and soul and we are not deeply in all
this "false" and "true" aspects.

How you call your music - Black Metal

or in
another
way?

- We
call it
Slavonic
Metal due to
the elements
of slavonic folk which
are present here. Soon
we shall release our new
album namely "The
Legacy" which will
be more pefect,
powerful and

interesting. It will be released in the end of Janu-
ary. And our first demo "The Masters Of
Slavonic Forests" will be re-released as split with
"The Legacy" including photos, lyrics, etc.

Will you have the lyrics on slavonian lan-
guages (I mean ukrainian and russian) in
future, cause as for me it is more closer to
the slavonic paganism than English.

- Yes, we will. Two songs from "The
Legacy" are on Ukrainian language and one
on ancient slavonic. We shall write all the lyr-
ics on our language in future. But as for me,
English is better for the hard music.

What music you prefer to listen to?

- We listen to different bands from SADIST
to Black Metal. I prefer Black Metal more.

Nowadays many people deny such bands
as VENOM, CELTIC FROST, MERCY-
FUL FATE, BATHORY etc. who were the
founders of Black Metal. What can you say
about it?

- It's all foolishness. Such bands are the
sources and history and they deserve respect.

I think that such music like yours or
NOKTURNAL MORTUM's is hardly un-
derstandable for the youth poisoned by
modern american ways of life. How do you

think will it all be changed someday?

- It will be changed when people will un-
derstand and accept our feelings and emotions.

Tell your plans for future.

- We shall make a gig in Sumy and then
some gigs in Ukraine and Belorus. I think that
Ukrainian scene is much better than Russian
or Belorussian.

And now about ideology. Why you took
such name as ARES? Have it something
with the wargod of the Ancient Greece?

- I don't mean the Greek God of War but a
sorcerer under such name who lived in the
time of Prince Vladimir. All our names are
Slavonic.

What is the paganism for you: religion
or something more?

- Paganism is the state of my soul and way
of living. It is not only a religion. The Spirit
of the Earth it is where we get our feelings
and emotions. We have our own gods and
don't need jewish deities.

What is the main thing for you, ideology
or music?

- The main thing is the music, but ideology
is not a last thing for us. These points both
are equal in our band.

Many people think that nowadays pa-
ganism must be extremely nationalistic and
even fascistic to survive. What is your point
of view on that?

- None can resurrect paganism due to the
absence of unity between people and con-
sciousness which were changed by christia-
nity. Everybody can accuse each other but
they can't unite. The last thing is to follow
your own way of living.

Have you studied any ancient cults and
religions? Your opinion about Necro-
nomicon and Wicca.

- It is history. It exists and there's no-
where to hide from it. We support all the
antichristian cults and organizations.

What do you think about different so
called "viking metal", "nordic metal" or
"celtic metal" bands from Ukraine and
Russia?

- They are assholes and posers. Nothing
more to say here.

Have you any contacts with Satanism?

- Yes I have a direct contacts with satanism,
but our vocalist is more deeply in such things.

Are there any problems with different
christian organisations?

- Yes, we have some problems and they will
be for sure. Sometimes these assholes turned
off the light during our concerts.

Last words...

- I wish you good luck in your work you
make to harm christianity and unite us in one
force. Good luck for you!

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UKRAGH PRODUCTIONS
C/O EDWARD Y. YEROMENKO
SHEVCHENKO AVE. 23-29
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UKRAINE

E-mail: ukragh@usa.net
<http://members.xoom.com/ukraghprods>



"Genuine Parts" is your first full-length CD. How has it done? Is the band happy with turning out of this album? What can you tell us about the response you got so far? What label released this material or maybe it is a self-financed one?

- After WASTELAND released the MCD "Mare Tranquillitatis" in 1995 my person joined the band. All band-members agreed on the idea of recording a full-length CD as our next publication. So we collected new material and went over unreleased old stuff which is all now available on our current album "Genuine Parts". We are very satisfied with it and we are confirmed in our opinion by the response we got. Reviews in several underground zines were all good and many people think that we are one of the most hopeful thrash-bands. Some people say that our music is a little "old-fashioned" but that's the way thrash metal has to sound in my opinion. In spite of the good response we were surprisingly not able to get a deal with any label and so we had to finance the whole production by ourselves. This has had the advantage that nobody could interfere in our affairs. So "Genuine Parts" is really that result which WASTELAND wanted.

Give us a lookback on your five-track MCD "Mare Tranquillitatis". Do you satisfied with its production and sales? And tell us in what way "Genuine Parts" differs from it.

- The songs on the MCD are the first ones WASTELAND wrote. Satisfied with the sales? Well, actually "Mare Tranquillitatis" is sold out, although it took a long time to sell our contingent. We either are satisfied with its production but nevertheless "Genuine Parts" is a considerable step forward. The material is very varied and the sound is fatter. I think this progress results from the fact that we developed our way of playing together and that I forced the band to play harder and faster by my way of playing the drums (that is what the others say). To put in in a nutshell I might say that our new album is more professional than the MCD.

Your sound is very similar to the Thrash Metal bands of 80's when bands like DESTRUCTION, NECRONOMICON, EXUMER, etc. reign. What do you think about this? Are you listen to these bands' old materials? Have you any news concerning these bands?

- Well, you are not the first person who compared our music with the thrash-style of the 80's. And I think you are right. This is really our favourite metal-sound and thrash bands like KREATOR and SODOM are god-like! We grewed up in these times and we are a little bit proud of sound like them although were are not copying them directly. When I start playing the drums and Stephan follows with a dirty riff - well, it automatically sounds like thrash.....

WASTELAND now is a four-piece band. Do you spend a lot of time together or all of you have their own occupations outside of the band?

- Well, as you can read in our band-info WASTELAND has got five members. Tobias, our second guitar-player rejoined the band last year after he was one of the founder in 1995. We are all good friends and spend a lot of time together outside the band. We all know each other for years from the school and live in the same neighbourhood. Perhaps that's one reason why I go together better to WASTELAND than the former drummer, who

WASTELAND

Here comes an interview with a fantastic Thrash Metal band, namely WASTELAND. They opened new dimensions for the Thrash Metal style in their "Genuine Parts" album. So, I was more than pleased having the chance to do an interview with such a great group. Most of the questions were answered by André (drums), but Frank (bass) also added them with some sentences too. All is left to say, keep your eyes on WASTELAND and check their "Genuine Parts" right after reading these lines.



was a little strange.

Tell us about the lyrics of WASTELAND and who write them? Which is the main line of them? What things were motivated the lyrics of "Agony Of Christ", "Infernal" and "Demon"?

- Well, as you can guess this is one of the most answered questions. The most lyrics are written by our vocalist Tobias, some of our bass-player and "manager" Frank. They contain different kinds of topics. Many of the songs tell the story of somebody's ill thoughts about our society. As a result the lyrics are very explicit and brutal, sometimes even satirical. But there are also serious topics like the bad influence of modern television or the pain after losing a longstanding girl-friend. Nevertheless the music has the priority on our CDs and good music of course needs a text - otherwise Tobias would be unemployed..... So there is no special motivation for the lyrics of the songs you mention. "Agony of Christ" is about the pain and torture of Mister Jesus Christ while hanging at his cross, "Infernal" is about the end of the world and "Demon" describes how Satan and his demonic underlings attack and plunder the world.

Nowadays the media says that Thrash Metal is out of time style and they propagate bullshit about the bands playing this style. What's your view on this? Do you

find it hard to stay original with your music with so many different bands?

- Well, for us it's no problem to stay original. The point is that we are not trying or planning to stay where we are. We are just playing music and in the past the results mostly sounded like the traditional thrash-metal. By the way, I noticed that the number of thrash-bands has increased again in the last years. So perhaps there will be a "new wave of thrash-metal" or something like that. We will see....

I think WASTELAND is one of the few Thrash bands who ain't influenced by the nowadays popular Black, Doom, Gothic, Hardcore, etc. styles and remains faithfully to its origins. What you say about this? Are you listen to any of these styles I mentioned before? Name us your favourite ones.

- Thank you for this compliment. But that's a logical consequence of the fact, that we do not listen to much music of the styles you mentioned above. Some Hardcore acts are quite good, Gothic sounds boring in my ears, Doom is groovy but a little slow and Black metal is a style of music I can only laugh about. Especially the thing with the "evil" make-up and all these requisites is absolutely ridiculous!

Tell us more about the live-experiences of WASTELAND. Do you play live often? Do you use any special accessories on this shows? What kind of bands do you prefer to play with?

- We have collected much live-experience since 1995. We try to perform as often as possible because that's one of the coolest parts of playing in a metal-band. We have a saying in Germany which means approximately: The bread of a musician is applause. So it's real fun to play live and have a cool aftershow-party. We don't use any special accessoires in our shows, just a cool lightshow and much fog. We try to make an more entertaining show, not an evil one. We do not prefer to play with a special kind of band. The headliner

of a gig should be a local band and it's quite good when bands of different styles take part to make an impression on a bigger number of visitors.

You live in Wolfsburg. Please draw up the Wolfsburg's scene in details. What bands, labels and magazines are out there?

- Yes, we live in Wolfsburg. Labels? Magazines? Haha, the only useful products of Wolfsburg are the Volkswagen cars. Just kidding. I'm sorry, but we have no labels or magazines here actually. But some cool bands like VERY WICKED (Death/Grind), GRIEF OF GOD (Doom), UPPERCUT (Powerthrash) and some more famous bands like SEVENTH AVENUE (Power/Speed), HEAVENS GATE (Powermetal) and the late PROTECTOR (Godz!!!).

Last voices from the WASTELAND...

- Thank you for this interview and for your support. If somebody wants to listen to cool thrash metal - listen to our CD. It's available for 16 US\$/23 DM at: Frank Neugebauer, Heidkamp 21, 38442 Wolfsburg, Germany, E-mail: wasteland@wolfsburg.de . Visit our homepage: <http://www.wolfsburg.de/~Wasteland> . It's possible to load down songs and live-videos there. Bands: Trades are welcome, but ask before. Don't hesitate to get in contact with the WASTELAND!

ABYSMAL FALL

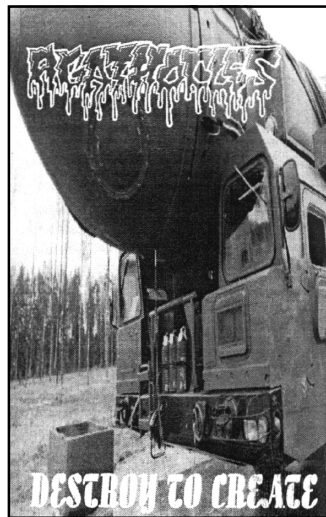
Spit In The Face Of Christ MCD '99 (Self-released)

ABYSMAL FALL plays unholy Black Metal in the most evil way you can imagine. Their music differs a lot from the norwegian type of Black Metal. Why is it so? I think, 'cause American Black Metal bands are always open to use some Death and Thrash Metal influences to enlarge their music. "Spit in the face of christ" contains 5 songs filled with antichristian lyrics, of course. Their music mostly mid-paced one, though they injected there a few grinding drum parts as well. "May God Strike Me Dead" and "Sadist Christ" are from the sort of raw Black Metal pieces with high-pitched screams, while "Tears Of Blood" reminded me a bit MERCYFUL FATE here and there with its great guitar riffs. "Graven Image" follows the massacre and later on turns into their best song called "Born To Die". That one includes a lot of cool thrashy guitar riffs, some acoustic guitar inclusions and the most powerful drumming. According to the bass parts they are remarkable all the way. So if you'd like to get a great Black Metal stuff with top quality sound then don't waste your time and write to: ABYSMAL FALL, P.O. Box 67, East Rochester, NY 14445-0067, USA. Cost of CDs (shipping included): \$8 US / \$9 International; Cost of tapes (shipping included): \$4 US / \$5 International. E-mail: CRSTKLPRDC@aol.com or BRUTAL16@aol.com Web Site: <http://hometown.aol.com/crstklprdc/index.html>

AGATHOCLES

Destroy To Create MC '97 (R.I.P. Productions)

This one is a very interesting release of the Russian R.I.P. Productions which contains 35 different songs from AGATHOCLES' early and not early periods. There are songs recorded in 1991, 1995, 1996 and 1997 as well. In the whole conception this material stands for the fast



Mince Core assault again. These three guys - Jan (throat & bass), Dirk (guitar) and Burt (drums) - really know how to kick some ass with their raging Mince Core tunes which are mostly dealing with anti-political, philosophical, animal rights, etc. themes. The tape has a good sound quality and comes with a b/w cover which includes full lyrics-sheet and other additional infos. I can recommend this stuff to all the fans of Mince & Grind Core worldwide. It won't disappoint you! To get this 60 minutes long official cassette release you should send \$4 (Europe)

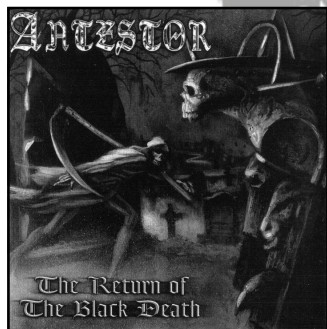
ALBUM REVIEWS

/ \$5 (World) to: R.I.P. Productions, Vladimir Korolenko, P.O.Box 72, Smolensk-04, 214004, Russia. To contact the band directly, write to: Jan Frederickx, Asberg 8, 2400 Mol, Belgium.

ANTESTOR

The Return Of The Black Death CD '98 (Cacophonous)

Well, ANTESTOR is a band coming from Norway and dealing with Atmospheric Folk influenced Black/Doom Metal in their 11-song album. "The Return Of The Black



Death" has nothing special within its songs. I must say it's a very average material which sometimes very close to the way DARK-THRONE and ISENGARD stands for. Though the sound here is much better and more enjoyable but that's not enough if ANTESTOR stands in the shadow of the above mentioned bands. However, it's an atmospheric keyboard filled melodious stuff with lots of folk influences, doomy harmonies and nowadays clichés as well as the typical black shrieks, chainsaw guitar sound, etc. The lyrics are in Norwegian and in English as usual for bands coming from Norway. So to say this band jumped in the Black Metal bandwagon and I can recommend this material only for those ones who like to listen to another copy of DARKTHRONE's "Transylvanian Hunger" or ISENGARD's "Vinterskugge". Get this 58 minutes long material from: VIMPEX MUSIC, P.O.Box 33, 8008 Székesfehérvár, Hungary.

APHASIA

Beyond The Infinite Horizon promo CD '98

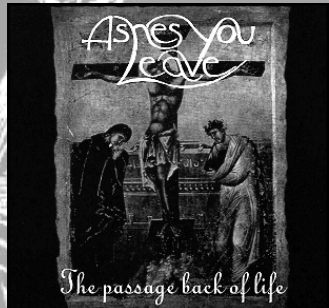
This is the first release of this Quebec trio called APHASIA. I got only their promo stuff which contains two songs from the four. The first tune "Seasonal Stowaway" is about 8 minutes long - full of rhythm changes, rolling double-bass parts and black-type screeches which are dominate in most of the vocal parts. There are growling vocals too but only for short period of time. Their material isn't fast mostly mid-paced. The second track "The Bright Sphere Of Forest" is a very melodic tune again with a lot of changes. I like both songs very much. Sometimes their music reminds me DARK TRANQUILLITY and early DEATH stuffs. Though they're pretty original band. It's an intense, aggressive, melodic and absolutely crushing Black/Death Metal material. The full EP lasts more than 25 minutes. There's no disappointing parts in it. Just pure aggression in the way it was supposed to be! If you like bands in the vein of European Black/Death stuffs then this is for you. The CD is available for \$12 from: APHASIA, C.P. St-Andre, B.P. 32111, Montréal, Québec, Canada, H2L 4Y5.

E-mail: pouilleuxqc@videotron.ca
Web Site: <http://tinpan.fortunecity.com/goldie/83>

ASHES YOU LEAVE

The Passage Back To Life CD '98 (Morbid Records)

ASHES YOU LEAVE is a seven-men formation coming from Croatia and playing Gothic Doom in the way it was supposed to be. "The Passage Back To Life" consists of seven ultra slow Doom tracks with enchanting flute parts, violins and female vocals as well. Of course, these elements were used by tons of other Doom bands before but ASHES YOU LEAVE spice them with a big dose of folk elements which gave a special atmosphere to their compositions. Nevertheless, the band don't forget to mix some Death Metal tunes into their repertory too. Besides they don't startled off to add some nowadays popular hard core motives to their stuff which is a bit unusual for Doom bands. Don't you think so? So in general, if you like sorrowful Doom Metal in the vein of MY DYING BRIDE materials then this album will surely suits your taste. You can get this 48 minutes stuff from: Morbid



Records, Postfach 3, 03114 Drebkau, Germany.

E-mail: morbidrecords@ranet.de
Web Site: www.morbidrecords.de

AURORA BOREALIS

Praise The Archaic Lights Embrace CD '98 (Self-released)

Wow, this stuff surprised me a lot. Why? Because AURORA BOREALIS' debut full-length CD represents a totally unusual and weird formulation of Death/Black Metal in these 9 tracks of unstoppable aggression. The band combines by the forces of the mastermind vocalist/guitarist Ron Vento, bassist Jason Ian-Vaughn Eckert and amazingly precise drummer Derik Roddy. Well, I try to make you clear their style, to this you should imagine how the mix of DEATH and CRYPTOPSY sounds together. However, AURORA BOREALIS is a quite original band without unworthy riffs, songs or whatever like that. Interesting fact, that their sound is more closer to the Swedish line as well as their song-structures and Ron's vocals which are mostly the high-pitched rasping ones. Songs like "Offerings Of Jade And Blood", "Aggressive Dynasty" or "For Your Comprehension" crush all your parts with its hyper fast drumming and extremely well-executed guitar riffs. On the other hand, songs like "In The Depths Of A Labyrinth" or "War Of The Rings" shows the complex and technical side of AURORA BOREALIS. And then I can add the song "Calm Before", this one actually an instrumental piece with cool acoustic guitar parts and special effects, which right after turns into my favourite track, namely "The Storm". In general, if you

like Brutal Death Metal mixed with lots of melodic & memorable tunes, that's it! It's a flawless stuff with killer sound! Available for \$14 from: c/o Ron Vento, P.O.Box 1327, Clinton, MD 20735-5327, USA.
E-mail: Aurora4dth@aol.com
Web Site: www.auroraborealis.org

AVERSE SEFIRA

Homecoming's March CD '99 (Arrogare Records)

AVERSE SEFIRA is a quite active band. A few months ago I received their 2-song promo tape and now I have to present you their debut album "Homecoming's March". The band as always features Sanguine on guitars/vocals and Wrath on bass/vocals/percussives. "Homecoming's March" includes 7 extremely well-executed Black Metal tracks that are musically not far from their promo songs as those two tracks are featured here as well. The album starts with "Hymns To The Scourge Of Heaven" that is a great blasting Black Metal tune with lots of rhythm changes and hellish screams. It follows "For We Have Always Been" (a track from their promo) which is one of their best songs in my opinion. The vocal parts were rather thoughtfully done there. "Sentinel's Plight" is the next in row. It is about fast guitar riffs and brutal grinding drum parts. I'd also like to note its masterful intro which reminded me KING DIAMOND's style a bit, though. And what's more, there are intros to every song, so you'll get a bunch of weird special effects. Their fourth song "Pax Dei" is a mid-paced one filled with great sophisticated drum-work and majestic guitar harmonies. Then comes "Above The Firmaments Of Wrath". I would say it differs a bit from the rest of the tracks, because of the use of some clear vocal parts there. The 6th track is "Ad Infinitum" (the second one on their promo) and you know it's a great song. The album ends with the title track "Homecoming's March". It's their



longest piece up to date almost 14 minutes. Crushing drums, complex riffs, screaming vocals, fast pace and a great outro what this tune is all about. In a word, I can only recommend you to get AVERSE SEFIRA's great 64 minutes long debut album! Contact: AVERSE SEFIRA, P.O. Box 4934, Austin, Tx. 78756-4934, USA.

E-mail: blasphomet@hotmail.com
Web Site: www.necronom.com/darkening/aversesefira

AVULSION

Dimensions Of Darkness CD '97 (Deathgasm Records)

When I had listened to AVULSION's "Dimensions Of Darkness" CD first time I didn't believe my ears. Because it has the old mood and music Death Metal bands played only in the period of 1990-1992. Nowadays people get accustomed to commercial shit like Hard Core or Punk for instance. And here we have a totally underground and non-commercial material.

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Generally their songs has a mid-paced orientation. The sound isn't the best one I prefer to be for such an interesting material but who cares, the songs are great and that's important. I like all the 8 compositions performed here. It's somekind of nostalgia for me and give me the mood I felt then back in the late of 90's. Deep growls, crushing cymbals, rolling drum parts, abstract solos - all this together combines the way real Death Metal is about. So who like old-school Death Metal albums, shall accept this stuff, who don't like it - stay away. My favorite tracks are "Disgorged Entrails" and "Near Death". You can get this 33 minutes long album for \$8 (USA)/\$10 (World) from: AVULSION/Deathgasm Records, P.O.Box 48829, Athens, GA 30604-8829, USA. Tel.: (706) 354-8856.

E-mail: avulsion@arches.uga.edu
Web Site: <http://come.to/deathgasm>

BRUTAL TRUTH

Goodbye Cruel World! 2CD '99 (Relapse Records)

This double CD contains a great insight into activity of the most brutal grindcore band ever, called BRUTAL TRUTH. Well, I guess you know what to expect there. It's like a collection of live, rare and unreleased stuff these four madmen done over 8 years of existence. Disc One shows how powerful and unique was BRUTAL TRUTH on the stage. This gig was recorded live at Annandale Hotel, Sydney, Australia in August 1998. You'll get 22 songs of pure grinding assault with tolerable sound! Disc Two has a special material, which based on rare, out-of-print and live materials culled from various 7" EPs, Japanese record pressings, and alternate takes. There's also a plenty number of cover songs from bands such as S.O.B., BLACK SABBATH, CELTIC



FROST, AGATHOCLES, MELVINS, NAUSEA, DENOTES to name a few. It's something that every grindcore freak must to check out! By ordering this gem of grindcore history you'll get 56 songs in almost 144 minutes! Don't be a fool and order your copy right now! Write to: Relapse Europe, Brusseler str. 14, 30539 Hannover, Germany. Phone: +49 (0)511 8709 234. Fax: +49 (0)511 8709 230. Email: Frank_van_Liempd@spv.de
Web Site: www.relapse.com

CATHOLICON

Lost Chronicles Of The War In Heaven CD '98 (Underworld Records)

This is the debut album of this Louisiana-based Death/Black Metal act. The members of it are I.N.R.I. - voice, Vrykoulak - guitars, Rekilyssup - drums and Blasphyre Demurge - synthesizer, vocals, samples. First of all, I must say that this band has a quite original sound, song-structures, vocal-style, lyrics, etc. No doubt, they're on right path and do their own music in these 12 tracks. The sound is raw and a really

underground-based one, though the synths makes it more quality. Their music is full of blasphemy, hatred and aggression which flows over every inch of their stuff. It is the most unholy stuff I've ever heard. Musically, the guitars brought the Death Metal themes and vocals gave the Black Metal touch to their music. There are a couple of incredible keyboard-based intros which add a special atmosphere before and after the songs. However, the keyboards plays an important role not only in intros and outros but in the whole stuff as well. The vocals mostly evilish screeches which sometimes sounds like hellish expiates of tormenting souls. There are some lengthy compositions like "Catholicon" and "Eve Bewitched" which are full of rhythm changes and blends majestic keyboard tunes with complex drumming. And last but not least I'd like to mention the great cover artwork which is another masterpiece by the Finnish painter Juha Vuorma. This killer stuff is a must for every die-hard fans of Death/Black Metal! Available for \$10 USA/\$12 World from: CATHOLICON/Underworld Records,



P.O.Box 183, Greenwell Springs, Louisiana 70739-9998, USA (Make check or money order out to Chad Kelly). Tel.: (504) 753-7383. E-mail: constat@ibm.net
Web Site: <http://come.to/catholicon>

CENOTAPH

Puked Genital Purulency MC '99 (Hammer Müzik)

Here comes a very strong release by the Turkish goregrinders CENOTAPH. Their second album up to date features a killer mix of gore lyrics and complex grinding Death Metal. The band consists of Batu Çetin (vocals), Coşkun Kaplan (guitars), Bülent İzgeç (bass) and Cem Devrim Dursun (drums). Believe me, these guys are really know how to mix brutality and puked genital purulency together. There are 7 songs of pure blasting madness added with lots of weird yet inhuman intros. Musically they display a high level no doubt. I would say this is a flawless album, though some guitar riffs reminded me CANNIBAL CORPSE. Anyway, I can restly say they are quite original! The guitar riffs are sometimes sophisticated as well as the drum parts till the bass lines sound clear and remarkable. As for the vocals, Batu has a very deep and brutal voice which can destroy your ears right after their first tune. I guess, there's no need to say more. Buy this 35 minutes mega brutal goregrind carnage or die immediately! Contact: c/o Cem Devrim Dursun, P.K. 866, 06446 Yenisehir / Ankara, Türkiye or c/o Batu Çetin, Siezenheimerstrasse 57/P, A-5020 Salzburg, Austria. To order it you should send \$15 for CD or \$7 for MC to: Hammer Müzik, Mühürdar cad. Akmar Pasaji 70/12, Kadiköy 81300 Istanbul, Turkey.

E-mail: Cenotaphur@superonline.com or

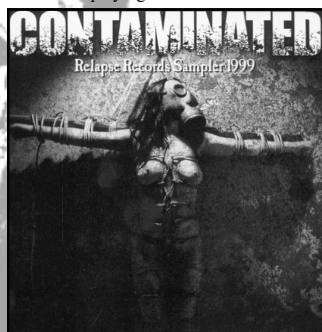
batucetin@hotmail.com

Web Site: <http://www.freeyellow.com/members6/cenotaphur/>

CONTAMINATED

Sampler CD '99 (Relapse Records)

The new Relapse Records "Contaminated" sampler contains 24 songs with over 70 minutes playing time. The featured bands



are: TODAY IS THE DAY (w/ 2 songs), MORTICIAN (w/ 2 songs), EXHUMED, NILE, INCANTATION, NEUROSIS, CAVE IN, DILLINGER ESCAPE PLAN, COALESCE, BRUTAL TRUTH (w/ 2 live songs), CEPHALIC CARNAGE, REGURGITATE, NASUM, HEMDALE, BENUMB, SOILENT GREEN, AMORPHIS, MORGION, BONGZILLA, DEAD HORSE and WARHATE. It was interesting for me to listen such cool songs as "Serpent Headed Mask" from NILE (outstanding Death with elements of the Near East), INCANTATION's "United In Repugnance" (great old-school Death/Grind), MORTICIAN's "Fleshripper" & "Obliteration" (hyper fast Death/Grind with outrageous growls), CEPHALIC CARNAGE's "Cryptosporidium" (good technical Death Metal) and "Limb From Limb" from EXUMED to name a few. You see, Relapse Records is mostly into Death/Grind acts, though you'll find there some slower Doom bands as well as AMORPHIS, MORGION and CAVE IN are plus some brutal hardcore bands like DILLINGER ESCAPE PLAN and COALESCE for example. To all this, you should add the quite original photographs and computer graphics done by Wes Benscoter. I can only recommend this stuff! Remember, if you'll give a call to Relapse crew, then you'll automatically get this free sampler. Hurry up! Contact: Relapse Europe, Brusseler str. 14, 30539 Hannover, Germany. Phone: +49 (0)511 8709 234. Fax: +49 (0)511 8709 230. Email: Frank_van_Liempd@spv.de
Web Site: www.relapse.com

CRYPTOPSY

Whisper Supremacy CD '98 (Century Media)

Well, well, well... This is the third chapter of mega brutal devastation of Canadian CRYPTOPSY. 32 minutes of pure blasting brutality is what these five madmen offers!!! It's their most brutal album and consists of eight gut-ripping Death Metal tunes in the most brutal way you can ever imagine. CRYPTOPSY combines brutality with aggression and melodies with complexity. All these things makes their music original and variable. There are no bad points at all. "Whisper Supremacy" is a flawless and very well-crafted material which should be praised by all the fans of Brutal Death Metal worldwide! My fave tracks are "Faceless Unknown" and "Cold

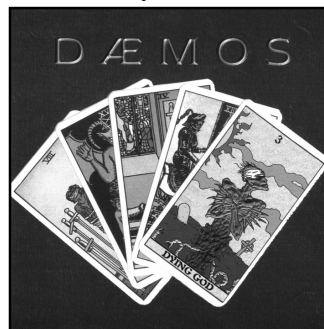


Hate, Warm Blood". Get this killer stuff from Century Media or contact the band at: CRYPTOPSY, P.O.Box 37534, 159, 25e avenue, St-Eustache, Québec, Canada, J7P 5N2 (Enclose some I.R.C.s for sure reply). E-mail: dortmund@centurymedia.com
Web Site: www.centurymedia.com

DAEMOS

Dying God MCD '98 (Self-released)

DAEMOS is an old-fashioned Thrash Metal band coming from San Diego. Its lineup consists of Vic Baddour on rhythm guitar and vocals, Eric Nunes on lead guitar, Jason St. Aubin on bass and Kevin Wood on drums. "Dying God" is their first release which represents the culmination of hard work during three years. It's definitely a strong release and the output of these musicians can

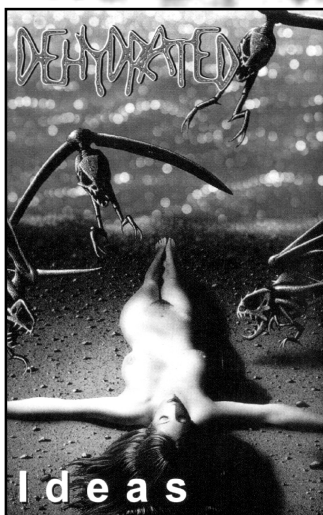


be described only by their professional skills in such music. They created the atmosphere of a very unique heavy sound here. The dynamic and complex riffing of the guitarists makes the bases of their songs. Musically, this three track EP is very closed to the METALLICA's "Master Of Puppets" and "...And Justice For All" eras. However DAEMOS is better a lot. My fave song is "Two Deaths" with its intense song-structure and quite well-played solos. Nevertheless the tracks "My Dying God" and "On The Rocks" kicks ass as well. Fans of Heavy and Thrash Metal don't waste your time to check this great material out 'coz DAEMOS is worthy of interest. Get in touch now! You can contact the band at: DAEMOS, P.O.Box 22951, San Diego, CA 92192-2951, USA. E-mail: band@daemos.com
Web Site: www.daemos.com

DEHYDRATED

Ideas MC '97 (Metal Age Productions)

In this 11-song album DEHYDRATED stands for technical Death Metal. The members of this band are Braňo Jurák - guitars, Vlado Pagáč - vocals and Peter "Pegas" Hlaváč - drums. These three guys with the help of two guest musicians made a quite professional stuff which musically closer to the works of such bands as DEATH and PESTILENCE. Their songs full of complex rhythm changes, breaks with amazing bass tunes. Otherwise, Pegas plays much

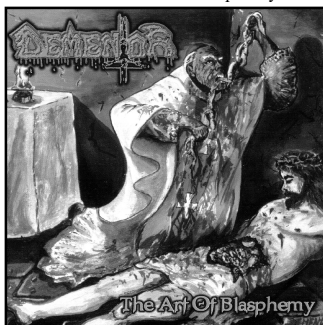


faster like the ones in above mentioned bands and in that way their music is much brutal and aggressive. For example the songs like "Hate To God" or "Stallion" are based on crushing guitar themes with non-stop grinding assault. Vlado has a quite brutal deep-growling vocal-style which add some more brutality to their uncompromising Death Metal stuff. It's a killer product with superb sound quality! Buy or Die! This MC available from: Metal Age Productions, P.O.Box 42, 03861 Vrútky, Slovakia. Tel./Fax: 00421/842/222-403. You can also contact the band at: c/o Vlado Pagáč, Teplická 27/100, 92101 Piešťany, Slovakia. E-mail: metal.age@mt.sknet.sk

DEMENTOR

The Art Of Blasphemy CD '99 (Qabalah Productions)

Straight from René (guitar/vocals) I received DEMENTOR's 3rd album, the masterful "The Art Of Blasphemy". Beside him there are Roman Calpas on guitar, Miro "Kerut" Kucej on bass and Milos "Holloshman" Hornak on drums. Well, let's see what they've done this time. After a short ritual-like intro of "Devil's Rebirth" the band initiates us into the most brutal dimensions of Death Metal with songs like "The False Faith", "Time For Death" and "The Eyes Of The Beast". Musically, they follow the path of "Kill The Thought On Christ" album, though their new songs are three times faster. I would say it's incredible how fast and precisely they can play, especially it goes to their new drummer Holloshman. I was in shock, when I heard his double-bass attacks first. This guy plays fantastic. Regarding the guitar parts of René and Roman, they've got a more complicated character with lots of breaks. Also, mention must be made about the professionally worked out bass parts of Miro and thoughtful solos executed by René, who responsible for the crushing growls as well. And what's more, through their lyrics you can get an all-sided lesson about the art of blasphemy. There's one majestic keyboard-based track called "Requiem To The Cursed Lust" in their repertoire which



ALBUM REVIEWS

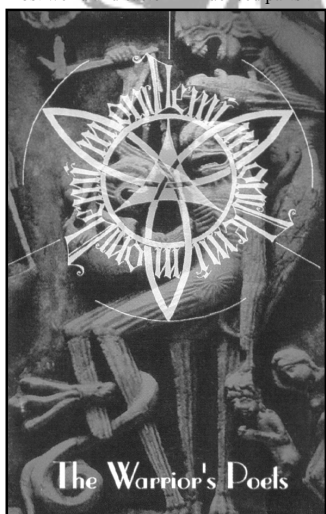
shows a new aspect of the band. Nevertheless, I've noticed some MORBID ANGEL and CANNIBAL CORPSE influences in songs "Waiting For The Death" and title track "The Art Of Blasphemy", but these are dwarfed by specific DEMENTOR songs like "Taste Of Dead Meat", "Gate Of Eternity" and "Love". To cut it short, if you dreamt about the essence of hyperfast Death Metal combined by powerful riffs, then wake up and buy this 32 minutes long flawless Death Metal masterpiece. Order it from: Qabalah Productions, P.O.Box 14890, 28080 Madrid, Spain. Or contact the band directly at: DEMENTOR, c/o René Blahušák, Vajanského 154, 020 01 Púchov, Slovakia. Tel.: +421-825-4612603. By the way, DEMENTOR recently signed a contract with Osmose Productions for recording two albums. Watch out for the next blasphemy!!!

E-mail: immortalsouls@immortalsouls.sk
Web Site: www.immortalsouls.sk

DEMIMONDE

The Warrior's Poets MC '98 (Sorrow Art Productions)

This band definitely has something special in its repertoire even if their style fluctuate between Doom and Black Metal. They successfully mixed and arranged the above mentioned styles together with adding some dark, gothic even brutal elements to it. All these ingredients plus the strange Arabian guitar motives creates the unique atmosphere DEMIMONDE stands for. The bandmembers are high-skilled musicians and they are seven: Ankhabuth the lead guitarist who brings the most weird and eastern-influenced parts till



Jacob and Kashtan responsible for powerful guitar rhythms and deep growls/clear vocals, the pleasant female vocals were performed by Tannya, her voice is beautiful and sounds quite enchanting as well as the keyboard tunes of D'aven which gives the so-called majestic atmosphere to their compositions and last but not least comes the rhythm section, Afagddu (bass) and T.o.n. (drums), whose works are worth of mentioning too, especially I like T.o.n.'s drumming which is complex and catchy at the same time. It's a fantastic Doom stuff with quality sound and thoughtful lyrics. If you into bands such as THEATRE OF TRAGEDY or THE GATHERING, then it's a must for you! Get this 7-song album by sending \$5 Europe / \$6 elsewhere to: DEMIMONDE, c/o Pavel Pavlik (T.o.n.), Hábova 10, 155 00 Praha 5, Czech Republic. E-mail: mcermak@mbox.fsv.cuni.cz
Web Site: www.geocities.com/SunsetStrip/9267/

DEPRESY

A Grand Magnificence MCD '98 (Shindy/Immortal Souls)

This is a CD I got from Radim of FORGOTTEN SILENCE and it surprised me a lot 'cause I don't expected such a great material from this Slovakian quartet. "A Grand Magnificence" is one of the strongest releases of 1998. You can find here 2 brand new songs (Unpure Romanticism Part I and Part II), one re-recorded song (Try Not To Breathe), a cover version of HYPOCRISY's "Reincarnation" track + the complete stuff of their third demo "...And There Came The Tears With Christ" with its re-mastered version. Interesting fact, that this 51 minutes long CD has been released only as a mini-CD. Their style called Mystic Occult Death Metal. And yes... This material can be characterized only by these words: The sound of the whole stuff is perfect, made in Exponent Studio. The



guitars dominated all the time and brings majestic harmonies and mood to the listeners' ears. Sometimes keyboards are present to make the songs more colorful. The vocals are mostly growl-based with the little spice of high screeches as well. This excellent stuff was performed by four occult magicians: Roman Špatný (guitars/bass), Roman Filo (guitars/bass), Roman Laško (drums) and Drahoš Gabriš (vocals). My favorite songs are "Heresy, Shadowsnight", both "Unpure Romanticism" and the cover of HYPOCRISY, of course. The cover came very close to the original one, though there were little differences in solo and some of the guitar riffs. All in all, it's a strong and killer release which must be accepted by all the fans of Death Metal. DEPRESY represents you a new dimension of Death Metal, so keep your eyes on their forthcoming releases and order this mini-CD now for only \$10 from: Shindy Productions, c/o Martin Brzobohaty, Sadova 17, 67904 Adamov, Czech Republic. E-mail: redblack@telecom.cz or Immortal Souls Productions, c/o Juraj Harin, Brezova 9, 03401 Ruzomberok, Slovakia. E-mail: immortalsouls@bb.telecom.sk. Also you can contact DEPRESY at: c/o Roman Špatný, Karpatská 40, 91101 Trenčín, Slovakia. Web Site: http://members.tripod.com/~depresy/

DYSANCHELY

Tears CD '98 (Leviathan Records)

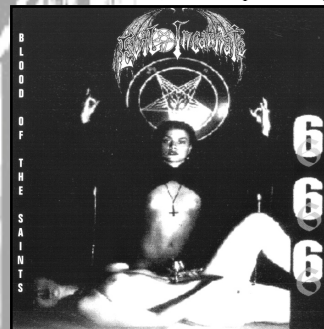
DYSANCHELY's debut album features 8 songs into melodic Doom Metal stuff. These are quite well-structured tunes having two type of vocals mainly, clear female and deep growling male vocals. They recorded "Tears" at Exponent studio. So they got a top quality sounding, of course. But it reminded me a bit to DEPRESY's sound here and there. They also like to use Death and Black elements in their music yet. These links appeared in such

songs as "Return To The Hall Of Ages" (quite complex one!) and "Shadows Of The Other World" for example. And then we have the traditional doom pieces in songs like "Centuries Of Inquisition", "Eternal Sleep" and "Tears" to name a few. In short, "Tears" is a decent Doom/Death Metal album. To get it you should write to: Michal Gonda, Sucháčkova 7/39, 036 01 Martin, Slovakia. You can also order there DYSANCHELY's new promo tape, out in April 1999, as well. E-mail: metal.age@mt.sknet.sk

EVIL INCARNATE

Blood Of The Saints CD '99 (Deathgasm Records)

This CD contains EVIL INCARNATE's "Christ Destroyed" (tracks 1-6) and "Self-titled" (tracks 7-10) demos. At first I'd like to say that such an obscure, evil and blasphemous stuff I've never heard before. These four christ-haters created their unique way of devastating satanic Death Metal in "Blood of the Saints". All songs come with the same brutality and unholy riffing of Rob Rigney (christ destroying guitar) and Dave Dally (guitars and solos from hell), which makes the main basis of their destructive music. To all this you can add the blasphemous vocals of Michael Eisenhauer who also responsible for the infernal bass tunes. The drums were handled by Andy Vehnkecamp of JUNGLE ROT who did a quite precise job for all the tracks. Meanwhile, he was replaced by John Boettcher (chaotic beats of destruction) whose face yet visible on the bandphoto of the CD-booklet. They used some awesome keyboard effects which gave a special atmosphere for songs like "Blood of the Saints" (this is my fave track) or "Dead Corpse of Jesus Christ" as well as some swedish-based riffs, for example in song

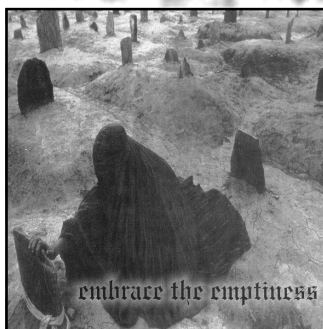


"Raised From The Deep" I've found some UNLEASHED parts. To cut it short, this 33 minutes album is a quite original satanic stuff which I warmly recommend for all the fans of brutal Death Metal worldwide. Available for \$10 (USA)/\$12 (World) from: Deathgasm Records, P.O.Box 48829, Athens, GA 30604-8829, USA. Tel.: (706) 354-8856. You can also contact EVIL INCARNATE at: c/o Rob Rigney, 4713 30th Ave., Kenosha, WI 53144, USA. E-mail: deathgasm@hotmail.com
Web Site: http://come.to/deathgasm

EVOKEN

Embrace The Emptiness CD '98 (Elegy Records)

At long last it's the first band which can really make a sorrowful and melancholic Doom Metal stuff without nowadays clichés in this style. The members of EVOKEN are: John Paradiso - guitars/vocals, Nick Orlando - guitars, Steve Moran - bass, Vince Verkay - drums and Dario Derna - keyboards. "Embrace The Emptiness" is their debut album which contains seven adventures into the world of melancholy filled reality. These five musicians created the atmosphere I've



always dreamt for. Such a slow music should be played only by this way. This 71 minutes long album has the best Doom compositions I've ever heard. The album begins with a pompous intro and right after turns into the slowly passages of "Tragedy Eternal". Then follows "Chime The Centuries End" and "Lost Kingdom Of Darkness" with its majestic harmonies. Soon afterwards comes my fave song "Curse The Sunrise" which is the longest piece of this album, it takes almost 13 minutes. Great song! Moreover, EVOKEN is one of the few Doom bands uses the keyboards only to make the proper mood for their songs. I like the cover a lot 'cause it expresses totally the meaning of the album title and the music EVOKEN stands for. This album gave the pure essence to listeners' mind how real Doom Metal should sound like! It's a must for all the Doom Metal fans worldwide! Be sure to order this masterpiece for \$7 from: Elegy Records, 248 Lakeview Ave, Suite #319, Clifton NJ 0701, USA. E-mail: Elegy666@aol.com Web Site: www.Elegyrecords.com

FESTERGUTS Bloodsoaked MC '98 (R.I.P. Productions)

This is another great release by R.I.P. Productions. FESTERGUTS is a three-men band consists of Michael Nickolayev - vocals/bass, Sergey Vasiliev - guitars/drum-programming and Olga Mitronkina - vocals.



"Bloodsoaked" is their four-song tape where they combines brutal Death/Black Metal along with majestic keyboard parts. The first song "The Portraits (Disfigured By Ghastly Grimaces)" is a quite melodic tune filled with a lot of female vocals. The second one "On The Bloodsoaked Bridal Bed" is a more brutal song full of grinding drum parts and deep-growls. The third one "Mistress Of Putridity" is the best track though it has some early CRADLE OF FILTH motives in it. And the last track "Enticing Scraps Of Torn Entrails" can be characterized only as a typical Death Metal based song with fast and

ALBUM REVIEWS

crushing song-structure. The keyboards were dominated on the whole material and were performed by two session musicians. It's an atmospheric stuff with a good sound. So if you prefer to listen to Brutal Death/Black Metal with a big dose of female vocals, that's for you! You can order this 20 minutes long tape which includes b/w cover, lyrics and photos by sending \$4 (Europe) / \$5 (World) to: R.I.P. Productions, Vladimir Korolenko, P.O.Box 72, Smolensk-04, 214004, Russia. Or contact the band at: Sergey Vasiliev, Nikitina 81/166, 248003 Kaluga, Russia.

FORGOTTEN SILENCE Thots MC '95 (Self-released)

Eh man, this album just amazing... I have no words to describe the music this 6-men band created on "Thots". It's indescribably... Though, I'll try to step over the borders of impossibility and give you some approaches of their music. Well, "Thots" represents 70 minutes of incredibly original mixture from Death/Doom/Thrash/Heavy to progressive/jazz-influenced Metal. If you think it's impossible to fit all these styles together, then you make the fatal error. Because they did it and performed all the 13 songs at its best form. The "Side of the Spirits" contains seven songs till the "Side of the Time" six. The album has the feeling of a motion picture which guide the listener to another dimension where emotions, abstract melodies and forgotten thoughts are reign. The musicians are high-skilled, especially I like the drummer's work who tends not only technical playing but shows a lot of amazing fast and grinding beats as well. Of course, there are lots of atmospheric keyboard tunes and wide-ranging vocals, which vary from deep growls to clear-sung male/female voices. In short, if you like weird mixture of Death/Doom Metal, that's it. It can be yours by sending \$5 (Europe) / \$6 (World) to: FORGOTTEN SILENCE, c/o Radim (A. Nováček), Máchova 487, Rosice u Brna, 66501, Czech republic. E-mail: redblack@telecom.cz

FORGOTTEN SILENCE Senyaan MC '98 (Self-released)

Oh man, this is the new masterpiece by the Czech motion picture dealers No.1. In their line-up became some changes and nowadays the band looks like a quintet: Krusty - bass/vocals, Medvéd - all guitars, Hanka - female vocals, Hanka - synth's and

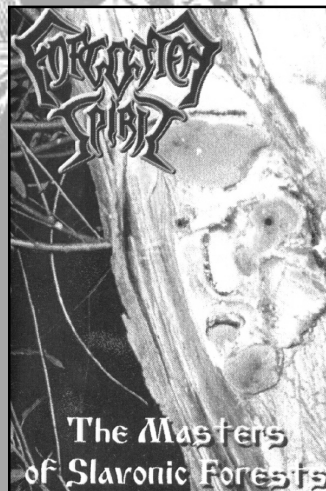


Chrobis - drums. "Senyaan" is their 86 minutes long concept album which mostly deal with Death/Doom/Gothic/etc. styles and contains 13 well-crafted songs with top quality. The album divide into two parts again, those are the "Side Of Growing Madness" and the "Side Of Winter Insanity".

Musically, it follows the line of "Thots" album but this time they added more female vocals, cool effects, noises, whispers, etc. to their stuff. The album has lots of captivating, memorable, mediative parts even as grotesque and quite weird ones. To all this you can add some raging thrashy guitar riffs, confused bass lines, charming female vocals and dynamic drumming. This things together make their repertory essentially original and thoughtful. You will definitely like this album, even if you don't like Death or Doom styles particularly. Get this flawless production for only \$6 (Europe) / \$7 (World). At present, "Senyaan" was released by Redblack Productions in double-CD format with two bonus tracks, so hurry up to get your copy first (Redblack released also the 2nd album "Behind The Shadows" of the Czech Doom band No.1 SILENT STREAM OF GODLESS ELEGY). You can get all these materials directly from: FORGOTTEN SILENCE, c/o Radim (A. Nováček), Máchova 487, Rosice u Brna, 66501, Czech republic. E-mail: redblack@telecom.cz Web Site: <http://sin.cvut.cz/~chulio/forgottensilence>

FORGOTTEN SPIRIT The Masters Of Slavonic Forests MC '97 (Ukragh Productions)

FORGOTTEN SPIRIT is one of the most talented ukrainian bands ever.

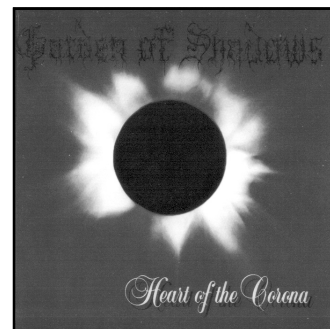


Musically, the band stands for symphonic folk influenced Black Metal. There are six well-crafted compositions on "The Masters Of Slavonic Forests" which were composed by six masters of majestic hymns, namely Izot (vox), Ratibor (keyboards), Ares (drums), Vladigor (guitar), Virem (bass) and Svetozor (guitar). These guys really know how to make a song as exquisite as possible. All the songs come with a quite variable drumming and extraordinary guitar riffing which add a big dose of originality to their music. The solos are mostly the so-called classic music oriented ones which displays the high level of guitarists as well (Especially in the songs like "Black Rose Of War" and "Ukraine"). By the way, I forgot to mention the symphonic atmosphere of keyboard which are in the basis of their songs. I like a lot how this guy crossed the tunes based on classical music along with the folk motives. The parts of vocalist sounds a bit silent, sometimes like whispers or so... Anyway, this is one of the best ukrainian albums ever created too much different from the typical primitive Black Metal products. It's a

flawless material with excellent sound. So, the chance is yours to make a trip to the spirits of ancient slavonic forests together with FORGOTTEN SPIRIT. This MC available for \$2 (Ukraine), \$3 (C.I.S.) and \$6 (World) at the following address: Ukragh Productions, c/o Edward Y. Yeromenko, Shevchenko Avenue 23-29, 40011 Sumy, Ukraine. Or contact the band at: FORGOTTEN SPIRIT, c/o Izot, Sumsko-Kievskih divizij str. 48/84, 40024 Sumy, Ukraine. E-mail: ukragh@usa.net

GARDEN OF SHADOWS Heart Of The Corona MCD '98 (X-Rated Records)

All the diehard readers of ENCOMSIUM 'zine should remember GARDEN OF SHADOWS' demo stuff I reviewed in



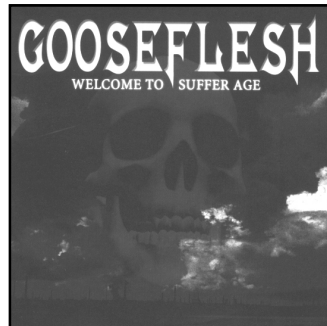
the very first issue. Now they're back with their first MCD released by the Mexican underground label X-Rated Records. This MCD contains the whole stuff of "Heart Of The Corona" demo, which meant to be 5 tracks, plus a new track called "Shards Of The Sphere". Because the demo tracks were reviewed earlier I'd like to concentrate more on their newer song which was recorded yet with the add of a bass-player. So the line-up is the following: Brian (guitar), Mary (guitar), Bret (drums), Chad (vocals), Owen (bass) and Scott (keyboards, who recently no longer part of the band). "Shards Of The Sphere" shows another brilliant Death Metal composition and talented work of musicians. This time the atmospheric line got its best interpretation in it. They use to mix fast drums, complex guitar riffs along with ultra deep growls, galloping bass lines, emotional tunes of keyboards and, of course, all this came in the most precisiuous way you can imagine. However, the aggression and melodies are still dominant part of their repertory as well. To all this I must add the totally re-mastered sound of the demo tracks and the new lay-out of the booklet. The MCD has a playing time of almost 40 minutes and available for \$10 (U.S.A. & Canada) / \$12 (World) from: X-Rated Records, c/o Mathias Kietzmann, Apdo. Postal 1-2023, Cuernavaca, Mor., C.P. 62001, Mexico. To contact the band you should e-mail at: Bmissant@aol.com Or write directly to: GARDEN OF SHADOWS, c/o Brian, 14712 Botany Way, Gaithersburg, MD 20878, USA. Meanwhile, the band signed a contract with Wicked World and the first full-length album should be out by the end of this year. Be sure to check their new stuff as well as this MCD.

E-mail: x_rated_records@yahoo.com Web Site: <http://xrr.musicpage.com>

GOOSEFLESH Welcome To Suffer Age MCD '98 (Goldtrack Records)

After a couple of successfully released demos GOOSEFLESH came with its debut MCD called "Welcome To Suffer Age" which

contains five intense Metal tracks with the influences of crossover and hard core styles. The songs mostly based on massive yet melodic guitar riffs and dynamic drum parts, while the vocals filled with lots of aggression and sometimes come in a quite thrashy way. Songs like "Killing Stone", "Seeds Of Terror" and "Suffer Age" are worth of mention, 'coz these ones shows GOOSEFLESH's own face the best. In a word, if you into bands like MACHINE HEAD or



stuff like that then it won't be a disappointment for you. You can get this MCD from: Phantom Management, P.O.Box 84, SE-66010 Dals Langed, Sweden. E-mail: phantom@swipnet.se. For any info about the band, write to: The Goosefarm, Magasinsgatan 15, SE-46130 Trollhättan, Sweden. E-mail: timebomb@algonet.se Web Site: http://hem2.passagen.se/gooseweb

GREAT HORN

Trizna After Sunset MC '98
(Shadow Production)

GREAT HORN is a brand new Black Metal band coming from Nezhin, Ukraine. Its line-up consists of Sereda Dmitry (guitar), Roman Doroshenko (vocals/guitar), Viacheslav Dirda (bass), Yuri Kovalev (keyboards) and Sergey Lego (guest drummer). The best description of their music you can get after mixing norwegian type Black Metal along with a big dose of folk- and symphonic-oriented keyboardish stuff. There are 7 songs on "Trizna..." written in the DARK THRONE meets CRADLE OF FILTH vein, but with less originality, of course. However, their songs have some potential as they combine not only usual blackish riffs but use, for example, a couple of Death Metal-based riffs too. The keyboards are dominant all the way and brings the folkish mood to their stuff till the buzz-saw guitars and rasping screeches responsible for the norwegian marks. In a word, it's a decent release with good sound quality, glossy b/w cover and lyrics about paganism. Get it from: c/o Sereda Dmitry, Shevchenko str.116/11, 251200 Nezhin, Ukraine. Or order it through Shadow Production: c/o Khomich Vadim, Moskovskaya 336/2-80, 224023 Brest, Belarus. E-mail: valkalac@mailexcite.com

HORDE OF WORMS

Horde Of Worms CD '98
(Bloodbucket Productions)

Canadian Blast Metal is the style HORDE OF WORMS stands for. A bit unusual style name but who cares. If you'd like to get a more wide description of their music you can imagine a mix of Brutal Death Metal twisted by Black elements and with extremely ultra-deep growling vocals. The CD contains 9 songs of pure brutality. All compositions have a great ripping sound along with the mega-blasting energy coming from their instruments. But do not think that

ALBUM REVIEWS



there are no melodies just only the brutality in their songs. For example "When The Forest Reigns (Desire)" and "Celestial Void" are full of enchanting melodies. The only bad thing in the whole album is the mechanical sound of the drums. In spite of that fact it's a highly recommended album for all the fans of fast, brutal and crushing Death/Black Metal. Dive in this 28 minutes of nuclear assault together with HORDE OF WORMS and be sure to check this material out. You can order this stuff from: HORDE OF WORMS, c/o Bloodbucket Productions, 1 Anglesey Blvd, Suite B, Islington, Ontario, Canada, M9A 3B2. E-mail: wormy_2@hotmail.com Web Site: http://members.tripod.com/~WORM_3/index.html

IMMORTAL DOMINION

Endure CD '98
(Self-released)

IMMORTAL DOMINION is a four-men band coming from Northern Colorado, USA. Actually, "Endure" is their first full-length album which consists of ten well-composed and performed Death/Thrash songs filled with a big dose of Hardcore influences. It's a powerful and quality release with an excellent sound. I like their music a lot but it's a pity that the style of their vocalist is very close to Phil Anselmo's vocal style of PANTERA which I don't prefer for such an intense Death/Thrash influenced band at all. The songs are different in the whole



concept. Here we have songs like "Demon Voices" and the title-track "Endure" which are full of fast grind elements or the ones like "Brighter Days" and "Piece Of Meat" from the sort of melodic stuff with instrumental inclusions. There are also very dynamic tracks as "I Won't Kill You" and "Time To Die" which is my fave song from the album. All musicians do a great job on this album. To begin with the tough bass sound through the quite well-structured guitar riffs and ending with the killer guitar solos. I would like to mention here their fantastic booklet which is full of amazing paintings of Juha Vuorma. You see it's a perfect album but there is one thing I can't endure at all. And it is in the vocal style. In my opinion it would be better for them to

left this vocal style and become with a more brutal and growling one. Their music should be played only with a brutal voice I think so. However, if you like professional Death/Thrash Metal that's it. Get this 44 minutes long album from: IMMORTAL DOMINION, 335 Bradley Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80524, USA.

E-mail: immortal dominion@juno.com
Web Site: www.immortal dominion.com

IMPIOUS

Evilized CD '98
(Black Sun Records)

From the infernal depths of Trollhättan comes IMPIOUS to evilize the earth by their fast yet melodic Thrash influenced Death Metal stuff. The main goal of the quartet lies in the good use of classical elements through the whole album. Non-stop devastation of drums and complex structure of songs are what IMPIOUS propagates in their 51 minutes long debut album. Moreover, there are a big number of instrumental guitar parts



and dual harmonies of ripping guitar riffs as well as quite thoughtful solos in the 11-song album. My favorite song became "Evilization", where the vocals got a rather interesting way of expression trying to inject some Heavy Metal-ish shrieks to mostly aggressive type vocals. The only weak element in "Evilized" is the sound, which isn't so impressive as I get accustomed to bands recorded their albums in Sunlight Studios (DISMEMBER, ENTOMBED, etc.). However it has a straight and powerful interpretation of what Death Metal is all about. That's why I'd like to recommend you to check this masterpiece out, before it's too late, from: Black Sun Records, Box 129, 401 22 Gothenburg, Sweden. To contact the band directly you should write to: IMPIOUS, P.O.Box 7079, 461 07 Trollhättan, Sweden (or send an e-mail to: impious@swipnet.se). By the way, don't forget to visit their homepage at http://come.to/impious as well. E-mail: blacksun@dolores.se Web Site: www.dolores.se/blacksun

INTENSE

Indifference MC '96
(Self-released)

Uh, I thought INTENSE will follow the way of its predecessor band, namely INTENSE AGONIZING, but they didn't do that unfortunately. The music INTENSE plays on "Indifference" is far from the brutal grinding Death Metal and mostly deal with modern styles like Hard Core, industrial or alternative for instance. However, this 10-song album contains some Death Metal-based motives and a few grinding parts in general, but mostly it takes a few seconds in all songs giving more space for the new influences such as industrial samplers and groovy Hard Core riffs. Basically, their songs

are well-composed and have a good sound quality, but nowadays it's not enough if the band has no originality, though. That's why, I can't pick any songs up, because there's no tracks I entirely satisfied with. If you claim to be a fan of semi-Death/Industrial Metal, that's definitely for you. Otherwise, "Indifference" was released also on CD by Kosch-Vox Records and recently the band released two more stuff, the "Black Dawn" MCD (1997) and the "Darkest Space" CD. All these materials available at the band's address: INTENSE, c/o Lajos Lalátka, P.O.Box 66, H-2041 Budaörs, Hungary. E-mail: intense@intense.telnethu Web Site: www.intense.telnethu

INVASION RECORDS

Compilation CD '97
(Invasion Records)

Along with this release you can get a more clear picture about the bands INVASION Records deal with and what bands are worth of interest. The CD presents 12 holds with one or two songs from each other. LUNATIC INVASION starts the CD with an atmospheric sympho-influenced psycho Death/Thrash track namely "BlutGott". VARGAVINTER follows the massacre with their non-stop grinding Black Metal attack. The next band is SCHEITAN which from the kind of fast Black Metal stuff. And their track "Riding The Icewinds" is very close to ENSLAVED's materials. The fourth band is GODGORY which surprised me a lot with its well-played quality Death/Thrash Metal. Their 8 minutes long song "Abandon" filled with many changes and great classical influenced solos. Wow, INFESTDEAD's "The New Empire" and "Sacrifice The Saviour" are full of brutality! Their two songs are in the vein of early DEICIDE and HYPOCRISY materials. Amazingly Brutal Death Metal it is in the way it was supposed to be! The next band is GATES OF ISHTAR with its "Perpetual Dawn". I like that song a lot, 'cause they know how to combine catchy melodies with aggressive Death Metal together. MITHOTYN is another band whose musically stands for Viking Metal. And their song "Upon Raging Waves" prop it up entirely. THE EVERDAWN plays its two tracks in the Gothenburg way which means Melodic Death Metal in the vein of AT THE GATES, DARK TRANQUILLITY and others. MIDVINTER is the following band with melodic keyboardish Black Metal tune. Nothing special! The next song is from NON SERVIAM which comes in the typical raging Black/Death form. EMBRACING's two tracks are performed in melodic way with some clear male vocals and mediative solos as well. DEFLESHED is the last band and seems to me the best on this CD. Two crushing Death/Thrash Metal songs in the best way is what they offers here. "Under The Blade" is my favourite track which is a fantastic piece with great song-structure, piercing guitar riffs and devastating sound. Order this 71 minutes long compilation CD from: VIMPEX MUSIC, P.O.Box 33, 8008 Székesfehérvár, Hungary.

INVASION/BLACK DIAMOND

Label Compilation CD '98
(Invasion Records/Black Diamond)

Another great compilation CD which is a split label release this time. The CD features 13 bands: NON SERVIAM, MORTUM, NINNGHIZHIDDA, SARGOTH, GATES OF ISHTAR, MITHOTYN, SCHEITAN, DEFLESHED, SKYMNING, HELLSPELL, BLAZING SKIES, ILLDIS-

POSED and ETERNAL AUTUMN. Some of the tracks were taken from the above mentioned INVASION Records compilation though only the older songs. And the second point is that some of these bands' new materials are reviewed in this section as well. So I'd like to concentrate more on the other bands. I begin with GATES OF ISHTAR's "Always" song. This one is from their "At Dusk And Forever" album. Of course it's melodic and ripping Death Metal tune in the Swedish line again. It's a pity that GATES OF ISHTAR ended its career with this album. However, the ex-members started a new band called DUSKFALL (see the interview for more details) and that's honourable. MITHOTYN is the next band. They progressed a lot and that's great. Now they play somekind of Heavy Metal influenced Black Metal stuff. "Master Of The Wilderness" is the song presented here. SCHEITAN follows and this time it's a slow piece from their "Berzerk 2000" album. Interesting track which includes awesome shrieks crossed with female vocals and of course some keyboard parts too. DEFLESH-ED comes like a stormy hurricane brought along its fast Brutal Death Metal assault. Flawless song! SKYMNING is a new name for me. Their song "Fields Of Megiddo" is very close to a Black Metal influenced version of german speeders BLIND GUARDIAN. Not bad! And here comes the next band which actually HELLSPELL, what a cliché name for a band. Shitty sound, primitive song-structure is the characteristic lines of their "Warlust" track. Though its a demo track I found nothing interesting there. BLAZING SKIES shows a much better production to its predecessor. "Same" is a quite melodic a bit Gothenburg influenced Black Metal piece. "Near The Gates" is next song from ILDISPOSED. I've never expect such a melodic track from these guys. It's a great track. Nevertheless, AT THE GATES has a big influence on their new material as well. The last band I would like to mention here is ETERNAL AUTUMN. Their first track "Autumn Opus No. 1" is a classic music oriented tune. Just excellent! "Floating" is their second track which is in the melodic Black Metal vein with lots of Heavy Metal and classical influences in the solos and riff-structures again. Worthy stuff! Check this CD out! The chance is yours to get a more wide insight into these two label's activity. The CD is almost 78 minutes long. Get it from: VIMPEX MUSIC, P.O.Box 33, 8008 Székesfehérvár, Hungary.

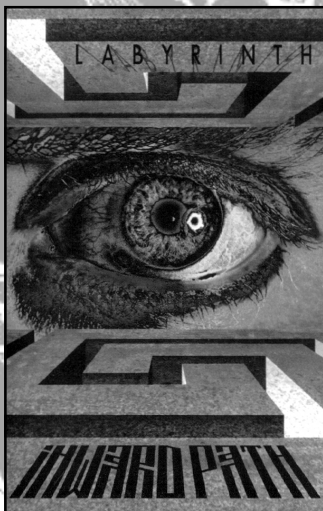
INWARD PATH Antiar MC '96 (Gal Records)

INWARD PATH is from the sort of progressive bands, combining the fusion of Heavy Metal and jazz with other unusual styles. There are seven tracks full of complex rhythm changes and breaks composed by five musicians: Grigory Velchev - drums, Pavel Korsun - bass, Vladimir Pysmenny - guitars/viola/keyboards, Denis Tikhonov - guitars/keyboards and Alexander Melnik - vocals. Basically, their music lies in the tight harmony of the guitar-players' and drummer's work. As for the vocal style, it is clear and understandable, though it's not my cup of tea. Nevertheless, I'd like to pick out their song "Desolation" which seems to me their best one along with the coverversion of OZZY OSBOURNE's "Perry Mason". The album lasts nearly 45 minutes and comes with pro-printed color cover, photo and additional info. For fans of progressive Metal it's a highly recommended stuff. Write to: c/o Nick Korsun, P.O.Box 10640, 79000 Lviv, Ukraine. E-mail: inward@mail.com

ALBUM REVIEWS

INWARD PATH Labyrinth MC '98 (Gal Records)

Well, here's the latest release of INWARD PATH, which is a straight continuation of "Antiar". Their line-up enriched with Yegor Golovachov, who responsible for the keyboards this time. The album consists of six polished tracks placed into the labyrinth of musical instruments. The songs have a more complicated structure and sometimes they became truly abstract. I don't know why, but when I imagine their music without vocals I bump into the atmosphere of PESTILENCE's "Spheres" album. Of course, don't take it seriously, it's only my opinion. As for the genuine influences of INWARD PATH, I think the right band is DREAM THEATER for them, especially it goes to the songs as "Soulcollapsed", "One



Sweet Day" and "After Beginning". Concerning the sound on "Labyrinth" it is more tougher than on "Antiar" was. The tape comes with glossy color cover, photo and other info. The chance is yours to order it from: c/o Nick Korsun, P.O.Box 10640, 79000 Lviv, Ukraine. By the way, their upcoming material entitled "Citadel" is due to be out very soon. Keep your eyes on it! E-mail: inward@mail.ru Web Site: http://west.stat.lviv.ua/inward

INWARD PATH Citadel MC '99 (Gal Records)

The time has come for the "Citadel". It's ready to invade the world of progressive-ness. Seven brand new tracks plus one coverversion of mighty DEATH will tear your soul to pieces. There's no any drastic changes in their music, though besides the usual INWARD PATH elements I've noticed a strong influence coming from classic mu-



sic in songs like "Visions Of Twilights" and "The Pale Horse" for example. The album also contains some special songs like "The Clarity, The Consciousness, The Stream" (this is the longest composition of the album) plus the instrumental track "Citadel" and, of course, DEATH's "Sacred Serenity". Regarding "Sacred Serenity" it's got a new interpretation with the add of keyboards, clear vocals and characteristic sound of INWARD PATH. What can I say? Interesting!!! The only thing I dislike on this album goes to the puffing sound of the double-bass. In spite of this fact, I advise you, progressive-minded people, to check this circa 60 minutes long stuff out! Oh, I almost forgot to mention the changes took place in the band, their line-up shriveled up to five musicians: Grigory Velchev - drums, Pavel Korsun - bass, Yegor Golovachov - keyboards, Alexander Melnik - vocals and Vitaly Yatsuk - guitars. All is left to say, the MC available for \$1.5 (Ukraine), \$2 (C.I.S.), \$5 (World) and the CD-Rom version of it for \$6 (Ukraine), \$7 (C.I.S.), \$10 (World). Make your orders payable to: c/o Nick Korsun, P.O.Box 10640, 79000 Lviv, Ukraine. Tel./fax: (0322) 74-54-98. E-mail: inward@mail.com Web Site: http://members.xoom.com/inwardpath

KATAKLYSM Victims Of This Fallen World CD '98 (Hypnotic Records)

Well, what can I say here? This is the third album of these Canadian Death dealers. After they departed ways with Sylvain Houde (Aquarius, the Moon, the image of the band, infernal vocals, etc.) and Nick Miller (drums) they lost all the brutality and lyrical conception they had till now. Just look at the cover and hair-do of the members. That's horrible... The new line-up consists of Maurizio Iacono who thrown away his bass guitar and this time he became as the full-time vocalist, Jean-Francois Dagenais on guitars, Stéphane Barbe on bass (he's the new guy) and Max Duhamel on drums who known by his great works on "Mystical Gates..." MCD and "Sorcery" CD. This album still Death Metal oriented but the pace is less than ever. However, the album presents some brutal grinding parts but just for short time. What a pity! Moreover, they turned their music into a more melodic and dynamic kind of Death Metal. It's not bad though... It seems to me that "Victims Of This Fallen World" came as a new chapter in KATAKLYSM's history. This 12 songs album shows a medium material to its predecessors. By my point of view they'll never reach again the level they had on "Temple Of Knowledge" album. Nevertheless this album has not bad songs at all. My faves are "As My World Burns", "Caged In" and "World Of Treason II". By the way, if you mostly into mid-paced melodic Death Metal stuffs, that's surely for you. E-mail: hyperblast@hotmail.com

LUCIFUGUM Нахристияхрящ MC '99 (Oriana Productions)

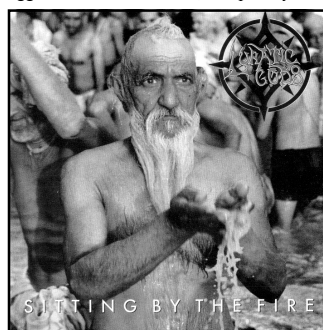
Hell, LUCIFUGUM strikes back in its best form! This time their line-up includes Faunus on vocals/bass, Bal-a-Myth on guitars/bass and two musicians from NOKTURNAL MORTUM, namely Saturious on keyboards and Munruthel on drums. Their 9-track album is an awesome



Black Metal masterpiece which sounds like a blasphemous orgy of the most unholy music ever performed, that's for sure! There's no slow parts in it, just pure blasting aggression and hatred. Their compositions are simply great and come with amazing sound quality. All the instruments audible here. Drums mostly fast as hell and the guitars sounds like a rasping grinder till the vocals shows no mercy with its raucous ravaging. By the way, the album presents a couple of really well-constructed bass lines with clearly interpreted sound. Moreover, they use the keyboards constantly hereby giving a fantastic symphonic feeling to all the tunes. This is one of the most essential sonic devastations ever created in Ukraine. Get it right now from: LUCIFUGUM, P.O.Box 80, 262024 Zhitomir, Ukraine.

LUNATIC GODS Sitting By The Fire MC '98 (Metal Age Productions)

This slovakian 6-men band made a rather unusual mix of Metal styles in their 10-song album. The main line of music fluctuate from melodic Heavy Metal through grinding Death Metal to classic- and atmospheric-based keyboardish stuff. But I can assure you that this definition isn't completely fit the music - Hiram (guitars), Psycho (drums), Mortis (vocals), Emil (vocals), Richard (bass) and King (keyboards) - created here. They combined aggression with melodies, complexity with



brutality, classic music with fusion, and so on... It's too much to describe all here. To cut it short, "Sitting By The Fire" is a professional quality album without any limits or borders in styles representing the different but very skilled level of musicians' capabilities. As you see, there are two vocalists in LUNATIC GODS whose works are add some positive sign to the whole stuff. Their range of vocals mostly tends to clear-sung ones. And what is more the rhythm section is precise all the way and the guitarist's work just amazed me with their remarkable

riffs and full speed ahead solos. I guess this description is enough for every die-hard fans of progressive Metal. So get it or be cursed for ever! Contact: LUNATIC GODS, c/o Pavel "Hirax" Baričák, Jana Martáka 33, 03608 Martin, Slovakia. Fax: 00421/842/222-403. E-mail: pavel@rebeca.sk

MORTA SKULD Surface CD '98 (System Shock)

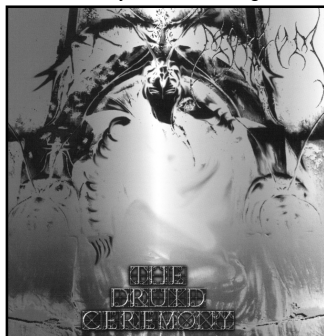
"Surface" is the fourth album of Milwaukee's brutalers MORTA SKULD. And this time they did their best one which includes eight uncompromising Brutal Death Metal tracks. The songs are mostly mid-paced with rolling double-bass parts and ultra deep Death grunts. However, there are some hyper fast grinding beats as well as



weird bass guitar inclusions in their repertory too. Raging Death Metal is what they offers for us on this 34 minutes long album with superb sound quality and precise song-structures. But concerning the originality this stuff a bit lack of it 'cause their music many times turn into their mates' music such as CANNIBAL CORPSE, MONSTROSITY or MORBID ANGEL for instance. Nevertheless, it's a killer product with the main emphasis on brutality! My fave tracks are "The Killing Machines" and "In Nothing We Trust". You can get this brutal stuff from: VIMPEX MUSIC, P.O.Box 33, 8008 Székesfehérvár, Hungary.

MORTUM The Druid Ceremony CD '98 (Invasion Records)

What can we expect from a Swedish band which works with female singer? Only Melodic Death Metal! So, MORTUM stands for the well-known Gothenburg style and it means their music is closer to IN FLAMES and DARK TRANQUILLITY. The band combines of Chrille Andersson - vocals and guitars, Rille Svensson - guitars, Michael Hakansson - bass, Bartek Nalezinski - drums and Tinna Carlsdotter - female vocals. "The Druid Ceremony" includes 10 songs of well-



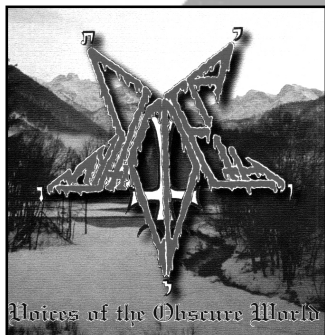
played emotional Death Metal filled with beautiful harmonies of colorful female vocalist. The sound is excellent due to the gold hands of Andy La Rocque. Some more words? Just check it and you'll understand

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everything. I'm sure most of you will like this 38 minutes long CD. Get it from INVASION or order it from: VIMPEX MUSIC, P.O.Box 33, 8008 Székesfehérvár, Hungary.

MYSTIC DEATH Voices Of The Obscure World MC '97 (Metal Age Productions)

As usual bands coming from Slovakia plays Brutal Death Metal or something similar to that. And here I have a totally different stuff performed by MYSTIC DEATH which plays melodic keyboard-filled Black Metal. The band features Veles and Perun on guitars & bass, Simargl on vocals and Svarog on drums. These 8 tracks represents a quite dark, variable and well-composed material. You can find there everything from fast ass-kicking drumming, razor-sharp guitars, clear and rasping vocals to majestic keyboard tunes, acoustic inclusions and some awe-inspiring effects. The album comes with an excellent ripping sound and a bit boring lyrics-wise which mostly deal with heathen aspects, I think such lyrics are rather meaningless nowadays. Moreover, there are a few keyboardish parts as well as guitar riffs reminds me to ABIGOR and SUMMONING, though they mixed them with own ideas and that makes



their music more valuable. In a few word, if you into storming hateful Black Metal then it's a must for you. Order this 48 minutes aggression from: Metal Age Productions, P.O.Box 42, 03861 Vrútky, Slovakia. Tel./Fax: 00421/842/222-403. For interviews you can contact: Simargl, Pivovarská 43, 03601 Martin, Slovakia. E-mail: metal.age@mt.sknet.sk

NEIN CREED Naughty Clowns MCD '97 (Dive Dhali Dive)

To begin with I must to admit that the music NEIN CREED stands for is totally not my cup of tea. These four guys - Reverend Soul (vocals/synth/rhythm guitar), Syn (keyboards/lead guitar), Kinetic Kid (bass) and Dany (percussion) - mixed distorted guitars and industrial electronic elements together to fashion their sound. Musically, they near to Hard Core bands' sounding but the mechanical sound of samples and other alternative ingredients did it more unbearably. In short, if you like RAMMSTEIN, DIE KRUPPS or bands like that, I can restly recommend this stuff for you. To get this four-piece MCD you should write to: Dive Dhali Dive Enterprises, 1624 Alexandre-De-Sève, Montréal, Québec, Canada, H2L 2V7. Or contact the band directly at: revsoul@odyssee.net
Web Page: www.odyssee.net/~revsoul

NEURAXIS Imagery CD '97 (Neoblast Productions)

Steven Henry of NURAXIS/Neoblast Productions was cool enough and sent me their extraordinary masterpiece "Imagery". It contains 12 unbelievably complex Death Metal tunes that can leave a significant mark on extreme metal fans' minds. The album begins with a short intro and right after turns into the massive riffs of "Temporal Calamity". This track shows no mercy with its brutal and gut-ripping growling vocal parts and ultra fast drumming. Then comes "Oscillated to Intelligence" that follows the virtuoso massacre. "Cyberwar" is the next one and in my opinion it is the vertex of "Imagery". It combines the most melodious and sophisticated guitar riffs plus a quite precise drum work with lots of breaks and rhythm changes. The bass guitarist's work is also brilliant. He plays some really confused parts in songs like "Inquisition on Mortality" and "Lid to your Soul" to name a few. Musically NEURAXIS displays a very high level of creativity and therefore has its own original style. Nevertheless some of the guitar riffs in songs like "Reasons of Being" and "Psycho-Waves" were heavily influenced by the Swedish Death Metal school, it's for sure. There are two instrumental tracks featured as well, both are well-executed. As for the sound quality it's excellent in spite of the weak sound of double basses, but it's only my point of view. What's left for the end is to recommend you to buy this futuristic Death Metal treasure called "Imagery"! Get it for \$15 from: Neoblast Productions, 2540 Sherbrooke E. suite #2, Montreal PQ, H2K 1E9, Canada. Tel.: (514) 598-6193, fax: (514) 336-1926. E-mail: neoblast@yahoo.com
Web Site: www.neoblast.com/neuraxis

NINNGHIZHIDDA Blasphemy CD '98 (Invasion Records)

Well, NINNGHIZHIDDA is a four-men Black/Death formation hailing from



Germany and featuring Mephistopheles (6-string, 4-string & grunts), Baalberith (6-string, leads & acoustic), Dr. Faustus (Orchestra, Piano & Organ) and Kerberos (Kettles, cymbals & screams). Eh, this album is a fantastic piece of rather thoughtful Black/Death Metal. It's not so boring as many other Black bands nowadays. "Blasphemy" contains 11 well-crafted tracks which has a really catchy song-structures captivated by good use of keyboards and female vocals. Majestic symphonic atmosphere along with fast grinding drumming is rather interesting, don't you think so? I think so. Some songs has pretty cool opening acoustic passages as well. The lyrics are deal with satanic topics, though they're not in-

cluded on inlay. To convince you I'd name some of them here: "Baphomet (In The Name Of...)", "Nailed Upon A Cross" or "Crucify The Lambs Of Christ". I guess it's more than enough. It's a warmly recommended stuff for the fans of Black/Death Metal, however it reminds me sometimes a bit to the mighty CRADLE OF FILTH! Get this masterpiece from: VIMPEX MUSIC, P.O.Box 33, 8008 Székesfehérvár, Hungary. E-mail: ninnghizhidda@darkwood.com
Web Site: www.darkwood.com/ninnghizhidda

NOCTUARY For Salvation... CD '98 (Lost Disciple Records)

Well, everybody knows that U.S. bands play Black Metal otherwise than the Norwegians, for instance. One can say NOCTUARY still being one of them, though they didn't afraid and added their music with lots of Norwegian-based riffs. Moreover, they mixed not only awesome Blackish riffs together, but also injected some Thrash & Death Metal parts there as well. The band



features Joseph Van Fossen on guitars/vocals and Edward Knecht on bass, plus there are some session musicians involved, whose work also remarkable. So, let's analyse "For Salvation...". It contains 11 well-constructed Black Metal songs with top quality sounding. The guitar riffs had been done professionally and the solos just amazed me, especially in the title song. As for the vocal parts, they are screamies ones all the time making the album more aggressive and hateful. There's also a great mid-paced song, called "Black Bleeding Soul" which reminded me SATYRICON's "Mother North" a bit. Overall, it's a worthy stuff which can be yours by sending \$16 to: Lost Disciple Records, P.O. Box 340, Winthrop, MA 02152, USA. Check NOCTUARY on the web as well at: <http://members.aol.com/Noctuary/nocturnal.html> or e-mail them at: Noctuary@aol.com
E-mail: rich@lostdisciple.com
Web Site: www.lostdisciple.com

NOISECORE FREAK / MURDER BY STATIC Welcome To The Stitchface Scar Sitter Experience CD '99 (DeadSix Communications)

Two bands, two different materials, but performed by the same mastermind, namely Chris Stepniewski. Well, I start with NOISECORE FREAK, where Chris responsible for all the instruments, lyrics and vocals. There are 35 songs written in the most fast yet noisy way man can imagine. I've never heard such a fast grindcore till now. These rather short compositions can really blow anything away. And what's more, some songs were extremely well-connected with cool intros and effects. I like this stuff a lot! It's just brutal having the fastest grind parts and quite crazy vocals in it. As for the lyrics, I'll give you just some songnames to

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define what they're all about. Here they are "Cramped Cage", "Grinding Tooth And Face", "Hellkat", "Terror In The Whorehouse Slum", "Bonerack Shackled", "Goodnight Carnage" and "Lingerie Dissection" to name a few. The second band is MURDER BY STATIC, where all the instruments were handled by Chris too. There are 10 songs in the vein of electronic/industrial music with lots of weird effects. But I must say it's not my cup of tea at all. So, I leave you here. To get this 68 minutes long split release you should write to: Deadsix Communications, c/o Chris Stepniewski, Suite 1102, 30 Hanson Rd., Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3A7, Canada. Tel.: (905) 275-9432. E-mail: noisecorefreak@hotmail.com or murderbystatic@hotmail.com

NOKTURNAL MORTUM Hexристь MC '99 (Oriana / Kolovrat Productions)

NOKTURNAL MORTUM's new masterpiece follows the path of "To The Gates Of Blasphemous Fire" album. Having mixed the aggression, hatred and fierceness of Black Metal together with Slavonic folk elements they created a totally unique sound for "Hexристь". The raging screams of Vargoth are more extreme and sounds like a warning protest against christianity, preparing all of us to the final war. Just listen to "The Call of Aryan Spirit" and you'll be common with them. Munruthel brings again his precise, hyper fast double bass attacks, which can crush every inch of your body. The guitars got a raw thrashy sound in the most songs, e.g. "Night Before The Fight" (killer one!) and "Небесное Сребро Перуна" (it's a new re-mixed version of a song from their "Lunar Poetry" album). Xaar Quath's well-audible roaring bass parts are surprised me a lot, 'coz he was everytime backgrounded till now. As you might know, there are two keyboard-players, namely Sataroth & Saturious. They've done a great work having injected tons of majestic and folk-influenced parts on the entire album. See songs like "The Funeral Wind Born in Oriana", "Hexристь: Танец Мечей" or the most powerful one called "jesus' blood" for instance. You'll get over 70 minutes of "mind-torturing" music. So don't be a fool and order this elite Aryan-Slavonic N.S. Black Metal band's new album right now! Available from Oriana / Kolovrat Distribution & Prod.: Eugeny Gapon, P.O.Box 8622, 310144 Kharkiv, Ukraine.

NON SERVIAM Necrotical CD '98 (Invasion Records)

NON SERVIAM progressed a lot from their previous album. "Necrotical" is a strong satanic Death Metal out-put which should be praised by the underground freaks everywhere. 11 songs of pure blasphemy with necronomicon and other evil-form filled lyrics is what we have here. The forces of this



possession were Anders Nyander (guitars), Rikard 'Amon' Nilsson (vocals), Chrille 'Tyr' Andersson (bass, growling vocals), Magnus Emilsson (drums) and Daniel 'Janos' Andersson (guitars, clean vocals). The sound a bit under-produced, however it will crush all your parts with its brutal raw sounding. It's fast, raging, unholy and at the same time melodic stuff. Three kinds of vocals add some points to their variety while the guitarists' work above the average. At least the rhythm section works pretty well. And the cover is simply fantastic! Do you like Gothenburg Death Metal mixed with brutal heavy riffs? If so, then it's a must for you. Buy it now 'cause it will be too late! Send your orders to: VIMPEX MUSIC, P.O.Box 33, 8008 Székesfehérvár, Hungary.

OLD GRANDAD Ogd EP / San Fran666co Bootleg CD '97 (Hectic Records)

This CD contains OLD GRANDAD's 5-track EP plus a live 6-track bootleg. This crazy band features Max Barnett on bass/vocals, Will Carroll on drums/vocals and Erik Moggridge on guitar/vocals. As you see there are three vocalists in O.G. and it make their range of vocals really colorful. Musically, they stands for old-school Death Metal, though their music combines a lot of other influences besides the traditional ones like thrash, hard core and yet punk elements as well. It's a bit strange mix of Death Metal,



isn't it? Erik's riffs sounds as massive as possible and the solos come in a rather thoughtful way, while you should spiced all this by the crushing sound of Max's roaring bass. Will's drumming is cool, but he plays mostly simple-bass based rhythms. I think their stuff will be much better if they add some complex riffs as well as some double-bass parts to their songs. The live tracks are sounds quite good and gives back all the energy they had in their studio songs. In a word, if you into the music I've described here, don't waste your time and order it right now! You can get this 50 minutes long CD for the price of \$8 USA and \$10 World from: Hectic Records, P.O.Box 401122, San Francisco, CA 94140-1122, USA. (Send well-hidden cash or money-orders payable to David Hecht). For more info about OLD GRANDAD visit: www.inreach.com/grandad E-mail: hectic@hectic.com Web Site: www.hectic.com

ORA PRO NOBIS Dedication MC '97 (Metal Agen)

"Dedication" is the first full-length album of this russian doomy band. On this release took part the following musicians: Dmitry Grygoriev (guitar/vocals), Andrey Zimenkov (bass), Evgeny Trefilov (drums), Alexey Koscheev (guitar) and Andrey

Konstantinov (keyboards). The album consists of six well-composed songs in the way of quite slow, sorrowful and melancholy-filled Doom Metal with clear vocals. To cut it short, it's a professional release beginning from the sound quality and ending with the cool full-coloured booklet of the tape, which contains some abstract graphics, photo, lyrics (all lyrics came in Russian language) and additional info about the band. E-mail: orapronobis@geocities.com Web Site: www.geocities.com/SunsetStrip/6712/

OVERSUN Pinnacle's Obsession MC '98 (Nostradamus Records)

OVERSUN is a side-project of the formers of ENS COGITANS, namely Oleg Alimov (vocals) and Sergey Ponkratiev (guitars). This MC contains 6 tracks in a very strange way, they mixed modern computer technology with metal. I don't see the necessity of such kind of bands nowadays 'cause that's for popsters and definitely not for metalheads, I think so... And it seems to me that soon it will become a new trend amongst the metal bands to do some electro projects instead of cool metal albums. In a word, OVERSUN combines lots of weird effects, samplers, distorted vocals and so on... But it's not for metal fans even if the guitars sounds metalish and even if their music mostly resembling to ENS COGITANS' style. I don't advise this stuff for metal fans at all, let the others price it. The tape version of this 30 minutes long mini-album available for \$5 World (the CD-R version of it costs \$10 World). Contact: c/o Oleg V. Alimov, Tolmachev str.11-82, 141250 Ivanteevka, Moscow region, Russia.

PESSIMIST Blood For The Gods CD '99 (Lost Disciple Records)

Complex Death Metal is what PESSIMIST cultivates in their 9-song repertory. Their second album up to date includes an essential Death Metal stuff with own ideas and sound, of course. However,



the music itself combines a lot of DEICIDE and CANNIBAL CORPSE-type guitar riffs. In spite of this fact, I enjoyed a lot their ultra brutal blasphemous Death Metal assault. As for the vocal-style, it fluctuates from deep guttural growls to high-pitched screams. Their drummer plays really precisely yet fast all the way and can crush all that is holy. There's also an interesting bass guitar sound which makes this stuff totally killer. Another thing that I like in PESSIMIST is goes to the well-executed solos and cool instrumental parts in such songs as "Unborn (Father)" and "Wretched of the Earth". My favorite pieces are

"Century of Lies", "Unspeakable Terror" and "Tunnel Rats". In short, if you want to have an uncompromisingly brutal & unholy stuff, then order "Blood For The Gods" which is something you should hear before die! Available for \$16 from: Lost Disciple Records, P.O.Box 340, Winthrop, MA 02152, USA. Tel: 617-846-3741. Fax: 978-975-7633. Band contact: PESSIMIST, 1807 S. Charles St., Baltimore, MD 21230, USA. E-mail: peess666@ix.netcom.com Web Site: www.peessimist.com

RAMPAGE This End Up MC '98 (Unsung Heroes Records)

RAMPAGE is back with its new and this time incredibly blasting old-school Thrash/Death/Black Metal stuff. The band's line-up has remained intact, and combines by the evil forces of Lord Vic (lead guitar and vocals), Paul Bearer (drums), Earwhig Ringworm (rhythm guitar) and Tom Coffinsmasher (bass). This 13-track album makes me drown into the unforgettable feeling of 80's bands such as VENOM, POSSESSED, DESTRUCTION, MAYHEM and the list goes on. Their songs are really well-crafted, though those has less of originality due to the similarities with the bands above, but for me was important that their music came from their veins and it means a straight release which should be checked by all the true fans of old-school Metal. Songs like "Satanic Symphony" and "Born In Hell" are rather interesting complex Thrash tunes with killer riff-passages and flawless drum-work. Moreover, the bass parts were quite well-structured and add lots of variety to their powerful music, while the raw vocals gives more brutality and aggression. And if all this isn't enough for you, they added two bonus tracks for the end, from which one is the cover version of the famous MERCYFUL FATE's "Black Masses". Be sure to order this brutal old-school stuff right now from: Unsung Heroes Records, 109 Misty Ridge Trail, Stockbridge, GA 30281, USA. And look for their next release, "Bellum Infinitum", which will be out somewhere in 1999.

E-mail: m_c_vic@geocities.com Web Site: www.mindspring.com/~lordvic/rampage/

SACRAMENTUM Thy Black Destiny CD '99 (Century Media)

SACRAMENTUM without any doubts plays an integral part of swedish Death Metal community. Their third album shows the same brutal uncompromising Death Metal vein as their ancestors "Far Away From The Sun" (1996) and "The Coming Of Chaos" (1997). It's another unadulterated work which amazed me with its toughness against the popular Black trend. It again produced by Andy La Rocque in Los Angered Recordings, that means crystal clear sound quality. Nowadays SACRAMENTUM combining by the magic forces of guitarists Anders Broylcke and Nicklas Andersson (also known as member of LORD BELIAL), vocalist/bassist Nisse Karlen and last but not least drummer Nicklas Rudolfsson, whose name is well-known by the appearance in such Death Metal hordes as SWORDMASTER, DEATHWITCH and RUNEMAGICK. Ten tracks of excellent blasting Death Metal filled with hatred, aggression and brutality. These things makes a special atmosphere for songs of "Thy Black Destiny". Complex guitar-work, precise drumming and cruel growling the marks of SACRAMENTUM.

It's not a basic material of Death Metal style, but I can frankly say it's a constituent part of it. To get this fiendish masterpiece you should contact Century Media directly at: Schäferstrasse 33a, 44147 Dortmund, Germany.

E-mail: promotion@centurymedia.com
Web Site: www.centurymedia.com

SARCASTIC

Anywhere Out Of The World MC '97 (The Black Orchid Productions)

"Anywhere Out Of The World" represents 8 brutal Death Metal compositions in the vein of American Brutal bands with a lot of melodic stuff. The members of SARCASTIC are: Palo Gillar - vocals, Palo Gablík - guitar, Jiro Petfik - guitar, Palo Laššák - bass and Juro Šulek - drums. Palo Gillar's growls are deep which sometimes turns into nowadays popular high-pitched Black Metal vocal parts. I like a lot the guitarists' riffing as well as their riff-structures brutal and at the same time too similar to my favourite scandinavian type of riffing. The solos are worth of mentioning too. There are no bad tracks at all only complex Brutal Death Metal tunes. Most of all, I like the tracks like "(Beautiful?) Gray World" and the last one which is actually a cover version of humorous Louis De Funes's Fantomas Trilogy and called "Fantomas Never Dies". Well, I leave you with these lines hope you might be interested about SARCASTIC's stuff. The chance is yours to order it from: c/o Palo Gillar, Tuská 79, 97401 Banská Bystrica, Slovakia. Tel.: (00421) 903 535 320. E-mail: sarcastic@pobox.sk

SARGOTH

Lay Eden In Ashes CD '98 (Black Diamond)

"Lay Eden In Ashes" is a work of three swedish hell-bastards: Patrick Johansson on guitar & bass, Roger Lagerlund on drums and Fredrik Sundin on vocals. The trio have done nothing outstanding in this 10-track album.



I can't lay stress on any of songs 'cause all from the same series. And sometimes it is rather difficult to tell them apart. These tracks are fast, aggressive, raging Black Metal tunes mostly. They're follow the way and ideology MARDUK, DARK FUNERAL and THE ABYSS started somewhere in the past. The lyrics-wise is evil, unholy and of course satanic. SARGOTH storming well on this 36 minutes album. Songs like "Path Of Sin" or "Evil Dawn" are worth of mentioning. But without less of originality I've recommend this material only for fans of fast, extreme and brutal Black Metal. By the way, there are some parts reminiscent to IMMORTAL as well. The sound is O.K. So, if you haven't enough quality Black Metal albums in your collection then enlarge it with this stuff. You can take a probe with SARGOTH maybe it will be a worth election for

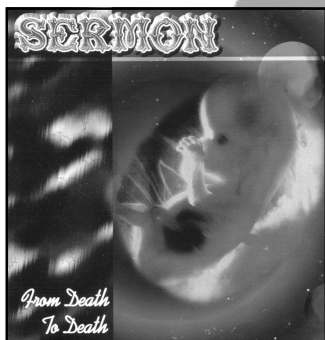
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you. Buy it from: VIMPEX MUSIC, P.O.Box 33, 8008 Székesfehérvár, Hungary.

SERMON

From Death To Death CD '98 (Wild Rags)

This is the second full-length album of russian Death Metal leaders SERMON. Their progression is evident. The ten well-structured and composed tracks show us what is the way they following now. Actually, this way called melodic Death Metal. Though, sometimes the music of SERMON drown into thrash metal and other interesting styles, for example to jazz. My favourites are: "I Want To Reach The Dawn", "Eternal Progress" and "Eclipse" which one is in Russian language. The material is full of harmonic guitar solos, emotional high-pitched vocals and galloping drum parts. Concerning the sound I must to admit it's



perfect. All the tone coming from their instruments give us a clear and remarkable picture of their art. No doubt, SERMON is a serious band. Everything they do on this circa 50 minutes album can be characterized by one word which is professionalism. The enthusiasm is there and that's count nowadays. Strong out-put. Recommended for all the freaks of melodic Death Metal. Get it now from: SERMON, c/o Pavel Suslov, P.O.Box 285, 121151 Moscow, Russia or order the CD directly from: Wild Rags, 2207 W Whittier Blvd, P.O.Box 3302, Montebello, Ca 90640-8602, USA. E-mail: dickcee@webtv.net

SICKNESS

Ornaments Of Mutilation CD '95 (Hard Knox Records)

Well, it's a bit old release but I decided to review it here. "Ornaments Of Mutilation" is the art of pure brutality and devastating Death Metal. There are no slow parts in their music just the full speed ahead aggression. Eight tracks in circa 19 (!) minutes. I guess



these numbers enough for every Brutal Death/Grind fans to think better of buying this stuff straight away. Fast, piercing, grinding beats, massive guitar riffs and all

this came with extra-deep growling vocal ground. You see these guys don't joking. The lyrics of songs like "Cold Bitch" or "Necrosick" isn't about flowers or love or shit like that, hope you know what I'm basically mean here. Be the part of SICKNESS or die! You can order this brutal stuff for \$12 World. The CD includes lyrics, photo, additional info and a very nice cover. Send your orders to: SICKNESS, c/o Sergio Cesario, 5555 SW 6TH CT, Margate Fl, 330 68, USA.

E-mail: sickness@geocities.com
Web Site: www.geocities.com/sunsetstrip/club/4898

SUFFOCATE

Exit 64 MC '98 (Erebus Productions)

After two successfully released demos SUFFOCATE is back with its first full-length album "Exit 64". There were some changes in their line-up and now the band consists of Gellért Pásztor (vocals), Zsolt Hölgye (guitar), Attila Pócs (guitar/backing voc.), Zoran Kočiš (bass/backing voc.) and Erik Balogh (drums). This album shows a strong release which includes nine brain-washing Death Metal songs in a quite



experimental way. Can I say this stuff original? Sure! Why? Because they had combined all their brutal Death Metal tunes along with interesting special effects, clear vocals and unique song-structures. This band has a big potential in song-writing and it counts a lot today. On the second hand we have a great musicianship and excellent sound here. Gellért's growls are deep like the voices coming from a bear's stomach. Zsolt and Attila brings the complex megabrutal riffs. Zoran with his weird bass parts seems to me came from a jazz band and last but not least Erik gave a precise and fast drumming to all these components. Songs like "Duplicity", "Soaring" and "D.D.D." kills with its intense grinding parts. If you like technical, brutal and total destructive Death/Grind music you shouldn't miss SUFFOCATE's "Exit 64"! Write to them at: SUFFOCATE, c/o Hölgye Zsolt, Boriny 1367/12, 92901 Dunajská Streda, Slovakia. E-mail: suffocate@usa.net. This MC comes with a full-colour cover, lyrics, photo and available for \$5 (Europe) / \$6 (World) from: Erebus Productions, c/o Martin Belobrad, Bajzová 29, 01001 Žilina, Slovakia.

E-mail: belobrad@za.netax.sk
Web Site: www.angelfire.com/mt/turcik/index.html

SUNCHARIOT

Betrayal Light Of Fertile Ground MCD '98

(Soundscape Music Canada)

Hailing from Rostov-on-Don (Russia) SUNCHARIOT plays Black Metal with the use of a weird instrument, namely flute, in this kind of aggressive music. It's something new and unexpected when a band came with such unusual idea. The band combines by the forces of Stanislav - vocals/lead and rhythm guitars, Denis - lead and rhythm guitars, Olga - flute and Konstantin - drums/bass/acoustic guitar. For me it was a pleasant surprise to hear the mix of fast grinding beats, blackish screaming and folk influenced melodies of flute spiced with lots of cool acoustic and distorted guitar parts. The repertory of SUNCHARIOT includes five melodic tracks in circa 22 minutes with excellent sound quality. And tracks like "Mother Ground" and "Вороны" just amazed me with its splendid indescribably song-structures. If you search for another original band to enlarge your collection, SUNCHARIOT is surely for you! Highly recommended stuff! This fantastic MCD available for \$6 (Russia, C.I.S.) and \$10 (worldwide) from: SUNCHARIOT, P.O.Box 526, 344010 Rostov-on-Don, Russia.

E-mail: stiv@don.sitek.net
Homepage: <http://www.don.sitek.net/home/stiv>

THE GREAT KAT

Digital Beethoven On Cyberspeed CD-Rom '96

(Bureau Of Electronic Publishing)

After releasing of such brilliant albums as "Worship Me Or Die!", "Beethoven On Speed" and "Guitar Goddess", the mighty guitar genius GREAT KAT decided to release another masterful stuff which is actually the first Classical/Metal interactive CD-Rom ever to be pressed. With this CD-Rom, you can learn about 44 of the greatest classical composers, browse in the catalogue of virtual classical instruments, learn musical terms, listen to famous classical works of all time, test your music knowledge, watch KAT music videos and last but not least you can hear 5 cyberspeed KAT songs which playable on a regular CD player as well. The first song "Goddess" come in the usual thrashy way with lots of memorable guitar riffs, double-bass tunes and killer solos. Then follows my fave song "Cyberspeed" with its super fast virtuoso soloing and amazing song-structure which shortly after turns into majestic piece of Wagner's "Ride Of The Valkyries". And then comes two more fantastic covers, Paganini's "Caprice #9" and Bach's "Partita #3". I guess there's no need to describe those songs because they speaks for itself. If you search for outstanding album to enlarge your collection, that's it! Make a journey together with the charming lady and her band into the 21st century and discover the power of Cyberspeed she offers you. But don't forget, to enjoy the whole CD you should have a Macintosh or a PC at least. Get it for only \$10 through TPR Music: Karen Thomas, Thomas PR, 775 Park Avenue, Suite #222, Huntington, NY 11743, USA. Tel.: (516) 549-7575. Fax: (516) 549-1129. You can contact THE GREAT KAT directly at: greatkat@greatkat.com OR call toll free 1-800-KAT-9199.

E-mail: karent@thomas-pr.com
Web Site: www.thomas-pr.com

THE GREAT KAT
Bloody Vivaldi CD '98
 (TPR Music)

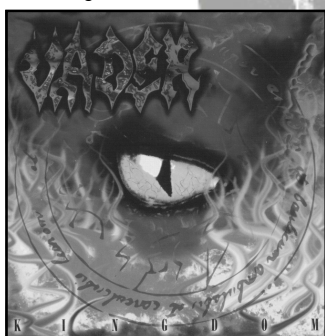
Ladies and gentlemen! THE GREAT KAT is back and faster than before. The new masterpiece "Bloody Vivaldi" contains four extremely well-executed Classical/Metal tracks, which stands for pure virtuosity and eminent talent of the mighty Great Kat. She performs all the violins, viola, guitars, conducts, vocals and screams till Jeff Ingegno responsible for the bass lines and Lionel Cordew for the drums. The CD



begins with the first cyberspeed version of Vivaldi's famous piece "The Four Seasons", which comes like a fast bullet and stops only at the end of the last note. I found quite interesting this mix of metal band and chamber orchestra together. The next song "Torture Chamber" offers a nice journey through pain and suffers of hell with lots of crazy psychopathic screams, guitar howling and industrial effects. I'm sure that this tune can give a fantastic sonic pleasure not only for die-hard KAT fans but for all the sadomaso freaks as well. And then come the shortest piece of the album which called simply "Blood" or music against your ears, ha-ha... I am serious, this insane 39-second tune is about massive guitar massacres and blood-dripping lyrics. It follows the last track - Sarasate's "Carmen Fantasy" - another great cyberspeed version of the Spanish Classical virtuoso, where electric guitars and violins were successfully crossed and performed at indescribably speeds. She really knows how to combine classical music with heavy yet hyper-fast Metal riffs and solos. Get this excellent 4-song CD from: TPR Music, 775 Park Avenue, Suite #222, Huntington, NY 11743, USA. E-mail: greatkat@greatkat.com Web Site: www.greatkat.com

VADER
Kingdom MCD '98
 (System Shock)

Polish Death Metal masters VADER had returned, this time with an interesting mini album which contains six tracks plus one video clip. If you have a PC then you can enjoy the high professionalism of VADER not only audibly but visually too. The CD begins with the "Incarnation" video



ALBUM REVIEWS

clip which is from their "De Profundis" masterpiece. And then comes "Creatures Of Light And Darkness" a new song in the vein of their previous album "Black To The Blind". Great song! The next one is a new version of the song "Breath Of Centuries" from their very first album "The Ultimate Incantation". There are no significant changes in it. I mean, the song-structure is remained the same but if concerning its speed then it comes two-times faster and that's exciting. The title-song "Kingdom" follows the massacre with its slow and catchy guitar rhythms. It surprised me a lot 'cause I didn't expect such a slow song from VADER. However it's a fantastic song. The next one is "Anamnesis" which is a fast track again. It was the bonus track for the Japan version of "Black To The Blind". Well, the last two songs are not impressed me a lot 'cause these are very experimental remixes and have nothing with Death Metal style at all. These songs are "Inhuman Disaster Mix" and "Quicksilver Blood Mix" which were inspired by two songs of "Black To The Blind" album. It's a flawless material, even though I must say these two remixes were rather needless in my opinion. Nevertheless VADER still being one of the best Death Metal bands ever. Be sure to check this fast ass-kicking Death Metal material out! Web Site: <http://vader.coven.vmh.net/>

VALHALLA
On The Way To Gods MC '99
 (Beverina Production)

VALHALLA is a two-men ukrainian formation playing Viking Metal. Who knows why, but Stonecold (vocals/guitars) and Stjrbjern (bass/keyboards) chose that way. Their music is O.K., though it was definitely influenced by a few nordic Viking bands as well as by some second-generation Black bands. In their 9-song repertory they mixed mid-paced Black riffs together with ancient Viking melodies, folk-based keyboard parts and lyrics about scandinavian myths. Also, you can find there the usual ingredients of Viking/Black bands such as screaming black-type vocals, clear hymnic voices, grinding beats, razor-sharp guitar sound and so on... There's really nothing special in their music. However, it's a decent release which comes with professional sound quality, color cover, photos, lyrics, etc. For the fans of Viking Metal it's a must, though. Write to: VALHALLA, c/o Yuri Gadzevich, P.O.Box 59, 262024 Zhitomir, Ukraine. E-mail: aval@net.zt.ua

WASTELAND
Genuine Parts CD '98
 (Self-released)

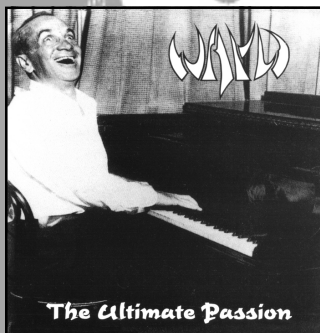
Are you remember the old times when bands like DESTRUCTION, EXUMER or NECRONOMICON reigns? If so, you can imagine the music WASTELAND actually stands for. It's pure ripping Thrash Metal in the best way... The band consists of André (drums), Frank (bass), Stephan (guitar) and Tobias (vocals). "Genuine Parts" is their first full-length album but I can assure you it will crush your brains after listening to it once. 12 tracks of nostalgia filled Thrash Metal mixed, of course, with lots of modern influences like adding some Death Metal growls here and there plus some other weird things like fast nearly grinding drum parts. No doubt, it's a very strong release with great musicianship. Songs like "Agony Of Christ" or "Infernal" simply kills with its catchy



pulsating guitar riffs. To cut it short, "Genuine Parts" is for the fans of 80's Thrash Metal. Buy or die!!! It's available for 16 US\$ / 23 DM at: Frank Neugebauer, Heidkamp 21, 38442 Wolfsburg, Germany. Phone/Fax: 05362/65937. E-mail: Wasteland@Wolfsburg.de Homepage: www.wolfsburg.de/~Wasteland

WAYD
The Ultimate Passion MC '98
 (Metal Age Productions)

O.K. Let's analyse what we have here. WAYD plays technical Death Metal in the vein of early ATHEIST and CYNIC materials but with more melodies and what is strange with the add of keyboards and female vocals. They are four; Milan Savko - guitars/vocals, Brano Kósa - drums, Richard Mayer - guitars and Drabos Jurik - bass/vocals. The music of WAYD mainly based on complex breakneck guitar riffing, intense drumming, rolling bass lines and harsh death metal vocals. However, there are some thrashy vocal parts and guitar riffs in their repertory too. Their 10-track album sounds firmly and has a quite enjoyable sound which sometimes reminds me a bit to the sound of the latest albums of DEATH,

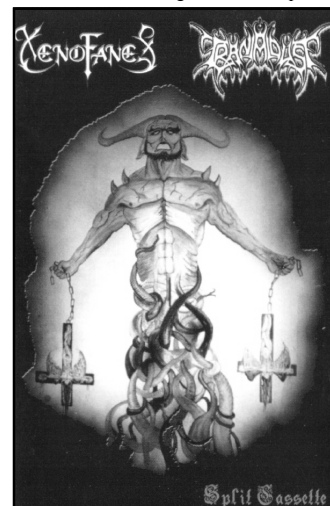


though. My fave songs are "The Path", "New Light" and the title track which are the most powerful ones I think. So, if you like the above mentioned bands plus you can imagine how they could sound with keyboards and female vocals then you surely bump into WAYD! Get this masterpiece from: Metal Age Productions, P.O.Box 42, 03861 Vrútky, Slovakia. Or contact the band directly at: WAYD, c/o Richard Mayer, Prostejovská 28, 08001 Presov, Slovakia. Fax: 00421/91/721 223. E-mail: metal.age@mt.sknet.sk

XENOFANES / CRANIAL DUST
Split MC '97
 (Cadla Productions)

The following is a split release of Cadla Communications. Side A includes four polished tracks of the five-men XENOFANES. Their energetic yet melodic Death/Thrash Metal overthrow me at once. The sound

quality is ripping and believe me that's count a lot in such complex themes. Their songs provides a pile of catchy riffs, technical cymbal-works, pulsating bass tunes along with mainly AT THE GATES-style vocals. XENOFANES repertory have a mid-paced orientation even though the drummer plays fast grinding beats here and there. The most attractive part of XENOFANES is in the guitarist's work, they mix all the way different riffs together which I like so much. On the other side, the quartet of CRANIAL DUST defines three tracks in ordinary Black Metal style. Of course, their music is evil, dark and even melodious but as a whole I don't see any epoch-making parts there. Basically, their songs come in a straight and quality way, but sometimes due to less of originality it annoyed me a bit. Nevertheless, "Master Death" I found interesting because of its varied song-structure. Hope the



new stuff they will be composed in that way. Consequently this is a worthy release. However, only XENOFANES convinced me entirely. Order this split cassette for only \$6/ 10DM incl. postage from: Cadla Communications, P.O.Box 10008, SE-850 10 Sundsvall, Sweden. E-mail: cadla@hotmail.com Web Site: <http://listen.to/cadla>

ZOMBIE HOLOCAUST
Részeg Jézus MC '98
 (Self-released)

Wow, what a title name?!!!! It's in Hungarian and means "Drunken Jesus". And what we have here is 14 songs of antichristian holocaust filled with totally suitable lyrics. Musically, ZOMBIE HOLOCAUST is another cool band that support the movement of 80's Thrash bands. And they do the same as their mates in Scandinavia (INFERNÖ, GEHENNAH or GUILLLOTINE for instance). Their music is an excellent mixture of old Thrash, Death and Black Metal. Some songs have weird intros before turning into nostalgic mostly Thrash/Death Metal. The sound is quite raw which I'd compared only to SODOM's "Obsessed By Cruelty" era. So, these four guys (Noszov Valentin - guitar/vocals, Horváth Péter - guitar/vocals, Sági Hubert - drums and Galamb Csaba - bass/vocals) really know how to kick some christian ass off. You can contact the band at one of the following addresses: Noszov Valentin, Duna út 9, 9200 Mosonmagyaróvár, Hungary or Galamb Csaba, Április 4 út 15, 9226 Dunasziget, Hungary. As this is distributed by ATHEIST 'zine also, I'll give you its address too: ATHEIST 'zine, Szalay Gábor, Galamb út 27, 3060 Pásztó, Hungary. I guess \$5 should be enough.

21th of June I had the chance to met a couple of great bands at the Maximum Festival Tour '99 in Hungary. The list of the bands was SIX FEET UNDER, VADER, ENSLAVED, CRYPTOPSY, NILE and THYRFING. The show went extremely well. Grutlje Kjellson (vocals/bass) of ENSLAVED was enough cordial and narrated me the latest news and happenings around the band. Read this and be sure to check their "Blodhemn" album before it's too late.

Your new album called "Blodhemn" is slightly differ from the others. What was the reason for it?

- Actually I think all our albums differ from each other, because we're kind of develop our music all the time. That is natural. You know it's no point making 10 equal albums, is it? Another reason might be the influences our new members Kronheim and Dirge Rep brought to the band.

What was the reason for Harald Helgenson to leave the band?

- He was kicked out mainly because of his alcoholic problems. He just drank far too much and were not able to rehearse or even to show up on our rehearsals.

You consider yourself as Viking Metal but many 'zines call you as "Black metal" band. What do you think about it?

- People will always do what they will. Still, I think it is totally wrong to call us Black Metal, because Black Metal is satanic music and we're not satanic! Anyway Viking Metal is not a music category, it's just a name we put on our music years ago.

So ENSLAVED=Viking Metal and vice versa.

The lyrics of your whole albums are dealing with vikings and ancient Scandinavian mythology. What is it for you? Is it only tribute to the past of your nativeland or you consider yourselves as pagans?

- You know pagan is just a name the



christians put on all the believers of ancient religions in the lands they conquered. So we are definitely not pagans! We are believers of the ancient religion called Åsatru. Hail Odin!

Describe us the situation in norwegian underground nowadays.

- I am afraid I've got no idea what's going on!!! I'm just into ENSLAVED and the other older bands like GORGOROTH, GEHENNA, MYSTICUM, DARKTHRONE etc. etc.

There's a lot of viking bands in Norway (EINHERJER, STORM, etc.). What do you think about that? It seems to me that it can turn to the new trend.

- Those bands are really not my faves, I do like the persons behind them, but I definitely don't like their music. You know, it's just a matter of taste! The guys are cool but, yeah, you know...

What can you say about the bands from the countries that have nothing with vikings (Poland, France, Finland etc.) that call themselves "Viking Metal"?

- I think it's wrong of them to copy or to take part in our heritage! They have their own

heritage and ancestors and their history is just as proud or even prouder than ours! One of our main goals with ENSLAVED is to get people just as much into their heritage as we are in ours.

Just think about the history of Poland, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Italy and of course the Celtic history! Come on! Wake up! Most of the people in Europe have a great history and mythology! Study it!!! Find your roots! Find the path of your Forefathers!!!

What can you tell about the future for ENSLAVED. What about the new album. Will you release it in 1999?

- Our next album will be recorded during Jan/Feb 2000. It will of course be different to Blodhemn and it will be the best ENSLAVED album so far. It will probably be released in the spring/summer of 2000.

The lyrics of your all albums are in norwegian and ancient icelandic (vikingligr veldi) language. What is the reason for it?

- The reason is mainly that we express our feelings/emotions much better in our

mother tongue.

Tell us some words to the end.

- If we have any fans I would like to hail them! Keep on supporting us. Support the Army of the Northstar!!! Also try to dig into your own proud history! You will enjoy it, just as much as we do! Believe me. Keep up the spirit! Hail the Ancient Ones!!!

E-mail: enslaved@start.no



First of all, tell something about the history of the band.

- I don't know exactly what to tell you. I think it's the history of the band to be the most dull part of any interview in underground magazines. That's why I'll try to let you know the brief history of CRYPTHOWL. It started in 1997 as a one-man project. Before the end of 1997 I recorded a promo-tape which was spread in 300 copies over the world. Positive reviews give me the forces to go on with CRYPTHOWL and now I'm trying to finish the recording of the debut album of my band. I've said «band» because now I have some musicians which help me on rehearsals.

Why you decided to act in a way of a "one man project" first, but now you working with full line-up? Tell us more about these musicians.

- I want to compose music and lyrics myself, it's the best way for creative activity - when you are absolutely free. And I decided to act alone, in a way of «one man project». But, nevertheless, I needed a full line-up to work on the stage. Live performances are the important part of metal band promotion and that's why I found the musicians: two guys (guitar and bass-guitar) and a girl (keyboards).

Explain the meaning of "Atmospheric Horror Metal". Why you decided to name your music in such way?

- The most easy way was to call it sympho black metal, but I don't want people to think of me as of one of those who declare blasphemous, satanic or pagan manifestations, making show of their beliefs. As for me, I want to parade my music, which undoubtedly is the major part of CRYPTHOWL's songs. My lyrics are about horror topics, that's why I prefer to call the style of CRYPTHOWL «Atmospheric Horror Metal». But, nevertheless, CRYPTHOWL is under the strong influence of symphonic black metal.

Some words about Kaluga's underground.

- There is nothing special about Kaluga's underground. There is a dozen of bands which exist half a year in common, playing one or two concerts and never trying to record a demo. I don't think that they are the serious bands. I can single out FESTERGUTS (sympho death/black) and CRYPTHOWL - the only bands to be known among those, who are in underground.

What is the meaning of the name "Oupire"? Have it something with russian "УПЫРЬ"?

- Yes, you are right. Ancient term «Oupire» has the same meaning as English «vampire» and, conformably, Slavonic «upir».

As I understood, you're deeply in the themes concerning vampirism. Tell more about your lyrical conceptions. What do you know about slavonic traditions concerning vampirism?

- You are in the wrong, because I take a great interest in everything concerning the beyond, including the themes of vampirism. But these are not a major part of my lyrics, I try to embrace the whole spectrum of what is dark and eerie. That's why I don't concentrate my researches



Well, do you believe in vampires? If so, then read on this awesome interview answered by Oupire from CRYPTHOWL. Otherwise, I recommend you to leave this off. And for the rest, be careful, ha-ha-ha...

upon the sole problem of vampirism and therefore I'm not a great authority in this field, though I try not to miss the opportunity to get to know something new about this evil phenomenon. As for Slavonic traditions concerning vampirism I would say that there is no evident difference between the beliefs of vampires in West Europe and those in East one.



CRYPTHOWL, P.O.Box 340,
248002 Kaluga, Russia
E-mail: oupiric@usa.net

The only thing that I'd like to pay attention on is that in Slavonic traditions the vampires are more loathsome and ferocious whereas those in West Europe often appear as the representatives of aristocracy, with noble manners, etc.

Again about vampirism. What can you tell about the ancient mesopotamian conception of vampirism, namely "Akhkharu"? What is your opinion about modern vampiric order "Temple Of Dragon" ("Temple of Tiamat"), and its manifestation - "Sacrifice your lifeforce to the Undead Gods"?

- I know nothing about the mentioned ones and would be very much obliged to you if you'll let me know the literature to read more about them. As for the last question I'm sure that if they act according to their manifestation they are fools, because it's very hard to find a vampire sacrificing his lifeforce to someone else, even to the Undead Gods. Vampire feeds on somebody else's life, he is a parasite. Although, this manifestation could be interpreted in another way, as if it's like an appeal, a threat to mortals of forthcoming sacrificing of their lives. If it's so, it would be interesting to investigate this horrible phenomenon.

In what way will your upcoming release be? Will some changes in music and lyrics take place

there?

- I plan to release MC with half an hour of symphonic aggressive music. If you compare the forthcoming release with the promo tape you will discover the distorted guitars presence (mind that there were no distorted guitars on CRYPTHOWL's promo tape) and this will be the only change in music to take place. Lyrically the album will remind you the promo tape, the poetical conception is still the same.

Tell us more about your ties with Horror Records. And what is Oupiric Productions?

- I can tell nothing special about my ties with Horror Records. Azter, the chief of this label wrote me about his support of CRYPTHOWL and sent me some offers. It was the common tie like the other ones with various labels. But I decided to release the MC of CRYPTHOWL by my own. So, the new label called Oupiric Productions started its activity. I also search for some good bands to release much more varied MC's, not only CRYPTHOWL's ones.

Have you contacts with ukrainian Death/Black Metal bands? Do you like ukrainian underground?

- I like Ukrainian metal bands very much. It seems to me that the scene in Ukraine is the strongest among the ex-USSR scenes, even if to compare with Russian one. I can single out such bands as LUCIFUGUM, FORGOTTEN SPIRIT, NOKTURNAL MORTUM - they are the monsters, they rule! Undoubtedly, Ukrainian black metal bands are really prosperous and are not similar to all that Norwegian scrap. Death metal of Ukraine is the blank space for me, but having contacts with some death metal bands from there I know that Ukrainian brutal death metal scene

is gaining strength. Unfortunately, I haven't listened to a lot of Ukrainian bands (including CASTRUM), so my review is not impartial.

Why you decided to choose DEATH's "Evil Dead" as a cover? Do you like their "Scream Bloody Gore" album?

- I'm not an ardent worshipper of Chuck Schuldiner's work, but listen to his albums with some pleasure because there are a lot of melodies and excellent guitar solos in his songs. But I like his first album very much for the primitive malice, ferocity and violence, concentrated in the songs of «Scream Bloody Gore». And I have chosen «Evil Dead» because it's my favourite song from this album, which I liked to listen to when I was a child. I've tried to make a sympho black metal version of this song.

Now you have full line-up. Will you perform gigs and in what way they will be? (I mean blood, spikes, leather, corpsepaint, etc.)

- Performing gigs was my aim when I was searching for a musicians. We have played no concerts until now for we are not ready for it. But we'll try to make a horror show of high quality as we are ready. Just wait for it!

Last howlings from the crypt...

- See you in my crypt! Your blood is my life!

ABSTRACT

Aestuum II (MCMXCVIII) MCD '98

ABSTRACT is a melodic instrumental band from Slovakia. What we have here is their new demo in CD format. Seven tracks in 24 minutes with good quality, sadness and melancholy. This five-men band give us a great insight to the mix of Metal and classical music. I like their demo so much 'cause sometimes it gives me the right mood to relax a bit. Here and there the demo presented with some keyboard effects too.



Both, the acoustic and distorted guitars performed quite well. The bassist plays artful themes. And for all this you can imagine a soft sound of drums. I've forgot to mention the solos which constitute the basis of their pure instrumental art. Get this MCD with color cover, photos and info for \$6 + p&p (the cassette version of it costs \$3 + p&p) from: Peter Lengsfeld, Moskovská 25, 97401 Banská Bystrica, Slovakia.

E-mail: awakener@bb.web.sk

ALL DIES

All Dies...But Something Remains demo '96

The roots of ALL DIES were founded in the year of 1994. In the same year was released a debut demo called "Human Sacrifice" and two years later the second demo "All Dies...But Something Remains". The group consists of seven members: Alexey (vocals), Igor (guitar), Pavel (guitar), Misha (bass), Gena (drums), Natasha (vocals/fiddle) and Alyona (keyboards). This demo contains 6 well-structured songs of sorrowful Doom Metal in a quite harmonic interpretation. The guitar riffs are not so complex, though for such slow music it's important to use simple and memorable riffs as they've done there entirely. Keyboards are mostly tuned in to organ making their stuff more sad and dark at once. Fiddle parts and beautiful female vocals lend some plus to these doomy compositions till the deep growls brings more death to the stuff. The demo has a tolerable sound and come with a plain-xeroxed cover. Prices: \$1,5 (Ukraine) / \$2 (Russia, Belarus) / \$4 (Rest of the World). You should send your orders by registered letter to: Yura "Eater" Sinitsky, Kybalchicha str.22/55, 262009 Zhitomir, Ukraine.

ALL DIES

Slave Of Solitude demo '98

The third demo of ALL DIES has a bit slower orientation as it was on the demo '96. Moreover, their line-up is shriveled to the following persons: Alexey (vocals), Igor (guitar), Pavel (guitar), Misha (bass) and Alyona (keyboards). The basic line of ALL DIES still remained, though this time the atmospheric tunes got a leading role in their repertory as well as the enchanting female vocals and deep growls. There are a few weird harmonies and special effects in the 7 songs of "Slave Of Solitude", especially I

DEMO REVIEWS

like them in the intro and outro themes. I would definitely call their music as Atmospheric Doom Metal even I found there a couple of Heavy, Thrash and Death Metal elements as well. You can order this great demo by sending \$1,5 (Ukraine) / \$2 (Russia, Belarus) / \$4 (Rest of the World) in registered letter to: Yura "Eater" Sinitsky, Kybalchicha str.22/55, 262009 Zhitomir, Ukraine.

ANGEL'S DECAY

Victims Of Belief demo '99 (Akne Productions)

The first release of ANGEL'S DECAY defines brutal and antichristian Death Metal in 6 tracks. Take it seriously, because these five guys - Terno (guitar), Cimbo (guitar), Pedo (bass), Depress (drums) and Amor (vocals) - have created a very strong material with good quality sound and rather interesting description of what brutal Death Metal is all about. These songs are great enough to satisfy not only the skilled level of musicians but every inch of the entire stuff. The only minus of ANGEL'S DECAY is in the riffing of guitarists, 'coz they seems to me very like to use the well-proved DEICIDE-formula for riffing. But, on the other hand, we have an interesting mix of deep ultra-brutal growls and high-pitched screams which adds some plus, of course. Should I mention we have arrived to balance. No, but let me finish this sentence with mentioning the price for "Victims Of Belief". So, here we go: \$DM (Germany) / \$4 (Europe) / \$5 (World). You can obtain this directly from: AKNE Productions, c/o Vladimír Šimanský, L'udovítová 42, 95144 Nitra, Slovakia. To contact the band you should write to: ANGEL'S DECAY, c/o Marek Terneny, Clementisova 45, 94901 Nitra, Slovakia.

APOCRYPHAL

The Mind Against Of Aggression promo '98

This promo tape contains two tracks of atmospheric Death/Doom Metal. The first track "The Ar-ma-ged'don Day" begins with a nice keyboard intro and soon after turns into a bewitching and melodic Death Metal tune. The second one "Sentenced To Everlasting Hembleness" is a bit slower track but with more double-bass parts and some clear female voices. The male vocals has a quite original raw sound which sometimes reminds me to the noise of a grinding wheel. It's a complex, atmospheric and interesting stuff with a good use of keyboards. To obtain this 12 minutes long promo tape you should write to: APOCRYPHAL, c/o Rul Egor, Sovetskaya 83A/20, 247500 Rechitsa, Belarus.

APOTHEOSIS

Demo '98

APOTHEOSIS is a Death Metal formation from New York, which stands for pure brutality in this 3-song demo. The line-up of the band is: Ozzy Maldonado (vocalist) formally of DETHRONED, Anthony Prieto (guitarist) formally of ABYSMAL MALEVOLENCE and currently session guitarist for MORTICIAN, Cecile Hansen (bassist) and Kyle (drums). Their music mixes raging, incredibly fast Death Metal with non-stop brutality. The first track "Innocence's Lost" comes like a hurricane over me and left only a few reminiscences in my mind. Shortly

after follows it "The Quest" in the same brain-crushing vein but with more variety in its song-structure. This song has lots of rhythm changes, cool distorted bass tunes, hyper fast grinding beats as well as quite deep-growling vocals. The last track "Deceiver" is a more lengthy piece which combines of rather thoughtful guitar riffs, some slow parts and a big dose of fast drumming, while the vocals alternates in two ways, deep growls twisted by crazy black-type screeches. If you like aggression and brutality, that's it! Get this excellent demo for \$3 (USA) / \$4 (World) from: APOTHEOSIS, c/o Ozzy Maldonado, 708 Greenwich Ave. #325, New York, NY 10011, USA. E-mail: APOTHEOSIS666@hotmail.com or APOTHEOSIS666@yahoo.com

ARCHAEAN HARMONY

Resentment Of An Evanesce Aeon demo '97

Well, this demo is a fantastic piece of art even if the band called its style as Archaic/Black Metal. But who cares what's the label if the music good and interesting. These Maltese guys - Darkmortem (vocals/keyboards), Lord Trebor (guitars/piano), Adrameleek (guitars), J.P.S. (drum programming) and Eblis (session bassist) - had created an unbelievably well-structured 3-track demo. Their music mostly deal with dark, eastern-based melodies but do not think there's no aggression and brutality in these tracks. On the contrary, they mixed it all together and developed their music to originality. Well, let's see all the tracks in details. The first song "Beneath The Seas Of Absu" come with lots of guitar harmonies of the so-called East, majestic keyboard parts, complex drumming and of course with high-pitched rasping vocals. It presents also some killer solos and grinding beats as well as some relaxing acoustic inclusions which makes the song more masterful. The next track "Cataclismic Incantations" has more atmospheric touch of keyboards but shows the same technical riffing of guitarists and infernal vocals of Darkmortem. Then follows the last track "Acatalepsy (Part I)" which is actually an instrumental piece, based totally on acoustic guitars and some special effects. Finally, I would like to mention the outstanding work of guitarists which is more than great. By the way, after the release of this demo J.P.S. and Eblis left the band. And now the band work as a trio: Darkmortem (vocals & synths), Lord Trebor (guitars, bass, drums & keyboards) and Adrameleek (guitars & drums). Everyone who have interest in getting of this masterpiece should send \$6 (Europe) / \$7 (USA) to: ARCHA-EAN HARMONY, c/o Chris Zarb, 45/46 S. Basil Str., Mqabba, ZRQ 08, Malta, Europe. Tel.: (00356) 640987.

E-mail: darkmortem@hotmail.com
Web Site: www.darkmetal.com/archaean/

AVERSE SEFIRA

Promotional demo '99

Starting up with the first demo tape "Blasphomet Sin Abset" in 1997 (it was reviewed in the 1st issue), AVERSE SEFIRA unleash again with a brand new release, which is a promo tape actually. This tape features two tracks, quite long ones of rather ass-kicking Black Metal. Unfortunately, the guys (Wrath Sathariel Diabolus - bass/vocals and Sanguine Asmodel Nocturne - guitars/vocals) left those Death Metal influences they had on their first demo and therefore

their style changed a bit to a more aggressive and grinding Black Metal. Nevertheless, it isn't bad at all. So, the opener "For We Have Always Been" is a pretty fast grinding track which blasts well with its unstoppable drumming and awesome vocals. This time the vocals are higher than ever while sounding very IMMORTAL-ish. The second one, namely "Ad Infinitum", includes more mid-tempo oriented parts and for this reason it's much varied song. I like this tune more, mainly because of its complex structure and cool guitar riffs. The sound is pretty O.K. though there was no drummer on this recording again. However the drum-machine doesn't sound bad at all. It's a raging, I would say brutal Black Metal material which is pretty worth of your attention. To get it you should contact the band at one of their addresses! AVERSE SEFIRA, P.O. Box 4934, Austin, Tx. 78756-4934, USA. E-mail: blasphemet@hotmail.com
Web Site: www.necronom.com/darkening/aversesefira

BESTIAL MOCKERY

Chainsaw Demons Return demo '98

BESTIAL MOCKERY is a formation of four fraternized demons: Carl Warslaught (drums), Master Motorsåg (vocals), Micke Doomanfanger (guitar) and Sir Torment (bass). The demo begins with infernal screams of someone who was ripped off by chainsaw later on. So, after this brilliant intro



you can find there six songs in the most hateful and chainsaw-filled old-school Black/Thrash Metal ever. Motorsåg's screams are kind of awesome and brutal ones, for example in songs like "Path of Death" and "Shrapnel Fire" you can hear some really weird and inhuman vocals, it's for sure. The riffs of Micke and Sir Torment have been structured incredibly good, though I've find some SODOM and IMPALED NAZAREN influences there. Concerning Carl's drumming, it varies a lot. He plays mainly crushing mid-paced parts, but there are a few blasting grind beats as well. The demo ends with a nice outro again. To get this bestial invasion you should send \$5 to: Johan "Motorsåg" Sahlén, Järnvägsg. 19, S-450 52 Dingle, Sweden. E-mail: bestialmockery@hotmail.com

BLEEDING

Headhanter demo '97

The debut demo of BLEEDING contains 4 tracks of Death Metal madness. Featuring Pavlovsky Eugeny on vocals, Trembach Dmitry & Lazovsky Oleg on guitars, Volkov Vitaly on drums and Dvoretzky Alex on bass, they composed a rather brutal stuff overloaded by piles of massive riffs,

intense drumming and ultra deep growls. Tracks such as "Buried In Fog", "Chopped Up To Bits" and "Deep Inside Guts" were strongly influenced by CANNIBAL CORPSE's "The Bleeding" album, while the last track "Headhunter" shows something special and characteristic only for BLEEDING. The sound is O.K. and the tape comes with pro-printed b/w cover. To get it you should contact the BLEEDING Management: c/o Bey Vitaly, Tavlay str. 33-1-17, 231300 Lida, Belarus.

BLEEDING Carnal Altars demo '98

Well, BLEEDING's new stuff surprised me a lot! From the previous line-up remained only Pavlovsky Eugeny (bass/vocals), Trembatch Dmitry (guitars) and Volkov Vitaly (drums). They improved their music in all parameters. Technically and sound-wise it's more professional and blow their debut material away. There are 5 compositions written in a quite fast and complex way. I would say the progression is more than audible. They've done a big step ahead. Songs like "Masses Of Lies", "Enjoyment To Behead" and "Pray To Cunt" can smash your head with the intensity coming from there. They also used an interesting effect to connect their songs into one another, that makes a special atmosphere between them. However, in songs like "The Web" and "Carnal Altars" the influence of CANNIBAL CORPSE still dominates. To cut it short, "Carnal Altars" is a worthy material which comes with pro-printed colour cover, photo, etc. Get it from BLEEDING Management: c/o Bey Vitaly, Tavlay str. 33-1-17, 231300 Lida, Belarus.

BRODEQUIN Demo '99

Michael, the guitarist of BRODEQUIN, was great and sent me this killer stuff. The basic line of their music has the well-known formula of American Brutal Death Metal bands, which peculiar to INTERNAL BLEEDING and PYREXIA for example. BRODEQUIN combines ultra fast grinding beats, dynamic yet awesome guitar riffs along with the deepest growls I ever heard. In short, this demo has the essence of massive brutal Death/Grind assault injected in four intense tracks. The first piece "Spinning In Agony" I warmly recommend for the bulldozer drivers 'coz of its non-stop grinding devastation. The second piece called "Ambrosia". It kills very well, having the same brutality and a bunch of great complex guitar riffs. Oh, "Infested With Worms" will be another nightmare for the neighbours, it's for sure. And the demo ends with "Hollow". A fantastic piece again with crushing mid-paced riffing and quite crazy drumming. I fond of this tune a lot. Check it before you die!!! Contact: BRODEQUIN, 5734 Wooddale Drive, Knoxville, TN 37912, USA. E-mail: Tuned2Puke@aol.com Web Site: <http://listen.to/brodequin>

BRUTAL MASTURBATION Summoning The Ghoul demo '99

BRUTAL MASTURBATION consists of Péter Jakab (vocals), László Spirk (guitar), Zsolt Menyhart (bass) and two members of ZOMBIE HOLOCAUST, namely Valentin Noszov (guitar) and Hubert Sági (drums). Seven tracks of brutal Death/Grind with lyrics in Hungarian language are waiting for you on this demo. Their music mainly deal with screwed guitar riffs and fast yet sometimes chaotic beats of drums. To define what exactly they play I should cross

DEMO REVIEWS

the materials of CANNIBAL CORPSE with BRUTAL TRUTH's stuff and add some thrashy parts to the result, though it's only my point of view. The most interesting aspects of the band are in the perplexed growling and screaming of Péter plus in the perverse lyrics. To obtain this pro-done demo you should send some bucks to one of the addresses: c/o Péter Jakab, Gorkij str. 46, 9200 Mosonmagyaróvár, Hungary or c/o László Spirk, Kormos István ltp. 10, 9200 Mosonmagyaróvár, Hungary. E-mail: bmast@freemail.c3.hu

CARCINOSI Transfigured In Cancerous Atrocities demo '98

Wow, this Brazilian Death Metal quartet surprised me a lot with their first 4-track demo. The music they play combines melodies, emotions, brutality with thoughtful lyrics on apocalyptic, surrealistic, futuristic, etc. themes. Their songs are full on energetic riffings and quite interesting song-structures, which sometimes reminded me KATAKLYSM's "Sorcery" era. As for the sound, it's great, even if I found the bass guitar a bit loud, till the drums a bit confused here and there. Songs like "Impregnated Reality of Loathing" and "Insurrection" are from the sort of brutal pieces spiced with deep yet screamy vocals and grinding drum parts, while the song "Hyperdimension" shows a totally unique interpretation of Death Metal by CARCINOSI. No doubt, it's their best song! If you like varied Death Metal, that's it! It comes with excellent colour cover, photos, lyrics and costs you only \$4. Finally, let me name you the bandmembers. Here they come: Tiago Vargas (vocals/bass), Rafael Bruno (guitar), Mauricio Zettler (guitar) and André Martins (drums). Contact: c/o Rafael Bruno, Rua Afonso Pena 103/22, Azenha - CEP 90160-020, Porto Alegre - RS - Brazil.

CRANIAL TORMENT Death Is Rising demo '99

CRANIAL TORMENT's third demo contains 4 tracks in the vein of American Death Metal bands such as OBITUARY and SUFFOCATION for example. These are not too complex tracks having 8-9 riffs per song, but as a whole they sound pretty O.K. Most of all, I liked their "Putrid Mass Mutilation" song, because of the great combination of old-school thrash riffs and interesting drumming there. The growls are deep all the way and production-wise "Death Is Rising" has a quality sound. Songs like "Bodybug Lust" and "Thoughts Of A Graverobber" are based on slow mid-paced riffs, while "Amputation Of Vital Organs" mixes some fast yet grinding parts as well. To get this great Death Metal demo you should send \$5 to: Bill Benakis, 32 Paradisio St., Peristeri - 12136, Athens, Greece.

CRUCIFER III demo '98

This is the third demo of this quite unique Swedish Doom/Thrash Metal band. Its line-up consists of Ola Lithman (lead & rhythm guitar), Paul Boman (drums & percussion) and Anders Gustafson (vocals & bass). So what we have here is their 8-track demo, from which 5 are new songs and the rest are the old ones taken from their previous demos. In general they mix the thrashy riffing of guitars with clear-sung

vocals plus here and there combines it with slow doomy parts. Songs like "Carry Your Cross" and "Downfall" amazed me much



with its powerful guitar parts and precise rhythm-section. To tell you the truth it is the first Doom/Thrash band I've ever heard and I would say it's an incredibly well-structured stuff which I warmly recommend for every die-hard thrash fans worldwide. It costs you 30 Kr (Sweden) and \$4 rest of the world (p&p included). Order this great demo, which comes with lyrics and other additional info, from: CRUCIFER, c/o Anders Gustafson, Glasmästarvägen 7, S-125 53 Älvsjö, Stockholm, Sweden. Tel.: (00)46+(0)8+867507. E-mail: crucifer3@hotmail.com

CRYPTHOWL Promo tape '97

This promo is from the sort of very strange releases. Why? First of all, CRYPTHOWL features only one person, namely Oupire who handled all the instruments and wrote the lyrics to this stuff. The second point is that there are no distorted guitars on it. And this fact makes hard to categorize the style of CRYPTHOWL. Fortunately, Oupire did it and call his music as Atmospheric Horror Metal. He does something really original in these two tracks, though their keyboard filled music sometimes reminds me to CRADLE OF FILTH's materials as the lyrics-wise too. The first track "A Dismal Nocturne (Haunting The Family Vault)" is a beautiful intro which is full of majestic keyboard effects and give a calm before the storm mood to listener's mind. After this short piece comes a fast, brutal and at the same time quite melodic tune, namely "Of Seductress In Obscure Attire", which contains everything from grinding drum parts, growling, screaming and clear vocals, galloping bass lines through seductive female vocals of Irena. I've never heard something like that before, that's why I'm restful to say you that Oupire built his own style which can be described only by atmospheric and horror things. However with the add of distorted guitars it could be many times better, but then it will be just another copy of CRADLE OF FILTH. In general, CRYPTHOWL's promo is worth of interest and warmly recommended for the fans of keyboardish stuff. Contact: CRYPTHOWL, P.O.Box 340, 248002 Kaluga, Russia. E-mail: oupiric@mail.ru

DEVASTATION INSIDE Simply Nothing demo '98

"Simply Nothing" is the very first demo of this Italian Death Metal quintet. The quality is amazing and to tell you the truth for me it's much more as a demo tape. The four song tape ("Inside...", "Simply Nothing", "Last Breath" and "Why?") includes all the greatest motives of Death Metal style. Three of it are studio tracks and the last one namely "Why?" is recorded live in Summer of 1997. Due to the high abilities and skills of musicians the quality of the demo is above the average materials. It can be characterized by its powerful guitar rhythms, melodious guitar solos, pulsating bass and quite unique variations of drums at the double bass parts. Vocals are mostly in the typical growling style but there is a bit of thrashy influence in the music and vocals as well. The main goal of DEVASTATION INSIDE is in their complexity. They show us a good combination of dynamic and technical Death Metal. It is the way how the real Death Metal nowadays should be. No doubt, they are able to create their own original way of playing Death Metal and being one of the winners who survive in time. For all the lovers of complex Death/Thrash Metal the chance is yours to get this demo now for only \$5 (world) with pro-printed b/w cover, lyrics, photo and additional infos from: DEVASTATION INSIDE, c/o Truchod Emanuel, Loc. Rhins 37, 11100 Roisan, Aosta, Italy. E-mail: deva.inside@lycosmail.com Web Site: members.xoom.com/deva_inside

DOWNTHOAT I've Got My Mothers Eyes demo '99

Let's see what we have here. The booklet says their music guarantee the extreme gore grind brutality... And really, this material can be described only by these terms. The demo includes six themes of horror-film-influenced grind assault performed by five serial killers: Hugo - neoplastic strings & high-throat vomits, P.N. - uncontrollable & putrescent beat, Kurika - sub-throat regurgitation, Ricardo - four strings' brutalization and Mosh - spill decomposed strings. Some of the songs has a nice intro from horror movies and other keyboard-based effects as well. The lyrics tells about little gore-terror-stories. So there's no pleasant experiences at all. The cover back up this fact very well. Songnames like "Insane Cannibal Desire" or "Ulceral Abdominal Decomposer" speak for itself. Concerning their sound I must add that I didn't expect such a quality sound from a Gore/Grind band. They've a big dose of originality in their compositions, though



sometimes I've noticed the strong influence of early CARCASS and KATAKLYSM stuff in it. The power is there and the gore is here, ha-ha... Dynamic and pulverizing Gore/Grind. I guess that now you know what to expect from the Portuguese DOWNTHOAT. This stuff recommended for all

the gore maniacs and grind freaks worldwide but I'm sure the Death Metal fans should like this stuff too. The demo comes with a full-colour cover, lyrics, photos and interesting info about the bandmembers. To get this demo you should write to: DOWN-THROAT, Apartado 157, 3780 Anadia, Portugal.

DUST

A Wander Through The Dark Realm demo '99

(Mester Productions)

DUST was formed in 1996 by Wenngren (vocals, guitar and bass) and Jocke (drums, synth). And this demo they recorded during 1997 which contains 5 songs of pure swedish Black Metal in the traditional fast and piercing way. Buzz-saw guitars and crushing blast beats break into quite melodic grooves, while incredibly razor-sharp vocals assaults your ears. There are two amazingly well-composed instrumental pieces after the tracks "Tears Forever Laid To Rest" and "Through The Night" as well as four frosty storming ones from which I like mostly their "Red Sky" tune. This demo ain't full of originality, but as a whole it has some unusual and weird parts in its song-structures which surely kick some so-called "true" Black Metal bands' ass as well. The chance is yours to get this 14 minutes of dark wanderings with b/w cover for \$2 Europe, \$3 elsewhere (prices incl. postage). You can order it ONLY from: Mester Productions, Postboks 793, N-8001 Bodø, Norway. For interview you should contact Mester Productions or the band directly at: DUST, c/o Wenngren, Sjöstigen 2, S-83004 Mörsil, Sweden. E-mail: mesterprod@hotmail.com

DYING WISH

...On Twilight Of Eternity demo '98

This is a 6-track demo performed by six talented musicians: Péter Árva - guitar, Sándor Papp - bass, Péter Schmidt - keyboards/vocals, György Monori - lead vocals, János Moldoványi - drums and Lajos Papp - lead guitar/vocals. To define the music they play, I can easily say it's Doom Metal in general mainly with clear vocals, a lot of melodies and very keyboard-filled atmosphere. On the other hand, their repertoire was strongly influenced by the materials of IN FLAMES and SENTENCED as well. The keyboards got a more specific way here, but sometimes it is too loud and some guitar riffs are drowning in it. Nevertheless, songs like "Under The Dreams" and "Somewhere In The Deep" I found interesting, while "Faces Behind The Mirror" and "It Hurts Again" are quite soft and melodic pieces, which I can recommend only for girls, ha-ha. By the way, they still use deep growls and punishing drum-parts here and there. So, if you like Doom Metal overloaded with tons of Heavy Metal-ish riffs, then don't hesitate to order this 38 minutes long demo, which has a pro-printed coloured cover with lyrics, photo, etc. Contact address: DYING WISH, c/o Lajos Papp, Szondi str. 6, 4150 Püspökladány, Hungary.

DYSANCHELY

Songs Of Sorrow promo '99

Recently I got DYSANCHELY's new stuff, a 5-song promo tape. One could say it's more melodic, emotional and aggressive compared to their "Tears" album. Indeed! They have progressed a lot, both musically and sound-wise. This stuff can be divided into two types of songs. The first type has the above mentioned aggression

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incarnated by swedish-type of riffing and blackish screams, e.g. "Song of Sorrow" and "Trembling". Till the second type contains more guitar-harmonies, pleasant female vocals and yet more doomy melodies in songs like "Extasy of Death" and "The Dark Lord". Overall, their style remained the same, that is Death/Black influenced Doom Metal, but they performed it in more professional way, though. Also, find enclosed there a cover of KISS' "God of Thunder". They play it quite well, especially I like the growling vocals and drumming there. So don't hesitate to order this great stuff, which will be released soon by the russian Oupiric Productions on MC. You can also get this promo from: Michal Gonda, Sucháčkova 7/39, 036 01 Martin, Slovakia.

E-mail: metal.age@mt.sknet.sk

ECLIPSE

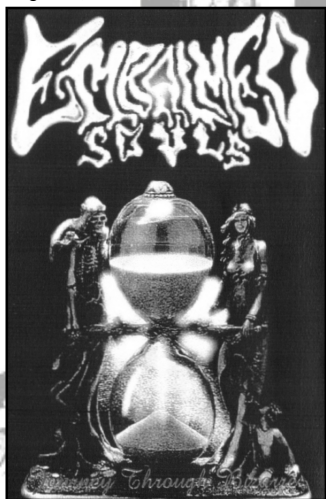
Celebration Of My Death demo '96 (Metal Scrap Production)

ECLIPSE was formed in fall 1993 on the ruins of local Death Metal band called SACRAL SUICIDE. On this demo, which is their only material so far, the band's line-up was Victor Nivikov (vocals), Vitaly Nevedrov (bass), Alexey Tjutehev (guitar) and Alexander Tonkoshkur (drums). "Celebration Of My Death" represents 10 extremely brutal Death/Grind songs which can crash your head with its intensity. Their music mostly based on the well-known American-type Death Metal riffing, which is about massive, brutal as possible riffs with some wailing solos. Otherwise, some of the tracks were strongly influenced by early stuffs of CANNIBAL CORPSE and SUFFOCATION as well. The only bad point that the demo has a really shitty sound quality. Due to this, the anyhow sounding drums and bass tunes are drowning in the unbearable noise of overdistorted guitars and awesome deep growls. You can order it from: METAL SCRAP Production, c/o Anatoly Kondyuk, Shevchenko str. 51/23, 283200 Monastyrsk, Ternopol region, Ukraine. Or contact the band at: c/o Vitaly Savchuk, Leningradskaya str. 48/32, 349104 Alchevsk, Lugansk region, Ukraine. Tel.: (06442) 2-48-07.

EMBALMED SOULS

Journey Through Bizarre demo '97

"Journey Through Bizarre" is the first demo of this Brazilian Death Metal quartet. The members of E.S. are David and André on guitars, Nildo on bass/vocals and Paulo



on drums. The interesting fact that the band was formed in 1990 and due to this fact their music and sound both in the way of traditional Death Metal. As for me I really appreciate what they done in this 6-track demo, which features all the great motives of old-school Death bands. Deep growls, killer double-bass, massive guitar riffs and well-structured songs is what they offers here. The songs are mostly mid-paced with lots of rhythm changes and quite sorrowful solos which reminds me a bit the solos of ASPHYX, while some of the riffs were strongly influenced by old deathmasters like OBITUARY and BOLT THROWER. There are not bad tracks at all and the sound quality is above the average. All in all, if you consider yourself a fan of old-school Death Metal I can only recommend this stuff. Get it right now from: EMBALMED SOULS, c/o Paulo, QI-05, conj. "I", casa 85 - Guarã I, Brasília - DF, 71020-094, Brazil.

E-mail: embalmesouls@zaz.com.br

ENS COGITANS

Heart Of The Way promo '96

ENS COGITANS is one of the leading Doom Metal-bands of Russia. Its line-up consists of Oleg Alimov - vocals/keyboards, Sergey Ponkratiev - guitar, Dmitry Lobanov - bass/acoustic guitar, Roman Shmelev - drums, Dmitry Kezhvatov - guitar and Irene Rusakova - female vocals. This promo contains three tracks of emotional, sometimes gloomy but harmony-filled Doom Metal with lots of clear-sung and enchanting female vocals. However, there are some growl-based vocals as well but only for short time. The guitar-players' work is damn good, especially their solos remarkable. These songs came in a quite technical way and were supported by rather thoughtful orchestral sympho-oriented keyboard parts. To cut it short, this is a great stuff with top quality, well-crafted songs and originality. Get it from: ENS COGITANS, c/o Oleg V. Alimov, Tolmachev str. 11-82, 141250 Ivanteevka, Moscow region, Russia. The band also signed a deal with Seven Art Music and due to this "Heart of the Way" was released on CD format in early winter 1999. To get the CD you should write to: Seven Art Music, c/o Antonietta Scilipoti, P.O.Box St. Christophe, 11020 Aosta, Italy.

ENS COGITANS

Re-Vision demo '98

Well, this is the new 4-track demo of Russian doomsters ENS COGITANS. They changed their music to a more computerized and more melodious way, I think it's all due to their electro-metal side-project called OVERSUN. Musically, the main line of ENS COGITANS is still there but the mechanical sound of computer effects make it a bit boring and while after I get tired to listen to it once again. The only positive point is that the guitars are dominated all time. Vocals has only clear-sung. I guess it's all I could say here. If you like melodic computer influenced Doom, that's for you. Oh, and it will be released soon on CD by Seven Art as well. You can obtain it soon at: Seven Art Music, c/o Antonietta Scilipoti, P.O.Box St. Christophe, 11020 Aosta, Italy. Or get it directly from: ENS COGITANS, c/o Oleg V. Alimov, Tolmachev str. 11-82, 141250 Ivanteevka, Moscow region, Russia.

EVTHANAZIA

No Longer Forces demo '98 (Funeral Pyre Productions)

Another release comes straight from

Belarus. EVTHANAZIA plays powerful Death Metal with the good use of keyboards. The band consists of Alex (guitars/lead vocals), Vitaly (bass/keyboards/backing vocal) and Yuri (drums). This 8-track material mostly based on technical guitar riffing and precise rhythm-section which makes their songs totally masterful. The keyboard parts plays a big role in their compositions and makes them as atmospheric as possible. Yet I can add the well-executed solos and quite interesting vocal-styles of Alex (deep growls) and Vitaly (thrashy and other-type vocals) which shows a colorful range of their musical abilities. My fave tracks are "Overdose" and the title track with its amazing song-structures. If I should compare their music to anything I guess it would be only PESTILENCE's "Testimony Of The Ancients" album. In a word, it's a highly performed, totally original and quite thoughtful material. You can order it from: c/o Igor Ignatchik, P.O.Box 36, 220049 Minsk, Belarus.

FILTHY FLESH

Victim Of Suppuration demo '98

Eh, what a bandname? How do you think what is the style FILTHY FLESH stands for? I help you, they play Brutal Death Metal in the vein of American bands such as CANNIBAL CORPSE or DEICIDE for instance. "Victim Of Suppuration" is their first release which includes seven skull-crushing Death Metal songs. The band consists of Sergey Mosolkov on lead guitar, Mike on bass, Dmitry "Grindcore" on vocals and Sergey Minchenkov on rhythm guitar, who had left the band recently. Their music isn't very original but enjoyable. I like the guitarists' work so much but to tell you the truth there are no unknown riffs for me. Their songs came with a typical deep Death Metal grunt which influenced by a small touch of high-pitched screams here and there. It's great when a band so brutal as FILTHY FLESH but sometimes brutality isn't enough I mean I like when bands have their own original face in their music. And here we have less of this so-called original face. The second bad thing on this demo is the use of the drum-machine instead of a normal two-hands & two-feet person. Due to this fact the whole material has a synthetical sound. I don't like drum-machines at all. If they will change this two things in the future they'll be a worthy band and it's for sure. But now, I would like to recommend this stuff only for the Brutal Death Metal freaks who are mostly in the above mentioned American bands. Get this demo for \$3 Europe, \$4 elsewhere. You can send your money (only very hidden cash in registered letter) to the following address: FILTHY FLESH, c/o Dmitry Orlov, Lebedeva-Kumacha 72-29, 410064 Saratov, Russia.

F.O.B.

Fobia demo '97

The second demo of F.O.B. includes 10 well-connected songs in old-fashioned Deaththrash style. The members are Kouc on rhythm guitar & vocals, Benda on lead guitar, Tom on bass & backing vocals and Máty on drums. They show a mix between heavy riffs and variety of catchy vocals through the songs of "Fobia". There's everything professional beginning from the lyrics-wise, song-structures, solos, etc. and ending with the sound of the production. I can't say they've done something unique or even outstanding on "Fobia", but as for their music it's come straight from their hearts. Believe me, that's count nowadays. I like to listen to their tracks, because then I feel the same mood

as back in 1989 and that's exciting. To do some compares, I'd like to mention the SEPULTURA influences in tracks such as "Dark Shadows" and "Last Journey". And what is more, there's also a live track called "Keep Achtung" as well as a cover of famous "Fogues" from J.S. Bach. I guess, there's no need to tell you more. The tape comes with full-coloured booklet, lyrics, photos and lasts over 50 minutes. Get it from: F.O.B., Jiri Volný, Petra z Ústí 1733, 390 01 Tábor, Czech Republic. Tel.: 0420/361/252284. Fax: 0420/361/253956.

E-mail: corbow@students.zcu.cz
Web Site: www.geocities.com/SunsetStrip/Birdland/2761/fob/fob.html

FORGIVE-ME-NOT **Tearfall promo '97**

FORGIVE-ME-NOT was formed in 1996 by three guys, namely Miguel (guitar), Vic (bass/vocals) and Andy (drums). Their debut album "Tearfall" came in 1997 which contains 12 tracks of melodic Doom Metal with elements of Heavy Metal, however the band called its style as New Ultra Melodic Heavy Wave. Well, this 50 minutes long album is a quite melodic stuff with lots of influences of LAKE OF TEARS and SUNDOWN or something like that. Nevertheless, they covered some interesting ideas in their music as well as some weird ones too. The quality is above the average and the level of musicians is worth of mentioning. Of course, there are some keyboard parts and female vocals as well, but the music is still guitar-oriented. If you into the before mentioned bands then don't waste your time to get your copy of "Tearfall", which was released in MC format by russian label Magik Art Entertainment and comes with full-coloured cover, lyrics, photo, etc. Available for \$2 (C.I.S.), \$3 (World) from: FORGIVE-ME-NOT, c/o Andrey Suhanov, P.O.Box 2507, 300000 Tula, Russia. Or order it from: Magik Art Entertainment, c/o Anton Zapadny, P.O.Box 3246, 344092 Rostov on Don, Russia.

FORGIVE-ME-NOT **Spaceapple promo '98**

"Spaceapple" is the second album of this russian Ultra Melodic Heavy band, which has a less complicated material like in "Tearfall" was. However, it's a strong release again where the keyboards and female vocals play an important part. Brought to the songs more melodies and making the material more atmospheric. On this album the band consists of Vic (bass/vocals), Miguel (guitars), Michael (guitars), Elena (keyboards) and Andy (drums). The female vocals were performed by Irina, who has a pleasant voice but nothing special as well. There are no bad compositions here though I must note the simplicity of guitar riffs which is a bit boring sometimes. In brief, these 10 songs are quite well-composed, arranged and has a totally professional sound quality. Check it up! In Summer '98 the band signed a deal with russian Metal Agen Records for 3 albums and this means that soon there will be released both "Tearfall" and "Spaceapple" in CD format too. Meanwhile, get this 43 minutes long tape for \$2 (C.I.S.), \$3 (World) from: FORGIVE-ME-NOT, c/o Andrey Suhanov, P.O.Box 2507, 300000 Tula, Russia.

FRODMORTELL **Silence Land demo '97** **(Cold Forest Productions)**

FRODMORTELL coming from Belarus and plays crushing Death Metal. The

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members of it are Andrew Prokopchuk - vocals, Max Gershankov - bass, Andrew Freymaniss - guitars and Denis Stchuchenko - drums. "Silence Land" is their first demo which represents a quite varied stuff in 10 well-composed songs. You can find there as fast grinding drum parts with ultra deep growls in the early Chris Barnes vein but such things as thrashy guitar riffs with cool yet melodic solos in the vein of 80's Heavy Metal bands. Their material fluctate from brutal death metal tracks such as "Disinfection" and "Children Of Full Moon" (especially this one is full of great themes and seems to me the strongest track of the demo) to complex ones like "Visions" with its abstract acoustic parts through some really melodic keyboard-filled tracks such as "Master Death" and "Death Road". Well, if you like the mixture of brutal and melodic Death Metal, that's it! The demo comes with b/w cover, photo and additional info as well. To get it you should write to: c/o Igor Ignatchik, P.O.Box 36, 220049 Minsk, Belarus.

FUNERAL OF SOUL **The Life Underground demo '97** **(Metal Scrap Production)**

F.O.S. plays Doom Metal in a rather monotonous way. There's nothing special even if they added some thrashy parts to their repertory. The band consists of Renat Beglov (vocals, guitar), Pavel Guminyuk (guitar), Roman Orlov (bass) and Roman Sokolov (drums). They combines typical doomy parts, clear and growling vocals with a few guitar harmonies and that's all. The music slow as usual but nothing outstanding. This 7-song demo can be the 1000th copy of early PARADISE LOST and MY DYING BRIDE albums (minus less originality and sound quality). If you search just for another Doom band to fill your collection up, then buy it! Though I would definitely not advise you this boring doomy shit at all. It's better to invest to an EVOKEN or FORGOTTEN SILENCE album for instance, that's for sure! However, here you find enclosed the addresses where this demo is still available: METAL SCRAP Production, c/o Anatoly Kondyuk, Shevchenko str.51/23, 283200 Monastyrisk, Ternopol region, Ukraine or FUNERAL OF SOUL, c/o Renat Beglov, Gorkogo str.45/14, 349104 Alchevsk, Lugansk region, Ukraine.

KALTES **Starchariot demo '99**

KALTES' debut demo "Starchariot" represents a great alloy of mid-paced Black Metal and elements of hungarian folk music. It was recorded by four musicians: Gergely Tauer - vocals, Tamás Fider - guitar/bass/keyboards, Attila Gyulai - guitar and Péter Kéri - drums. The main goals of KALTES are in the use of extraordinary clear vocals (besides the screams, of course), well-structured guitar riffs and atmospheric keyboards in these two long tracks. The title track "Starchariot" are more keyboard-filled one, while "Path Of Forces" combines some thrashy and acoustic guitar parts along with ritual-like drumming here and there. In short, if you claim to be a fan of pagan Black Metal, then order this almost 15 minutes long demo for only \$2. Contact: KALTES, c/o Péter Kéri, Vácgeges u. 15, III/15, 1151 Budapest, Hungary. E-mail: kaltes@freemail.hu

MERLIN **Deathkoteque promo '97**

Putting this tape in the deck I was paralysed for a moment. A band coming from Moscow can play almost the same complex and brutal stuff as the mighty MORBID ANGEL, it's unbelievable. And if I add that the vocals were done by Maria (a female?!!) you shall only admire MERLIN. So the members of MERLIN are Maria Abaza - vocals/bass, Alexander Ioffe - guitars and Nickolay "Energisier" Byckov - drums. First of all, I must say that the quality of their stuff is a way better than I heard from other Russian Death bands. There are 7 tracks of extraordinary Death/Thrash Metal mostly in the vein of beforehand mentioned MORBID ANGEL. But do not think that those tracks are some kind of copies... On the contrary, all songs have a big dose of originality and come in quite thoughtful way. The vocals of Maria you can imagine after brutalizing Sabina's vocals (ex-HOLY MOSES) to the maximum, though even now this is not enough to get such a destructive female voice I suppose. Well, let's see the compositions. In some words it's too hard to describe them, but I think there's no need to tell you more, because it's a flawless stuff with fast, brutal yet melodic tunes. Alexander plays fantastic solos as well as rhythms without any false note. Nickolay who responsible for the non-stop grinding assaults and complex drumming overcame all borders of impossibility and truly can be a rival for Pete Sapdov of MORBID ANGEL, though, Tracks as "That's My Time", "I'm Glad" and "Die" simply rules. It's a perfect Death/Thrash album. Buy it right now before it's too late. Contact: MERLIN, Maria Abaza, Volgina str.25-2-189, 117437 Moscow, Russia. E-mail: merlin@orc.ru
Web Site: www.geocities.com/SunsetStrip/Backstage/4032/index.html

NEGATIVE FACE **Dance Of A Mournful Clown demo '98**

This is the second demo by this talented Czech band which defines their style as experimental positive music (??? - ed.). To give you a more wide picture on their music I can say it's something between the mix of Doom, Death, Gothic and jazz. Of course, it's only my view. The demo begins with "Coloured Harmony". This song has a great duet of clear female and male vocals. Then comes two songs "I Am Nobody" and "The Joy Of Fear" in the typical Death/Doom vein. The next one "The Touch" offers us something special with its eastern-based guitar riffs. "In The Shade Of Wind" follows it, which one was totally built up on acoustic guitar parts and enchanted female vocals. To cut it short, there are 12 doomy compositions in the most unusual way you can imagine. Concerning the sound, it's soft and heavy at the same time. Recently, the band preparing their new material, entitled "The Blue". But meanwhile I advise you to check out their "Dance Of A Mournful Clown" demo. Contact: Michal Gonda, Sucháčkova 7/39, 036 01 Martin, Slovakia. E-mail: metal.age@mt.sknet.sk

NEIN CREED **Demo '98**

This is the new stuff of this Canadian electro/industrial Hard Core band. I don't like stuff like that at all. But I'll try to tell you something about it. So, this is a 7-song demo which isn't too far from its predeces-

sor "Naughty Clowns" MCD. On this demo the band features Reverend Soul on vocals, synth and rhythm guitar, Steve Bisonnette on lead guitar, Michel Nastas on bass and Dany Gamache on drums. The music has more industrialized with lots of electronic samples again which make the whole material more noisy and not valuable. I can't say anymore about something I don't like, let the electro/industrial fans price it. You can get this demo from: NEIN CREED, 1624 Alexandre-De-Sève, Montréal, Québec, Canada, H2L 2V7.

E-mail: revsoul@odyssee.net
Web Page: www.odyssee.net/~revsoul

NEURAXIS **In Silence promo '99** **(Neoblast Productions)**

Steven also sent me their ruffmix 4-song promo "In Silence". It's their new material and they impressed me once more with their talent and brutality. This time they worked out a more professional stuff and also corrected the sound of the double-basses. The songs included there are "In Silence", "Dreamrock", "Imagery" and "Blind the Vision that Shatters". It's a full speed ahead Death Metal material in the modern interpretation of NEURAXIS. Vocals are a bit higher I would say screamies ones here and there. Concerning the new songs they remained the same complex as on "Imagery" album, though I felt these new ones more catching and pulsating. Well, the progression is more than evident on "In Silence". My favorite track is "Dreamrock" with its hyper fast double-bass attacks and enchanting guitar melodies. This is something you should check before it's too late! A flawless material with flawless musicianship for open-minded fans! Order it right now from: Neoblast Productions, 2540 Sherbrooke E. suite #2, Montreal PQ, H2K 1E9, Canada. Tel.: (514) 598-6193, fax: (514) 336-1926. E-mail: neoblast@yahoo.com
Web Site: www.neoblast.com/neuraxis

NIGHTSIDE **Promo '96 + Rain Dance '97**

NIGHTSIDE is a five-men Death Metal band hailing from Italy. Its members are Davide Sacco - vocals, Simone Volpin - guitars & keyboards, Ivo Roccio - bass, Luca Ferrazzi - lead guitar and Matteo Calautti - drums. This promo tape contains three unbelievably well-composed melodic Death Metal tunes which are mostly based on swedish Gothenburg-type Metal. The promo begins with a beautiful intro and right after it turns into AT THE GATES-based guitar riffing of "Searching... I didn't Find" song. This one is full of complex drumming, clear and high-pitched screams with lots of great guitar melodies. The second track "Empty & Dryness" mixes some great acoustic parts with a few grinding beats. The last track "Prince Of Clouds" has the same aggressive but quite melodic song-structure with more grinding parts and variety of distorted and acoustic guitars. Matteo was cool enough and taped their "Rain Dance" song after this promo. It was written in the summer 1997 and shows their progression which reflects more melodies and clear-sung vocals in the basis of their songwriting. So if you prefer the Gothenburg-vein of swedish Death Metal, that's it. You can get it from: NIGHTSIDE, c/o Matteo Calautti, via Lonati 6, 20029 Turbigo - Milan, Italy.

NIGHTSIDE **Oneiric Reign demo '98**

Yeah, right! This is the new 6-track

material of this Italian Death Metal quintet. Musically, the band remained as melodic as possible, though "Oneiric Reign" represents the band in a bit progressive way as before, due to the more confused song-structures, clear vocals and samplers. But do not think they're lost their Death Metal roots or something like that. Only transformed it to another dimension. You can find all the great motives of Gothenburg Death Metal there: rasping vocals, here and there spiced with grinding drums, technical guitar-riffing, splendid solos, etc. Plus they recorded a fantastic cover of swedish EDGE OF SANITY's "Black Tears". The demo has an excellent sound quality and comes with b/w cover and lyrics. I guess there's no need to tell you some more words. Check it and you'll understand! You can get this 30 minutes long stuff by sending a blank tape to the band's address: NIGHTSIDE, c/o Matteo Calautti, via Lonati 6, 20029 Turbigo - Milan, Italy.

ORA PRO NOBIS

Dreams Of The Eternal promo '98

This is the second album made by Saint-Petersburg's leading doomsters ORA PRO NOBIS. "Dreams Of The Eternal" includes 7 well-structured songs in 55 minutes with russian lyrics again. The album has a more professional sound with lots of acoustic inclusions and folk motives. For example the song "Oy Moroz Moroz" is actually a russian traditional folk song, in recording of which participated a lot of musicians from Saint-Petersburg's metal bands. If you like slowly thoughtful Doom Metal then order it now! It's a straight and quite original release! E-mail: orapronobis@geocities.com Web Site: www.geocities.com/SunsetStrip/6712/

PARASOPHISMA

One Of Neverending Possible Progressions And Variants, Which Rise Maybe... demo '95

Be on friendly terms with Dalibor, I received another demo of PARASOPHISMA, the predecessor of "Sole Light...". Musically, it differs in some ways, of course. I suppose it's due to the participation of other musicians in the band. The main line of "One Of Neverending..." has the same basis as we get accustomed to the early MY DYING BRIDE stuffs. There are 5 long songs filled up with a good mix of sad violin-parts and mid-paced Doom/Death riffs of guitars. To cut it short, if you're into slowly yet mournful Doom/Death Metal spiced with ultra deep growls and philosophical themes, buy a copy of this 29 minutes long funeral anthem. Write to: Dalibor Figura, Dolní Lutyně 515, 735 53, Czech Republic. E-mail: parasophisma@volny.cz

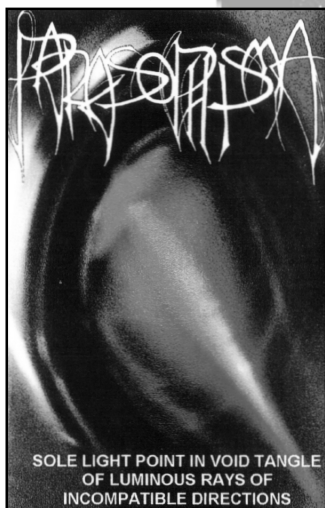
PARASOPHISMA

Sole Light Point In Void Tangle Of Luminous Rays Of Incompatible Directions demo '98

Wow, just take a look at the title of the demo and then on the bandname. Not too usual things for a band playing Doom/Death Metal, isn't it? However, their 7-song material is not only about these two styles, 'coz they like to mix jazz, rock, grind and other styles along with quite thoughtful philosophical lyrics. They are really an original all-sided band having such a great connection within their musical and ideological conception. Let's go into details... They are four: Monika Hrubá - flute/vocals, Radim

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Darda - guitars, Martin Krul - bass and Dalibor Figura - vocals/drums. The first thing I must note is the good use of flute through the whole stuff. The second point is the technical skilled work of the drummer, who mostly amazed me with his rather confused solutions, but that's O.K. The next point is to mention the well-constructed guitar riffs and melodic solos which get on well together with the remarkable bass tunes and artful bass solos. To all these things you can add the enchanting female vocals and the wide-ranging of growls. Every inch of their stuff has something special, indescribably



mysterious and at the same time radiates from the atmospheric feeling. Believe me, PARASOPHISMA is the pure essence of unique Metal Art! Order this masterpiece for \$6 (World), before it's too late. Contact: Dalibor Figura, Dolní Lutyně 515, 735 53, Czech Republic. Tel.: (+420) (069) 6544219. E-mail: parasophisma@volny.cz Web Site: http://www.volny.cz/parasophisma

SANATORIUM

Necrologue demo '98 (Erebos Productions)

SANATORIUM is a four-men Death Metal band hailing from Slovakia. On this release their line-up was the following: Alky - drums, Warmo - guitar, Oneque - guitar and Angel - vocals/bass. "Necrologue" represents six melodic Death Metal tunes which were strongly influenced by Thrash, Heavy and yet Black Metal parts as well. The first two songs "Necrologue Written In Forest" and "Bloody Wounds" are composed in the typical Death Metal way with ultra-deep growling vocals, memorable guitar riffs and technical drum parts. The third one "Desolated Areas Of The Forgotten Pain" is a more melodic piece and here comes the so-called Heavy Metal influences in guitarists' work. The fourth song "Cemetery Of Memories" has a very catchy song-structure which mostly based on slow guitar rhythms and melodies. Actually, this song has the best motives of "Necrologue" material. The next song "Rivers Of The Black Sun" taken from their "Subculture" demo '95. It's a great song full of acoustic inclusions and thrashy guitar parts. The last song called "Č.Č.K.Č.Č.", which is a very short piece with lyrics in Slovak language. The MC comes with colour cover, lyrics and quite long thanks list. It can be yours for \$5 (Europe) / \$6 (World). Write to: SANATORIUM/Erebos Productions, c/o Martin Belobrad, Bajzová 29, 01001 Žilina, Slovakia.

E-mail: belobrad@za.net.sk

Web Site: www.angelfire.com/mt/turcik/index.html

SANGRE CON FILTRO

Own Race Exterminate Us demo '99

A friend of mine gave me this 4-song demo of Hungarian SANGRE CON FILTRO. Featuring Norbert Olasz on rhythm/lead acoustic guitar, Csaba Éliás on rhythm/lead guitar, László Makara on drums and László Tóth on bass/vocals they've done an average Death/Grind stuff. The main line of S.C.F. composes of fast yet intense guitar riffs, not too complex drum-parts and quite deep growls. The first three tracks "I'm Myself", "Stroke Of Fate" and "Anticlerical" have lots of cool guitar parts, which sometimes seems to me a bit confused. As for the soloing of guitarist's, I would say there are some notably solos with tuneful themes and of course there are some hasty ones. Regarding the bass work I can't really say anything 'cause it's mostly under the pressure of the rest of instruments. The best track in my opinion is their fourth one "Change Of Front", which combines a lot of melodic parts along with the thoughtful structure of the song itself. This ends with an impressive medieval-like acoustic guitar theme. The demo comes with good sound quality, b/w cover, photos and lyrics. Order it from: c/o László Tóth, Katalin u. 7, 4431 Sóstófürdő, Hungary.

SPARROW MUTANT

Expansion Of Light demo '98

"Expansion Of Light" is the debut 5-track demo of this Yalta-based Death/Thrash trio. The members of it are: Dima - drums, Alex - guitar/vocals and Yuriy - bass. The demo begins with a quite complex track, namely "Black Land". It's full of grinding drum beats and some splendid solos. However, sometimes the drumming is a bit confused there. Shortly after it turns into first notes of "Victim Of Progress" which is another technical piece with lots of catchy rhythm guitar parts. This follows "Old Soldier's Story" with its SEPULTURA influenced song-structure and vocal-style as well. Also there are some BENEDICTION-type riffs too. The last two tracks "Interdeath" and "Look Out!" are my favourite ones which contains great old-school thrash motives as well as some modern things within its riffs. Also, you can add the profound sound of bass to all the tracks and as the mix you get a cool demo with not bad sound quality. If you like SLAYER, SEPULTURA or KREATOR influenced Death/Grind, than make a trial with SPARROW MUTANT's "Expansion Of Light". Contact: SPARROW MUTANT, c/o Alex Silchenko, Kurortnaja str.16, Coreiz-1, 334254 Yalta, Crimea, Ukraine.

TESSARACT

End Of Depression demo '99

TESSARACT was formed in the beginning of 1992. Nowadays the bandmembers are: Igor Evdokimov - vocals, Yuriy Volkov - rhythm and clean guitars & bass, Konstantin Zmievskij - drums & backing vocals. This is their third demo containing tracks from the second demo "Extreme Neurotic Depression" and some rare unreleased stuff as well. To tell you the truth, I don't even expected such fantastic demo with such professional sound quality. So, what music they play? Well, it's pure swedish Death

Metal at it's best form. There are 12 ass-kicking Death Metal tracks on the "End Of Depression" influenced by early GRAVE and DISMEMBER materials. If it's not enough for you, I can add, that they also recorded the famous "Bleed For Me" song from DISMEMBER's "Like An Everflowing Stream" masterpiece. It was pure nostalgia for me to listen to those extremely well-executed Death Metal tunes. I can't really pick out any of the songs, because they are all simply rules in my mind. However, I enclose you some song-titles: "Drops Of Faith", "Sudden Outcome", "Deadmist", "On The Depths Of Purgatory" and so on. And what is more, there are lots of great solos, complex drumming and unique sounding of vocals. All this displays the high-skilled level of musicians. Order it straight away from TESSARACT or be cursed forever! Contact: c/o Konstantin Zmievskij, P.O.Box 4167, 310166 Kharkiv, Ukraine. Tel.: (0572) 284810.

TESTIMONY

Flaming demo '98

This is the third and the most successful demo by the Hungarian TESTIMONY. The band features Tom Forray on bass, Rudolf Török and László Kótai on guitars, Gábor Kerek on drums and László Bazsó on vocals. "Flaming" includes 5 well-composed melodic Death Metal tunes in the vein of swedish hordes as DARK TRANQUILITY or IN FLAMES for instance. The guitars plays a dominant role on the whole material and that's great. There is No keyboardish shit at all. The first song "Waiting For Absolution" is a slow tune with various vocal harmonies and precise thoughtful drumming. The second one "Flaming" begins with cool bass lines and seems to me it's their best track on this demo though some parts in it brings me a sad and depressive feeling. I don't know why, maybe the musicians were in such a depressive mood when they composed it. The next track "Scars Of My Christ" is much faster and right after go over to the first notes of "Enigma" which is a short instrumental piece with cool acoustic passages. "Now And Forever" complete the tape which is another song with variable vocals. I deeply advise to check this stuff up for the fans of mid-paced melodic Death Metal. To get this pro-done tape with colour cover, lyrics, photos, etc. you should write to: TESTIMONY, c/o Tom Forray, P.O.Box 437, 2400 Dunaújváros, Hungary.

TORTURED

Fucked From Birth demo '97

Huh, TORTURED is another brutal Death Metal band hailing from Olney, USA. "Fucked From Birth" were performed by five musicians: Rottweiler - vocals, James - bass, Trey - drums, Nerses - lead guitar and Bob - rhythm guitar. This demo contains four well-crafted songs with amazingly crushing sound quality. In general, their music is very closer to the first two albums of CANNIBAL CORPSE mixed with some early KATAKLYSM influences. However, there are some original things in their repertory as the full speed ahead drumming and quite complex guitar riffing as well. Besides the title track I'd like to mention "Shackled" and "Confession" which are full of cool rhythm changes and worthy vocal parts. If you consider yourself Brutal Death Metal fan then I advise you to check this demo up! Now, the band preparing its new stuff which will be a full-length album and promises to be more TORTURED brutality!!! There were also some changes in their line-up as well. And now TORTURED looks like a

four-men band: Trey - drums, Erik - vocals (he was the very first vocalist in the band), Bob - guitar/backup vocals and Nerses - lead guitar. To get this demo you should write to: TORTURED, c/o Bob Woodruff, 3309 Llewellyn Field Rd., Olney, MD 20832, USA. For booking information you can call Bob at: (301) 774-8518.

UNCONCERN

Natural Concern promo '98

Well, this is the third demo of slovakian UNCONCERN. The band features Jaro on vocals/bass, Palo on guitars/vocals, Rajo on guitars/vocals and Mravec on drums. They play kinda progressive Techno Death Metal with weird song-structures. The promo contains four songs in circa 11 minutes. The first two songs "Irrigation Of Stomach" and "Insufferable Dislike" are totally new ones which mostly jazz influenced Death tunes with lots of breaks and psychedelic inclusions. "Problem" and "Unconcern", which are actually from the period of 1992-1993, follows the tape with its more confused crazy passages, again with a lot of rhythm changes and complex drum parts which sometimes turn into hyper fast grinding madness. If you like the materials of CYNIC or ATHEIST it won't be a disappointment for you. Check it and you'll understand everything! Band contact: Jaro Vojtek, Na Štepnici 5, 96001 Zvolen, Slovakia. Tel.: 0855/5322 851. E-mail: vojtekova@suhe.siph.sk

VOMIT REMNANTS

Brutally Violated demo '98

First of all, I would like to thank Todashi (Macabre Mementos Records) for sending me this cool stuff. VOMIT REMNANTS is a four-men death squad coming from Japan. The members of it are Ryo (bass), Shinjiro (vocals), Takahiro

DEMO REVIEWS

(guitar/vocals) and Keisuke (drums). Man, it's a fucking brutal material! This three track demo kills well. Gut-ripping riffs, blood-splashing growls which sometimes turn into crazy psychopathic screams, thumping bass lines and fast grinding drum parts - these are the ingredients VOMIT REMNANTS stands for. Interesting fact that Keisuke all the time plays his beats with a high accuracy. The riffs of Takahiro lent quite a brutal portion to VOMIT REMNANTS' style. His solos came as a thunderbolt from my loud-speakers. Also I've found some classical elements in his solos as well. To tell you the truth, I was totally paralysed by the high level of brutality these Japanese guys doing in this circa 12 minutes long Death/Grind attack. Excellent sound. Total sonic destruction guaranteed! I deeply recommend for the fans of Brutal Death Metal to try to get your hands on this demo which will be released very soon (April '99) in CD format by the above mentioned Macabre Mementos Records. The cassette version of it costs \$5 including p&p. Order it now from: MACABRE MEMENTOS Records, c/o Tadashi Minemoto, 15-23, Mikageyama 2-chome, Higashinada-ku, Kobe, HYOGO, 658-0065, JAPAN or contact directly the band at: VOMIT REMNANTS, c/o Keisuke Tsuboi, 4-7-26#201 (Izumi-soh), Izumi-cho, Hoya-city, Tokyo, 202-0011, JAPAN. E-mail: death@bc.mbn.or.jp

WARHEAD

The Realms Of Fancy demo '96

Here I have to present you a surprisingly well-made debut demo of the Russian WARHEAD. The quartet - Mike (bass/vocals), Dick (guitar), Ben (drums) and Misha (guitar) - plays technical Death Metal in the best form of it. Their 8-song material is over-

loaded by an incredible concentration of melodies and emotions, which creates a fantastic mix of straight & powerful Death Metal output together. What about the sound? It's great! Moreover, there are a bunch of cool solos and complex drum-parts there. The vocals mainly located in the interval of deep growls and what's more they're really well-executed. So without further loss of time I would say this stuff is worthy of note. However, I've found a few parts reminiscent of DEATH's "Human" album (of course, minus less of virtuosity). Check out WARHEAD's "The Realms Of Fancy" and you'll understand what I'm basically saying here. Band contact: c/o Evgeny Makeev, Pobeda str. 16/1-46, 618710 Dobrjanka, Perm region, Russia. E-mail: warheadb@chat.ru Web Site: <http://www.chat.ru/~warheadb>

WARHEAD

The Various Views Of The Present-Day Reality demo '98

Well, to tell you the truth, I don't expected such drastic changes after their promising debut demo "The Realms Of Fancy". They've lost the spirit of making good Death Metal tunes and started to do something totally different. These 12 new songs show a new face of WARHEAD and I don't like it at all. But to enlighten you some details, I can say they turned their music into more melodic yet Doom Metal-oriented cocktail. So forget the deep growls and brutal sound of guitars, because there are only clear vocals. Of course, you can find there a lot of acoustic guitar-parts, some keyboard backgrounds, but as for the riffing of guitarists they lost the energy they had on "The Realms...". I would say there's nothing in-

teresting. All is left from the early days of WARHEAD are two songs from "The Realms..." demo, which were extremely changed and got a new interpretation here. To add some plus to them I must say the quality of the sound is excellent. So, if you like the type of music I circumscribed here get in touch with WARHEAD. Write to: c/o Evgeny Makeev, Pobeda str. 16/1-46, 618710 Dobrjanka, Perm region, Russia. E-mail: warheadb@chat.ru Web Site: <http://www.nevod.ru/local/ml/warhead>

WARHEAD

Hate demo '99

"Hate" is the third demo of WARHEAD up to date. It follows the line of their 2nd demo "The Various Views...". Here the line-up is the following: Michael Toburda-novsky - guitars, Eugene Makeev - bass/vocals, Dmitry Bersenev - drums. There are 8 songs in melodious Doom Metal way with a few Death/Thrash influences. Overall, the sound is O.K., even if the double-bass sounds a bit blunt in my view. Songs like "Last Hope", "Break" and "B.M. (Bogota Marazmus)" are quite melodic pieces, while "War" is their best track on this demo that includes a lot of fast drum parts and cool guitar-work. The vocals are not so brutal here but far better than they were on "The Various Views..." demo. There's also a great instrumental tune called "The Gale" featured. It shows the real talent and skills of WARHEAD's musicians. I wouldn't say this demo impressed me a lot, 'cause I know they are able to play more complex and brutal music instead of the stuff they doing now. Well, if you liked their second demo then it won't be a disappointment for you. Get "Hate" from: c/o Eugene Makeev, Pobeda str. 16/1-46, 618710 Dobrjanka, Perm region, Russia. E-mail: warheadb@chat.ru Web Site: <http://www.chat.ru/~warheadb>

VIDEO REVIEWS

THE GREAT KAT

Dominatrix '97

(TPR Music)

Do you like bloody horror movies? If so, then you'll get a massive shock seeing this two and a half minutes long musical insanity. In spite of its short playing time you shouldn't think there's nothing to see there. On the contrary, besides the virtuoso soloing of the GREAT KAT you'll get something special covered with blood, pain, suffering, torment, etc. The scene of the video clip is more reminiscent to the torture chamber of the mighty guitar genius GREAT KAT. You can see there inverted crosses, candles and, of course, lots of slaves, ha-ha... Believe me, it was great to see her fantastic playing on the blood-dripped guitar, while her psychopathic screams turned out to an orgy of blood-spitting here and there. In a word, there's everything on high level executed and what's more it is something you should check before it's too late. To get this short nightmare contact TPR Music: Karen Thomas, Thomas PR, 775 Park Avenue, Suite #222, Huntington, NY 11743, USA. Tel.: (516) 549-7575. Fax: (516) 549-1129. You can call THE GREAT KAT toll free 1-800-KAT-9199. Oh, I've forgot to mention that "Dominatrix" is taken from the masterful "Guitar Goddess" CD. Check it also if you don't have it yet! E-mail: greatkat@greatkat.com Web Site: www.greatkat.com

VADER

Vision And Voice '98

(Metal Mind Productions)

Well, the time has come and VADER released their first full-length video tape, called "Vision And Voice". It contains a concert recorded live in Krakow, Poland. Their repertoire features such classic Death Metal songs as "Sothis", "Distant Dream", "Black To The Blind", "Silent Empire", "Blood Of Kingu", "Carnal", "Red Passage" and "Dark Age" to name a few. The sound quality is excellent as always on VADER gigs. Some light show took place there as well, but they did a big emphasis on the precise and professional playing, first of all. Of course, headbanging is also a part of the VADER shows as the totally enthusiastic crowd. In some songs Peter uses not only his usual growling style but a more higher range of it as well. The riffs of Peter & Mauser were extremely well-executed. As for the rhythm section, Doc (drums) & Shambo (bass) provide for us a flawless achievement. Somewhere at the end they play a cover of famous BLACK SABBATH that looks really impressive in the interpretation of VADER. As a bonus, find enclosed a video clip for the song "Kingdom". They've done it on the same stage and added there some special effects like thunders, for example. Overall, it's a fantastic video stuff offered by the best polish Death Metal band ever. Highly recommended! E-mail: info@metalmind.com.pl Web Site: <http://vader.coven.vmh.net/>

inch REVIEWS

DROWNED

Ærth 7" EP '98

(Stormbringer Productions)

I got this excellent 7" of DROWNED from my great friend, Niclas of Stormbringer. The trio - Argon d.k. (vocals), Saman (guitars/bass) and Gothica Vermilion (drums) - stands for pure Doom/Death Metal in their 2-song repertoire. The side of air contains "Conquering The Azure" which is a quite melodic tune with lots of rhythm changes, powerful drumming and what's more it has both growling and clear vocals as well. As for the clear vocal parts I would say they're deeply emotional ones filled with a touch of depression, though. This song is more Death Metal oriented, while the side of soil includes a flawless Doom Metal piece, called "Antæus (Elevated)". It's about slow guitar riffs and drum parts that sometimes reminded me a bit the mighty Dutch Death masters ASPHYX. Nevertheless, I think the right way for DROWNED lies in their first song which has more potential in general. This stuff is about dark & melancholic music I can only recommend for every Doom/Death fans to get your hands on! It comes with lyrics, photo, etc. on blue vinyl. Order it for \$6 (Europe) / \$7 (elsewhere) from: Stormbringer Productions, c/o Niclas Johansson, Linnégatan 24, 380 62 Mörbylånga, Sweden. Or contact the band directly at: DROWNED, Postfach 191322, 14003 Berlin, Germany. E-mail: stormbringer@mbox302.swipnet.se

GROINCHURN

Already Dead 3" CD '98

(Happy Hamster Records/Dark Ages)

Wow, it is the first South African band I've heard and to tell you the truth it kicks ass. This three guys really know how to compose fast bone-crushing Death/Grind themes. "Already Dead" contains 4 studio tracks and 2 live tracks in circa 13 minutes. The CD begins with the complex riff-massacre of "Already Dead". This track also featured on the new GROINCHURN album, "Fink", as well. The next two tracks come in the same but mostly fast grinding way with KRABATHOR-style singing. The fourth track was taken from their split 7" with WOYCZECH. This track a bit differs from the new ones due to its vocal-style and S.O.D.-based riffs, though the main crazy grinding motives of GROINCHURN are there. The last tracks were recorded live in Ibbenbühren, Germany, on the "Mortal Memories" tour with KRABATHOR. And I guess that's why some of their newer tracks are a bit similar to KRABATHOR. In a word, this is a worthy Death/Grind material which should be checked by every Death/Grind freaks worldwide. You can order it from: Dark Ages Distribution, P.O.Box 39550, Garsfontein, Pretoria, 0060, South Africa. E-mail: lunatic@smartnet.co.za, darkages@pixie.co.za. Or contact the band directly at: GROINCHURN, c/o Mark, P.O.Box 4478, Vereeniging, 1930, South Africa. E-mail: grind@acenet.co.za

Duskfall

Anything about the band for those who haven't heard about DUSKFALL before?

- Well what can I say, DUSKFALL was a project I had in mind when things started to get nasty with GATES OF ISHTAR, the only thing that fucked up was that INVASION Records didn't want us to record "At Dusk And Forever" under the name DUSKFALL, they wanted us to use GATES OF ISHTAR and as you already know that's a fact now... The things was that we signed for 2 full-length CD's with GATES OF ISHTAR, and Maja from INVASION was more into the money of selling under the name GATES OF ISHTAR then giving us a break using the name DUSKFALL...

Why you decided to stop GATES OF ISHTAR after three successfully released albums? Is there any emphatic reason for it?

- Well as I said before, we had to deliver the last CD to INVASION before the contract was done, but I wanted to leave INVASION and all the trouble within GATES OF ISHTAR behind me but Maja didn't care about that, this is why he released a third GATES OF ISHTAR CD, there were only supposed to be 2 not 3! We couldn't do anything due to the contract for 2 Cd's...

Currently you are working on the new material which will be released in the beginning of 1999. Explain us the difference between the music of DUSKFALL and GATES OF ISHTAR? Are there any changes in your style?

- Well there will not be a striking difference between the bands, I wrote all the music for "At Dusk And Forever" except for the song "Forever Beach", which was made by Göran (the studioguy) and me, the new material will continue on the same path as before but with some new approaches... The songs will be a bit more varying and the drumming will be more technical again, we lost a lot of variety on "At Dusk And Forever" but the new songs will be far more interesting!

Who is your producer at this time? I suppose that you chose Peter Tägtgren instead of others, correct me if I'm wrong? What's your view on Peter's bands HYPOCRISY, THE ABYSS and PAIN?

- I like the Cd's that Peter has pro-

duced, I don't know if we're going to use him for our next release... We still need to check out the grounds before we choose a studio to work in. I feel that we always have too little time to mix the tracks and the final result of the production gets a bit crappy, this time we're aiming for a great production and we will try to choose a studio that can give us the time that we need, not a studio that have like 20 bands waiting for you to get done so they can record... then the rush is there and the result gets bad.

Say something about your lyric conception. Where do you get your ideas and what is your source of inspiration?

- What can I say, the lyrics for "The Dawn Of Flames" and "At Dusk..." were written in the studio and that is not the way I want to work... This is a problem for me, I don't have the time to make the music and the lyrics at the same time so in the future I'll use a friend of mine from Canada. He has some great ideas and he uses the language in a better way than me. I will write some of the lyrics but there will not be the same rush this time. My lyrics are just personal views on different subjects, I stand for what I write and they mean something to me, I think that it's great if someone can relate to them but I don't feel that that's necessary.

Have any labels contacted the band yet, or are you still at INVASION Records furthermore?

- We have been in contact with Metal Blade and they seem very interested in our music, we haven't been all that busy in contacting labels and I don't think that labels know that this band exists... We will not record anything more on INVASION, they still owe us money and we'll

probably never see that money again.

It seems to me that the majority of Swedish bands satanists or nihilists. What's your view on it? Are you into any of these categories I mentioned before?

- I personally think that religion is a bad excuse for a persons own actions and beliefs... I believe in myself and my ability to make something good out of my life. If I want something I will make it happen! I don't pray for any god to help me...

What's your view on today's music scene? What do you think is the strongest release of this year?

- There has been a major upswing for the powermetal genre this year with bands like EDGUY and HAMMERFALL... I personally think that acts like BLIND GUARDIAN and STRATOVARIUS makes that kind of music much better and more interesting. The strongest release this year must be either THE HAUNTED or SHADOW GALLERY...

How old was you when you bought your first instrument? And how long had you been playing?

- I got my first guitar (acoustic) at the age of 15 but I played drums at that time, I only started to play the guitar in a more efficient way back in 95. Nowadays I play on a Kramer but I have plans on buying a Gibson very soon...

What do you wish to do with DUSKFALL in the future?

- Just to keep the music alive, make interesting songs and go on tour. We have a stronger line-up now than ever before, there are no arguments within the band and that makes it easy to keep the band together and the music developing.

I think that's all. Last words is yours.

- Thank you very much for your interest in the band, I hope that the fans all over the world will accept this new project and like the new material. There will be updates and news on our website at: <http://www.solace.mh.se/~jsf/duskfall> for you guys that roam the net!!!

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ACID DEATH is a very experimental Death Metal band from Greece. Their first full-length CD, namely "Pieces Of Mankind", was out in 1997 on METAL MAD MUSIC. ACID DEATH consists of the following members: Savvas-Jake Betinis on bass and vocals, Dennis Kostopoulos on lead/rhythm guitars & keyboards, Themis Catsimihis on lead and rhythm guitars (recently he quitted the band) and Costas Tsombanos on drums. The quartet have put aside the pure Death/Thrash sound of the band's early days, giving their music a more technical direction, resulting to sound aggressive in a sophisticated and mysterious way. Dark melodies, aggression and technical abilities are the qualities giving ACID DEATH the chance for making the big step... Take a journey to the dimension of technical and mysterious solutions together with ACID DEATH. Savvas-Jake will your travelling companion on this trip.

Tell us about the beginning. Had you played in any bands before ACID DEATH?

- Well, most of us didn't have any previous experience in a band. We created this band back in 1990 because we loved to play music, the music we like. Our drummer, Costas, only had a small experience before he come to us by playing in a Speed Metal band called APARENTLY DEAD, a band which has splited some years before.

You have very unusual music for Greece. What's your musical influences?

- Sometime we played pure THRASH/DEATH, like SODOM, POSSESSED and stuff like this. Our influences became more open-minded since the years passed. Today we like to give mention to more parts of ROCK generally. We like bands like DREAM THEATER, FATES WARNING or CANSAS and also bands like NAPALM DEATH, CARCASS or DEATH. This is clear in our music which doesn't sound like typical DEATH METAL or something. We like this feeling...

Explain us the lyrical conception of every song (very interesting names).

- Generally we like to talk about many and different things in our songs, things who annoy us, or things who make us feel like beast, or even some fantastic stories. All these with a touch of psychedelism. E.x. in "In The Frost", a man got crazy because of his loneliness, or in "Re-appearing Freedom" you can see a different idea about Jesus Christ...

It seems to me that majority of Greek bands have ties with Magus Wampyr Daoloth from NECROMANTIA and with such band like ROTTING CHRIST. Have you any connection with these bands?

- Magus is a very good friend of mine... sometime we had very good relationship, but because of our personal works we can't see each other as often we want. The same happens with Sakis from ROTTING CHRIST. Especially with him. We may have to see each other for months but when I meet him in a club or everywhere we can talk for hours drinking beers or any other stuff... I love both these guys and I believe they love what they do!

Tell us more about the Greek underground.

- Some years before we had many and good bands. The un-forgettable SEPTICEMIA, MORTAL PAIN, HORRIFIED, MEDIEVAL DEATH and more don't exist anymore. Today only few bands worth to do something. It's strange but I feel like an old man who see his children taking the wrong way in life....

Your music is very professional and technical. Have you studied in some musical colleges and from what age

you start to play on musical instruments?

- We try to do our best in music. Fans say that we are playing really technical or we're very good musicians. We don't believe that. Of course we have spend enough time studying music but we could do it better if we had enough time. We started playing on our instruments 8-10 years before, without any help from any music-college, just some help from some older musicians. Anyway...

Your land has a very ancient history and interesting mythology. Do you like to read about this? And what do you like to read in general?

- Everyone has to know his country's history. We like to read about this. Generally we like to read when there is some free time. We prefer titles coming from horror and mystery, like Stefan King.

Your opinion about:

a.) Band AVULSED that was in split with you - A typical DEATH METAL band from Spain.

b.) Cronos from VENOM - BLACK-FATHER-METAL!!!

c.) Solo albums of Tom Angelripper - I can't help laughing!!!

d.) CELTIC FROST's album "Cold Lake" - !!!!!!!!!!!!!

e.) ROTTING CHRIST's "Dead Poem" - Fucking great!!!

f.) Unidentified Flying Objects - Maybe we're something like these.

g.) Occultism (It seems to me that majority of Greek bands are crazy about it) - Something interesting for some people...

h.) J.R.R. Tolkien's "Silmarilion" - A dead Poem.....!!!!

What was your first bass guitar and what kind of bass guitar you use now?

- I begun playing bass in a WESTSOUND four-string bass-guitar. It was terrible!!! Some months ago I throw it away and I bought one of the first ARIA PRO models came in Greece. This bass exists somewhere in my house. Now I'm playing with a custom 5-string bass made by IOANNIDIS the most popular Greek bass manufacturer in Greece. And of course I won't throw it away!!!!

Would you like to make gig in Ukraine in the future?

- Why not!!!!

Final chapter...

- Thank you a lot for this interview. Get in touch with us. Wait for our new material released in 1999, or look for our "Pieces Of Mankind" CD.



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DEMIMONDE

DEMIMONDE started its existence in spring 1996, when the musicians of it became with the idea of creating a unique brand of atmospheric Doom Metal. Their first material "The Warrior's Poets" was recorded in May '97, but due to some problems it was released only in March '98 by their own label called SORROW ART Productions. I asked the keyboardist D'aven who was cool enough to enlighten us some aspects from the band's present and past. Otherwise, in a few answers you can find the participation of drummer T.o.n. as well. And now read this quite informative interview. They tell some interesting facts and news of the band.

First of all, what is the meaning of the name DEMIMONDE?

- For us Demimonde means a parallel unreal world, owned by Demimonde members as a "spiritual possession". (If I translate demimonde from french to english it means "halfworld"). We try to describe this Demimondial world by our musical and lyrical expression. The other definition of Demimonde: it's a mirror of our real world, so if you read our lyrics, you will find there also something from today's reality. Of course our artistic expression could be interpreted also as an escape from every day reality (which is not happy) to our "halfreality" in our "halfworld".

How could you determine your style for those who haven't heard about DEMIMONDE before? Is there any bands that might have inspired you in somewhat?

- If concern the music on our first release "Warrior's Poets", it's maybe a gothic doom metal (atmospheric and faster) with strong influences of black/dark metal and medieval atmosphere. But the reviewers found there everything possible - from death to artrock. I can't speak about direct influences from others bands, because every Demimonde member has really a completely different musical taste (Afangddu - industrial and medieval, D'aven - black and EBM, Jaacob - opera and progressive, Ankhathuth - house...). And we NEVER said "let's play the similar music as band XYZ...". On the contrary, we are glad to have our own style of atmospheric metal. The only band being admired by every member was (if I remember) Nocturnus. But, did you hear some Nocturnus influences in "Warrior's Poets" release? Me not. (Maybe in our new material will emerge some Nocturnus-like riffs, but with our own touch).

If you want, I can name some bands that a press

use sometimes when reviewing "Warrior's Poets", but it differs song by song. So they found some elements of Theatre of Tragedy, Amorphis, Cradle of Filth, Anathema, Paradise Lost, Gathering, Bal-Sagoth. Maybe if you could close all musicians from these bands in a room together, the result of their songwriting should be similar to the older Demimonde compositions.

What is the basic concept of "The Warrior's Poets"? Tell us more about the lyrical conception of every song.



- I must a little return to the question number 1. - basically our lyrics are connected with the whole Demimondial concept. Afagddu (bassist, who writes majority of lyrics) says often that some of his lyrics really describe a reality of today, mistakes of human society, defects of civilization evolution, etc... Then it is covered by poetical words and transformed into "Demimonde language", but our goal is not to speak about old times, our lyrics are only touched by this middle-age/fantasy atmosphere.

The best example of this conception is maybe a text of Shadow Symphony. Anyway it's really difficult to explain here more about contents of every song, it depends of course on your personal feeling what you will find in our lyrics. But I will try some examples again:

Queen's Pilgrimage - it express the fear of uncertainty and also some pessimistic (but not atheistic) vision of this world.

Empire of Bal-Sagoth - this text is little bit exceptional. It's exactly what we don't write normally. It's a "tale" - the full name of it is "Empire of Bal-Sagoth, from the Chronicles". There are five musical themes, one after another, and each one is named too: "Dance on the King's court", "King's coming", "...after the coronation - the feast party", "Riders of Doom", "Valkyre's Flight". If you read those

names and listen to this song, it must be more than clear - short history of an imaginary kingdom, beginning by a happy celebration and ending by smashing of it all.

Roar of Thunders - (except the first part) was written by me in a deep depression and I tried to catch and describe one short and abstract moment which will never return back.

O.K. It's time to talk about the members of DEMIMONDE. You are six. Could you describe to us the members of DEMIMONDE one by one. (Age, job, religion, etc.)

- Ankhathuth - (18 years, lead guitar): Studies english, interests: house parties, peach vodka and girls (he change them as his socks). Afagddu - (18, bass guitar): Studies english too, interests: occult sciences, reading and writing. He have also his oneman technoindustrial project named Afagddu. Jaacob - (19, deep vocal, guitar): His job is a technical university - engines, machines, but he would like to study classical music guitar playing. D'aven - (21, keyboards): I study journalism on university. Interests: my girlfriend, golf, books and of course music (classical, electronic and metal). Tannya - (24, female vocal): She is accountant/book-keeper in a bank, she likes drummer T.o.n. (= her boyfriend), and also singing. T.o.n. - (19, drums): the most interesting fact is that he is very often angry and furious as a mad dog (it must be his hobby). He is also a so-called "manager" of Demimonde and runs a distro (so he is well oriented in ug scene). [There were also seventh member who participated on "Warrior's Poets" recording, called Kashtan (31, higher male vocal, guitar), but we split with him last year because of completely different opinions and visions about our work].

As concern religion, we are not a christian neither satanical band, although somebody from us



can agree with any ideas of it. Every member has indeed his own philosophy, synthesised by many of ways, opinions... Generally we are without some concrete religion.

Your first album "The Warrior's Poets" was released on your own label SORROW ART Productions. What can you tell us about the upcoming releases of it?

- Unfortunately nothing - the only release that were realized on SAP is Demimonde. In the beginning, Sorrow Art was only a distro, same as thousands in whole world, owned by T.o.n. and Jaacob. After a failure with Leviathan rec. (They said: music is good, but you must go to other studio and remake it - then the deal will be sure. The only thing they missed - to give us some money to rerecord it.) So, we decided to publish "Warrior's Poets" ourselves on our own label, as a regular full-length pro MC. T.o.n. said, that he would like to release also others bands under the mark SAP, but it depends all on money possibilities and for now, all money are needed for our band.

Tell us something about DEMIMONDE's future... When we can expect your second album and in what orientation it will be?

- Now we are looking for a label that could be interested on our next project - we are composing a new material which is planed to be released in the beginning of 1999. We have now cca. 40 min. of quite insane avantgarde metal. There were great changes in our style just after realizing "Warrior's Poets" - one day we said that we must change our music: now it's faster, more black and death influences and the structure of compositions is more difficult, maybe chaotic (but it's our choice). Example: one of new compositions is 18 minutes long, with 20 riffs in many different arrangements, it's fast, furious, symphonic... there is more of experiments, we use the computer for doing house, industrial and hell effects, we included there also some samples from Wagner's opera or a solo piano drowned in brutal computer noise, and many other experimental elements... (Here are some comparisons or definition of our actual musical style little help for journalists who will review our next release: imagine Nocturnus, Dismal Euphony, Laibach, Misanthrope and Front Line Assembly how they are doing together black metal in a madhouse. What has remain the same is our significant atmosphere and the musical feeling. And what about more distant future? Maybe we will split after recording of a new material. It can sound as a joke, but it's a real danger. We have no personal problems, but there is really a great difference in a musical taste of every bandmember. The result is that we are not able to find together a common opinion about future of musical style of Demimonde. Afagddu and Ankhathuth, two very important persons who bring majority of ideas, began to be oriented on computer/dance music and miss their interest on metal music. (There is some probability that almost some members will continue on the musical work together, but as I see the trends in a band, it will be probably Nine Inch Nails/Front 242 electronic body music...)

Do you play live often? What kind of bands do you prefer to play with?

- No, during 2,5 year of Demimonde existence we had only 5 live shows, because some members don't like to play live. And mainly: on most of live shows, the sound engineers are not able to create a good sound for so huge band (some time ago, we played with 6 instruments

and 3 vocalists). So we have permanent problems, because we can't do a live presentation of our musical expression as good as we would like to do. The third negative aspect is that if you go into the czech countryside, the spectators there don't know to create a good and "hot" atmosphere (almost there, where we were). If I take it step by step: first two concerts were here in Prague (capital town) and it was with quite a decent sound and very warm response from fans. But from the moment, when we decided to play in some countryside shows and fests, it was all wrong: shit sound everywhere, fans who came to drink a beer, not to listen to the music... (And once we had also a funny trouble, when we found 2x2metres "great" platform for musicians in some small club. We turned back, returned at home and didn't play there, because 7 persons with instruments really doesn't fit there.) In Demimonde now logically emerged an idea to be only a studio project.

P.S.: some very actual news (or rumours): It's said, that in winter, Demimonde will maybe play live in Prague (after a very long pause) with Love History or Forgotten Silence (both are top quality czech doom bands).

Briefly say something about:

a.) the underground scene of Czech Republic - The Czech ug scene is very large, metal is still popular here, many of persons runs zines and distros, we have here thousands of active bands, waiting to be discovered by the rest of the world. Generally the Czech fans are most liking two kinds of metal: brutal death/grind and slower doom. Majority of Czech bands (but not Demimonde) fits into those styles. About bands: some of them successfully penetrated in world, you will maybe know three legends: Krabathor (classical death), Root and Master's Hammer (veterans of black metal). From the new generation, I highly recommend the experimental metal band Forgetting Silence - they are really very cool (give them some time and it will grow into second Misanthrope), it's probably the best Czech ug band - they are so great band, that they are able to sell thousands of MC/CD's without live playing (0 concerts and 3 full-length releases during 5 years!!!). Then I suggest doom metallers Endless and Love History as the best representatives of this genre here. In our country is also a strong base of grind core bands (highly praised are Contrastic, Ingrowing and Garbage Disposal). As concern pure black metal, Unclean and Sorrath could be interesting. And of course I must note Demimonde as a mix of all these styles.

b.) nowadays growing Black Metal trend - Me personally I like Black very well (maybe most of all metal genres), but indeed this style began to be a little bit boring nowadays. The reason is simple - there is a few bands that discover path and the

majority are only "epigones or followers" - every of them have a same sound. My most appreciated Black metal bands are those really original and avantgarde: Dismal Euphony, Solefald (and maybe Limbionic Art). I like also those with perfect sound and top playing skills (for ex. last Hecate Enthroned album - although they are not much original, and Emperor). Also sometimes I listen to early Cradle of Filth (especially Vempire...). But 90% of today's BM bands unfortunately didn't interest me.

c.) the retro movements in Thrash and Heavy Metal styles - Sorry, but we don't listen to Thrash and Heavy, it's little bit another world (only two "heavy stuffs" interesting for me emerged actually: comeback of King Diamond and the amazing masterpiece of Italian speed orchestra Rhapsody). Generally I think that retromovements of any styles (not only in music) will be present ever. Regarding metal, we can note really a regular periodicity of Death, Black or Thrash comebacks.

d.) DEATH's new masterpiece "The Sound Of Perseverance" - I'm not very oriented in American metal, I don't understand it (if I can choose a deathmetal band, I will surely prefer Septic Flesh much more than Death). So I asked for opinion our drummer T.o.n. Here is his answer: "write there, please: Chuck is genial, genial, genial..."

e.) serial killers - If you are interested by this theme, surely look at Oliver Stone's film "Natural Born Killers".

f.) reincarnation - I think we have no negative or positive opinion about this theme - we don't trust on it, but we don't say that it is some rubbish or nonsense. As I said once, we can synthesize our philosophies from anything we want - we are children of postmodern age... Reincarnation theory is indeed a part of one (important) way of human culture.

What's your view about the forced computer development? Have the members of DEMIMONDE any interests to the computers? And what do you like to do with it?

- Yeah, it's not sure if this development is good or bad regarding civilization interests. But the growing of worldwide Net during 90's years is amazing... Me, I use the Net services very well (and often). Without email, our band couldn't sell hundreds of tapes in few months, cooperation with ug (zines, distros, bands) is easier, faster. Also we created two Demimonde websites. As a student (and journalist), I can't imagine a life without computer. The other way to use this machine is what our member Afagddu shows us - he makes a very quality electronic music on it.

Final thoughts...

- Thanks to you, of course, for a possibility of presentation in your zine. I hope that also among your readers we will find some fans who could be interested by Demimonde music. Hail to you all!!! And, I would like to announce an offer of our Sorrow Art Distro. We sell CDs, MCs, Vinyls, most of them are czech production, and in the near future our mailorder will emerge on Internet. Now we are interested on changing and selling Demimonde release, so every bands, distros and labels who are interested in some cooperation are welcome to get in touch.

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(D'aven)



ORA PRO NOBIS borned in the year of 1994. Then their line-up was the following: Dmitry Grigoriev (guitar/vocals), Alexander Guljaev (lead guitar) Andrey Zimenkov (bass), Evgeny Trefilov (drums). After five years of existence they released one demo "Doomed" (1995) and two full-length albums "Dedication" in 1997 and "Dreams Of The Eternal" in 1998. Through this long period of existence their line-up changed and nowadays it consists of Dmitry Grigoriev (guitar/vocals), Max Kuznetsov (bass), Ilya Safronov (drums) and Sergey (lead guitar). Fortunately, before the quit of drummer Evgeny, I had a chance and ask him to share with us some facts and news concerning *ORA PRO NOBIS*.

ORA PRO NOBIS

As I see from your biography you had a couple of line-up changes. Who are the current bandmembers of ORA PRO NOBIS and will be this line-up constant?

- Well, exactly 6 persons who once were members of band are not around anymore - Alexander Guljaev (guitar), Anastasija Ivanova (violin), Andrey Zimenkov (bass), Alexey Koscheev (guitar) and the most recent - Andrey Konstantinov (keyboards) and myself, Evgeny Trefilov (drums). All of the persons mentioned had to left the band for different reasons... some decided to leave for themselves and some were fired because of musical or personal problems. Nowadays band is still led by leader Dmitry Grigoriev who is main songwriter, vocalist and guitarist of ORA PRO NOBIS, along with skilled bass-player Maxim Kuznetsov, who once were even a member of DEMARCH band. New drummer is old friend of Dmitry, Ilya Safronov, and he played with Dima before ORA PRO NOBIS in thrash project MOR. Also there is new guitarist but I still don't know anything about him. I can't think about this line-up as something permanent, because everything changes... I never thought I'll leave this band, it was my first band and I played in it since 1994 - 5 years is a long time. But it happens sometimes you become interested in different styles and different approaches than the ones band implements.

The new album "Dreams Of The Eternal", your second one, is a very unique brand of Doom Metal. In what way you composed your songs and what was your main influences?

- Well, this album was very hard for

us. We needed about 2-3 months to compose each song and even after that we made significant changes to all the material. Different riffs travelled among some songs, and I think if we never started recording the album we'd change it eternally. Basically, we didn't like the material as much as 'Dedication' album, it was like a contrast between our musical and technical possibilities and our wishes, you know... For instance, I wanted this album to be more progressive, in the vein of Fates Warning or Dream Theater, not at

als, I think we achieved good heights and maybe new line-up will continue evolutioning in this space. As for influences, Dima is great fan of LAKE OF TEARS band, he likes vocals and guitar work... Andrey was more into alternative and maybe even dancing music, though he listens to a lot of heavy and even ambient music. I prefer progressive rock from 70 to 90, also hard rock classic, gothic and doom bands. Maxim is glam rock lover, but we didn't let him express his POISON-influenced ideas on the album (metal cowboys brrrr), hehe.

Could you analyse us the lyrics of "Dreams Of The Eternal" in details? Are there any poets or poetry that you care to note as its influence?

- Sorry, can't say nothing, I don't write lyrics and I think we shall put this question out ok?

For the first album you signed a deal with Metal Agen Records. And what about now? Do you still there?

- Well, no. We understand all the difficulties

of making business with metal music in Russia, we thank Agen Price for making Dedication available on the market, but we wanted to be under some foreign label and after 4 refuses I understood that our band still never achieves western industry standards. After some efforts I realized that the band ORA PRO NOBIS should remain ORA PRO NOBIS... but that means that we won't get a deal in near future. And after all, I didn't like the trend to become a russian-rock band and write songs that will remind CHAIF or CHIZH...
all of course but in some elements. I think we achieved some of our goals, our sound became really sympho-metallic, saturated with a lot of keyboards, powerful bass and sometimes tricky parts and measures. The last song we wrote not so long before recording session was 'Death', 18 minutes track. It was an idea to write a long song in which we would express everybody's ideas, but it turned to be something different in the end, because of problems inside the band and inside each member... I'd dare to say we become maybe a kind of lazy... or just stopped believing in yourself as musicians, so the most recent trends were to simplify some of our experimental ideas. Being not profession-

Has the album been selling well? Is the band happy with how this album turned out?



- Well, which album? Dedication was selling good, we have sold about 400 copies I think and I don't know how much METAL AGEN sold. As for new album, it is still unreleased... Few labels didn't like vocals, few said we all have to significantly improve our performing and songwriting capabilities and the last refuse from BESTIAL RECORDS Romania was because our music was too soft for this extreme label, although its chief Adrian admitted that music is recorded and played very good.

Do you play a lot of live shows? What types of bands do you play with



most often? And what is your image on the stage?

- Well we did a lot of shows in past but last year it was hard to play a lot, because most of the clubs closed. Simply there are only 2 stages - POLIGON and JAM clubs, as for POLIGON, they have strong restrictions and JAM simply sux. We never cared about with which bands we'll play, because always thought we are the best :). To be seriously, we liked to play with alternative bands - grunge and hardcore - because there is always much more audience on alternative gigs and this audience is much better than metal fans. They always listened to our songs carefully and supported us. On stage we tried to make a kind of show, well not with pyrotechnic, but simply headbanging and moving, feeling on stage freely, and Dima likes to chat with audience, sing with them and so on... We wear white shirts and black jeans and loose our long hair... well look at the photos :).

ORA PRO NOBIS isn't the typical band name. How was the name chosen? Is there any significant meaning in it?

- Oh yes, at first our name was MOR, but we decided to change it after a half of year simply because it was kinda death-metal name but we were already

playing doom metal. So we began brain storm and Dima said he wanted something in latin, because we loved first My Dying Bride single so, and there were some tracks in latin, we found it very unusual. And so Dima simply remembered all the words he knew (per aspera ad astra (ad anus:)) and so on... ORA PRO NOBIS came up not directly from Ave Maria, but through Goffman's tale 'Satan's elixir'. We thought a bit about it and everyone of us liked it so it become a name. Like we were saying during next year, 'You shall pray for us 'cos you can do nothing for people like us, only pray'. You can find your own meaning of course, like in ROCK FUZZ magazine review one humoristic guy mentioned that he can forgive Paradise Lost for being here, can forgive Ozzy Osbourne for STILL being here, but as for ORA PRO NOBIS, you can only pray, amen... and so on.

Say something about the members' interests outside of the band. Are you married?

- Ha Ha :) No I am not married. Dima is married for 3 years already and Max plans to marry soon as I know. As for my own interests, I love listening to music, playing it, I really love learning playing drums, I do it for 6 years already and have second teacher now, very accomplished funk/jazz drummer. Also my interests include computer/internet things... well not too much really, because main interests are inside music since my childhood, though I never ever been to musical school 'till 20... Of course I love companies, drinking - these things I think we all share :).

Saint-Petersburg is a fantastic place. What can you tell us about its underground scene (labels, bands, 'zines)?

- Ah no, I don't know much about zines except one called Sotsirh Susii - kinda 'samizdat'. A lot of bands, but most of them suck and only bands who have established themselves through 5-6 years are really interested for me at least. And I don't know any label who really supports underground bands.

I heard that fifth of september was a great gig in Saint-Petersburg with performers like IMPALED NAZARENE

and CHILDREN OF BODOM. What is your impression about the gig and do you like these bands' materials?

- You know, I was away from Saint-Petersburg on these days, me and Andrey were in Finland/Sweden on tour. So I can't say a lot, but as I know, people love Impaled Nazarene here from late 80's and never even hoped seeing them live, so close. Children Of Bodom gained a lot of credits here for their strongest musicianship, even Kostya from PAINFUL MEMORIES after seeing their soundcheck said he thinks about leaving the music 'cos he will never play like Alex Laiho. The bad point was that Impaled Nazarene were the last band and a half of people left club, fearing not to be home this day. But Impaled made really crazy show, Mikka wrote 'Fuck me' on his belly, even made some exhibitionist acts on stage and so on... you know they all were so drunk :).

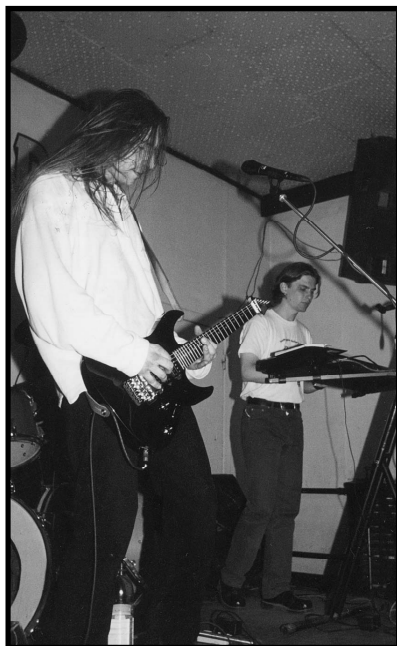
Give us some information about the mysterious future of ORA PRO NOBIS? Has any new material been written yet?

- As I know, guys now simply rehearse the old songs but as the new material will be written, I'll put information and samples on our webpage.

For the end, tell us your final dream to the readers...

- My dream... I want to be in really cool and famous band, play around the world, making albums, cd's... and I want to be as good as Mike Portnoy in drumming. Also to have a girl like errr... Sharon Stone hehe or like that.... why am I worse than this motley crue sucker? :)

E-mail: orapronobis@geocities.com
www.geocities.com/SunsetStrip/6712/



ATHEIST 'ZINE Issue #3

ATHEIST is a great hungarian-written Death/Black 'zine. The editors of it are Gábor Szalay and Zoltán Náduvvari. They worked out a fantastic layout and content for their third issue. It specializes mainly on the eastern European scene and that is why there are interviews with slovakian ERYTOSY, ukrainian CASTRUM / CHAMOS / ENCOMIUM 'zine, hungarian VALE OF TEARS, czech MANIAC BUTCHER / NHA AVAH / PUSSY GOD Records, slovakian LUNATIC GODS / METAL AGE Productions, russian TALES OF DARKNORD and polish ESQARIAL. Also find enclosed scene reports of Ukraine and Poland plus articles about DARK CLOUDS, MYSTIC DEATH, WAYD, DOOMSDAY, DANGER, ZOMBIE HOLOCAUST, TRAUMA, VARATHRON and PAGAN Records. And that's not in the least everything, because there are tons of honestly-written reviews on underground products, a page dedicated to Hungary's new generation Black Metal bands and yet a section called black lyrical poetry. To get this 30 A/4 format pages you should send \$3 to one of the following addresses: c/o Gábor Szalay, Galamb út 27, H-3060 Pásztó, Hungary or c/o Zoltán Náduvvari, Zalár J. út 47/1, H-3200 Gyöngös, Hungary.

BAST MAGAZINE Issue #6

The 6th issue of BAST comes on 38 A/4 pro-printed pages with excellent quality. You can read there interviews with BLOODTHORN, PIT Magazine, OTHELLO'S REVENGE, and BIG SHRIMP plus get articles about Seattle's Weirdness, Profiles in Sickness, and many other. The most interesting part of this issue I found in the well-written reviews on albums/shows and last but not least on 'zines. It features also some quite cool live pictures of MORBID ANGEL, INCANTATION and NILE along with short reports about these bands' killer achievements on the stage. Get it for \$3 USA, \$4 World from: c/o Martha Hughes, 358 Moscow St., San Francisco, CA 94112, USA. E-mail: bastzine@pacbell.net Web Site: www.bastmagazine.com

BAST MAGAZINE Issue #7

Wow, Martha does a fantastic issue again. The content improved a lot but the layout remained the same. The 7th issue includes great interviews with FLESHTIZED, CRADLE OF FILTH, SPEED DEALER, DESTINY'S END, IN RUINS, EX-GIRL, BORKNAGAR and THE QUIET ROOM. The show reviews are rules again and packed with such bands as CANNIBAL CORPSE, ANGEL CORPSE, SADUS, GORGUTS, CRYPTOPSY, SADISTIC INTENT, NILE to name a few. And as usual, you can find there tons of honestly written reviews on CDs/demos/'zines and the special sections of Profiles in Sickness along with a new one about Tales of the Sick! It has 38 A/4 pages and can be yours by sending \$3 USA, \$4 World to: c/o Martha Hughes, 358 Moscow St., San Francisco, CA 94112, USA. E-mail: bastzine@pacbell.net Web Site: www.bastmagazine.com

BAST MAGAZINE Issue #8

Well, I think it's the best issue of BAST so far. Martha features a lot of cool stuff on the 38 A/4 pages of this issue. You can read interviews with GRIP INC., DARK FUNE-

'zine reviews



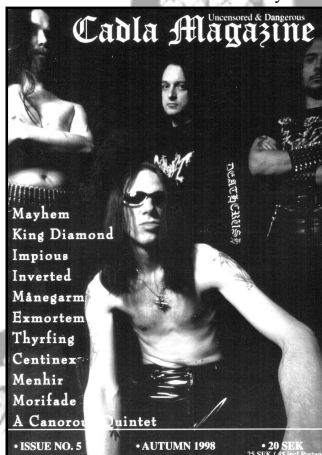
RAL, POISON IDEA, JOHN COBBETT, HAMMERFALL, ABSCESS, KRISIUN, REGURGITATION and also get a clear picture about the new releases of underground and above. Believe me, this one is full of better and better information. So don't be a fool and order your copy right now! Available for \$3 USA, \$4 World from: c/o Martha Hughes, 358 Moscow St., San Francisco, CA 94112, USA. E-mail: bastzine@pacbell.net Web Site: www.bastmagazine.com

BYLEC-TUM 'ZINE Issue #3

Hell, it's truly an informative one with 35 great interviews and tons of honest reviews on demos/CDs/vinyls/'zines. 44 A/4 pages packed with the quintessence of the underground are what BYLEC-TUM offers us this time. Among the rather underground bands such as FROST, CELESTE, FUNERAL RITES, SUIDAKRA, NOCTIS, SYNC, IKUINEN KAAMOS, HIMINBJORG, ARTHAME, LUNAR AURORA, ETERNAL DUSK, ASTARTE, PURITAS VIRGINUM, SADIUM, EXCESS OF CRUELTY, GAUDEBEC to name a few there are also interviews with some well-known acts as GEHENNA, FALL OF THE LEAF, PROFANITY, SOLSTAFIR and NOMICON for example. It was great to read about such a big number of unknown bands to me as well as the fascinating sections of news and Scandinavian Cults. To get this useful 'zine you should send \$4 to: c/o Giancarlo Gelormini, Via Dante 200, 73016 San Cesario (Lecce), Italy.

CADLA MAGAZINE Issue #5

CADLA's fifth incarnation impressed me a lot! It's a fantastic issue mainly deal-



ing with the metal scene of Scandinavia. The layout is excellent and what's more you can find there a bunch of honestly written demo/CD/'zine reviews. As for the interviews, they're killer and mostly covered all the necessary information you should know about your favorites. Well, it's time to list you the names of interviewed bands. Here they go: MÄNEGARM, A CANOROUS QUINTET (their last interview before the split-up), EXMORTEM, THYRFING, MORIFADE, MAYHEM (6 pages of insanity), MENHIR, KING DIAMOND (a very good one!) and also find enclosed three more interviews with INVERTED, CENTINEX and IMPIOUS in the section of Death Metal Special. Overall, it's a great output and CADLA seems to me one of the best swedish mags I ever held in my hands. 68 A/5 pages with glossy color cover, it's more than enough. So, order your copy now for only \$4/7DM incl. postage from: Cadla Communications, P.O.Box 10008, SE-850 10 Sundsvall, Sweden. E-mail: cadla@hotmail.com Web Site: http://listen.to/cadla

DISCORDIA 'ZINE Issue #1

Peter was cool enough and sent me his great debut issue of DISCORDIA. Interviews featured in this issue are with Australian Death/Grinders BLOOD DUSTER, Quebec's grind band DAHMER, the soulmachines called FEAR FACTORY, the mega brutal Death Metal band CRYPTOPSY, hardcore act GRIFT and the sickest Death band EXHUMED. Also, it includes reviews of demos/CDs/EPs, a Death Metal Mainstream commentary (instructive one!), playlists of musicians and 'zine editors, an East German HC scene Report, list of web sites, a humorous "Draw Kyle of INCANTATION contest" and many more. All this comes with nice layout on 32 A/4 pages with xeroxed quality for just \$2 (North America) /\$3 (Overseas) or you can trade it for yourself. Contact: Peter Richards, 16894 St. Andrews Rd., Caledon East, Ontario, L0N 1E0, Canada. E-mail: Discordia_zine@hotmail.com

ENSLAIN MAGAZINE Issue #5

Another strong issue was unleashed by ENSLAIN. On 32 A/4 professionally printed pages you can get acquainted with such great



bands as MORBID ANGEL (Death Metal Masters!), CRADLE OF FILTH (Supreme Vampiric Art), FEAR FACTORY, KILGORE, etc. and read lots of demo/CD/concert reviews plus enjoy a killer report about Miwaukee Metalfest XII. Don't be a fool, order your copy right now by sending \$5 to:

c/o Lady Enslain, P.O.Box 822, Quakertown, PA 18951, USA. Meanwhile, issue #6 is out with the following interviews inside: HYPOCRISY, TESTAMENT, VADER, DEATH and ROTTING CHRIST. It's available for \$5 as well. E-mail: ENSLAINmag@aol.com Web Site: www.enslainmagazine.com

FREEZING FLAMES 'ZINE Issue #3

There's no doubt FREEZING FLAMES has the most professional layout among the hungarian underground publications. In this issue you can read the following inties:



DIVISION 187, NIGHTSKY BEQUEST, SIEBENBÜRGEN, FORSTH, ACHERON, INFERNAL MÄJESTY, CASTRUM, FORGOTTEN SILENCE, ITN, WARHEAD Records, BENIGHTED LEAMS, FLEURETY, ENCHANTED, BURZUM, ABYSS Productions, WITHERING SURFACE, CANVASSER, EMANZIPATION Productions and TERRAE SOLE CALENTES. Well, besides the usual piles of demo/CD/'zine reviews you can find there a short EMPEROR concert review and the story behind the conception of BURZUM's "Daudi Baldrs". All is left to say, it has 52 A/4 pages full of excellent stuff with quality pictures and nice backgrounds. Get it for \$4 from: c/o Zolt Pálzgráf, Kinizsi Ltp. 1/b. III/11., H-7400 Kaposvár, Hungary.

FULL MOON Issue #1/99

This one is a newspaper managed by the ukrainian label called MOON Records. Inside of this issue you can bump into interviews of DARK TRANQUILLITY, ROTTING CHRIST, ABSCESS, THE HAUNTED (informative one!) and LORD BELIAL plus read a short article about INCANTATION and dozens of reviews on albums & tapes. Moreover, there are lots of news and ads on its professionally printed 20 A/4 pages. All this written in russian language. Contact: c/o Andrey Batura, P.O.Box 207, 03150 Kiev, Ukraine. By the way, Andrey recently started an extreme music magazine called LOBOTOMY ADDICTION!!! So bands of extreme music are welcomed to send their stuff in! E-mail: batura@moonrec.kiev.ua

GOETIA / NEAR DARK Issue #3 / Issue #4

Here we have an excellent split issue of swedish most powerful underground 'zines, namely GOETIA & NEAR DARK. Let me begin with the content of GOETIA. Niclas its editor/mastermind, interviewed both famous & total underground acts there. They are the following PENTACLE (masters

of ancient Death Metal), BIFROST (Pagan Metal band), REVELATION (American Doom Metal act at its best), THERION (the most underrated band of today's scene by the words of Niclas), TEMPERANCE (Sweden's Soul Metal Kings!), THE MARBLE ICON (Swedish Doom/Death band), THE MOANING (Black/Death horde, of course, from Sweden) and EVOKEN (another amazing Doom Metal band from the US). Also find enclosed two more interviews with Misanthropy Records and Putrefaction 'zine plus as usual tons of honest reviews on demos/7"s/CDs. O.K., let's analyse NEAR DARK. There are two maniacs involved behind it, namely Kim & Tobbe. As for its content, it's also combines bands from both previously mentioned categories. You can read there interviews with BATHORY, OPETH, THE DARKSEND, MEFISTO, A MIND CONFUSED, LAKE OF TEARS and UNGOD. There's some ads and humorous articles included as well as a bunch of demo/CD reviews. The quality is all the way professional, though the photos are more clear in GOETIA, for instance. Most of all, I liked the interviews with PENTACLE, EVOKEN, MEFISTO, THE MOANING and OPETH to name a few. If you want to enlarge your collection with a great issue (that has 52 A/4 pages), then go ahead and by this split one for only \$3 (Europe) / \$4 (elsewhere) from one of the following addresses: GOETIA, c/o Niclas Johansson, Linnégatan 24, 380 62 Mörbylånga, Sweden; NEAR DARK, c/o K. Isaksson, Nackstav. 34 C, 853 52 Sundsvall, Sweden or NEAR DARK, c/o T. Fällström, Nackstav. 22 D, 853 52 Sundsvall, Sweden.

GOETIA Issue #4

Another excellent issue was done by Niclas of GOETIA. His fourth issue features interviews with SOLITUDE AETURNUS (an in-depth 5-page interview!), CONCEPTION, TAD MOROSE, ABLAZE MY SORROW, KATATONIA, UNGOD, MORTUARY DRAPE, THEATRE OF TRAGEDY, NIGHT IN GALES, SOLSTICE, ETERNAL HATRED and BETHZARDA. I would like to mention the thoughtful questions of Niclas that make these interviews interesting and informative. This time I've noted the presence of more demo & album reviews. It's great! As for the quality, it's again on professional level with crystal clear pictures and lots of band logos. Should I say more? Maybe, but this issue speaks for itself. Just try to get one and you won't be disappointed at all! To get these 44 A/4 pages of metal art you should send \$3 (Europe) / \$4 (elsewhere) to: Niclas Johansson, Linnégatan 24, 380 62 Mörbylånga, Sweden. E-mail: stormbringer@mbox302.swipnet.se

GOETIA Issue #5

Well, it is the best and unfortunately the last issue of GOETIA. The reason is simple, because Niclas started his own label, called Stormbringer Productions, and he wants to concentrate more on it in the future. In this issue interviews featured are RAZOR (Canadian Thrash Cult!), NAEVUS, MAZE OF TORMENT, HAMMERFALL, MERCILESS, NOCTURNAL RITES, VARATHRON, TWISTED TOWER DIRT, KRABATHOR, SATAN/PARIAH, DROWNED, DERANGED, NECRONOMICON (German Thrash masters!) and IRON RAINBOW. It's really a thick and killer issue having 56 A/4 pages packed with tons of honest reviews and better and better interviews. Believe me, it was fan-

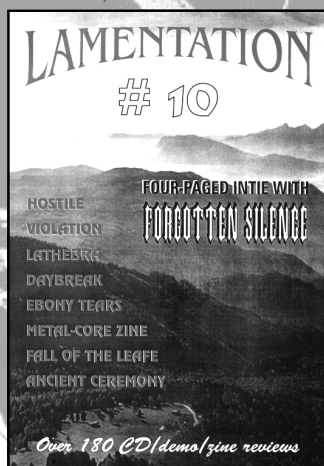
'zine Reviews

tastic to read about the old warriors such as NECRONOMICON, RAZOR and PARIAH, while I've found interesting to read about KRABATHOR, DROWNED and DERANGED as well, for example. The lay-out remained the same professional as it was in #4. So, this is something you should order before it's too late. Get your copy for \$4 (Europe) / \$5 (elsewhere) from: Niclas Johansson, Linnégatan 24, 380 62 Mörbylånga, Sweden.

E-mail: stormbringer@mbox302.swipnet.se

LAMENTATION Issue #10

Hungary's leading Death/Black magazine returned with its 10th issue. Jedo, its mastermind, has improved both the layout and content. Find enclosed interviews with FORGOTTEN SILENCE, ANCIENT CEREMONY, HOSTILE, VIOLATION, LATHEBRA, EBONY TEARS, METAL CORE 'zine, FALL OF THE LEAF and



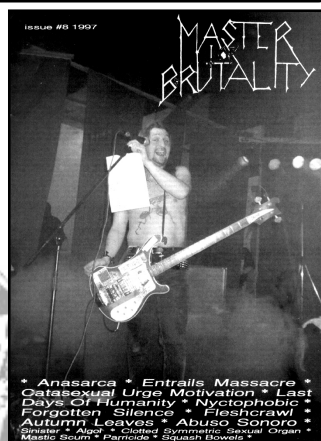
DAYBREAK. There's also a plenty number of CD/demo 'zine reviews and of course some ads inside. The pictures are clear and what's count the interviews are enough interesting to read them again and again. All this comes on 28 A/4 format pages with two-colour glossy cover. I guess, it's worth to invest your \$3. Write to: c/o Bechtel J. Ervin, H-7187 Majos, VII. u.22, Hungary. E-mail: lamentation@galamb.net

LAMENTATION Issue #11

Another remarkable LAMENTATION issue was born under the skies of Hungary. This is the best one so far. Having included interviews with such great bands as DARKSIDE, GODLESS TRUTH, VARATHRON, MAELSTROM, THE GREAT KAT, AURORA BOREALIS, GARDEN OF SHADOWS, ANATA, ANTIQUA, GROINCHURN, THIRDMOON, SCHOLOMANCE, CENTINEX, GHOLE, EPOCH OF UNLIGHT, TEMPTAMENTUM, VANAHEIM, RAIN FELL WITHIN, ABORTION, DARKFALL, MIDNIGHT SUN, DEMIMONDE and SPEERHEAD I can only recommend it and celebrate LAMENTATION's 6 years existence! Keep it in this way Jedo! To get this pro-done 40 A/4 pages 'zine you should write to: c/o Bechtel J. Ervin, H-7187 Majos, VII. u.22, Hungary. E-mail: lamentation@galamb.net

MASTER OF BRUTALITY Issue #8

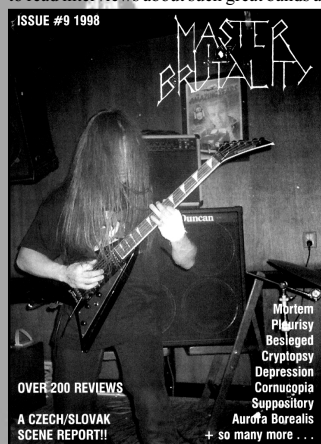
M.O.B. is a fantastic 'zine edited by a



friend of mine, namely Ewald Provoost. The 40 A/4 pages of this issue are features interviews with MASTIC SCUM, C.U.M., AUTUMN LEAVES, ENTRAILS MASSACRE, FLESHCRAWL, PARRICIDE, C.S.S.O., ANASARCA, FORGOTTEN SILENCE, SQUASH BOWELS, NYCTOPHOBIC, ABUSO SONORO, LAST DAYS OF HUMANITY, SINISTER and ALGOL. These are rather detailed ones with clear pictures and some illustrations. It was also great to see such a big number of logos included in the review sections. Good idea, no doubt! Oh, and there's also an article about AGATHOCLES as well. I can only recommend it! To get this pro-printed issue you should send \$4 to: Ewald Provoost, Schuitvlotstraat 37, 4373 AJ Biggekerke, Holland.

MASTER OF BRUTALITY Issue #9

Well, the masters of brutality are back and ready to crush your head with their best issue so far. I'm sure, you'll find interesting to read interviews about such great bands as



DEPRESSION, MORTEM, SANATORIO, MALIGNANT TUMOUR, CRYPTOPSY, SUPPOSITORY, BESIEGED, CENOTAPH, AURORA BOREALIS, PLEURISY, CARNUCOPIA, MASSGROUND and MURDER CORPORATION. You see #9 has a strong content, which mainly deal with the most brutal and extreme forms of Metal. Fans of Death/Grind styles must check this out right now! Also you can get acquainted better with the scenes of Slovakia and Czech Republic as well as dive into the seas of reviews. There's again a lot of cool logos, crystal-clear pictures and ads were included. All this on 44 A/4 pages with excellent quality and glossy b/w cover. What are you waiting for? Get your

copy for only \$4. Contact: Ewald Provoost, Schuitvlotstraat 37, 4373 AJ Biggekerke, Holland.

METAL CORE 'ZINE Issue #25

Be long in doing such editions (to be exact from 1986) Chris Forbes improved METAL CORE up to free publication. This 25th issue comes on 44 A/4 pro-printed pages and features extra long interviews with THE GRIMOIRE OF EXALTED DEEDS 'zine, AGENT STEEL, THE CHASM, BLOODFEAST and METAL NIGHTMARE 'zine. For me, were interesting to read the sections of reviews, they're 100% honest! Furtherly, you can find there a plenty number of ads, contactlists of 'zines and news of LISTENABLE Records. Nevertheless, it's a pity that there are only a few pictures in it. To get a copy you should write to: c/o Chris Forbes, 13 Carriage Lane, Marlton, NJ 08053-1109, USA. E-mail: metalczine@aol.com

METAL FORCE MAGAZINE Issue #1

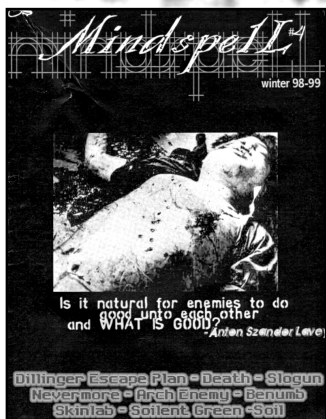
METAL FORCE magazine is an up and coming publication of the independent ukrainian label METAL FORCE Records. Its first issue has a surprisingly good quality along the 24 A/4 pro-printed glossy pages of it. As for the content it covers interviews, articles, news and lyrics from a wide range of styles. That's why you can read there about german rock stars SCORPIONS, ukrainian industrial band VIA DOLOROSA, german



heavy metalists EDGUY as well as about swedish Black Metal blasphemers MARDUK, norwegian Blacksters BORKNAGAR, twin-guitar masters of swedish Death Metal ARCH ENEMY, and ukrainian Death Metal band CASTRUM. To all this, you can add the detailed concert review about METALLICA's first appearance in Kiev and keep in view it's a ukrainian-written magazine. The only defect of this issue I found in lack of review sections, though as a whole it looks pretty O.K. Send your orders to: METAL FORCE, P.O.Box 94, 50102 Krivij Rig, Ukraine. By the way, don't forget to take a look at the official web site of METAL FORCE as well! E-mail: metalforce@ingok.com.ua Web Site: <http://come.to/metalforce>

MINDSPELL Issue #4

Well, this issue has a really exciting content and layout with professional printing on quality paper. It contains interviews with SLOGUN, BENÜMB, ARCH ENEMY, THE DILLINGER ESCAPE PLAN, DEATH, SOILENT GREEN (a quite long



8-page grind assault, SKINLAB, NEVERMORE and SOIL (band of ex-BROKEN HOPE bassist). Also, it includes sections of reviews, news and contact addresses plus some excellent A/4 pictures of such bands as DARK FUNERAL, ULTRASPANK, IN FLAMES and STUCK MOJO. To cut it short, you must to check out these 56 A/4 pages of great stuff for only \$3 (US & Canada) / \$4 (World). Contact: c/o Simon Thibaudeau, 112 Ste-Marie, Panet, G0R 2J0, Canada.

E-mail: mail@mindspell.freesever.com
Web Site: www.mindspell.freesevers.com

NIGHTWALK

Issue #1

Another decent 'zine rised from the land of our neighbours - Hungary. Its debut issue contains interviews only with norwegian bands as DARKTHRONE, AURA NOIR, MAYHEM, HELHEIM, HADES, ULVER and DIMMU BORGIR. These are quite long, in-depth interviews, but after a while I tired to read only about norwegians. It could be far better with the add of other cool bands of the world. I mean, there's no variety in this issue. Nevertheless, I would recommend this one for the fans of Norway's scene, 'coz there are really much interesting things about the beforehand mentioned bands. And of course, you'll find a few reviews on demos/CDs and an article about the Northern Mythology on its 32 A/4 pages. It can be yours for \$4. Available from: c/o Attila Máté, Tessedik Sámuel 140, 4032 Debrecen, Hungary.

E-mail: AMATE@tigris.klte.hu

NIGHTWALK

Issue #2

The second issue of NIGHTWALK has lots of improvements. It goes to both the content and layout of it. So this time you can read interviews with BLOODTHORN, MYSTIC CIRCLE, ...AND OCEANS, LORD BELIAL, ARATHORN, AMORTIS, ENSLAVED (interesting one!), GORGOROTH, AHRIMAN, MALIGNANT ETERNAL, IN THE WOODS... plus you can dive into the usual demo/CD reviews and the continuation of Northern Mythology series. And what's more, there's a painting of famous Hieronymus Bosch on the front cover. Enough said, order this piece of art by sending \$5 to: c/o Attila Máté, Tessedik Sámuel 140, 4032 Debrecen, Hungary.

E-mail: AMATE@tigris.klte.hu

RENAISSANCE 'ZINE

Issue #1

The debut issue of this Crimean 'zine comes on 52 A/4 pages with xeroxed quality. What can I say? The layout is too monotonous and the characters of the texts are too big for my taste, but since it's their

'ZINE REVIEWS

first issue, I won't complain so much about that. From the content, you can read there interviews of famous bands such as TIAMAT, ANCIENT, MOONSPELL, METALLICA, PYOGENESIS, BEHEMOTH, EMPEROR, ENTHRONED and three more interviews with crimean bands as VELIAR, PATHOLOGY and ПОКЛЯТЫЙ ПРОПОК. There's also articles about BURZUM, BOLT THROWER, TESTAMENT and of course some demo/CD/concert reviews, news, playlists, lyrics and a special section dedicated to "The Culture Of Evil". Well, one more important thing, it's written in russian language. Get it from: c/o Alex Marennikov, Lomonosova str. 1-2-13, 95007 Simferopol, Crimea, Ukraine.

RENAISSANCE 'ZINE

Issue #2

The second issue is still a xeroxed one, though its quality improved in some ways. Clear pictures, interesting interviews and tons of demo/CD/'zine reviews are waiting for you. I guess, all this due to the enriched editorial board, Alex got two metal warriors in the persons of Barbarossa and Nicks. Between the well-packed 58 A/4 pages of this issue you'll find interviews with AUTUMN TEARS, MENTAL HOME, CASTRUM, APRAXIA, ORCHESTRAL PIT'S CANNIBALS, KRABATHOR, CUMDEO, ANCIENT RITES, ROTTING CHRIST, S.C.A.L.P., ANGELKILL, TEMPLE OF OBLIVION, AGATHOCLES and VOO DOO plus the usual sections of news, ads, Culture Of Evil and more. By the way, they used some explicit lyrics to describe the hatred & disgust they felt against some bands, labels, mags and so on... So be careful ordering this explosive issue and don't forget it's a russian-written one and limited to only 150 copies. Available for \$3 from: c/o Alex Marennikov, Lomonosova str. 1-2-13, 95007 Simferopol, Crimea, Ukraine.

SHRUNKEN & MUMMIFIED

Issue #1

From the vineyards of Tokaj comes straight the debut issue of SHRUNKEN & MUMMIFIED. Get involved mainly in the

Death/Grind scene of eastern Europe you will get a clear picture what's really happens there nowadays. Find the following interviews inside: INSEPTULUS, AMORBITAL, PERVERSITY, NOSTALGIA DREAMS, EREBOS Productions (they're all from Slovakia), DEATH SENTENCE (Doom/Death from Czech), DISEMBOWEL (Death/Grinders from Greece), NEURAL BOOSTER and THE ART OF DETHRONEMENT (of course, from Hungary). It's not on very high quality edited but the interviews and the reviews of this issue are great for reading. The chance is yours to get this xeroxed 20 A/4 pages for \$2 (Europe) / \$3 (World). Contact: c/o Erik Zöldi, Báró Hirsch 24, H-3910 Tokaj, Hungary.

TEMPEST MAGAZINE

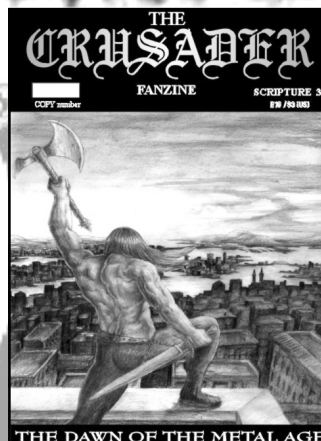
Issue #2

TEMPEST is the best russian-written magazine I've seen till now. The layout is professional having lots of clear pictures and illustrations among the 72 A/4 pages of it. Interviewed bands are DARKSIDE, NIGHT IN GALES, SERMON, FLESHCRAWL, ENGARDE, INHUMATE, AGATHOCLES, MORTICITE, CONFESSIONS OF OBSCURITY, SKYFORGER, NEGLECTED FIELDS, HEAVEN GREY, SCABBARD, DESIRE, FORGOTTEN SILENCE, FALL OF THE LEAF, ORTHANC, TRIDENT and AVALON HOUSE. As you might see there's a wide range of interviews in it. Furthermore, you can get articles about SANATORIUM, CEREBRAL TURBULENCY, MENTALITY, KRABATHOR, IMPERIAL FOETICIDE, LITTLE DEAD BERTHA, NOAH'S FLOOD and SORROWFUL GOD plus read tons of honest demo/CD/'zine reviews and dive into a fantastic Latvian scene report as well. Enough said, buy or die! Contact: c/o Alexander Volkov, P.O.Box 117, 113303 Moscow, Russia.

THE CRUSADER 'ZINE

Issue #3

Hailing from South Africa the CRUSADER stands purely for Metal in its well-packed 48 A/4 pages. HAMMERFALL, NILE, RETALLIATION, KRABATHOR,



CRADLE OF FILTH, METAL ORISON and OMEN are presented with interviews inside. It was great to read about these great bands, especially I'd like to notice the in-depth KRABATHOR and C.O.F. interviews, they're rule. Nevertheless, the most essential part of the 'zine, in my opinion, lies in the reviews. You can find tons of useful information about the underground releases there. It's a pro-printed 'zine with nice layout, lots of ads and cool pictures. Go ahead and buy a copy for only \$3. Contact: The Crusader Fanzine, P.O.Box 39550, Garsfontein, Pretoria 0060, South Africa.

THE CRUSADER 'ZINE

Issue #4

Due to Lunatic (Ryan), I got the new metallic issue of the CRUSADER. As you might know, it is totally dedicated to all that is Metal. Very good! Let's see the content. There are interviews with WICKED ANGEL, GUTTED REMAINS, ORDAINED, THE GREAT KAT, STRYDER, ACHERON, MESSE NOIR, HATRED, ARCANA XXII, INVERTED and D.A.B. plus a short scene report including four great South African bands and also a cool article about GROINCHURN's view on their "Already Dead" stuff. If it's still not enough for you, then I can only recommend you to check out the big dose of demo/CD/'zine/video/book reviews featured there. All this come on 64 A/4 pro-printed pages with a fantastic cover art painted by Chris Cooper again. Get this thick issue for only \$3 and remember Metal is Life!!! Write to: The Crusader Fanzine, P.O.Box 39550, Garsfontein, Pretoria 0060, South Africa. E-mail: lunatic@smartnet.co.za Web Site: http://members.smartnet.co.za/~lunatic

THE GRIMOIRE OF EXALTED DEEDS

Issue #13

Here comes the 13th issue of GRIMOIRE soaked with the all-sided humour of Bill Zebub. Find interviews with VONDUR, JUNGLE ROT, DARK FUNERAL, VADER, CANNIBAL CORPSE, BLOODTHORN, NECROPHAGIA, CENTURIAN, WITCHERY, THORR'S HAMMER, KRABATHOR, BENEDICTION, ACHERON and POLTERCHRIST. What can I say regarding them? There's really a lot of unusual questions and of course answers within them, but I must note, that you can't read such things in any other publication, it's for sure. The joking attitude is what makes GRIMOIRE other than the rest. Overall, I found it interesting filled with a bunch of great reviews, ads, comics and sarcastic humour of course. All is left, is a warning message of the editor: "If you can't laugh at yourself, don't read this magazine". Available for \$4. Contact: The Grimoire of Exalted Deeds, 248 Lakeview Avenue, Suite 237, Clifton, NJ 07011, USA. E-mail: billzbub@wfmu.org

BAST music magazine

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Write to: BAST music magazine, c/o: Martha Hughes (make all checks & money orders out to Martha not BAST), 358 Moscow St., San Francisco, CA 94112, USA

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In spite of the fact I've done this interview a long time ago I'd like to fill it with some news. Further line-up change for ANCIENT, Scorpios is no longer in the band and a new bassist has already been recruited. Since the band parted

ways with him right before the recordings of the new album, the bass was recorded by Aphazel himself. Their new album "The Halls Of Eternity" is recently out on METAL BLADE Records. It differs from "Mad Grandiose Bloodfiends", being heavier and more similar to the early works of ANCIENT, presenting also new elements and atmospheres. The following is an interesting conversation with Aphazel of ANCIENT. Read it!

Who is "Aphazel"? From what mythology came that name?

- "Aphazel" is a kind of anti-christ, a blasphemer, a half man/ half beast. I've always seen myself as someone totally different from "normal" people. The name just came from my own mind, not from any mythology.

Who is that one called "Jesus Christ!"?

- It's our keyboardplayer, he used to play guitar for us earlier. The whole point in taking such a name was to mock christianity who preaches that Jesus Christ is a name that is holy. In our opinion nothing is "holy" and this is a way to show it. It's a total blasphemy, you see.

Describe us your current line-up nowadays because it's always change.

Who play drums on your video "Lilith's Embrace"?

- The line-up today is the following:
Aphazel: Guitars & vocals
Deadly Kristin: Female vocals
Scorpios: Bass
Krigse: Drums
Jesus Christ!: Keyboards

In the video for "Lilith's Embrace" you can see the drummer Kjetil, who's also playing drums on "The Cainian Chronicle".

Tell us more about your interests in Black Mythology (Vampires, Werewolves, etc.).

- I haven't been that much into vampirism, like Kaiaphas was. And now that he's no longer in the band I want to get away from this theme, also a lot because it's way too trendy and overdone in the scene right now. I have interest in ancient mythology, especially the Norse, Greek and Egyptian ones, I haven't had so much time to study these lately though.

Where you find Kaiaphas (as we know he played in GRAND BELIAL'S KEY). What is your opinion about this band?

- I was writing with Kaiaphas since early '94 or so, we traded tapes with each other, I liked his band GRAND BELIAL'S KEY a lot, and when I went to the US in may '95 I met up with him and we became good friends. He also let me listen to his side-project, THOKK, which really impressed me a lot, his voice and his drum-

ming was really good, I thought, and when Grimm decided to leave ANCIENT in august '95, I called Kaiaphas up and told him I wanted him to take over for Grimm. A few weeks later I went to the US again, and we started playing together.

I like GRAND BELIAL'S KEY a lot, the old material (the 2 demos they released) was really good and original. I don't like very much the new line-up they have now, though.

What do you think about such ones as Cronos, Tom Warrior, Jeff Becerra, Marcel Schirmer...

- Not much, I respect some of them, but they don't mean very much to me.

The majority says that Black Metal is dying. What is your opinion about this?

- Well, the quality of the Black Metal that has been released the latest years has gone down really a lot if you compare it to the beginning in '92 - '93. A lot because there's too many bands, too many people has jumped on the bandwagon, and many bands concentrate too much on selling as much albums as possible, making commercial "Black Metal" that can reach a bigger audience, and don't make music they truly are into. It's very easy to hear when your music doesn't come from your heart, I think.

Do you like King's bands KING DIAMOND and MERCYFUL FATE (you play cover "Black Funeral")?

- I like KING DIAMOND very much, I've been a big fan of him since the beginning in '85. The old MERCYFUL FATE is also among my fave bands, but I'm not very fond of their newer stuff. They really lost some of that special style they had when they got reformed and got a new drummer.

Do you know something about Ukraine (our bands, 'zines etc.). Our Carpathian mountains is the source of legends about Nosferatu, werewolves, etc.

- Not very much, to be honest, Ukraine used to be part of Russia, but now it's an independent nation. It's a poor country. I don't know very much more. I know about the Carpathian mountains very well, yeah, and some day I will probably go to visit this area.

When we can expect your new material and in what way it will be?

- Hopefully we'll be ready to go into the studio in february. I think we'll record in Germany this time. The next album should be out in april/ may, I suppose. In some ways it will be a bit back to the style we had earlier, but also with some new influences. It will be very heavy, and also melodic.

Have you any problems with Norwegian "Inner Circle" (I think these guys were like a children, playing in warriors against christianity)?

- No.

How do you think what is more dangerous for youth now - official church or such things like different baptistic sects as jehovah witnesses, adventists of seventh day, etc. I know that many of these bastards are based in USA. Have you any troubles with them? (I know

such bands as DEICIDE, MORBID ANGEL have troubles with these assholes. They make demonstrations on their shows for example).

- I think the only thing that can be considered "dangerous" is stupidity, believing everything you're being told without using your own intelligence and opinion. People must start to take life in their own hands and not rely on others.

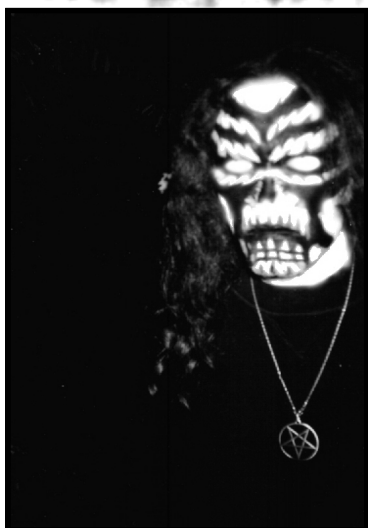
We sure had some negative reactions in the US, with several christian organizations, complaining that we're using the name Jesus Christ, but it didn't cause us any problems. They're just a bunch of worthless idiots who are jealous on people who dare to live life to the fullest, to enjoy our earthly existence, and try to tell us "we'll go to hell" and and and a half. What a bunch of losers, they all belong in a mental hospital, I think.

Some ancient words from elder demon to the readers...

- Thanks for your support, we look forward to see you all in Hell!

**ANCIENT
P.O. Box 42
5001 Bergen
Norway**

E-mail: Ancientband@hotmail.com
Web Site: www.ancientband.com



Here comes total darkness brought forth by the band from Zaporozhye, namely XUL. This young band can be one of the leaders in Ukrainian Black Metal in the future. Their debut album "ЗЛО" was very strong and can blow off many so-called Black Metal kings even from aboard. So read the interview with my friend Obscurian and drown in the abyss of the most fearful evil. For it comes for you!

First of all, tell the history of your band.

- The band was formed in Winter 1998. The line-up is Obscurian, Innominandus and Слипъ. In August-September 1999 we recorded our first album, namely "ЗЛО", in Beat Studio, Kharkiv.

Explain the music style of your band.

- BLACK METAL!!!!!!

Your opinion about Black Metal in Ukraine. How do you think what bands are deserve to be known?

- Ukraine has a good bands in general. But some bands (I don't want to name them here) are deserve to be forgotten. As for me the best bands are NOKTURNAL MORTUM, LUCIFUGUM, RUNES OF DIANCEHT. All these people are more deeply understand Black metal than different fuckin' screamers who cry all over the world about "true" and "false".

Nowadays many brainfucked assholes who call themselves "true Black Metal" tell many shit about such GODZ as VENOM, CELTIC FROST, BATHORY, MERCYFUL FATE, etc. though they never even heard this music. What do you think about such idiots?

- I part Black Metal Ones in 3 categories: The ones who grew up on VENOM, CELTIC FROST, etc.; The ones who rise due to Black Metal of early 90's - MAYHEM, DARK THRONE, IMPALED NAZARENE, BEHERIT, etc. The majority of these people (I mean two parts) are deserve to be hailed. They are the ones who understand what they want from themselves

and from music. But!!!! Nowadays many 13-14 years old bastards appeared, who read about Norwegian criminals (I don't understand, why they do not hail Al Capone and the ones like him) and call themselves "true pagan black metal", creating different funny "black metal Mafias" (ha-ha-ha) and proclaiming a "war" to many great bands who even don't know about the existence of these assholes. These little boys-warriors grew up on such music as EMPEROR'97, SATYRICON'96 and adventures of teenager Count Grishnackh. I don't have anything against EMPEROR, SATYRICON or mr.Vikernes, I simply enrage when different young bastards perverse these great bands.

Your associations with: War, Carpathian Mountains, Church-burnings, UFO.

- War - killings, mass extermination of people, destruction, devastation, anguish, misery, the end of all the living. I hate people, I hate society that brought forth many fucking religions which desecrate intellect. I await the moment when the majority of this fake foul human society will be exterminated and the ones who will remain will be changed in those low creatures who are they really are.

Carpathians - vampires, werewolves, warlocks, hexes and ancient evil that sleeps in the depths of the mountains but someday will awake (now we can behold the beginning of this awakening). Carpathians is the diabolic place where many black roots dwell and feed by the hideous powers of the Ancient Ones.

IA! ZI DINGIR XUL KANPA!

I always love to see how judeo-christian marasm burns but I can't understand these idiots who proclaimed the war against christianity and "dedicated" their lives to it (as they say). I told about how I understand war, and this "war" proclaimed by Black Metal kids is the childish games of abnormal motherfuckers. They never fight christianity in such way. To Open the Gates is much better.

I never seen UFO but there are possibilities because the Universe is endless. May be they live far far from us. But I think that somewhere in Universe dwell They who have nothing with UFO. Those whose names can't be called are beholding the earth in blasphemous lust. The existence of Them is a pure blasphemy. Those, who dominated once and shall inherit...

Will some changes in music and lyrics take place in the future?

- Yes, our new material will be more sinister, more faster and more difficult. That's all I can say about it.

Last words for the end...

- They are awaiting and They will come. Someone will be the slaves, someone will die the horrible death and someone will be One of Them. You have a time to choose...

XUL	XUL
c/o Chepurayev Yuri	c/o Kirill Vojuckij
Svobody str. 1/65	B. Shevchenko 4A/5
88000 Uzhgorod	69037 Zaporozhye
Ukraine	Ukraine

P.S.: Album "ЗЛО" will be released soon on Kolovrat Productions (Kharkiv) in MC format.

After reading this interesting interview answered by Evan March, the vocalist of AVULSION, you will undoubtedly going to think about enlarging your collection with their outstanding album "Dimensions Of Darkness". You can also find here almost everything from the beginning to the present days of this great Death Metal quartet.

Tell us the history of AVULSION. How it's all had begun and why you decided to use the name AVULSION for your band? Give us some info about the bandmembers.

- AVULSION was formed in early '94 by Evan March (vocals) + Ian Macdonald (guitar). In April, Andrei Nadulesa (bass) + Blake Jones (drums) joined. In July '94 we recorded a 4 song rehearsal demo entitled "Near Death" and in Nov. '94 recorded the 2 song "Inexorable Suffering" demo and in Jan. '95 additional tracks which were included w/ the demo. In Feb. '95, Alex Cox joined as 2nd guitarist. In spring/summer '96 "Dimensions Of Darkness" was recorded at Ian's home studio. This was finally released in Oct. '97! The current line-up is Evan March - vocals (21 yr. old college student), Ian Macdonald - guitar (21 yr. old college student), Alex Cox - guitar (20 yr. old coll. student), Blake Jones - drums (19 yr. old coll. student) and Ian Cone - bass (20 yr. old coll. student). We now live in 3 different states, so it's hard to practice often.

"Dimensions Of Darkness" was released by your own label DEATHGASM Records in 1997. Give us some information about its bands and upcoming releases.

- I began the label in '94, releasing 4 comp. tapes in '95+'96, then the first CD (AVULSION), and by the time you read this the EVIL INCARNATE "Blood of the Saints" CD will be out. Then in March "Dest. of the Heavenly Realms" Vol.1 comp. CD featuring AVULSION, EVIL INCARNATE, DEMONCY, UNBLESSED, SERAPH, VASTION, APOTHEOSIS, KRABATHOR, DEAD INFECTION, OBSCENITY, LILITU, UNHOLY DEATH, DEEDS OF FLESH, CHRIST DENIED, etc. I also distribute other releases from labels such as MORBID REC., UNITED GUTTURAL, IMMORTAL SOULS, REPULSE, WILD RAGS, BESTIAL REC., AGONY REC., among several others.

How do you estimate "Dimensions Of Darkness" from the point of '98 year? What is the response to it been like? Is there any new material that will be released soon? Have you recorded anything since 1997?

- It's been out since Oct. '97 and has sold over 950 of the pressing of 1050. The response has been excellent overall. We're recording 1 new song for my comp. CD and then 9 new tracks in the spring for CD #2, to be released this summer.

AVULSION is one of the few bands playing pure Death Metal without adding some black or hardcore parts to the music. It's very good when the band retains its original style and stays true to the underground. What is your point of view about bands that start out as Death Metal

and then all of a sudden are playing black metal or hardcore?

- I think that progression is

of course acceptable, but when a band's style changes 100% from 1 album to the next, I feel this is unacceptable.

range of styles... some regions have their own sound, but overall it varies from one band to the next.

What kind of bands the members of AVULSION are listen to? Are there any thrash metal, black metal maybe grindcore bands you like to listen or you're listen only Death Metal

bands?

- I listen to mostly death metal and some doom + black metal. I'm into bands such as old UNLEASHED/ENTOMBED/DISMEMBER, old

PARADISE LOST, AUTOPSY, IMMOLATION, INCANTATION, CIANIDE, ETERNAL TEARS OF SORROW, AVENGER, DEMONCY, PROFANATICA, old DISGRACE, etc. The rest of the guys are into same type of stuff, but also some non death metal such as THE MISFITS, BLACK SABBATH, BEHERIT, etc.

Say something about your live shows... Do you play live often? What is the response like? What kind of

bands do you prefer to play with?

- We play only about 5 or 6 times a year, since we live far from each other and cannot get together as much as we'd like to. The response varies... one show there will be 15 people + the next one 150. We mostly play w/ other death metal bands. Some bands we've played with include SKINNED, CEPHALIC CARNAGE, WITCHHUNT, NOVENBERS DOOM, SERAPH, GORLOCK, UNBLESSED, NARCOLEPSY, PUAKA BALAVA, etc.

What would you like to say about the people who say that black metal is the future of metal?

- I would have to disgrace with those people. Actually 3 of the members of AVULSION are in black metal bands as well... I am in DEMONCY and Alex+Blake are in BLOODGOAT (ex-HABORYM).

Future plans...

- Sometime in late spring we will record another CD, and in June there will be a midwestern-U.S. tour with EVIL INCARNATE! The new CD will be out in August.

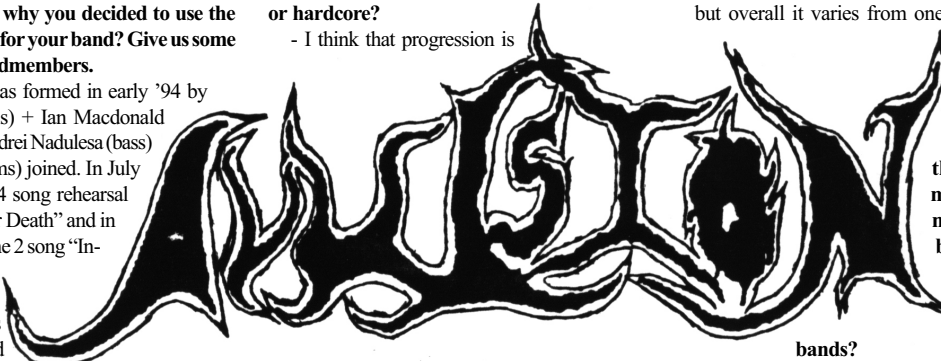
Last words from the dimensions of darkness...

- Thanks a lot for the interview and good luck with ENCOMIUM! Everyone write for more info.

AVULSION, c/o Evan March,
P.O.Box 48829 Athens,
GA 30604-8829, USA

E-mail: deathgasm@hotmail.com

Web Site: <http://come.to/deathgasm>



Tell us more about the participation of AVULSION on several compilation CDs as the "Visionaries Of The Macabre" Vol. 1 released by Lost Disciple and the "So Mote It Be Volume 1" released by Alabaster Records. Are there new or unreleased songs? Name us these tracks.

- We've been featured on 4 comp. CD so far. All the tracks are from "Dimensions...". "Near Death" is on the "So mote it be vol. 1" CD, "Desecrated Ground" is on the "Visionaries of the Macabre vol. 1" comp. CD, "Dimensions Of Darkness" is on the Mike Hunt Music CD, and "Gathered In Ashes" is on Extremist Rec. vol. 1 comp. CD.

What role the lyrics plays in AVULSION? Is there any thing you want to express through it? What is the inspiration for you to write the lyrics?

- Basically, the lyrics are a manifestation of whatever is going through my head at the time. There is no specific inspiration, it's just spontaneous.

Who write the material?

- The material is composed as a group effort, but the lyrics are written by me.

Have you any spiritual contacts with worshipping the Darkness and Evil?

- I'm an atheist.

What do you think about the death metal scene in America?

- There are a lot of cool bands here such as EVIL INCARNATE, FLESHGRIND, LIVIDITY, ABOMINANT, UNBLESSED, DEMONCY, BLOODGOAT, CEPHALIC CARNAGE, DEHUMANIZED, and tons more. There is a wide

Here comes an interesting conversation with Chad Kelly (Blasphyre) synth/b.vox of CATHOLICON. He told us a lot of things about the weird conception of their musical and lyrical ideology. So let him speak...

CATHOLICON

How CATHOLICON had founded a couple of years ago? Give us some info about the bandmembers and their interests.

- We formed in early 1994. We went through a few changes in the beginning, but have had a stable lineup for almost four years now. Musically, we started out in 1994 sounding very thrash metal, then we had a brief stint under the 'black metal' classification, and now we've settled back closer to our death metal roots; although I feel we have a unique sound. The newest material is essentially in the same vein as the c.d. but more potent in every way possible. The lineup is still that of the c.d. As for us personally, we're basically just four guys who love doing this kind of music and being a part of this scene; while at the same time happy to sound a bit different from where the death metal mainstream is focused at.

"Lost Chronicles of the War in Heaven" is your debut album released by UNDERWORLD Records. What can you tell us about its responses you get so far? Explain to us the difference between "Lost Chronicles of the War in Heaven" and two CATHOLICON's demos namely "Redemption" and "Passage through the Flames".

- Wow, you've done your homework. Actually, the c.d. is sort of the culmination of all of our demos (there were 4 or 5 in all) along with some newer tracks which had not been recorded before. I'm almost starting to look at that c.d. as a big demo already, more than an album. We selected 2 songs from each of the first four years of our existence and recorded them. The newest song on the c.d. is "Eve..." and it was written in early 1997. Most of those songs have already been dropped. That's not to say I don't stand behind the c.d. I like it, and without a clear starting point, you can't have a clear destination. I'm proud that we were able to record and release our own debut. Al-

most no one has been able to do all that by themselves; to be their own studio and label and still run their own band. As for responses, it's varied, and mostly been good. Some high praise has come from MORIBUND Records, the DMMA, the ETERNAL FROST Webzine, METAL CORE Magazine, and several others. Some sharper criticism has come from WORM GEAR and, in the past, METAL MANIACS. Speaking for myself, I can take criticism and usually agree with it. I prefer honesty, and it helps a band to know where it needs to improve upon.

CATHOLICON is against organized religion and the falsehood of Creationism in lyrics. Could you tell us more about the lyrical conception of CATHOLICON? Does the cover of the album have any symbolic meanings or is it just a drawing? How did Juha Vuorma's artwork come about? Will you choose his paintings on your future releases?

- Well, that's a lot of questions put together. I'll try to answer them all. Yes, we're vehemently opposed to fundamentalism and dogmatic religion. When the band was first formed, it was envisioned to be a spearhead against Christianity. In many ways, it is now more than ever. Lyrically, I always seemed to have a singular obsession with that subject. I can write about other things (and one day plan to); but as any artist must, I have to stay near to that which inspires me. The ignorance and potential for disaster that religion represents inspires me to hatred and obsession, unfortunately. Juha Vuorma is a great artist. Our guitarist Ashton Constantine (Vrykoulak) picked it out, I believe. When I first saw it, I think it looked as if it could be a picture of some demons ransacking the heavens in the clouds, which went along with the title; however it could really be inter-

preted to be any number of things. We all wanted that painting from the first moment on, I can remember that there was no doubt or close second at all. We all want to work with him again definitely, but I don't know if he'll be doing anything for the upcoming c.d. and demo. I think we already have some stuff for that.

How can you describe Louisiana to those who never were there? Do you like your city and what about the scene (bands, labels, distributors, etc.)?

- For those who've never been here, my best advice is to keep it that way. It's subtropical. The air is always ultra-humid. The weather is totally unpredictable and changes from one extreme to the other constantly. We're in the bible-belt, for sure. There is precious little scene except for New Orleans, but there is no shortage of bands. I think death metal musicians outnumber death metal fans in Baton Rouge, though we're striving to change that and bring back a viable scene.

DEICIDE from Florida said big fuck off to Bob Larson in their track "Kill The Christian". And have you some problems with this asshole?

- Wow, you have done your homework. I actually did a rather funny song called 'Kill Bob Larson' borrowing music from another local band way before the formation of CATHOLICON. I can say that our disgust for that man as well as our local version of him (Jimmy Swaggart) was a very big factor in this band's formation. I don't think about Bob much these days, but if it were not for him and his crusade against death metal and satanism, we wouldn't have formed. We showed up to protest both times he came to our city. The first time actually earned me some very nasty media attention. A great irony to all this is that Bob Larson Ministries has, for about the past year, been falling apart under scandal and losing money. It was true Christians who came to the rescue, in a sense, by expos-

ing him as a fraud. When someone tries to pit Christianity against Satanism or whatever else in an attempt to profit, he is a menace to both sides. I have no problem giving credit where credit is due in his downfall. I'm just glad he's on the way out. The sad thing is, I actually believed all the things I professed to all these years, and he didn't really believe or practice his own ideals at all (he cheated on his marriage, misused funds, etc., etc.). Who's the evil one now?

What do you think about Necronomicon? Have you read it? And if you read it whose version it was: H.P. Lovecraft's or Simon's?

- I wish I had our ex-guitarists Troy Thomas or Chris 'Olieribos' here for that one; but since I don't, I'll pass on that question. That was their field of expertise, not mine.

What are the musical influences of the band? What are the bands from the present scene you like most?

- I love the darker stuff. I don't go much for brutality or speed. Conveyed Feeling is what matters most to me. I should point out that this statement stands in sharp contrast to what the other members would tell you, but I can only speak for me. I love TIAMAT, MOONSPELL, the Electric Hellfire Club, I'm a lifelong fanatic of MERCYFUL FATE and KING DIAMOND. DEATH is still putting out great music. DEICIDE doesn't do much for me anymore. EMPEROR and C.O.F. are great. IMPENDING DOOM (Germany) is a great band. I love VENOM.

As long as it conveys some evil atmosphere, I'll go for it. Locally, the best band is SUTURE. In Lafayette, there is DESPONDENCY and SABBATIC FEAST. New Orleans has generated some great bands, including EXHORDER and CHRIST INVERSION.

Can you imagine yourself playing death metal in five or ten years from now?

- I hope so, as it will mean that my message is catching on. As long as people are willing to listen to what we have to say and play, I will continue. If not, well... I don't want to dwell on that. Really, I've been into this music for 10 years now and I can't imagine myself out of it. The death metal scene is like family and has always been there for me. I will always be there for it, I imagine, as long as it's around.

Currently you're composing material for the second album which tentatively entitled "Christianity". What can you tell us about this album? It seems to me lyrically there will be no changes. And what about music?

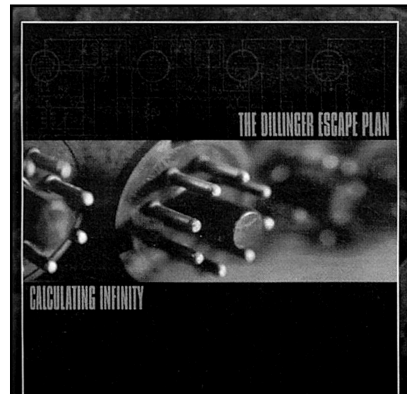
- Musically, it is stronger, faster, heavier, more challenging, and more tastefully written and crafted - but still definitely us, you'll know it's us when you hear it. Lyrically, actually, there will be a great change, as this is a tightly woven concept album. Before, we were just blasphemous. Now, you will know why we are the way we are. Everyone will read, understand, and believe. I don't want to give too much away except to

say that everything contained in the second l.p. is totally documented and historically true, and well researched. I will dare any Christian to deny one word of it. It will be the most poignant assault on Christianity in the entire glorious history of metal. We do this not for our own advancement, but for the cause we believe in - our unholy mission, you might say. Music with message. That's all I'll say for now. We'll have a demo soon to showcase the blasphemy to come.

Final blasphemous screams...

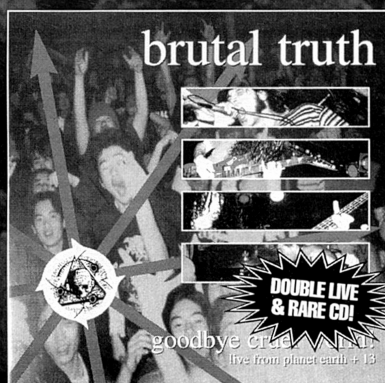
- Thanks for the interview, Cornelius, it's the best one I've gotten. Thanks to anyone reading this, thanks for your time. For more info on us, visit <http://come.to/catholicon> and e-mail us at constat@ibm.net and write P.O. Box 183, Greenwell Springs, La. 70739-9998, USA.

"The prophet is a fool, the spiritual man is mad" Hosea 9:7 KJV



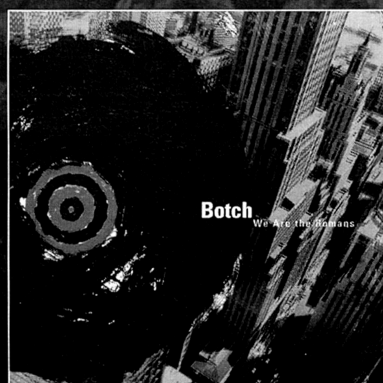
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PERUVIAN SCENE REPORT

Well-o to all the readers of your magazine; here from the Inca's Land come Martin editor of Explosion Cerebral 'zine with a fast view of the Peruvian scene and life here in Peru like a little part of the world. Well, let's go:

If we must talk about a musical scene we must go to the 70's years with some rock and roll bands, but in the beginning of 80's the underground scene has become reality. In the 80's born punk, hardcore and metal bands. One of the most common problem in the peruvian scene is that the people change very fast of idea or style. In the 80's born a lot of bands into the Venom style. When the bay area was in boom all the bands were sound like a thrashcore with a bit of death metal. So appears the swedish death metal scene and all the bands were playing Entombed/Suffer sound. And the last when happened all the cases in Norway here appears a lot of black metal guys saying that they were the most cruelty black poep in the world, making inner circles or trying to kill each other (never happened nothing). Also a lot of these bands exist only sometime and after this time they died and also the guys dissapear of the scene. Between the most known Metal bands were Hastur (they released a demo called "Satanic Nun") but after this demo they split up. Another ancient band and now the most known in Europe is Mortem (they began in 86 and after 4 demos they recorded their "Demon Tales" with the german Merciless), Hadez (since the same 86 they recorded their Cd "Aquelarre" after it they split up and now they are back), Sepulcro (one of the best power metal band after 2 demos they changed to a style more complicated and they split up), Kranium (also since the same year they still exist with their great demo "Dos Sonrisas Una Lagrima" excellent production"), Armageddon (great heavy from 80's now they split up), Orgus (a band that was in the vein of commercial heavy metal), Massacre (was one of the first heavy metal bands), Almas Inmortales, Jerusalem, Mortuorio, Penitencia (one of the best death metal band here in Peru in the all vein of Sepultura (old) and all the brazilian acts from the 80's, sorry they split up in the 88). In this time borned a youth metal association that was named "La Horda Metalica" = "The Metallic Horde". The idea of this association was to realize more concerts and to do a rupture between punks and metals. Yes this association was the beginner of a lot of fights between them. After a few time (no more of two years) this Horde died 'coz the head of it was taken but a guy that only saw in this a bussines (he still live in the scene and its name Pino, this guy sell all 'coz he say that he lives of it) and all the people into it leave the association to seek other points, but never find nothing like that... The unique error of this Horde to search the fight enter punks and metals.

To the years 90's we have a more bigger scene but with the same problems, to realize concerts, distribution of peruvian stuffs out of Peru, fanzines not really great between us, people that only want your material and not to support your work neither the scene. When we have had the time with violence like a product of the stupid terrorism the only scene (for say something) that have a very strong point of view was the punk one. They sometime had some fights with the bunch of terrorism that was infiltrers in the scene.

The metal scene said: "To think about the social problems are the punks and hardcores".

But in that years me (Explosion Cerebral 'zine) with other editors (Termonuclear, Derrame Cerebral, and Asco) formed the AFA (Asociacion de Fanzines Alternativos = Alternatives Fanzines Association) to realize some concerts and to put articles in our 'zines, to fight against the terrorism and the fascism of our government that in these years wanted to control the people like cows under the excuse that they wanted to control the terrorism. Now we have other shit in the government like is the shit of Fujimori a man who wants to be in the government for all the years (now have 10 years in the power). Also their people in the congress they have need a referendum to say stop to the madness. And like ever the metal scene say nothing, but well what can I do now if a lot of people that were with me in the AFA now they don't belong to nothing less to the scene. In that years appear a lot of bands like Necropsia, Trauma, Estrella Negra, Coprofagia, Inri, Inextremis, Necrofucker, Spasm, Anal Vomit, Mortala, Neuroparalya, Opcion, Diabolica, Aberracion, Curriculum Mortis, Morbid Cadaver, Supplicium, Pandemonium, Astaroth, Puterfacto, Ritual, Post Mortal, Feretro, Fosa Comun, Criminal Insane, Darken, Disinter, Dictadura de Conciencia, Atrofia Cerebral, Materia Organica, Sentencia, Esperpento, Estigma, Estallido, Insensibilidad Energetica, Cadaver Incubator, Situacion Hostil, SNA, Saram Scivit, Santuario, Blast, Psicorrugia, Engorged Pussy, Anfo, Infernal, Lament Christ, Sarcoma, Impalement, Hecrophaga, En Las Espeasa Nieblas, Golgota, Autodestruccion, Epilepsia, Elektrash, Audicion Irritable, Requiem, Akrateia, Black Angel, Confusion and a bit more. About fanzines in all our scene and the most important to me was Headbanger (death/blackmetal 'zine really great: years 85-88), Termonuclear (anarcozine with all the styles: years 87-91) and DeathCross (only an issue but that rules in the death scene I think that was in the year 88). After these 'zines borned a lot of 'zine like Butchey, ProMurder, THCP, Under Metal, Esquina, Asco, Aberracion, Grito De Protesta, Combatiendo, Yo Odio, Corrosion, Sarcasm, Suppurated Infection, Derrame Cerebral, Leviathan, Concienciazacion Oportuna, Infernal Noise, Guttural Breath, Calvario, Hemorragia, Infected Voice, Mutilator, Black Slaughter, and Ataque Metal. All these are dead and the only that I can say that are true are Explosion Cerebral (sorry the mine), Temple of The Damned, Maleficarium, Testament, Cuero Negro (this 'zine is a mixture between all that sell and a bit underground not a good 'zine), and... and no more, sorry but our scene has a lot of financial problems like our economical country. All the prices to do a 'zine is so high and we search a lot of ways to do this more cheap that ever we can. In the year 94-95 we have the visit of two bands Immolation: one of the best concerts even do and Dismember a concert with not a great response. Now some of the actual bands that are in current work are:

• **En Las Espesas Nieblas:** Doom metal

band in the vein of Anathema.

• **Lament Christ:** A rare mixture between doom and black metal, really a cool band.

• **Black Angel:** Only black metal not so professional but very cruel.

• **Cadaver Incubator:** Old grindnoise.

• **Anal Vomit:** Death metal in the vein of Cannibal Corpse.

• **Disinter:** Doom metal like Beyond Dawn.

• **Kranium:** Great ancient band in the same vein that their ancient days but more professional.

• **Mortem:** We must say new from them? Ever an occult band.

• **Estigma:** Band that only exists to play in bussiness market. To me (my personal point of view) is a bad band.

• **Sarcoma:** Great death metal with a lot of southamerican touches.

These are the most important bands to me and I think that also they are working so hard to have a place in the scene. To explain a bit more my scene: all the guys in it, have a lot of years in it (for example I am since 1987) and in the last years we have new guys in the scene that is good to us to see grow our scene. The only matter is that these guys want to have a "Name" in the underground like us that we are working for years. Well these guys try to do some (All rip offs) to get stuff and so they can say that they are someone in the underscene. This matter existed a lot of time ago and I think that our scene must have more time in the world to get the rigths persons to work more professional and at least to have a scene like Brazil that here in Southamerica is one of the best. Chile sometime ago was the second more important scene in Southamerica, but now have a bit problem (I think that not like us) in their scene. If I must recommend you a scene here in Southamerica. I must say you: Peru ('coz it is my scene), Brazil and Colombia. The rest of countries have good scenes but I think that they are beginners. Check also the scenes of Chile, Argentina, Ecuador and Paraguay.

A bit ad of my work: My 'zine is preparing their #12 that is totally written in English and we have interviews with Primordial, Varghese, Arcane Sun, Ancient Ceremony, Baal, Noctuary, Elysium, Drowning in Tears, FleshCrave, Night Conquerors Day, Celestial Season, Gone Sadness, Asyndess and more.

Stay Underground, and Support the Southamerican Scene!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

If you want more info write to
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immortal dominion

IMMORTAL DOMINION is an all original four piece metal act from Northern Colorado. Entrance into the local live music scene occurred in August of 1995. Since then IMMORTAL DOMINION has progressed into one of the most well-known locals around. This notoriety developed due to the powerful performances felt, heard and seen by many music fans in the region over the years. In December of 1996 the self released CD "Birth" stirred a buying frenzy. This five song disk was intended to be just a demo and to give local fans something to listen to. As "Birth" gained momentum they opened for bigger bands such



as UNSANE, TODAY IS THE DAY, A DAY IN THE LIFE, OPPRESSOR, MACABRE, ABUSEMENT PARK, LIVING SACRIFICE, MALEVOLENT CREATION, WICKED INNOCENCE and APOCALYPSE THEATER. Their album "Endure" was recorded during June of 1998 at The Blasting Room. "Endure" is going to take people on a ride that will be hard to forget. One of the biggest keys to IMMORTAL DOMINION's continued growth is getting new fans to their shows! And that is why they will be touring nationwide for several months in support of "Endure". The whole band collaborated on all of the answers.

"Endure" is your first full-length album and it has been out for a few months now. It was released as a self-financed CD in spite of it is a high quality product. What's the response to it been like? How has it been selling? Do you have any distribution deals with any companies or do you handle it all on your own? Have you gotten any label interest at all?

- a) So far, we have experienced positive responses from magazines and fans. b) We are selling the new CD a lot faster than it took for our EP "Birth" to get into circulation. c) For Distro we have Dutch East India Trading here in the US, we have been talking to Impured Records in Germany for European distribution.

What kind of things influence the band as a whole and as individuals? I hear a fluctuation between the death and thrash styles in your music, and Phil Anselmo's vocal style seems to be a heavy influence for you, do you agree with this?

- Our influences stem from all of our life experiences and we play from our hearts. Ray likes a lot of different vocalists and Phil Anselmo is definately one of them.

Tell us something about the lyrical conception of IMMORTAL DOMINION. Very interesting for me the lyrics of "Demon Voices" and "Hydrotomb". Is there any particular philosophy you or your band espouses (nihilism, atheism, satanism, etc.)?

- Those songs were written expressing life experiences. Our philosophy is to love your neighbour as yourself and live and let live.

I like a lot your booklet with the artworks of Juha Vuorma.

How did you hook up with Juha Vuorma? Will you choose his paintings on your future releases?

- At the last minute when we ran out of options, Juha e-mailed us. We thought his work was killer and used as much of it as we could. He will definitely be considered for future work.

You're the only band from Colorado that I've heard. Is there a scene around you where you live?

- We've got a lot of great bands here and the scene continues to grow.

How often you play gigs? What is the reason for you to play? What is your image on this gigs and are there any exciting stories? What bands do you prefer to play with?

- We normally play out 4 times a month, we just got back off of a month tour where we played 16 shows in 30 days. We play because it is fun. We all act really wild and girls take off their shirts sometimes.

How old are you? Are you married? What are the bandmembers' hobbies outside of the band?

- Ray-27, Ben-23, Steve-29, and Brian-26. Two of us are married. We play Hockey, Football, Collect comics, Listen to music, and drink beer.

What kind of books do you like to read and why? Any favourite reads that might have inspired you somewhat?

- Ben-Sandman, Brian-Foxes Book of Martyrs, Steve-Trans world Snow boarding, and Ray-To Kill a Mockingbird.

Your point of view about drugs, vivisection, morality, war and U.F.O.:

- Drugs-feel good, Vivisection-Viviwhat?, Morality-Where?, War-Sucks, and UFO's-Rule.

What can you tell about the future for IMMORTAL DOMINION? How will your next work be?

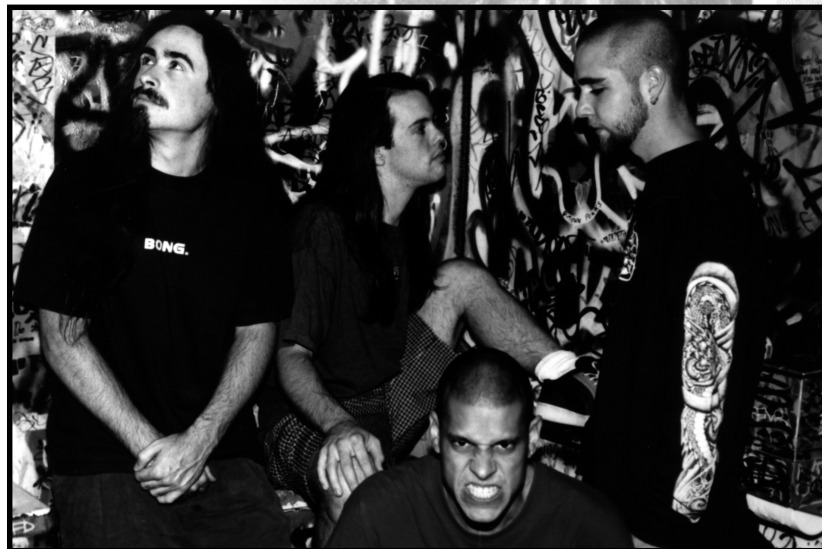
- We want to play a lot of shows, and get a copy of Endure into every hand possible.

Last words from the immortals...

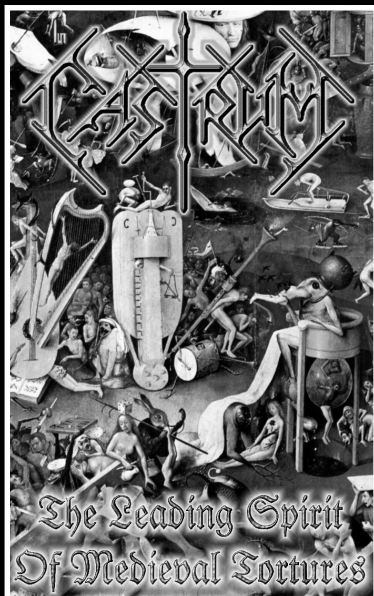
- The Ukraine rocks ass!!! Keep the metal scene alive!!!

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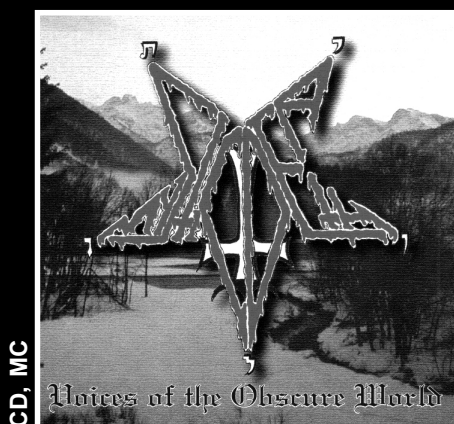
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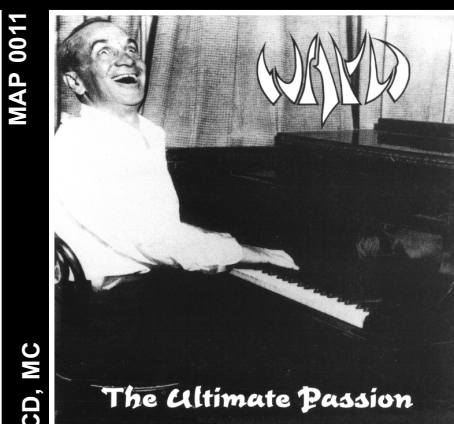
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