

# CONSUMMATION

Extreme Underground 'zine

Issue #3, December 2001

D.R.I.

SODOM

TANKARD

NIGHTSIDE

DEMENTOR

KATAKLYSM

ACID DEATH

MIND SNARE

ARCH ENEMY

DESTRUCTION

CASKET GARDEN

TALES OF DARKNORD

Ysargo

# Introduction

The last two years passed really fast for Encomium 'zine. This issue was supposed to be out earlier, but as usual it came out with a few months delay. It was a hard period for me and I believe the 2001 year was a hard yet shocking year for all of us. I am writing these lines in a very sad state of mind as a few days ago we have lost a great metal friend of ours, the genius and initiator of DEATH/CONTROL DENIED plus the spiritual father of the Death Metal style in general. I can't explain the mental pain I feel these days, it's really indescribable. Thus I want to dedicate the content of this issue to the memory of Chuck Schuldiner. He made a lot for us and for the Death Metal style. He deserves to be remembered forever!!! Rest in peace Chuck! We will miss you pal! 'Til Death Do Us Unite!

For the readers I wish a pleasant reading! I hope you'll find some interesting things for yourselves! At the end, I would like to say: Have a metallic 2002 year! Support the Thrash & Death Metal movements!

## **Cornelius thanks & hails the following ones:**

Olly Zubor & MHH, Victor Gitter, Alexander Erhardt & HORDE OF WORMS/Bloodbucket Productions, Lancelot, Werkoff, Sándor Gál, Georgius, Emese Tátrai, Tom Angelripper & SODOM, Kurt & D.R.I., Gerre & TANKARD, Mike & Schmier from DESTRUCTION, René & DEMENTOR, Angela & ARCH ENEMY, Maurizio & KATAKLYSM, Shirl & TALES OF DARKNORD, Gigi & MIND SNARE, Matteo & NIGHTSIDE, Konstantin & TESSARACT, Savvas-Jake & ACID DEATH, Eugeny & MENTAL DEMISE/BRUTAL Letter, Balázs & CASKETGARDEN, BESTIAL MOCKERY, Innominandus & Obscurian from XUL, Varggoth & NOKTURNAL MORTUM, Frank & WASTELAND, Aphazel & ANCIENT, Vorobyov Valeriy & PHANTASMAGORY, AVERSE SEFIRA, Dirk & CRAWLSPACE, Shoji & BEYOND DARKNESS, Kris & BLOODSIMPLE, Juho & CRIMSON, Tamás & CAVUM, Ivar & ENSLAVED, Nate & THE CRYPT, Christopher & KRABATHOR, Mary & MERLIN, Mike & BRODEQUIN, Pete & NILE, Dalibor & PARASOPHISMA, THE GREAT KAT, Dmitry & M.F., Tom & F.O.B., BIREX & LUNATIC GODS, Ron & AURORA HORALES, Gelléri & SUFFOCATE, Olivier & DEVASTATION INSIDE, FORGOTTEN SILENCE, Sergey & APOCRYPHAL, Chris & ARCHAEO HARMONY, Nick & INWARD PATH, Yury & DEFINITION SANE, Báro & PATHOLOGY STENCH, Ind & GRENOUER, Evan & AVULSION/DeathGasm Records, Attila & DOOMSDAY, Martin & DRACO HYPNALIS, DYING FETUS, GENOCIDE, DEMIMONDE, Emil & ILL-NATURED, Carl & INSISION, Bugra & KRVESTREB, Andrey & MORTEMIRUS, Roman & NECROPSY, WITCHCRAFT, Michael & MENTAL HOME, Andy & PHANTASMA, Fred & INHUMATE/Grind Your Soul Distribution, Pat & PRIMAL DAWN, Oupire & CRYPTHOWL/Oupiric Productions, VISIONS OF THE NIGHT, András & MALEDICTION, IMMORTAL DOMINION, Aleksí & PROPHET, Peter & SEPTICEMIA, Scott & TWISTED TOWER DIRE, Valentin & ZOMBIE HOLOCAUST, Piotr & PARRICIDE, THERIOS/Hollenden Records, DEPTHS OF DEPRIVITY, THE FALLEN, Niclas Johansson & Stormbringer Productions, Vadim Shatniy & Metal Force Records, Michal & Metal Age Productions, Alex & More Hate Production, Vlad & R.I.P. Productions, Gutter Records, Rüdiger & G.U.C., Flesh For Beast Records, Frank & Maria at Relapse Europe, Karen Thomas & TPR Music, Psychic Scream Entertainment, Dream Evil Records, Terroraiser Productions, Demolition Records, Juraj & Immortal Souls Productions, Dmitry & D.A.C. Productions, Dark Symphonies, Erebus Productions, The LSP-Company, Black Sun Records, Martin & Shindy Productions, Fallon Distro, Dmitry & Hazad Productions, Peter & Caracuri Music, Peter & Bloodsoaked Promotions, Martin & Epidemie Records, Anatoliy & Metal Scrap Production, Yury & Odium Music, Pavel Frelik & THRASH 'EM ALL, Miklós & FROM THE ABYSS 'zine, Dmitry & MORG 'zine, Ewald & MASTER OF BRUTALITY 'zine, Oleg & DARK MUSIC Webzine, Katja & ETERNITY Magazine, Ben & DEFENESTRATED 'zine, Yury & ROCK MANUFACTURA 'zine, "M" Magazine, Juan & TESTAMENT 'zine, Joe & BRUTAL PUNISHMENT, Harald & FROM BEYOND 'zine, Miguel & ALU 'zine, Froster & TERRORAISER Magazine, Pavel & FATAL FORUM Letter, STYGIAN SHADOWS 'zine, Erik & SHRUNKEN AND MUMMIFIED 'zine, Goden & ETERNAL FROST Webzine, Gábor & Zoltán from ATHEIST 'zine, Jedo & LAMENTATION, Alex & RENAISSANCE 'zine, DREAM WARRIORS 'zine, András & !TOXIK! 'zine, Kritsakorn & BASTARD 'zine, Nuno & ANCIENT CEREMONIES, Herr Stalhammar & VAE SOLIS Webmagazine, Giancarlo & BYLEC-TUM 'zine, Andrey & LOBOTOMY ADDICTION 'zine, Vitaliy & ЖЕКТООЕ ЦЫЦЕКТБОБАХИЕ 'zine and everyone who has helped and supported ENCOMIUM in any way. There are too many of you to mention!

## **Chuck Schuldiner**

**13.05.1967 - 13.12.2001**



**Time is a thing we must accept.  
The unexpected I sometimes  
fear.**

**Just when I feel there's no  
excuse for what happens,  
things fall into place.**

**I know there is no way to  
avoid the pain that we must  
go through, to find the other  
half that is true.**

**Destiny is what we all seek.  
Destiny was waiting for you  
and me.**

**I believe behind confusion,  
awaits the truth for us.  
Past the obstacles we face.  
I value our life and trust.  
Years of questioning why  
things happen the way they  
do in life.**

**Wishing that I could turn back  
time, so we could join our  
souls.**

## **EDITORIAL:**

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**Well, I think that everyone in the metal scene knows SODOM - the masters of Thrash Metal. Tom Angelripper was cool enough and answered all my questions in details. Read on and enjoy every inch of his talk!!!**

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**I think that "Code Red" is the most brutal album of SODOM up to date. Are you going to be more and more brutal on your upcoming releases? Tell us something about the new forthcoming album of SODOM and when can we expect it.**

- No, I don't think so. The most brutal album is the "Masquerade in Blood", but the "Code Red" production was probably better! In a time where bands get more and more commercial and melodic it is our aim to make the music extreme in a revolution way!! Metal have to get aggressive again what a lot of bands forget. We try to keep the Thrash Metal alive and SODOM will be a band that never change! All who do other music are whimps in my ears.

On the next album we try to go back to "Persecution Mania". We know what people mean when they talk about "The spirit of the 80th" and we keep on working in this way. The new SODOM will be released in summer, in the year we celebrate our 20 years birthday!!!!!!!

**It seems to me that your current line-up is a quite stable one as it was back in 1987 'till 1989. What you think about this? By the way, have you any news about Chris Witchhunter, Frank Blackfire or Atomic Steif? If so, please enlight us some details.**

- I have no more contact to the old SODOM members, and why should I have?? The only member who is still a friend of mine is the famous "GRAVE VIOLATOR". Sometimes we meet or he visit us in our shows to get some beers together and talking about the good old times. We also talked about some unreleased material from the "In the Sign of Evil" area and what we can do. But he will never get a "NEW" SODOM member. I want to keep the current line up so long as I can, 'cause we are really good friends.

**SODOM is one of the few and maybe only Thrash Metal bands that never disappointed their fans. I mean, for example, KREATOR who drastically changed their music from one into another and due to it they lost a lot of fans worldwide. What is the key for SODOM to be always amongst the winners and to keep its music as original, varied and interesting as possible?**

- That's our way!! I think that was really disappointed for the KREATOR fans when they changed their style and now they want to go back to their own roots. SODOM will never change and that is the reason why we are still alive. I have the chance to make music in three different bands but SODOM will be SODOM!!!

**Tom, you are a very active person being involved in two other bands as well. What news can you tell us about ONKEL TOM? Last I heard was a compilation album of the best songs from your three previous materials. Do you work on something new? Can you give us some songnames, maybe the album title?**

- Yes ONKEL TOM will release a new album next week!!! This is a special christmas album with famous songs played in a punkey ONKEL TOM style. This is a surprise for everybody who hears!! There are german songs like "Stille Nacht", "Morgen kommt der Weihnachtsmann", "Jingle Bells", "American Medley", etc, and two own

songs. This album rules.

The best of album is something I don't wanted! This was released by the old company Gun Records and it seems they want to sell out and forget!!

**Please share with us some info about DESPERADOS. I mean members, plans, etc. Shall we expect some tour with this kind of stuff in the future? Also interesting for me to know who came up with the idea of creating such kind of musical conception for DESPERADOS?**

- Me and Alex (guitarplayer) had the idea to do something in western style because we are really western fans and like everything that has to do with this theme. And I can tell you this is the newcomerband of the year. You can't compare the DESPERADOS music with any other band, 'cause this is something new!! I like it very much, but SODOM is my main band, so SODOM fans don't be afraid!! We go to studio in the beginning of next year and try to bring the adventures of Wyatt Earp and doc Holliday closer to your mind! This will probably released in April, so keep your guns loaded!!!!!!

**Bobby also helps you in ONKEL TOM. And what about Bernemann? Does he participates in any other bands or projects, for example? What are you do beside the music in your freetime?**

- No Bernemann just play in SODOM and I don't think that he has enough freetime to do another project.

I have some hobbies like hunting - and this is no joke!! I also drive an Oldtimer car, an Opel Diplomat from 1970 and spent a lot of work in it. And I collecting old Postcards from my Hometown "BUER in WESTFALEN" and I am always searching for new material. So, if anybody of your readers can find some cards, please let me know. I know that postcards from Germany (BUER) got sent worldwide.

**Tell us something about your 2001/2002 tour with KREATOR and DESTRUCTION.**

- I had a meeting last month with SCHMIER and MILLE, and we want to do it. But there are also the booking agencies and the different record companies who have work together. We want to

go on tour next year in October if it get possible. This will be a tour that thrash fans waiting for so long and it will be sold out everywhere and we get the chance to play worldwide. So we will see what happened.

**For the limited version of "Code Red" you also included a special SODOM tribute album, namely "Homage to the Gods". Please, tell us what bands have done the best versions in your opinion. Are there any plans to do the continuation of this tribute album in the future?**

- Every band have done a good job and they tried to cover the songs so good as they could without to forget to keep the flair and the spirit of the old SODOM material. I am proud of each band. They don't forget where they got their inspiration from!! It's possible to bring out a second tribute any time because so much good SODOM songs left. We'll see.

**I guess it's time to ask you about what bands are you listening to nowadays? Do you like to listen to Death or Black Metal bands, for example? If so, name us some of your favorites.**

- I like more the older bands like VENOM, TANK, S.O.D., SLAYER, VULCAIN and hundreds more. Some of the new band are really cool, but the most I don't like, SORRY!!!

**Finally, tell us your wishes for the Ukrainian sodomaniacs.**

- I wish the Ukrainian fans good luck for the future and hope to see you on tour and don't forget my postcards. Thank you so much for your support.....

**SODOM**  
**c/o Tom Angelripper**  
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**GERMANY**





Could you tell us a bit about your concert activities? I guess you booked a lot of concerts for this year.

Mike: Yes!

What special effects you use when you play live (blood, lights, projection, etc.)?

Mike: Oh, we don't use blood, ha-ha-ha... It's too dirty, you know. Yeah! What we do it. Now at the time in Europe we do pyro-show, you know, like some explosions and shit. But it's a bit hard to do it in Hungary, 'cause the law here wanna love it, like in Germany. So we can't do the whole shit tonight and the stage is too low, you know, and we like to put big flames and shit, but we can't do that tonight. We don't wanna burn the place down, you know, ha-ha... Yeah, we have like a special light show. You will see tonight.

What set of songs you'll be playing on these gigs? Shall we expect any archive ones like "Front-Beast", "Black Mass", "Antichrist" or "Black Death", for example?

Mike: Uh... I think we play none of these ones. When we have a long set, you know, when we can play one and half hour we play "Antichrist" and really old shit, but today we just have one hour, I think.

But I guess "Curse the Gods" will be there.

Mike: Yeah sure! And "Mad Butcher"... It's a pity we had at the beginning of the tour started with the HYPOCRISY. And we played "Total Desaster" together with Peter Tägtgren (On vocals? - Ed.). On guitar too. Was cool! But they left yesterday.

By the way, you have recorded again "Total Desaster" in 2000 version. It was due to Peter Tägtgren or...

Mike: Was funny situation. Peter was checking the guitar sound. He said I go to studio early, you can stay in bed I do the guitar sound for you. And when I came to studio he played for guitars and checking; played "Total Desaster". And he asked me: Hey Mike show me if it's right I have play! And we jammed together and Schmier came in and said: Hey record it! That's it. Just spontaneous, you know.

OK. Let's talk about "All Hell Breaks Loose" album. It was recorded in Peter Tägtgren's Abyss Studios. Do you satisfied the way it turned out? I mean you got a really killer sound. How was to work with Peter Tägtgren? Have you got any exciting or funny stories during your staying in Sweden?

Mike: Oh, our staying was exciting and funny. Yeah, was nice to work with Peter Tägtgren. He is really into the music and can feel that. He's really relaxed person. We have the same wipes. Was easy going, you know. And yes, we had a nice Christmas party in Sweden. Peter invited us in his family's house. Yeah, with his son, his family, his father, his mother and Swedish Christmas is nice they start to drink like afternoon 2 o'clock. They start with liqueur and gin. And everybody was like fucked up at 8 o'clock already. But they still drink and drink. And was hell, ha-ha-ha-ha... Was nice! And Peter's parents are nice people, you know.

I would say your music got a more brutal interpretation as it was on the "Release From Agony" album, for instance. Describe us a bit your so-called DESTRUCTION 2000 style.



Here's an interview with my all-time favourite Thrash Metal band - **DESTRUCTION**. It was done in Budapest, E-klub, 1.10.2000 on the Nuclear Blast Festivals IV (participating bands were CREMATORY / DESTRUCTION / RAISE HELL / KATAKLYSM) with Mike & Schmier right before their amazing Thrash Metal assault! Well, they're back and stronger than ever. Read on and dive into the depths of eternal devastation with them! Let the infernal overkill begin!



Mike: It's like came natural. In the beginning we just jammed around or got maybe the same taste. Not really a music taste, but taste how to do songs for DESTRUCTION. How they should sound. And what we did try is like getting a mixture of old DESTRUCTION songs, but put a bit more new shit in. Like mixture.

Schmier: We don't think about too much why doing so. We just trying play the stuff we like, the stuff we used to do. And the new songs turned out to be this way. And it felt very good it felt very comfortable rush at the beginning. We're writing songs so. It comes out of the heart for us, you know. I think it is lot more DESTRUCTION than "Release from Agony", it's my opinion. I'm really happy with it. And I'm sure that the new one even gonna be a more DESTRUCTION-like, you know.

Who wrote the biggest part of material to "All Hell Breaks Loose"? I ask it, 'coz I hear a lot of things that were typical only for HEADHUNTER's style. For example your vocal style seems to me more closely to the

"Parody of Life" period of HEADHUNTER than for the classic DESTRUCTION one. What you think about this?

Mike: Long question. We write the songs together almost. Most of the time I got some riff ideas. I bring it and then Schmier says what he thinks about that refrain and shit you know. I do like 80% of the riffs or maybe 70% and Schmier is doing all the lyrics. And we put it together. Sven has cool

ideas too. He's just playing some beats and I jam on. And yeah, like that. It's the same shit with the music. It's like if you musician and not lazy you'll change. Progressing. And what Schmier did with the HEADHUNTER is he wanted to be more Power Metal-like, you know. And always doing a mixture.

Schmier: Oh, I don't think so. It's lot more aggressive, you know. There's no melodic vocal on the new DESTRUCTION album. Of course, the arrangements and stuff you know this is more my handwriting. But the riffing, it's lot of Mike's riffs on the album. I write all the lyrics and write some vocal-lines and some riffs, you know. Riffs for the singing. Mike also brings a lot of riffs so it's pretty good split for all of us you know.

And what you think about HEADHUNTER albums?

Mike: I like it. I like the guitars a lot. Great drummer sure! And I like it. Sometimes it's a bit too soft for me maybe. But it's well done you know, good ideas.

"All Hell Breaks Loose" album have also some limited versions as well. For example, the double CD one which includes your very first demo material, namely "Bestial Invasion of Hell". Whose idea was to add this cult demo there?

Mike: Oh, people's idea, ha-ha. Oh, everybody asked us about that first demo and asks us if you have it. I didn't have it anymore. You can get it on the Black Mark. People told me: Oh, it's really getting high price now. Like 200 dollars like shit. Yeah! In America they told me they paid 200 dollars for that fucking small tape. And we said yeah, it's too expensive for everybody and there's not enough of that demos. So, we did it for the people who want the demo and we wanted to do it cheap, you know. For Japan we recorded METALLICA song "Whiplash". It's not out in Europe yet. It's just out in Japan now. But it will be released on a Nuclear Blast sampler, on the next one.

According the demo it got a pretty good sound after being re-mastered.

Mike: Yeah! We didn't had much chance to re-master, 'cause it was like a film tape. Just two track shit. Yeah, it's easier to re-master if you have a 16-track or 24. We just put a bit compress.

But what's up with the intro, because I have an unofficial split release of TORMENTOR/DESTRUCTION demos, where there's also an intro included as well.

Mike: I can't remember man. Sorry, maybe ask Schmier later on. Uh, but it was a long time ago. I lost my demo tape like 10 years ago. I lost it.

By the way, did you know about the existence of such bootleg stuff?

Mike: No! Never heard.



**Why you decided to put the song "Whiplash" as a bonus track only for the American version of "All Hell Breaks Loose"? Is there any story behind it?**

*Mike:* Yeah, yeah, yeah. It's on the American version. You know, when we practising we like to jam a lot and play old shit, you know like old METALLICA songs or...

**Do you like old METALLICA albums?**

*Mike:* Yeah sure! 'Till "Master of Puppets" and then it's getting weak. Yeah we have a few songs we cover all the time, like old UFO, DEEP PURPLE songs and we did it just for fun. Yeah, it was like a drunken day we did that. We were at party on Saturday. Everybody was like still drunk on Sunday. And we just food around and play and we just recorded that shit in one day. Cover version and the "Total Disaster" playing in just one day.

**Once I read an interview, where Schmier said if you would be going to cover sometime a band that will be surely THIN LIZZY.**

*Mike:* Oh yeah. It was planned yeah. I think THIN LIZZY we should record it for a sampler like Tribute to THIN LIZZY. But I think that sampler is out already now. So we was too late. Uh, it's hard to cover THIN LIZZY. Do you ever heard that new live album of THIN LIZZY? (Not yet! - Ed.). Oh that's great! That's great one, yeah! John Sykes is singing. You know John Sykes of TIGERS OF PAN TANG? (Yes! - Ed.). He singing almost same as Phil Lynott. That's perfect! And you know it's holy shit. What we planning to do on the new CD. We planning to cover some DEAD KENNEDYS "Holiday in Campolia" and maybe one EXPLOITED song "Fuck the USA". You know that one? (Yes! It's a funny one. - Ed.). Because we had a US tour and it was fucking bullshit. I hate America! I hate them! America's fucked up! So why not doing that cover version.

**Also soon will be out the Japanese version of "All Hell Breaks Loose" album? In what way will it differs from the European one (I mean any other additional bonuses, multimedia, etc.)?**

*Mike:* Yeah! It's one week out or two. No just the whole shit we recorded with a different booklet sure. But you didn't hear how it sells yet, you know. (No, unfortunately. - Ed.). We were on number one import charts at Burn. So that's nice.

**Do you plan to go to Japan?**

*Mike:* I wanna go there. Yeah, sure! And there's some rumours they wanna get us over in February or something, but it's not fixed yet. I would like to play there. My girlfriend is from Japan. She lives in Germany. I like Sushi a lot!

**So you like Japanese kitchen?**

*Mike:* Yeah I like.

**I was pleasantly surprised when I found the lyrics to "All Hell Breaks Loose" on the inlay of the CD, because earlier no lyrics were included to your materials. Could you tell us why was it so?**

*Mike:* Maybe it's like fashion. I don't know. We had really much time for cover artwork this time and you on a label, was like good working with them.

*Schmier:* Yeah, because we wanna give to fans value for money, you know. I know that. Everybody is looking for lyrics all the time, old lyrics of DESTRUCTION and didn't get them. So this time we said. We have to do that, because this way people gonna be happy about it. So we try did to the booklet as possible many pictures, you know. Many things to see.

**You share your practicing room with the crossover act THE LIE. As I know earlier Sven Vormann took part in this band. Do you like the music THE LIE stands for? By the way, how Sven became a full-time member of DESTRUCTION?**

*Mike:* Crossover? That's strange. You heard them, their shit? (No, I've just read it from their web site. - Ed.). I like THE LIE. It's like hard dance music for me, you know, to jump on. I like it. Yeah, we were like looking for a drummer and Schmier known him from a long time. We just tried him as the first one and he was the best, ha-ha... He likes DESTRUCTION he likes Thrash and likes to play fans.

**He is an old fan of DESTRUCTION?**

*Mike:* Yeah! He's listening to DESTRUCTION since his 13 years or something.

**What news can you tell us about HEADHUNTER? Shall we expect the continuation of the "Rebirth" album? If so, in what line-up you'll record it.**

*Schmier:* There's no chance for it. I'm too busy to do it. I mean, whenever we do another album has to be the same people, you know. But maybe one day it's gonna be.

*Mike:* (Mike also had to say something here, he-he... - Ed.). You know I hope he won't find time to do HEADHUNTER. I hope he's not getting bored or something to do a side project. But things going well at the time. I think he hasn't much time for HEADHUNTER at the moment.



**Will there take place Schmuddel and Jörg Michael?**

*Schmier:* Yeah!

**What is your opinion about Jörg's current band STRATOVARIUS?**

*Schmier:* They are very good in what they doing. Respect what he's doing. The biggest band from Scandinavia right now. So it's very good.

**Do you listen to these new wave Heavy Metal bands (I mean HAMMERFALL, RHAPSODY, etc.)?**

*Mike:* They good musicians yeah. But not my style not my cup of tea. Not really it's too nice for me.

*Schmier:* I call it Happy Metal. It's not my kind of music. It's good, it's well done and I can listen to it no problem, but I'm not listen to it at home. You know it's not my kind of music.

**What is the name of the town DESTRUCTION comes from?**

*Mike:* Weil am Rhein it's near Basle, near Swiss border, near French border at south-west.

**As I know NECRONOMICON is from the same town. Do they still exist nowadays?**

*Mike:* They still exist yeah. They changed too. They released something like a new album, but I don't really know. But they still existing.

**Are there any other bands in your town?**

*Mike:* THE LIE, ha-ha-ha...

**What's your opinion about Joachim Luetke's artworks?**

*Mike:* It's evil! I like it! I want to say about that I like that evil shit and he likes Hieronymus Bosch too and you can see it.

**I see you like to smoke a lot. On the new cover you're with a big cigar. Do you like these heavy stuffs?**

*Mike:* Yeah sure, like Havana cigars.

**Your brother, Marco, managed to do a fantastic job on the official DESTRUCTION web site. How do you like the result? What can you tell us about Marco? Is he a big fan of Metal music & computer technology?**

*Schmier:* He likes Metal but he's more into computer technology. He's really a big computer freak. That's his life. He used to play bass also and playing band, but he hasn't more time for that. And yeah, he's a very talented guy and does very good job for us. And hopefully you know I have him help me out with all things. This part is very good many people from around the world are writing every day to DESTRUCTION, you know. So that's great to keep up the news and stuff.

**Are you married? How old are you?**

*Mike:* No. I'm 35 old sack (May 11, 1965). I say in Germany I the suck old sack, ha-ha... Schmier







is 34 (December 22, 1966). Sven is 21. (Uh! – Ed.). I almost could be his father, yeah. It's funny yeah.

**I heard that you own a successful Pizzeria, called BARRACUDA. Do you like Italian kitchen? Tell us what food & drink you like the most.**

*Schmier:* Yes! Yeah, I like a lot of kind of food. I like Italian. I think there's a lot good food in the world. And I've tried to put things of Italian, of European, of international kitchen in my restaurant.

**What is your favourite quotation from the lyrics of DESTRUCTION and why?**

*Mike:* It's difficult. I can't really say.

*Schmier:* Favourite lyrics? (Phrase or quotation. – Ed.). Oh that's a good question. Let me see. Uh, it's good question. I don't know. It's many interesting things and words I like. I don't know. Fave just a lot of them. I can't mention one because it's all standing for good metal things I like. Maybe "Infernal overkill to all the envied souls, Death to all religions and their sick goals!"

**Do you like PLASMATICS (you played a cover "The Damned" on your "Mad Butcher" mini LP)?**

*Mike:* Yes I like it! I like Wendy O' Williams the singer of PLASMATICS. Yeah it's American band. Famous in America. We changed it! Some links are different.

**Tell us a bit about your favourite bands and also what kind of bands do you listen to nowadays with pleasure. By the way, what you think about the latest albums of SODOM and KREATOR? Do you like them?**

*Mike:* Oh that changes all the time. At the moment I like the new STUCK MOJO. You heard that? I love it! Then I was listening to some SANTENA. Why not or new UFO.

*Schmier:* Oh there's a lot of good bands I like. I mean all my favourites were always been like old stuff you know, like SLAYER, old JUDAS PRIEST and stuff like this you know. Yeah, I would like that so. From the

newer bands, I don't express. There are a lot of new bands out there. I try to keep my mind open and listen to all kinds of metal; you know all kind of good raw music. Of course I prefer like TESTAMENT and stuff like this, you know. Thrash music! Yes, "The Gathering" is pretty good. But I don't leave in myself too much in one direction you know. If it's progressive music or it's Death or Black Metal or it's only Heavy Metal. (Should be just good. – Ed.). Yes to be good. Good songs, good musicians

you know then I am happy. Of course if it gets some much keyboards and too much kalala lalala I don't like it, you know. But I respect of these bands unique if it's technical musician stuff it's cool.

**Your soloing style a bit changed on the new album. I mean earlier it was more into classic-oriented and melodic things. And now it is more...**

*Mike:* Blues! (Yeah! – Ed.). I like Michael Schenker a lot and I don't know, I like classic the guitar too, yeah, but in old shit like Yngwie Malmsteen and it gets me bore, 'cause it's the same all the time, scales. That's getting boring. I'm try not to be bore.

**So Michael Schenker is your favourite one?**

*Mike:* Yeah! I like the new UFO and even if Schmier says it's not Metal I like this, ha-ha-ha... You know I'm 35 and my roots are DEEP PURPLE, LED ZEPPELIN and HENDRIX. Why don't tell that.

**Are there any new bands you like to listen to? Maybe some Thrash, Death, Black Metal or new wave Heavy Metal bands.**

*Mike:* I like everything. I am not really into Black Metal that much, but I like IMMORTAL. It's not bad. (But their music nowadays is really thrashy. – Ed.). Yeah, that's why I like them maybe. Huh, yeah I like American Thrash a lot! EXODUS is the best sure and new TESTAMENT is killer! Heavy shit yeah!



**Currently you are working on your new material, which release planned around September 2001.**

*Mike:* Yeah, we trying that.

**What details can you share with us? Will it be different in any way from "All Hell Breaks Loose" album?**

*Mike:* It's too soon to tell. We just have two new songs now and it's like you never can say before these songs getting out. Gonna be maybe a bit more fast. But you will see. We have to work on that you know.

**Well, that's all I have in my confused mind actually. Please finish this interview by sending your infernal wishes to the Ukrainian DESTRUCTION fans. Hope to see you once in Ukraine. If you have any important messages for the Ukrainian metal fans in general please feel free to add it here. Thanks!**

*Mike:* Hopefully we play there. You know like 8 years ago or something there was some plans to get DESTRUCTION to Ukraine. You know Chernigovsk that city it's near Chernobyl. There were some plans to get us over to Minsk first and then to Chernigovsk. But it didn't happen so. It's not so easy. You know that DESTRUCTION without Schmier released two minis and one full-length. I have us some plans, but they wanted us

to go by train from Minsk to Chernigovsk. So, that's not possible. How to do it with guitars and... Maybe Chernigovsk is not the right place.

*Schmier:* Yeah, of course. We believe to play in your area some day and hope one day it's gonna be time for it. And we thanks for keeping the spirit and supporting band. That's why we are back now, because the fans wanted to be like this and we really appreciate that so. Hail to you out there! See you soon hopefully.



**Official Web Site:**  
[www.destruction.de](http://www.destruction.de)



# KATAKLYSM

ENTER THE MYSTICAL GATES OF KATAKLYSM. QUESTIONS ANSWERED BY VOCALIST MAURIZIO IACONO.

**After the "Temple of Knowledge" album you had some line-up problems. Tell us how's the current line-up looks like? What were the reasons for Sylvain Houde & Nick Miller to leave the band?**

- OK. After the "Temple of Knowledge" album there was a lot of tension and problems amongst us and the singer of the time Sylvain and we tried to fix the problems, but it was not possible, because Sylvain is a type of person who likes to control every situation of the band. When you are writing a new material he was already telling how did my drummer have to play, my bass player have to play and my guitar player have to play. But the problem is that he never ever took any lessons or doesn't even know how to play on instruments, you know. So that's a problem, because the music had no structuring and the problem was also that my members started leaving me one after the other, because they couldn't handle him anymore. So, I lost my drummer Max, he left. We got Nick. Nick left also, because of him. J-F left, my guitar player. And it was only me him who left in the band. And that time in total KATAKLYSM was finished. So I decided to leave and start a new band. And then the other guys came back and they said we want to continue the band, but without him, you know. So that time I decided to take on the vocals and because it would be easier for us to get acceptance that way, because I already did some, than getting a new vocalist that nobody know about. I think that have been harder for people to accept that than me doing vocals. So we worked on it and had a little bit of hard time with "Victims..." album, because it was still new for me to do this and going through a lot of different problems in the line-up. We got a new bass player. So we all familiar with each other yet and we wanted to an album that was not like the other ones, because we wanted to break the past and the future. So we did the "Victims of this Fallen World" record, which is a little bit different than our previous album. Had more Hardcore influences and we wanted to experiment. KATAKLYSM also always had been a band that experimented. I think we went a little too far with "Victims..." but I still think it was not a bad album. And I think a lot of people still like it and to respect these people, you know, we're never say that we don't like this album, because it is still a part of KATAKLYSM history. Then without the "Victims of this Fallen World" record we've never done "The Prophecy", you know. And that really motivated us to do "The Prophecy" album, which is a back to the roots and back to what we do. But at the same time, a motivated album where we experiment with melodies and stuff like that. And it did

very well for us and right now the band is really stronger and it's never been so. We really happy about that.

**Do you have any news about them?**

- Well, Sylvain started a band. Nick Miller playing in a jazz band now in the States, you know. And Sylvain is doing nothing and all his members from his new band left him too. So he has nothing and nobody knows what he's doing at all. He isn't a matter anymore. So, he probably yes, because he's a Hardcore, Metal fan, you know, like Pete Eleanor, what is doing and all right now. So, hopes friend the best, you know. He started believing in stuff too much. He became really fucked up and we couldn't talk with him anymore. And he was always talking about mystical stuff and there was just like you know. We have to be realistic sometimes when you start writing music or just to do some business or whatever the band has to do. And it was not possible I think so, you know. I don't know exactly what he's doing now.

**Earlier I heard that Sylvain wanted to do only a trilogy, three parts, and nothing more. Am I right?**

- That was like some of the stuff that what's he saying to people. But it's not true it's not the reason. I mean, that even Nuclear Blast knows that he tried to call Nuclear Blast after we signed to them again. He wanted to rejoin KATAKLYSM again, to reform with us, but it was not possible. I mean, nobody in the band wants to play with him anymore. So, it is something like, you know. The biggest problem was for me to redo the songs of the past. That was difficult for us, for me to redo the songs, because they very difficult. And he doesn't sing into the normal way. He sings very unison way, you know. So I really worked on it and now I'm able to do the songs. So it's no problem for us, you know. We able to do, play live and people love it and that's the important thing for us, you know.

**With what things your lyrics are deal on "The Prophecy" album?**

- What the subject is all about? It deals about Armageddon and the end of the World. That's what KATAKLYSM the word means. And that's what

the definition is about this new album. In the past we used to do more of the Sylvain, more mystical stuff and more fantasy stuff. I do more realistic subjects, but dealing with the end of the World. I mean, the concept behind it is the last day of 1999. Before midnight everybody had doubt in their head and maybe this is the end of the World that's coming. So that fear that's what we put in the album. And that's every song has a different way of proceeding the end of the World. And that's what the concept of this album is.

**In the fall of 1997 you had recorded a live album called "Northern Hyperblast Live". Why you decided to do that live album then? Where the concert recorded on it took place? As I know, it featured CD-ROM stuff plus two new songs. Name us these songs, please.**

- Well, the reason why we did that live record is because one of our friends that taped like for the last ten years all the metal shows on that, you know. And there was a friend of ours and he passed away, committed suicide and we wanted to honour and we released this CD to dedicate it to him. It was only released in Germany and Canada and I guess mailorder of the rest of the World. We wanted to do it for him. The sound is not that great and it was just recorded with a DAT, you know. So we just decided to do that and we add it the 7" "Vision the Chaos" and "Shrine of Life" the new version. So that's on it also. Yeah, I mean most people buy it because of the "Vision the Chaos" 7". And that's the last performance with Sylvain and Nick. So we decided to keep that show. That's a cool show. I understand that it's a little bit difficult to get into at the beginning, but after a little while then you start getting into in a lot so. That's cool. We are all were happy. Also, there's no CD-ROM for the live album. And we re-release the "Temple of Knowledge" album next year. There will be "The Awakener" video and some other stuff on the CD. So there will be next year, 'cause it is the band's ten-anniversary next year.

**Shall you make the new video? (Your video clip "The Awakener" was great!)**

- Yes! We are looking into it. We were supposed to do one for this album for the song "Stormland", but it didn't happen, because we are on tour from some half and year almost since June 1<sup>st</sup> and we didn't have the time to do it. But we did a live video in Stuttgart on this tour and we taped the whole show and it's gonna come out on DVD, CD and videotape. It's called "Nuclear Blast Destroys Stuttgart". And it's gonna be on there and we might take one track and put it on the Nuclear Blast, maybe "Manifestation" they might put on the new album of the team. But we will do one for the next album like "The Awakener". We gonna work on the new album soon.



**You have bonus track on "Temple of Knowledge" in French language called "L'Odyssée...". I'm sorry I don't know French language. Tell us something about the lyrics of it.**

- OK. "L'Odyssée..." is about an ancient warrior. He called Ulysses. I not remember exactly all of it. He talks about this warrior, called Ulysses. And its lyrics in French, because Sylvain wanted to do a French song for our fans and friends. So it is because he's French. So he wanted to do a song like that song. That's why we did it.

**What's your opinion about MORBID ANGEL? As I know you was the opening band for them in Montréal in 1998. What kind of atmosphere is there when you do live shows and what bands do you prefer to play with?**

- MORBID ANGEL I think a great band. A band that influenced all the Death Metal bands, there is today. If for my opinion, NAPALM DEATH is my favorite band, because they were big influence on KATAKLYSM, CARCASS were also. These are two really strong bands. I like a lot of English bands from England Death Metal scene from the past. But MORBID ANGEL I always liked. "Blessed are the Sick" and "Covenant" are my favorite. And I really like them a lot. But that show we did in 1998 was a really bad show for us, because it was the first show we did with the new line-up and won't ready to do it. The reaction was OK, but it wasn't KATAKLYSM reaction we usually have in our hometown, you know. We usually play and it's crazy. Eight hundred people show up and it's fucked up. That show we had a lot of problems, because MORBID ANGEL got to the venue at 9 o'clock at night. So it is very late. They were the only band that showed up, because there was three other bands supposed to play also like VADER, THE HAUNTED and we never made it. So we had to play with them that show. It was good, but it was not exactly what we are all about. But MORBID ANGEL, they came to see and they said it was a great show. So they liked it. So, he-he... But we will see, I think we are stronger and don't worry anymore. We played in Hungary two years ago (it was in Szombathely - ed.) and even tonight the people coming see and said we are much stronger than before.

**What were the influences of KATAKLYSM?**

- OBITUARY, NAPALM DEATH, CARCASS, IRON MAIDEN. There are so many influences. It is difficult to say, because we had such varied influences for KATAKLYSM. My guitar player likes all the melodic stuff. My drummer is more of the straight rock, BLACK SABBATH stuff. That what he likes most, you know. And some MAIDEN also and he likes old English bands like me like NAPALM DEATH and CARCASS are his favorite bands and stuff. And MORBID ANGEL is his favorite band, you know, and Pete Sandoval he likes 'em a lot. Stephane is the most hard in the band. He likes anything that really heavy and extreme. He is a big fan of DEICIDE. So, he is the most heavy guy in the band, my bass player. J-F is more of

the melodic guy. I am more like the power grooves and stuff like that. And Max likes the solid grind blast beats. So I mean we have a very good strong mixture and I think that it reflects on the music, because we go from very extreme to groove oriented to melody. I think the new album "The Prophecy" actually defines that a lot. You know the first half is very heavy groove oriented and the second half is more melodic.

**Can you name some bands before KATAKLYSM in which you played?**

- Oh, KATAKLYSM was really my first band I think, because I know that Max never played in other bands like KATAKLYSM. J-F been in a cover band before doing SLAYER stuff and stuff like that. And Stephane never played in other band. So, this is really our first band and we have been really successful and we say we never had the chance to play anywhere else.

**Any favorite reads or movies that might have inspired you somewhat?**

- Well, we used a sample from the movie "Dark City" that we liked a lot. Yeah, it's a fucked up movie and it had the same type of concept than the songs. So we decided to put it and there was really cool. But for me really the movie that really hit me the most was this year's "The Gladiator" movie. And I don't have seen a gladiator. It's like a Roman Empire stuff. And we actually have a concept for the next album, which will have some songs that deal with that Roman Empire, the rise and fall of it. So it's gonna be really cool.

**Tell us something about the forthcoming album?**

- OK. It's gonna be recorded in April or May. We wanted to record it at the end of the summer, but Nuclear Blast wants it to do faster. There's a lot behind KATAKLYSM and they will be wanna used that to make the band bigger. For the new album we have ready one new song called "Hero of the Merciless", which is really killer. I mean we worked, I don't know what's happening to us, we had a lot of influences and writing is just great right now. That song is very melodic, but has a lot of blast beats. It's like a mixture between I would say CARCASS "Heartwork" and DISSECTION "The Somberlain" album. So little mixture between those two: very fast, heavy and a lot of melodies. And that song in the album will be called "Epic". That would be come out next year. So we hopefully release it by September, because I know we gonna record it April and May. By that time

NB wanna do a big campaign we might to release at the same time as the next DISMEMBER album. So Nuclear Blast will do a big Death Metal campaign. So it's really cool. So the label really behind the band right now.

**And where you going to record your new album?**

- Victory studio in Canada, in Montréal, where GORGUTS, CRYPTOPSY and VOIVOD record so. We had recorded the last album there. For us it's the best sounding album I think. Production is really good and we gonna do it even better next time. So we really know how to do it now. We were very young when we started KATAKLYSM. We were 16-17 years old. And now I am 26. We have a lot more experienced than before. I think this is a new start for KATAKLYSM, "The Prophecy". I think it will bring us to better level than before, for sure.

**I heard that CRYPTOPSY started to record their new stuff. What do you know about this?**

- They've finished already. Have their new album.

**What's your opinion about it?**

- Yeah, have it hear their new album. It fucking kills! It's a great album. I look you like CRYPTOPSY, but I think it's a fucking killer band, you know. The new album is really good. Do you wanna hear a little bit of it? I have it! (Yeah sure! But unfortunately we couldn't listen to it as someone borrowed it. - ed.). CRYPTOPSY are great friends of ours. I mean, they supported us even when we had a lot of problems with "Victims...". They were always there for us. And we recorded "The Prophecy" album, and because we are really cool friends we ask him to do a song like to be honour on "The Prophecy". Mike came and did his vocals and it was really cool on the song called "Laments of Fear & Despair". So it was really nice of him to do that. We had a great time and the guys are really cool. Everything is cool, you know. So, their new album hope for them it does very well. I think it is a great record. It's like "Whisper Supremacy" a little bit more technical maybe, but they are CRYPTOPSY, you know. So it's really cool.

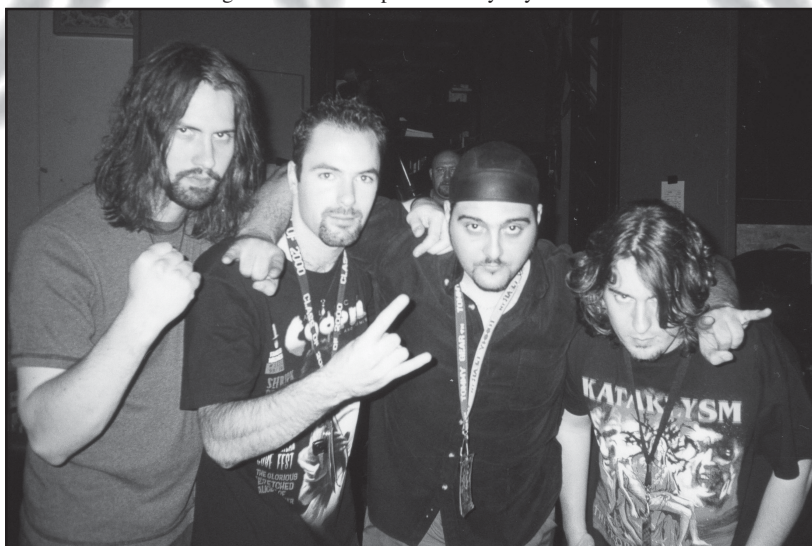
**I also got acquainted once that J-F has his own studio called SPP. What can you tell us about it?**

- Yeah. He worked there for a while. He was a studio partner with somebody else, but now he is working at this big studio called Victory, where we recorded this album. So he is a producer there also and much better what he was before. Look at the production between "Victims..." and the new album. There's a big difference and that's why that we still much better.

**OK, last mystical words are yours. Some wishes for ENCOMIUM 'zine readers in French language.**

- Really thankful of this interview and to support KATAKLYSM. We appreciate it. Merci a Tout Les Fanatic Du Northern Hyperblast Hail!! It means thanks to all the fanatics of the Northern Hyperblast!!

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**Hails! How are you? Give a short characterization about MIND SNARE's members and its very first releases. I mean the demos and your first album here.**

- Hello! I'm Gigi Casini, bass/vocals, 32 years old. The other members are Marco Boffa, drums, 29 and Chris Benso, guitars, 28. We were born in 1989. We released 2 demos in 1990 and 1991 with the names of "Satan's Slaughter" and "Chemioterapy". Then, in early 1992, we changed name in MIND SNARE (this name came from "Harmony Corruption" LP NAPALM DEATH song) and in middle 1992 "The Dream..." demo was released. After 1 year we released a promo, "Icon", in '94 "Blind" demo and a live tape in '96. Then we suffered so many line-up problems, until July '97. But in early '97, "Awaiting the Ancients" 2 songs-demo gave us the chance to take the band alive. Marco enters the band as permanent drummer in September '97. Since 3 S years we are really brothers, not like in the past. So, after hard work together, came "Hegemony" self release in May '99. And then PSYCHIC SCREAM deal, but we'll talk better below...

**How can you explain the music of MIND SNARE for those who haven't heard about it before?**

- Hateful Brutal Death. Hateful because we hate all the people that try to fuck us, Brutal Death because it's Brutal Death, ahaha... We got some hate and rage inside our hearts and our music is the natural evolution of it...

**The "Hegemony" mini album was your first release for PSYCHIC SCREAM Entertainment. How did the deal with PSYCHIC SCREAM come about?**

- Just talking with Eric Cheah, the owner of the label. I ask him if he's interested in a collaboration and say "yes"... Eric is the most honest people that we met in 12 years. We start to talk about deal in September '99 and in December '99, 3 months later, "Hegemony" re-release was out... This is the way to work seriously...

**How is PSYCHIC SCREAM treating the band? How many albums is the band under contract for?**

- We love PSYCHIC SCREAM. Eric works 18 hours a day for his label. He is "The underground" in South East Asia. Eric put a lot of ads on worldwide magazines and he's in contact with so many people, interested in MIND SNARE. I receive a lot of reviews, interviews, fan mails. I think that PSYCHIC SCREAM is the most cool label that MIND SNARE can reach, because we are underground and Eric is underground, so... He don't put any kind of pressure on us, about composition, songwriting, etc... We are totally free to write our songs. We signed a deal for 2 albums, "Hegemony" and "Hateful Attitude", until November 2001. I hope that we will work forever with Eric, because he is honest and 100% underground.

**Please tell us a bit about your latest album "Hateful Attitude". Are you satisfied with it? Is there anything you would have done differently, looking back on it? Compare it to "Hegemony" MCD and please tell us what are the basic differences between them.**

- We are totally satisfied about "Hateful Attitude". We recorded without pressure, in total harmony. We know well the guy of the studio, so we worked better. We wanted to record an album with a clear and powerful production and we did it. "Hegemony" was different. We suffered so many problems during the recording session. We finished and we don't like it, so we re-mixed 2 different times. About songwriting of the 2 albums, I can say that "Hateful Attitude" is more fast (for example: we re-recorded "Monarch of Prayers" from "Hegemony"



**Here we have a talk with Gigi Casini (bass/vocals) from one of the most brutal Death Metal bands of Italy, called MIND SNARE. Their new material, "Hateful Attitude" represents the pure hate & brutality in its circa half an hour playing time. I advise you to check this masterpiece out before it will be too late!**



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and it came out with 14 seconds less, without changing nothing, so it's very fastest then the old one!) and hateful. Our songwriting is changed a little bit. More violence and hate! I think that the new album is 70% more bastard then the old one...

**What can you tell about the conception and lyrics that MIND SNARE stands for?**

- Well, I write all the lyrics. Chris wrote one in this album, but I'm the one that writes lyrics for the band. In the past I was influenced by fantasy, splatter/gore and shit like that. Now I'm more focused in real things, about society, love, hate... On "Hateful Attitude", I've written 2 lyrics against religion, 2 against society, 1 about HP Lovecraft, 1 dedicated to my mighty Father and 1 about our blood brothers NEFAS, etc. (see below...). Chris written once about his obscure thoughts... I live in a western society, dominated by corruption, church, money and power so I cannot stay in line with them and I'm full of hate. So, I write basically about it.

**Is there a big scene where you live? Also share with us some information about the Italian underground scene in general.**

- Well, the scene in Italy now is strong like never before. Bands like NEFAS, BASTARD SAINTS, AWFUL, MORBUS, CADAVERIC CREMATORIUM, DYSMORFIC, WOPTIME can compete with all the bands worldwide. We got a lack of promotion and clubs here, but we fight everyday to make the scene strongest and kickin' ass.

**What music you prefer to listen to frequently?**

- Obviously Brutal/Grind... But I love Hardcore, Straight Edge, Krishnacore. I listen too just a little bit of punk, Black Metal (old ones like VENOM, CELTIC FROST, BATHORY or fast and raw bands like IMMORTAL, MARDUK, etc...). I don't listen only these kind of music, for example I love IGGY POP/THE STOOGES, RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE and stuffs like that.

**What kind of atmosphere is there when you do a show and what bands do you prefer to play with? What do you feel when you play live?**

- Well, just before a show I enter in a particular state of mind... On stage I am another kind of guy, totally focused on the music and performance. Totally raw and out of head... I do everytime the best of myself on stage, for us and for the people that follow us. I like to play with bands like NEFAS, MORBUS, DYSMORFIC, BASTARD SAINTS, CADAVERIC CREMATORIUM, AWFUL... Really blood brothers of us. I hate rockstars bands, I can't play with this kind of musicians.

**Your opinion about:**

**a.) politicians**

- I hate all the politicians worldwide. They rule the world without mercy, trusting just in money and power. Their attitude will not change forever. I hope they'll burn in hell as soon as possible.

**b.) christianity**

- I hate Christianity in the same way of politicians. A bunch of corrupted motherfuckers, with the power in their dirty hands. There's blood of the innocents on their hands. I think there's something somewhere to believe in, but the way of church is totally deviated by power and money. I hate all priests, Pope, etc. See you in hell dirty bastards...

**c.) catastrophes**

- What do you mean exactly? If you mean catastrophes like floods, earthquakes, etc. I can only say that I am sad everytime I heard about it. But it's nature, you can do nothing against it... For catastrophes I mean children

that dies without food and things like that. The world is a bunch of shit, it's very sad for me...

**d.) computer technology**

- I like computers but I think that technology overloaded the world... People lived for thousand years without it, don't forget it. I like to return to roots, life is not just technology...

**e.) criminals**

- Criminals are not just killers, rapists, etc... Criminals are people that rules the world without conscience, taking care only about power and money. I hate them.

**f.) destiny**

- I believe in destiny and fate...really. I believe in reincarnation. I know that I can meet a person that maybe I was in love with her some centuries ago... And when you will meet this person, you can feel something strange in you... I call it destiny...

**What do you wish to do with MIND SNARE in the future? Any plans or assumptions when will your next stuff be out?**

- We'll continue to write songs brutal and catchy as in the past and play powerful shows on stage. We'll tour Italy this year with our brothers bands plus gigs in Belgium, Holland and shows with bands like KRABATHOR, DISGORGE (Mex.), SANATORIUM, HOUWITSER, PANDEMIA, GOREOPSY, etc... In the past we played with KREATOR, MALEVOLENT CREATION, VADER, OPPRESSOR, SACRED SIN, GODLESS TRUTH, DISGORGE (USA)...

**Finally, some hateful thoughts for the readers, please.**

- I can't say hateful things to the readers because they are fans... I just can say beautiful words to the readers because I love all our fans worldwide... Thanks for the great interview, it's an honour for us to talk with guys like you, totally dedicated to the underground. Thanks again brother!!! Believe in yourself! Forever...





**Tell me about the recently released CD, "Enslave the Weak". It is your first release for OSMOSE Productions. How did you end up on OSMOSE Productions? You have signed for two albums with them. Please tell us more about this contract.**

- Well, "Enslave the Weak" is our first release on OSMOSE. We signed for two albums. We got this deal because OSMOSE liked already our previous stuff "The Art of Blasphemy". They wanted to edit it but it was too late because we already signed to Qabalah production. Then we agreed on signing for another two albums.

**The CD has been out for a little while, so how has the response to it been like? Are you pleased with how it came out?**

- I would not say it is out long time. It was launched on the market only at the beginning of February. In America the sell will start only in April. Anyway the promotion started sometimes in the middle of January and therefore we have already collected some reviews and responses from our fans. Some reviews are positive but we also got some negative ones as well. Some people can not accept our similarity to MORBID ANGEL. They think we are only a copy of them but I think they should listen to "Enslave the Weak" more carefully to note the difference. What is more delighting for us is the interest of our fans who really like it more than "The Art of Blasphemy". We do not have any reason to complain.

**How do you see it in comparison to your previous output, "The Art of Blasphemy"?**

- I think we reached much better result with "Enslave the Weak" and responses just confirm it. You are probably interested in knowing what is the difference between the support of our current and previous label. Here I can tell you that I can not be satisfied with Qabalah/Repulse at all. They only ripped us off. They still owe us some extensive part of our royalty. There is no reason to praise them. They did almost nothing over their routine work. They just distributed promo CDs and exchanged our album with another distributors. They really fucked off any other additional work for DEMENTOR. They just care of their "biggest" band AVULSED. But it is their choice but I do not see any perspective for them if you plan to continue this way. The situation has totally changed with OSMOSE. They are real professionals and they want to support their bands as much as possible. I did more interviews during the last two months that during the whole previous year. I hope it will be even better.

**What symbolizes the cover painting for "Enslave the Weak"? Who came up with its cover concept and who painted it?**

- It shows the eternal opposites & fight of good and evil. The god in the middle symbolises the good and those devils symbolise the evil. I do not believe in existence of any god. Christians made up these opposites to have some good instruments for controlling people. They always speak how strong is their god but he is totally unable to change anything in the world. On the other hand they use hell, Satan and devils to fear people when they want to attain some target. For example they say: You must contribute with your money to the church otherwise Satan will take your soul! Well, it is very humorous for me!

**You have chosen the same studio, namely "Pro Art", again. How long did it take to record "Enslave the Weak" and who did the mixing/producing? Are you going to record your next stuff there as well?**

- We started the recording sometimes in June and finished up in September I think but we had some breaks during the recording work. We did not have to hurry up because our album was supposed to be out only in January 2001. Pro Art studio is close to our town therefore it was not a problem to sit to the car and go there. I do not know whether we will record our next album there because we do not like some things on our mixing. OSMOSE proposed us to record it in Germany at Stage One Studio with the producer Andy Classen but I do not know yet. We will probably

**Well, if you remember I had a chat with René (guitar/vocals) in the 1st issue. Since that time a lot of things happened with DEMENTOR. First of all, they have out their new masterpiece, called "Enslave the Weak". Secondly, they signed a deal with the famous French label, OSMOSE Productions. Thirdly, new members have been added to the band's line-up, namely Rasto (bass), Alex Suchacek (guitar, ex-NOMENMORTIS) and Peter Stenda (drums).**

**Questions were answered by René.**

stay at Pro Art but we will co-operate with some better producer.

**Last year you caught a mini Russian/Belarus tour. How was it? Any stories?**

- Yeah, it was great experience for us. There were many good stories. We are going to CIS countries again in May 2001. We will play some dates in Ukraine as well. I hope we will appear in Kiev.

**What are the band's plans to support the new record, tour-wise? Will OSMOSE be funding an overseas jaunt? By the way, tell us more about your forthcoming "Blasphemous Enslavement of Darkness" tour with INTO DARKNESS. And what about a mini tour in Ukraine?**

- As I said before we are going for some another CIS tour again. We started to co-operate with Belorussian agency FATAL ECSTASY from Minsk who are in charge of preparing this tour. We should play five up to seven dates covering Russia, Belarus and Ukraine. Then we plan to make some another tour to CIS in September, which would include more dates. At the end of March we depart towards our 2nd European tour with German band INTO DARKNESS. We will play 9 concerts in Czech, Germany, Belgium, Spain and France. We could play more but we do not have so much free time as well as INTO DARKNESS. OSMOSE will not send us for any overseas tour. I think we still have time for it. First of all we should concentrate on playing in Europe and then to start building our name overseas. As for mini Ukrainian tour we are not against but first of all there should be any agency able to set it up in Ukraine. We have never got any offer from your country regarding a tour. We played only one concert in Dnepropetrovsk 5 years ago.

**Your style called Blasphemous Death Metal. Why you decided to categorize your music in this way?**

- Actually we play classical kind of death metal. The only purpose of the word Blasphemous is to tell all our fans about what our lyrics are, OSMOSE initially estimated our music

like brutal death metal what I do not like too much. I asked them to change it to blasphemous death metal.

**Peter Hasselbrack of Bloodsoaked Promotions wrote a big part of the lyrics to "Enslave the Weak". How did this co-operation is come about? Are you pleased with how they turned out?**

- I was in touch with Peter who was quite a big fan of DEMENTOR. I asked him to write some texts for us and he agreed. I like his lyrics very much. They fit to our lyrical concept very much. It could not be better. I hope Peter will write something for us in the future as well.

**What is the basic concept of "Enslave the Weak" in general? What do you try to express through your lyrics?**

- We have always been an anti-christian band and we continue with this direction on "Enslave the Weak" as well. I think we have the best lyrics just right on this album. They are purely blasphemous and full of hate towards christianity. We want to express our opinion about christianity which is very dangerous and greedy religion. We hate their hypocrisy, filth and malignancy.

**Holloshtman's drumming on both the new CD and "The Art of Blasphemy" is simply amazing! How long has he been playing the drums? Did he take any lessons early on or is it all self-taught?**

- First of all I want to tell you that Holloshtwat is not DEMENTOR member any more. Well, he did good work for us but it has finished and both DEMENTOR and Holloshtwat are going own way. I know he has played drums for more than 7 years and I think he could be even better after so many years. As far as I know he never took any lessons. He learned it oneself. I think our new drummer Peter is better despite he is 5 years younger than Holloshtwat.

**Once I've been told that you're going to re-record your first album "The Church Dies". What's up with this idea? Please, give us more info on that subject.**

- It was only some idea from ISP who own the copyrights for this record. They wanted to do it but it seems they do not have money for it because of some another projects. We can contently forget this project.

**Your first label, Immortal Souls Productions, has re-pressed both "The Church Dies" and "Kill the Thought on Christ" albums. Did they change there anything? I mean re-mastering, additional bonus songs, the cover conception or multimedia stuff here.**

- As far as I know that only change appeared on the cover of "Kill the Thought on Christ". The complete booklet was changed to make it more interesting for fans. There were no any other changes executed.

**What merchandise is currently available?**

- Almost all our merchandise is available. You can check it on our web site [www.dementor.sk](http://www.dementor.sk). I must also warn you that our web site does not work well at the present time. It should be improved during the nearest days. Moreover our web master is preparing a new version of it. It should be upgraded very soon as well.

**At the end, can you tell us what DEMENTOR's future plans are? Last blasphemous words are yours.**

- Thank you very much for your eternal support. I revealed all our plans during this interview. I can just add that we will start creating new stuff very soon. New album seems to be better that "Enslave the Weak" since we have new and great potential in our new members Peter and Alex on guitar.



## DEMENTOR

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**What's going on in the TALES OF DARKNORD camp these days? Last I heard, there was a new material in progress...**

- All is correct, after a long break we have again engaged in creativity. Now we write down songs, which will enter a new album. Most likely it will be devoted to events of the Second World War and Stalingrad's fight in particular. As a whole, we continue to play old kind death-metal, but in the new work there will be some musical innovations not characteristic for the last works of T.O.D.. I shall not tell what - will hear! In two words, we have introduced hardly more jazz, than it is accepted within the framework of classics of death metal.

**Your line-up also changed. Who are the new members?**

- I still continue growl and I tear strings on a bass-guitar. On a guitar plays Mr. Griko, which we frequently invited to execute guitar's solo parts. Now he is a high-grade participant of the group, also executes all sets of guitars. Also I have invited new drummer. His name is Eugene Dementeff. Already as 1,5 years we play in this line-up and it is possible to tell that we were thoroughly played. While it is not known, in what quality its spiritual father and founder Alex Kantemirov will return to the group, but he already takes part in recording an album. In the first already recorded song we sang with him on two votes.

**Is TALES OF DARKNORD looking to release the new record on a different label or will the band be sticking with R.I.P. Productions?**

- Alex has based a label - "More Hate prod.", therefore now it is much easier to realize our albums. However, we always wait for interesting and mutually advantageous offers from other labels. As far as I know, our last two-three albums are rather widely submitted in various distro-lists worldwide. Alex frequently sells the rights on their realization by other small labels that our music was accessible not only for Russian fans, but also worldwide. Certainly, it is a drop in the sea, in comparison with circulation of the monsters of metal.

**What is the response to your latest album "Dismissed" been like?**

- I do not know I do not trace all opinions and reviews, which are reaction to our creativity. However, I shall not hide, got to me in hands, I read with interest.

It seems that our last album praised more, than abused. On the other hand, we do not play modern and commercial music to be scandal of year. Therefore I do not fly in dreams.

**You have a couple of demos... Will TALES OF DARKNORD's old demos "Blackened Soul Remains" or "Absorbing Destinies" ever see the light one day on CD format? Maybe as bonus tracks on another album or something?**

- To republish old demos? Full shit! Hardly they will interest someone seriously, if you not a star. Can be, we shall include separate tracks in quality bonus, or in compilations.

**Concerning your live shows... What kind of atmosphere is there when you do and what bands do you prefer to play with? What do you feel inside when you play live?**

- He-he! We did not play at concerts 3 years. Even it is difficult to express the ideas in this occasion. Certainly, we like actively to behave on a stage. If this charge passes to fans to play much more easily. The huge value has a sound on a stage. If it has powerful sound, the gig will turn out powerful. A lot of energy adds knowledge that in a hall the people, which came to listen to you.



**The covers for "Endless Sunfall", "The Last" and "Dismissed" were very interesting and original. Who came up with the cover concepts? What inspired them? And why the CD cover of "Endless Sunfall" is different from the cover you chose for the MC version (Belorussian release)?**

- Actually, we never have of the normal artist, and we had no time to search him, therefore we are the hostages of another's, and frequently stupid execution of our ideas. For this reason I cannot explain you some details in those pictures, which decorate our CDs. And the mess with different pictures to the album "Endless Sunfall" has left that Alex has sold to three labels identical exclusive of the right:) Yes, for us the artist is still necessary, if who wishes, welcome!

**In most editions your music described as Death/Black. And as for me your music is the pure essence of Death Metal. And how you can explain us your style?**

- And in styles I do not understand at all. I think, that we play brutal death/thrash.

**Alex temporarily is not a member of TALES OF DARKNORD. What's up with him? As I know he is involved in some Black Metal bands as DER GERWELT and ROSSOMAHAAR for example. Does it hindered the work with TALES OF DARKNORD so far or is TALES OF DARKNORD the top priority?**

- Alex some time lived in the other city and was engaged only business in the party of T.O.D., as the musician he was realized in two other groups: ROSSOMAHAAR and STONEHENGE. Now he has returned to native city. Whether he will continue to play in T.O.D. depends only on him. We hope for him, in any case.

**There were three coverversions on your album "The Last", namely SIX FEET UNDER's "Lycanthrophy", ACHERON's "Overturning Prayer-Book" and UNPURED's "Surrounded By Darkness". Why you decided to do all these tracks for one occasion? Is there any songs that you would like to cover for the new album?**

- On one of rehearsals in 1998 Alex has offered to play these three covers. John and I were not against. That's all. There is no latent idea; probably simply these

songs liked him. And what for still people play another's songs?

On the new album we shall play 2 another songs: "She is just killing me" by ZZ-TOP and "Fire" by Jimmy Hendrix. It will be cheerful.

**What bands you prefer to listen nowadays and what bands had influenced TALES OF DARKNORD?**

- In new structure T.O.D. the so different people now play, that it is difficult to tell, what groups influence our creativity. I am afraid, that it will be mix from jazz-rock, hard rock, and rock-n-roll, metal collectives. We listen to GOOD music of absolutely different styles from BLUES BROTHERS up to CANNIBAL CORPSE.

**Say something about the members' interests outside of the band?**

- I study (I try to receive masters degree), and it strongly has bothered to me already. This occupation does not bring money; therefore soon I shall throw it and set off on searches of food:)

Alex has finished the education and works as a teacher at military university. Griko works in sphere of telephony. Eugene - builder and the designer.

We are the coevals, 26-28 years. Almost all of us have wife or girlfriend, family cares. In this connection remains to very poorly free time for music:)

**You're the only band from Volgograd that I've heard. How's the scene there?**

- There is no stage here; here in general there are not enough fans of metal. We did not play 3 years, and may be all already have forgotten as it sounds. It is necessary to begin all at first. But hardly we shall involve more than 300 fans, as it was in the best times.

**Briefly say something about the lyrical conception of TALES OF DARKNORD. What did you try to express through your lyrics?**



- I do not have any concept, which I would adhere in the texts. If it was possible to sing something such as bla-bla-bla without any sense, I only would be delighted to this. Major importance I give to sounding of lyrics, instead of its sense. Though, however, each songs of T.O.D. - is small realistic story about human life. A short story, if want.

**Well, that's all I think... Any last tales from darknord you would like to add...**

- Hey people! Do not take in head to pass on pop-music. For whom we then shall create?:) We still shall create for a long, we promise!!! Ha-ha...

**TALES OF DARKNORD:  
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***This Russian Death Metal band doesn't need any introductory as they are quite well-known by their insane Death Metal releases in the underground scene. Anton Shirl (vocals, bass) was the one who has answered my questions. So read it attentively and find out what hides amongst the cold places of Volgograd.***



Hello Angela! How do you feel as the new vocalist of ARCH ENEMY? Please introduce yourself to the readers (I mean age, hobby, interests, etc.) and shortly tell us how you became a full-time member of ARCH ENEMY.

- I am still very excited about being the new AE-vocalist... can hardly believe it myself. Guess it takes some time to grow into this role. Since 10 years I am an active musician in the metal-scene, besides this I used to work in online-advertisement and studied economics. I stopped this for a while to concentrate on ARCH ENEMY.

Michael and Chris asked me in November 2000 if I want to rehearse with them. They had a demo and a live video I had given to Michael in 1999 when I interviewed him myself for an e-zine. When they discussed the vocalist-situation (they weren't sure if Johan would fit the new material) Chris came up with my name. After rehearsing we went into the studio in December 2000. We recorded a few songs, then the final decision was made: I was the new vocalist of ARCH ENEMY.

Right away I should say I was pleasantly surprised when I listened first to these 4 new songs on the official ARCH ENEMY web site. Your vocals sound extremely killer there and perfectly fit to the overall ARCH ENEMY sound! Are you satisfied with the way they turned out? I hear a cross between CARCASS and HYPOCRISY there. Correct me if I am wrong. Also, please name us your influences.



- Thanx for the compliments! Jeff from CARCASS is one of my favorite vocalists, together with Tom Araya (SLAYER) and David Vincent (ex-MORBID ANGEL). Surely, they influence my vocals. We worked very hard on the vocal-lines in the studio; it is my best performance ever. But I am never satisfied, so next time I will try to top them, haha!

# ARCH ENEMY

## wages of sin

The production on the "Wages of Sin" album is excellent! Sound-wise it is more brutal and intense as "Burning Bridges"! Are you happy with how it sounds? Will you record at Fredman Studios for your next release?

- Andy Sneap is responsible for this incredible KILLER sound!!! We recorded the material at Fredman Studios and Andy mixed it in London. You need a really good production and an excellent mix to get a MEGA sound... This time everything worked out great!

Since I don't have the lyrics to "Wages of Sin", can you tell what some of the songs are about? I particularly like the opening "Enemy Within", "The First Deadly Sin" and the brutal yet melodic "Ravenous". Who is the main lyricist of the band? Where would you say the lyrical inspiration comes from?

- I wrote "Enemy Within". This song copes with depressions... they are like an endless downward spiral, the deeper you fall, the harder it is to get out. Michael and I wrote "The First Deadly Sin" together. This song follows the tradition of "Angelclaw" and "Diva Satanica"; evil women seduce and destroy men, hehe.... The "Adam and Eve"-story, so to speak. "Ravenous": idea and title are from Michael, I wrote the lyrics. An ancient ritual to overtake another person's strength and spirit is to suck out the blood and eat the brain. A great topic for a brutal song. The ARCH ENEMY lyrics are quite clear in their language, when you read them, you will understand the message. Michael writes a lot of lyrics, so do I. So we will share this job from now on. Life is our source of inspiration - weird, frightening and wonderful.

Please give us some info about your former bands. How long were you involved in the underground and how were you introduced to it?

- I discovered metal through a radio-show in the late 80's. Actually, I started with CARCASS, BOLTHROWER, MORBID ANGEL, DEATH, TERRORIZER - I was a total death-maniac. In 1991 I joined my first dm-band ASMODINA as a vocalist. In 1998 I founded MISTRESS, also death-metal.

Where do you see Death Metal going in these days? Lots of people talking about its second coming, but in my opinion it was, it is, and it will be always up to date. What do you think about this?

- Death Metal is an established style since the late 80's. It never went down - just some overhyped dm-bands vanished. As long as people need extreme music, it will exist. And why should this need - especially in these fucked up times - go down?

Has ARCH ENEMY played any gigs in support of "Wages of Sin" yet? If so, how was the response? How do people like the new stuff in general? Do you get much mail regarding ARCH ENEMY?

- "Wages Of Sin" will be released in Japan on April 25th - in Europe and USA even later. Then we will start touring, not before... Most people just heard the sound files on www.archenemy.net - we got very good response so far! In the first days after revealing my identity I got over 50 mails per day - good luck, it gets down now. I answered them all, so I had plenty much to do.

I suppose you still live in Germany. How would you describe your life in Germany? Do you like living there or would you rather live somewhere else? Have you ever been to Ukraine? Do you know anything about the underground scene of Ukraine?

- I live in Sweden and Germany at the moment. Sweden is small, beautiful and very expensive. There I live around Gothenburg, were all the other AE-members stay. When I am in Sweden, we work a lot - rehearsing for example. In Germany, I have a flat in Cologne, a bigger, vivid and open-minded town. There you can get lost in lots of bars and clubs, shop 'til death and enjoy leisure-time. I have never been to Ukraine and I don't know anything about the metal-scene. For me, metal-fans are metal-fans. I don't care about their nationality anyway. And I don't care about the country I live in. I want to live in a place where I don't get bored, where I can be together with the people who are important for me.

Well, it's time to ask you about your favorite bands. Please name us some of them.

- KISS, CARCASS, JUDAS PRIEST, SLAYER, TESTAMENT, THE HAUNTED, RAMMSTEIN, CANDLEMASS, EUCHARIST, ("old") MORBID ANGEL, ("old") ENTOMBED, MEGADETH, ARCH ENEMY, TERRORIZER, FAITH NO MORE, NEVERMORE.

By the way, what do you think about Michael's previous (and still going) activities, first in CARNAGE, then later on in CARCASS, nowadays in SPIRITUAL BEGGARS and, of course, in ARCH ENEMY?

- I grew up with CARNAGE's raw power, dwelled in CARCASS extreme symphonies, still worship ARCH ENEMY's perfect combination of brutal riffs and sweet melodies and enjoy the heavy rock of SPIRITUAL BEGGARS. He is an excellent musician who shouldn't stop writing good music!

In Japan the release date of "Wages of Sin" will be 25th of April. In what way will it differ from the European one (I mean any other additional bonuses, multimedia, etc.)?

- Both versions will contain extra stuff. That's all I can tell you for now. I promise you will not be disappointed!

Well, I guess that's all, Angela. I wish you the best of luck with "Wages of Sin"! Any final comments?

- Hail to Ukraine! Thank you very much for your support! Keep up the good work and thrash 'til death! Check out www.archenemy.net for the latest news!

**SWEDISH DEATHMACHINE - ARCH ENEMY - IS READY TO UNLEASH THEIR NEW MASTERPIECE, "WAGES OF SIN", UPON THE DIE-HARD UNDERGROUND FANS. IT WAS RECORDED YET WITH A NEW VOCALIST, NAMELY ANGELA GOSSOW FROM GERMANY. SHE WAS COOL ENOUGH AND ANSWERED ALL MY QUESTIONS IN DETAILS. THRASH 'TIL DEATH!!!!!!**



# NIGHTSIDE

**NIGHTSIDE is a young promising Death Metal act hailing from Italy. Their debut album, "Shadows Weaver", combines a great mix of melodic yet progressive elements on the basis of the well-known Swedish-type Death Metal. It was Matteo Calautti (guitarist) who shared with us all the news and facts about NIGHTSIDE!**

**Hi Matteo! How are the things with NIGHTSIDE going on lately? You went through different line-up changes from the period of 1999-2001. So please introduce us in details (age, interests, etc.) the current line-up.**

- We changed the 2 original guitarists Simone and Luca during these two years, they left the band 'cause of their intentions to play some different music. We remain in friendship and Simone helps us in the recording sessions. The new ones Marcello and Alessio were NIGHTSIDE's fans and they were happy to play in our band!! They followed NIGHTSIDE since the beginning and I consider them as the natural substitute..... They are very skilled musicians and introduce new ideas and influences in our songs. They love melodic and technical styles like OPETH and DREAM THEATER, Alessio has a guitar classic preparation and I'm very curious to make new material with them.....

**"Shadows Weaver" is your first CD and it is a self-produced one? Are you pleased with the final result? Musically I would say it is more mature and complex as your previous "Oneiric Reign" demo '98. How do you see it?**

- I think we made a good work.... You must consider that songwriting, recording, production and all the things about "Shadows Weaver" was made by ourselves, and we hadn't a great budget. About songs I'm very pleased cause they are the synthesis of our different influences and you can find death, power, melody, jazz and more in our music, in a mature and coherent style. I think we have tried to make an original and personal way to play death metal.... The listeners can't be bored by "Shadows Weaver"...

**How is the response to "Shadows Weaver" been like? Are you going to self-finance your next release as well? Do you get any serious label offer so far? If so, tell us a bit about it.**

- We received very good reviews from metal magazines ("Shadows Weaver" is top demo on GRINDZONE ITALY) and from metal fans. We are waiting for serious label's answer; we received many compilation proposals.... Of course if nobody is interesting in financing we will self-produced the next NIGHTSIDE CD!!

**The Gothenburg Death Metal scene influenced you guys very much; I mean especially the old bands, namely AT THE GATES and DISSECTION. What can you tell us about these influences and musical parallels in your stuff?**

- Certainly Gothenburg scene, especially AT

THE GATES, DARK TRANQUILLITY, DISSECTION were important for the beginning of the band. We started playing covers from these bands and also from SLAYER, DEATH, IN FLAMES and EDGE OF SANITY. But after the first demo "Nightside" in which you can find old-death and Swedish influences we started enriching our music with many other elements as clean vocals, melodic parts, arpeggios, keyboard and electronic arrangements..... Nobody of us has some parallel projects, we concentrate our energies to NIGHTSIDE!!!!



**I've noticed some progressive and jazz-like fusion elements in "Shadows Weaver". Where these elements are come from? Do you like progressive music (e.g. DREAM THEATER, ATHEIST, NEVERMORE, etc.)?**

- We don't listen to only metal music.... We love all kind of music if it is played with great ability and if it gives you some emotions. During these years we enlarged our personal musical tastes, and we learned to appreciate jazz, fusion, progressive 70's bands (PINK FLOYD, GENESIS, YES...), ethnic music, and now we love bands as ATHEIST, CYNIC, AMORPHIS, DREAM THEATER, OPETH..... We try to mix these influences with technical death metal and "Shadows Weaver" is the first step of the band's evolution....

**I know that there's a lot of cool Death Metal bands in Italy such as MIND SNARE, DEVASTATION INSIDE or NEFAS to name a few. What new/old worthy ones can you recommend for us?**

- I think Italy has a great band that can well represent our nation in the world.... NOVEMBRE! They make magnificent music. I can recommend bands as NATRON, MORNINGRISE, CORAM

LETHE, ARKENEMY, ENDLESS, DAMMERCIDE, GLACIAR FEAR.... Italy is growing up about death and black even if many bands don't try to make a personal style.

**Let's talk about your live performances. Do you play a lot of gigs lately? What is the fans' reaction on these gigs? Do they like the overall Death Metal movement in Italy?**

- We will have many live shows during summer-autumn 2001 above all in north Italy. The fan's reaction is good cause of the Shadows Weaver's songs can satisfy even people that like different

kind of music.... We receive compliments even from people that don't like metal music and I'm happy about this fact! I think in Italy there are more Power-metal fans than death ones and metal-fans are very closed-minded..... You must listen only metal or you will die!!!! We can't understand this kind of mentality.

**Back in 1998 you played a gig with GRIP INC. How was it? Do you have any exciting concert stories?**

- Oh, it was a great experience! We learnt how a professional band as GRIP INC. work after, during and post live shows.... I can say that I played on the same stage with Dave Lombardo.... It was a dream for me. During his show I could observe his technique and his patterns, I had a free lesson. I don't remember any particular concert story.... Of course the show with GRIP INC. was the most exciting one!

**By the way, is your new stuff in progress yet? If so, tell me more about the new tracks. Are those tracks will be a logical continuation of "Shadows Weaver" album?**

- We are re-arranging three tracks with new guitarists. I can say that these tracks are the logical continuation of "Shadows Weaver" even if we make more "experiments". Some songs will be longer, more melodic in the melodic parts, more powerful in the powerful parts..... They will be a surprise!!!!!!

**Well, I guess that's all for now. Keep up the good work with NIGHTSIDE! Last shadowy words are yours.**

- Thanks Cornelius and Encomium for help and support..... "Shadows Weaver" can be listened on <http://stage.vitaminic.it/nightside/>. NOTHING IS REAL ALL IS AN ILLUSION.

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# ABOMINANT

"Ungodly" CD 2000

(Deathgasm Records)

ABOMINANT plays an ultra melodic kind of Death Metal, which has been motivated by Gothenburg Death Metal bands particularly. The quintet – Mike Barnes (vocals), Buck Wiedeman (guitar), Timmie Ball (guitar), Mike May (bass) and Craig Netto (drums) – does everything professionally and with high accuracy there. They even managed to get a fantastic sound production for "Ungodly". It's not a bad album at all, though I missed the feeling of originality there. I won't say it's a totally unworthy album as there are lots of great parts there (especially when the band operates with acoustic guitars, fast drum patterns and rather high-pitched vocals), but for a definite recognition they should build up their own and original style first. Songs like "Pinnacle of Hate" and "Beyond Spectral Plains" show a big potential anyway and if they will continue to write more songs in that way then they will definitely reach their so-called original style. The album also features an amazing dose of old-school Thrash Metal riffs plus an extremely well done cover of SACRIFICE's "Re-Animation" song. If you wish to hear an American band playing Swedish Death Metal then go ahead and get this 49 minutes long album right now! Fans of melodic Death/Black materials will be at least 80% content with "Ungodly". Band contact: ABOMINANT, 112 Olympia Dr., Bardstown, KY 40004, USA (e-mail: [kissthegoat@yahoo.com](mailto:kissthegoat@yahoo.com)). Label contact: Deathgasm Records, P.O. Box 681415, Marietta, GA 30068, USA. E-mail: [deathgasm@hotmail.com](mailto:deathgasm@hotmail.com) Web Site: <http://come.to/deathgasm>

# ABYSS ANGEL

"Everlasting Breath Of Freedom / Непрерывный Вдох Свободы" MC '99  
(Metal Scrap Production/CDM Records)

The second album of this progressive Death Metal quartet features 2 songs in almost 50 minutes. And what's more, these two songs are the same musically, but lyrically the first one is written in English and the second one is in Russian. Of course these long tracks are divided to separate pieces, which combine a beautiful motion



picture altogether. Thoughtful keyboard passages, great use of special effects, soft drumming, deep death growls, powerful guitar riffs and conceptual lyrics are what the trademarks of ABYSS ANGEL. Yet I should point out the majestic, symphonic, atmospheric-like moods in their pieces. It's just fantastic, believe me. To get a clearer picture you should think about a combination between classic music and technical Death Metal (bands such as NOCTURNUS or ATHEIST). If you can imagine this result, then you'll know what to expect from ABYSS ANGEL. Flawless

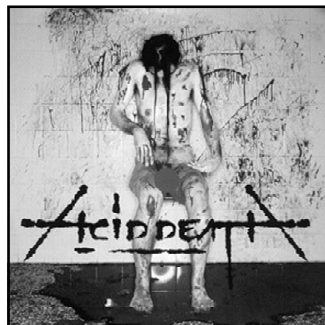
# ALBUM REVIEWS

stuff! Band contact: c/o D. Belyaev, P.O. Box 9, 115477 Moscow, Russia. Label contact: Metal Scrap Production, c/o Anatoliy Kondyuk, Korolyova str. 2/22, 47501 Berezany, Ternopil region, Ukraine. E-mail: [cdm\\_music@usa.net](mailto:cdm_music@usa.net)

# ACID DEATH

"Random's Manifest" CD 2000  
(Black Lotus Records)

Finally I have the pleasure to present you the new masterpiece by the most charismatic Greek Death Metal band, called ACID DEATH. The band has passed through several line-up changes since their formation. On this release ACID DEATH consists of Savvas-Jake B. (vocals/bass), Dennis C. (lead/rhythm guitars), Costas T. (drums) and Nick A. (lead/rhythm guitars).



"Random's Manifest" features 12 futuristic Death Metal songs surrounded by one of the most fascinating sound qualities ever. Music-wise this album combines a rather wide variety of progressive elements. It abounds with storming brutality, symphonic atmosphere and brilliant melodies. Just listen to the third song "Psycho Love", the last song "W.A.R. (Wrong and Right)" or the 3-part killer title track "Random's Manifest" and you'll know what I am talking about. It is full of great ideas and musicians' masterful virtuosity that should be prized by every progressive Death Metal maniacs. And what's more, they used an extreme cover photo for this album that represents a people being tormented to death! Awesome sight, believe me. Go ahead and order this gem of art from: ACID DEATH, P.O. Box 31902, 10035 Athens, Greece. E-mail: [deathvein@yahoo.com](mailto:deathvein@yahoo.com) Web Site: [www.freebox.com/Acid-Death](http://www.freebox.com/Acid-Death)

AGORAPHOBIC NOSEBLEED / CONVERGE  
"The Poacher Diaries" CD '99  
(Relapse Records)

The mad trio of AGORAPHOBIC NOSEBLEED delivers us 9 industrialized Deathcore songs. These tracks were accomplished in a quite modern and extreme way so to say. Moreover their kind of over-distorted vocal parts make the whole stuff really awesome. I can pick up the following killer tracks from their repertory: "Mantis", "Glass Tornado" and "Bed of Flies". Nevertheless I don't see too much potential in their songs as they just properly use the well-known arsenal of Hardcore & Death Metal styles. Then comes CONVERGE with 6 ultra crazy industrial Hardcore tunes. Their line-up features Jacob Bannon on vocals, Kurt Ballou on guitar & vocals, Aaron Dalbec on guitar & vocals, Nate Newton on bass guitar & vocals and John DiGiorgio on drums. The band presents some really fast



and technical compositions, which have been enriched by a weird dose of breaks, broken riffs, gruesome vocal parts and cacophonous atmosphere. In a word it's a kind of super original stuff. So you better check out what this 5 brains have created there. To get in touch with the band write to: CONVERGE, 432 Morris Ave, Providence, RI 02906, USA. This split CD lasts over 35 minutes and comes with a nice-looking booklet full of great artworks! E-mail: [converge13@aol.com](mailto:converge13@aol.com) Web Site: [www.hydrahead.com/converge](http://www.hydrahead.com/converge)

# ANCIENT

"Proxima Centauri" CD 2001  
(Metal Blade Records)

Hell yeah! ANCIENT is back and stronger than ever. With "Proxima Centauri" Aphazel and co. definitely managed to develop further the technical line of the previous "The Halls of Eternity" album. So to say it is the next obvious step for ANCIENT to the limitless dimensions of complexity and techniques. The line-up on this album is Aphazel (guitars, vocals, keyboards), Grom (drums & percussion), Deadly Kristin (vocals), Jesus Christ! (guitars, keyboards) and Dhillorz (bass).



After a short effect-based intro the band presents the series of their most powerful songs to date like "Proxima Centauri" (my favourite one), "The Witch", "Satan's Children", "Beyond the Realms of Insanity", "On Blackest Wings", "Eyes of the Dead", and "Incarnating the Malignant Deity" to name a few. In total there are 12 songs full of horror-like elements, thrash motivated riffs (great to notice them there), incredible soloing work, pompous yet terrifying keyboard passages and quite precise instrument handling. The wide variety of male and female vocals is also adding a big potential to the overall atmosphere. Well, if concerning the atmosphere, I should point out a close similarity to KING DIAMOND's masterworks. Of course, ANCIENT builds (interprets) those similarities into their own Black Metal style. Crushing album, no doubt! And to be honest "Proxima Centauri" is the best ANCIENT album in my opinion. I simply love it! It's so mature and impressive at the same time!

By the way, Perre made the cover from Belgium, the same guy who did "The Halls of Eternity". So it's also something to look for.

E-mail: [aphazel9@hotmail.com](mailto:aphazel9@hotmail.com)  
Web Site: [www.ancientband.com](http://www.ancientband.com)

# ANTAIOS / STIGMATIC CHORUS

"God; The Fake Artist / Waters Of Shyr" CD 2000  
(More Hate Production)

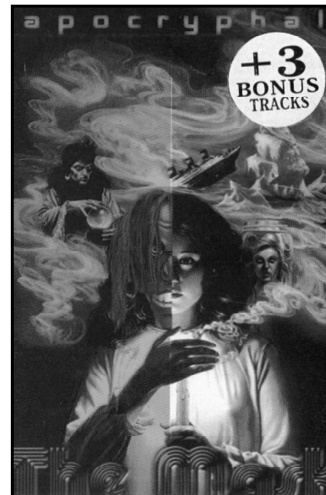
Norwegian ANTAIOS begins this split CD with four satanic Black Metal tracks. They stick to the well-known 2nd generation formula that is about the most fast & brutal interpretation of Black Metal. It's rather killer and furious so to say. However, musically not so original as it bears the marks of EMPEROR's early masterworks. If you need just another Black item to fill in your collection then check it! Band contact: ANTAIOS, P.O. Box 31, 2836 Biri, Norway. Well, the second part of this split CD contains 5 songs + intro/outro of Russian Black Metal newcomers STIGMATIC CHORUS. This 6-man band does nothing special in their repertory. The usual keyboardish DIMMU BORGIR- and C.O.F.-motivated Black Metal stuff is what awaiting you there. Of course, it was professionally produced and sounds excellent, but it's not enough today. Hey! Where is the originality? Nevertheless, as a positive thing I can mention the ultra harsh screams and a few tuneful guitar parts that are even impressed me. All in all, both bands display an average material. So now it's your turn to judge whether it is interesting for you to check this split CD out. Label contact: More Hate Production, Alex Kantemirov, P.O. Box 13, 123480 Moscow, Russia.

E-mail: [more\\_hate@mail.ru](mailto:more_hate@mail.ru)  
Web Site: [www.morehate.newmail.ru](http://www.morehate.newmail.ru)

# APOCRYPHAL

"The Mask" MC 2000  
(The Flaming Arts)

The Belarus innovators of atmospheric Death Metal have finally returned. Their new masterwork contains 7 songs of precisely executed metal art. These tracks are so interestingly composed that I am sure they will go to please any metal fans taste, especially whose hearts are beating for melodic & keyboard-filled music. On "The Mask" the line-up is: Egor Rul (guitar/vocals), Andrey Shevelenko (guitar), Vitaly Atamanchuk (bass), Kristina Kurash (keyboards) and Sergey Brovko (drums). Preferred tracks are "The Ar-ma-ged-don Day" and "The Forest". After the songs of "The Mask" there are three more tracks





# ALBUM REVIEWS

included from the band's "Bacchanalia" demo '97. It was a good idea to include them as well as these songs reflect the band's early days, when they were into a more crude type of atmospheric Death Metal. Worthy stuff! Band contact: APOCRYPHAL, c/o Sergey Brovko, Sovetskaya str. 87-226, 247500 Rechitsa, Belarus. Label contact: The Flaming Arts, Vadim Khomich, P.O. Box 40, 224023 Brest, Belarus.

E-mail: [contact@theflamingarts.com](mailto:contact@theflamingarts.com)  
Web Site: [www.theflamingarts.com](http://www.theflamingarts.com)

## ARCHAEAN HARMONY

### "Nihilist Mundane Soul" CD 2000 (Solemn Music)

Actually this is nothing else than the re-release of the band's promo '99 on CD.



Nevertheless, I think it was a good idea to release it in such way, as the four enclosed tracks are really noteworthy there. Let's see the details. Stylistically ARCHAEN HARMONY still pursues the way they initiated on their "Resentment of an Evanesce Aeon" demo '98. This way is in the progressive interpretation of dark, eastern-based melodies and ultra sophisticated guitar harmonies within the boundaries of the Black Metal style. In 30 minutes of "Nihilist Mundane Soul" they even go further and display a brilliant approach of complexity and technique. The recordings have been accomplished in form of a trio, i.e. Darkmortem (vocals & sampling), Lord Trebor (lead, rhythm, acoustic guitars, bass, orchestration & drum-programming) and Adrameleck (guitars). Meanwhile, Adriel (rhythm, acoustic guitars & drums) has replaced the latter one. OK, let's back to the music itself. "Nihilist Mundane Soul" represents us 4 diverse but very melodic Black Metal songs supported by a crystal-clear sound production. Moreover these tunes turned out in a rather thoughtful way. I mean none of them have usual song-structures or presumable changes. They simply know how to put the gist of uniqueness into their songs. And it goes mainly to everything they operate with, be it a chain of guitar riffs or some keyboard passages. In a word, you can expect just unexpected things from these guys. The only thing that doesn't changed too much is the vocal style. It remained in the direction of high-pitched shrieks and aggressive screams. If you yearn for a technical yet progressive Black Metal stuff then you're on the right place. Give it a trial and be convinced of their supreme originality! To order the CD please contact: Solemn Music, P.O. Box 8, Zurriq BPO, Malta (Europe). You can do it either by e-mail ([solemusic@hotmail.com](mailto:solemusic@hotmail.com)) or through their web site (<http://go.to/solemn>) as well.

E-mail: [darkmortem@hotmail.com](mailto:darkmortem@hotmail.com)  
Web Site: [www.darkmetal.com/archaean](http://www.darkmetal.com/archaean)

## ARISE FROM THORNS

### "Before An Audience Of Stars" CD 2001 (Dark Symphonies)

ARISE FROM THORNS plays acoustic progressive rock that is really not

my cup of tea. This five-man band created 14 special songs that aren't touch the borders of metal music at all. I would better quote some lines from the band's info sheet for the ones who might be interested in such kind of stuff. Here we go: "... Absolutely brilliant, highly melodic acoustic progressive music fronted by heavenly, powerful female vocals. Musically comparable to OCTOBER PROJECT, FAITH AND DISEASE, LACUNA COIL, SOLSTICE, etc. Rhythmic percussive instrumentals and vocal excursions that develop with symphonic keyboards and multi-tracked vocal melodies during the choruses...". Oh, and yes, in March 2000 ARISE FROM THORNS changed their name to BRAVE! For more information about BRAVE contact their website at [www.bravemusic.com](http://www.bravemusic.com) or contact their label directly at: Dark Symphonies, Box 547, Billerica, MA 01821, USA.

Web Site: [www.darksymphonies.com](http://www.darksymphonies.com)

## ASHEN LIGHT

### "Песнь Велеса" CD 2001 (More Hate Production)

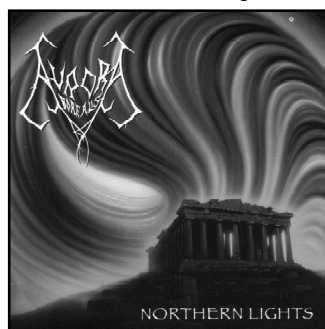
On ASHEN LIGHT's album we have a deal with folk-influenced Black Metal. Moreover their lyrics are also heathen-motivated and were written (performed) in Russian language. The band composes from Alex (acoustic, lead, rhythm guitars & keyboards), Gmur (acoustic & rhythm guitars), Vsegrad (vocals & bass), Niyan (keyboards) and Smurd (drums). There are some really great tunes among their 9-song repertoire, though their music reminded me NOKTURNAL MORTUM in general, but with a less potential & originality, of course. My advice for them: try to build something more unique and please forget the damn drum-machine it spoils the otherwise interesting feeling of the material. The ones whose are into melodic folk Black Metal can check this stuff out. Orders should be addressed to: More Hate Production, Alex Kantemirov, P.O. Box 13, 123480 Moscow, Russia.

E-mail: [ashen-light@mail.ru](mailto:ashen-light@mail.ru)  
Web Site: <http://ashen-light.bul.net>

## AURORA BOREALIS

### "Northern Lights" CD 2000 (Nightsky Productions)

Here we have the second full-length AURORA BOREALIS album that contains 8 brilliant tracks in the vein of ultra powerful Death/Black Metal. Their line-up shrivelled up to two members, namely Ron Vento (guitar/bass/vocals) and Derik Roddy (drums). Musically it follows the fast-drumming-combined-by-melodies way of "Praise the Archaic Light's Embrace" album, but content wise "Northern Lights" is more matured and varied. Songs as "Enter



the Halls" and "Images in the Night sky" are quite insane ones due to the intensity and killer speed they mix alongside, while "Draco" represents the melodic side of AURORA BOREALIS. It's full of great solos and thrash-influenced song-structure. There's also a song called "Dream God" that reminded me IRON MAIDEN here and there with its galloping guitar riffs. "Distant" ends the album perfectly, which is a ritual-like drum-based instrumental tune. To all this you should imagine an excellent sound and good packaging! Order it for \$12 from: Ron Vento, P.O.Box 1327, Clinton, MD 20735-5327, USA.

E-mail: [Aurora4dth@aol.com](mailto:Aurora4dth@aol.com)  
Web Site: [www.auroraborealis.org](http://www.auroraborealis.org)

## AUTUMN TEARS

### "Promotional Sampler Compilation" CD 2001 (Dark Symphonies)

This promo CD contains tracks from the entire AUTUMN TEARS catalogue. Stylistically AUTUMN TEARS combines the elements of dark, medieval, ambient yet neo-classical music in their 14-song repertoire. It's symphonic, orchestral and dramatic at the same time. The essential part of their music is based on different types of vocals. Sometimes it seems to me that in this kind of music the wide range of enchanting vocal parts and the foreboding poetry plays the main role and just then comes the atmospheric-like keyboard-based background that fills up them. I would say their music bears a meditative character. It is an open-minded music for open-minded people! I should say that it was a pleasure to dive, especially, into the medieval-like parts and to listen to the somber mood of these compositions. Flawless stuff! Get it from: Dark Symphonies, Box 547, Billerica, MA 01821, USA.

Web Site: [www.darksymphonies.com](http://www.darksymphonies.com)

## AVERSE SEFIRA

### "Battle's Clarion" CD 2001 (Lost Disciple Records)

The fiendish horde from Texas strikes back again! It's their second full-length album yet and at the same time their strongest release to date. On "Battle's Clarion" you can hail the following creatures of the underworld: Wrath (bass/vocals), Sanguine (guitars/vocals) and a very skilled drummer known only as the Carcass. I should say the band progressed a lot from the "Homecoming's March" debut album, both sound- and song-structure-wise. And this potential progression is due to their new drummer mainly who's actually their "first" one. He contributes with an unbelievable dose of relentless, fast and dynamic drum parts there. The 9 Black/Death tunes storm like a hurricane over the 35 minutes long material. As usual, Wrath brings his violent screeches plus the deep-roaring bass lines, while Sanguine takes care about the rasping screams and blasting mix of fiery guitar riffs. Such killer songs as the opening title track "Battle's Clarion", the blistering "Argument Obscura" or the raging "...Ablaze" will simply blow up your intestines! To increase your interest I will add here that some awesome effect-based intros and outros have supported their songs plus Jon Zig made the cover artwork. In a word, we have a deal with a supreme US Black Metal stuff! And as the info sheet quotes: "The world shall feel the wrath of

the Sephiroth!". Band contact: AVERSE SEFIRA, P.O. Box 4934, Austin, Tx. 78756-4934, USA. Label contact: Lost Disciple Records, P.O. Box 340, Winthrop, MA 02152, USA (web site: [www.lostdisciple.com](http://www.lostdisciple.com)). E-mail: [blasphomet@hotmail.com](mailto:blasphomet@hotmail.com)  
Web Site: [www.aversesefira.com](http://www.aversesefira.com)

## BENÜMB

### "Withering Strands Of Hope" CD 2000 (Relapse Records)

Are you prepared for a shocking sonic massacre? If so, then BENÜMB is ready to initiate you into the most extreme, aggressive and ferocious spheres of the so-called California-type Hardcore/Grind.



They are five, namely Pete Pontikoff (vocals), Dave Hogarth (guitar), Rob Koperski (guitar, backup vocals), Tim Regan (bass) and John Gotelli (drums). Their 32-song repertoire lasts about 25 minutes and represents a rather chaotic mix of hardcore, metal, grind and sludge elements. I would define their music as a cross between early D.R.I. and BRUTAL TRUTH materials, though the BENÜMB guys walk a more brutal path that was enriched by an incredible dose of originality and (in)sanity, especially it goes to the lyrical interpretation of the band's venomous commentary. This album will definitely make your ears bleed. And as their info-sheet says "Withering Strands Of Hope" is the soundtrack to an impending revolution and musical mutiny at its anarchistic apex. Label contact: Relapse Europe, Brüsseler str. 14, 30539 Hannover, Germany. E-mail: [Frank\\_van\\_Liempd@spv.de](mailto:Frank_van_Liempd@spv.de)  
Web Site: [www.relapse.com](http://www.relapse.com)

## BLACK SUN RECORDS

### "Catalog" CD 2000 (Black Sun Records)

This compilation sampler gives a good insight into the bands of both Black Sun Records & GNW. The CD contains 15 bands in circa 68 minutes. LENGSEL begins it with their ultra melodic Death/Thrash song "Revival" that reminded me the classic DISSECTION-like riffing in general. Although LENGSEL is open to experiments too, especially in the fields of vocal & keyboard parts. EXTOL follows them with a groovy Deathcore song "The Prodigal Son". It captures a bunch of technical riffs, good soloing and some hideous vocalizing. Then comes DIABOLIQUE's "Catholic" song with a depressive kind of Doom Metal atmosphere. The next is EBONY TEARS' "Inferno". A pure Death/Thrash song executed in the best traditions of SLAYER and AT THE GATES. It follows SINS OF OMISSION's "Reap the Storm" in the usual Gothenburg-style, i.e. melodic Death Metal with a big dose of Thrash-influences. And then comes the over-brutalized version of SEPULTURA's "Beneath the Remains" classic covered by DEFLESHED. Killer track! It continues IMPIOUS with another masterfully



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composed Death Metal tune called "Dying I Live". Going further we have SACRILEGE's "Summon the Masses" song. It's just another melodic piece from the inexhaustible Death Metal arsenal. The Death Metal attack still continues and THE CROWN's "Angels Die" shows us how merciless it should be. Well, let's see the GNW bands now. ANAEMIA starts with a kind of thrash-influenced Heavy Metal song "Enter the Illusion". Then comes Yngwie Malmsteen's "Big Foot" song in the interpretation of Chris Amott. Needless to say how innovative is it. The following performer is EVERGREY. Their "Nosferatu" song is from a brand of soft Heavy Metal tunes, though I found some cool keyboard parts in it, which are rather reminiscent of KING DIAMOND's "The Eye" era. "Dirge" is the next tune from the Thrashcore maniacs DOG FACED GODS. This is an in your face track full of powerful, energetic and yet brutal parts. The forthcoming band is BLAKK TOTEM, which is a band that Pete Blakk (ex-KING DIAMOND guitarist) uses to carve his very own legends. Their "Blooddrained" song displays a catchy Heavy Metal tune executed with a surgical precision. Nevertheless I found the vocal parts too MEGADETH-like there. The CD ends with DESTINY's "Balance of Terror". It has a great soloing included plus an OVERKILL-type of vocalizing there. Anyone interesting to get this sampler should contact the label at: Black Sun Records/GNW, P.O. Box 6294, SE-400 60 Gothenburg, Sweden.  
E-mail: blacksun@dolores.se  
Web Site: www.dolores.se/blacksun

## BRODEQUIN

### "Festival Of Death" CD 2001 (Unmatched Brutality Records)

I guess you know what to expect from this killer US band after their ultra brutal "Instruments of Torture" album. Well, I should say that they even surpassed its brutality on "Festival of Death". The trio consists of Jamie Bailey (bass/vocals), Mike Bailey (guitar/percussion) and Chad Walls (drums). The 11 featured songs deliver us a pounding mix of brutal Death Metal at its maximum level. Right from the beginning I've got a mild shock due to the skills of the drummer. Hell, I've never heard such a bulldozer-like drumming until now. It's really amazing how fast can this guy play. He's the volley-firing master of grind beats, ha-ha... To his unstoppable grinding assaults you can imagine a super technical but still brutal kind of riffing plus an extremely deep and rumble growling-style. It is what we call devastating Death Metal! Regarding the lyrical content I can say it deals mainly with historical events of the Middle Ages, e.g. inquisition, medieval tortures, etc. The sound production is less quality as on their "Instruments of Torture" album but still a crushing one. Fans of over-brutalized Death Metal should have this 31 minutes long masterpiece on their shelves. Preferred tracks: "Torches of Nero", "Blood of the Martyr" and "Gilles De Rais". Label contact: Unmatched Brutality Records, P.O. Box 12023, Knoxville, TN 37912-0023, USA.  
E-mail: unmatchedbrutality@hotmail.com  
Web Site: www.unmatchedbrutality.com

## CEPHALIC CARNAGE

### "Exploiting Dysfunction" CD 2000 (Relapse Records)

The forward-thinking Death/Grind-squad called CEPHALIC CARNAGE features Lenzig on vocals, Zac and Steve

on guitars, Jawsh on bass/vocals and last but not least John on drums. These unique creatures of the darkness have unleashed upon us one of the most infernal yet weird albums to date. I can't find the right words to explain how killer this band is. Their so-called futuristic Grindcore approach just amazed me to be honest. Mostly because they like to manipulate with elements of jazz, progressive and brutal Death Metal in their music. This allowed them to make an incredibly varied and fresh album. Moreover, they've injected these elements so properly that I am going to think it's just little fragments of the band's unlimited abilities, which will show up in a more coherent way on their future recordings.



Hyper-fast drum attacks (especially great to notice the professional sounding of the cymbals), deep and scream-like twin-vocalizing, earth-shaking sub-bass plunges and ultra technical proficiency of the guitarists are the marks of these cephalic grinders. The band works on a full-speed-ahead level so I am sure they will get the deserved recognition quite soon. Until then get this conquering piece of Brutal Death/Grind art and wait their forthcoming assault! You can contact the band at: Dysfunction Exploited, c/o The International Coalition of Rocky Mountain HydroGrind Inc., P.O. Box 140689, Edgewater, CO 80214-0689, USA.  
E-mail: CephalicCarnage@hotmail.com  
Web Site: www.cephaliccarnage.com

## CHAIN REACTION

### "Chain Reaction" MC 2000 (Metal Force Records)

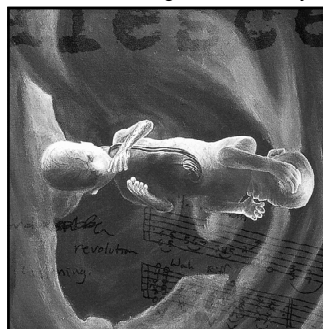
Well, this should be a die-hard Heavy Metal band from Ukraine as I remember. Indeed! CHAIN REACTION is about to mix the old great Heavy Metal sound with their own and up-to-date ideas. Just imagine the HALLOWEEN-like atmosphere added mainly with Russian lyrics, fantastic guitar soloing and soft drumming. That would be the exact formula of CHAIN REACTION. Here you can enjoy 9 songs overloaded with tons of remarkable melodies and catchy guitar riffs. The vocalist does a great work all the way. The only thing I couldn't understand why sounds this stuff so bad. A Heavy Metal band should sound loud & clear! Hope they'll be able to correct this thing in the future, because they're a promising band and that's for sure! Anyone interesting in this tape should contact the band at: CHAIN REACTION, c/o Yuriy Samarets, Proletarskaya str. 10, 50005 Krivoy Rog, Ukraine.

## COALESCE

### "0:12 Revolution In Just Listening" CD '99 (Relapse Records)

On this album you can get acquainted with an outstanding mix of groovy hardcore riffs and in-your-face vocal parts. The core

of COALESCE is James Dewees (drums, electronics), Sean Ingram (vocals), Nathan Ellis (bass) and Jes Steineger (guitars), though Larry from WORMWOOD helped them out with a bunch of great backup vocals too. The band takes a big emphasis on ferocity and aggression. They involved lots of modern electronics and extravagant effects there to lay stress on their unique hardcore approach. Sure this approach features the well-known motives and elements of the old good Hardcore style,



but has been developed and interpreted in a new way. I would say in a more brutal and revolutionary way. Well, there are 9 brain-crushing tunes packed in circa 24 minutes. So you can expect a short but effective brain-damaging procedure! A must for Hardcore fans! Contact band members at: COALESCE, P.O. Box 11543, KC, MO 64138, USA (e-mail: daskew@gni.com or shigram@aol.com). Label contact: Relapse Europe, Brüsseler str. 14, 30539 Hannover, Germany.  
E-mail: Frank\_van\_Liempd@spv.de  
Web Site: www.relapse.com

## CONTAMINATED 3.0

### "Sampler" 2CD 2000 (Relapse Records)

Relapse Records' 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary sampler has arrived. It features 2 CDs and over 154 minutes of excellent extreme music. Anyone in the metal scene should know that this label works with extraordinary and brutal bands exclusively. Disc One represents the label's actual bands. So there are songs from such acts as NILE, ORIGIN, DYING FETUS (Previously unreleased version of "Pissing in the Mainstream" track. Killer one!), CEPHALIC CARNAGE, INCANTATION, EXHUMED (w/ 2 songs), NASUM (w/ 2 songs), NEUROSIS (unreleased track), THE DILLINGER ESCAPE PLAN (w/ 2 songs), TODAY IS THE DAY (w/ one unreleased track out of 2), COALESCE, DECEASED, AMORPHIS (unreleased track), SOILENT GREEN, BURNT BY THE SUN (unreleased track), LUDDITE CLONE, PIG DESTROYER (unreleased track), BENÜMB (w/ 2 songs), AGORAPHOBIC NOSEBLEED (w/ 2 previously unreleased songs), REGURGITATE, VILE (w/ a quite blasting unreleased demo



track), MORTICIAN, BONGZILLA and BRUTAL TRUTH. Then we have Disc Two with the excerpts from Relapse's past releases and bands. It contains songs of BRUTAL TRUTH, INCANTATION, NILE, MORGION, AMORPHIS (2 songs), MINDROT, NEUROSIS, UNSANE, NEBULA, MORTICIAN, BLOOD DUSTER, HUMAN REMAINS, DISRUPT, PHOBIA, FLESH PARADE, ANAL CUNT, GENERAL SURGERY, SUFFOCATION, EXIT-13 and DISEMBOWELMENT. I am sure that with this double CD sampler anyone can get an exhaustive insight to Relapse's past and present activities. The chosen ones can conclude even the future from Disc One. Check out! Contact: Relapse Europe, Brüsseler str. 14, 30539 Hannover, Germany.  
E-mail: Frank\_van\_Liempd@spv.de  
Web Site: www.relapse.com

## CONTRABANDA

### "100% Hate" CD '99 (Moon Records)

This 4-piece Hardcore act trying to become the Ukrainian FEAR FACTORY or SEPULTURA, but their music is too weak to pretend to the beforehand mentioned though. Well, you'll get nine songs in the vein of nowadays-popular modern Hardcore style. Unfortunately, there's really nothing to listen to there. The sound is good, but when the last song comes to an end I don't have much desire to hear it again. Let's the modern Hardcore fans price it. Label contact: Moon Records, P.O. Box 104, 03062 Kiev, Ukraine.  
E-mail: mail@moonrec.kiev.ua

## CORVUS CORAX

### "The Atavistic Triad" CD 2000 (Dark Symphonies)

This band has successfully developed and maintained its own monumental sound rightly in its debut album. "The Atavistic Triad" composes of 5 extra long tracks, which should be called "original" in the deepest sense of the word. Slow, atmospheric yet symphonic-based Black Metal is what waiting for you in these finely worked out tracks. Their music in general can be comprehensible as a motion picture; the themes are united into one another creating a limitless unity of melodies and majestic overtones. Can you hear them? The Ravens of the battlefield... Scream!!! Order this circa 45 minutes long extraordinary album from: Dark Symphonies, Box 547, Billerica, MA 01821, USA.  
Web Site: www.darksymphonies.com

## CRYPTHOWL

### "Tragedies Beheld By The Cemetery" MC 2000 (Oupiric Productions)

The time has come for another CRYPTHOWL stuff. So the vampire story continues... This new release shows a significant step in the band's career. Oupiric (mastermind, vocals, bass, keyboards & drum programming) decided to add a guitar player (his name is Mertvets) to the line-up. This choice was definitely a good one. Now CRYPTHOWL's music is more metal and yet brutal compared to the promo '97, where no distorted guitars were used. But on the other side, with the addition of guitars their music became quite similar to CRADLE OF FILTH in general. My prophecy proved true (see Issue #2). However, I prefer this kind of CRYPTHOWL over the old one and see a big potential in the new songs. So the progression is evident. And what's more, the tape features an incredible coverversion



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of DEATH's "Evil Dead" song. Did you ever experience a DEATH song with keyboards? Check it and you'll be pleased for sure. Other remarkable tracks are "Betrothed to a Witch", "Hanged amidst the Graves" and "Axe, Gore and Thy Awful Charms". The seductive female vocals were divided amongst Eugenia and Irena. There are 8 songs into atmospheric horror metal in total. All in all, if you like CRADLE OF FILTH then you'll surely content with "Tragedies..." too. The MC cover contains some really bloody pictures and horror-like stories. You can get this MC from: Oupiric Productions, Michael Nickolayev, P.O. Box 340, 248002 Kaluga-02, Russia. E-mail: oupiric@mail.ru Web Site: www.oupiric.narod.ru

## C.S.S.O. / HAIMORITH "Split" MC '97 (DAC Productions)

I am sure most of you are familiar with the Japan Grindcore squad C.S.S.O. and their ultra crazy materials. "Excerations '93 - '97 for beginners" includes 18 tracks from different periods of the band's history. You will get a bunch of rare stuff. I mean unreleased tracks, extra re-mixes, live songs and yet a cover of the famous RIGHTEOUS PIGS. If you are a fan of fast, chaotic and perverse grindcore stuff, that's it! Moreover, it has an awesome atmosphere with good sound quality. The other side features Ukrainian HAIMORITH and their Noisecore opus called "Gaudeamus". The members are Dunja (vocals, guitar) & Iris (drums). There are 8 songs into this style. But to be honest the guitar sound isn't impressed me a lot. It reminded me more the Norwegian-type of chainsaw guitar sound. I can say the same for the vocal parts, which are the usual high-pitched screams. Nevertheless, it is a decent material, but a bit under-produced unfortunately. Finally, I have to add that they covered a song of BLOOD as well, namely "Dogmatize". Enough said! Check it out! Label contact: DAC Productions, Dmitriy Lychagin, P.O. Box 772, 01034 Kyiv-34, Ukraine. E-mail: info@dacproductions.com Web Site: www.dacproductions.com

## CUMDEO "The Threads Of Imagination" MC '99 (R.I.P. Productions)

This Russian six-piece plays enchanting Doom Metal in the finest sense of the word. It was great to find out that there remained some bands cultivating this

forgotten style these days. CUMDEO is one of them. And what's more, they're really capable to create memorable tunes all the way. They managed to get a surprisingly good sound for their 8-song repertory. If you search for an album full of emotions, melodious guitar links and depressive vocals in the TIAMAT way, then it's surely for you. Don't miss this excellent album. It was released on both CD & MC as well! Band contact: Alexander Ivanov, Komsomolskaya str. 11, 214033 Smolensk, Russia. Label contact: R.I.P. Productions, Vladimir Korolenko, P.O. Box 72, 214004 Smolensk, Russia. E-mail: vladkorolenko@mail.ru

## DEEDS OF FLESH "Path Of The Weakening" CD 2000 (Erebus Productions)

Brutal, more brutal and yet more brutal. It should be the secret key for DEEDS OF FLESH's unbroken carrier. Their music has been always in progress, but never left the borders of Brutal Death Metal. Sure the ones who follow the band's discography will definitely find some significant changes since their "Gradually Melted" stuff. But I can assure you those ones are all in a positive way. So it's more than evident that with "Path of the Weakening" you'll get another ultra brutal, technical and kick in the ass Death Metal album. The quartet - Erik Lindmark (guitar & vocals), Jacoby Kingston (bass & vocals), Jim Tkacz (guitar) and Joey Heaslet (drums) - plays even faster & more sophisticated as on the previous "Inbreeding the Anthropophagi" album. Nine hyper-fast grinding Death Metal tracks awaiting you in circa 32 minutes. This is a flawless album with outstanding musicianship! Preferred tracks: "Indigenous to the Appalling (Mutinuous Human)" and "Sense of the Diabolic". Band contact: DEEDS OF FLESH, P.O. Box 6544, Los Osos, CA 93412, USA. You can get this album through: Erebus Productions, P.O. Box C8, 01001 Žilina, Slovakia (e-mail: belobrad@za.net.sk; web site: www.erebusproductions.com). E-mail: deeds@uniqueleader.com Web Site: www.deedsofflesh.com

## DEFLECTED SENSE "Commentaries At The Edge Of Abyss" CD '99 (Moon Records)

This CD contains 8 tracks of the Kharkiv-based Deathcore act, DEFLECTED SENSE. Musically this trio, - Sergey Ustavshikov (vocals, drum parts), Oleg Dvorcheny (bass) and Denis Zubarev (guitar), - is about the experimental & progressive interpretation of Death Metal. They mix a lot of modern and industrial elements in their 38 minutes long repertory. The production is really strong and polished. Riff-structure-wise it blends a groovy and here and there sophisticated formulation of brutal and extreme music. I should also point out the musical influences herein. They were definitely influenced by FEAR FACTORY, MACHINE HEAD and latest ATROCITY materials. So if you're searching for a great stuff in this way then it's for you. Order it from Moon Records: P.O. Box 104, 03062 Kiev, Ukraine. E-mail: mail@moonrec.kiev.ua

## DEMENTOR "Enslave The Weak" CD 2001 (Osmose Productions)

Finally out the 4<sup>th</sup> album of Slovakian Death Metal masters, DEMENTOR. In its

rows you can greet the following persons: René Blahušiak (guitar/vocals), Roman Calpas (guitar), Miro "Kerut" Kucej (bass) & Milos "Holloshman" Hornak (drums).



"Enslave the Weak" combines 9 anti-christian tracks in the most brutal and uncompromising way of Death Metal. Dealing with fast double bass attacks, complex guitar riffs, clear bass lines and fantastically structured tunes they present us a mature and an incredibly killer masterpiece. Of course, it has those characteristic riffs they dealt on their previous albums "The Art of Blasphemy" and "Kill the Thought on Christ" with. Anyway, this album provides more tricks and technical solutions. Just listen to the ultra fast title track and the great over-brutalized "Opposites Beyond Eternity" song. Sometimes they even slow down for a while, for example in songs like "Feeding the Fire" and "Inverted Darkness". I should also take a note about the precisely worked out solos, which, on the one hand, come in a rather melodious way and, on the other hand, in a very crazy interpretation. As for René's vocal parts I can surely say he managed to put them to a really brutal level on "Enslave the Weak". The only thing I dislike a bit here goes to the overall mix, especially to the bad balance between the double basses and cymbals. Nevertheless, I can wholeheartedly recommend you this piece of blasphemous art. Check it! It's worth of every Death Metal fans interest! By the way, actually it was out on vinyl format as well. So please contact their label or get in touch with the band directly at: DEMENTOR, c/o René Blahušiak, Vajanského 154, 020 01 Púchov, Slovakia. E-mail: dementor@stonline.sk Web Site: www.dementor.sk

## DEMIMONDE "Mutant Star" CD 2000 (Epidemie Records)

DEMIMONDE belongs to the always-experimenting type of bands. On "Mutant Star" the following members took place: Tanyya (vocals), Jacob (vocals, guitar), Ankhathuth (lead guitar, programming), Afagddu (bass, programming), D'aven (keyboards) and Bizzaro (drums). This well-skilled musicianship doesn't feared to involve as much as possible extravagant elements into their basic Death/Black/Doom stuff. Those weird ingredients are ranging from progressive, industrial, electronic and computerized things to avantgarde, jazz and yet fusion-like patterns. The core of their 5-song album (over 43 minutes) follows the well-beaten path of the debut "The Warrior's Poets" material. And with this new super-innovative piece of art they even surpassed it. So to say it's another important step ahead in the band's career. Such great songs

as the fast grind-motivated "The Orphan and the Demimondaine" or the well-guessed "Black Ring Theatre" just made this fact more evident to me. The CD has an interactive part as well, which includes the full version of "The Warrior's Poets" album plus lots of other cool things as video clips, photo gallery, lyrics & infos regarding both albums, etc. In a word this CD is something outstanding that you should check out right off! Band contact: Pavel Pavlik (Bizzaro), Habova 10, Praha 5, 155 00, Czech republic (e-mail: bizzaro@atlas.cz). Label contact: Epidemie Records, Martin Čech, P.O. Box 5, 396 01 Humpolec, Czech republic. E-mail: epidemie@post.cz Web Site: http://epidemie.webpark.cz

## DENIAL OF GOD "The Ghouls Of DOG" MC 2000 (Oupiric Productions)

Hailing from Denmark DENIAL OF GOD stands for the evilst form of raw Black Metal in their 8-song repertory. There are 4 old songs (from 1996) and 4 new ones (from 2000) featured there. Nowadays the band gathers 4 evil souls in its rows, namely Azter (ghoul's gore), Isaz (black bewitchment), Ustumallagam (eerie invocations) & R. Salskov (drums). The band mixes a minimal amount of riffs per songs to get a proper sound for their bestial attack. Also great to notice that this band instead of using all the usual modern things tries to stick to the old-school path of Black Metal. They really know how to make it right, believe me. There are two well-played cover songs enclosed as well,



the famous MAYHEM track "Funeral Fog" and DEATH SS' "Terror". Further comments are needless. Destroying Black Metal stuff for black hearts only! Contact the band at one of the following addresses: c/o Ustumallagam, Noerager 10C, 1. mf., DK-6400 Soenderborg, Denmark (e-mail: ghouls@get2net.dk) or c/o Azter, Joergensgaard 49B, 1.-4, DK-6400 Soenderborg, Denmark (e-mail: vampyr@get2net.dk). E-mail: oupiric@mail.ru Web Site: www.oupiric.narod.ru

## DER GERWELT / NARGATHROND "Split" CD 2000 (More Hate Production)

DER GERWELT opens the CD with 5 unholy Black Metal pieces. Chainsaw-like guitar sound, dark keyboard melodies, acoustic guitar passages and painful yet tormenting screams are the characteristic lines of their music. I won't say it's an unordinary Black stuff, though there's a definite old-school black spirit invoked there. Due to it their music is enjoyable and



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presents a war-like attitude as it was used to be in the old good times. Besides Ixxaander Duke (screams, guitars) and Aarbreck (acoustic & rhythm guitars) there were two guest musicians involved there as well, namely Mr. Shirl on bass & drums programming from TALES OF DARKNORD and Baal on keyboards & piano. Evil, outrageous Black Metal material in the best traditions! Band contact through More Hate Production. It follows NARGATHROND with its ambient-like 10-song symphony, called "Carnal Lust and Wolfen Hunger". Lazar of ROSSOMAHAAR responsible for all the music & instruments used there, while Herr Stalhammar (VAE SOLIS Webmagazine) brings the lyrical content to them. Synthetic keyboard-dominant music is what awaits you there. Masterfully arranged, classically influenced, professionally executed and still reminiscent of some Black Metal atmosphere here and there. Maybe it appears because of the wide range of vocals that tend from clear vocals to black screeches. Fans of funeral-like, doom-oriented ambient music should take a probe with NARGATHROND! Band contact: NARGATHROND, P.O. Box 52, 115597 Moscow, Russia. Get this interesting split CD from: More Hate Production, Alex Kantemirov, P.O. Box 13, 123480 Moscow, Russia.  
E-mail: stalhammar@mtu-net.ru  
Web Site: www.nargathrond.da.ru

## DISGORGE

### "She Lay Guttred" CD 2000 (Erebos Productions)

"She Lay Guttred" features 9 sick tracks from California's most brutal Death/Grind horde DISGORGE. No doubt that the quartet - Matti Way (vocals), Diego Sanchez (guitar), Ben Marlin (bass) and Ricky Myers (drums) - don't waste the time throughout their 25 minutes long repertoire as they just storm with an inhuman speed all the way. Devastating drumming, technical yet energetic riffing and deep as hell guttural-growling are the marks of this album. If you like unrestrained gore grind attacks then this brutal piece of art will definitely please your taste. In grind we trust! Preferred tracks: "Sodomize the Bleeding" and "Womb Full of Scabs". Band contact: DISGORGE, 1341 East Valley Park Way, PMB #215, Escondido, CA 92027, USA. Label contact: Erebos Productions, P.O. Box C8, 01001 Zilina, Slovakia.  
E-mail: disgorge@home.com  
Web site: www.uniqueleader.com

## DJ VASJA

### "69 Papuga Remixiv" MC '97 (DAC Productions)

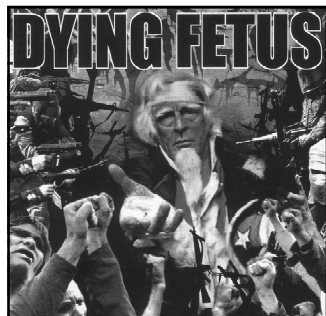
At once, I should point out that this stuff is definitely not my cup of tea. Monotonous noise spiced with distorted sounds and ambient-like parts are the marks of this one-man project. There are 4 tracks that feature re-mixes of LULL, DXT and Bill Laswell. I can't really say more about this material. Let the noise/ambient fans price it! By the way, this release is dedicated to all true karate film freaks! Label contact: DAC Productions, Dmitriy Lychagin, P.O. Box 772, 01034 Kyiv-34, Ukraine.  
E-mail: info@dacproductions.com  
Web Site: www.dacproductions.com

## DYING FETUS

### "Destroy The Opposition" CD 2000 (Relapse Records)

The masters of raging brutality strike back with an ultimate blend of Death Metal,

Hardcore and Grind in their 4<sup>th</sup> album to date. The quartet - John Gallagher (guitar/vocals), Jason Netherton (bass/vocals), Sparky Voyles (guitar) and Kevin Talley (drums) - displays an unbelievably high technical virtuosity and proficiency during their 8-song repertory. You can bump there into amazingly executed complex drum attacks, ultra sophisticated & broken-type guitar riffs, roaring bass lines and quite low-grunt-type of vocal parts. They just bring you the most creative, energetic, intense and innovative patterns ever. Thus placing their kind of extreme music to an unbeaten level.



These guys can get the shit out from your intestines in a couple of seconds, ha-ha... "Destroy the Opposition" will definitely make you a fan of this uncompromising Death Metal band and with time you'll crave for more and more releases from them. Death Metal highlight of 2000! Order it right now from: Relapse Europe, Brüsseler str. 14, 30539 Hannover, Germany (web site: www.relapse.com). For other releases and merchandise from DYING FETUS contact: Blunt Force Records, 921 Blue Ridge Drive, Annapolis, Maryland, 21401, USA (e-mail: bluntforce@aol.com).  
E-mail: dyngfts@aol.com  
Web Site: http://dyingfetus.com

## DYSANCHELY

### "Songs Of Sorrow" MC 2000 (Oupiric Productions)

This MC contains DYSANCHELY's promo '99 (5 songs) along with 3 songs from their debut album "Tears". Really varied stuff to be honest. Just imagine a strong Doom Metal basis mixed up with lots of innovative Death/Black things and you'll get the musical formula of DYSANCHELY. It's full of great melodies, vocal-harmonies (from blackish shrieks to enchanting female voices), catchy guitar riffs and precise drum-work. Their musicianship looks as follows: Lojzo Horak (vocals), Nela Horvathova (vocals), Alena Pichlerova (vocals), Dodo Zachar (guitar), Milos Kosak (guitar), Brano Glinda (bass) and Milan Lux (drums). Yeah, it's a huge band. Nevertheless, the music counts and it's well done. In my opinion the best songs are "Songs of Sorrow", "Trembling" and the cover of KISS' "God of Thunder". By the way, the latter one comes in a rather good way and shows the band's seriousness towards such things. To all this add a fantastic sound and note that the tape comes with a pro-done color cover, lyrics, photo, etc. Band contact through: Michal Gonda, Sucháckova 7-39, 03601 Martin, Slovakia.  
E-mail: oupiric@mail.ru  
Web Site: www.oupiric.narod.ru

## EMBOLISM

### "...And We All Hate Ourselves" CD 2000 (Erebos Productions)

I can definitely tell here that music-wise EMBOLISM has been strongly influenced by early CARCASS & NAPALM DEATH

albums. They accomplished 15 songs by the well-known formula of the above bands there. They offer us 36 minutes non-stop grindcore assault, but unfortunately without anything remarkable. I've heard this kind of approach a couple of times, for example GENERAL SURGERY does it better at that time. Nevertheless, I can advise this CD to anyone who's into old CARCASS albums circa 1988-1991 era. The album comes with a fantastic sound quality and a well-guessed painting of Salvador Dali. Band contact: EMBOLISM, c/o Michal Kotrik, Športová 205/1, 972 17 Kanianka, Slovakia (e-mail: embolismsk@hotmail.com). Label contact: Erebos Productions, P.O. Box C8, 01001 Zilina, Slovakia.  
E-mail: belobrad@za.netax.sk  
Web site: www.erebosproductions.com

## ERYTROS

### "Delight" CD 2000 (Metal Age Productions)

Slovakian ERYTROS plays superb kind of brutal Death Metal in CANNIBAL CORPSE's classical "The Bleeding" vein. The four sickened members - Stano (vocals/guitar), Marek (bass), Jozef (drums) and Peter (guitar) - composed eight blasting Death Metal tunes, which are undoubtedly able to rip every inch of you. I would say it's intense and energetic at the same time.



Most of the songs have quite powerful riffs laid upon the grinding drum parts. To all these you can imagine a merciless vocalizing that reminded me a bit Sylvain's style (ex-KATAKLYSM). In a word, it's a warmly recommended stuff for all the brutal Death Metal freaks. Preferred tracks: "Broken Orgasm", "Suffocate". Band contact: c/o Stano Lastivka, Ludmanská 3, 040 01 Kosice, Slovakia. Label contact: Metal Age Productions, P.O. Box 42, 038 61 Vrútky, Slovakia.  
E-mail: metal.age@stonline.sk  
Web Site: www.metalage.sk

## EVIL INCARNATE

### "Blackest Hymns Of God's Disgrace" CD 2000 (Deathgasm Records)

The new blasphemous anthem of EVIL INCARNATE has been revealed at last. The band's line-up shrank to a trio. So now you can hail the following evil souls there: Mike Eisenhauer (bass & vocals), Rob Rigney (guitar) and Andy Vehnekamp (drums). Their album contains 10 christerishing Death Metal songs and a melodious acoustic-guitar-motivated intro. I should say this time their compositions got a more brutal, groovy and destroying character as on their "Blood of the Saints" CD plus there's a great improvement regarding the overall sound production too. "Blackest Hymns of God's Disgrace" sounds really killer and fat so to say. The trio mainly deals

with mid-paced and catchy riffs (see "Satanic Victory" or "Legions of Christian Pigs" for example), but sometimes they switch over to fast storming grind parts, like in "Strike the Earth with Bloodshed". The album lasts about 31 minutes and delivers you a pure devastating Death Metal assault with the vilest atmosphere ever! Praise the Satanic Death Metal Victory or be cursed forever! EVIL INCARNATE contact: Mike Eisenhauer, 2811 Eshcol #3, Zion, IL 60099, USA (e-mail: evilmike666@hotmail.com). Label contact: Deathgasm Records, P.O. Box 681415, Marietta, GA 30068, USA.  
E-mail: deathgasm@hotmail.com  
Web Site: http://come.to/deathgasm

## EXHUMED

### "Slaughtercult" CD 2000 (Relapse Records)

There are 3 bloodthirsty maniacs in the maggots colony called EXHUMED. They are Matt Harvey (goresaw and deathroar), Col Jones (corpseblaster) and Mike Beams (electric exorcist and ribcage rupture). Their new work "Slaughtercult" contains 13 songs into the sickest gore Death Metal ever. These guys will inflict you by their unstoppable grinding assault, devastating guitar riffs and blood-curdling lyrical conception. The blood is something special for them, I would say it's the main elixir of EXHUMED, which dominates everywhere, be it the cover, the lyrics or the image. Music- and sound-wise I hear a Swedish influence on "Slaughtercult". Maybe it's due to the blood-poisoned hands of Mieszko Talarczyk from NASUM. I can compare their music to the early DISMEMBER and ENTOMBED albums, though a big CARCASS influence is also appropriate here. Nevertheless, EXHUMED created a remarkable Death/Grind stuff that features lots of cool ass-kicking moments. Get this sanguinary CD or be infested by worms forever!



The ones who crave for more information on this great band should visit the band's official website at: www.vacantgrave.com! Label contact: Relapse Europe, Brüsseler str. 14, 30539 Hannover, Germany.  
E-mail: Frank\_van\_Liempd@spv.de  
Web Site: www.relapse.com

## FAERGHAIL

### "Where Angels Dwell No More" CD 2001 (The LSP-Company)

Do you like melodic Black/Death Metal with a big dose of symphonic orchestration? If so, FAERGHAIL surely deserves your attention. Its members are Jussi Ranta (vocals & synths), Tuomas Murtojarvi (lead, rhythm & acoustic guitars), Petri Moioio (rhythm & bass guitars) and Tomi Kangassalo (drums). Well, there are 10 well-composed tunes performed in the most melodic way you can just imagine. The vocal parts reminded me early Dani (C.O.F.) style a bit, because of the raw & extreme approaches they have. Guitar-riff-wise I can say both guitarists



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bring rather thoughtfully structured riffs with a definite thrash touch. They also managed to create a powerful sound for them. The drum parts were precisely carried off and mainly deal with galloping double bass formulae. My favorite songs are "Strife for Blood" and the aptly titled "Faergail (Where Angels Dwell No More)". It can be obtained for US\$14 (or 14 euro) at the following address: The LSP-Company, Antwerpsesteenweg 106, 2350 Vosselaar, Belgium. Band contact: FAERGHAIL, PL 52, 32701 Huittinen, Finland.  
E-mail: faergail@hotmail.com  
Web Site: <http://listen.to/faergail>

## FESTERGUTS

### "Bloodsoaked" MC 2000 (Oupiric Productions)

This re-release contains FESTERGUTS' "Bloodsoaked" MC '98 (4 songs) plus 3 new bonus tracks. The members behind this infernal Death/Black creation were Michael Nickolayev (vocals/bass), Sergey Vasiliev (guitars, drum programming) and Olga Mitronkina (vocals). Musically there's a big dose of CRADLE OF FILTH in their music (especially in the first 4 songs). But FESTERGUTS don't fear to operate with more brutal things (like ultra deep growls, insane grinding drum attacks, roaring bass and weird keyboard lines to name a few) and that attitude makes their music more original. This kind of originality appears in majority of their songs, but the 3 new ones signify it the best. I should say song-structure-wise these new songs are a bit different from the first 4 and maybe that caused such a big progression in my opinion. For example "Lascivious Necropsy", being one of the best songs, brings some really old-school riffing, while the melodies of the keyboard parts reminded me rather good ASPHYX's mighty track, called "The Rack". The last 2 tracks have this special 80s atmosphere as well, but interpreted in the modern way of Brutal Death/Black Metal. Recommended stuff! The MC comes with a pro-done color cover. Contact the band at: Sergey Vasiliev, Nikitina 81/166, 248003 Kaluga, Russia.

E-mail: festerguts@mail.ru  
Web Site: [www.oupiric.narod.ru](http://www.oupiric.narod.ru)

## FORMAT C\

### "Deviloading" MC 2001 (Metal Force Records)

The band claims that they play "true & evil dance metal". Maybe these are the right words for the 10 tracks of "Deviloading". However, their music reminded me more the nowadays-popular modern Electro/industrial bands' attitude with a big dose of hardcore influences. It is all the rage now and I don't like such materials, so I better left this question open for the fans of the aforementioned styles. At the end, I list you the members of FORMAT C\ Here they are: Leshiy (vocals), Pritool (guitars, drums programming, and other digital shit), Hoboth (guitars), Gosha (bass) and Karlsson (drums). To order this cyber hardcore material you should contact: Metal Force Records, P.O. Box 94, 50102 Kryvyi Rig, Ukraine.  
E-mail: thilk@mail.ru  
Web Site: [www.geocities.com/thilk\\_ua](http://www.geocities.com/thilk_ua)

## GOTHIC SKY

### "Believe In Death... Now Forever" MC 2000 (Oupiric Productions)

This Russian 6-man formation plays slow, emotional and keyboard-filled Doom Metal in their 11 songs. The members are

Mary Sklyadneva (vocals), Grey Buddance (guitar), Demon Tampletone (guitar, vocals), Slow (bass), El Malicen (keys) and Dep Izzy (drums, lead vocals). They operate with lots of gothic and black things as well, but unfortunately these things don't make their music extraordinary at all. You can listen to usual female vocals, 1000 times heard guitar riffs and cliché keyboard tunes there. Boring material so to say. I don't see any perspectives for this band even if the musicianship shows some potential and skillful attitude during the compositions. Let the doom fans price it! Band contact: c/o Andrew Izmaylov, Avtozavodskaya str. 8-3, 393740 Michurinsk, Tambov region, Russia. Label contact: Oupiric Productions, Michael Nickolayev, P.O. Box 340, 248002 Kaluga-02, Russia.  
E-mail: gothic\_sky@chat.ru  
Web Site: [www.oupiric.narod.ru](http://www.oupiric.narod.ru)

## GRENOUER

### "Gravehead" MC '99 (Sound Age Productions)

The second album of GRENOUER pleasantly surprised me. The four guys – Sergey Lyalin (drums), Viatcheslav Koltchin (bass), Andrew "The Indian" Merzlyakov (vocals/occasional keyboards/acoustic guitar) and Alexander Schatov (guitar/acoustic guitar) – turned their ordinary Death Metal music into a more cohesive, brutal, melodic and yet progressive way.



They deliver 9 songs of polished, blasting Death Metal with uncanny keyboard passages and thoroughly executed vocal parts. I should say, on "Gravehead", they reached a very strong production there! The guitar parts come in a really neck-breaking interpretation (I can describe 'em as a flow of intense energy per melody), the bass sounds clear, while the drums storm like a hurricane all the way. GRENOUER are doubtlessly one of the best Russian Death Metal bands these days! Buy this masterpiece! Preferred tracks: "Conversing the Dolt", "Alone in the Dark" (great acoustic tune) and "Salt of Mayhem". GRENOUER official band contact: Sergey Lyalin, P.O. Box 631, 614023 Perm-23, Russia.

## GRENOUER

### "The Odour O'Folly" CD 2001 (Blacksmith/More Hate Productions)

People always say that the 3<sup>rd</sup> album is the most important album in a band's career, as it defines the band's own style in general. Well, for GRENOUER maybe it was their second one, i.e. "Gravehead",

'cause on the new album they combine a fairly CARCASS-motivated Death Metal stuff with lots of DISMEMBER-like guitar riffs and quite similar guitar sounding too. Regarding the overall sound production I have to say it was executed well again and sounds perfect. Music-wise these 9 songs have a groovy yet mid-paced basis, but as usual you can hear some grinding parts as well. I would say on this album the band experimented more as earlier and that's why it is not so outstanding as their "Gravehead" album. Anyway it's worth of interest. I can warmly advise this album to the ones who like the Swedish type of Death Metal and also to the ones whose are into unordinary things (as this album features an A-HA cover version). Band contact: c/o Andrew (the Indian) Merzlyakov, Vizhaiskaia str. 12-40, 614033 Perm, Russia.  
E-mail: vladushka86@mail.ru  
Web site: <http://grenouer.narod.ru>

## HERESIARH

### "Mythical Beasts And Mediaeval Warfare" CD 2000 (Demolition Records)

"Mythical Beasts..." is the opening chapter for the Latvian Dragon Metal band – HERESIARH. Their 62 minutes long (11 tracks) repertory truly reminded me a war-like atmosphere that builds up from the components of symphonic, epic yet black-influenced Heavy Metal. The 6-piece band managed to inject some medieval mood as well as some extraordinary parts to their material. Also interesting to notice the dominance of the female vocals over the male ones. I, specially, like when a band trying to create something of its own, though here we have more of the so-called image innovations than the musical ones in general. If they could improve this proportion in the future (by adding more perspectives to the music) then HERESIARH would surely become an original band. Nevertheless,



"Mythical Beasts..." hides some worth to check parts. So fans of medieval music or as they call 'Dragon Metal' are encouraged to order this album right now. Band contact: HERESIARH, c/o J. Balodis, Zemites 2, LV-1002 Riga, Latvia. Label contact: Demolition Records, P.O. Box 62, Jarrow, NE38 5WJ, England.

E-mail: heresiarh@lords.com  
Web Site: <http://turn.to/dragon.metal>

## HERRIOT

### "Celestial Obelisk" MCD 2000 (Psychic Scream Entertainment)

Malaysian HERRIOT presents 4 songs in the most melodious Heavy-influenced Death Metal way you can imagine. Loads of melodies, catchy guitar riffs, fine twin guitar solos and excellent sound quality are the trademarks of HERRIOT. The band

composes of Chen (vocals), Adlan (lead guitar), Joe Sarcast (2<sup>nd</sup> lead guitar), Chop Chaosblood (rhythm guitar), Afzat (bass) and Azim (drums). Yeah there are 3 guitar players as in the mighty IRON MAIDEN.



Needless to say that musically they influenced them the most along with the Swedish IN FLAMES. Fans of melodic Death Metal will surely price this stuff! Go and get it right away! Contact HERRIOT at: 62A, Jln. PSK 1, Pekan Simpang Kuala, 05400 Alor Setar, Kedah, Malaysia.  
E-mail: Herriot@asia.com

## HORDE OF WORMS

### "Dreams And Dying Eyes" CD '99 (Bloodbucket Productions)

Hey, the worms have returned and attack again! Their 2<sup>nd</sup> full-length album features 9 hyper-fast Death/Grind tunes in about 25 minutes. The horde combines from the forces of Chris Stepniewski (vocals), Alexander Erhardt (guitars/battery), Brent Assoun (guitars/battery) and Gord McCubbin (bass). They follow the well-guessed path of their debut album and yet developed it to a more aggressive and brutal way. The guitarists as usually bring an incredible dose of ripping riffs and insane solos to which you should imagine blistering drum parts and ultra sick screams/growls. The band works on a full-speed-ahead level so you won't have the time to relax or to take a normal breath during their dreadful chain of songs. The frenzied music of these Canadian guys will simply make your brains bleed and will leave your mind incurable. Unfortunately, the drums still sound rather mechanic even if they fit very well to the music in general. I think the time has come for the worms to fill in the drummer's place in their line-up.



Meanwhile I warmly recommend you to check this brutal Death/Grind stuff out. With this release they will definitely rise high the flag of their so-called Canadian Blast Metal! Preferred tracks: "Sweet Skinned Angels", "Holocryptic Passages" and "Firestorm". Contact HORDE OF WORMS at: c/o Bloodbucket Productions, 1 Anglesey Blvd., Suite B, Islington, Ontario, Canada, M9A 3B2.

E-mail: bloodbucketproductions@hotmail.com  
Web Site: [http://members.tripod.com/~WORM\\_3/index2.htm](http://members.tripod.com/~WORM_3/index2.htm)

# HORDE OF WORMS

**"Wormageddon" MCD 2000**  
(Bloodbucket Productions)

The worms get back with a 4-song revenge! Actually there are only 3 new songs plus a 2000 version of their old track "Dead", which was taken from their self-titled debut album. On this MCD you can also greet their new vocalist, whose contribution just increased the gruesome power of the worms. So the line-up looks like this: Peter Cythrawl (lead vokills & throat violence), Alexander Erhardt (guitars, backing vocals, programming), Brent Assoun (guitars, backing vocals) and Gord McCubbin (bass). Let's analyze their songs.



"Immortal Coil" opens the massacre with fast, pulverizing drum attacks, storming guitar riffs, thundering bass lines and ultra sick twin vocals. It follows "Under Blood Red Skies". The vocals remained as sick as possible, but song-structure-wise we have more melodies and rhythm-changes there. Then comes the title track "Wormageddon". It represents some really awesome drum parts, raging guitar riffs and very deep guttural growls. And finally there's "Dead (v.2000)" that reserves plenty of surprises too. I mean they changed here and there the drum parts plus increased the overall speed and intensity there. Moreover, after a few minutes of silence you can dive into a ritualistic, horror-like and effect-based outro as well. That should be a kind of experiment I guess. Killer stuff in a word! Sound-wise the quartet progressed a lot and managed to improve it to a supreme level. Canadian Blast Metal at its best! Contact the band at: 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: www.hordeofworms.com

# INCANTATION

**"The Infernal Storm" CD 2000**  
(Relapse Records)

INCANTATION is one of the few Death Metal bands that don't change their style and song-writing process at all. They just bring us the most evil and tuneless Death Metal songs ever. The line-up is as follows: Mike Saez (vocals & guitar), John McEntee (guitar), Robert Yench (bass) and



# ALBUM REVIEWS

the mighty Dave Culross (session drums). On "The Infernal Storm" we have the opportunity to listen to 8 unholy tracks in their usual brutal and uncompromising Death Metal interpretation. The album lasts 40 minutes and represents the best output of INCANTATION so far. There's everything done professionally and with a high accuracy. Such demonic anthems as the opening "Anoint the Chosen" or the furious "Lustful Demise" and "Apocalyptic Destroyer of Angels" will simply blow your mind up. I can warmly advise this piece of impetuous art for all the die-hard Death Metal fans worldwide! Get your copy now or contact the band at: INCANTATION, P.O. Box 5321, Johnstown, PA 15904-5321, USA.  
E-mail: incantation@juno.com  
Web Site: www.incantation.com

# INFECTED / UNHOLY GRAVE

**"Split" MC '97**  
(DAC Productions)

Well, it's an incredibly killer split release, believe me. INFECTED (the best Ukrainian Death/Grind act ever) opens the tape. They present 4 studio tracks & 3 live recordings here. These guys are really skilled musicians (just listen to the drumming of Vitaly Prygunov in the first 4 tracks for example) and know how to compose brutal, dynamic and yet hyper-fast sonic massacre. Songs like "Female Defecation", "Brown Tormentor" & "Dreams" are definitely amazing tracks. I should say that the studio tracks are more brutal and extreme (the sound is excellent here), while the live tunes bring real raw atmosphere to the listener's mind (with less sound quality, of course). If you are into bands as DEICIDE, CANNIBAL CORPSE and MORBID ANGEL then go ahead and check this masterpiece out! It's a must for all the Death/Grind fans. The other side is reserved for the Japanese Grindcore band UNHOLY GRAVE. These four grind freaks have made a fantastic psychopathic-like feeling on the entire stuff, which contains 13 tracks full of abnormal vocal parts and the sickest song-structures I ever heard. Buy it immediately!!! Label contact: DAC Productions, Dmitriy Lychagin, P.O. Box 772, 01034 Kyiv-34, Ukraine.  
E-mail: info@dacproductions.com  
Web Site: www.dacproductions.com

# INFECTED

**"Infected Generation" MC '99**  
(Moon Records)

Finally I managed to get INFECTED's cult full-length album. To be honest, I was quite curious about this stuff since it was originally recorded back in 1995. Right now I should point out that for such an old material it sounds pretty fresh and brutal. Everything is so professional and exciting there. The sound quality is just amazed me with its powerfulness and clearness! No doubt, it speaks about high musical abilities of the members. Now some words about their repertory. "Infected Generation" represents 9 songs in the most awesome way of Death/Grind style. I would say these songs are about a total annihilation of ears through fast, unstoppable double bass attacks, ultra deep growls, roaring bass parts, killer guitar riffs and excellent yet melodious solos. Do you still searching for a brutal Death Metal material out from the Ukraine? Yeah! Then stop your searching and get this circa 33 minutes long massive brutality from: Moon Records, P.O. Box 104,

03062 Kiev, Ukraine. Preferred tracks: "Infected Generation", "Pimp Life" and "Eternal Questions of Existence".  
E-mail: mail@moonrec.kiev.ua

# INHUMATE

**"Growth" CD 2000**  
(Grind Your Soul Productions)

This French quartet torments us with their insane Grindcore materials since 1993. "Growth" is their 3<sup>rd</sup> CD actually. The torturers are Christophe Knecht (vocals), David Loessl (guitar & backing vocals), Frédéric Anton (bass) and Yannick Giess (drums). There are 17 hypersonic grind songs on "Growth". The album lasts over 32 minutes and ensures an unforgettable experience for all the die-hard grind freaks worldwide. There's no way to hide from their short but all the way blasting tunes. They mostly deal with crazy drum attacks, chaotic yet dynamic guitar riffs, roaring bass lines and quite abnormal vocalizing attitude. In a few songs INHUMATE even reminded me CARCASS' classic Death/Grind approach, e.g. "Reek of Putrefaction" and "Symphonies of Sickness" albums. I am eagerly waiting their next release, as I am sure that it will be a killer masterpiece! Warmly recommended insanity! Band contact: INHUMATE, c/o Fred Anton, 1 rue du collège, 67170 Brumath, France. Grind Your Soul Distribution contact: Christophe Knecht, 19 cité des pins, 67590 Schweighouse S/Moder, France.  
E-mail: inhumate@ifrance.com  
Web Site: www.inhumate.maxxim.org

# LIVIDITY

**"Age Of Clitoral Decay" CD 2000**  
(Erebos Productions)

Hailing from state Illinois LIVIDITY is about to tear your chest apart with their 9 ultra sick Death/Grind songs. In circa 35 minutes you'll get an amazing dose of brutality spiced up with lots of well-guessed horror/gore intros. The band consists of Dave Kibler (guitar/vocals), Matt Bishop (guitar/backing vocals), Mike Smith (bass) and Nick Null (drums). These four maniacs managed to create their most awesome yet insane piece of work to date. If you wish to destroy your brain once for all then take a listen to "Age of Clitoral Decay". It will be a perfect stuff for such a procedure. Fans disposed of rope-nerves should try to get their hands on this masterpiece. Band contact: LIVIDITY, P.O. Box 3325, Peoria, Illinois, 61612, USA. Label contact: Erebos Productions, P.O. Box C8, 01001 Zilina, Slovakia.  
E-mail: kibler@core.com  
Web Site: www.erbosproductions.com

# LONG WINTER'S STARE

**"The Tears Of Odin's Fallen" CD 2000**  
(Dark Symphonies)

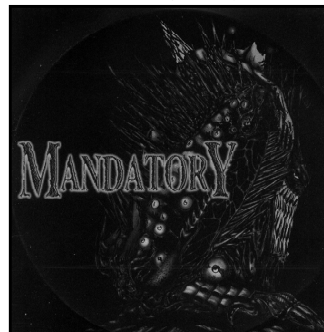
This is the third release from LONG WINTER'S STARE. Its line-up embraces Clint Listing (guitars; death, screams, deep clean vocals), Greg Ball (synth; drums and sequencing; contra bass; clean tenor vocals) and Deirdre Faith (all female vocals). As you see there's plenty of instruments involved in their music. They combine them very well into the basis of the so-called Dark Metal style. Yet I found these 7 tunes more diverse and varied from the rest of Dark Metal bands. It's not about the usual formula and simple interpretation of this style. The trio made it more mature with such additional arrangements as classically

based piano backdrops, lush keyboard tunes, interacting death growls, spoken verses, operatic lyrics about the forgotten heroes of Odin's World and female vocals. In a word, if you're searching for a symphonic Dark Metal stuff filled with surrealistic atmosphere then you will definitely bump into the music of LONG WINTER'S STARE! Preferred tracks: "Blood of Steel" and "The Unknown God". Label contact: Dark Symphonies, Box 547, Billerica, MA 01821, USA.  
Web Site: www.darksymphonies.com

# MANDATORY

**"Mandatory" CD '99**  
(Psychic Scream Entertainment)

The debut album of this 4-man band can be described as one the most unique Death Metal materials out from Malaysia. Being composed by the forces of Fahmi (vocals), Zam (guitars), Apit (drums) and Nizam (keyboards) MANDATORY have created a memorable & extraordinarily atmospheric music herein. Eight mighty tracks full of technical solutions, majestic keyboard tunes,



precise drumming and merciless vocals are what awaiting you on this album. Every single instrument sounds clear and comes in a perfect way. Flawless stuff, no doubt! Moreover, I am sure that in a few years it will reach the status of a classical masterpiece in the underground scene. Preferred tracks: "Death... Awhile" and "Be Guide On Me". Contact MANDATORY at: 55, Mukim 6, Kg. Pertama, 13500, Permatang Pauh, Peng. E-mail: death\_sentenced@yahoo.com  
Web Site: http://deathsentenced.tripod.com

# MAUDLIN OF THE WELL

**"Bath" CD 2001**  
(Dark Symphonies)

At once I should point out that MAUDLIN OF THE WELL's musical orientation is rather unusual, varied and unique at the same time. Never heard such an open-minded creation until now to be honest. The info sheet describes their style as Progressive, Astral Metal. Be it so. However to get a more clear picture about their style I would add here that their musical roots are definitely lay in the gothic-atmospheric kind of Doom/Death genre. The 9 (!) multi-talents – Jason Byron (vocals, keyboards, percussion); Jason Bitner (trumpet); Toby Driver (vocals, guitar, bass, keyboards, cello, percussion); Maria-Stella Fountoulakis (vocals); Sam Gutterman (vocals, drums, percussion, guitar); Nicholas Kyte (bass); Greg Massi (vocals, guitar); Terran Olson (vocals, keyboards, clarinet, flute, percussion) and Josh Seipp-Williams (guitar) – come forth with a rapturous musical virtuosity on "Bath". They handle their instruments so genuinely that I don't even try to search for false notes or something like that there. It's exquisite in a way it is. If you wish to relax or just to free your mind from everyday problems then this 61 minutes long album will be a perfect tool for it. As you



# ALBUM REVIEWS

may noticed they combine a big variety of instruments and vocals in their music. This kind of approach makes them sound very original and exotic so to say. Enough said! Discover this band's magnificent proficiency and have a journey into the astral dimensions. Label contact: Dark Symphonies, Box 547, Billerica, MA 01821, USA.

E-mail: darksympho@aol.com  
Web Site: www.darksymphonies.com

## MAUDLIN OF THE WELL

### "Leaving Your Body Map" CD 2001 (Dark Symphonies)

This band managed to release 2 full-length albums in one year. Productive band, isn't it? Moreover these records came out at the same day. Let's see what hides this one. Well, "Leaving Your Body Map" is the logical continuation of the "Bath" album. It proudly presents the band-members fantastic skills and inexhaustible potentials in writing as many-sided compositions as possible. It has over 61 minutes of weird meditative-like progressive music that could be easily your travelling companion into the spheres of dreams and astral visions. The 10 complex tunes of "Leaving Your Body Map" have been accomplished in a quite dragging way with lots of acoustic parts, long drawn-out growling vocals and mysterious keyboard patterns. Some guest appearances are also present on this record. So you can expect a special gem from the MAUDLIN OF THE WELL team, it's for sure! The overall drawing atmosphere makes this album really cohesive and a bit melancholic in my opinion. All in all, it's a flawless release done by a flawless musicianship. Fans of progressive metal music will definitely like it! All is left is to enter the breath-resting labyrinths of MAUDLIN OF THE WELL! Order both albums to get a double satisfaction! Label contact: Dark Symphonies, Box 547, Billerica, MA 01821, USA.  
E-mail: darksympho@aol.com  
Web Site: www.darksymphonies.com

(rhythm, solo & synthesized guitars), Nick 'Energizer' Byckoff (drums) and Arteom 'Bolt' Nazarov (rhythm guitar). Musically, "They Must Die" follows the brutal path started back in 1997 on the band's debut album, called "Deathkoteque" (by the way, it will be re-issued soon by GWN in CD format as well). Of course, this time they've added more complexity and even more



heaviness to their songs in general. Speaking of the sound quality I should say it was incredibly well executed. So what can expect you? Pure brutality in every sense of it! The album features 9 high-technical and over brutalized Death Metal songs, which are sound quite polished and balanced, to be honest. As usual Mary delivers us violating lava of vocals and roaring bass tunes, while Alex and Arteom bring the ultra energetic and sophisticated riffs specially created for Nick's insane drumming that just kills all the way with its unstoppable grinding and dynamic parts. To draw a parallel for MERLIN's music I can definitely name you such bands as MORBID ANGEL and VADER, because technically and brutal-wise they are close to MERLIN. In a word "They Must Die" is a flawless album, which should be praised by every brutal Death Metal freaks. Don't wait until your next wages order it right now! Preferred tracks: "I Want Blood", "They'll Never See Their Pay", "Entering the Gates of Paradise" (a great melodic tune). Band contact: MERLIN, Mary Abaza, Volgina str. 25-2-189, Moscow 117437, Russia.  
E-mail: merlin@orc.ru  
Web Site: www.merlinbrutal.narod.ru

## METAL SCRAP COMPILATION #5

### "S.O.D.O.M. & G.O.M.O.R.R.A." MC 2000 (Metal Scrap Production)

Well, this is a 180 minutes long (2 MC) compilation featuring 31 bands, both famous and underground ones. Here's the list of participants: DEMENTOR, NIGHT IN GALES, TALES OF DARKNORD, EVTHANAZIA, APEIRON, BENIGHTED SKY, INHUMATE, ELYSIAN FIELDS, MISCREANT, SCORBUT, PSALM, LITTLE DEAD BERTHA, INQUISITION, FUNERAL OF SOUL, APRAXIA, SUGAR FREE, THRON, CUMDEO, APOCRYPHAL, DISABLED, FESTERGUTS, VODOO, GRENOUER, TEMPLE OF OBLIVION, INWARD PATH, SIEGED MIND, CRYPT-HOWL, VALHALLA, PARADIGMA, TEMPTATION and FORGIVE-ME-NOT. I guess the names are speaking for themselves. The tapes are come with pro-done b/w covers plus a little 32-page booklet, where you can find all the necessary infos about the above bands. Get it for \$7 from: Metal Scrap Production, c/o Anatoliy Kondyuk, Korolyova str. 2/22, 47501 Berezhany, Ternopil region, Ukraine.

## MIND SNARE

### "Hegemony" MCD '99 (Psychic Scream Entertainment)

MIND SNARE definitely belongs to one of the best and most underrated Italian Death Metal bands these days. The band consists of Gigi Casini (bass/vocals), Chris Benso (guitar) and Marco Boffa (drums). Did you know that they formed back in 1989? No, I assume! Well, "Hegemony" is their first release for Psychic Scream and I should say it perfectly kills over the entire repertory. There are 6 studio and 2 live tracks featured there. Their music deals with CANNIBAL CORPSE- and DEICIDE-like riffs, unholy lyrics and brutal grinding attitude in general. But it doesn't mean that they are lack of ideas. On the contrary, you can find there lots of killer riffs, naturalistic



deep growls, pulsating bass lines and yet an awesome dose of grind-based drum parts. In a word, it's brutal music for brutal people! Obtain this superior Italian Death Metal assault of MIND SNARE immediately! MIND SNARE legions: Gigi Casini, Via Rueglio 8, 10148 Torino, Italy.  
E-mail: mindsnareaddr@yahoo.com  
Web Site: http://www.mindsnare.nasha.com

## MIND SNARE

### "Hateful Attitude" CD 2000 (Psychic Scream Entertainment)

The new masterpiece of MIND SNARE has indeed arrived. It has a fantastic production plus a good interpretation of what brutal Death Metal is all about! "Hateful Attitude" combines 9 songs of masterful brutalizing! The trio does a great job on this album. All the instruments come in a clear way and they sound really powerful. Musically it shows a better forged together musicianship. Just imagine a mix of blasting Death Metal filled up with unholy yet Lovecraft-based lyrical content and fast double bass drumming that unstopably attack you all the way! You'll doubtlessly bump into the recipe of MIND SNARE! Go and get this roughly 30 minutes long killer Death Metal stuff! Preferred tracks: "Attitude", "Hatebomb" and "Invocations of the 4 Gates". MIND SNARE legions: Gigi Casini, Via Rueglio 8, 10148 Torino, Italy.  
E-mail: snaredeath@hotmail.com  
Web Site: http://www.mindsnare.nasha.com

## MODERN OZZ DEMONS

### "Psychotic Eastern Blitz 99 - 666. Vol. 1" CD '99 (Psychic Scream Entertainment)

This compilation CD mainly deals with Black Metal bands and as you noticed from the title with bands of the East! However there's some exceptions as always. So find enclosed the following acts on this CD: DESTROYER 666 (Australian Black Metal Cult), PAGANIZER (Melodic Thrash/Death

from Sweden), LONG VOYAGE BACK (Australian experimentalists in the vein of IN THE WOODS and OPETH), MISTIK (Mystical Black Metal from Malaysia), ANATOMY (Australian Black/Death legend), TANDUS (Rusty Metal), ABIGAIL (Japanese Yakuza Black Metal), VORAK (Experimental Metal from Australia), BESTIAL WARLUST (Satanic War Metal from Australia), KOFFIN KANSER (Malaysian Experimental Hardcore), NO PROMISES (Slovakian Death Metal), RITUAL ORCHESTRA (Black from Indonesia), ABYSSIC HATE (Norwegian-type Black Metal) and MANDATORY (Intense Death Metal from Malaysia). Personally I liked this CD a lot. So I want to advise it to anyone who would like to get a great overview on what's happening with the Metal scene over there. Contact: Psychic Scream Entertainment, P.O. Box 13604, 50816 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.  
E-mail: pscram@pd.jaring.my

## MORGAIN

### "Sad Memories Of Fairies" CD 2000 (Metal Age Productions)

The latest MORGAIN album displays a rather interesting mix of atmospheric Doom Metal and eastern-based melodies. The members behind this 13-track creation are Richard Zajac (vocals, guitar, bass & drum programming), Slavka Tomayova (vocals, keyboards), Jony Stefanik (guitar) and plus some guest musicians. The whole material



radiates some special mood that combines from sorrowful, depressive and yet mesmerizing passages in general. These passages sometimes are even getting a meditative character. So to say relaxation is what waiting for you here. If you search for a quality album done by thoughtful people let's give a chance for MORGAIN and get in touch with them right now. Band contact: Richard Zajac, Skolska 18, 931 01 Samorin, Slovakia.  
E-mail: morgain@post.sk  
Web Site: www.metalage.sk

## MOURNFUL GUST

### "She's My Grief" MC 2000 (Metal Force Records)

MOURNFUL GUST is a new and promising name in the Ukrainian underground scene. It features Vladislav Shahin on vocals (he sings in Black Metal act, VAE SOLIS, as well), Alexander Glavniy on lead guitar, Evgeniy Vecher on rhythm guitar (ex-TEMPLE OF OBLIVION), Evgeniy Kozlovskiy on bass, Artem Lygun on keyboards and Vjacheslav Kapusta on drums (ex-TEMPLE OF OBLIVION). "She's My Grief" represents 7 brilliant songs of melodic and yet emotional Doom Metal. Sorrowful guitar passages and majestic keyboard tunes filled up with a wide range of vocals that were, by the way, precisely worked out are the so-called trademarks of MOURNFUL GUST. It's not a typical Doom stuff to be honest, 'cause 4 session musicians helped

## MERLIN

### "They Must Die" CD 2000 (GWN Records)

The Russian masters of blasting Death Metal have finally returned! Nowadays the band composes of four members, namely Mary Abaza (vocals/bass), Alex Ioffe

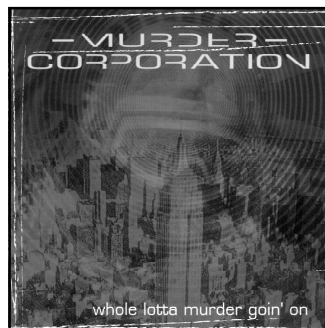
# ALBUM REVIEWS

them out with the enchanting sounds of soprano, violin and flute. I know (on the other side) that these things are indeed the usual and basic elements of nowadays Doom Metal scene. Nevertheless, it is something else I would say superior! The remarkable sound quality speaks for itself and shows a serious musicianship, no doubt! Preferred tracks: "Path of My Tears" and "As a Wingless Bird". Order it from: Metal Force Records, P.O. Box 94, 50102 Kryvyi Rig, Ukraine. E-mail: [metalforce@ingok.com.ua](mailto:metalforce@ingok.com.ua) Web Site: <http://come.to/metalforce>

## MURDER CORPORATION

### "Whole Lotta Murder Goin' On" CD 2000 (Psychic Scream Entertainment)

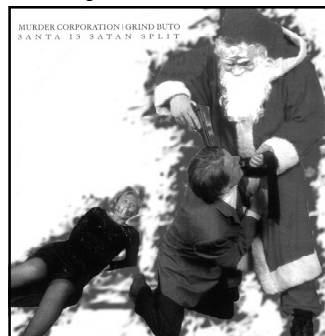
This release contains 17 songs from different periods of the band's career. You can find there rare 7" tracks as well as previously unreleased ones. The sound is good all the way, but as these songs were recorded with different line-ups it is understandable that the song-structures are differ from each other a bit. Though we are definitely talk about brutal Death Metal here.



I really like how these 3 death freaks build up their compositions. They are able to play straightforward in your face Death Metal tunes as well as groovy mid-paced parts mixed up with a small dose of melodies. I think this trio deserves to be more recognized worldwide as they play really masterfully their brutal kind of Death Metal. Contact MURDER CORPORATION at: Rikard Wemmen, Ängavägen 2, 245 62 Hjärrup, Sweden. E-mail: [brutalmotherfuck@gamma.telenordia.se](mailto:brutalmotherfuck@gamma.telenordia.se)

### MURDER CORPORATION / GRIND BUTO "Santa Is Satan" CD 2000 (Psychic Scream Entertainment)

Another cool split release by Psychic Scream. MURDER CORPORATION displays 6 energetic Death Metal tunes in their most brutal way. By the way, one of them is a cover version of BLACK SABBATH's famous "Children of the Grave" song and another one is a previously unreleased track. It's a totally killer stuff that can crash your mind with its muscular sound production. The sonic massacre follows by the 6-song material of GRIND BUTO.



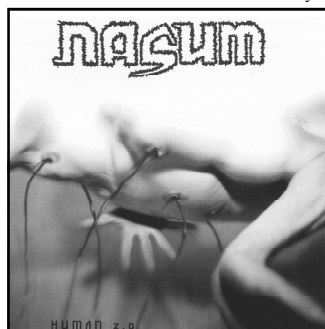
Unfortunately, they use a drum machine and it makes their stuff a bit mechanical.

Nevertheless, I found quite well composed their songs. They prefer grinding Death Metal with non-stop drum parts and deep as crater growls. And what's more there's a couple of great intros from horror movies. Really impressive stuff! In the name of brutality get this 29 minutes long split CD or die! E-mail: [grindbuto@hotmail.com](mailto:grindbuto@hotmail.com) Web Site: <http://come.to/grindbuto>

## NASUM

### "Human 2.0" CD 2000 (Relapse Records)

The second full-length release of NASUM represents a killer interpretation of what real Grindcore is all about. The almost 39 minutes long album contains 25 extreme yet aggressive Grindcore tunes mainly reminiscent of the classic NAPALM DEATH way. The three-man wrecking crew – Mieszko A. Talarczyk (guitar & lead vocals), Jesper Liveröd (bass) and Anders Jakobson (drums & low vocals) – blasts all along and involves an amazing dose of fresh elements into the "old and tired" Grindcore style thus expanding its borders and norms to a higher level. Their blistering, relentless and hyper-fast combination will surely please the fanatics of the Death/Grind style. Absolutely crushing Swedish Grindcore is what we are talking about! This is how should sound a Grindcore band nowadays!



So open your eyes, 'cause "Human 2.0" is the album you waited for! Contact NASUM at: Anders Jakobson, Lövestagatan 36, S-703 56 Örebro, Sweden. And don't forget to include IRC or a dollar for sure reply. Label contact: Relapse Europe, Brüsseler str. 14, 30539 Hannover, Germany (e-mail: [Maria\\_Ouellette@spv.de](mailto:Maria_Ouellette@spv.de)). E-mail: [darkshine@swipnet.se](mailto:darkshine@swipnet.se) Web Site: [www.nasum.com](http://www.nasum.com)

## NEGLECTED FIELDS

### "Mephisto Lettonica" MC 2000 (Scarlet/Odium Productions)

It's a masterpiece, believe me! Crossing the CARCASS-like Death Metal line with the monumental-like OLD MAN'S CHILD line NEGLECTED FIELDS created a new formulation of Techno Death Metal in "Mephisto Lettonica", which is their second album up to date. Musically it differs a lot from their debut album "Synthinity". I would say it's more progressive and keyboard-filled at the same time. I'm sure it's happened after involving George (keyboards) into the band's line-up that besides him features Sergey (bass), Destruction (vocals/guitar), Herman (guitar) and Karlis (drums). Every song has its own atmosphere that makes this material enjoyable and interesting all the way. The sound is remarkable as usual for the materials coming from the Abyss studio. I would like to point out some great songs as "The Human Abstract" and the classical-based instrumental



track "Presentiment", these are quite impressive songs with flawless ideas. But I can say it for the rest of songs as well, they're full of better and better ideas and majestic keyboard tunes so don't waste your time and check out NEGLECTED FIELDS' new dimensions in "Mephisto Lettonica"! Get it right now from: c/o Vasyura Yuri, P.O. Box 14, 32300 Kamenets-Podolsky, Ukraine. E-mail: [odium@kp.km.ua](mailto:odium@kp.km.ua) Web site: <http://welcome.to/odium>

## NILE

### "Black Seeds Of Vengeance" CD 2000 (Relapse Records)

Here is the follower to the highly acclaimed "Amongst the Catacombs of Nephren-Ka" debut album. The initiators of the mysterious Egyptian-based Death Metal style are back with a monumental vengeance.



The 12 songs of "Black Seeds of Vengeance" are proudly present NILE's outrageous power and creativity towards original approaches & sounds. With the addition of a second riff-master yet third vocalist, namely Dallas Toler-Wade, the core of the band – Karl Sanders (guitar/vocals), Chief Spire (bass/vocals) & Pete Hammoura (drums) – even turned their already unordinary Death Metal music into a more technical and brutal interpretation. You'll bump into an excellent mixture of Middle Eastern tones and professionally executed Death Metal on "Black Seeds of Vengeance". If you fond of precise hyper-grinding ferocity, complex guitar riffs, frenzied solos and a domineering three-vocalist onslaught then this merciless piece of art will definitely please your tastes! The contributions of Derek Roddy (additional drums) and Wes Benscoter (cover artwork) are worth mentioning as well. I'm impatiently waiting their next release! Until then you're encouraged to order this killer Death Metal release from the masters of the Pyramids! Preferred tracks: "The Black Flame", "Multitude of Foes", "Nas Akhu

Khan she en Asbiu". Band contact: NILE, P.O. Box 6062, Greenville, SC 29606-6062, USA (web site: [www.nile-catacombs.com](http://www.nile-catacombs.com)). Label contact: Relapse Europe, Brüsseler str. 14, D-30539 Hannover, Germany. E-mail: [Frank\\_van\\_Liempd@spv.de](mailto:Frank_van_Liempd@spv.de) Web Site: [www.relapse.com](http://www.relapse.com)

### NO PROMISES / DUST COMPONENTS "Pirouette Of The Antisocial" CD '99 (Psychic Scream Entertainment)

NO PROMISES (Slovakia) begins this split CD with their neck-breaking Death Metal stuff. There are 6 songs performed in quite decent way by 5 musicians: Holas – guitar, Milhaus – vocals, Beda – bass, Mina – guitar and Kapa – drums. These songs were rather well composed and arranged.



Stylistically I would compare their music to bands as CARCASS, ENTOMBED or DESULTORY. Everything pro here. Songs like "Torture Dance" and "Cruel Poet" are worth of mentioning! Band contact: Palo Sebesta, Nesporova 14, 909 01 Skalica, Slovakia. And then comes DUST COMPONENTS (Malaysia) that features a very young musicianship in the faces of Rizal (bass/vocals), Whye Kong (guitars) and Elton (drums). They mix DISMEMBER-like riffs along with great "own" ideas (mainly vocal-wise they appear) that give a strange character to their basic Death Metal material. I've found also some crossover yet hardcore elements in their repertory, which makes this stuff varied and interesting. Make an experience by listening to these 7 extraordinary tracks of DUST COMPONENTS! Band management: Psychic Scream Entertainment, P.O. Box 13604, 50816 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. E-mail: [pscream@pd.jaring.my](mailto:pscream@pd.jaring.my)

## NOVEMBERS DOOM

### "The Knowing" CD 2000 (Dark Symphonies)

Well, everyone knows that knowing means power and it is the key of everything. The beautiful cover displays this fact very well too. Musically NOVEMBERS DOOM is about to create a new branch in the overpopulated Doom Metal style, which they call dark, depressing doom death. Indeed, these 12 well-composed songs can really bring you an incredibly depressive mood. Grievous harmonies, multiple voices, weird sound effects and lots of instrumental passages guarantee you an excellent relaxation during the over an hour in length album. It's like an eternal flow of emotions that changes its face from song to song, a great journey into the dimensions of atmospheric feelings. "The Knowing" is definitely a masterpiece that should be placed on the top with such bands' works as MY DYING BRIDE, ANATHEMA and PARADISE LOST (early ones). Attention Doom freaks! Do not miss this great album! Order it right now from: Dark Symphonies, Box 547, Billerica, MA 01821, USA. Web Site: [www.darksymphonies.com](http://www.darksymphonies.com)



# OBLITERATE

**"The Feelings" CD 2000**  
(Erebus Productions)

Slovak band OBLITERATE was founded in 1992. After numerous demo and 7" releases the five obliterators managed to record their first full-length album. "The Feelings" features 11 tracks of technically played and well-produced grindcore. I would say everything's done precisely there but still I missed one important thing from their whole stuff. And it's the originality. OBLITERATE suffers a definite lack of originality. Their compositions were executed under the influence of NAPALM DEATH's classic "Harmony Corruption" album. And what is more, the vocalist grows the same way as Barney spiced up with a little dose of John Tardy. The only remarkable song, which shows some potential in my opinion, is "Indian Holocaust". You can hear there some very eccentric vocal parts plus a good groovy riff-basis. Fans of NAPALM DEATH will definitely enjoy this 35 minutes long Death/Grind assault. OBLITERATE contact: c/o Ladislav Polák, Lidické námestie 7, 04022 Košice, Slovakia. Label contact: Erebus Productions, P.O. Box C8, 01001 Zilina, Slovakia.

E-mail: belobrad@za.netax.sk  
Web site: www.erebusproductions.com

# OCEANS OF SADNESS

**"For We Are" CD 2001**  
(The LSP-Company)

In the embodiment of OCEANS OF SADNESS you can greet a rather promising Belgian 6-piece band. Musically they deal with different elements extracted from Black/Death/Doom/Gothic styles, though after having heard their 11-song material I can definitely compare them with one band, namely CHILDREN OF BODOM. Really close the atmosphere there, to be fair. Nevertheless, "For we are" enlighten me some new perspectives of OCEANS OF SADNESS, which are characteristic only for them. These things basically lay in the innovative keyboard passages that give a symphonic touch to their songs as well as in the all-time changing vocal parts. So to say these are their honestly deserved marks. You can also add a fantastic sound quality to all this. Songs as "The Apocalypse", "When We Became One" and "Oceans of Sadness", to name a few, just impressed me with their meditative sorrowful atmosphere. In a word, the ones who like Death Metal influenced by classical music must get their hands on this CD! Order it for US\$14 (or 14 euro) from: The LSP-Company, Antwerpsesteenweg 106, 2350 Vosselaar, Belgium.

E-mail: lsp@lsp-company.com  
Web Site: www.lsp-company.com

# ONANIZER

**"Ansikte Mot Ansikte" MC 2000**  
(DAC Productions)

This tape features 25 songs in 38 minutes approximately. I guess you know what to expect... Yeah, grindcore! ONANIZER's style can be described as a strange mix of weird musical and unmusical elements injected in the shape of chaotic grindcore. This funny mixture of brutality is full of modern & original ideas that can keep your mind open as far as the album lasts. Note that the vocals are really sick and disgusting! You must check this crazy material before it's too late! ONANIZER contact: Roman Kollar, Klostermannova 11, 35201 AŠ, Czech Republic. Label contact: DAC Productions, Dmitriy Lychagin, P.O. Box 772, 01034 Kyiv-34, Ukraine.

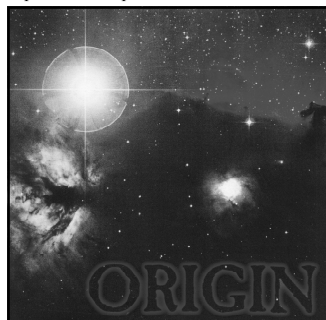
E-mail: info@dacproductions.com  
Web Site: www.dacproductions.com

# ALBUM REVIEWS

## ORIGIN

**"Origin" CD 2000**  
(Relapse Records)

The unearthly entity known as ORIGIN managed to unleash upon us their ultra brutal and relentless self-titled debut album. There are 9 bone-crushing, gut-ripping, cranium-tormenting Death/Grind tunes executed with a magnificent precision. The five death-executors are Mark Manning (vocals), Paul Ryan (guitars/vocals), Jeremy Turner (guitars/vocals), Doug Williams (bass) and John Longstreth (drums). At once I should take a comment on the inhuman drumming of John who made the drum parts of this album unbelievably extraordinary. It seems like this guy has 6 hands and 4 feet or so as the patterns he did would better fit to an octopus drummer. It's just amazing to listen to such a masterful drummer. The guitarists are maximally skilled as well as they brought an awesome dose of staccato-like riffs and exploding dynamism to the approx. 30 minutes long butchery. And then you have to imagine a homicidal vocal triumvirate of utter brutality plus add a top sound production and expect the unexpected from this killer band.



If you wish to destroy your mind or just want to amuse the neighbors then buy ORIGIN immediately and experience how devastating their Death/Grind is. For further brutality check out - www.origin.tsx.org -, which is ORIGIN's official website, of course. Label contact: Relapse Europe, Brüsseler str. 14, 30539 Hannover, Germany.  
E-mail: Frank\_van\_Liempd@spv.de  
Web Site: www.relapse.com

## OUTER ORGASM

**"Mush" MC '97**  
(DAC Productions)

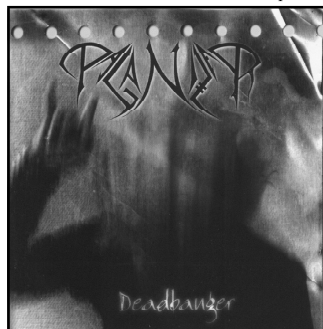
The debut album of OUTER ORGASM displays a fine level of raw grinding Noisecore. The duo, namely Sergej "Iris" Jhirikhin (guitar/vocals/bass on track 18) and Shurik "Dunja" Gladun (drums/bass), composed 23 chaotic songs in nearly 46 minutes. Production-wise it is an average material, though the sound is good enough, especially the distorted bass lines were extremely well executed. There are some really cool tracks in their repertory, from which I like the two BASIN covers most of all. Yet I can admit these guys have a cool sense of humor as well. Noisecore freaks should hurry up and order this piece of sickness before it's too late! Label contact: DAC Productions, Dmitriy Lychagin, P.O. Box 772, 01034 Kyiv-34, Ukraine.  
E-mail: info@dacproductions.com  
Web Site: www.dacproductions.com

## PAGANIZER

**"Deadbanger" CD '99**  
(Psychic Scream Entertainment)

The bio says PAGANIZER plays supreme northern Thrash Attack. And yes,

this definition is quite enough to describe their music. The 4 pagan breeds are Diener (4 string of devastation), Jocke (invocator of thunder), Dea (6 string of mayhem) and Rogga (bestial screams). There are 10 songs of melodic Thrash Metal influenced by the mighty Heavy Metal monsters, namely IRON MAIDEN. The title track and "Heads of the Hydra" are such great compositions that they could be on a MAIDEN album as well. The band uses some keyboard parts as well to make their stuff more varied and atmospheric.

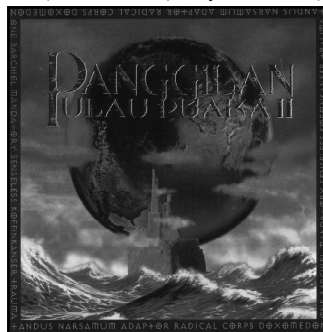


To all this you should add a flawless sound quality. I warmly advise you, die-hard metal-heads, to take your hands on "Deadbanger"! Preferred tracks: "Branded by Evil" and "Into the Catacombs". Contact PAGANIZER at Roger Johansson, Slånbärsstigen 8B, 59431 Gamleby, Sweden.  
E-mail: paganizer@hotmail.com

## PANGGILAN PULAU PUAKE II

**"Compilation" CD '99**  
(Psychic Scream Entertainment)

Here we have a fantastic compilation CD that covers 10 bands mainly from Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore. The bands are MANDATORY (Intense Death Metal at its best), DOXOMEDON (Swedish type of Death/Black), ADAPTOR (Old-school Death Metal), NARSAMUM (Technical Death/Thrash), RADICAL CORPSE (Industrial Metal), ONE BARCHIEL (Atmospheric Avantgarde Black Metal), TRAUMA (Brutal Death Metal), SENSELESS (Catchy Thrash Metal),

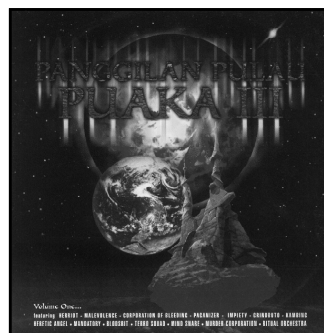


TANDUS (Heavy Metal) and KOFFIN KANSER (Experimental Hardcore). Most of all, I get impressed by the music & talent of MANDATORY and NARSAMUM, though I can assure you there's a lot of cool bands there. Check it out and be convinced of it! Contact: Psychic Scream Entertainment, P.O. Box 13604, 50816 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.  
E-mail: pscscream@pd.jaring.my

## PANGGILAN PULAU PUAKE III

**"Vol. 1" CD 2000**  
(Psychic Scream Entertainment)

The great series of PANGGILAN PULAU PUAKE compilation continues triumphant. It represents 14 bands in almost



56 minutes. There are a lot of exotic Metal acts from Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Singapore and Japan as well as great acts from Italy, Portugal and Sweden. The participants are the following: HERRIOT (Melodic Death Metal), MALEVOLENCE (Extreme Death Metal), CORPORATION OF BLEEDING (Brutal Death), KAMBING (Raw Black), HERETIC ANGEL (Modern Death Metal), PAGANIZER (Death/Thrash), IMPIETY (Merciless Black), GRINBUTTO (Grind terrorists), BLODSRIT (Slow Black Metal), TERROR SQUAD (Supreme Thrash), MURDER CORPORATION (Great Brutal Death band), RITUAL ORCHESTRA (Fast Black Metal), MANDATORY (Spiritual Death Metal) and MIND SNARE (Death Metal). Regarding the packaging I should say it's excellent. In the booklet you'll find logos, photos, brief stories and contact addresses about each of the bands. A fine compilation so to say! Contact: Psychic Scream Entertainment, P.O. Box 13604, 50816 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.  
E-mail: pscscream@pd.jaring.my

## PARRICIDE

**"Illtreat" CD 2001**  
(Surgical Diathesis Records)

Storming with an incredible amount of energy Poland's PARRICIDE is about to offer you 12 brand new songs plus an extremely well-executed cover of CANNIBAL CORPSE's "Hammer Smashed Face" on their over 39 minutes long second album. You'll get acquainted with how annihilating can be a band working with maximum intensity & total dedication to the Death Metal style. The actual line-up of PARRICIDE is: Tadeusz Jankowski (bass/vocals), Piotr Sabaranski (guitar), Albert Krackowski (guitar) and Tomasz Luc (drums). Putting complex yet dynamic riffs, pulsating bass tunes, varied vocals ranging from growls to screams and insane drumming altogether they managed to come up with an outstanding album. The overall sound is quite fat and tough so to say. Even if the band has been strongly influenced musically by the aforementioned CANNIBAL CORPSE and BROKEN HOPE for example, I should say they are on the right way to create their own face since songs such as "Like the God" and "Step of Evolution" are definitely speak for this. Well, if you want to experience some extreme brutality plus an individual version of "Hammer Smashed Face" then "Illtreat" will be your best choice. Go and get it right away! Band contact: PARRICIDE, P.O. Box 28, 22-104 Chelm 5, Poland.  
E-mail: parricide@2com.pl

## PATHOLOGY STENCH

**"Accion Mutante" CD 2000**  
(Shindy Productions)

The second full-length of this Slovakian brutal horde contains 10 ass-kicking Death Metal tracks. The band went through some potential changes as for their music. Now they play an unordinary kind of brutal Death Metal with lots of unique ingredients instead

# ALBUM REVIEWS



of the US-influenced Death Metal stuff they worked on their debut album with. The pathologic quartet – Báro (vocals), Lumír (guitars), Kuco (bass) and Vlado (drums) – blasts with an incredible intensity all the way. I would say their musical progression is more than evident. The pace has increased two or yet three times. Due to this technical improvement the band frequently uses hypergrind drum parts and ultra fast yet complex guitar riffs. The rhythm-section became very strong and worked out there. Regarding the vocals I can say they mainly remained in the vein of their "Gluttony" album, i.e. deep guttural way of growling, though I noticed more refrain-like operations here. They've recorded this album in Exponent studio again, though you can expect a fat and tough sound production. If it's still not enough for you then I can add that there's an interactive part on the CD as well. It features the video clip to "Accion Mutante" song plus biography, lyrics, photo gallery and other useful information about the band. Order their near forty minutes long brutality right now! Band contact: PATHOLOGY STENCH, c/o Brano Barancik, Tulska 16, 974 01 Banská Bystrica, Slovakia. Label contact: Shindy Productions, c/o Martin Brzobohaty, Sadova 17, 679 04 Adamov, Czech Republic (e-mail: shindy@telecom.cz; web site: www.go.to/shindy). E-mail: pathologystench@yahoo.com Web Site: http://pathologystench.nfo.sk

## PHANTASMA "Jahve" CD '99 (Immortal Souls Productions)

This is the debut CD of the Slovakian anti-christian Death Metal brigade PHANTASMA. Very mature and quality Death Metal stuff is what these 5 satanic souls have created on "Jahve". The souls are as follows: Andy Duc (vocals/guitar), Richard Dermek (bass/backing vocals), Rudolf Kurilla (guitar), Rastislav Fabian (keyboards) and Radovan Timko (drums). On the one hand, "Jahve" could be defined as a complex material, mainly due to the artful guitar riffs and solos, while, on the other hand, it's a rather pompous material, because of the meditative acoustic guitar parts and mysterious keyboard passages. The majority of songs hides some rather progressive elements too, but these riddle ingredients appear us just after the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> listening. So to say it's an innovative Death Metal band. Preferred tracks: "Eternal Horizon", "Disease Called Religion" and "Noctis (Instr.)". Band contact: PHANTASMA, P.O. Box 73, 04011 Kosice, Slovakia (e-mail: phantasma@post.sk). Label contact: Immortal Souls Productions, c/o Juraj Harin, Brezova 9, 03401 Ruzomberok, Slovakia. E-mail: immortalsouls@immortalsouls.sk Web Site: www.immortalsouls.sk

## PHANTASMAGORY "Odd Sounds" MC '99 (Moon Records)

With this 2<sup>nd</sup> album PHANTASMAGORY placed their high-tech Death Metal music to

another incredible level. I would say, musically it's far matured and sophisticated as their debut album "Phantasmagoria". "Odd Sounds" opens new dimensions for both progressive and atmospheric kind of Death Metal. It contains 7 extremely well executed songs, which are all excellent in my opinion. Believe me, there's no vacancy in their songs. Everything is done with minds and what's more thoroughly. I love every inch of their music; especially the skilful inclusions of sci-fi based keyboard effects. Also, I should take a mention about the remarkable sound production and thoughtful lyrics. No doubt, PHANTASMAGORY deserves to be known worldwide, because they know how to create flawless songs! This album was also released in 2000 by The Flaming Arts (Belarus label) on both CD and MC formats as well. Band contact: Edward Miroschnichenko, P.O. Box 7488, 83062 Donetsk, Ukraine. Web Site: http://phantasmagory.homepage.com

## PICISMO / UNHOLY GRAVE "Split" MC 2000 (DAC Productions)

Another great 2-way split release from DAC Productions! Side A contains 14 songs of the Ukrainian/Lithuanian Esperantocore maniacs – PICISMO. I am sure you want to get a more detailed characteristic about their music. Well, you should imagine a Crust/Punk motivated Grindcore stuff with lots of noisy elements and lyrics in Esperanto and Volapük. The first 9 songs are taken from their demos '97 and '98, while the rest of songs are live tracks recorded back in '96 on the "10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Chernobyl" festival. Cool stuff! Oh man, Side B is about 15 songs of total madness with the Japanese Grindcore heroes UNHOLY GRAVE. Their line-up combines from the psychotic powers of Takaho – vocals, Kajisa – drums, Tadashi – guitars and Ume – bass. Do you like sick vocals, crazy drumming and intense guitar riffs? If so, then go ahead and order this split right now! Label contact: DAC Productions, Dmitriy Lychagin, P.O. Box 772, 01034 Kyiv-34, Ukraine. E-mail: info@dacproductions.com Web Site: www.dacproductions.com

## POSTMORTEM "The Call Of The Sea" CD 2001 (More Hate Production)

Hey, what the hell is it? Powerful Death Metal from Estonia! Great! This is the first Estonian band I am listening to and at once they impressed me with the professional & intense songs they've managed to create. On this album the members are Dmitry Potekhin (bass), Alexander Kobzar (lead guitar), Sergei Shelepov (guitar/vocals) and Denis Shelepov (drums, keyboards). They mainly operate with brutal things, though there are lots of acoustic inclusions and melodic parts in their compositions as in songs like "Blowing Waves" and "Raise Your Sword" to name a few. The overall sound production kicks ass, especially I like the guitar sound. It rips the flesh off. Well, there are 12 songs in general (two of them are covers). "Into the Convent" from KING DIAMOND's "The Eye" album, which they transformed into their own Death Metal style having left some parts as in the original version. Good job guys! And finally you can get acquainted with LED ZEPPELIN's cover "The Ocean". Again trying to be nearly as good as possible to the original version. As for me these guys

are proved their musical talents! Go and get this over 45 minutes long CD from: More Hate Production, Alex Kantemirov, P.O. Box 13, 123480 Moscow, Russia. E-mail: postmortem@yandex.ru Web Site: www.morehate.newmail.ru

## PRIMAL DAWN "Primal Dawn" MCD 2000 (No Salvation)

This self-released debut 4-track MCD contains a full speed ahead Death Metal material of the Dublin-based PRIMAL DAWN. The members behind this infernal creation are Pat Kennedy (guitar), Neil Sweeney (drums), Eric Fletcher (bass) and John McGhee (vocals). I should say their compositions are rather well constructed and have a great sound quality. The music itself reminded me a bit the Florida-type Death Metal, though PRIMAL DAWN experiments with other things as well. I can name here the thrash-motivated opening track "Absorbing the Lies" and the folk-influenced "Blood of the Land" for example. The latter one just amazed me with its great melodies and fantastic soloing work. Keep on creating such songs guys! On the other hand, songs like "Let them Die" and "Pull the Trigger" are about a more brutal attitude with some really deep-tuned growling vocals and killer guitar riffs. The overall stuff lasts over 14 minutes and comes with a decent packaging. So hurry up and get this Irish Death Metal assault directly from: PRIMAL DAWN, c/o Pat Kennedy, 7 Glenville Road, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15, Ireland. E-mail: primaldawn@hotmail.com

## PROMONTORY "The Hill Of Hope" CD '98 (Leviathan Records)

This Russian quartet presents us 7 songs of sorrowful Doom Metal in their nearly 38 minutes long stuff. I found their material too boring in general, but the soloing work is remarkable. If you think you can listen to another copy of MY DYING BRIDE,



ANATHEMA or TIAMAT then this album is definitely for you. Nothing special to be honest! Plain guitar riffs combined with primitive drum parts plus added with insipid growling and here and there clear vocals. The only positive thing, as for me, was noticed in their booklet. They used a few great pictures of Bosch to decorate their layout with. Anyone interested should contact: Leviathan Records, P.O. Box 31, 751 31 Lipnik n.B., Czech Republic. Band contact: c/o Eugene Biryukov, Malo-Zavalskaya 2-2, 241008 Bryansk, Russia.

## PROPHET "Broken Promise" MCD 2001 (Self-released)

This is PROPHET's second MCD to date (after being released 3 demos and an

MCD between the 1997-2000 period). Slow, hypnotizing Doom Metal is what this Finnish 3-piece band offers you in their 4-song repertory. The almost plain-riff-structured songs sound rather melodious and polished in their instrumentation. And what's more they got even a massive atmospheric touch, due to the fantastic harmonies of solos. The vocal parts are mainly come in crystal clear way, though there's some well-hidden deep growls here and there as well. Regarding the sound quality I should say it is flawless. In my opinion, this kind of music can be easily used to relax. Now to enlighten a bit their lyrical side I will give you the song names, which are speak for themselves I suppose. Here they are: "I Don't Believe In Love", "Are We Through?", "I Kiss And Let You Die" and "Broken Promise". So if you got interested in obtaining this circa 21 minutes long stuff (by the way it was released as a digipack), then please feel free to contact the band at: PROPHET, Aleksi Ahokas, Viljatie 7c 56, 00700 Helsinki, Finland. E-mail: Aleksi@Ahokas.com Web Site: www.brokenpromise.cjb.net

## RAIN FELL WITHIN "Believe" CD '99 (Dark Symphonies)

I think that with this outstanding album RAIN FELL WITHIN placed an unbeaten classic on the table of Doom Metal music.



The band stands for a majestic combination of Doom/Death riffs and enchanting female vocals in their "Believe" album. It includes 5 melodic mostly mid-paced tunes executed in a rather thorough and professional way. I should say it's amazing how skilled they are, especially the female singer Dawn who's responsible for the beautiful keyboard parts as well. The guitarists, Kevin (all guitars on this recording) and Owen, composed a bunch of better and better harmonies and tuneful riffs to make the album as colorful as possible. The rhythm section's work – Tim (drums) and Charles (fretted & fretless bass) – is also remarkable. If you crave to hear a perfect interpretation of sorrowful and pompous elements embedded in the Doom/Death style then don't hesitate to get a pen and order this circa 38 minutes album from: RAIN FELL WITHIN, P.O. Box 222713, Chantilly, Virginia 20153, USA. You can buy it, of course, from Dark Symphonies as well: Box 547, Billerica, MA 01821, USA (web site: www.darksymphonies.com). E-mail: rainfellwithin@aol.com Web Site: www.rainfellwithin.com

## REACTOR "Industry" MC 2000 (Terroriser Productions)

Here we have a professionally executed DeathCore stuff by the Ukrainian REACTOR. Its members are the following: S. Nemirovsky – drums, V. Zorin – guitars, A. Lartsin – bass/backing vocals and S. Saichuk – vocals. The sound is killer and if I draw a parallel between them and DEICIDE



# ALBUM REVIEWS

(especially it goes to the vocal parts) you'll know what to expect. Musically "Industry" combines brutal, into your face riffing and yet some groovy links as the band was strongly influenced by the modern hardcore heroes as well. You'll get 16 well-structured songs from which I would stress only the strangest ones. These weird songs are "The Dream" (duet vocalizing with a female, totally insane one) and two-pieced "Anarchy in Ukraine". In the latter case we have a deal with the riffs of SEX PISTOLS. To all this I can add that the band uses two languages on "Industry", English and Ukrainian, of course. If you like experimental music, that's it! Order it from: Terroriser Productions, P.O. Box 619, 21001 Vinnitsa, Ukraine. E-mail: trr\_zine@hotmail.com Web Site: www.terroriser.vinnitsa.com

## RITUAL ORCHESTRA / BLODSRIT "Storm Of Immolation" CD 2000 (Psychic Scream Entertainment)

This split release contains 2 Black Metal bands. Indonesian RITUAL ORCHESTRA opens it with 4 long raw Black Metal tracks. These songs were done by Deus Iblissiah (guitars), Throne of the Moon (vocals/bass) and Wine of Satan (drums). The entire material sounds very chaotic and reminded me the Norwegian-type of bands, especially IMMORTAL (vocals are quite close to Abbath-like screeches, for instance) and SATYRICON. Guitars come in sharp as a blade way and lyrics are filled with satanic conception. That's what RITUAL ORCHESTRA is all about. Band contact: Sandy c/o RITUAL ORCHESTRA, Jl. Tlogo Indah St V 21A, RT 04/01 - Tlogo - Mas, Malang, 65144 East Java, Indonesia.



Swedish one-man band BLODSRIT follows the Black Metal manifestation with 6 songs into the BURZUM-like way. Nazgul (all instruments) is behind this cruel & dark creation of Black art. The stuff has a mid-paced orientation and a so-called depression, which fills up almost all the songs. Interesting thing that Rogga of PAGANIZER took place on 2 tracks with his great drumming. Fans of BURZUM must check this stuff out! The blood and glory of Satan is the essence of BLODSRIT! Contact BLODSRIT at Box 3050, S-59303 Westervik, Sweden. E-mail: blodsrit@hotmail.com Web Site: http://come.to/blodsrit

## ROSSOMAAHAAR "Imperium Tenebrarum" CD '99 (More Hate Production)

ROSSOMAAHAAR is definitely one of the most promising Russian Black Metal acts these days. Its musicianship builds up from Lazar (vocals, guitars, keyboards), Ixxaander (guitars, screams), Kniaz' (bass) and Sigizmund (drums). Musically they are about to mix pompous yet majestic keyboard passages into the traditional fundaments of raw & fast Death/Black Metal. Although they managed to restore the supreme mood of

classical music there as well as to add a massive presence of thrashy parts. The merciless sound production just helps them to reach it with maximum success. You can expect seven songs presented in the most awesome & brutal attitude there. Their repertory even gets an innovative character sometimes, for example in songs as "The Spectral Prophecy", "The Forlorn Existence of Soul Divine" and "Portals of Chaos (The Final Transmigration)". In the latter case we have an extraordinary cover version of METALLICA's instrumental song from the "Ride The Lightning" album, but with an involvement of lyrics and great vocal parts, of course. So to say it's a flawless material that should be checked by all the Death/Black fans on this damn globe. Order it directly from: More Hate Production, Alex Kantemirov, P.O. Box 13, 123480 Moscow, Russia.

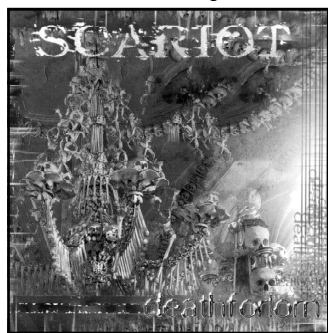
E-mail: more\_hate@mail.ru  
Web Site: www.rusmetal.ru/rossomahaar

## SCAB / EXHUME LABORATORY / M.W.P.E. "Three Ways To Stay Robot" MC '97 (DAC Productions)

Here we have an awesome 3-way split release! The Japanese SCAB opens the tape with aggressive Noisecore material, called "166 songs". It had done by Dakei (vocals, bass) and his helpful drum machine. I think it's a killer output! EXHUME LABORATORY continues the assault with 4 noisy here and there cosmic-influenced tracks. There's really no place for melodies in these four exhumed songs. And then finally comes M.W.P.E. whose brand of extreme/industrial noise mixture "Bloody Guts and Pneumatic Heart" can surely blow your mind away. The latter 2 bands are from Ukraine. This split is recommended only for die-hard noise fans! Label contact: DAC Productions, Dmitry Lychagin, P.O. Box 772, 01034 Kyiv, Ukraine. E-mail: info@dacproductions.com Web Site: www.dacproductions.com

## SCARIOT "Deathforlorn" CD 2000 (Demolition Records)

This Norwegian five-piece formation mixes the old good Thrash/Heavy Metal riffs along with the nowadays popular keyboard-filled Black/Death/Hardcore stuff. There are really too much of characteristic things were extracted from the aforementioned styles. I wouldn't say it's not original, but when it goes to the overall determination of SCARIOT's style I have to say it's too hard to do. So maybe it's easier to call their music as many-sided Metal. Furthermore they like to operate with a very wide range of vocals. I mean they use a few types of clear male & female vocals plus the usual Death growls and Black screams. After all said I have to conclude these Norwegians like to



experiment with different styles and feelings. Indeed they like! And what's more they are rather skilled musicians, especially the guitarists' work amazed me. The soloing is just fantastic believe me! From their 8-track repertory I would pick up, first of all, the intense "Remains of Dreams" tune that was overloaded with a bunch of better and better solos. Then I want to note the second song, namely "Sister", which features some reminiscent parts of KING DIAMOND's "The Eye" album and a quite thoughtful song-structure. Well, it's time to present you the band-members as well. Here they are Daniel Olaisen (lead guitar), Anders Kobro (drums), Hugo Isaksen (guitar), Bonna Svendsen (bass) and Ronni Thorsen (vocals). Band contact: c/o Daniel Olaisen, Dronningensgt. 38, 4610 Kristiansand, Norway. Label contact: Demolition Records, P.O. Box 62, Jarrow, NE38 5WJ, England.

E-mail: demolition707@aol.com  
Web Site: www.demolitionrecords.com

## SEPTICEMIA "Hopeless Age" CD 2000 (Self-released)

Basically operating with the Death/Thrash kind of riffing SEPTICEMIA created a killer 12-song album that hides lots of interesting moments for fans of extreme music. On this record the line-up is: Mario Staffa (vocals/guitar), Doris Bauer (bass), Peter Knall (guitar), Siegmund Gratz (drums). "Hopeless Age" displays a musically mature band with a quite strong sound production. If I would compare their music to others than I would definitely name the following ones: SIX FEET UNDER, SEPULTURA, OBITUARY and KRABATHOR. Though you shouldn't take it seriously, as far as I just wanted to draw you some parallels. To the contrary, SEPTICEMIA has an own face and potential to create an own kind of music. I am really into their brutal thrashy Death Metal repertory. Vocal-wise they managed to embrace a big variety in their compositions being used the usual ultra deep growls along with some eccentric black-type screeches. There's also a bunch of remarkable melodies there as well as some humorous riffs, especially at the end of the last song, ha-ha... Preferred tracks are "Distress of the Night", "Coming of Chaos" and "The Arrival". Anyone interested in this circa 50 minutes long stuff should get in touch with the band at: Peter Knall, Brentenmaistr. 56, A-3012 Wolfgraben, Austria.

E-mail: septicemia@gmx.at  
Web Site: www.septicemia.start.at

## SIEGED MIND "Lost Life In Evidence" MC 2000 (Oupiric Productions)

There's no doubt; SIEGED MIND is the Russian prototype of DEATH. The quartet - Oleg (vocals/bass), Michael (guitar), Cooper (guitar) & Andy (drums) - is mainly influenced by DEATH's early materials, circa 1987-1990 era, though some motives are definitely reminded me Chuck & Co.'s later masterpieces. "Lost Life in Evidence" combines 7 songs full of melodious solos, complex drumming and technical riff solutions. To all this you can add a well-performed coverversion of DEATH's "Leprosy" song too. I guess it props up entirely the deep respect of this Tula-based band to DEATH. The only difference between these bands is in the vocal-style, which is more close to the well-known

Martin van Drunen style here. The sound production is OK. So you can take a probe with SIEGED MIND if you prefer the early works of DEATH. Label contact: Oupiric Productions, Michael Nikolayev, P.O. Box 340, 248002 Kaluga-02, Russia. E-mail: oupiric@mail.ru Web Site: www.oupiric.narod.ru

## SPARROW MUTANT "Expansion Of Light" MC 2000 (Metal Force Records)

This stuff was reviewed in the previous issue, but then as a demo. Now, "Expansion of Light" saw the day of light as a pro-done tape with full-color cover. It contains 5 tracks in the vein of old-school Thrash-influenced Death/Grind. I like a lot those catchy guitar riffs, grinding blast beats and splendid solos injected to the overall production of this release. For those who like intense drumming and dynamic mid-paced guitar riffing this material is more than recommended! Preferred tracks: "Interdeath" and "Look Out!". Band contact: SPARROW MUTANT, Yuzhnaya str. 28, Koreiz-1, 98671 Yalta, Crimea, Ukraine. Label contact: Metal Force Records, P.O. Box 94, 50102 Kryvyi Rig, Ukraine. E-mail: metalforce@ingok.com.ua Web Site: http://come.to/metalforce

## STONEHENGE "Scum Brigade" CD 2001 (More Hate Production)

Just imagine a well-balanced mix of Thrash & Heavy Metal plus add some historical lyrics and extreme black screams there and you'll get "Scum Brigade". A fantastic album that features 8 unbelievably constructed songs in nearly 42 minutes. These 5 guys - Sergei "Lazar" (guitar), Pavel "Bush" (guitar), Alex Duke (vocals), Ruslan "Kniaz" (bass) and Dmitry "DM" (drums) - are really capable of creating memorable tunes with maximum quality & dedication to the medieval times. I like their historical attitude a lot! Musically "Scum Brigade" can be compared with the materials of RUNNING WILD, though it's just my own opinion. Fans of ultra melodic Heavy/Thrash Metal are encouraged to take their hands on this flawless masterpiece. Cool stuff, no doubt! Preferred tracks: "Alexander the Great", "Wolverian Pride" and "Warmen". Let's experience some medieval feeling together with STONEHENGE! Buy it from: More Hate Production, Alex Kantemirov, P.O. Box 13, 123480 Moscow, Russia. E-mail: more\_hate@mail.ru Web Site: www.rusmetal.ru/stonehenge

## STRATUZ "Spirit Seduction" CD 2001 (The LSP-Company)

STRATUZ is the first Venezuelan band I've ever heard. To be honest it was a big pleasure for me to listen to such an exotic band. STRATUZ combines from the forces of Franklin Berroteran (vocals, keyboards), Facundo Coral (lead guitar & acoustic guitar), Carlos Martini (lead guitar), Leonardo Rangel (bass) and Rafael Ramirez (drums & percussion). "Spirit Seduction" lasts nearly 40 minutes and gathers 11 atmospheric yet brutal Death Metal tunes. Musically they operate with a lot of strange instruments (for example harp) and special effects that makes their music outstanding and at the same time distinguishable from the endless piles of insipid bands. I can assure you about 100% satisfaction over their entire repertory. Practically every song has to offer

# ALBUM REVIEWS

something new & memorable. I would say their music has a flowing character. It's like a motion picture that makes you thinking and imagining all the way. Sometimes even it gets a mystical character due to the great use of keyboards and weird melodies. In a word, it's a superb creation of an open-minded band. I can wholeheartedly recommend it to anyone who's into unordinary Death Metal materials. It simply rules! Check it immediately! It can be yours for US\$14 (or 14 euro). Band contact: STRATUZ, Apdo. Postal No. 17.033, Caracas 1015-A, Venezuela. Label contact: The LSP-Company, Antwerpsesteenweg 106, 2350 Vosselaar, Belgium.  
E-mail: stratuz@cantv.net  
Web Site: www.stratuz.net

## SUFFOCATE

### "Lust For Heaven" CD 2000 (Erebus Productions)

Slovakian Deathcore-brigade SUFFOCATE strikes back with their 2<sup>nd</sup> CD. It's their most mature and rather up to date material so far. The 5 insane members decided to make some drastic experiments regarding their well-tested but hackneyed Death/Grind style. Therefore they've injected to it a big dose of old-school elements from Hardcore to Crossover and got an indescribably fresh yet ultra modern stuff. Believe me, it's something outstanding! All the 11 songs have that special refrain-like shouting reminiscent of the old-school Hardcore bands. Furthermore they even transformed them into another specific level. This level deals with brutal growls and hoarse-type of choruses. The song-structures are also not the usual ones. I mean they operate with sophisticated guitar riffs, artful bass parts and quite intense drumming all the way. They're so complex that it's really hard to memorize 'em at once, just after multiple listening. To all this you should imagine a fat yet crystal clear sound production. This stuff simply rules! Preferred tracks: "Shit is All..." and "No More!". Enough said, you better check it out! Band contact: Gellért Pásztor, Tešedikovo 428, 925 82, Slovakia. Label contact: Erebus Productions, P.O. Box C8, 01001 Zilina, Slovakia.  
E-mail: suffocate@in.slovanet.sk  
Web site: http://suffocate.phuture.sk

## SURRENDER OF DIVINITY

### "Oriental Hell Rhythms" CD 2000 (Psychic Scream Entertainment)

This hellish opus was recorded by 4 Siamese blasphemers, namely Ekaluxx (vocals), Wha Thayakorn (guitars), Paritat (drums) and Avaejee (bass). Their 6-song material sounds like a war against all that is holy. It mixes rasping screeches, hacksaw-like guitar sound along with dynamic yet fast drumming and roaring bass lines. Sometimes the unholy guitar riffs turn into melodious parts and here and there I found some really old-school thrash-influenced riffs as well. The production is good, despite of the weak sound of drums, which longing for more loud & powerful interpretation in my view. Yet it is a decent release that lasts more than 58 minutes! Crushing Black Metal at its best. To contact them pen your blood to: SURRENDER OF DIVINITY, P.O. Box 161, Samsennai, BKK 10400, Thailand.  
E-mail: surrender666@hotmail.com

## TALES OF DARKNORD

### "Dismissed" MC '99 (R.I.P. Productions)

The latest TALES OF DARKNORD album contains 7 powerful Death/Thrash

songs in a quite melodic way. Looks like these three serial killers – Alex Kantemirov (guitars), Anton Shir (bass, vocals) and John Kuznetsoff (drums) – going to a more thrash-influenced melodic kind of Death Metal with every album. Well as for me that's great! On the one hand, you can dive into melodic riff-oriented songs like "Nonsense" and "Nothing More Except Circulation". On the other hand, there are songs like "Dismissed", "Dirge" and "Really Rich Grave", which stand for massive guitar riffing with some grinding drum parts. To all this you can add the roaring sound of bass guitar and deep growling vocals of Shir. By the way, in some places his voice reminded me Steve Tucker's vocals, though musically there's also some parts reminiscent of MORBID ANGEL there. The overall production is good and the soloing of Mr. Grikot (guest guitarist) just remarkable. At the end, you'll find a bonus track called "Call from Heaven" that is something special in their repertory, it's sure.



Just imagine a BLIND GUARDIAN-like clear vocal style with great solos and a lot of acoustic guitar parts combined together and you'll get it! It was also released on CD by Alex's own label called More Hate Production. Note that the CD doesn't contain the bonus track. You can order either the tape or the CD from one of the following addresses: R.I.P. Productions, Vladimir Korolenko, P.O. Box 72, 214004 Smolensk-04, Russia; More Hate Production, Alex Kantemirov, P.O. Box 13, 123480 Moscow, Russia.  
E-mail: shirl\_tod@mail.ru

## TANGORODREAM

### "In The Name Of Ancient Faith" MC 2001 (Metal Force Records)

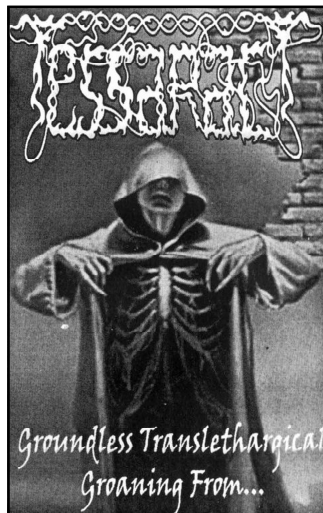
"In The Name Of Ancient Faith" was executed by Melkor Doom Nocturno (all instruments, vocals) & Alv'e (female vocals) and delivers us 12 songs into heathen Black Metal. Really grim material with fast & destructive parts, to be honest, especially if one takes into account the merciless screams of Melkor. He also likes to operate with deep death growls and twin vocals too. Unfortunately, TANGORODREAM's music is full of modern Black Metal elements, e.g. wide-ranging use of keyboards, drum-machine and female vocals. If I would compare them to anybody I would give you the following definition. Just imagine a mix between DIMMU Borgir & DARK FUNERAL plus spice it up with harmonies of medieval & folk music and you'll get the formula for TANGORODREAM. Decent stuff, but the drum-machine could be

really annoying sometimes. Band contact: TANGORODREAM, Zasyadko str. 10/54, 83054 Donetsk, Ukraine. Label contact: Metal Force Records, P.O. Box 94, 50102 Kryvyi Rig, Ukraine.  
E-mail: metalforce@ingok.com.ua  
Web Site: http://come.to/metalforce

## TESSARACT

### "Groundless Translethargical Groaning From..." MC 2000 (Bloodhead Production/Grim Art Production)

This MC presents us TESSARACT's first demo recorded back in 1992 but revealed only in 2000. There are 7 songs into the old primitive kind of Death Metal style. Back then the band featured Frost (vocals), George (guitar), Adolf (guitar/bass) and Lars (drums). Musically they mixed mid-paced guitar riffs along with the characteristic trademarks of Florida Death Metal. The sound quality is pretty OK, but what surprised me the most goes out to the varied vocal parts there. It was great to hear such a colorful interpretation of deep growls and screams there. The guys even imitated John Tardy's unique vocal-style as well.

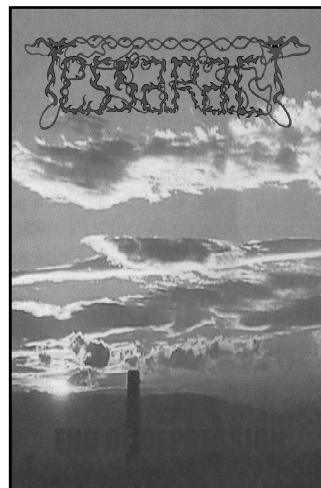


The guest growls of Patrick Gravestone (then SUPPURATION, now member of NOKTURNAL MORTUM) are also worth of mentioning. So if you would like to get acquainted with one of the first Ukrainian Death Metal demos then take your pen and order this cult stuff! You can get this tape either from Bloodhead Production: Vyacheslav Zhuravlev, pr. Metallurgov 97-18, 87539 Mariupol, Donetsk region, Ukraine or from Grim Art Production: Igor Borichevsky, P.O. Box 110, 88018 Uzhgorod, Ukraine.

## TESSARACT

### "End Of Depression" MC 2000 (DAC Productions)

Since this stuff was reviewed in the previous issue I will cut it short now. TESSARACT plays Swedish type of Death Metal in their 12-song repertory, which was influenced by the albums of DISMEMBER and GRAVE in general. So you can expect powerful, intense and brutal Death Metal the way it was supposed to be. The tape comes with excellent full color glossy cover, lyrics, photo and additional information. You'll find there a cool cover version of DISMEMBER's "Bleed For Me" song as well. If you think it's not enough for you then read it again. Band contact: c/o Konstantin

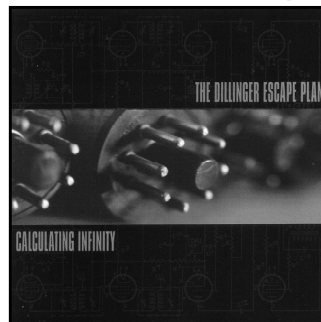


Zmievskij, P.O.Box 4167, 61166 Kharkiv, Ukraine. Tel.: (0572) 284810. Label contact: DAC Productions, Dmitriy Lychagin, P.O. Box 772, 01034 Kyiv-34, Ukraine.  
E-mail: info@dacproductions.com  
Web Site: www.dacproductions.com

## THE DILLINGER ESCAPE PLAN

### "Calculating Infinity" CD '99 (Relapse Records)

I should say "Calculating Infinity" is one of the most innovative materials I ever heard! This band simply drives me mad. Their ultra fierce and weirdly constructed songs will definitely make your brains explode. The five-man unit managed to develop a rather extreme and complex approach for their extraordinary music. They combine the elements of Hardcore/Death/Grind/Jazz/Fusion/etc. styles in their 11-track masterpiece.



But they do it so masterfully that I can't even try to compare them to anybody else. It's just outstanding in the way it is! You won't believe your ears how bizarre and thoughtful interpretations can be within the borders of the aforementioned styles. Progressive, brutal, relentless and at the same time very aggressive music waiting you there. If you want to experience some unique and unusual harmonies than go ahead and order this circa 38 minutes long masterpiece. Expect the unexpected! Band contact: THE DILLINGER ESCAPE PLAN, 7 Parker Dr., Morris Plains, NJ 07950, USA. Label contact: Relapse Europe, Brüsselstr. 14, 30539 Hannover, Germany.  
E-mail: info@dillingerescapeplan.com  
Web Site: www.dillingerescapeplan.com

## THE FALLEN

### "The Tones In Which We Speak" CD 2000 (Self-released)

THE FALLEN plays a brutal kind of Death/Thrash Metal in their 10-song album. The 4 members – Mike Granat (guitar & lead vocals), Mark Venier (guitar & vocals), Bryan Klinger (bass & vocals) and Henry Higgs (drums & vulgarities) – are about to

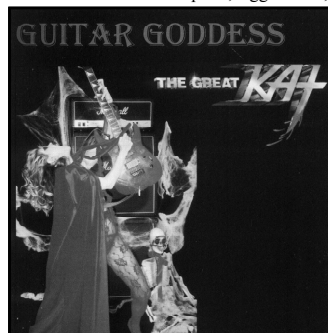


# ALBUM REVIEWS

crash your chest with their ultra dynamic yet in your face material. The guitarists mainly deal with broken-type of riffs, which were spiced up with a definite hardcore attitude. The bass lines have been distorted quite enough, so they come in a special I would say nuclear way. As for the drumming I can say it's extremely precise and full of complex breaks and changes. To achieve a maximum power and brutality during their songs the band involves an awful amount of vocal parts there. It helped 'em to create this brand of Death/Thrash stuff really annihilating! Recommendable for all the brutal fans worldwide! Get this killer CD or be killed! Band contact: THE FALLEN, 26701 Quail Creek #190, Laguna Hills, CA 92656, USA. E-mail: thefallen@home.com Web Site: www.thefallen.net

## THE GREAT KAT "Guitar Goddess" CD '96 (TPR Music)

In fact this is a very old stuff I'll cut it short. "Guitar Goddess" features 4 extraordinary Classical/Metal tracks in 8 minutes. This material follows the cool Thrash-oriented path of "Worship Me or Die!" and "Beethoven on Speed" albums in general, though new or I would say weird approaches have been also revealed there. I mean the increase of speed, aggression,



fierceness and brutality there. Besides the classical cover versions of Rossini's famous "The Barber of Seville" and Sarasate's gypsy violin waltz "Zigeunerweisen" there are 2 powerful Speed/Thrash songs as well, namely "Dominatrix" and "Feast of the Dead". There's really no time to relax during these hyper-fast and brainwashing songs. All in all if you prefer to listen to both Classical and Metal music then the chance is yours to experience them altogether under one unique name: THE GREAT KAT! Get this piece of Classical/Metal art right now from: TPR Music, 775 Park Avenue, Suite #222, Huntington, NY 11743, USA. E-mail: greatkat@greatkat.com Web Site: www.greatkat.com

## THE GREAT KAT "Rossini's Rape" CD 2000 (TPR Music)

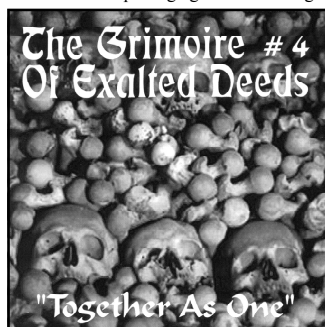
The goddess of cyber-speed virtuosity & aggression - The Great Kat - has finally returned! The new ultra short (6:26) masterpiece includes 4 brilliant Classical/Speed Metal tunes accomplished in a revolutionary way. The line-up remained the same as on "Bloody Vivaldi" album '98, i.e. the genius Great Kat (violins, viola, guitars, conducts, vocals & screams), Jeff Ingegno (bass) and Lionel Cordew (drums). Rossini's "William Tell Overture" opens the CD. It comes in a hyper-fast interpretation and has been executed by a symphony orchestra (for which the mighty speed guitar goddess is responsible, of course) and the band itself. Your ears will definitely start to bleed by the



insane violin-parts and galloping guitar riffs performed there. It follows the awesomely titled "Sodomize" song that shows a blistering mix of psychotic guitar parts, crazy screams, explicit lyrical content and the gruesomely sounding tympani and gong effects. In a word you'll get abused, raped and sodomized in seconds by its infernal sounds. The third track, namely "Castration", displays a quite sadomasochistic attitude along with 3 classical Baroque-style harpsichords, arpeggiated guitar madness and extra-violent vocals. The info-sheet defined its atmosphere very well, it says: "J.S. Bach meets Marquis De Sade!". And finally we have the demonic version of Bazzini's "The Round of the Goblins" interpreted by classical piano, killer violin & guitar techniques plus the band itself. A colossal tune so to say! If you would like to experience an over-brutalized version of classical masterpieces and yet listen to some wild Speed/Thrash assaults then order this CD immediately! Believe me it will be a good choice! Long live THE GREAT KAT! Contact: TPR Music, 775 Park Avenue, Suite #222, Huntington, NY 11743, USA (e-mail: kthomas@thomas-pr.com; web site: www.thomas-pr.com). E-mail: greatkat@greatkat.com Web Site: www.greatkat.com

## THE GRIMOIRE OF EXALTED DEEDS #4 "Together As One" CD 2000 (Grimoire Productions)

As you might know Grimoire is a division of Metal Age Productions. So you can expect a professional compilation CD. Indeed the assortment is rather good. You can listen to such bands as MALEVOLENCE, COMA VOID, ENS COGITANS, CRYOGENIC, CORE, ERYTROS, TONKA, ASSISTING SORROW, CRYPTIC REVELATION, SERENITY, EVOLUTION FAIL, DEFINITION, GORBALROG, DERANGED, DEEDS OF FLESH, ETHODUS, DISGORGED and PROTEST there. I think that with these 18 songs in circa 80 minutes you'll get a great insight into the Slovakian as well as into the world's underground scene. Musically this CD gathers a wide range of styles from Ambient through Death & Thrash Metal to Grindcore. The packaging has a fair design.



Label contact: Grimoire Productions, P.O. Box 42, 038 61 Vrútky, Slovakia.  
E-mail: metal.age@stonline.sk  
Web Site: www.metalage.sk

## THE GRIMOIRE OF EXALTED DEEDS #5 "End Of The Way" CD 2000 (Grimoire Productions)

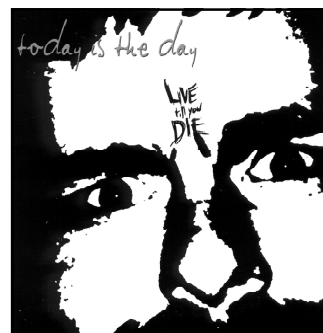
Here's the latest Grimoire compilation CD with 22 songs and 80 minutes playing time. It features more brutal stuff this time. Here's the list of participants: THALARION, HYPNOS, MORGAIN, BRALALALALA, ATMOSFEAR, ART OF FEAR, NEW YORK AGAINST THE BELZEBU, REQUIEM LAUS, M.A.C. OF MAD, DARK MORDOR, SACRIST, ODD, NO LONGER MORTAL, SERENADE, ATTICK DEMONS, SHIT FOR BRAINS, ANTAGONY, F.O.B., PROTEST and INIQUITY. Most of all, I liked to listen to the tracks of F.O.B., HYPNOS and INIQUITY, though the rest of bands are also worthy to check out. If you want to experience some great tunes and get a brief information about each band than go ahead and order a copy of it from: Grimoire Productions, P.O. Box 42, 038 61 Vrútky, Slovakia.  
E-mail: metal.age@stonline.sk  
Web Site: www.metalage.sk

## THERIOS "Therios" CD 2000 (Hollenden Records)

THERIOS displays a psychotic mix of grind & noise core in their 9-song repertory. It's insane, disgusting and full of noisy electronic madness. If you like over distorted bass lines, chaotic guitar riffs and extreme drumming spiced up with an incredible dose of crazy screams and everything that goes to the category called "abnormal", then it's definitely an album of your dream (or maybe nightmare). To enlighten a bit THERIOS' lyrical conception here's some song names for you: "Cortex Implant", "Cathode Socialization", "Information Substitution", "Cellular Infection" and "Cerebral Implosion". Well, I guess you got a good description what awaits you on this nearly 43 minutes long release. Freaks of noise core hurry up and get your own copy of this CD by sending \$10 to: THERIOS/Hollenden Records, P.O. Box 18129, Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118-0129, USA.  
E-mail: info@hollenden.com  
Web Site: www.hollenden.com

## TODAY IS THE DAY "Live Till You Die" CD 2000 (Relapse Records)

TODAY IS THE DAY has returned with a killer 15-song album! This time Steve Austin & Co. brought us a collection of live performances from the band's extensive catalogue and some rare studio tracks. Their live assaults are so crazy and vivid that I can't even explain you what I felt exactly during them. It was like an extreme flow of emotions or just the transfusion of energy. I don't really know, but I am sure that their music would be a perfect tool for a thorough psychotherapy. Regarding the studio tracks, which are cover-versions of BAD COMPANY, THE BEATLES and CHRIS ISAACK songs, I have to say all of them were adapted successfully for the usual TODAY IS THE DAY repertory. In a word, if you want to kill your nerves effectively then go ahead and buy this 34 minutes long psychocore madness. You've



been warned! Label contact: Relapse Europe, Brüsseler str. 14, 30539 Hannover, Germany.  
E-mail: Frank\_van\_Liempd@spv.de  
Web Site: www.relapse.com

## TOTAL FUCKING DESTRUCTION "Same" CD 2000 (DAC Productions)

This CD contains a compilation of the first 2 T.F.D. demos. There are 22 songs in circa 33 minutes. Post-apocalyptic grind cult is what they offer you there. Their music is damn crazy and insane. I would say unbelievably abnormal! It's full of noise, punk and yet crossover elements that can crush your mind in a few seconds. Of course, all these sick ingredients were precisely mixed into the bases of grind core style. And what's more, the entire material has a quite tolerable sounding quality and killer lyrical content. So don't waste your time anymore and order this piece of total fucking art right now! Band contact: c/o R. Hoak, #3 Bethel Church Road, Dillsburg, PA 17019, USA.  
E-mail: rich666@voicenet.com  
Web: http://welcome.to/totalfuckingdestruction

## TWISTED TOWER DIRE "The Curse Of Twisted Tower" CD '99 (Miskatonic Foundation)

Well, this band stands for pure Heavy Metal in their 8-track debut album. Combining from the metallic forces of Tony Taylor (vocals), Scott Waldrop (guitar), Dave Boyd (guitar), Jim Murad (bass) and Marc Stauffer (drums) this band created an outstanding Heavy Metal album. Musically they cultivate the traditional way of Heavy Metal and that's great, believe me. Moreover they successfully reached the so-called special atmosphere of the 80s in their songs. Nowadays a lot of bands trying to bring back that mood, but only the most possessed ones can reveal it again. From TWISTED TOWER DIRE you can expect just flawless songs, because they play from their hearts! Songs like "Hail Dark Rider" and the title track just amazed me with their great guitar harmonies and well-constructed vocal parts. If you like such old masters of Heavy Metal as IRON MAIDEN, MANOWAR or MERCYFUL FATE then you'll be definitely pleased by T.T.D.'s repertory too. Order it right now by sending \$14 to: c/o Scott Waldrop, 10021 Scenic View Terrace, Vienna, Virginia 22782, USA.  
E-mail: twistedtower@earthlink.net  
Web Site: www.ttd.cjb.net

## UNVEILED / TRAUMA "Split" CD 2000 (Psychic Scream Entertainment)

Malaysian UNVEILED starts the CD with 4 mid-paced Death Metal songs. Its members are Feisal (vocals), Yusmira (drums), Jake (guitars) and Obit (bass). The production is more or less OK, though I felt

# ALBUM REVIEWS

the guitar parts too loud all the way. Music-wise it features a mix of dynamic guitar riffing, low distorted bass tunes, energetic deep growls (I like 'em a lot!) and a bit chaotic drumming. And what's more, there are some very cool cannibalistic yet horror-like intros as well. Preferred track: "Corpse Ritual Carnage". Contact UNVEILED at No. 9, Jalan 7/3, Taman Desa, 86000 Kluang, Johor, Malaysia (E-mail: [satanrule@hotmail.com](mailto:satanrule@hotmail.com)). Indonesian TRAUMA continues the massacre. This 5-man squad includes Donny Arief on drums, Wilman Taufiq & Heila Tanisan on guitars, Patrick Athena on bass and Nino Aspiranta on vocals. They perform 5 brutal songs in a quite powerful Death Metal interpretation that most of all reminded me the masterpieces of the Swedish GRAVE! Their songs are totally filled up with the so-called impulsive force of Swedish Death Metal. Well-constructed guitar parts, catchy drumming, extremely deep growls (here and there spiced with screaming ones), brutal bass sound and all this supported by a great sounding quality. Fantastic Death Metal dynamism! Preferred tracks: "Vomit Rivers of Blood" and "Impulse to Create". Contact TRAUMA at Komplek P.W.I. Blok 1 123, Jln. Tajuk Rencana, Cipinang Muara, Jakarta Timur 13420, Indonesia. E-mail: [morbidtrauma@lycos.com](mailto:morbidtrauma@lycos.com)

## UPPERCUT "Shroud Shifter" MCD 2001 (G.U.C.)

UPPERCUT was founded in October 1997 by Olaf (drums) and Daniela (vocals). Later on Nico (guitars/vocals) and Henrik (bass) joined them. After lots of gigs and a successful demo called "First Strike" the four-piece decided to unleash upon us their new masterpiece, the oddly titled "Shroud Shifter". It contains 8 ass-kicking Thrash/Death tunes in the traditional German way. I hope you know what this means? First of all, it means a straightforward type of riffing and guitar-centric song-structures. It was also great to notice that the band recorded this brilliant 28 minutes stuff in the studio of WASTELAND guitarist Stephan Kern. I can even comment on some similarities between the two bands, though musically those parallels do not reflect badly on the overall production. UPPERCUT just makes everything the right way! It is what we call decent and real Thrash Metal material with a good musicianship. That's it! Fans of brutal yet Death-influenced Thrash Metal will be 100% content with "Shroud Shifter". Oh, I almost forget to mention the gruesome vocal parts emerging straight from the throats of Daniela and Nico. They simply rule, especially when they scream together. Preferred tracks: "Nature's Blood", "Burning Air" and "Follow the Call". The price for this killer MCD is \$10 including postage. Band contact: Daniela Waletzky, Westerstr. 16, 38442 Wolfsburg, Germany (e-mail: [uppercut@wolfsburg.de](mailto:uppercut@wolfsburg.de)). Label contact: G.U.C., c/o Rüdiger Grasse, P.O. Box 280145, 01141 Dresden, Germany. E-mail: [G.U.C.@gmx.de](mailto:G.U.C.@gmx.de) Web Site: [www.guc-area.de](http://www.guc-area.de)

## URGEHAL "Atomkinder" CD 2001 (Flesh For Beast Records)

Norwegian URGEHAL cultivates the straightforward-type of Black Metal in their 3rd album to date. It was also great to notice that the trio – Mr. T.L. Messiah (rhythm guitar), Trond Nefas (lead guitar, bass, vocals) and Uruz (drums) – keeps their stuff sounding in the old-school Black Metal way.

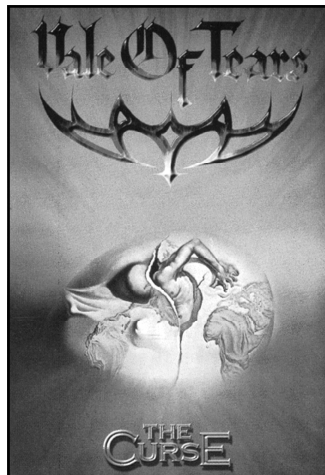
It means you'll bump into its rawest form that enables you to enjoy fast and brutal drum attacks along with chainsaw-like guitar riffs and rasping vocal parts. There are 7 songs in total. The 5 own tracks have been accomplished mainly in a storming way, but as an exception there's a song called "Through the Grace of Hell", which hides a lot of slow yet grimy guitar parts. Another interesting thing goes out to the soloing-work. It somehow differs from the majority of Black Metal bands as here we have them in a quite melodic and thoughtful way. Then we have 2 cover versions there. The first is "Ripping Corpse" from KREATOR, while the second one is "Antichrist" from SEPULTURA. Both tracks got a superb interpretation there. Moreover, they don't feared to add some blasting drum parts and intensity there. Excellent work guys! Keep it in this way as it is the way Norwegian Black Metal was supposed to be! The CD lasts over 28 minutes and comes with an awesome-looking booklet. Get it from: FFB Records, Harehaugveien 130, 3514 Honefoss, Norway. E-mail: [mkaalhus@frisurf.no](mailto:mkaalhus@frisurf.no) Web Site: [www.fleshforbeast.com](http://www.fleshforbeast.com)

## VAE SOLIS "The Blazing Shadows Beyond Eternity" MC 2000 (Metal Force Records)

This tape combines from two first demos of VAE SOLIS, namely "My Fire Is Eternal" (1998) and "Trilogy Of Unlight" (1999). Then the band's line-up was the following: Dmitriy Crysun (drums), Evgeniy Doronin (guitar), Alexandr Glavniy (guitar), Serge Tolmachev (keyboards), Vladislav Shahin (vocals) and Nikolay Kolesnik (bass). Musically they stand for the mix of storming Black Metal and majestic-like keyboard tunes. Their 7-song repertoire displays a quite good level and hides a bunch of great ideas. Sound-wise the material is varying as it contains two different recordings. Despite of this I found their stuff enjoyable. Preferred tracks are "Into Silent Void" and "A Great End". Contact: c/o Vladislav Shahin, P.O. Box 27, 50074 Krivoy Rog, Ukraine. Tel.: (0564) 74-05-06. E-mail: [vaesolis@mail.ru](mailto:vaesolis@mail.ru)

## VALE OF TEARS "The Curse" MC '99 (Self-released)

Despite that this album was professionally done (both music and cover design-wise) I do not found any new ideas on it. VALE OF TEARS offers nothing in



my opinion on this 6-song album. OK, they know how to handle their instruments, but nothing more. Compositionally this album is so lame and weak that when the last song comes to an end I don't have much desire to hear it again. Though, fans of slowly keyboard-filled Death/Doom Metal can check this album if they need a Hungarian band to fill in their collection! Contact address: VALE OF TEARS, Ferenc Mulicz, Szent István sugárút 61, 5300 Karcag, Hungary.

## WIZZARD "Black Heavy Metal" CD 2001 (Gutter Records)

Wow, what a fantastic masterpiece reached my ears by WIZZARD's latest and yet 4th output. The aptly titled "Black Heavy Metal" album contains 9 songs of pure Heavy Metal music, which amazed me at once. It's something I always wanted to hear from a Heavy Metal band of today's scene. Keeping the ancient spirit and honest attitude of old Metal masters like JUDAS PRIEST, MERCYFUL FATE or RUNNING WILD, the four musicians of WIZZARD developed their own and really powerful 21st century Heavy Metal style. The so-called Black Heavy Metal style, as they like to use. In the rows of WIZZARD you can find four incredibly high-skilled talents: Teemu Kautonen (lead & backing vocals), Daniel "Front" Reib (lead & rhythm guitars; bass), John Blöching (rhythm guitars) and Cy (drums). Let's see their songs in details. The title track opens the album, which is in my opinion their hymn to all the die-hard Metal fans! Really impressive one with great refrain. "Maleficium 1590" follows it with a strong JUDAS PRIEST influence as for its drum parts (I guess it's just kind of deep respect to them), but overall it's another catchy piece of Metal art with dark medieval lyrics about witches' persecution. Then comes "The Tell-Tale Heart" (based on Edgar Allan Poe's short story). A very dynamic tune with lots of fantastic riffs & melodies. It has been influenced by the priests again but this time guitar-wise. Straight from the heart comes the next song – "Red Eyes in the Night", which is my favorite one. The vocal parts are just excellent there! The fourth song, "Soul of a Devil", tells about the laws of Metal and displays a bunch of well-constructed solos. Then "Under the Eastern Sun" travels you to the bloody battlefields of a land, where no more battles were won. It really sounds so fascinating. The seventh song is rolling well by its galloping rhythms and tells the story of an unlucky day, i.e. "Friday the Thirteenth" that caused death for lots of Templars back then in the early XIVth century. It continues with "54 Stakes", which musically keeps the same line and lyrically uncovers the hypocrisy of Christian church and Holy inquisition in general. And at the end, we have "The Grandmaster's Curse". It completes the short story (maybe Trilogy) about the Templars along with two previous songs. It's the most keyboard-filled song anyway. Monumental keyboard parts, slow groovy guitar riffs with breaks and precise drumming what characterizes this masterful tune. The overall sound production is strong and just flawless in my view. I think this album should praise everyone in the Metal scene, it doesn't matter if you're a Thrash, Death or Heavy Metal fan. You will like it definitely, 'cause it rules. As they sung in their title track: "We

are traditional but unique". And that's true, no doubt! Check out their web site for more info [www.blackheavymetal.de](http://www.blackheavymetal.de); send an e-mail them at [wizzard@blackheavymetal.de](mailto:wizzard@blackheavymetal.de) or simply order this album directly from: Gutter Records, Rauheckstr. 10, 74232 Abstatt, Germany. E-mail: [hail@gutterrecords.com](mailto:hail@gutterrecords.com) Web Site: [www.gutterrecords.com](http://www.gutterrecords.com)

## XENOMORPH "Acardiacus" CD 2000 (Teutonic Existence Records)

This album combines from the first two demos of XENOMORPH, namely "Carnificated Dreams" (1994) and "Passion Dance" (1995). At once, I should point out that these 10 songs sound quite fresh & impressive yet after 6-7 years. These demos were recorded with the following members: Peter Spies (death-breath), Coert Zwart (guitar), Remco Krefit (guitar), Ciro Palma (drums) and Dennis van Driel (bass). We are talking about the purest form of Dutch Death Metal here! I like a lot their technical, intense and thrash-influenced attitude. It traveled me back to the years when Death Metal had its renaissance! Unfortunately it lasted only circa 45 minutes. Well, if you want to experience some well-played old-school Death Metal than you're definitely need to check this decent stuff. Band contact: XENOMORPH, P.O. Box 680, 2270 AR Voorburg, Holland. Label contact: Teutonic Existence Records, Jan Steenstr. 4, 5121 WJ Rijen, Holland.

## ZOMBIE HOLOCAUST "Bohóc A Pokolból" MC 2000 (Self-released)

The perverse masters of brutality have successfully returned with their newest 12-song stuff. On this record their line-up features the following blasphemers: Zsolt Ormándy (growls), Valentin Noszov (guitar), Barny (guitar), Gábor Óri (bass) and Hubert Sági (drums). Since their MC '98 the band progressed a lot and nowadays they are more into the brutal kind of Death Metal with unholy, gore yet funny lyrics. The topics are really different, for example there are lyrics about Scream (of course, the movie), Spanish



Inquisition, insane doctors, double satisfaction, Death Metal, stage-diving, etc. The music itself has a similar variety as well as they like to mix slow, fast, catchy, brutal and yet melodic parts during their compositions. Note that the lyrics are in Hungarian language. Recommended for Death/Grind/Gore freaks! Band contact: Noszov Valentin, Duna utca 9, 9200 Mosonmagyaróvár, Hungary.



# ALTAMIRA

## "XXI" demo '99

To be honest I am not fond of slow meditative kind of Doom Metal. Though it's well played and has an interesting lyrical conception that deals with some philosophical aspects of the human being. As I've noticed the 4-piece band concentrates more on the calm yet moody passages, but sometimes they spiced them up with great acoustic tunes, which are very good in my opinion. Well, if you like abstract philosophical Doom Metal then go ahead and get this 6-song demo from: ALTAMIRA, Zoltán Szabó, Hajós Alfréd 15, 3524 Miskolc, Hungary.

# ANTIGROUND

## Compilation Vol. 1 MC '99 (Hospice Records)

On this 4-way split release you can get acquainted with four Magadan-based bands. DISSECTOR opens Side A and offers us 5 well-constructed songs mainly into Thrash-influenced Heavy Metal. You can find in their repertory some strange things as well, for example samples and electronic ingredients. BJA/D follows them with one track in the so-called Russian Heavy Metal style. Side B begins with the repertory of ЗАВОДСКИЕ КАЛЕСА. To be honest, their rock-oriented 3-song stuff doesn't impressed me at all. Too soft so to say. And finally comes FOBIA. This band deserves the attention as they play an interesting kind of Thrash/Death Metal full of great yet unordinary guitar-riffs. In a word, if you ain't familiar with metal bands from Magadan then here's the chance to discover their music and to know more about their metal scene. Contact address: Vitaliy Miroshnichenko, P.O. Box 108, Glavpochtamt, 685000 Magadan, Russia. E-mail: muh@ns.mssn.ru

# ARGHOSLENT

## "Arsenal Of Glory" demo '96

First of all, thousands of thanks go to Goden (ETERNAL FROST Webzine) who sent me this cool demo. Catchy and ultra melodic Death Metal in the likes of early DARK TRANQUILLITY materials is what ARGHOSLENT offers us on this great 7-song demo. The five hell-creatures – Mertaugh (guitars), Stauffer (drums), Halac (guitars), Kitts (vocals) & Huff (bass) – display a high level on their instruments and what's more they're thoughtfully injected a bunch of fantastic thrash riffs into the entire material of "Arsenal of Glory". The overall production of the demo is remarkable and deserves the recognition amongst the fans of melodic Death Metal. So get in touch with this excellent Death Metal band. Contact: ARGHOSLENT, P.O. Box 393, Oakton, VA 22124, USA.

# BASTARD 'ZINE

## "Metalcohol" comp. Vol. 1 MC 2001

I got this cool compilation tape from Kritsakorn of BASTARD 'zine. It features 15 tracks in circa 60 minutes. The bands are the following: SCURVY (Brutal Death/Grind; Sweden), GROT (Insane Grind; England), ANTISOCIAL (Death Metal; Thailand), MENTAL DEMISE (Brutal Death/Grind; Ukraine), DARK MYSTERY (Raw Black Metal; Thailand), CRANIAL TORMENT (Slow Death Metal; Greece), CASTRUM (Medieval Death Metal, Ukraine), GHOR (Brutal Death/Grind; France), FORGOTTEN SPIRIT (Symphonic Black Metal; Ukraine), HERETIC ANGELS

(Neurotic Death/Black; Thailand), FLATULATION (Brutal Death; France), GOREROTTED (Brutal Death/Grind; England), GORTIA (Raw Black Metal; Thailand), AGATHOCLES (Mince core; Belgium) and KIBOSH SIBYL KISMET (Melodic Black/Death; Singapore). As you noticed there's a big variety in styles. Yeah, it was great to listen to such exotic bands as KIBOSH SIBYL KISMET, DARK MYSTERY or HERETIC ANGELS. But in my opinion SCURVY, GOREROTTED and MENTAL DEMISE are reached the best achievements. Contact: Kritsakorn Thirasattayawong, 133/63, Pattarawan Village, Moo 2, Cheumsampan Road, Nongjok, Bangkok 10530, Thailand (S.E.A.). E-mail: zakk@thaimail.com

# BESTIAL MOCKERY

## "War: The Final Solution" demo 2000 (Impaler Of Trendies Productions)

The Swedish chainsaw demons have finally returned. Their new 6-track demo will travel you to the most extreme dimensions of Black Metal. There are 3 unholy creatures involved in this hellish effort, namely Master Motorsåg (pissed off & burning, chainsaw execution), Doomanfanger (666 barbwire-axe, 4 eastern-front attacks) and Warslaughter (atomic power explosions & darkness). Side Final includes "Slaughter Mass" (a hyper fast yet brutal tune with insane vocalizing), "Slaining the Life" (a traditional BM song with fine chainsaw effects) and "Necroslut" (a great song with catchy SODOM-like riffs), while Side Solution features "Morbid Chainsaw Extermination" (another brutal tune with a fantastic refrain), "Chainsaw Enforcer" (that song should be a hymn for the chainsaw maniacs, it's for sure) and "Rest in W.A.R." (a short grinding track). I like their stuff very much, 'cause it sounds extreme plus rather unordinary, and I am sure about the fact that most of you will like it the same way. The ones who admire the materials of such old-school bands as SODOM, IMPALED NAZARENE or NIFELHEIM will be definitely pleased by this 6-tracker too. Genuine Black/Thrash stuff with maximum aggression & brutality! This masterpiece comes with a good sound quality and b/w cover. Band contact: c/o Sahlin, Lgh 8, Birkagatan 8b, Wisby, Sweden. E-mail: bestialmockery@hotmail.com Web Site: <http://www.angelfire.com/wy/bestialmockery/>

# BESTIAL MOCKERY

## "Nuclear Goat" EP 2000

Originally this item should be reviewed in the vinyl section since it was released as a split 7" EP with SUICIDAL WINDS. However I decided to review it here as I got only the songs of BESTIAL MOCKERY. Well, there are 3 stylistically varied songs from this Swedish cult band there. The first one "Nuclear Goat" is a surprisingly slow tune with lots of groovy guitar riffs mainly reminiscent of UNLEASHED. No doubt, it's a Death Metal tune! Then comes "Father in Heaven" in the traditional BESTIAL MOCKERY way, i.e. with fast chainsaw riffing, blasting drumming and extra sick screams. It follows the new version of "Shrapnel Fire", which got even a more raging interpretation as on "Chainsaw Demons Return" demo '98. Excellent old-school Black/Death/Thrash material played from heart! At the end of the tape there's also enclosed their special comp. track called

# DEMO REVIEWS

"Possessed with Erection", which has been featured on "...from the Underground" CD released by X-treme Records. This track delivers us another infernal nightmare kept in the old good spirit of Black/Thrash style. I can advise BESTIAL MOCKERY exclusively for the die-hard old-school metal fans! Band contact: c/o Sahlin, Lgh 8, Birkagatan 8b, Wisby, Sweden. E-mail: bestialmockery@hotmail.com Web Site: <http://www.angelfire.com/wy/bestialmockery/>

# BEYOND DARKNESS

## "Deep Inside Of You" demo-CD 2001

The roots of BEYOND DARKNESS lead us to 1992, when Shoji and Takuo formed their Death/Thrash band called DARK RITUAL. After having released 3 demos they decided to form a new band. So BEYOND DARKNESS was born in 1998. Its actual line-up consists of Shoji Hoshiyama (vocals, guitar), Kenji Aoyagi (lead guitar), Hikaru Yada (bass) and Takuo Itoh (drums). On their first demo they present us 3 melodic gothic-influenced Heavy Metal tracks in nearly 25 minutes. These compositions have been precisely worked out and arranged. As for the goals of the band I can say they definitely lay in the good use of slow yet mid-tempo guitar riffs and clear-type vocals. Their material has a relaxing character mainly because of the abstract atmosphere and thoughtful solos of Kenji. To all this you should also add the fantastic sound production and decent packaging. Contact address: Shoji Hoshiyama, 3-2-302 Ikegami-cho, Kawasaki-ku, Kawasaki city, Kanagawa 210-0864, Japan. E-mail: beyonddarkness@hotmail.com

# BLACK ALTAR

## "Na Uroczysku..." demo '97 (Odium Records)

This Olsztyn-based band features Shadow (vocals, bass, keyboards), Mateusz (session guitar in 1<sup>st</sup> track), Wojtek (session guitar in other tracks) and Docent (session drums programming). By the words of Shadow they play "Holocaust Dark Magic Metal", but for simplicity I would say that their 8-song material is sound like an old-school Death/Black stuff with a big dose of keyboard effects and harmonies. Side A contains 5 mid-paced Death/Black songs full of drum breaks, plain CELTIC FROST-like guitar riffs and evil vocal parts; while side B represents some really dark tunes with a definite ambient-character. The demo sounds in an excellent way being recorded at the famous Selani studio. Anyway the music itself is too varied, so I can advise this stuff for both Black and ambient fans as well. BLACK ALTAR & Odium Records contact: c/o Dariusz Sieradzki, Ul. Gebika 47, 10-691 Olsztyn, Poland.

# BLACK FIRE

## "Born To Be Burn" EP 2000 (Dark Oracle Records)

BLACK FIRE comes from Thailand and plays into-your-face brutal Death Metal. However this characterization goes well only for 3 songs out of 4. These first three tracks show the brutal side of the band with ultra deep growls, blasting drumming & heavy guitar riffs (lyrics for them are in Thai language), while the last track "Agony" (with English written lyrics) looks like a love song featuring lots of romantic & emotional parts.

Moreover, it comes along with clear-type vocals. It's not a band song at all, but it doesn't fit too much to their so-called brutal Death Metal approach, even if they used some grinding drum parts at the end of it. Anyway, it's a quality Death Metal material from an exotic band. So check it out! On this record their line-up is: Pomprorn Ekawat (vocals), Nuttapoom Prapaiboon (guitars), Suriyapong Sriprapan (guitars), Pongpan Eamehaug (bass) and Prakriat Tesukanun (drums). Band contact: BLACK FIRE, 683/17, Soi Jarunsanitwong 43, Bangkoknoi, Aroonummarin, Bangkok, 10700, Thailand.

# BLOODSIMPLE

## Demo '99

This 5-song demo includes a strange mix of Black & Death Metal from Louisiana's BLOODSIMPLE. Groovy, mid-paced guitar riffs spiced with dynamic drumming are the basic elements of this stuff. The vocals partly come in rasping, scream-like way or like deep growls for a few moments. The drawling yet melancholic atmosphere makes this stuff really memorable and interesting all the way. As a demo it sounds rather good. Preferred tracks: "Misanthrope" (there's also a few cool acoustic parts there) and "Forgotten Sanctity". The members are Josh Lavespere (lead vocals/lead guitar), Kris Stevenson (rhythm guitar/backing vocals), Brandon Sharon (bass guitar), Jeremy White (session drums) and Colt Fontenot (live drums). The cost of the demo is CD \$10, tape \$8 (Overseas), \$8 and \$5 for the USA. Mailing address: Kris Stevenson, P.O. Box 651, Prairieville, LA 70769-0651, USA. E-mail: pknpah@aol.com Web Site: <http://bloodsimple.musicpage.com>

# CASKETGARDEN

## "An Ever Rounding Circle" demo '99

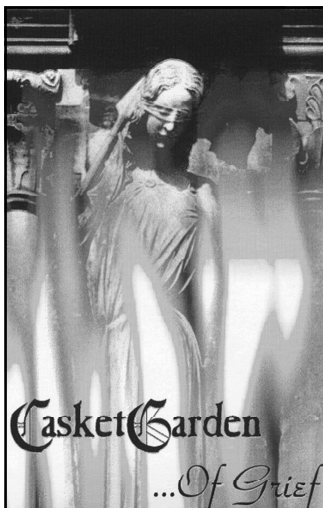
An impressive debut demo done by a great Hungarian Death Metal quintet, namely CASKETGARDEN. The band's line-up includes Attila Cseh (drums), István Cseh (vocals), Péter Musitz (guitar), Csaba Szabó (bass) and Balázs Tóth (lead guitar). Combining the marks of AT THE GATES and DISMEMBER with some own ideas these guys achieved a similar atmosphere in their 4-song repertory as the before mentioned bands on their albums in 1995 (of course, with less originality and sound quality). Nevertheless, it's a well done demo that worth of your interest! Contact: c/o Balázs Tóth, Mosonyi Mihály u. 39, 9200 Mosonmagyaróvár, Hungary. E-mail: casketgarden666freemail.hu

# CASKETGARDEN

## "... Of Grief" EP 2000

The band is still under the big influence of AT THE GATES' brilliant "Slaughter of the Soul" album. Their new 6-song EP was recorded in Sturovo, Slovakia (so the sound is very good!) with the same line-up as it was on their debut demo. This time they reached a fantastic level of songwriting on "... Of Grief" that is amazingly close to the "Slaughter..." album, of course. Moreover, it could be the continuation of AT THE GATES' spirit & legacy. If so, then CASKETGARDEN is something like a reincarnation of AT THE GATES in 2000. Indeed! Why not?! Although I found some GRAVE-like riffs in track "Crystallies" and here and there the solos of Balázs Tóth reminded me David Blomqvist's style of soloing from DISMEMBER. But overall it's a decent release with flawless tracks like "Grotesque Soul Embodied" and "I Witness".

## DEMO REVIEWS



Warmly recommended stuff for the fans of above mentioned bands as well as for the ones who like the melodic kind of Death Metal! The tape has a well-designed color cover with lyrics, photo and additional info. Order this piece of art from: c/o Balázs Tóth, Mosonyi Mihály u. 39, 9200 Mosonmagyaróvár, Hungary.  
E-mail: casketgarden666freemail.hu

## CAVUM

## "Cavus" demo-CD 2000

This demo combines just from two songs, but what songs? To be honest it is the best demo I ever heard from a Hungarian band. Amazing how skilled are the musicians of CAVUM. Its line-up gathers such persons as Szilárd Ványi (guitar), Tamás Horváth (bass), Olivér Ziskó (drums) and András Nagy of SEAR BLISS on vocals. They present 2 fantastic jazz-influenced Death Metal compositions there that musically should be placed at one level with the mighty materials of CYNIC, ATHEIST and PESTILENCE. Right! We're speaking about progressive yet futuristic Death Metal here. You'll bump into an indescribable atmosphere and supreme art of Metal music that surely bears all the trademarks of technical Death Metal and Jazz. To all this I can add the potential use of cosmic-like effects and thoughtful lyrics. Both tracks, namely "Irregular Personality" and "Orbital Eccentricity", include overcomplicated riff structures as well as precisely played bass and drum parts. I have to say it's a flawless material that deserves to be known between the fans as more as possible. No doubt, it's a must for every fans of progressive Death Metal! Labels! Give a chance for this band! Band contact: Szilárd Ványi, Gyári u. 1, 9443 Petőháza, Hungary.

## CRAWLSPACE

## "Death 'n' Roll" demo-CD 2000

The new professionally released CRAWLSPACE stuff includes 6 Death 'n' Roll tracks and lasts about 23 minutes. The band is: Leif (bass & vocals), Patrick (guitar & vocals) and Dirk (drums). They managed to get an incredibly tough yet heavy sound production for "Death 'n' Roll". Musically the band does something similar as ENTOMBED on their "Wolverine Blues" album. They combine groovy Death Metal riffs along with rock 'n' roll- and blues-like patterns. Very interesting mix so to say, which comes in a powerful and elaborated way. Moreover the members show a play-from-your-heart attitude that makes their material more than enjoyable. Buy it right now or be dead! Preferred tracks: "Farewell to the Flesh" & "Born in Pain and Loved to Death".

By the way, the CD comes with a pro-done color cover and a well-designed lyric-sheet. Band contact: CRAWLSPACE, Dirk Meinelt, Neusalzer str. 75, 63069 Offenbach, Germany.  
E-mail: crawlspacer666@aol.com  
Web Site: www.crawlspacer.de

## CRIMSON

## "Evolution" demo-CD 2000

Out of Finland comes this young but all the more promising Heavy/Doom Metal act. Musically the trio – Juho Kinnarinen (vocals/guitar), Jukka Tolppanen (bass) and Sami Puolakka (drums) – creates similar kind of tunes as for example their fellows from SENTENCED. Anyway, I should stress that here we have something more original. Maybe it is because the raw sound and strange atmosphere that came from their 4-song demo in general. These songs have been structured really thoroughly and are great to listen to, though the drummer plays a bit inaccurate here and there. Nevertheless, I think it's a good demo despite of the short playing time (circa 14 minutes). If you're into melodic Doom with clear vocals and memorable tunes than it's for you. Anyone interesting in obtaining of this cool demo-CD is encouraged to contact CRIMSON at: c/o Juho Kinnarinen, PL 5, 70201 Kuopio, Finland.  
E-mail: jkinnarinen@hotmail.com

## CRIPPLE CHRIST

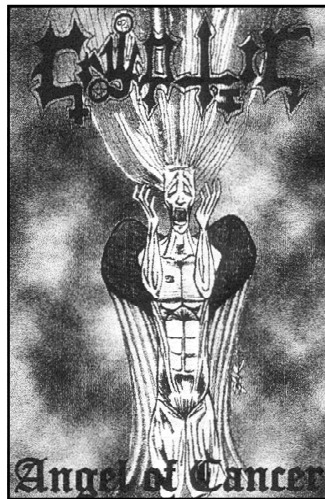
## "Нехай ісус горить у вогні" demo '97

CRIPPLE CHRIST plays Brutal Death Metal in the vein of classic DEICIDE materials. Moreover their lyrics deal with antichristian things too. What a similarity? Well, you can listen to 4 crushing Death Metal songs there. There are no keyboards, female vocals or shit like that just the pure brutality & aggression. The only annoying thing goes out to the weak drum-machine sound used during these killer tracks. Anyway it's warmly advised for fans of DEICIDE! Band contact: c/o Dmitry Sereda, P.O. Box 228, 16610 Nezhin, Ukraine.

## CRYPTIC

## "Angel Of Cancer" demo '97

This 6-song demo reminded me a lot the old good times. CRYPTIC plays old-fashioned Death Metal with Thrash influences. Moreover, the trio, – Nate (bass/vocals/keyboards), Mike (rhythm/lead guitars) and Aaron (lead/rhythm guitars), – has been definitely influenced by early MORBID ANGEL materials at that time,



especially by the classic "Altars of Madness" album. They follow the traditions of this great album not only in their music but lyrics-wise as well. I should say they are rather skilled musicians. Just listen to "Into the Abyss", the title track or the remarkable instrumental-like "Ishtar" songs. Very good bass- and soloing-work were performed there too. It's a decent demo, no doubt! Unfortunately, CRYPTIC no longer exists as of July '98. And as the result, a new band, THE CRYPT, was born from the ashes of CRYPTIC by bassist/vocalist Nate, but has not recorded any new material. For any information on THE CRYPT, please write to: Nate Jacobs, P.O. Box 313, Fish Creek, WI 54212-0313, USA.  
E-mail: nate\_jacobs@hotmail.com

## ДАВОРИЯ / ORTHODOX

## "Грусть" / "Всплед За Истиной" MC '99 (Боянов Гимн)

The split begins with 5 songs from the Russian Doom/Black act called ДАВОРИЯ. Unfortunately, this 6-piece band doesn't able to create anything new, not heard before. Their repertory is full of 10 years old things. So I'll better skip them. ORTHODOX continues the tape with 4 songs into melodic Doom Metal. Well, they're also not too original, but still combine some great elements to their music. Lots of slow meditative guitar passages, emotional female vocals, clear bass tunes, plain drum rhythms and acoustic guitar parts characterize their stuff. The sound is OK for both bands and the tape comes with a decent b/w cover. So fans of ultra slow Doom Metal are encouraged to check this split out. Label contact: Evgeniy Gudilov, P.O. Box 11402, 49125 Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine.

## DARK MYSTERY

## "Castle Of Sorrowful" demo '99 (Funeral Records)

This Thai-based one-man Black Metal band formed back in '95. Yet only in '99 came out its first demo. The mastermind behind DARK MYSTERY is Lord Legendary (all instruments, vocals). He created 4 unholy



songs in the vein of Norwegian Black Metal materials circa 1992-1994 period. That means you'll find there raw yet raging Black Metal with inhuman screaming vocals. The sound is also similar to that period of time. So chainsaw guitar-sound is guaranteed. Do you wish to take a journey into the castle of sorrows? If so, then take your pen and write a letter to: DARK MYSTERY, c/o Dark

Legendary, 85, Moo 13, Prapradang, Samutprakan, 10130, Thailand.  
E-mail: dark666mystery@hotmail.com

## DEATHSAINT

## "...And Death Will Embrace You" demo 2001 (Hazard Productions)

On DEATHSAINT's 6-song material you can get acquainted with a decently executed symphonic kind of Black/Death Metal. The quartet does everything on a quality level, though the use of the drum-machine makes their sound mechanic in general. After the meditative effect-based intro the band initiates us into 3 fast and ultra-melodic Black/Death tunes, which have been spiced up by the folk-motivated instrumental song "Pagan Fears, Pagan Dreams" plus a rather calm outro. The band mainly operates with marvelous keyboard passages, high-pitched rasping vocals, artful bass lines and opulently tuneful guitar riffs there. Unfortunately, there's a lack of originality in most of their compositions and that fact reflects badly on the overall production. Nevertheless, I can advise this 19 minutes stuff to every fan into the keyboard-filled type of Death/Black Metal. Label contact: c/o Dmitry Sutormin, P.O. Box 123, 220013 Minsk, Belarus.  
E-mail: hazardprods@tut.by

## DEFINITION SANE

## "The Trial" demo 2001

DEFINITION SANE has born out from the ashes of ALL DIES. Its line-up features Alexey (growls), Igor (guitar), Pavel (guitar), Dmitry (bass) and Yuri (drums). Right here I should point out that this demo was recorded in the well-known Beat Studio (Kharkov). So it sounds pretty fair! "The Trial" combines 8 technical Death Metal tracks in the vein of early CANNIBAL CORPSE materials, though there's a big influence of Swedish melodic Death Metal acts as AT THE GATES or DARK TRANQUILLITY in their music as well. The guitar riffs are quite complex and well constructed I would say. As for the vocals, they ranging mainly from the deep in ass growls to some blackish shrieks and screams. The rhythm section is all right as well. But to be honest, I don't like the disturbing sound of the cymbals, which are too loud sometimes and thus the drums drown in its noise. To sum it up, it's a decently done demo that could be even better (as for its overall sound) with a more professional mixing. Nevertheless, I warmly advise it to any Death Metal freaks! Preferred tracks: "...Remember the Pain", "Veil of Apathy" and "Wait...". Band contact: Sinitisky Yuri, Kybalchicha str. 22/55, 10009 Zhitomir, Ukraine.  
E-mail: ms@glpost.zt.ua

## DISSECTOR / VIVARIUM

## "Born. Pay" demo '99 (Hospice Records)

Another great band from Magadan. This promising quartet – Yan (vocals, guitar), Polkovnik (guitar), Stas (bass) and Ulrich (drums) – plays melodic Heavy Metal with definite Thrash Metal influences. They deliver us 9 riff-oriented songs spiced up with amazing soloing work, pummeling bass lines, devastating drumming and die-hard vocalizing. Songs like "Universal Mourn", "Tomorrow Will Change Nothing" or the title track "Born. Pay" will entice you to listen to this band again and again. It's a good quality material, which should be praised by most of the metal fans. Contact address: Vitaliy Miroshnichenko, P.O. Box 108, Glavpochtamt, 685000 Magadan, Russia.  
E-mail: muh@ns.mssn.ru



# DOOMSDAY

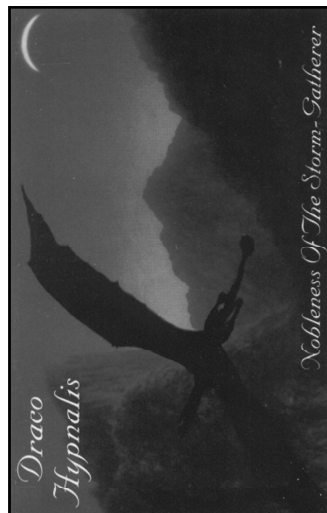
## "Haláltánc" demo '99

Attila Petheő (guitar/bass/vocals) is the only responsible person behind this doomsday celebration. He managed to come up with a fantastic sound production and song-writing technique. His musical influences are definitely came from the fundaments of Doom Metal. I noticed the strong influence of such Doom monsters as MY DYING BRIDE and ANATHEMA in his 4-song creation. It is a very well composed stuff having a drum-machine basis that not sounds too mechanical, thus giving a chance to fling open his songs in all aspects. Good demo, which can be ordered from: DOOMSDAY, Attila Petheő, Jeruzsálem str. 8, 10/60, 3200 Gyöngyös, Hungary.

# DRACO HYPNALIS / ROMANTIC LOVE

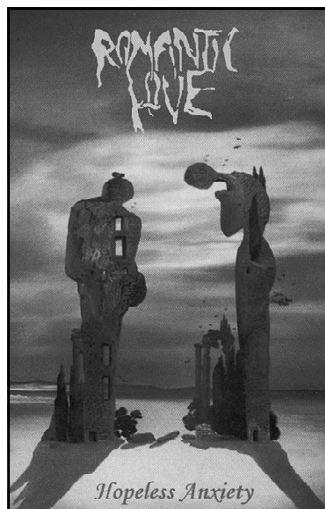
## "Nobleness Of The Storm-Gatherer" / "Hopeless Anxiety" split demo 2000

I got this cool split release from Martin (vocalist of DRACO HYPNALIS). Beside him there are Ivoš (bass, programming) and Mira (guitars, keyboards, programming) in the rows of DRACO HYPNALIS. This resolute trio opens the split. They play aggressive but still with lots of melodies Black Metal in their 6 well-composed songs.



To achieve a tougher sound they used accompanying keyboard parts. Anyway they don't exaggerate them, as most of the black bands are like to do. And in contrast with lots of so-called true Black Metal bands they do a big emphasis on the professional playing and thoughtful structuring of songs. Thus you can listen to cool tunes all along. But what impressed me the best is goes to the extra vicious screams of Martin. They are unbelievably gruesome ones. Another exciting thing is involved in their "Oracle of Inner-Bonded Blue Flame" tune, where they used a Vivaldi theme from "The Four Seasons" masterpiece. Technical Black Metal at it's best! DRACO HYPNALIS contact: c/o Martin Kašpárek, K. Svetlé 490/84, Zlín 760 01, Czech Republic (e-mail: dracohypnalis@sezam.cz). Side B is reserved for ROMANTIC LOVE. With such a sentimental bandname one would expect a Doom or Gothic-oriented stuff. Despite this we got 4 ultra technical and brutal Death Metal songs. Surprised? Me too. The trio – Petr Pruč (guitar, vocals), Jiri Pospech (guitar, lead vocals) & Lukáš Jelinek (drums, growling vocals) – professionally mixes their own ideas along with the heritage of such well-known acts as ATHEIST, SADIST and CYNIC. That means they experimenting with lots of musical styles beginning from jazz and ending with grindcore. Moreover they do it

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quite well and thus managed to get a fantastic alloy of unordinary elements in the framework of their futuristic Death Metal approach. Progressive brutality with maximum originality! Preferred tracks: "Return" and "Blindness". ROMANTIC LOVE contact: c/o Lukáš Jelinek, Družba 1273, Hulin 76824, Czech Republic.

## F.O.B.

### "Blame?" demo 2000

This is the third demo of the Czech Death/Thrash band F.O.B. And I should say they astonished me quite a lot with their new 7-song material. Everything is totally professional there. The sound production is outstanding and the songs are extremely well constructed. So music-wise their progression is more than audible. Moreover, their songs got a more complex and yet brutal character with lots of fantastic solos, catchy guitar riffs and some crazy grinding drum parts. The vocal parts have progressed as well. Now they come in a deeper growling way compared, for example, to their previous "Fobia" demo '97. The members of F.O.B. are still the same, i.e. Koue (vocals & rhythm guitar), Bendis (lead guitar), Corbow (bass & vocals) and Máty (drums). I think this band is ripe for a CD release. Labels!!! Hurry up and get in touch with them! Band contact: F.O.B., Jiri Volný, Petra z Ústí 1733, 390 02 Tábor, Czech Republic.

E-mail: fob@seznam.cz

Web Site: www.geocities.com/mrdeadhead.geo/fob/



## GENOCIDE

### "World Chaos" demo 2000

Alex of GENOCIDE sent me this tape, but unfortunately with a minimal information about it. So I'll do some conclusions starting from their music itself. "World Chaos" contains 7 songs into melodic Thrash/Death Metal. These songs are professionally played & arranged and display a very strong musicianship. The overall sound production and mix have been carefully executed. To all this you can add a fantastic soling-work, which plays quite a big role in their repertory. Believe me these solos are worth to check out! Just listen to songs as "World War-III", "No Law" or "World Chaos", but I can restfully list here the other left songs as well as they are also remarkable ones. Thoughtful guitar riffs, chaotic bass lines and catchy drum parts are the characteristics of GENOCIDE's music. Recommended for fans of melodic Thrash/Death Metal! This stuff has been recently out on Moon Records in MC format. To order it, please contact: Moon Records, P.O. Box 104, 03062 Kiev, Ukraine.

E-mail: mail@moonrec.kiev.ua

## ILL-NATURED

### "Die By The Axe" demo 2001

This hellish demo was unleashed upon us by two unholy maniacs, namely Emil (guitar, bass & vocals) and Rikard (drums & vocals). At once I should mention that ILL-NATURED cultivates & supports the old-school Thrash/Death Metal movement in its 7-song demo stuff. On one hand, they do something similar to PENTACLE, i.e. about a big respect to the heritage of such bands as HELLHAMMER and CELTIC FROST. Just check out their great cover version of CELTIC FROST's "Circle of the Tyrants" and you'll understand what I am talking about. On the other hand, the approach of ILL-NATURED is quite different from the usual retro band's attitude as they combine lots of extreme & aggressive parts in their music (like BESTIAL MOCKERY, for example). I mean the grinding drumming and ultra crazy vocals here. Songs like "Osculum Infame" and "Die by the Axe" can kill very well with their frightful vocalizing. To all this you can add a fair sound of instruments, a good packaging as well as some really splendid lyrics. Fans of the old Black & Thrash Metal should check this evil stuff. The axe has spoken!!! Contact ILL-NATURED at: c/o Emil Johansson, Sunnanvindsvägen 1A, 45160 Uddevalla, Sweden. E-mail: ill\_natured68686@hotmail.com Web Site: http://www.geocities.com/lordhellspawn\_666

## IN EXTREMIS

### "Perception Of Fate" demo '96

Are you craving for a technical, blasting and yet melodic Death Metal stuff? If so, then IN EXTREMIS is the band you searched for. Their 4-song demo will definitely please you. The band features Stas on vocals, Stridor & Fred on guitars, Pull on bass, Goroh on drums and A. Birkun on keyboards. As you see they operate with keyboards as well. Anyway, those keyboard parts are so different from the nowadays-popular DIMMU BORGI type of clichés that I even recommend you to check them out on "Perception of Fate". They add some dark and mysterious touch to their compositions. I can pick up such great songs as "Strange Morning" or "Clean of Light", which are ready to crush your mind by their intense guitar riffs and destroying,

unfortunately, drum-machine parts. Good work with good membership! Band contact: c/o Dmitry Sereda, P.O. Box 228, 16610 Nezhin, Ukraine.

## INCEST

### "Асфиксия Примитивизма" promo '99

INCEST presents us four songs of technical yet brutal Death Metal in a quite original interpretation. The band features Ed on vocals, Serge on guitars, Rus on bass and Max on drums. These four guys know how to play blasting, full speed ahead Death Metal tunes without the loss of melodies and complexity. They masterfully handle their instruments as well, creating an awesome atmosphere on the whole promo. I see a bright future for this quartet even if their vocalist growls in Russian language. Killer stuff! Contact address: Vitaliy Miroshnichenko, P.O. Box 108, Glavpochtamt, 685000 Magadan, Russia (e-mail: muh@ns.mssn.ru).

## INSISION

### Promo 2000

INSISION plays technical and brutal US-Death Metal in the vein of SUFFOCATION, CRYPTOPSY and IMMOLATION. Enclosed are 4 songs of ultra killer brutality with a superb sound production! Mass extermination at it's best! There's no way to hide from their dynamic guitar-riffing, blasting double bass attacks and extra deep growling madness. Powerful and devastating as US Death Metal always meant to be. The band builds up from the deadly-forces of Carl Birath (vocals), Roger Johansson (guitars), Daniel Ekeröth (bass) and Thomas Daun (drums). I warmly advise for all Death/Grind freaks to check this great band out! Preferred tracks: "Ex Oblivion", "Entangled in Thorns". By the way, INSISION's "The Dead Live On" MCD '99 is still available for \$10! Get in touch with 'em if you want to have your own copy. Contact addresses: c/o Thomas Daun, Birger Jarlsgatan 75, 113 56 Stockholm, Sweden; c/o Carl Birath, Inedalsgatan 10b, 112 33 Stockholm, Sweden (e-mail: Birath@chello.se). E-mail: SatanWins@insision.com Web Site: www.insision.com

## INSOMNIA

### "The Sister Of Night" demo 2001 (Hazard Productions)

This Belarus act delivers us 6 tracks in a quite raw but technical form of Death/Black Metal. On this record their line-up was Alex (guitars), Blacked (guitars/vocals) plus two guest musicians, namely Raven (keyboards – from DEATHSAINT) and Roman Scherbinsky (bass). I should say their songs have been accomplished in a very tasteful yet precise way that speaks about the seriousness of the band-members towards their creativity. Among the usual piles of melodic riff-structures you'll bump into a bunch of great acoustic inclusions and fantastic solos there. To keep their music as varied as possible they even involved some ass-kicking Heavy and Thrash Metal riffs as well. They managed to create some really harmonic and tuneful compositions there. So I am about to recommend you this circa 31 minutes stuff even if the drum-machine sounds a bit ear-annoying at times. Preferred tracks: "Third Eye" and "Mystic". Label contact: c/o Dmitry Sutormin, P.O. Box 123, 220013 Minsk, Belarus. E-mail: hazardprods@tut.by

## KRVESTREB

### "The Ultimate Sadizm" demo 2000

Here comes the debut demo of sadistic Gore/Black masters KRVESTREB. There

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are 3 mad butchers behind this unearthly creation, namely Bugra Toksoy (vocals), Halit Güngör (lead guitar) and Onur Karsli (rhythm guitar). Well, "The Ultimate Sadizm" includes 4 disgusting grind-influenced tracks and a short horror-like intro. To be more detailed I can say that their songs are about violating screams, chainsaw guitar sound, blasting drum parts and tormenting atmosphere in general. They do something similar to IMPALED NAZARENE. But you can find there some very-well executed solos too, which are simply great in my opinion. Really impressive stuff so to say! Keep it in this way! To order this circa 20 minutes long hell you should get in touch with: c/o Bugra, PK: 1297, 01122 Cemalpasa, Adana, Turkey. E-mail: krvestrebugra@hotmail.com

## KUMA RAFINATTA

### "La Mia Fica E Tutta Tua" demo 2000 (Fallon Distro)

Porno grind freaks attention! This stuff is definitely for you. You can get acquainted with 6 crazy songs full of fast grinding drumming, overbrutalized guitar riffs, insane vocalizing and some bizarre effects done by a special team of "Hot Girls". Besides this sexy "team" there are four sex-maniacs as well, namely Replikant (intergalactic vocals), Sugus (guitars), Epidem (bass) and Doktor (drums). Are you ready for something like that? Yeah! Then go ahead and buy your copy now! Band contact and distribution through: Fallon distro, Máchova 487, 66501 Rosice u Brna, Czech Republic.

## LUNATIC GODS

### "The Wilderness" promo 2001

The new album of LUNATIC GODS became rather monumental and the most mature one in the band's history. It's so varied that I don't even know how to start its reviewing. It's just fantastic to hear a band with so open-minded attitude. Musically there's a well-guessed combination from almost all the styles of the so-called Metal arsenal. So I am sure that you won't be bored during their 56 minutes long stuff. By the way after some minor changes their line-up looks as follows: Hiras (guitar), Psycho (drums), Horár (vocals), Emil (vocals), Richard (bass) and Lucy (keyboards). There are 13 well-structured songs mainly armored by the ingredients of Death/Thrash/Black/Doom styles; though this time the classic, atmospheric and yet symphonic kind of components got even a bigger role than in "Sitting by the Fire" (1998) album. Moreover I noticed that the band-members mix these styles all along with an incredible ease. The soloing work of Hiras is cool as always, while his riffs come in a very elaborated way. Regarding Psycho I should say that he's a quite skilled drummer as he able to play every kind of patterns be it complex jazzy one or crushing grind part. Concerning the vocal parts of Emil and Horár I can say the same as they've been executed rather thoughtfully. You can enjoy their contributions in the embodiment of deep growls, high-pitched screams, crystal-clear vocals and even operatic singing. The album disposes of a great solid bass base that was Richard's merit, of course. Finally some words about Lucy's keyboard lines. They've been really thoughtfully worked-out and arranged to be honest. The atmosphere in such songs as "Show Me Your Soul", "The Stone" or "The Wilderness" to name a few just speaks for itself. Another interesting thing is the clever involvement of exotic accompanying instruments (sitar, didgeridoo, drumbl'a) in a few songs. Accordingly increased the amount of eastern-based melodies per songs as well, which is a good step ahead I think. To all the said before just add a top quality

sound production and the masterpiece is ready. Metal fans all over the world can check this masterpiece out. LUNATIC GODS will definitely please your taste. Preferred tracks: "The Tormenting World" and "Confounded in Dust of Sin". Band contact: LUNATIC GODS, c/o Pavel "Hirax" Baricák, Jana Martáka 33, 036 08 Martin 8, Slovakia. E-mail: pavel@rebeca.sk

## LUST / BESTIAL MOCKERY

### "Live For Violence" split MC '99 (Impaler Of Trendies Productions)

Canada's most bizarre and cult-status Black/Death Metal band LUST opens this special split release. Their stuff contains 6 evil & torturing Black Metal songs recorded live in 1998. The necromantic warriors of LUST are Sabazio Diabolus (axe grinding, putrid vomiting), Genocide Lord (black death bulldozer) & Inferno (artillery, throat cancer). This demonic trio created an awesome yet hellish atmosphere during their violent tunes. Ultra sick vocals, chaotic drumming and sharp as blade guitar riffs are the peculiarities of LUST's repertory. The only objection as for me goes to the noisy sound production, which makes their stuff a bit unenjoyable. Anyway that's the point of the underground, isn't it? Recommended! LUST contact: c/o Bernard Asquin 9830-78 ave Admontion, Ab T6E-1N3, Canada. Swedish BESTIAL MOCKERY continues the split with 11 gut-ripping old-school Thrash-motivated Black Metal songs recorded live in 1998 at two different places. The bestiary on this record was the following: Master Motorsåg (bleeding ulcer & chainsaw incantations), Doomanfanger (666 strings maniac & naked vomit outbursts), Sir Torment (bass) & Warslaughter (atomic deathstrikes & shit for brains). These bastards of hell proved again their capability to create something outstanding and gruesome. They sound pretty original (especially when they use a chainsaw as an accompanying instrument, ha-ha...) yet extremely raw on these live recordings. Such songs like "Chainsaw Enforcer", "Possessed with Erection", "Chainsaw Demons Return" or the merciless "Shrapnel Fire" will make your ears definitely bleeding. In a word supreme sonic suffering is guaranteed! BESTIAL MOCKERY contact: c/o Sahlin, Lgh 8, Birkagatan 8b, Wisby, Sweden (e-mail: bestialmockery@hotmail.com). This split tape is available for \$4 (Europe), \$5 (World) at one of the above addresses or through: Impaler Of Trendies Productions, c/o Maximilien Varnier, 161 Avenue Alsace Lorraine, 52100 Saint-Dizier, France. E-mail: c3m.varnier@wanadoo.fr

## MALEDICTION

### "Eritis Sicut Deus..." demo 2000

Hungarian MALEDICTION offers us 7 songs in the old-school vein of Death Metal. Their line-up consists of Zoltán Terdik (vocals, acoustic guitar), Zoltán Péter (guitars), Ákos Várhalmi (guitars), András Gábor (bass) and József Képesi (drums). The sound quality is good enough, but I am not into the sound of the double bass at all. They're too weak for my taste. Anyway, the rest of instruments are well audible and enjoyable. Their songs are mainly based on crushing guitar riffs and storming drum parts, something similar to early CANNIBAL CORPSE, but not entirely after all, 'cause here we have more melodies and lots of clear-vocal operations. By the way, the vocal parts fluctuate from deep growls to high-pitched screams and shrieks in general. There's also a medieval-like instrumental song played on acoustic guitar, which is rather interesting.



Not bad stuff at all, though I advise to change the vocalist's manner, especially it goes to his clear vocals. Band contact: András Gábor, Mátyás F. tér 1, 7631 Pécs, Hungary. E-mail: andro@btkstud.jpte.hu

## MALICE

### "Symphony Of Darkness" demo 2000 (Griffin Music)

In the debut material of this Alchevsk-based Black Metal horde you can greet the Ukrainian DIMMU BORGIR. They successfully copied the aforementioned band's "Enthrone Darkness Triumphant" album and added almost nothing original to their own music. Even the overall atmosphere and the guitars' sound are the same too. And to all this you can imagine a miserable drum-machine sound and a less professional sound quality in general. This material is full of clichés. Band contact: MALICE, pr. Lenina 6/20, 94204 Alchevsk, Lugansk region, Ukraine.

E-mail: blackmalice@mail.ru

## MENTAL DEMISE

### "Credo Quia Absurdum..." promo 2000

This is the new 3-song demo of the masterful psycho-penetrators from Ukraine. Their line-up composes of Fester (guitar/screams), Tom Grinder (drums), Pinky (guitar/growls), Old (roar) and S. Vitkovsky (bass). "Credo Quia Absurdum..." displays a big step and progression (in the strictest sense of the word) in the band's career. "Spiritual Atavism Absurd" opens the



repertory with its complex guitar riffs, varied growling/screaming vocal parts, blasting drumming and artful bass lines. It has a rather abstract soloing work as well. The second song "Collective Obtrusive Neurosis" is about to crush your mind and bury all that is left by the intense brutality and mid-paced riff-massacres coming from inside of it. The last track "Senseless Saint (Prophet Mattoid)" is my favorite tune. It combines a lot of fast grinding beats, massive guitar riffs and merciless vocalizing at it's best. In a word, MENTAL DEMISE undoubtedly remained one of the most brutal yet progressive Death Metal bands out from the Ukraine. This stuff is a killer masterpiece! Go and get it from the band itself: Eugeniy Shikarewski, P.O. Box 34, 93100 Lisichansk, Lugansk region, Ukraine.

## M.F.

### "Carnal Knowledge" demo '99

Nine tracks of ultra brutal Gore/Grind music waiting for you on M.F.'s "Carnal Knowledge" stuff. The trio combines from Dmitry Sereda (vocals/guitar), Vladimir Srebenets (bass) and Dmitry Karlov (drums). It seems to me that the band's main aim was to play as fast as possible. They've done it, though sacrificed the accuracy of playing for it. It's just chaotic. You'll bump into blasting drumming, funny guitar parts and rather short tunes there. Recommended for die-hard Gore/Grind freaks exclusively. Band contact: c/o Dmitry Sereda, P.O. Box 228, 16610 Nezhin, Ukraine.

## M.F. / IMHOTEP

### "Bloodcladead Eyes" demo '99 / "The Dead World" demo '98

On this split release you can get impressed first by 15 crazy Gore/Grind songs of the Nezhin-based M.F. They follow the chaotic grinding way of "Carnal Knowledge" material. Their line-up changed a bit and it seems like some of the former musicians are changed their instruments as well. So now D. Sereda plays on drums and does some backing vocals, while V. Srebenets responsible for the guitar parts and the new guy S. Ostapenko plays the bass lines plus executes the insane growls. Maximum gore assault! To all this you can add a well-covered AGATHOCLES song, which is called "A Start at Least". IMHOTEP follows the bloodbath with 3 ass-kicking Death Metal tunes. This band was strongly influenced by the albums of CANNIBAL CORPSE (music-wise) and DEEDS OF FLESH (intro-wise). Everything is done on a high level with accuracy. So you can expect a professional brutality in their songs. Their line-up gathers such persons as Anubis (vocals), Voland (guitar), Zhenia (guitar), Vatek (bass) and Flesh (drums). Preferred tracks: "Devil Descended upon the Earth" and "The Bloody Execution". Order this killer split release before it's too late. Contact: c/o Dmitry Sereda, P.O. Box 228, 16610 Nezhin, Ukraine.

## MOON OF SOUL

### "Hang-Alkony-Menedék" demo '98

MOON OF SOUL plays progressive kind of Thrash Metal with big dose of modern hardcore influences. The demo includes 6 experimental pieces with lyrics in Hungarian language. Interesting thing that their drummer tries to bring as more jazz elements as possible, though it's all right with the experimental type of bands I think, isn't it? Good mix, complex tunes and a prodone tape await the ones who love the unordinary kind of Metal. Order it right now from: Gábor Cseryányszky Jr., Tompos str. 3. 1/5, 4600 Kisvárd, Hungary.



# MORTEMIRUS

## "Three Months Of Eternal Winter Night" demo '98

Well-played technical Death Metal is what MORTEMIRUS going to share with us on this demo tape. The recording isn't the best being recorded live, I suppose in the band's rehearsal room. Anyway, all the instruments are well audible and the overall sound is enough tolerable too. Let's see what we have here. There are 5 tracks full of complex guitar riffs, lots of rhythm changes, breaks and rather raw growling vocals. I would say all these songs have quite varied structures including slow, fast and mid-paced parts, respectively. Preferred tracks: "Suffer the Flesh", "Die in Hell" and "The Viscious Beauty". By the way, the latter one being overloaded with an unbelievable amount of melodies and harmonies is dedicated to the great Death/Grind masters CARCASS. Maniacs into technical yet melodic Death Metal are encouraged to check this stuff out! Band contact: Andrey Swansson, P. Alekseeva 21/2-10, 677000 Yakutsk, Russia. E-mail: tvik@chat.ru

# NECROPSY

## "Nihil Pathologicum" demo 2000

This Russian Death Metal band was formed in 1996. After numerous changes in their line-up the band splits up in 1998. Just a year later they decided to reunion in the following line-up: Jeff (guitar), Fox (guitar), McDie (vocals), Axen (bass) and White (drums). "Nihil Pathologicum" has 6 well-constructed songs in the Death/Thrash style. Their music is definitely a guitar-oriented one and I like it very much. Although they told me this demo isn't a finished product yet, I can restfully say it's enjoyable. The only bad thing I could complain on is in the loudness of vocals that pushed back a bit all the instruments here and there. Well, maybe I have to say that they used a drum-machine as well, which sounds rather naturally. I would say it's a decent material, in spite of some SLAYER-like riffs in the songs as "Post Mortal Defecation", "Necrophagous Children" and "Bacterial Decompose". All in all, if you like complex & guitar-centric Death/Thrash Metal with cool ideas then this stuff is surely for you! Contact address: Roman Potopov, Tupoleva str. 20-148, 394028 Voronezh, Russia.

# NIGHTSIDE

## "Shadows Weaver" demo-CD 2001

Originally this stuff was meant to be out on a record label, but later on the band decided to release it as a self-financed one instead. On this record the band consists of Davide (vocals), Ivo (bass), Luca (guitar), Marcello (guitar) and Matteo (drums). "Shadows Weaver" includes six melodic yet jazz-influenced Death Metal compositions. I would say with this stuff they entered to the category that is called "progressive". Lots of fusion-like motives and complex riff-structures adorn their songs. There's a great variation of different vocal parts there as well. The instrument handling is also remarkable. Nevertheless, their repertory still reminded me the classical AT THE GATES line here and there, which I found really exciting to be honest, because NIGHTSIDE is not trying to be a copy of them. On the contrary, they do a big emphasis on creating their own original style. Indeed,

# DEMO REVIEWS

I picked up a lot of innovative elements in "Shadows Weaver" and with time they'll definitely become the fundamental ones in their own style. So to say it's a decent material, which I can warmly recommend for fans of progressive as well as for fans of ordinary Death Metal! Buy it! Contact: NIGHTSIDE, c/o Matteo Calautti, via Lonati 6, 20029 Turbigo (Milan), Italy. E-mail: tompa@virgilio.it Web Site: <http://stage.vitaminic.it/nightside>

# TALES OF ANCIENT LAKES

## "Story II" compilation MC '98 (Ancient Lakes Productions)

Another good compilation tape, which contains 15 bands on 90 minutes tape, unfortunately, with minimal information about them. The bands are as follows: EVTHANAZIA, IZAKARON, FORGOTTEN SILENCE, PHANTASMAGORY, SANCTIMONY, INWARD PATH, NAHASH, HO-SPICE, HERESIARH, MISCREANT, APOCRYPHAL, FALL OF THE LEAF, DISSIMULATION, CASTRUM and SANATORIUM. As you see "Story II" covers a wide range of underground bands. I think this tape isn't available anymore, but as far as it's a great one, I advise you to contact Ancient Lakes Productions at: Vladimir Glushakov, Oktyabrya str. 17-26, 211970 Braslav, Belarus.

# TEMPLE OF OBLIVION

## "Dreamscapes" demo '97

TEMPLE OF OBLIVION plays drawing Doom Metal at its finest sense. "Dreamscapes" has 5 sorrowful songs plus intro/outro that sound-wise reminded me a funeral-like atmosphere. The members are Vadim Egorenkov (vocals/guitar), Alexander Ulanov (flute/keyboards), Alexander Chernyavsky (bass/vocals), Evgeny Vecher (guitar) and Vyacheslav Kapusta (drums). Slow guitar parts, deep growls, melancholic melodies and sadness that surround you all the way. Preferred tracks are "At Will of Creator" and "Tears of Gods". Manager contact: c/o Peter Bilenko, P.O. Box 12, 50063 Krivoy Rog, Dnepropetrovsk region, Ukraine.

# TEMPLE OF OBLIVION

## "Under The Crystal Mask" promo '98

On this 7-track promo the band follows the same musical line as it was on "Dreamscapes" (the line-up remained the same as well). The only change that ensued there, in my opinion, is in the use of varied vocal parts through the entire material. If you like long yet rather slow doomy compositions imbued by the spiritual sadness of these 5 doomers, then this is what you are searching for. And now enter the temple of oblivion and forget all your daily problems. Recently TEMPLE OF OBLIVION ceased its existence for the sake of MOURNFUL GUST, which has some T.O.O. members in its line-up as well. Their debut album, called "She's My Grief", was out a while on Ukrainian Metal Force Records. To get both materials you should contact their manager: Peter Bilenko, P.O. Box 12, 50063 Krivoy Rog, Dnepropetrovsk region, Ukraine.

# TESSARACT

## "A Sudden Outcome" demo 2001 +

## "Extreme Neurotic Depression" demo '95

TESSARACT's latest demo opens this split tape. The four-man horde - Roman

Deev (screams & growls), Alexander Belotzerkovskiy (guitars), Yuriy Volkov (bass) and Konstantin Zmievskiy (drums) - delivers us their well-tested Swedish-styled Death Metal. Nevertheless, their new compositions became more melodic and energetic at the same time. I guess it's due to their new guitarist Alexander, while their former guitarist Yuriy switched to bass. After the cool effect-based intro called "Regression Grows" we have 6 catchy Death Metal tunes plus an outro kept in the old-school Swedish line. Though the first two ones are actually re-recorded old tracks, namely "Fatal Invocation" from their demo '92 and "Sudden Outcome" from their "End of Depression" album 2000. Fortunately they've got a pretty different interpretation here. Then we have 4 indeed new tracks: "Prepare Yourself for the End", "Through the Sees... (of Bitterness)", "Sanity Simulation" and "Don't Trust". The band managed to accomplish 'em in a very polished way with lots of remarkable solos, groovy guitar riffs, soft bass links and tuneless drum patterns. And as a logical end we have a short sample-motivated outro called "Intimidation". The ones who crave for a comparison I can say that "A Sudden Outcome" sounds like a mixture between DISMEMBER's "Massive Killing Capacity" and "Like an Everflowing Stream" albums. That's a good Death Metal stuff! So the die-hard fans of Swedish Death Metal are more than encouraged to have this item in their collections! Well, on the other side of the tape we have the 5 songs of "Extreme Neurotic Depression" demo '95. They sound really raw and brutal at times. Back then the band consisted of Vladislav Polosuhin (growls), Georgiy Logvinov (lead guitar), Yuriy Volkov (rhythm guitar), Evgeniy Pavlov (bass) and Konstantin Zmievskiy (drums). In 1995 their music was strongly influenced by NAPALM DEATH, besides the Swedish Death Metal bands, of course. So you'll get some fast grinding tunes too. By the way, the last track "Dance Macabre" being recorded live represents how underground was a Death Metal gig at that times. In a word, this demo stuff gives us a historical insight into the band's early days. Recommended! Band contact: TESSARACT, c/o Konstantin Zmievskiy, P.O. Box 4167, 61166 Kharkov, Ukraine. E-mail: [hatecampaign@hotmail.com](mailto:hatecampaign@hotmail.com)

# TVANGESTE

## "Damnation Of Regiomontum" promo 2000

## (Боянов Гимн)

This promo tape represents 3 classic-music-influenced Black Metal tunes from the Kaliningrad-based TVANGESTE. They masterfully handle their instruments, especially the keyboard-player. Stylistically I can compare their music to the early OLD MAN'S CHILD albums, though TVANGESTE placed the so-called symphonic kind of Black Metal even to a higher level. Decorated by breath-taking solos, ultra melodic guitar riffs, enchanting operatic female vocals and maximally balanced sound they managed to step over the primitive Black Metal bounds and entered to a superior kind of dimension. This dimension is the purest essence of the art in itself. A must for fans of sympho-Black Metal! Label contact: Evgeniy Gudilov, P.O. Box 11402, 49125 Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine. Web Site: <http://tvangeste.musica.mustdie.ru>

# VAST FOREST

## "Among The Emptiness I Stay" demo '99

You can expect emotional folklore-influenced Black Metal in the 2 songs of VAST FOREST. These songs have been rather well structured featuring some very good Death Metal parts too, though keyboards and high-pitched blackish screams are the dominant in their repertory. "Dying Eternity" starts the tape, which is a mid-paced yet catchy tune with lots of usual keyboard parts and with a kind of melodic Black Metal attitude. The second one "Among The Emptiness" displays even a more technical approach of VAST FOREST, but unfortunately those technical parts appear only for a few seconds. The demo has a good sound and comes with a b/w cover. Band contact: c/o Sergey Ostapenko, 3-rd Microrajon (district) 10/3/10, 16610 Nezhin, Ukraine.

# WITCHCRAFT

## "On The Path Of Fogs" demo '99

This 4-song demo is simply great! It was executed by three unholy blacksters from Hungary, namely Winterlord (all guitars), Mordred (drums) and Angmar (vocals). What a cold atmosphere characterizes this demo. Totally old-school-oriented Black Metal is what we have here. If you go back to the 1992-1993 era, when bands as DARKTHRONE or IMMORTAL defined the second generation Black Metal style, you'll know what I'm talking about. Fast, merciless yet chainsaw-like guitar riffs, frozen screams and non-stop drumming that's WITCHCRAFT in some words. This demo was definitely done with pure Black Metal spirit. Fans of Norwegian-type of Black Metal should get their hands on this masterwork!

# X,Y,Z

## "Uncommon Space" demo '99

## (Fallon Distro)

Do you like crazy psychedelic mixture of Metal? Well, I hope so, because X,Y,Z stands for total brain-annihilation in this 4-song stuff. Innovative, cacophonous, experimental, jazz-influenced progressive Death Metal is what X,Y,Z offers you here. Go and get it if you want to experience some strange musical solutions built in the basic elements of Metal style! Band Contact: Igor Mores, Jiraskova 600, Rosice 665 01, Czech Republic. As far as Fallon Distro is distributing this demo you can get it directly from them as well. The address is: Fallon Distro, Machova 487, 66501 Rosice u Brna, Czech Republic. E-mail: [imores@pointcz.cz](mailto:imores@pointcz.cz)



Hello Gerre! You've recently released your 10th album called "Kings of Beer". What is the response to it been like? Tell me about that and anything else that's happening in the band at the moment.

- The response was quite good to the new album and we are satisfied with the result. But we were not able to play live the last couple of months, because I had really problems with my voice and much pain, that was really bad for the whole promotion. But I started to sing again two weeks ago and it's getting better. We hope to play live as soon as possible.

How do you feel about this album? Is there anything you would change about it?

- Yeah, we would change the cover, because the guy on the front cover is not fat enough, only 200 kg!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

You had a few line-up changes from 1994. Give us a short characterisation about the current members of TANKARD and tell us what's up with Andy, Axel and Arnulf. Have you any news from them? Do you still meet each other?

- Our new guitar player Andy plays also with the Frankfurt metal band called LIGHTMARE and he is a little bit confused, but a nice guy. Our drummer Olaf is a really antisocial punk fan and don't talk too much (but he drinks a lot!!!!!!). What's about Arnulf and Axel we don't really know, we don't have any contact to them, our old guitar player Andy lives in Berlin and still write songs and lyrics for us, we have a good contact.

In my opinion your actual release "Kings of Beer" has the same kind of atmosphere as it was on the "Two-Faced" album. I mean songstructure- and sound-wise. What do you think about this?

- Do you really think so????????? It's hard for me to criticize our own stuff, that's your turn, the only thing I can say is, that this time all the songs were written by the three other members together, so this was a new kind of working out songs. In former times one member brought a complete song to our practice room.

You achieved a perfect production on "Kings of Beer"! What was it like working with Harris Johns? Do you have a producer or studio in mind for the next record?

- We always worked together with Harris Johns and that is quite easy, because he knows all our bad and good sides. We didn't plan till yet for the next album, so we will see.

"The Tankard" was your last album for



**THE KINGS OF BEER HAVE RECORDED THEIR ANNIVERSARY ALBUM LAST YEAR! AND I SHOULD SAY IT'S SOMETHING KILLER THAT EVERY BEERTHRASH MANIAC SHOULD CHECK OUT RIGHT BEFORE HIS DEATH! I ASKED GERRE (VOCALIST) ABOUT ALL THE NEWS & HAPPENINGS IN THE BAND!**



Noise Records. How did you come into contact with Century Media Records? Are you pleased with how they handed things so far? How many releases you signed with them for?

- Yes we moved from Noise, because the contract was over and we wanted to check out a new label and we chose between different offerings, so we signed with Century Media and we are quite satisfied. But as far as I know the contract is already over, so we will see what happens.....

Can you share us some details about the lyrical conception of "Kings of Beer"?

- The lyrics are about sex, violence and beer as always.....hahaha. I think we did a good mixture of fun and serious lyrics. Shall I send them to you?????????????????

Whose idea was to re-record "Incredible Loudness" song from your '84 demo? It's killer! Are you going to re-record other old materials in the future?

- This idea we had a long time before and maybe you know there is a re-recording of the "Death by Whips" (also 1984) song on the "Disco Destroyer" album. Maybe we bring out the whole two demos on an album one-day for the real TANKARD maniacs, that they can hear how bad we sounded at these times...

Shall we expect a new video clip full of beer-madness?

- No, I don't think so, it's too expensive and if they show it only one or two times on TV it doesn't make any sense for good promotion.

Your side-project, namely TANKWART, has two albums out yet? Any plans to continue with third? What you think about Tom Angelripper's side-project ONKEL TOM that works in the same direction?

- No, there are no plans at the moment for a new TANKWART album, we prefer to play our own songs at the moment. Tom is a funny guy, I like that stuff.... Cheers!

What music you prefer to listen to frequently? What's in your stereo these days?

- I like to prefer the old stuff from the eighties I was grown up with bands like OVERKILL, ANVIL, EXCITER, EXODUS, VENOM..... But I also listen to new bands like OFFSPRING, PAPA ROACH,.....

I'm sure that you already got acquainted with the latest albums of DESTRUCTION, SODOM and KREATOR. What do you think about them? Will you going to play some ass kicking shows together?

- That would be great to play together with all these bands. I love the latest KREATOR album although it is a total different style, the new DESTRUCTION is a real killer....

What do you feel when you play live?

- We really prefer to play live instead of doing recordings in the studio, you can let out all your feelings and we always have a lot fun and much beer and.....

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

- Penthouse, Hustler and Playboy of course!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Well, how about wrapping this up with some words regarding the next TANKARD release? When can we expect it? Last beery words are yours.

- We don't really know till yet, but we will release something next year, maybe a mini-album or something like that..... Drink with class and say hi to all bangers in your country!!!!!! Hope to meet you one day and have a beer together.....

**TANKARD**  
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60460 Frankfurt/M.  
Germany

E-mail: Gerre@gmx.net  
Web Site: <http://www.tankard.org>



# DIRTY ROTTEN IMBECILES

**Read on this fantastic interview with the cult Punk/Thrash/Hardcore band, called D.R.I. Kurt Brecht (vocals) answered my questions.**

**What's going on in the D.R.I. camp these days? Any new material in progress...**

- We are preparing for our Tour of the USA in August. I am working on lyrics for new songs and I hope we can write a new album soon and record it somehow.

**What is the response to your latest album "Full Speed Ahead" been like?**

- People seem to like it. I like it! But everybody wants a new album so I guess we are doing something right!

**You have a special web site called Dirty Rotten Press for your books and future publishings. Please tell us more about it and regarding the topics your books are dealing with?**

- DirtyRottenPress.com is the website of my book company started back in 1988. I write books about interesting things that happen to me. I lived in a tree in California, was in a serious bus wreck in Mexico, and became a sex addict. I sell my books as well as cool D.R.I. videos and stuff.

**Wow, your life is full of curious things. And what can you tell about the other D.R.I. members? Did they experience similar things in their lives?**

- You will have to ask them!

**What things they're doing with pleasure beside the music, of course? I mean any special interests, jobs, etc.**

- Spike does website design. He did the D.R.I. site.

**Back in 2000 you left Rotten Records. Was it a serious loss for you?**

- We still have no new label, so I guess it was serious. We can still go back to Rotten if we want.

**I hope you got lots of better and better offers so far? If so please tell us who is the lucky label.**

- No new label yet.

**I know a couple of bands covered your songs lately, like SLAYER, ANTHRAX, CAPITALIST CASUALTIES and MR. BUNGLE. How do you like these covers? Did they reach the special D.R.I. mood in those tracks? What bands achievement do you like most of all and why?**

- I heard the SLAYER version of V.P. ("Violent Pacification" - ed.) and it was great. The other bands I have not heard. Did MR. BUNGLE record "I Don't Need Society"?

**In my opinion you're the biggest Punk/Thrash/Hardcore band ever. You influenced a lot of bands in the past and still influence new ones as well. Some of those bands became mainstream with the time, but D.R.I. always remains as underground as possible. It's like a destiny, 'cause you're definitely a cult band that should be recognized by everyone. What you think why is it so?**

- We chose in the beginning to play a type of music that is not really popular. We are a cult

band, but not one that should be recognized by everyone. I would like everyone to hear us but would never expect them all to like us!

**Your famous "Crossover" album back in 1987 defined a new style in my view. How do you see it?**

- We had the guts to let our heavy metal influences show in our music at a time when punk and metal were separated by a high fence. We took a lot of criticism at the time. But, we did what we believed was right. To write songs and make an album that we liked but possibly no one else would.

**By the way, what is your favorite D.R.I. album or song?**

- "Full Speed Ahead". Song - "Out of Mind off" the Definition LP.

**I have the CD version of the "Definition" album, but there's no track called "Out of Mind off". Is it a bonus track for the LP version?**

- Yes it is a bonus track. I have it on CD because I have a Japanese import that has all bonus tracks included.

**What can you tell us about its lyrical content?**

- It is a song about being different and people thinking you are crazy because of that, because you are not like them.

**In the beginning your brother Eric was also a part of D.R.I. Don't you ever thought about getting back him into the band?**

- Yes, I would like to tour with him, but he is always in other bands and has been on more albums than me. He was in DEATH, HIRAX, and a lot of smaller local bands. He even tried out for SLAYER when Dave Lombardo quit.

**Actually, he has a new band, namely HELL BROTHERS. What can you tell us about his band's music and Eric in general (I mean age & interests)?**

- HELL BROTHERS is not a punk band, more Rock. He joined them after their drummer left. They have a new CD out. Eric is three yrs. younger than me, he made me get off my ass and become a vocalist at the time he was teaching himself how to play drums. He designs graphics for websites for a living.

**It's time to ask you about what are your main musical influences and what bands do you prefer to listen to lately.**

- BLACK SABBATH, BLACK FLAG, MINOR THREAT, T.S.O.L., THE DOORS, DEAD KENNEDY'S. Now I listen more to: ALICE IN CHAINS, DANZIG, TROUBLE.

**Since your latest release, "Full Speed Ahead" album in 1995, you have been always on tour. You are definitely a concert band. What kind of bands do you prefer to play with?**

- Good Hardcore bands that get the crowd going.

**What is the atmosphere when you play live?**

- Wild! Everybody knows the songs and it seems that almost anyone in the audience could stand up and sing the lyrics!

**What is the crowd's response on a D.R.I. gig like?**

- Lots of thrashing and moshing and wild pit action.

**Who is your favorite writer and what type of books do you like to read?**

- I like Jack Kerouac and William Burroughs. I read everything from computer books to newspapers to poetry books. It's all good to me.

**Where do you get your inspirations for the D.R.I. lyrics?**

- From everything I see in my life.

**As I noticed on the DRP website you have drawn the cover for your "Whore Stories" book. Is there any pictures or cover paints you've done for D.R.I. directly?**

- No, but I help design the album covers and help with the concept.

**How old are you?**

- 39.

**Are you married?**

- Yes.

**Do any of the D.R.I. members have children?**

- I have a three yr. old son and Spike has a 1 yr. old son.

**Your brief comments on the following points:**

a.) suicide - I guess it gets that bad sometimes.

b.) jealousy - It definitely gets that bad. Jealousy is like an uncontrollable disease.

c.) internet - Great now, I hope it does not become too regulated.

d.) the second coming of Heavy Metal and Thrash Metal - We're there!

e.) thermonuclear weapons - Let's use squirt guns.

**Do you have a five-year plan or something like that for the next couple of years?**

- I would like for D.R.I. to put out a new LP soon and another one of cover songs.

**Finally, I would like to thank you, Kurt, for taking the time to answer my questions. Keep up the excellent work with D.R.I.!!! And at the end, tell your wishes to the D.R.I. fans over here. Last dirty rotten words are yours.**

- Keep on Thrashing!

**D.R.I., P.O. Box #130, 2440  
16th St., San Francisco,  
CA. 94103, USA**



[www.DirtyRottenImbeciles.com](http://www.DirtyRottenImbeciles.com)



**CASKETGARDEN is one of the few Hungarian Death Metal bands that deserves to be known more amongst the metal fans worldwide. I asked Tóth Balázs - guitarist of CASKETGARDEN - regarding their new EP and plans for the near future. Read this informative interview and check out their latest stuff!**

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**Tell us briefly about the history of band's creation and please share with us some info on the bandmembers.**

- CASKETGARDEN was founded in 1998 by Péter, Attila and me. We had some songs in that time with Péter and that time we found Attila the drummer. These themes became later the songs of our first demo "An Ever Rounding Circle" and one of them was released only later on our second tape. We wanted to make a really brutal but melodic music, because our favourite bands hadn't been exist at that time. Later, in the beginning of the year 1999 came Csaba Szabó (bass) and István Cseh (vocals) to the band. So after 3 months full of rehearsals the line-up and the songs were ready to play them live. Our first concert was in April 1999. Csaba is out from the band now, we fired him in this year, the new member is Dénes Schummel, he is a silent guy but a real fanatic of music and we like his personality much better, because Csaba was a self-important one, I think. Péter is one of the songwriters; we write the songs together with him, I know him since our childhood. Our ways and favourites are the same in metal too. He has few themes but those are the best. I almost forget that he works as a butcher (death metal!!!). Attila is the drummer. He is a really interesting person, sometimes fanatic of our band; sometimes he is like the most critical expert of the World. Some people don't like the drumming like his, but for us he is the one. István is the greatest Rock'N'Roll face that I ever knew, and his voice is that voice we searched for. Really brutal! I think Tomas Lindberg is his one and only God and he don't want to know any other, hehe. I won't tell anything about me, because everyone can decide what a man I am from this interview. For me only metal (the really hard one) counts.

**"...Of Grief" is your newest demo, your second one, how has it done. Has it gotten good reviews? What is the response to it been like? Is there any label interest concerning "...Of Grief" in progress?**

- We recorded this demo in Slovakia after the owner of Adam's Studio János Pásztor called us that he has never worked with a band playing a music like this. The sound that he created you can hear on the "...Of Grief" demo, is not the best, but the next step to an

own one. This demo got very good reviews in the biggest Hungarian magazines, and fanzines, but these good reviews we cannot see unfortunately by the selling. So this was a big bankrupt, but we will make it eternally!!! Haha. But two songs of this 6-track demo will appear on two Hungarian compilation CD-s NIGHTWALK (OUT NOW) and SHOCK! (coming in May). Only one record company showed interest to the "...Of Grief", but they didn't want to make an EP (although it was ready) but a full-length so we agreed to get back when the album comes... and there was some shit with them I think, because they didn't listen to the CD but started to count what can be the profit from it... from Death Metal... from Hungary...????

**Could you explain us the difference between your previous release "An Ever Rounding Circle" and "...Of Grief" EP?**

- The "Circle" songs were more harmless, I think. They were too melodic, but the riffs have less character and the sound was weaker and too clear for this music. I like these songs play in live, because they are more brutal now than on that tape. Those three songs were three different ways within one style if you know what I mean... This first demo is totally sold out, and can be ordered only from BACKWOODS Productions (there are 9 pieces at the stock). The songs on "...Of Grief" are more brutal and dynamic and the melody lines were worked out better and these are more morose and sorrowful. Those are not the typical heavy metal riffings, but more based upon the old death/doom riffing, but of course, in a faster form. In these songs are more melancholic feeling sometimes. The song structures are more direct, but the certain themes are more complex. On this demo there is one of our oldest songs "The Sentient", it's a slower one and not reflects our today's way, but it was too good to forget. The sound is better and it's more dirty on the "...Of Grief".

**What can you tell about the conception and lyrics that CASKETGARDEN stands for?**

- There isn't any really conception, these lyrics are my personal feelings about the world in a lyrical way. But this name (the band's name - Ed.) is good to express the opposites, and the alpha and omega of life, what about

this whole shit known as life speaks. Our name is taken from a DISMEMBER classic that you all know, I hope.

**You played a big number of concerts so far. What is your attitude on these gigs? Do you use any scenarios for that? Also I've noticed that you like to play several cover versions from bands like AT THE GATES, CARCASS and DISMEMBER on your shows. What do you think about cover versions in general?**

- We like to play live and for these are any scenarios, these are really Rock'N'Roll gigs, haha. The only scenario is not to drink before the concerts, haha. Yes, we play some covers, you know we are a less known band yet. A good cover can make the live atmosphere better in the audience. But we don't play audience favourites, we play our favourites, and we like to play them. But none of them we would record to a CASKETGARDEN release, because a good cover must have an own atmosphere and a mirror of an own style. The covers we play are only concert covers, from these covers we learned how to build up a good song.

**Let's talk about your interests. What do you like to do outside of the band? What kinds of sports do you most interested in and why? What literature you prefer to read? Name us some of your favorite books.**

- I think the only hobby that every member likes, beside making music is to listen to music and to... drink. For this last one the best place in Hungary is Mosonmagyaróvár, we make sometimes tours in different pubs, when we don't play you can find us surely in one of those, haha. In a 100-meter street you can find more than 10 pubs, I swear. István is very interested in the rally sport; he works sometimes as a mechanic of those racers. And I find sometimes impressions in books and films. For example one of my favourites is Kurt Vonnegut's burlesque, "Breakfast of the Champions" and Cat's "Cradle" (these are not the exact titles, cause I read them in Hungarian translation), some Kafka novels, and "One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest" from Ken Kesey. My favourite film is "The Name of the Rose" with Sean Connery, it's a really hard one.

# Casket Garden



**Is there a big scene around you where you live? Tell us more about the underground scene of Hungary. What bands, labels and 'zines can you recommend for us?**

- There is some Death Metal bands in Mosonmagyaróvár. DEPTHS OF DEPRIVITY (ex-BRUTAL MASTURBATION) and ZOMBIE HOLOCAUST are the most famous and there are some Heavy Metal and Rock bands (in one of them I play like a second guitarist, it's a really true metal band with some own songs but we mostly play covers). We are in friendly contact with them and we help each other if we can. I don't know what underground means in Hungary. There are lots of little bands who are very good - SABLE, ART OF BUTCHERY for example - these I like. But when a band sells 500 pieces from his CD then it is mentioned in the biggest 'zines as a really famous thing. So I don't understand this whole underground-mainstream thing in Hungary. I think every metal band is underground by us. Only the music counts and there are fucking great Hungarian metal groups: TESTIMONY (one of the most famous Death Metal bands and they are really good), DYING WISH, GUTTED, MALEDICTION, CHRISTIAN EPIDEMIC (they are not my cup of tea, but it's just a question of taste), WATCH MY DYING (it's complex metal/HC in the vein of MESHUGGAH), SABLE, ART OF BUTCHERY (these two are very promising melodic death/thrash acts) and of course CASKETGARDEN, haha... I can say that the death metal scene is the most coherent with exchange concerts and with the things like that... There are two real metal companies in Hungary: NEPHILIM Records and HAMMER Productions. The first makes every style of music, but their death/black acts are the strongest and HP is a Heavy Metal record company. There are some distributors like NEGATIVE ART and BACKWOODS. I have contact with a lot of fanzines and they help us where they can, some of them makes compilations some of them concerts too, beside the 'zine making. Some of them hits a really high level: LAMENTATION, NIGHTWALK, STYGIAN SHADOWS Webzine, ATHEIST, SHOCK!, Vol.10.; some of them writes about a wide scale of metal: FROM THE ABYSS; some of them has an own image, taste, identity: !TOXIK!, LAND OF CARPATHIAN; and about some of them I have very few information, because they don't even answer me!!!

**Do you know something about Ukraine? (I mean our bands, 'zines, etc.) Have any of the members of CASKETGARDEN ever been to the Ukraine? How was it?**

- No, as I know none of us have been in Ukraine yet. That I know from this land that was a part of the Soviet Union in the past and there are some parts in the country where

Hungarians live. The catastrophe of the reactor in Chernobyl was there and there are some Godfathers from Ukraine in Hungary, haha. The fucking media washes our brain, haha. I think it can be a really beautiful place like every country in Eastern Europe without the taste of globalization. I know some band names like MENTAL DEMISE, CHAMOS, FORGOTTEN SPIRIT and VALHALLA, but only from the 'zines. I've never heard the music of them. I've heard only one band when we played together in Mosonmagyaróvár. It has been called CASTRUM as I remember hahaha. And You played the guitar and the vox, Cornelius! It was fucking great, but the mixer was not on the top of his job, because it was his first work (that person was me myself) haha. Sorry for this catastrophic concert that we played then, but a work accident makes a really big scar on our drummer's hand and it was only a ca. 30% gig.



I've heard a song from the new CASTRUM stuff; it is called "Hatenourisher". It is really great melodic and brutal, I like it. (Thanks for the compliment and support pal - Ed.)

**What bands you prefer to listen nowadays and what bands had influenced CASKETGARDEN?**

- The main influence is AT THE GATES. They are our God!!! Every release of them is fucking killer! The other influences from my and Péter's side were CARCASS, PANTERA, DISMEMBER, ENTOMBED, some old doom/death stuff from ANATHEMA, PARADISE LOST, the first four BLACK SABBATH albums and the first two OZZY albums. The favourites of the others are almost the same, but István was a big (old) METALLICA fan also;

Attila and Dénes (who like PINK FLOYD and AMORPHIS very much also); I have from the bands of today only one real favourite: THE HAUNTED. The others I'm listening to nowadays are THE CROWN (with Tompa this band will be a mass murderer!!!), OPETH, SOILWORK, NEVERMORE, MERCYFUL FATE, KING DIAMOND (the genial of this last two bands I've discovered only nowadays, sorry!) and so on...

**Your opinion about: Internet, religions, classical music, army and space ships.**

- Internet: can be God or Satan; Religions: we don't like any religion and these haven't got any importance nowadays in Europe, but in the Middle East... can be the next cataclysm...; Classical Music: sometimes I listen to it for some impressions and for some musical solutions, but I can listen to it all the time. We haven't got classical experience; Army: they have conscripted Attila. Fuck Off! Our army is the worst both morally and technically. No money, no weapons, no strategy. Mandatory conscription is the solution? I don't think so; Space ships: I think that is the most beautiful invention. Tasting the eternity is everyone's dream...

**What do you wish to do with CASKETGARDEN in the future? When will your new stuff be out?**

- The next 3-4 months will be difficult without drummer. We planned that we record a two-song promo CD with a great sound in a good studio and than we will rehearse with Dénes the other songs, meanwhile Attila joined the army. After 3 months he can come for weekends home and we can have 2 rehearsals in a week and maybe some concerts. We have some lyrics: "Immortality Inc.", many-many themes, and some full songs: "Non-Existent", "The Day When Silence Died" these will be on the promo-CD that will be sent to many labels and 'zines. And after this we want to make our first full-length in the next year with the support of a label, it will be called "The Raging Sorrow". But this is just a plan...

**Finally, some deep thoughts for the readers, please.**

- Fuck you!!! Rock'N'Roll!!!! Hahaha. Join us and the ENCOMIUM 'zine to remove the sutures from Your eyes!

**CASKETGARDEN**

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**HUNGARY**

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**EDITOR / PRÍPAD EWI BURDOVEJ**  
**"Viagra" / "Ostrov Island" 7" EP '99**  
**(Epidemie Records / Hiras Records)**

This split 7" presents us 2 Slovakian Punk/Hardcore bands both with 2 songs. EDITOR's 2 tracks stand for a kind of ultra modern Hardcore music with lots of broken-type riffs, into-your-face vocals and fast punk-motivated parts. Good songs but unfortunately nothing outstanding. By the way, they used to sing in Slovakian. Maybe it hides some originality, I don't really know. P.E.B. follows them with 2 mid-paced melodic Punk songs. The 5-piece uses Slovakian language as well as some female vocals plus keyboards here and there. The same goes for them as for EDITOR. Well-composed tunes, but the originality is still missing there. If you want to hear some hackneyed Hardcore/Punk riffs then order this 7" EP from one of the addresses. EDITOR contact: c/o Pavel "Hirax" Baričák, Jana Martáka 33, 036 08 Martin 8, Slovakia. P.E.B. contact: c/o Rado Fernich, Uzlovská 11/31, 038 61 Vrútky, Slovakia. E-mail: pavel@rebeca.sk Web Site: www.editor.sk

**ETERNAL HATRED**  
**"Upon Rotten Mankind" 7" EP '99**  
**(Stormbringer Productions)**

ETERNAL HATRED plays obscure Death Metal with a definite old-school attitude. Their 7" represents 2 blasting Thrash-motivated tunes executed in a killer but still polished way. The songs are "Upon Rotten Mankind" and "Into the Demonweb".



These tracks are full of dynamic and energetic riffs coming from the ultimate depths of Thrash and Death Metal styles. I would say everything's done with a good taste and competent hands there. Moreover, a devastating sound production plus lots of frightful vocal parts are waiting you there too. The front and back photos are also great to look onto, ha-ha... So my advice will be simple. Don't miss this piece of vinyl! Band contact: ETERNAL HATRED, P.O. Box 1250, La Grange Park, IL 60256, USA (e-mail: EEEAYCH@aol.com). Label contact: Stormbringer Productions, Niclas Johansson, Linnégatan 24, 380 62 Mörbylånga, Sweden. E-mail: stormbringer@mbox302.swipnet.se

**FORGOTTEN SILENCE / NOTRE DAME**  
**"Hathor's Place" /**  
**"Abattoir, Abattoir du Noir" 7" EP '99**  
**(Fallon Distro)**

On this 2-song 7" EP you'll find two extraordinary bands. FORGOTTEN SILENCE opens with "Hathor's Place". It's an incredibly scored song from this Czech 6-piece motion picture masters. As usual for their songs it captures loads of progressive elements beginning from jazzy drumming, complex riffing and artful bass-lines to eastern-based keyboard motives and enchanting female vocals (along with death growls, of course). Flawless output, no doubt! It continues "Abattoir, Abattoir du

# inch reviews

Noir" song from the Swedish innovators of theater and motion picture tunes – NOTRE DAME. This song was recorded live somewhere in Romania during the band's East-European Tour-ture in Oct. '99. Featuring such skilful musicians as Snowy Shaw (ex-drummer of KING DIAMOND, MEMENTO MORI, MERCYFUL FATE and ILLWILL), Vampirella, Mannequin De Sade and Jean Pierre De Sade they are about to demonstrate how bizarre a realm of perversion & horror can be. Increasing your interest I can tell you that it contains the amazing soloing-work of Andy LaRocque (KING DIAMOND) as well. Yet not enough? Well, then I'll add that they are operating with extreme groovy riffs, weird female vocals and some special chaos-like atmosphere during this live track. Conquering music for conquering minds! Warmly recommended EP! Get it for only \$5 from: Fallon distro, Máchova 487, 66501 Rosice u Brna, Czech Republic. E-mail: notre\_dame68@hotmail.com Web Site: www.notredame.just.nu

**HAMMERHAWK**  
**"War" 7" EP 2000**  
**(Stormbringer Productions)**

Dutch HAMMERHAWK should be known to all hardcore metalheads since they've been around since the early 1980's. For record collector's they're a well-known name as well as their self-released 1984 MLP "Breaks Loose" is a sought after collector's item. On this new record the band's line-up is: Thys "Maniac" Bruyns (bass/vocals), Paul Van Rijswijk (guitar/backing vocals), Dennis Hartog (guitar/backing vocals) and Ray Van Wijngaarden (drums). "War" begins the fight. It's a fast ass-kicking Heavy Metal tune with lots of incredible solos, polished drum parts and old-school vocalizing attitude. In this song you can clearly hear the band's hardcore heritage too. On the other side we have the traditional and anthem-motivated song called "Heavy Metal Forever". It combines a flawless mix of heavy metal refrains, some old hackneyed but still groovy riffs plus a MANOWAR/MOTORHEAD-like shouting. The musicianship is simply rules all the way! Especially the guitarists' work amazed me. They squeezed out some very storming hypersonic solos along with the well-proved melodic ones. Heavy Metal warriors worldwide unite! This 7" has been limited to 600 copies and available on three different colored vinyls (blue, red and white – 200 of each). Also a collector's edition PicDisc of the 7" is available as well (200 copies). Band contact: HAMMERHAWK, Ijmuidenstraatweg 35, 1971 Ijmuiden, The Netherlands. Label contact: Stormbringer Productions, Niclas Johansson, Linnégatan 24, 380 62 Mörbylånga, Sweden (e-mail: stormbringer@mbox302.swipnet.se). E-mail: hmf@hammerhawk.com Web Site: www.hammerhawk.com

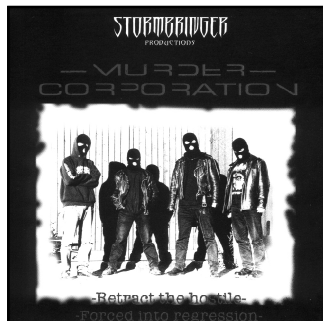
**LUNATIC GODS**  
**"Cuckoo" 7" EP '99**  
**(Epidemie Records / Hiras Records)**

The first ever LUNATIC GODS 7" EP contains an own composition "Cuckoo" plus the cover version of METALLICA's "Phantom Lord". Their own track follows the atmospheric way of "Sitting by the Fire" album '98, though the band managed to add there more brutality (I mean the fast grinding drum patterns here) and variety (riff-structure-wise) in general. Interesting thing that this tune captures fewer keyboards parts as usually we get accustomed to. Anyway fans of atmospheric Death/Doom Metal will definitely like it! The other side includes

"Phantom Lord" in a quite original and up to date interpretation. I would say it comes with two-times faster pace plus lots of fast drum parts, luxurious keyboard passages, insane guitar solos and well-guessed vocals. Good work guys! On this record the band's line-up is: Hiras (guitar), Psycho (drums), Mortis (vocals), Emil (vocals), Richard (bass) and King (keyboards). You can get this short but exciting EP from the band directly: LUNATIC GODS, c/o Pavel "Hirax" Baričák, Jana Martáka 33, 036 08 Martin 8, Slovakia. E-mail: pavel@rebeca.sk

**MURDER CORPORATION**  
**"Retract The Hostile /**  
**Forced Into Regression" 7" EP '98**  
**(Stormbringer Productions)**

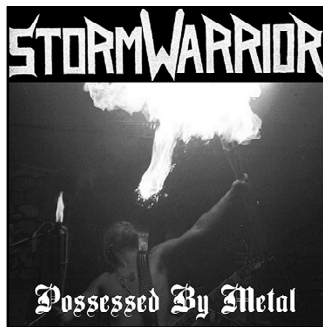
You'll get roughly 8 minutes of pure blasting Death Metal on this 7" release. Fantastic sound and great mixture of dynamic riffs and catchy drum parts are awaiting you there. On this 2-song stuff you



can get a lesson how to play brutal and ass-kicking Death Metal all the way. The vocals are really awesome and come in a very deep growling way. MURDER CORPORATION rules! To get this 7" EP you should contact Stormbringer Productions at: Niclas Johansson, Linnégatan 24, 380 62 Mörbylånga, Sweden. E-mail: stormbringer@mbox302.swipnet.se

**STORMWARRIOR**  
**"Possessed By Metal" 7" EP 2001**  
**(Dream Evil Records)**

STORMWARRIOR delivers us 2 songs in the best traditions of Heavy/Speed Metal. Pure metallic assault awaits you there. The metal warriors behind this great nostalgic-like stuff are Thunder Axe (vocals & guitars), Hell Saviour (bass), Scythewielder (guitars) and Evil Steel (drums). Both songs, namely "Heavy Metal Fire" and "Defenders of Metal", can be characterized as ultra melodic hymns with amazing vocalizing & soloing works, respectively. To all this you should also add the crystal clear sound production & fantastic refrains. "Possessed by Metal" will make you headbanging all the way; it's for sure. I can compare their over 8 minutes long material to the old good materials of HELLOWEEN & AGENT STEEL, for



example, though STORMWARRIOR not just follows the legacy of the aforementioned bands, but has a definite potential to continue it triumphal. Teutonic Speed Metal at its best! The price of this masterful 7" is 10 DM or \$5 US (incl. postage paid). Order it from: Dream Evil Records, P.O. Box 666, Villesse (Gorizia), C.A.P. 34070, Italy. Band contact: STORMWARRIOR, c/o Thunder Axe, Erlenweg 20, 25462 Rellingen, Germany. E-mail: dreamevil@adriacom.it Web Site: www.stormwarrior.de

**TEMPERANCE**  
**"Temperance" 7" EP '99**  
**(Stormbringer Productions)**

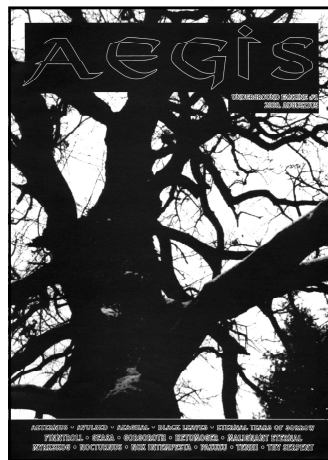
This Swedish 2-man band plays quite unusual music as for me. Its members – Fredde (vocals, guitars, bass) and B (drums, backing vocals) – call it as Soul Metal. Well, basically they perform an experimental type of Doom/Thrash Metal. So you can listen to lots of strange elements there. Most of all they deal with meditative-like yet depressive guitar harmonies plus ultra grievous vocal parts, which make their sound rather melancholic and sorrowful at times. "With My Raincoat On" displays the depressive side of the band with a bunch of sad clear-type vocals and slow drumming, while "Homagen" stands for the thrashy side and delivers us a more powerful, riff-oriented song. All in all, I would recommend this 7" for every open-minded metal fan worldwide. Band contact: TEMPERANCE, Fredde Emerot, Speldosegatan 2, 42146 V. Frölunda, Sweden. Label contact: Stormbringer Productions, Niclas Johansson, Linnégatan 24, 380 62 Mörbylånga, Sweden. E-mail: temperance666@hotmail.com Web Site: www.angelfire.com/tv/temperance999

**VORTEX**  
**"The Mill" 10" MLP 2000**  
**(Stormbringer Productions)**

VORTEX is a rather old Dutch cult Heavy Metal band. They've been around since 1979 but they split up in the late 80's, early 90's or something like that. VORTEX released two classic albums, "Metal Bats" and "Open the Gate", back in the middle 1980's. They've re-united a few years ago and released a CD with re-recordings of old songs. Nevertheless, this 10" is their first official release to feature new material. It includes four extra-melodic Heavy Metal tunes accomplished in a straight-from-your-heart way. Their repertoire opens by the catchy guitar riffs of "Oubliette". This track has lots of great refrains plus features a short but quite tuneful solo too. Then comes "I Got Much More" with its dynamic riff-structures, cool soloing-work and super weird vocal parts. I should say the manner of the vocalist is really unique there. I can't even compare it to anyone else. It's just flawless in a way it is. The other side of the 10" begins by the killer title track itself. It's another good example about how skilled are these musicians are. The rhythm-section displays a thoroughly worked-out basis there to which you should imagine a die-hard metallic attitude as well. And as the completion we have the remarkable Heavy Metal hymn called "A Lovely Day". The overall stuff has a top sound quality plus comes on colored vinyl (Mine is red – Ed.), but most likely as a collector's edition it's available on PicDisc as well. In a word, I am more than sure that you'll be satisfied by the content of "The Mill", as it affects like a balsam for the metallic heart! Get this brilliant 10" from: Stormbringer Productions, c/o Niclas Johansson, Linnégatan 24, 380 62 Mörbylånga, Sweden. E-mail: stormbringer@mbox302.swipnet.se Web Site: http://www.kickme.to/vortex/

# AEGIS 'ZINE Issue #1

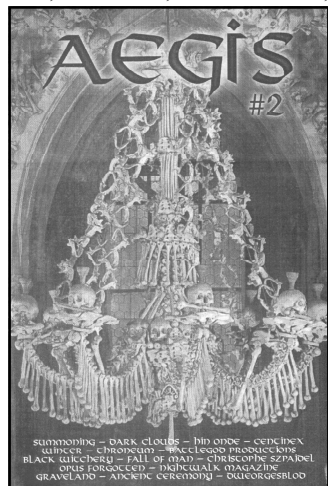
The debut issue of this Hungarian-written 'zine comes on 44 A/4 pages with a decent quality. Find enclosed interviews with MALIGNANT ETERNAL, GEASA, THY SERPENT, HETUMOGER, MYRKSOG.



FINNTROLL, BLACK LEAVES, PAZUZU, ETERNAL TEARS OF SORROW, GORGOROTH, AVULSED, NOCTURNUS, NOX INTEMPESTA, TENHI, AETERNUS and AZAGHAL. Not an innovative 'zine, but really enjoyable as far as the manner of questions and reviews goes. There's also a section dedicated to underground poetry plus some useful ads and news of the underground there. Order your copy from: AEGIS' zine, c/o András Jeszenszky, Ifjúság út 7/4, 3390 Füzesabony, Hungary.  
E-mail: ajeszen@delfin.klte.hu

# AEGIS 'ZINE Issue #2

Here we have the second coming of AEGIS 'zine. It has been printed on 44 A/4 format pages again, but with a less successful printing quality so to say. Nevertheless the content is good and that's what counts. You can read there interviews with: FALL OF MAN, SUMMONING, BLACK WITCHERY,



OPUS FORGOTTEN, DWEORGESBLÖD, DARK CLOUDS, THRONEUM, ANCIENT CEREMONY, NIGHTWALK Magazine, HIN ONDE, Winter of ARUD/FOREST SILENCE/INFERNAL, Christophe Szpajdel, BATTLEGOD Productions, CENTINEX and GRAVELAND. Recommended one for the ones who know Hungarian language. Contact: AEGIS' zine, c/o András Jeszenszky, Ifjúság út 7/4, 3390 Füzesabony, Hungary.  
E-mail: ajeszen@delfin.klte.hu

# ALU 'ZINE Issue #3

Here's a great underground 'zine from Mexico. Miguel managed to represent an incredible amount of interviews plus some album/'zine reviews inside the 30 A/4 xeroxed pages of his third issue. You can read there interviews with HROSSHARSGRANI, SLOW AGONY, FLATULATION, INHUMATE, MYSTERIIS (Bra), MYSTERIIS (Col), FATIMA HILL, WORLD CHAOS Production, ARUM, GHOR, SOUND RIOT Productions, VOW DREAMS, KRATORNAS, INFERNAL MALICE, BEHEADED LAMB, NECROBIOSIS, SUPPLICIUM, DARKAGGRESSION, URANUS, TWISTED TOWER DIRE, INCINERATOR, DESOLATE, ALERTA SUBTERRANAE 'zine, PRIMAL DAWN, CRYPTHOWL, SYLPHORIUM Records, UNEARTHLY, UNDER MOONLIGHT SADNESS, SOULLES DOMAIN, THE AGLAROND, SNAKE SAD, DREAM OF NEBIROS, THE LIGHT OF DARK and NOCTURNAL AAR. As you may noticed there's really plenty of things to read about. So if you know Spanish language then go ahead and order it, otherwise you need at least a dictionary. By the way, it has a CD attachment, where you can get acquainted with 15 bands. Good work! Contact: ALU 'zine, c/o Miguel "Dark Angel" Castro Salinas, Niños Heroes 24, Atolinga, Zacatecas, CP 99731, Mexico.  
E-mail: aluzine@terra.com

# ANVIL CHORUS 'ZINE Issue #1, 2000

The first issue of this Russian-written 'zine delivers us a fine content being divided to sections of interviews, demo/album/press reviews, articles, poetry, biography & last but not least ads. So you can browse amongst the following interviews: INWARD PATH, EVOL, KNELL, S.C.A.L.P., MAYHEM, AL SIRAT, IN THE WOODS..., HAIR OF THE DOG, GRENOUER and APRAXIA. Also find a so-called post-mortem article about MISANTHROPY Records and lyrics of PRIMORDIAL and ARCTURUS translated into Russian there. All this comes on 24 A/4 xeroxed pages. So you better hurry up and get your copy now. Write to: Sergey Pavlov, P.O. Box 4, Sevastopol, 99014 Crimea, Ukraine.

E-mail: biabia@mail.ru  
Web Site: <http://members.xoom.com/anvilchorus/>

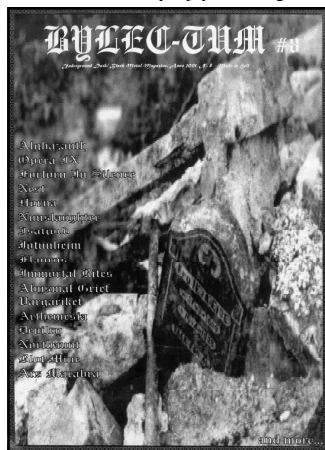
# BASTARD 'ZINE Issue #2

Kritsakorn is a quite active person and true supporter of the Thai scene. His second issue features interviews with such well-known acts as THOU SHALT SUFFER, CENTURIAN, KOVENANT, NILE, SACRAMENTUM, IN FLAMES, FLESHGRIND, DARKTHRONE, MORBID ANGEL, MALIGNANCY, DISMEMBER, SINISTER, HATE ETERNAL, CRADLE OF FILTH and ACHERON. It has a xeroxed quality and comes on 44 A/5 pages. The only thing that makes hard to be immersed by its content is the good knowledge of Thai language. If you are into this exotic language then go ahead and get a copy from: Kritsakorn Thirasattayawong, 133/63, Pattarawan Village, Moo 2, Cheumsampan Road, Nongjok, Bangkok 10530, Thailand (S.E.A.).  
E-mail: zakk@thaimail.com

# 'ZINE REVIEWS

# BYLEC-TUM 'ZINE Issue #8, 2001

The 8th issue of BYLEC-TUM has 44 A/4 xeroxed pages and a content mainly dealing with Black Metal bands. The interviewed bands are as follows: OPERA IX, ARS MACABRA, FORLORN IN SILENCE, HORNA, ISAFJORD, JOTUNHEIM, NORTHAUNT, BLOT MINE, DEVILRY, IMMORTAL RITES, NEST, ABYSMAL GRIEF, VARGARIKET, ARTHESIA, FLAUROS, ALGHAZANTH, SOULLESS, LEGION, NUNSLAUGHTER and FURZE. Everything's done precisely with a decent layout there. And what's cool, there are seas of reviews on demo/vinyl/CD/'zine materials. I really enjoyed reading them.



So I can warmly advise it to everyone who like to experience a pure underground spirit and a good use of English language. Write to: c/o Giancarlo Gelormini, Via Dante 200, 73016 San Cesario (Lecce), Italy.

# CHERISH THE DARKNESS 'ZINE Issue #4

It was Kritsakorn who sent me this cool Thai 'zine. It comes on 24 A/4 printed pages with excellent quality. Inside of it you can read about the South East-Asian underground scene, a report about the Czech scene, a Party Death Fan Club article plus interviews with DONPHEEBIN, SALEM, BLUUURGH, NECROSANCT, OBSCURITY and DAWN. Sure reviews are also presented there. But again I can recommend this issue only the ones who know the Thai language. Contact: c/o Chatchai Susoradit, 125, Moo 5, Soi Wadson, Suksawat 35 Road, Ratburana, Bangkok 10140, Thailand (S.E.A.).

# DREAM WARRIORS Issue #1, 2001

The first issue of DREAM WARRIORS comes on 72 A/4 pages with great quality. It has been packed with informative interviews of AGENT STEEL, ANVIL, Atomic Steif (STAHLTRÄGER), BLIZZARD, DESASTER, DOMINE, GRAVE DIGGER, LORDES WERE, METALUCIFER, NECRODEATH, NECROPHAGIA, SABBAT, SKULLVIEW, STEEL CAGE, STORMWARRIOR, TANKARD, WHITE SKULL and WIZARD. I should say I found lots of cool information there, especially in the interview with mighty Atomic Steif and in the usual pile of reviews. Also great to notice/feel the straight from the heart work of the editors. No doubt, it's a 'zine done by die-hard metalheads. To this you can add the impressive layout design and the rare photos used there. It will cost



you only 10 DM or \$5 US (p & p included). So hurry up and get your own copy before it's too late. Contact: Dream Warriors, P.O. Box 666, Villesse (Gorizia), C.A.P. 34070, Italy.  
E-mail: dreamwarriors@tin.it

# FATAL FORUM LETTER Issue #2, 2001

Well, this is a Russian-written newsletter. In fact a very good one! Its second output contains interviews with GRENOUER, IZAKARON, SCRAMBLED DEFUNCTS, BURIAL SHADES, AURUM, SCAVENGER, ABSIDIA, LOST ABBEY, BLOODSPITTING, ETERNAL TEARS OF SORROW, DEATH-ONATOR, MISTWEAVER, BOG-MOROK, TESSARACT, REINCREMATION, PSILOCYBE LARVAE, MORTEM, MISCREANT and DATURA. Some of the interviews are being rather short, but always have to offer something new about the actual band. I would say it's really good to have 20 A/4 format pages for a newsletter, isn't it? Oh, and add to all this a few reviews on albums/'zines as well. Contact address: Pavel Glumin, Yasnaya str. 33-146, 603068 Nizhny Novgorod, Russia.  
E-mail: stalnoi@mail.ru

# FROM THE ABYSS 'ZINE Issue #1, 1999

FROM THE ABYSS' first issue gathers a lot of information mainly about the Hungarian underground scene. Of course, it's written in Hungarian language respectively. There are interviews to AEBSENCE, BURN, CHRISTIAN EPIDEMIC, DARK CLOUDS, ART OF BUTCHERY, DECEMBER FLOWERS, GODS SAWING MACHINE, MALEDICTION, OBSCURITY, REMORSE and STAINLESS STEEL. All of them are Hungarian bands! So it's a good chance to know more about them for us living abroad. The 'zine comes on 52 A/4 pages with a plain xeroxed quality. Reviews are featured there as well as some well-written show reports on the biggest Hungarian Metal events of that time. Contact: Miklós Mitrovits, Nagytétényi u. 162-164, 1223 Budapest, Hungary.  
E-mail: mikibtk@osiris.elte.hu

# FROM THE ABYSS 'ZINE Issue #2, 2000

Well, I have the pleasure to say there are some notable improvements in the 2nd issue of FROM THE ABYSS 'zine. Now it has a pro-done printing quality plus a glossy cover. All this comes on 48 A/4 pages. Its content divides to sections as news, interviews, articles, lyrics and reviews, of course. You can read there about such great Metal acts as: DEMONLORD, OBSTRUCTION, ALISON HELL, THE STONE, CROSS BORN, BORN33, SABLE, WITHOUT FACE, VALE



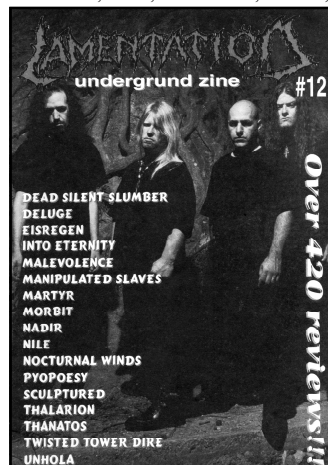
# 'zine REVIEWS

OF TEARS, DARK BLADE, ZYMOTIC, SUFFOCATE, NEVERWOOD, DOOMSDAY, KALTES, H.I.V. POSITIVE and ALTAMIRA. Most of all, I liked the reviews. They were really thoughtfully written to be honest! Keep it in this way Miki! Contact: Miklós Mitrovits, Nagytétényi u. 162-164, 1223 Budapest, Hungary.  
E-mail: mikibtk@osiris.elte.hu

## LAMENTATION

### Issue #12

After one year of silence LAMENTATION is back with its 12<sup>th</sup> issue to date. 36 A/4 format pages with an improved layout and excellent quality waiting you there. The interviews are as follows: EISREGEN, INTO ETERNITY, NILE, PYOPOESY, NADIR,



TWISTED TOWER DIRE, DEAD SILENT SLUMBER, NOCTURNAL WINDS, MORBIT, DELUGE, UNHOLA, MALEVOLENCE, THANATOS, SCULPTURED, MANIPULATED SLAVES, MARTYR and THALARION. I can tell you it's a massive issue and I say it not only because of the cool interviews I've enjoyed there, but due the over 420 reviews and lots of ads, contact addresses featured there as well. Amazing how informative is it! Enough said! Get it from: c/o Bechtel "Jedo" Ervin, H-7187 Majos, VII. u. 22, Hungary.  
E-mail: lamentation@galamb.net

## LOBOTOMY ADDICTION

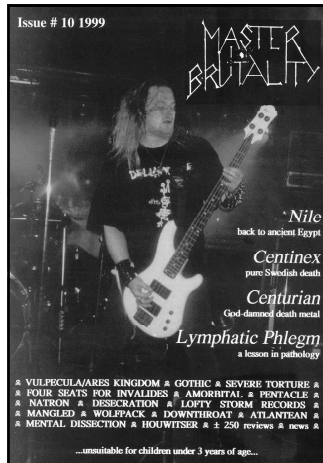
### Issue #1

This A/5 sized Ukrainian 'zine dealing with brutal & extreme music exclusively. Being a very morbid one it's written in Russian language and comes on 20 plain-xeroxed pages. Besides the usual news/reviews sections you'll bump into interviews of JESUS MARTYR, RUNEMAGICK, SEPSISM and OPPRESSOR plus find a lot of sickening art there. Get this insanity from: Andrey Batura, P.O. Box 207, 03150 Kiev, Ukraine.  
E-mail: lobotomy@ukrpost.net  
Web Site: <http://lobotomy.go.to>

## MASTER OF BRUTALITY

### Issue #10, 1999

M.O.B. is one of my favorite 'zines ever. The 10<sup>th</sup> issue has 56 A/4 pages, glossy b/w cover and a fantastic layout. You can get acquainted with such bands' interviews as NILE (Egyptian Death Masters), PENTACLE (Ancient Death Metal at its best!), WOLFPACK (Swedish Crust/Punk band), MANGLED (Dutch Death-dealers), NATRON (Quality Death from Italy), ATLANTIAN (Irish Death Metal), FOUR SEATS FOR INVALIDES (Czech Deathcore), VULPECULA/ARES KINGDOM (American ways of Death), MENTAL DISSECTION (Pathological Death

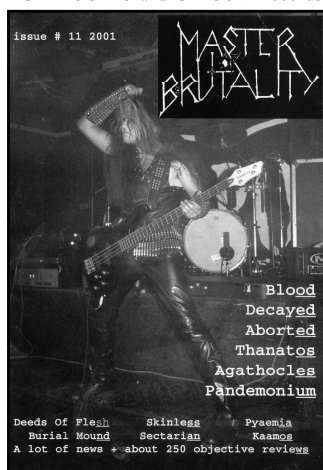


Metal from Russia), CENTURIAN (Brutal Death hailing from Holland), DESECRATION (True Death out of the UK), AMORBITAL (Slovakian Brutal Death), LYMPHATIC PHLEGM (Portuguese Splatter Grind), SEVERE TORTURE (Holland's outstanding Death brigade), GOTHIC (The French experimentalists), CENTINEX (Swedish Melodic Death Metal) and HOUWITSER (Pure Brutality and more from these Dutchmen). Also find there two record label interviews (LOFTY STORM Records & DISTORTION Records) and the indescribably huge sections of demo/CD/'zine reviews. Killer stuff so to say! And as usual it has been done with a totally fanatic attitude and superior quality. Buy it immediately! Contact: Ewald Provoost, Dorpsstraat 9, 4373 AC Biggekerke, Holland.

## MASTER OF BRUTALITY

### Issue #11, 2001

The latest issue of M.O.B. delivers us 52 A/4 pages with the same high quality as earlier. You'll find inside interviews with DECAYED, PYAEMIA, SECTARIAN, BLOOD, ABORTED, BURIAL MOUND, KAAMOS, THANATOS, SKINLESS, DEEDS OF FLESH, PANDEMONIUM, AGATHOCLES and UXICON Records.



And that's not everything. You can read there lots of news and about 250 objective reviews on different demo/CD/'zine materials. Very interesting issue, believe me! It was also great to notice a bunch of cool band logos there. I like every inch of this 'zine, thus would like to recommend it to every Death freaks worldwide. Order your copy now for only \$4 from: Ewald Provoost, Dorpsstraat 9, 4373 AC Biggekerke, Holland.

## METAL FORCE

### Issue #2, 2000

We can observe some drastic quality & design changes in the 2<sup>nd</sup> issue of METAL FORCE. The overall quality became less professional, but content-wise we have a significant improvement. And that's great! The interviews got a more in-depth character, while the reviews have been accomplished in a rather thoughtful way. The 24 A/4 format pages feature interviews to BEKA XMAP, ALL DIES, ANAL CUNT, BRILLIANT COLDNESS, FLYING INWARD PATH, PHANTASMAGORY, TESSARACT. As usual the content comes in Ukrainian and Russian languages. Enough said! Your orders should be addressed to: METAL FORCE, P.O. Box 94, 50102 Krivij Rig, Ukraine.  
E-mail: [metalforce@ingok.com.ua](mailto:metalforce@ingok.com.ua)  
Web Site: <http://come.to/metalforce>

## METAL FORCE

### Issue #3, 2000

Another issue brings us another changes regarding the quality and content, of course. This time we have 24 A/4 pages packed with interviews of BENIGHTED SKY, OLD MONKS SAGA, PANTERA, SPARROW MUTANT, TEMPLE OF OBLIVION and VALHALLA. The reviews and interviews have been decently executed, but nowadays it's really not enough to have only 6 interviews and 6 review-pages per issue. Such lack of information gives a rather short satisfaction for the readers. It lasted me about 30 minutes or so to read through the whole issue. My advice to the editors is to enlarge the content at least 2 times. Fans who want to know more about the Ukrainian scene should get this modest issue from: METAL FORCE, P.O. Box 94, 50102 Krivij Rig, Ukraine.  
E-mail: [metalforce@ingok.com.ua](mailto:metalforce@ingok.com.ua)  
Web Site: <http://come.to/metalforce>

## METAL FORCE

### Issue #4, 2001

In fact this is the largest and best METAL FORCE issue to date. You will get 40 A/4 pages filled up by the following interviews: AR (Ambient), BLACK INQUISITION (Slavonic War Black Metal), CASTRUM (Death Metal), DATURA (Brutal Death/Grind), FLYING (Melodic Death), NOCTURNAL DOMINIUM (Doom Metal), NOTHING ELSE (Italian Pizza (!) Metal), SACRAMENT (Fast Black Metal), VADER (Polish Death Metal God?) and VAE SOLIS (Black Metal). As you may see METAL FORCE does a big emphasis on the Ukrainian Metal scene. Sure it's good,



but fortunately they managed to interview VADER too, who are the cream on the cake! Moreover you can read there two label reports (with Beverina Production and Great White North Records), a Kharkiv scene report plus get a considerable amount of CD/MC/demo/'zine/gig reviews. In a word it's a well-done and varied issue. So I warmly recommend it to the ones who are into Ukrainian/Russian languages! Contact: METAL FORCE, P.O. Box 94, 50102 Krivij Rig, Ukraine.  
E-mail: [metalforce@ingok.com.ua](mailto:metalforce@ingok.com.ua)  
Web Site: <http://come.to/metalforce>

## MORG 'ZINE

### Issue #1

Do you like brutal Death Metal and stuff like that? Well, MORG can offer you some really brutal stuff, believe me. The debut issue contains interviews with THY SERPENT, SATHORD, KRABATHOR, MORGUE, NECROSIS, NASUM, CONTRASTIC, IMPETIGO, NYCTOPHOBIC, PROPHECY, IN DEED HELL 'zine plus live reports about Sick Most Feast #2, Obscene Extreme Festival #1 and some more. It's a Russian-written 'zine, which comes on 44 A/5-sized pages with xeroxed quality. 100% underground material! Get it from: Dmitriy Gluhov, Sech. Streltsov str. 8a/7, 82400 Striy, Lvov region, Ukraine.

## MORG 'ZINE

### Issue #2

Here's another great issue of MORG for you. As usually it's written in Russian and comes with xeroxed quality on 28 A/5 pages. It covers interviews with PHANTASMA, AVENGER, CENTURAIN, BRUTE CHANT, CRYPTOPSY, EXHUMED, BLEEDING, DEMENTOR, DEPRESY, ORCHESTRAL PIT'S CANNIBALS, INHUMATE and PERVERSIST plus a show review. This time the interviews look more in-depth, though I don't found any demo/CD reviews there. Nevertheless, it's a good 'zine and fans of brutal music should check this issue. Write to: Dmitriy Gluhov, Sech. Streltsov str. 8a/7, 82400 Striy, Lvov region, Ukraine.

## MORG 'ZINE

### Issue #4

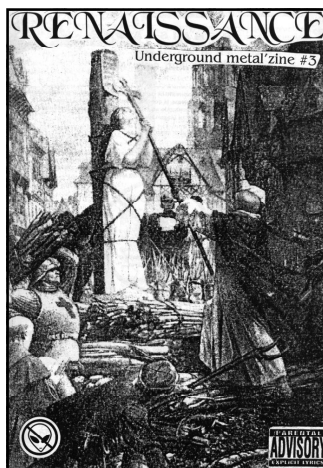
Well, not long ago Dmitriy unleashed upon us the 4<sup>th</sup> issue of MORG 'zine, the best one so far. Find enclosed there interviews with 7 MINUTES OF NAUSEA, SEVERE TORTURE, SANITY'S DAWN, HYPNOS, DEEDS OF FLESH, SCRUMBED DEFUNCTS, DEATHKIDS, DERANGED, SCATTERED REMNANTS, ALIENATION MENTAL, DISMEMBERED FETUS, MORTICIAN and FLESHGRIND. It was great to notice the presence of demo/CD/'zine reviews again. And as always you'll get some well-written show reports and articles too. Recommended! Buy it from: Dmitriy Gluhov, Sech. Streltsov str. 8a/7, 82400 Striy, Lvov region, Ukraine.

## RENAISSANCE 'ZINE

### Issue #3, 2000

RENAISSANCE is back with a massive hand-written 92 A/4 page issue. It's in Russian language and has a xeroxed quality. I should say there was plenty of work behind it. You can read the following interviews inside GRENOUER, ABLAZE MY SORROW, REPUGNANCE, DEMENTOR, ALTER EGO 'zine, DEEDS OF FLESH, BLACK ALTAR, INWARD PATH, NOCTES and DER GERWELT. To all this you should add an unbelievable amount of reviews, some articles (TANKARD, "Culture of Evil"), a NO

# 'zine reviews



FASHION Records insight plus SAMAEL's "Passage" lyrics translated into Russian. Worthy of note, no doubt! Contact: Alex Marennicov, P.O. Box 183, 95000 Simferopol, Ukraine.

## SHRUNKEN & MUMMIFIED Issue #2, 2000

Erik & Roba did a great job again. In their 2<sup>nd</sup> issue there are interviews to CICATRIX, PYOPOESY, CEREBRAL TURBULENCY, GUTTED, LUNATIC GODS, MARTYRIUM CHRISTI, MENTAL DEMISE, NO PROMISES, PERVERSIST, PHANTASMA & VALE OF TEARS. 32 A/4 English-written pages full of great underground stuff waiting you there. Most of all I enjoyed the review-sections there, which were done with a definite metal-head spirit! According to the quality, it was executed in the old good xeroxed way that nowadays seems to be avoided by the majority of



underground publications. Support the underground brothers of metal! Contact: c/o Erik Zöldi, Báro Hirsch 24, H-3910 Tokaj, Hungary.  
E-mail: shrunky@freemail.hu

## SHRUNKEN & MUMMIFIED Issue #3, 2001

Well, well, well... This is the issue of global improvements for SHRUNKEN & MUMMIFIED. The layout is rather good this time, though here and there the printing is weak a bit. But it's noticeable only on some photos and the cover in general. It's also a pity that Roba quitted the editorial board. Despite of all this things Erik managed to create the best S&M issue to date. Congratulations pal! Find enclosed an abundance of reviewed demo/album/'zine/video materials plus informative interviews with DOOMSDAY, SCURVY, DE MADELIEFFJES, NOMENMORTIS, ATARGATIS, FLATULATION, CASTRUM, INTER NOS, DEPTHS OF DEPRIVITY, HUMAN ERROR and ETERNAL DEFORMITY. Furthermore you can check some poesy, ads, articles (MALEDICTION and SARCASMO) and last but not least to read a one-paged review about the fantastic Deathphobia compilation series! Great issue with great content! Order it right now from: c/o Erik Zöldi, Báro Hirsch 24, H-3910 Tokaj, Hungary.  
E-mail: shrunky@freemail.hu

## TERRORAISER Issue #7, 2001

This is a decent Russian-written magazine from Ukraine. Its 7<sup>th</sup> issue features interviews with STRATOVARIUS, DARKSEED, NAGELFAR, THE GREAT KAT, ETERNAL TEARS OF SORROW, KRABATHOR, CATAMENIA, DIO, NILE, KPAH, REACTOR, VALHALLA, BLEEDING, INWARD PATH, BLACK COUNTESS and ORCHESTRAL PIT'S CANNIBALS. There's also an informative article about RUNNING WILD plus some live reports and reviews, of course. It comes on 32 A/4 pages with glossy color cover. Contact: TERRORAISER, P.O. Box 619, 21001 Vinnitsa, Ukraine.  
E-mail: trr\_zine@hotmail.com  
Web Site: www.terroraiser.vinnitsa.com

## TERRORAISER Issue #8, 2001

The best Russian-written Ukrainian 'zine strikes back with its 8<sup>th</sup> issue! On its 40

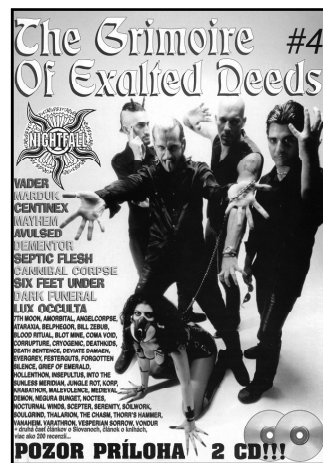
A/4 pages you can read informative interviews with HOLY MOSES (They're back with a vengeance!), HYPNOS, IMMOLATION, ANTHROPOLATRI, DISSOCIATION, GOREROTTED, PSYCROPTIC, PROTECTOR (Another great revival!), GRENOUER, VALHALLA, SANGUIS, NASUM, REQUIEM, REVENANT, HYPNOSIA, DECEPTION, DEATHROW, NECRODEATH, STEEL ATTACK, SACRED BLADE, SLAUGHTER, OLD MONKS SAGA and



many more. There's an incredible amount of CD/demo reviews featured there plus a massive live report section has been injected as usual. The quality is just splendid and lately it comes with a brilliant glossy color cover too! If it's not enough for you then I will add that old-school Death/Grind fans can also get a glimpse into NAPALM DEATH's history. Buy or die! Contact: TERRORAISER, P.O. Box 619, 21001 Vinnitsa, Ukraine.  
E-mail: trr\_zine@hotmail.com  
Web Site: www.terroraiser.vinnitsa.com

## THE GRIMOIRE OF EXALTED DEEDS Issue #4

OK, here we have a deal with a totally professional magazine out of Slovakia. It has 88 A/4 pages filled up with an amazing quantity of interviews, reviews, articles, ads, etc. The list of interviews is as follows: NIGHTFALL, MARDUK, ANGELCORPSE, MAYHEM, BELPHEGOR, KRABATHOR, INSEPTULUS, NOCTURNAL WINDS, VESPERIAN SORROW, CORRUPTURE, SCEPTER, DEMENTOR (a very informative one), SEPTIC FLESH, KOPR, HOLLENTON, DEATHKIDS, NOCTES, MEDIEVAL



DEMON, SERENITY, THE CHASM, AMORBITAL, DEATH SENTENCE, NEGURA BUNGET, FORGOTTEN SILENCE, VANAHEIM, VARATHRON, THORR'S HAMMER, 7<sup>TH</sup> MOON, ATARAXIA, CANNIBAL CORPSE, AVULSED, BLOOD MINE, GRIEF OF EMERALD, CENTINEX, INTO THE SUNLESS MERIDIAN, FESTERGUTS, DEVIATE DAMAEN, DARK FUNERAL, EVERGREY, JUNGLE ROT, VADER, BLOOD RITUAL, LUX OCCULTA, SOILWORK, COMA VOID, SOULGRIND, VONDUR, SIX FEET UNDER, MALEVOLENCE, CRYOGENIC and CENTURIAN. Really strong output! Warmly recommended for the ones who know Slovakian language. By the way, it has a 2-CD supplement as well! Order it from: Metal Age Productions, P.O. Box 42, 038 61 Vrútky, Slovakia.  
E-mail: metal.age@stonline.sk  
Web Site: www.metalage.sk

## !TOXIK! Issue #7

Well, this Death/Grind/HC fanzine hailing from Hungary and offers a bunch of strange interviews with bands like SOILENT GREEN, MONOLITH, VERY BAD THINGS, DERANGED, NASUM, MALEDICTION, KEVÉS and AD. It's written in Hungarian and comes on 22 A/4 plain-xeroxed pages. The manner is sick-to-the-core there, but sometimes really funny to read something like this. Find there an autopsy of reviews plus lots of non-traditional things like crossword, thinking section or what and more. Get it for a beer from: András Ágoston Tóth, Lobogó u. 10, 1098 Budapest, Hungary.

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# MEXICAN SCENE REPORT

Hail brothers, it is already known for many of you that the Mexican scene has grown in the last years. Its evolution partly due to the great affluence of international concerts, what has given the rule so that the bands are overcome and give a little more than the parameters to those that have us accustomed. Also proves this fact that the grateful band **DISGORGE** (Grind/Gore) took out its CD at the end of 2000 "*Forensick*" under the Spanish stamp **REPULSE Records**. And in the months of March and April a tour carried out in European countries as: Czechoslovakia, Poland, France, Belgium, Germany, Spain, Portugal etc., which has been a great event for the whole Mexican scene. It is the first band that has a tour of this magnitude.

Now I will talk about **UNDER MOON-LIGHT SADNESS** (Doom/Death). They have inside their productions a demo and a CD, the latter one out on **OZ Records** (the most professional label in Mexico), and lately their MCD came out "*Genectesis*" on **X-RATED Records** as well. Another great example to test that the Mexican bands have the desire to stand out is **BURIED DREAMS** (Melodic Death), which recorded its CD "*Perceptions*" in the famous Fredman Studio in Sweden (they can show off of being one of the few Latin American bands in achieving this). Another band that offers quality without any doubts is **SHAMASH** (Black/Death). They have a demo and a CD "*Eternal Ace Time*". **THE ZEPHYR** (Death/Black) has demonstrated its potentiality and sound quality when being presented in front of the Central American public (El Salvador and Guatemala), with a demo and a CD "*Impure & Divine*". They have been able to capture the attention inside the underground world, inside this aspect it's necessary to mention a legendary band recognized by their great experience and

personality, we are speaking of **SAR-GATANAS** (old school Death/Black). With more than one decade inside the scene have achieved what many yearn, their last and only CD "*The Enlightenment*" was produced by **CONQUISTADOR Records** (sub-label of **SUPERNAL MUSIC** from England). Besides that they have played with groups of the size as **IMMORTAL** and **ROTTING CHRIST**. Another very good band is, without a doubt, **DEW OF NOTHING** (Death Metal). On their CD "*Doubleueird*" they have carried the flag of the Death Metal with honesty and quality, this CD came out under **SEMPITERNAL Productions** resident in Chicago, they have just taken out also on this same label a 7" with the name of "*Hatehunter*".



Who doesn't know **THE CHASM**? Their frontman sang in some occasion on the CD "*Diabolical Conquest*" of **INCANTATION**. The same Daniel Corchado demonstrates the own and strange next to their band that the Mexican Metal is in a high point. They have participated in diverse festivals in the USA and now with their new production "*Procreation Of The Infraworld*", which is being distributed worldwide under the auspices of **DWELL Records** from USA. Now I will ask, do you know the legendary **CENOTAPH**? Do many of you know something about the band, the one, which has faced diverse problems? That have taken to their disintegration from their beginnings, but at the moment they are preparing their new work that will give a lot to speak.

Leaving some space to the



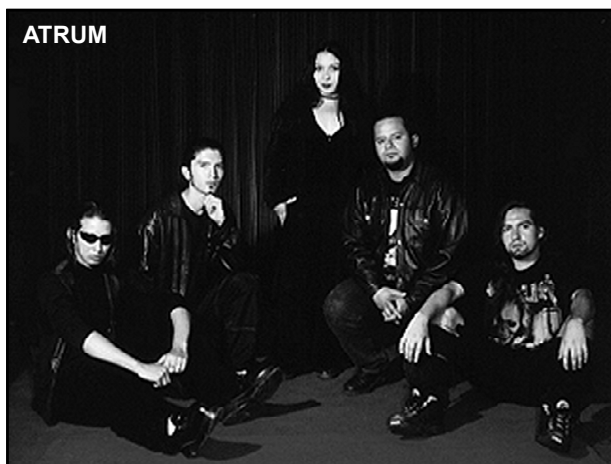
more known bands. I will speak about some new proposals that little by little go growing and obtaining solidity and maturity. We'll begin with **BELZABET** (Black Metal). They have a CD "*Before Night Fall*" inside the files of **AMERICAN LINE Productions** (label focused to support the South American bands). Their music can be compared to **CRADLE OF FILTH** or **DIMMU BORGIR**. The next one is **RAVAGER** (ex-**DOMAIN**) (Death/Grind). They are signed to the French label **OSMOSE** for the recording of their new production, they have a demo and a Split CD with **DEMONIZED** (project alternating of brutal Black Death, of the vocalist of **DISGORGE**: Antimo). They demonstrate us that the brutality is the law. **THE AGLAROND** (Doom Metal) is an excellent band that has 2 demos and they have just shared scenario with **THE GATHERING** and **THE SINS OF THE BELOVED**.

**NEBRAE** (Black), they have the experience of having alternated with bands like **IMMORTAL**, **ABSU**, **IMPALED NAZARENE** and **ROTTING CHRIST**. It makes them a very mature band and with a lot of live power, they have engraving a demo "*Living of Black*".

I could continue mentioning without an end our excellent bands like **ANTIQUA**, **BEHOLDING SIGNS**, **A PERPETUAL DYING MIRROR**, **PARACOCCHI**, **ATRUM**, **MEN AT ARMS**, but I believe that with this coarse you get a good summary about the Metal in Mexico. It definitely goes for a good road and I pass to step, which leaves advancing toward the closed circle of the elite world. Good friends I hope that this overview serves you as an information. So the ones whose are interested to obtain and to know more about our bands (in case you want some more extensive information as well as contact addresses of each one of the bands) please don't hesitate to write me at:

ALU 'zine, c/o Miguel "Dark Angel"

Castro Salinas, Niños Heroes 24,  
Atolinga, Zacatecas, CP 99731, MEXICO  
E-mail: aluzine@terra.com



*Read on this great interview, answered by Savvas-Jake (vocals/bass), with the masterful progressive Death Metal band, namely ACID DEATH, from Greece.*

**Hails Savvas-Jake! What's been going on in the ACID DEATH camp lately? You guys recently released your second full-length, namely "Random's Manifest", on Black Lotus Records. Was it a one-off deal or are you signed for more releases with them? Tell the readers a little about that. Were there other labels besides Black Lotus that were interested in signing ACID DEATH?**

- Hello to everyone! Yes, things in ACID DEATH are working great! We have our "Random's Manifest" out from May 2000 and it's going great. This is our first release on Black Lotus. We signed for two releases and this season we're preparing the new songs for our next release. The guys behind Black Lotus really love what they do so our co-operation remains on a very good level.

**On the technical side of things, where was "Random's Manifest" recorded? How long did it take and who did the mixing/producing?**

- "Random's Manifest" was recorded here in Greece at Marathon Studios. This was the fifth time we worked in this studio. We made the production, of course with Black Lotus as the executive producer, and we think the results are good!!! It took about four months for the recording to be ready.

**Who came up with the cover concept? I have to say that it's extremely awesome. Tell us a bit about this extreme photo and its representative meaning.**

- All the artwork was designed from Themis K., our ex-rhythm guitarist. We faced many problems with this cover since it was censored in some areas, and the result was for the CD not to sell good in some countries. Some magazines refused to advertise the CD because of this cover!!! We just wanted something extreme, something that everyone couldn't forget after seeing it. The cover-meaning has to do with the CD-title. It presents "random" like a meaning or feeling even if this is violent or vulgar.

**Now, onto the new record! How do you see it in comparison to ACID DEATH's past outputs, especially to your first full-length "Pieces of Mankind"? Are you pleased with how it came out? What was the response to it been like?**

- "Pieces of Mankind" was a coryphaeus CD for us! It became known only when Copro Recs from UK re-release it. The feedback was really great, something that helped "Random's Manifest" a lot. We believe that Copro Recs helped us a lot in a very bad period for the band...

**Since the lyrics weren't included with the CD, could you explain what they are about? Are lyrics written prior or after the music is written? Do you feel lyrics are playing an important role in Death Metal?**

- Our lyrics have to do with many things, such as things that annoy us, or "human" things lets say, or even fantastic stories of pain and violence... We don't have any "classic" plan of writing them. We can complete musically a new song adding the lyrics or we can have the lyrics adding on a new song. Of course the lyrics are important, not in Death Metal only. They are the 50% of a complete song.

**Have you had been able to play many gigs since the CD's release? What are your favorite countries/cities to play?**

- Unfortunately we didn't have the chance to make enough gigs to promote "Random's

- There are many and good bands in any kind of music here in Greece. The problem is that most of them are unsigned trying to do their best by using a demo CD. Some new and most promising Death bands in my opinion are SACRAM, DARK FUNERAL, in Power Metal INNER WISH, in Thrash/Hardcore LESS THAN HUMAN, all unsigned bands right now. Check them out with the first chance!

**You have a new guitarist in the band. Introduce him to the readers.**

- Nick A., our new guitarist, came to band 2 years before. At the moment we speak we have a new member in keyboards! His name is Babis Katsionis. Now we're a five-member band! We want to give enough mention to keyboards so that's the way we have Babis on keyboards.

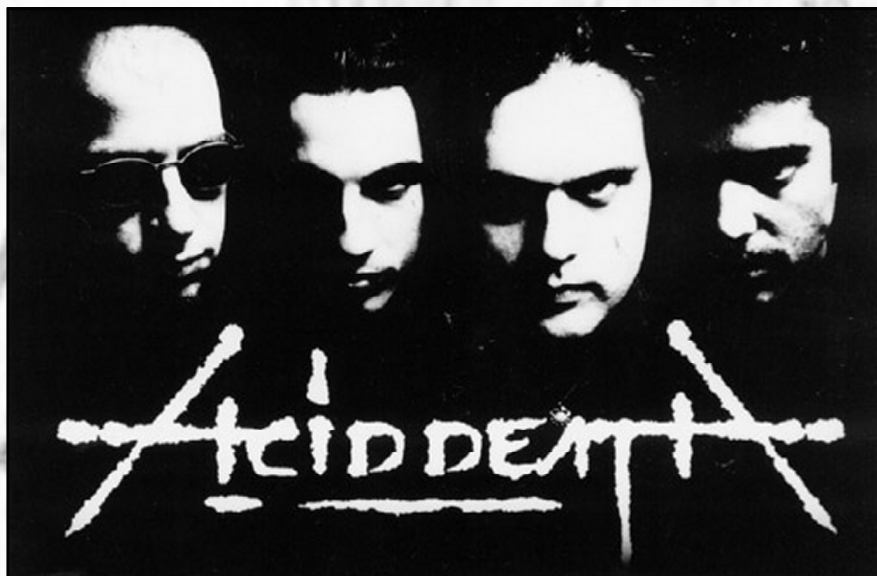
**Your music turned into a quite progressive way on "Random's Manifest". I feel a strong influence of bands as DEATH, CYNIC and ATHEIST on it. Do you agree with me? What the members of ACID DEATH typically listen to for pleasure?**

- Yes, I agree with you but I believe there are more influences except these bands! There are influences from gothic, progressive-in-rush-way, lets say, fusion and even some industrial influences. This has to do with what we like to listen for pleasure. We like all these styles.

**Finally, what are the bands immediate and future plans? Anything you'd like to say to all the ACID DEATH fans out there? Thanks a lot for doing this interview!**

- First of all to finish our next release, which will be out in late 2001.

A big thank you for the support! Visit our official web-site at [www.freebox.com/acid-death](http://www.freebox.com/acid-death). Keep on deathing!



Manifest" live, because of many reasons. But we have some plans. We may play in Italy in summer for three or four shows and in Bulgaria for two ones. You know we aren't able to make a complete tour whenever we want just because of our jobs. So we try to arrange our best in the summer when we will have allowance from our jobs. But except these our favorite places for live, here in Greece, are Crete and Athens.

**By the way, what's the scene like in your home country? I'm not too familiar with many Death Metal bands from Greece. What worthy bands would you recommend for us?**

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MAP - 0021

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### LUNATIC GODS

LUNATIC DEATH METAL

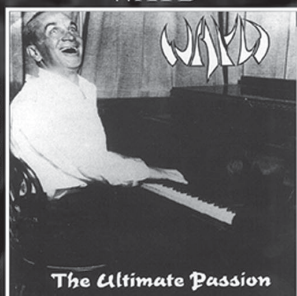


MAP 0017

### "SITTING BY THE FIRE"

### WAYD

TECHNICAL DEATH METAL

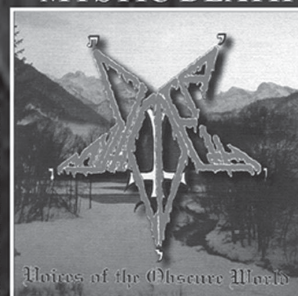


MAP 0016

### "THE ULTIMATE PASSION"

### MYSTIC DEATH

MYSTICAL BLACK METAL

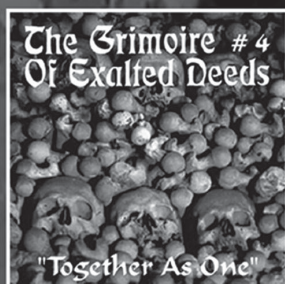


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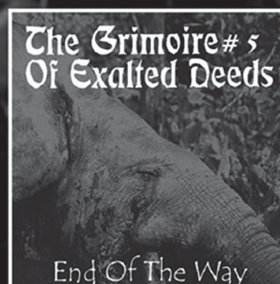
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