new gems from vol. 9...

First you can check out these - greatest releases of ones reviewed in Vol.9:

**OCTOBER TIDE** - Rain Without End (CD) (VIC Rec). Massive streams of melancholy... Hell fine, and heavy! [★★★★★]

**TWISTED TOWER DIRE** - s/t demo '96. Epic, melodic, upbeat, heavy doom metal with Tom Phillips on vocals! $3 (USA) / $4 (Eu) [★★★★★]

**AS I LAY DYING** - s/t promo '96. Ex-VISCERAL EVISCERATION with totally new, professional line-up. 3 great strong & melodic, rocking death/ doom songs on this tape! [★★★★★]

**MIRROR OF DECEPTION** - 'Veil Of Lead' promo '96. It's epic, depressing, but refreshing doom metal from Germany! [★★★★★]

**SUNRISE** - s/t demo '96. For fuzzy, powerful death grooves, call these guys! $5 [★★★★★]

**weeping willow** - 'Under The Cross' demo '96. Heavy & sludgy doom rocking metal, with dark lyrics... [★★★★★]

**SEER'S TEAR** - A Gathering Of Separate Ways demo '95. Really timeless, heavy and emotional, progressive doom! $6 [★★★★★]

**warning** - Revelation Looms promo '96. Rolling, heavy, slow at times doom! [★★★★★]

**las cruces** - S.O.L. CD (Braincleft Rec). New Texas doom band with a classic sound & well-packaged songs. [★★★★★]

**sacred** - The 28th Parallel CD (Deviation Rec). Oh so atmospheric and experimenting doom/death! Top quality CD... [★★★★★]

**thumbscrew** - Boiling Tears demo '96. Heavy as fuck power death/doom! [★★★★★]

**blackstar** - demo '96. Jeff Walker's new band! 7 heavy & rocking songs! [★★★★★]

**DOOMFLIGHT** - This World I Despise CD. MCEP (Steniled Decay Prod). Intense, flying doom (death) from the gravel [★★★★★]

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EN-GARDE's very cassette-EP 'Deviation' out now. Dark, emotional gothic doom with intense vocals. Totally professional package, color lay-out, 32-channel recorded material.

For orders write to:

**EN-GARDE**
Elisabeth Kotronia
Archimideous 56 St.
116 36 Athens
Greece

Costs of the tape: $5 US + one IRC or $1

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**THE SUNRISE**
(check out their address and get their mighty, fuzzy, groove metal demo)
Men Tell No Tales

Ex-GOD FORSAKEN vocalist Mika Hankaniemi sings now for this band and here's him in late August...

Hi Mika, how are you? I'm here doing school and this zine on free time...

"It's going ok... At the moment I'm working for the local authorities and it looks like I'll be going to study someplace soon."

Your guitarist from GOD FORSAKEN, Hannu Kujanen told me that you and Juha Pohoto (+others??) have a band named DEAD MAN CAN'T TALK or something like that... And I sent you this interview without knowing more. So, tell us all about this band!

"Yeah, the thing is called DEAD MAN TELL NO TALES and we play only MOTORHEAD songs, so it isn't even our aim to make our own songs at the moment."

"With myself and Pohoto, there are Juha Land on bass (ex-SANCHO PANZA) and Kai Saarela on guitar."

"But it is part of my future plans to make a band of my own, let's say (without exposing anything yet) that something "heavy as fuck" is coming!"

Ok, I'm sure that many people miss GOD FORSAKEN (like myself), so what kind of music do you still get for GOD FORSAKEN?

"Well, Kujanen was taking care of G.F. mail, but of course people have wondered who all that happened."

GOD FORSAKEN was very deep, great doom metal. How's this new band?

"We haven't done any tape for the public, so if anyone is interested, come to our show to check us out."

What kind of lyrics you have?

"My lyrics are/will be in the style of not so happy... So."

What do you think of new Finnish bands?

"Would you like to recommend some?"

"GODFALL, I might recommend, as I can't recall anyone else. I haven't followed this Finnish scene much, if here is such.

"Has your music taste changed from the days of PUTRID (the band that became GOD FORSAKEN)?"
How did you meet each other and came up with the band, ideas etc? 

"Myself and vocalist Jeff Scott Anderson have been mates for a long time and always loved heavy metal music. We were dissatisfied with the metal that was being manufactured in the current times, so we felt it was time to make our own. We called upon the drumming services of Iron Brian, who was also good friend of our, and the IRON RAINBOW machine was born."

"We recorded our first demo with Joe G. Bone, who basically filled in for a year or so, and in early '96, we enlisted Johnny Nexus into IRON RAINBOW. That's where we stand today."

Your first demo has an impressive note for the listener about defending metal music! You surely defend the castle of metal...

"Thank you for the high praise. The new demo and our split 7" will not contain any liner notes like the ones that were found on the first demo. Even though the words are not printed, the music itself speaks for true metal. I'm sure we will have something similar to the liner notes on our first demo when the time comes for a full-length."

What's your opinion about how much doom metal bands have helped classic metal bands?

"Doom metal is basically an extension of classical metal, so of course it has helped a lot. Bands like ourselves, CATHEDRAL, and even CARCASS always pay homage to those lost classic metal bands, and by doing so, it regenerates an interest in the scene. Younger kids want to go out and find out what the hype is all about and go out searching for those old records. It's very healthy for a thriving musical movement to have people search into the roots of a music scene. Hopefully, the new underground metal movement is strong enough to survive all the obstacles that are thrown in its way." 

How about your music taste, is it large? Do you enjoy heavy grooving songs with f.ex. death metal vocals?!

"My musical taste is quite varied. I enjoy stuff from 70's bubble-gum pop all the way to Norwegian black metal. I basically enjoy bands that are true to what they believe in and play music from the heart, not to satisfy a trend. But there's no denying my favourite music is true heavy metal." 

Now, to your latest live show? Will you come Europe someday soon?

"We don't gig much. There is really no metal scene in the States, especially New York. The latest gig we played was a local pub with an ACCEPT cover-band called RESTLESS AND WILD. They were quite good."

"As for Europe, I'm sure we will be there someday, but as of now there are no immediate plans for it."

One of your new songs, 'Enter The Green Dome', will it be on some compilation maybe?

"No plans as of it yet, but I would be more than welcome to the idea if someone wanted to do it."

"Magic Lord Of Darkness" is on the split with SOLITUDE AEternus... It has gotten great reviews I bet? Have you been compared much to other bands with it?

"The single was never really serviced to the zines because it is so limited. A few zines ordered it and reviewed it, and the response has been quite good. As for bands we have been compared to, there have been many. BLACK SABBATH is one of the most common ones, but any heavy music has to be traced back to them. We've been compared to WITCHFINDER GENERAL, CIRITH UNGOL, MANOWAR, ACCEPT, THOR, BLUE CHEER, ANVIL, IRON MAIDEN, DEEP PURPLE... The list goes on. A lot of people will compare us to newer bands like CATHEDRAL or KYUSS, which is great, but I think we have a bit more of the new wave of British heavy metal sound than they do."

Would you recommend some yet not much known underground heavy metal bands?

"Sure, I love COLD MOURNING from California. They got a TROUBLE/PENTAGRAM feel to them. THY SINISTER BLOOD from Ireland are really cool, real doom. I like a lot of the new black metal coming out, like IN THE WOODS... The band I am listening to the most now is THE GATHERING. If you haven't picked up that record yet, do it! She has one of the most incredible voices I have ever heard."

"Yes, we know quite a lot about these great acts! Would you still like to add something?"

"The new CARCASS album is very good. I like it."

"It sure fuckin' is! ...Do you watch porn?"

"Yes indeed!"

"Name your fave things besides metal..."

"I am a total tv junkie. I religiously follow certain television shows. I love records, I also like to collect toys. Other than that, life's pretty empty."

"Thank you very much, Tom! Before we let Jeff in, please send your greetings."

"Thank you for giving me the opportunity to answer your questions."

"Hail to all your readers. Keep the sounds of true heavy metal in your hearts. Be seeing you."

Ok, on the next column, let's hear Jeff - who has one of the coolest voices on earth!"
did you know that Greek band NIGHTFALL is coming to Tico-Tico in 27th of December!! So it's really appreciated studio over the world.

Yeah! What's your personal opinion about 'The Holy Bible' compilation? I think, besides you, SERENITY, TRISTITIA, ON THORNS I LAY, GODSEND and SEPTIC FLESH are best music on Holy today... Anyways, do you give credit to Holy for that they've never released compilations before, but gained very much (and wide) attention after every single release?

"Fantastic! Holy Rec gives a very great impression to all people who don't know it yet. SEPTIC FLESH is a great band, check also their full-length CD's! I like ELENDO also and TRISTITIA's new track surprised me, it was much better than the earlier ones. By the way, GODSEND's first album is something... A masterpiece! Yes, I think that compilation came just on the right time.

Tell us about some new Finnish doom bands and your opinion if YEARNING is one of a kind (which I think you must fuckin' certainly are)!! Do you wait for the finally released PROMETHEAN album?!

"Finnish doom bands? What the hell?! I don't really know any new doom bands around here. UNHOLY is a great band, but not so new (and not at least basic doom). I can't find any bands that's in the vein of YEARNING. Our arrangements are so rich that it makes us original, I think. PROMETHEAN (7), I haven't heard it." Do you have Finnish aspect in your lyrics? Does the homeland thing mean much to you?

"Fiinnsch aspects... Mighty forests and lakes, evening sunsets, long and dark wintertimes, autumn rain... That's my homeland.

Ok, tell us about you gig! touring possiblity and your enthusiasm about 'em!

"Like I told you before, we've no keyboardist now, so it's impossible (unless I'll have 2 hands more). Touring would be great! We haven't got so much experience, we've done only few gigs on our own experience. 'Autumn Funeral' has a great, fitting flute in it! What instrument will you use on the album?"

"Basic metal instruments (I guess you know these...?) and acoustic guitars, keyboards and we also have a session flute player..."

Do you read much of underground zines and when you do, do the interviews erf your opinions about some band? Zines are, after all, made 100% honest and of the love for the music."

"Underground magazines keep underground music alive! I've got my own opinions and views, so none can tell me how to think. I like answering these interviews, because I can really use my head and think of meanings of different things. I guess you're right you don't really earn with this zine thing financially... Still, keep your zines alive, don't give up."

Please invite all people to record shops in December - to buy your debut of course!!

"Support quality music and experience with us a voyage to misty world of darkened visions! Hah-haa... Ny, really we have something to offer, check it out, perkele! Out of this world!"

Thanks Juhan! All the best with recordings!!"
They made a great debut this year of real hard, melodic and groovy doom... Vocalist/ bassist Mark Zamarron here has one of the greatest living voices around... It was July when this was done.

Hello Mark, how are you? Tell us some news about LAS CRUCES since the album?

"Michael Hosman is no longer with LAS CRUCES. We parted ways after the recording of the CD. Because he was moving back to Chicago. We are now a four-piece. Steve Martinez on drums and George Tresino on rhythm guitar. They play a major role in the band, and are great guys."

I got to know your band when John Perez from Brainicket sent in your shit-heavy debut CD 'S.O.L.', but would you like to clue people about your past before this debut CD?

"Before being part of LAS CRUCES I played with a group called PASSAGE TEMPLE and a couple of other groups around Texas. Nothing major really."

Have you had this kinda style since the beginning? Your style is quite refreshing and original too!

"Yes. The whole reason for forming LAS CRUCES was to form a band that is heavy and melodic. Doom if you will. All San Antonio bands strive for fast rhythms and over the top vocals where we write heavy and slow with a touch of groove."

You, Mark, write the lyrics for LAS CRUCES, so please say what kinda lyrics are "easier" for you to write? Like, ha, "Suck my erection" (fpm 'Jed's White Owl') or "You've unfashioned anger and sorrow never known by me" (fpm 'Sophia')...

"Lyrics and poems are difficult for me to write period. Most, well all lyrics are completed weeks after the music is written. Very few are spontaneous. The only song that had lyrics before there was music was 'Jed's White Owl'."

What does the line "aras muertas, desnudos spiritos, santos, e abacos" mean on the first song of the CD, 'Skin Chamber'? It's cool a chorus!

"The line translates into 'Dead faces, nude bodies, spirits, saints, and devils'. The line plays a major role in the song because throughout the song there are hidden meanings."

Ok. How would you want people to take 'S.O.L.' as a whole album?

"I would like 'S.O.L.' (Solitude Of Lunacy) as an album to be accepted as a great first effort. Hell I would like to sell million copies of it. As a band we are rich in music and friendship but we are dirt poor... Ha!"

Tell us about the deal with Brainicket Rec! I guess you & Mr. Perez co-operate really well?

"Brainicket (John Perez) is really cool. He be close to our audience."

"Our last gig was on June 21st. We played our hearts out to about 15-20 people. We got a late start (1:00 am) and I can understand being tired. Our thanks to the people who stuck around."

How about the metal underground... Do you listen to new acts? What band you consider to get "big" in few years?

"Yes. Right now I'm really into ELECTRIC WIZARD, GRANT LEE BUFFALO and Jeff Buckley. GRANT LEE and Buckley are not metal but they kick ass. I think a band called SUGARTOOTH are destined for greatness."

Do you do other things besides the band?

"Yea, fishing! It's good meditation."

Do you like more walking in the nature, than on the streets?

"I would have to say nature walks are more my cup of tea because there is so much more to see and nature is always changing."

Do you have many other songs ready that aren't on the album?

"There are a few songs that are not on the album. 'Black Waters' and 'Behemoth' to name a couple. Heavy as fuck and dark."

I see from your thanks-list that you like King Diamond and MERCIFUL FATE! Now I also see you've supported MERCIFUL FATE, but have you been to many M.F. shows and what was your first experience on M.F.?

"I've been to almost all of King's and MERCIFUL FATE's San Antonio shows. Their music played an influence on me in my younger years and helped forge a path in metal music for me. My first MERCIFUL FATE experience was in 1983. M.F. opened for EXCITER and MOTORHEAD. A most memorable show. There will never be one like it again."

Thanks go now to Mark! The LAS CRUCES debut 'S.O.L.' is one of a kind and is cut on Brainicket Rec, for only 15 $ (USA) 17 $ (overseas)."

This cool, black, 1-sided, quality T-shirt with a (needle-like) cross, hemp leaf and the band name on it, is out for 15 $, through mail...

LAS CRUCES 9107 Buda\ San Antonio, TX 78224\ USA

Post-office lost the interview meant for Vol.9! In late August, former member Rich Walker (guitar) answered real fast! It's finally time for 'Halcyon' EP, and more of heavy arcane, epic doom metal!!

Hello Rich, how are you - I hope fine?

"Hail Sami, at the moment I am recovering from a weekend spent consuming many fine ales in taverns of ill repute, with my brothers in arms. And so the ailment which sorely afflicts me at the moment is purely self afflicted and well worth it - ayel!"

You must be quite tired of the seemingly endless time between 'Lamentations' album and 'Halcyon' EP... You've now taken control of the release of 'Halcyon', so what's happening?

"As it stands, we have reached an agreement with Stormstrike which will see the release of 'Halcyon' on September 20th. This has involved a form of financial repayment to us for the time and money lost due to the needless delays. I can not apologise enough to all who pre-ordered from us for all the delays."

"If Halcyon' is not released on September 20th, then we shall be giving the masters to Godhead (who we will sign soon) and bloody murder will be done. We have no more patience left, the release will see the light of day."

"Of course I feel that Stormstrike are enthusiastic about it, but at the same time they should have got it out months ago. There is no excuse..."
Has the delay determined you to write more new songs?

"As for new material, yes we have some new tracks/verses/choruses with this new material ready to go such as 'New Dark Age II', 'Blackthorne', 'The Sleeping Tyrant', 'Cimmerian Codex' etc. The new songs are just as aggressive as 'To Ride With Tyr' and with one of them it's the slowest we've ever been. Strange maybe as the majority of the material is up-tempo - but it's all epic and that's what counts - no quartet is given!"

Do you have any dates about the release of 'New Dark Age' CD and 'Lionheart' EP?

"We are looking towards a January release for 'New Dark Age' and an EP release for the 'Lionheart' EP, but don't count on anything happening in time as we are taking our time to write the strongest possible songs."

"I'm also beginning to work on the lyrics for the third LP which is a considerable task considering I'm still finishing the lyrics for 'New Dark Age'. Things are slowly but surely coming together at last."

Have you played with bands this summer?

"WARNING, CARNIVAL OF SOULS (ex-MOURN/ ex-ORANGE GOBLIN) and NIGHTMARE VISIONS. We won't be playing again now until the new songs are ready to be placed in the set. I personally have no real desire to play much of the old material anymore. The new songs are much better to me for a live show."

What things come to your mind first, when you hear the word, Finland?

"RATTUS, TERVEET KÄDET, BASTARDS, MELLAKKA, KAAOS, RISTETYT. But I don't think that will mean much to the readership of ASCENDANCE. I think I may be showing the world my age - never mind eh?"

Have you visited our country?

"I spent 4 hours very drunk in Helsinki waiting to get a ferry to Stockholm and stole some chocolate from a shop because I spent all my money on ale. On the whole it was very cold and depressing to look at, but I didn't really care because I was drunk. We also had a fight in the ferry disco with an ice hockey team from Finland and some crazed German nazi. It was a fine journey indeed - ayel!"

How much do you travel in summer-time?

"I tend to travel all the time, I'm hoping to go to visit my German twin brother Jochen Fopp (the least sober man in his country) soon and we shall consume heroic amounts of ale - hail Jochen!"

Have you got any session instruments/musicians on your coming releases?

"We usually mostly ever than not do everything ourselves because it's a true representation of the band then. Still, we are considering bringing in outside help for a couple of things yet nothing is confirmed. As for the leavis of instrumentation, we shall use all that is appropriate - though nothing too elaborate that could not be recreated live. Owe us of keyboards, violins I find to be exceptionally tedious and quite generic. The best band for something like that are Norway's ARCTURUS - truly awesome!"

Do you think Plastic Head Distribution has gotten more realistic nowadays?

"I have no idea what Plastic Head are up to. The only thing I can say is that I do not trust them nor would I ever. But here in the UK there is much else for underground labels and bands alike. Sad but true..."

"So far, my dealings with Godhead have been satisfactory, I cannot fault Karl at all as he is swift, honest and very hardworking. Now how many other labels can lay claim to all three of them descriptions to their work attitude. I hear nothing but good things about Karl so if all goes well, we shall sign to Godhead. And after that, unleash titanic metal upon the masses."

Have you impressed you lately in UK doom?

"SEER'S TEAR, their last demo was a classic. A real progression and I cannot find fault with them at all. Mark has an incredible voice, I wish he was still in SOLSTICE, but there you go - I can't have everything. Still, other than that, WARNING put out a great demo - very much in the vein of ELECTRIC WIZARD. ACRIMONY have just recorded their new LP and soon both MOURN and ELECTRIC WIZARD will too. There's also BAL-SAGOTH (Pagan black/death metal) and THUS DEFILED (black metal) who both deserve mentioning, as they are true metal brothers...."

Tell us shortly something personal about the each member of your band?

"Chaz (bass) is a one man natural disaster - a total frenzied animal who drinks super strength cider with a view to destroying everything in his path. He is a legend in the UK for his antics and his other passion is UFO's and Scandinavian death metal."

"Shaun (drums) is a smooth talking lady killer with a vast wardrobe of expensive clothes (all black) and believes himself to be at one with darkness. He also is a bit of a U.F.O. fanatic and listens to mainly black metal. He's also a Guiness fanatic and lectures us on the pleasures of stout."

"Hamish (guitar) is our newest member, he's the baby of the band and likes sleeping, eating sex, eating sex, eating sex and drinking ale (and eating). He's a bit like the offspring of Chaz and Shaun really - a damn fine guitarist too, who sweats professionally for England."

"I myself am the son of Debbie Harry and Glen Benton, I enjoy singing because it's good and I want to rule the universe. My role model in life is Ozzy, who truly is a genius. I am also a most miserable, schizoid, erratic drunk."

"I am not going to mention our singer, because he has committed an act of heresy against an ancient and arcane pantheon of elder gods - ayel!"

Your bad luck is hopefully at it's end today. I really hope so. SOLSTICE is something very unique in metal today and your songs stand against the tests of time! How long has your guitar lasted unbroken, uh?

"Well, I certainly hope that our cyclopean amounts of ill-fortune have finished. Our valour is great and we never run from the fray - unlike other individuals. At the moment my guitar is doing ok. It's a Jackson Randy Rhoads with active pick-ups. Very, very heavy. Very, very expensive and most important - very black! I wouldn't wish to use anything else."

Thank you very much, Rich! Have you answered to many interviews lately?

"No, this is only the second this month. Things are quiet which is ok for a change. Answering mail takes up a lot of my time which I would be drinking ale - ayel! But I love receiving mail though. It is the lifeblood of the underground. I do wish for people to send me more money though (ha-ha)."

Advertise, send greetings - anything!

"Thankyou and hail for the interview Sami - it is truly appreciated. I would also like to send greetings to all the brothers + sisters who I am in touch with. And hail to our Cimmerian brothers most of all - we shall fuckin' conquer!"

"If anyone wishes to write then feel free to do so. Until the next time - crusade!"

Everyone should order 'Halcyon' now for 12$. It's available on 10" vinyl or CD from:

SOLSTICE 105 Garden Str.
Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury, WF13 3AN Albion ENGLAND

15
MY OWN VICTIM - 'Burning Inside' CD (Century Media Rec) Yeah right, it's American hardcore metal for 15 songs. Starting well with 'My Standpoint' and drawing onward the hard (musically & lyrically of course) line for long. The tunes have original sense to fuck it up and it's stomping, quick turning with half screaming voice. Surprising.

EPIDEMIC CAUSE-premo '96 This has the 2 songs from their flexi-EP (2 $, by the way) + new version of 'Amnesia' (was on their demo (5 $). Heavy & cold industrial metal is the game and psychological thoughts rule it. Three kinds of vocals sing em out.

ACROSS THE SCARLET MOAT - 'The Juggler, The Peddler And The Minstrel' promo '96 Ex-POGROM come forth with the same doomy, melodic, dark but sparkling metal like on their '95 tape 'A Dream Of Nightfall Silence'. 3 new songs 'The Bird Of Nightful Tidings', 'The Juggler And The Ravens' and 'Dirge Of The Dishonest Peddler' (calming instrumental) fill your mind for 15 mins!

MOURNFUL CONGREGATION - 'Heaven Shall Burn... When We Are Gathered' CD (Osmose Prod) The past MOURNFUL stuff has all left my building except for 'Fuck Me Jesus' demo, which is worth saving as a memory of early death/black metal.

SCRAPE - 'A Taste Of Brutality' demo '96 The title suits this violent power thrash like... well, like a fist the eye, to be inventive. Born in March '95, SCRAPE got this tape done 7 months from that, and mixed March '96. They play it like the lyrics go, threatening you and pushing around! On four songs here, fuelled with anger... That have a modern, but also a bit old taste. Comes in glossy b&w covers. 5 $ (USA) / 6 $.

SCRAPE - 239 N. Maple St. Burbank, CA 91509 USA

FLOWING TEARS AND WITHERED FLOWERS - 'Swansongs' CD (Seven Art Music) Nice 10-min. melancholic, keyboard laden 'Flowers In The Rain' opens - only ruined by it's stupid repetitive speech-samples at it's end...

F.T. & W.F. Benjamin Buss/ Buchholzstr. 49 I 66787 Wadgassen I GERMANY

MARDUK - 'Heaven Shall Burn... When We Are Gathered' CD (Osmose Prod) The past MARDUK stuff has all left my building except for 'Fuck Me Jesus' demo, which is worth saving as a memory of early death/black metal.

MARDUK PO Box 609 I 6014 Norrköping, SWEDEN

MYSTIFIER - 'The World Is So Good That Who Made It Doesn't Live Here' CD (Osmose Prod) Ah shit, are you interested??

ACROSS THE SCARLET MOAT - 'The Juggler, The Peddler And The Minstrel' promo '96 Ex-POGROM come forth with the same doomy, melodic, dark but sparkling metal like on their '95 tape 'A Dream Of Nightfall Silence'. 3 new songs 'The Bird Of Nightful Tidings', 'The Juggler And The Ravens' and 'Dirge Of The Dishonest Peddler' (calming instrumental) fill your mind for 15 mins!

RESPLANDENCE Prod./R.O.D. Bart Marescaux/Mgr. de Haerne I 18185 Kortrijk, BELGIUM

ACROSS THE SCARLET MOAT - 'The Juggler, The Peddler And The Minstrel' promo '96 Ex-POGROM come forth with the same doomy, melodic, dark but sparkling metal like on their '95 tape 'A Dream Of Nightfall Silence'. 3 new songs 'The Bird Of Nightful Tidings', 'The Juggler And The Ravens' and 'Dirge Of The Dishonest Peddler' (calming instrumental) fill your mind for 15 mins!

SECUNDO FLUMINE - 'Rumininences Of A Previous Life...' promo '96 (Resplandence Prod) RHYMES OF DESTRUCTION bassist Frederic Caure started to make music more based on his own feelings in early '95. Extreme metal it is, with fast & furious drummachine, fiery guitars & screaming vocals. Not too chaotic, but nice...

NERO CIRCUS - 'Head Trauma' demo '96 Eight new songs of NERO CIRCUS at Paul Cardick's Spudshoved, on a great sound! It's their best groove crunch to date, recorded in July. Including such powerful cuts as 'Dear Friend' (What's your latest trend?), '12.12.81' (deep one), 'Bitch Command' (behaving instructions for women...) etc. They mix heavy hardcore metal and groovy rocking one so that it works best live. This time the two vocals work like they should!

NERO CIRCUS - Scruff Lewty 16, Springfield Ave I Elburn I Plymouth I Devon, PL 8P2I ENGLAND
SPOOGE: Nice & Warm
demo’96
Vitamin E (vocal), Jonny Hebivore (bass), Joe Lodes (gtr) and
Tubeth, Son Of Flubber (drums) make all those jazzy rock
jokes about things.
Fun?
The funniest thing is the phone-talk at the end of both
sides. There are 4 songs too (I). 'The imp Of The Perverse' and
'Savannah Cobain' fex....
You can order that phone-talk for 5 $ in it’s entirety. It’s named
‘What The Hell Is Going On?’. This clear sounding demo is also 5 $ and their debut demo costs 3 $. Weird?
SPOOGE: 1082 Frances Drive
Valley Stream, NY 11580 USA

INQUISITOR Wim Vanderwaal
Wallenbergstraat 27 3882 HA
Putten THE NETHERLANDS

O ORACULO DE ASARADEL-
‘Astral Doorways’ demo’96
(Sound Riot Prod)
Despite the band name, O ORACULO DE ASARADEL make simple enough music that still is
symphonic and highly original. Artistic, whatsoever.
3 of the five members play guitars (1 plays also
keyboard) & do strange yelling vocals.
‘Nocturnal Winds’ on B-side, for example has a slow swing with lots of guitars, keyboards
doing tinkling stuff and only few vocals coming out now & then.
A-side has two a bit faster (flowing with tension) but also
doomy songs.... The great instrumental ‘5:00 Hours, The
Left Window Is Open’ closes this little symphonic tape very sweetly, stretching itself more &
more & more (!), ’til it fades.... Get this tape or the CD from
Sound Riot Prod. [REVIEW #4]

ARKANA: ‘Demoni’ demo’96
Quite cool, dark organs and drumming begin the short instr.
‘Demogorgon’... Screams come in on ‘Sangue Macelieto’ that is also slow beating one....
Guitars come in (didn’t fit to 2 first songs) on ‘Uomo E Bestia’
and then, ‘Erlu’ (is also on ‘Screams From Italy 2’ comp.).

THE BLOODY VICE: 12
Minutes & 50 Seconds Of...
demo’96
Very well packed 5 $-demo of this heavy grindcore fun!

THE BLOODY VICE from years VICE
even have a First gulp of song ‘All In The Packing’
fucking crushing metal, ‘Advent’ wipes the dust off your mind in a blow.
The Night And The Silent Water’ continues the dark romantic ethics.
Then ‘Nectar’ (mill works on the full force), ‘Black Rose Immortal’ (talk about your epic lovesongs, 20:14-min) and
‘To Bid You Farewell’ (again a masterpiece of a song).

These lyrics are not out to offend all Italian or all punkers or
all well-rounded people...... they say, so just enjoy the few
clever lines like: ’Lick some butt crack, yeah, yeah! That’s all your fucking good at yeah, yeah!‘
The 2 guys play it, use drum,

man and have great little details in these 11, trend-free,

little heavy songs. [REVIEW #4]

THE BLOODY VICE: PO Box
20361 Woden Act 2606 AUSTRALIA

WRATH NATURE: ‘Enslave’
demo’96
They’ll soon change the name to NIMPHEA (= about the contrast between melody and
heavy music). This demo (large color covers & a fine sound) has 4 songs of their strange symphonic (death) metal

DREAM SOVEREIGN: ‘Catastrophic Visions’
rehearsal promo’96
It’s dark again.... Or is it a dream?... Haarse, evil voice
leading, it rolls very well with atmospheric, wild guitars, and is
certainly heavy! Black material.
Dave from D.S. says: “You
would be quite surprised of how many extreme bands exist here...”, and he’s right.
It’s the 2nd demo of D.S. and
one that they’ll spread more interstate. Two songs, first one about killing the summer of happiness and the title track
about the memory of ‘her’.
Recorded in mid-June, with an
ok sound. [REVIEW #4]

DREAM SOVEREIGN: PO Box
525 Blairathol, S.A. 5084
AUSTRALIA

OPETH: ‘Morningrise’ CD
(Candlelight Rec)
66.07-min ‘Morningrise’ has five epic and emotional songs.
There’s no bass - just a rollin’
low frequency guitar (Fluff),
drums (Taff), guitar + flute (Sid).

Recorded in Jan-Feb 96 and
sums well-packed.
KORPSE: Westwood
Stoneywood Rd. Aberdeen,
AB21 9JX SCOTLAND

IMPRECAZION: ‘Theurgia’
Goetia Summa’ CD
(Repulse Rec)
“Ultra fast & heavy-as-fuck brutal death black” that this is
told to be, doesn’t actually
mean shit to me.... Nope, and
it’s not all fast. [REVIEW #4]

VADER: ‘Sothis’ MCD
(Repulse Rec)
VADER: ‘De Profundis’ CD
(Repulse Rec)
All together now (on a brutal voice with a Polish accent):
‘What is this, that stands before me?... ‘Yeah, sorry, they cover
SABBATH great on ‘Sothis’. VADER’s own songs are good,
not 100% original, but they sure burn it! The MCD has also 3 own songs with stubborn grunts of Peter + 3 great intros.

HEAVENSHORE: ‘Between
And All Divine’ MCD
(Repulse Rec)
Smoothly it begins, with a scratchy guitar atmosphere and
the song 'As Water For My Forest' gets going, swinging like a pretentious black metal...

HEAVENSHORE is very much a one-man band, with 2 other vocalists (male & female) on some songs of the total four.

This MCD is personal and it a bit rushed looking & sounding, a good dose of melodic overtone dark metal. [@@@][@@@]

AVULSED kick out fun death metal for lengthy 3 songs here. But you also get their 9-song live show recorded on this.

On that 34-min show they do also covers from DEMIGOD (brings me back to the heroic days of death), BRUJERIA and PENTAGRAM (Chile). So, fans of death, get this! [@@@][@@@][@@@]

GOLGOTHA-'Melancholy' CD (Repulse Rec)

A 3-year old doom/trash(coordination of ex-UNBOUNDED TERROR and DEHUMANIZED guys...) Still playing (too) brutally and having crisp vocals.

You'll have to sink into this, if you're going to enjoy the 7 songs + 2 (nice) little instrumentals = 53 mins. When the guitars go most melodic and they take advantage of keyboardists and guest female vocals, it's all listenable in places, but overall it's dull. [@@@]

Just take 'Echo' or 'The Putrefying Road In The 19th Extremity' for the twisted brutal groove you need! The song titles range from 1- to 22-worded ones.

Aki, Anti (the lowest voice of all), Ville & Miko really crush in these 58 mins! [@@@][@@@]

AVULSED-'Carnivorous' MCD (Repulse Rec)

Dave Rotten (owns Repulse Rec) sings in his band AVULSED and he's got very brutal, low growls...

(IMPALLED NAZARENE) and Domoth (NECRONANTI) have made together so far.

I can't really describe this now, but the title doesn't quite say it either... [@@@]

BEWITCHED-'Encyclopedia Of Evil' MCD (Osmose Prod)

Ah, 'Warhead' cover starts it, then BATHORY's 'Sacred Blood' and 'Evil' of MERCYFUL FATE's 'Circle Of Tyrants' follow and BLACK WIDOW's 'Come To The Sabbath' really makes it clear it's hell metal here!

The new version of 'Hellcult' has (intentionally) a bad sound quality, ends the 26 mins Blackheim & co. do it the way it was meant to be. You reach Blackheim at: [@@@][@@@][@@@]

SOULFLIGHT Productions PO Box 60781 129 07 HÄGERSTEN SWEDEN

DEEDS OF FLESH-‘Trading Pieces’ CD (Repulse Rec)

Squelching necrophilic sounds begin this half of an hour of collection. 'Trading Pieces' song comes 3rd and it has some cool drumming... Hmm, DEEDS OF FLESH are really tight & really brutal, like you probably guessed they'd be.

Vocals are low, so fucking low and backing screams are really cool... The structures kick ass, with lots of hand- & mouthwork during the fucking! Uh?

DEEDS OF FLESH are heavy and fresh! [@@@]

XHARATHORN-Immemorial Atlantic Veneration’ MCD (New Goatla/Requiem Rec)

Hey here's another obscure black metal CD! This zine has lots of that, so keep on reading. Argh goes the 1st (title) track, then some (pretty funny) horns & the 2nd one 'The Triumph That Will Give Birth To The Unrising Golden Era (The Ultimate Reign Rises)' is on and beating. Next, 'Poderes' has 47 years old lyrics - in Portuguese.

There's two more songs to end the 20 mins of fast & noisy desecration done by three men... The last song for me is the wildest. Well done, what's more? A total veneration for the ancient Iberian cultures in form of black storms... [@@@]

XHARATHORN PO Box 50 28901 Getafe Madrid SPAIN

TSATTHOGGAU-'Hosanna Bizarre' CD (Osmose Prod)

They began with the name DISSECTION, until the late '93 they came up with this idea to do Satanic devastating black s/m, mad whipping (etc) hyperspeed metal. "Cause that's the way they love it!", so don't laugh...

It's up to you to get into their weird (exciting?) inferno of 9 tracks with few samples and keyboards doing their part.

If you like it fast & horny - get their (said to be great quality) demo 'Siegessville' too! [@@@]

TSATTHOGGAU C. Shulzi Dr. Klausern 20 45770 Marl GERMANY

THREAT-‘Thee’ CD (Nuclear Blast Rec)

First (and later) listeners of this were more pleasant than 'Leppa Khloff' one (though I've grown to like it too...)

A new 7", limited to 1000 copies on a colored vinyl.!

Yeah, NIGHT IN GALES strike again after the great self-funded demo-MCD (10 $), with emotional power death metal.

MAJESTIC KINGS...Philadelphia, PA 19144 USA

Night In Gaels' 'Razor' 7" EP (MDD Rec)

A new 7", limited to 1000 copies on a colored vinyl.!

Yeah, NIGHT IN GALES strike again after the great self-financed demo-MCD (10 $), with emotional power death metal.

D.O.F. PO Box 65441 Los Angeles, CA 93412 USA

EMPYREAN Markus Stolz Haupstraat 17, 97640 Hendungen GERMANY

IN FLAMES-‘The Jester Race’ CD (Nuclear Blast Rec)

This "unattainable" band has gained lots of new listeners after every CD of theirs and these 40 mins will do that again, I bet. IN FLAMES have truly progressed big steps (again)... 'The Jester Race' is everything your mind wants it to be... We (luckily) get no total ballads here. Emotion - yes... Aggression - fuck you!

All technical adds to overall power and intensity, and there's also few pure heavy metal solos in sudden places.

Of the 2 instrumentals 'The Jester's Dance' (2nd track, after the 1st, massive 'Moonshied' starter) and 'Wayfarer' (a lot different) the first one is better...

All songs fit to this album, though they are diverse. Go & find out what you like on this killer album! [@@@][@@@]

THERION-‘Theli’ CD

(Nuclear Blast Rec)

First (and later) listeners of this were more pleasant than 'Lepasa Klufto' (though I've grown to like it too...)

This has much more variety, "colorful" tunes and thought-out songs - not just cool parts played perfectly. 'Theli' simply is more twisted and evil - more
Enjoyable... I love this one. All it’s chords and additional vocals of drummer Piotr Wawrzyniuk (Serpent) & Dan Swanö.

Cool main-man Christoffer Johnsson (gtr/keyboard/voc) yells with hard & dry screams, again!

''The'' is music for the people but I think beasts like it a lot as well! It’s buzzing!

**SINISTER**-‘Bastard Saints’ MCD

_(Nuclear Blast Rec)_

Oh, this band I haven’t actually never liked much, no matter how professional, brutal, true and evil their stuff is...

After 3 albums, the 4-piece delivers two new, technical and twisted songs (+ a short intro, and two re-recorded cuts from their debut album) here.

**BRUTALITY**-‘In Mourning’ CD

_(Nuclear Blast Rec)_

Cool. It’s simple, dirty & brutal death metal. Lyrics deal with the brutalities of our (real) lives. It’s that for nine songs (47 mins)...

It’s the 3rd BRUTALITY album and I guess their best (having not heard the other 2 ones), with two new guitarists now in.

Try this one if you prefer a death in a ditch...

**SLAPDASH**-‘Bound’ MCD

_(MNW Rec)_

The hardcore metal of SLAPDASH (not that original you think) sure is heavy.

Mainly consisting of ex-ROSICRUCIAN members, this band Warns you up with two songs, a S.O.D. cover and a

**EXHAUSTER**-‘Forget And Dream’ MCD adv. tape

Hmm, EXHAUSTER are a 7-week old thrash (well, mainly)

**CYBORG**-‘Chronics’ CD

_(Diehard Music)_

No it isn’t the most visionary hard industrial death metal albums (though I don’t know which is 7-week old thrash (well, mainly)

**GOAT**-‘Sacred Pilgrim’ CD

_(Diehard Music)_

Now, you can forget your music tastes once you’ve got this sick, one-man grind/black CD... Who’s the man you ask?

He’s GOAT (Lasse Bak of EXILLUSCED) and he’s on all instruments. Screaming and laughing mad out his pain caused by this world.

Starts with ‘BrotherFuckr’ and after 12 other tracks, ends with a bonus one, titled ‘Daughter In The Slaughter’.

**CATHEDRAL**-‘Birth Machine’ CD

_(Earache Rec)_

Let’s use a line from Daddy’s Girls’ tv-show yesterday: ‘Let me tell you about this new album I met. It’s very, very, very, very, very, very... Hot!!!’

This reminds me of the toys Lee D. collects coming to life & starting to groove out some deeply heavy stuff!

Sounds are more rough and alive than ‘The Carnival Bizarre’ (if that’s possible), but some songs are in surprisingly same vein. Still, CATHEDRAL have always known how to make an old thing go heaviest (even their own old stuff)!”Stained Glass Horizon” (you’ll yell: ‘Sabbath bloody Sabbath’!) is the master-track of this album (for the ones who liked ‘The Carnival’...)

‘Cadjerrott’ intro (1st track) is an awesome little beauty (again), and after this, come ultra-light songs about, our planet of the apes, our rat-race, cyclops, titans, evil priests, demons, phasers, ‘Suicide Asteroid’ (love it!), dragons and uh, we end up spinning slow in (not so groovy) ‘Magnetic Hole’.

Mr. Dorrian sings & screams the best out of himself on 11 songs in 60 mins of hardest metal of the 90’s!

**LUNAR AURORA**-‘Aft dunkler Schwingen’ demo’96

It’s the 2nd demo (Feb’96) by this 2-year old, storming band. Why? (bass/screaming vocals), Nathaniel (drums), Bill (keyboard) & Aran (guitars/backup vocals) recorded their debut album now in August for Voices From The Darkside Prod, and I’ll hopefully be out this year...

It should be awesome, according to this symphonic & melodic cyclone!

After a quiet intro, come the four decent songs, that have variety in their expressions of thoughts, beliefs and longings - much of that. It’s your job to find the originality of it all! To myself LUNAR AURORA are a fine, fast & mystical band!

**LUNAR AURORA**-‘Geppert Sabinel’ Am Mühlberg 34/4

83093 Bad Endorf GERMANY
VORTICE GREMISI-s/t MCD
(Vacation House Rec.)
The band admits it's totally KVSS influenced... Cool?!
After the intro-like 'Redeemer' pumps out 'Sad Song', that is simple & effective, but the next one, 'Break' is totally great!!
You just have to hear this cool MCD a couple of times and you'll start to love it...
V.G. first made a demo in Nov'95, then this in Jan'96 - even if they're together since '92!
They don't rush with anything, but play good shit! Get this MCD! $8 (Euro 7) [??????]
VORTICE GREMISI M. Di Prendal Via Monte S Michele, 31 60124 Anconia ITALY

SAMAE-L'Passage' CD
(Century Media Rec.)
Now's a time for rough symphonic roll, with slamming drums, tight riffs & hard growths!
11 trax of complex & pretty diverse stuff that - funny - I always hoped Samael would one day play, when I got into the band... Yeah, to me they're truly evil a band and it's just great to hear 'em after a while!
A ruthless metal machine with a few twisted emotions left inside. Powerful! [?????]

TANAHAUZER- 'Sick Of Society' 'Silicon Valley' CD
Actually '96 founded S.O.S. are hardcore metal that effects on your neck. But they lack a bit in power that many others have and what I'd like. Fuck, this has power - so what am I saying...
'Silicon Valley' has 8 new trax + the whole 'Love??' demo '95 (their 4th), that is more thrashy.
Uhm, this may well entertain all kinds of people. Yes, the lyrics are social all the way. Two guys from FLESHCRAWL appear on guest vocals.
I keep getting the feeling they should quit trying to make freaky structures and push a full-thrash gear on... [??????]

ARCHANGELUS-Magni
Nominis Umbra' CD
(Cemegemo Rec)
In need of something really obscure of dark metal, get in touch with this 4-piece.
They make great atmospheric songs, six here... Without any demos made, they're already preparing 2nd album today and this debut proves they should continue alright.
Synthesizer & keyboards, great strange vocals, beating rhythms and heavy, melodic guitars, it's simply very original.

WITHERING SURFACE - M.H. Andersson Snerlevej 1881 4700 Naestved DENMARK

WAR OF CONQUEST-adv. tape for 'Erbringskrig' CD
(Magnificence Rec)
Now, you get Austrian version of melodic rolling fast black-death with W.O.C. and yeah, somehow it doesn't sound much different to others = Swedes.
These tight & technical songs have no vocals at all, but do the thing! One of the long songs has background samples of woman screaming hysterically, and wind blowing - music storms onward.
Yeah, it's very enjoyable stuff, fast with decent melodies, so get the CD from: [??????]
MASSIVIGNIFICENCE Rec PO Box 1011 Wien AUSTRIA

ORPHANED LAND- 'El Norra Allia' CD
(Holy Rec)
'El Norra Allia' means 'God Of Light - Evil Of The Night' and has 68+ mins divided to 15 songs, of highly technical metal with oriental stuff combined to it - familiar from band's cool Sahara debut, you know.
This one's a bit of a trendy family effort too... But the religious ardor is what really makes me sick. Some cool songs on this, though. [?????]

TANAHAUZER- L. Deines: 44 rue Honore Laporte 65430 soues! FRANCE

'The Holy Bible' sampler '96
(Holy Rec)
Holy put out some of the most fabulous metal in the 90's!
Their tradition (especially doom) bands are unique. Holy have got such a diverse roster!
After a bit longer break, here is a new song from NIGHTFALL (rolling live-track - with familiar, cool grunting vocals), SERENITY ('Skin Of The Soul' is beautiful, great doom song - better than past), ORPHANED LAND (cool non-album track), ON THorns I LAY (vulgar, whispering & funky doom), TRISTITIA (still

ARCHANGELUS- Fabiol R. Conego Mario Quintão, 97 Boa Mortel Barbacena MG 36-20000 BRAZIL

A MIND CONFUSED - Out Of Chaos Spawned '7' EP
(Near Dark Prod)
In vinyls are limited these days, but this is printed to 1000, with lyrics etc in and indeed a confusing band logo, ha!
Yes it is. Death metal I mean, but evil in techniques & melody and quite awesome in screaming (cold echoing voice)...
The title track is fast, especially for its drums and 'Enchantress Of The Dark' on B-side, slams on slower, but as impressively...

ARCHANGELUS- Kim Isaksen Nackstav. 34 Bl 853 52 Sundsvall SWEDEN

DELAYED ACTION BOMB
'Hypnosis' promo '96
(Agon Prod)
J ust when you thought no-one would use H.R. Giger on cover, D.A.B. return with one on this 3-song tape - of their unique, twisted power metal! I'm
Church

CHURCH OF MISERY are one of the 3 Japan's heaviest doom metal bands today. Bassist Tatsu Mikami answered the questions ment for Kazuhiro (voc) It's alright, as they just had to be in ASCENDANCE - anyhow! Now, it was mid August...

Steve from REVELATION sent me this advance tape of yours, and said some of your riffs are pretty heavy. I fuckin' agree! So tell us about your great guitarist: Tomohiro Nishimura a bit.

"Yeah, I agree with Steve, too! Ha ha! Well, Tomohiro was once in the heavy metal band RAGING STEEL. I heard their demo - very fast speed metal style - too old style... Ha ha! He is really influenced by god of doom - Tony Iommi." Your tape starts with great groovy 'Cloud Bed'. Then, 'Nuts' (slower & stone-hard), 'Scum The Lord' (great!), 'Celebrate Pigs', 'Chilly Grave' and 'Race With The Devil'... How were these songs made and which one represents CHURCH OF MISERY the best?

"As you know well, 'Race With The Devil' is cover of UK band GUN ('69). 'Chilly Grave' was written by Nishimura. Rest of songs were all written by me."

"Have you played a lot live? Do you play cover songs?"

"Of course, we have played live a few times. Our 1st gig, audience of 100 came to our show. We also sometimes played cover songs at our rehearsal. 'Race With The Devil', 'Thump' by KYUSS & PENTAGRAM etc. We never play SABBATH songs. Cause SABBATH is "sanctuary" for me!"

"Did you see CATHEDRAL in Japan on their last tour there?"

"My friend, Lee Dorrain invited me to their Tokyo's gig. It was really cool show. I really enjoyed. At their backstage, we talked some things like doom metal. Of course, I'm also their fan. I like their songs & attitude.

"I think the small Japanese accent in Kazuhiro's vocals is great! Really unique.

"I really am into his vocal-style too! He is the only one, ha!"

Did you know about American band CHURCH OF MISERY?

"I really don't know US band CHURCH OF MISERY. Are they doom band? I really never heard their name & music. So I can not answer this question..."

"Yeah, they're a doom band (vocalist is the one from famous gore death/ grinderc IMPETEGO) and I really liked their epic style on their adv. tape too a few years ago... But, tell me about Cornucopia Records and the bands on your label?"

"Cornucopia Rec was published by my friend Mr. Okazaki, who's playing in Japan's doom god ETERNAL ELYSIUM. I've also supported him for long time. End of this year, we'll release 1st Japan's doom compilation - 3 bands including like ETERNAL ELYSIUM, MILLARCA & us CHURCH OF MISERY."

"I wish all the best for you. Thank you very much! Please say your closing words..."

"Well, thanks a lot for this interview, Sami! It's really great experience, ha! Anyway, everyone who's interested in us, you guys should write a letter to me! I answer all your letters!! Support real underground & stay doom!!"

So look out for the CHURCH OF MISERY debut album to be out someday soon! And also for that compilation Tatsu just told you! CORNUCOPIA Rec c/o Disc Heaven Tokyo \ 3F aida Nishi-Shinjuku BLDG \ 7-10-17 Nishi-Shinjuku \ Tokyo, 160 \ JAPAN"
of melody would be the best description of our music. Mostly, attempting to describe some bands has been found to be quite futile, as they deliver such diversity in their music (f.ex. VED BUENS ENDE...).

Guess you have other projects to play?

"Well, Jukka was in some band (or whatever) that I think was called Hinkka in 2-3 bands besides ADORNMENT. No metal, though. Oh, and Tomppa plays drums with some old geezers every Sunday, some 60's - 70's rock..."

"I might be starting some shit, but then I will not be metal! Something along the lines of CIRCLE or NEUROSIS... That's about the size of it."

Have people in the underground supported you, during this big break you had?

"To be honest, some of the biggest support we've got, came from you! So thank you a million, pal! I guess that the rest of the underground is still pretty unaware of us, but..."

"We'll see!"

What kind of music do you like? What kind of music do you sell?

"A lot of shit with one common factor: we like it! Mika (my associate) has been doing the distro work... (mostly) since I'm busy looking after the ADORNMENT and preparing my mag, SHADOW DANCING."

"I would like to hereby apologize to all my contacts for keeping them waiting. I have been so busy (and a bit lazy) lately. I'm pretty much broke all the time. That will be fixed soon! I'm sorry!"

So, tell us about the hopefully successful future of ADORNMENT now...

"The future is still shrouded in the veil of mystery... We hope to release a new demo-tape by the end of the year. If somebody wants to release something from us, take contact! We are also anxious to play gigs, so hesitate no further if you're arranging a gig! We'll start (with the aid of a new tape) bugging some labels in hope of a decent deal."

Thanks to you Petri, a lot! The final words are yours, as I'll sit back now and play some of those new rehearsal tracks of yours!

"Thank you! I wanna greet and thank my girlfriend, all penpals & friends (who most definitely know who they are) and finally, my bandmates for putting up with me. Thank you all! I couldn't make it without you."

BLACK MARKET Write to me for info and please try to include return-postage (Finland) or IRC (r.o.w.), since I'm flat broke! Keep these promos coming for the mag & distro & order our lists! I guess that's all. Enjoy life.

ADORNMENT Petri Eskelinen
REKOLANTIE 48I 01400 VANTAAL FINLAND

Hi Scott, you're the other guitarist of TWISTED TOWER DIRE and the other one is Nick Mertaugh... Have you played a lot together? It certainly sounds like a great cooperation with playing of you two...

"Nick and I have known each other for about six years but this is the first time we have seriously played together. Nick's strength is his dexterity and I think mine is my feel for chords and scales. I will come up with a chord progression or riff and Nick will always have a more imaginative picking technique for it. We seldom shoot each other's ideas down because we have a mutual feeling about where we want the music to go."

Now Tom Phillips - who sung on your demo tape '96 - is in SOLSTICE. So who sings for T.T.D. today?"

"At first it was decided that Tom would be a full-time member of T.T.D. We planned to record new material while Tom was with SOLSTICE, then lay down vocals and gig when he was home. We have found that it is a problem when your singer is often gone!"

"Without a singer, our availability to play shows and our studio productivity is limited. Our solution has been to find a vocalist that can invest more time into the band. We have been looking into several vocalists but it is likely that we will stick with a woman named..."
For me the past is fantasy because it’s an experience I cannot ever obtain. A great way it is too, yeah! To next question... S O L S T I C E sound really fuckin’ heavy... do you like skull-crushing heaviness in music? Will your next recording have how a heavy sound?

“I love the extremely heavy stuff! SOLSTICE is a great band with a killer sound. I would like to get the heaviest sound possible on our next recording. Production plays a large part in this. SOLITUDE AETURNUS have a great production and I think that makes for half of the heaviness. The other thing that makes bands like SOLSTICE and SOLITUDE AETURNUS so heavy is that they’re tuned so low. We plan to seek out a new studio for better production but we don’t plan to tune any lower. The purpose of T.T.D. is to be beautiful and mystical heavy metal as opposed to “skull-crushing” heavy metal.

What about session instruments in T.T.D. will you play or have someone playing some other instruments on your future material?

“We don’t plan to use many session instruments for fear of straying from the metal. However, at the moment we have one song with a brief mandolin line. Again, the focus is to be pure and true heavy metal.”

What death metal bands do you find fascinating? Do you like many styles?

“I like everything from 70’s metal to NWOBHM to progressive/ thrash to death, black & doom (all metal really).

“Some of my 70’s favourites include BUDGIE, RAINBOW, and RUSH. My favourite NWOBHM bands are IRON MAIDEN, VENOM and Saxon. The first DEFT LEPPARD album rules too! My favourite thrash/progressive acts are SLAYER, FATES WARNING and VIO-LENCE. As for the present, there are quite a few bands that I really like. ‘Tales’ by AMORPHIS is a classic for me. COUNT RAVEN’s Destruction Of

The Void’ are some great tunes as well. IMMORTAL and DARKTHRONE are couple of the very few 90’s black metal that I like. I will stop now because I have left out a billion bands worth mentioning.”

Have you played shows lately?

“We played a show with ARGHOSLEST and GRAND BELIAL’S KEY on July 18th. On August 22nd we have a show with UNORTHODOX and FEAR OF GOD. The 18th went very well.”

How’s the Northern Virginia scene today?!

“The Northern Virginia scene is split. Everyone here talks behind each other’s back. I wish it wasn’t this way because there would be much better turn outs at shows, if people would support each other. This is not to say that some really great bands haven’t come out of this area though!”

Thank you very much! Please send your last words to the readers.

“Thanks to everyone who has ordered the demo thus far. Anyone who hasn’t heard us should check us out if they wish to step back in time and experience some true heavy metal. Look out for our split 7" with COLD MOURNING. It is being released by IRON RAINBOW and should be out by mid October. Thank you so very much for the interview Sam!”

T.T.D. debut demo costs: $3 (USA) / $4 and comes in cool blue colors...

TWISTED TOWER DIRE

30 Scalleter Road, Vienna, Virginia 22182 USA

What kind of co-operation you have with Sinistari Records - distributor of your demo?

“There isn’t much co-operation with T.T.D. and Sinistari. When the demo was first released, Sinistari was going to help distribute it. This is why the Sinistari logo is all over everything. I just wound up distributing it myself.

How do you feel about the breaking up of mighty doom label Hellhound Rec?"

“It is very depressing when such an important metal label goes under. There is nothing more to say, we simply need more good metal labels!”

How much you like to drug yourselves when playing live shows?

“I don’t like to get too slashed before I play. Beers are the key to a messy set. However, beer & pot is the magical answer to a grand practice!”

Alright! What’s your favourite metal show you’ve been to, Scott?

“I think the best show ever for me must have been IRON MAIDEN last February. I saw them at Hammerjack’s in Baltimore. We were in a near-by parking lot, drinking before the show and IRON MAIDEN’s bus just pulled in
These guys play really heavy doom metal from Sweden and you must have their MCD! Stefan tells you about new things coming from MEMORY GARDEN, in late August.

Hi Stefan, how are you doing?

"Hello Sam! I'm doing fine. The sun is shining and I've got a cold beer so I can't complain."

Per from Heathendoom Music said your album should be out in late October. How has it been made? Have you had enough time, money and inspiration for it?

"First of all we haven't recorded the album yet. We'll be in the studio from 16th to 27th of September. About time, money and inspiration the last mentioned is the only we've got enough of. We're really looking forward to hear our new material recorded and produced with such quality of sound that Studio Fredman will achieve."

I guess you were delighted of all the positive reviews of 'For Ever' MCD?"

"Yes of course! It's always great to get a nice review, especially as you know that some of the readers of the magazine has got more interested of hearing the album if it's got "high points" or some like that."

Speaking of 'For Ever' more, it sure was the best heavy northern doom metal MCD in the year '95! Really strong, your vocals being absolutely awesome! I guess your CD will have even more improved vocals?"

"Oh, thank you for your kind words! Well, yes. I've tried to do some new stuff and it feels pretty natural 'cause the new material is a bit different according to 'For Ever'."

So, do you use backing vocals on the CD, or many layers of your voice?

"We haven't decided that quite yet. Couple of months ago we did a pre-recording in a local studio where we used female backing vocals, so it just might appear on the album as well."

Do you know about this new cool Swedish act on Heathendoom Rec besides you and DARKLANDS, as I heard something like that?

"We didn't know so we asked Pera of Heathendoom and if there was a new act involved it was without his knowing as well. Maybe it's just rumours you've heard. Pera will open a recordstore in Stockholm in September, to be exact; Friday 13th (bad choice of day, or?)"

Tell us more about the sounds of upcoming CD... Would you like to have vinyl pressing of your upcoming album? Do you still buy LP's?"

"As I said earlier, it's a bit different to our previous releases. Probably we won't get as much compared to CANDLESS MASM anymore. It's more a kind of power / heavy metal than doom metal, yet some riffs can be caught as doomy.""

"A vinyl pressing? Sure, why not! But just to a certain number, maybe 50-100 copies so it would be hard to get one. It was a long time since I last bought an LP, but if I find something interesting like old BLACK SABBATH or maybe Emma Nousmini..."

I just got to have it!"

What kind of art will you use on the CD?

"The cover-art will be made by a local artist called Joakim Eklund, who's into painting/brushing."

This autumn brings us many new great doom metal albums... Do you wait for ANATHHEMA, CATHETER or MY DYING BRIDE?

"Personally I didn't listen that much to any of those bands to wait for their upcoming album, but if I'd pick one it'd be MY DYING BRIDE."

Something for readers, for the end...

"Moi mukkaan! Paine läpät sisään ja aava. Kaakko-juomajauhe. That's about everything we know in Finnish. Impressed? Thanks for the vju and take care."
CLANDESTINE 'Umarte MC
This one's all Polish (titles & lyrics), total death metal by a 3 men named X, Y and Z (?!)
Ha, the music is brutal and technical. The atmosphere is kept dark all the way through 9 decent songs + a nice outro named 'Windland'. Fast parts are well placed and it all pours over you effectively enough.
Try out now as death metal still is fuckin' alive. [★★★★★]
CLANDESTINE PO Box 374
72-600 Swinoujscie. POLAND

ADRAMELCH 'The Fall' 3" MCD
(Repulse Rec)
Oh, just to mention this tiny release - it has 3 of tracks on 'Psychostasia' CD and one more called 'The Fall Of Tiamat' that is of course brutal, low grunted piece of speedy, technical & rolling death metal as on 'Psychostasia' [★★★★★]

CATHARSIS 'Bitter Disdain' demo '95
(Mad Lion Rec)
Trying to create an unusual style of death metal, this begins with a short, sad piano intro - like it'd be done here...
Then the title track straightens it up - that's death metal with a slap-bass. Going bangbang onwards and not getting exactly anywhere... This still-available, 8-song tape was done in March '95. Nowadays they're said to play (even) more intelligent and technical death metal. [★★★★]

SICKNESS 'Wintersturm' compilation tape '96
(Mad Lion Rec)
A compilation of songs from two SICKNESS demos 'Excess' ('93) and 'Endzeit' ('95). Both said to be well sold...
The band has an unoriginal, yet suitable name, 'cause they make noisy death metal dealing with body fluids, insanity and...
U know, trying to do it the way it is impossible to compare them only thing I give 'em credit for.
So here's your choice to check 'em out (?). This and all following Mad Lion tapes are out for 6 £ (Eur) 7 $.

ASTAROTH 'Operation Warlord' 3" EP
This one's out now on Wild Rags Rec as a CDS too, but Teemu kindly sent me vinyl!
ASTAROTH play old style, heavy and mangling, and in the way, 'No justice, we just die' (on B-side's 'Burn Away What Remains'). So if you'd like some scary death (!), get this classic Finnish EP... [★★★★★]

DECUBITUS 'Codex Sinalicus' 2nd Art Rec
This new, 2nd Seven Art album is heavy death metal - you like it or not, with social, realistic & 'modern' lyrics...
14 songs in about 45 mins can say many things, but listen, the coolest lines come on 'Sudden Feelings' (like: "You're a-fucking-lier!")).
Yep, it's not totally boring (has few cool bits), so why not try it like it heavy! [★★★★★]

AMON AMARTH 'Sorrow Throughout 9 Worlds' MCD
It's fast & melodic metal of death - no surprise, but you'll be playing these five tracks like there is no tomorrow...
Scream'n hell of vocals, etc is all here, so find this out somehow... [★★★★★]

THE FIFTH DOMINION
'Towards Elysium' demo '95
Dark, powerful doom/death with melody and gothy parts - like here is always.

THEOHS OF DAWN
'Pakkasherra' promo '96
(Woodcut Rec)
Frostbitten heavy metal...
Yeah, the title means 'Frostlord', but all vocals are in English. T.O.D. have great melodic parts inside, cool black metalish ones and the songs are of a classic
ENOCIAN CRESCENT-promo'96 anno bastardi (Woodcut Rec)

Another Finnish band to blow the winds of melancholy with their promo for CD on Woodcut Rec (u know, they also released WINGS-CD).

ENOCIAN CRESCENT kicks ass for 3 songs.. The first one is fast, then 'The Cold Harvest' brings calm guitars, soft female voice for (only) a moment...

'Afar (The Age Of Dust)' is strong, blackish, raking piece and BATHORY cover 'Thirteen Candles' ends the tape - yeah in honourable way! [★★★★]

WOODCUT Rec PO Box 871 65101 Vaasa FINLAND

THE COLD.ONCE.TURNING.
DUST-'Gloom' 7" EP (Powerwave Unlimited)

Uuhh: Wroom goes the A-side. It's 'Käärmeet' with a long sound of thunder - only to transcend you (!). Then on B there's "kind of fucked-up tribal beats" and I don't get it.

This is limited to 300 copies. A cool thing is the packaging: A4 booklet & milk white vinyl.

Can't imagine T.C.O.T.D.'s debut album to be really great by this... Maybe this is just a fuck you to the short playtime of a 7": Whoo knows - whoooo careaess?! Hah, well this is something original. [★★★]

DUNKELHEIT-'Obey' CD (Suggestion Rec)

This here is very heavy industrial trash (well not all the way) for 14 songs + 9 intros in a cool (?) digipack...

It's DUNKELHEIT's debut CD and before this they've a done demo, 'More Than Meets The 3rd Eye' EP '94, and been on various compil. tapes & discs.

Listen to DUNKELHEIT if you think one can't make crushing heavy thrash (and far beyond) with machines! Also from Dunkel Prod. [★★★★]

SUGGESTION Rec PO Box 14031 58285 Gevelsberg GERMANY

EDGE OF TIME #9 (size A4, 28 pgs, costs 45$)

This Lithuanian zine - written in good English - has lots of grey! It's very clear, imaginative, well awesome computer lay-out!

Int views: CONTINGENCE, DESULTORY, DISONANCE, FACETAIL, GALACTIC COWBOYS, INFERNO, IN THE WOODS..., LAKE OF TEARS, SIEGES EVEN and SPELLBOUND + bio/ back catalogue of FATES WARNING.

Yeah, lots of music reviews (demo, CD etc) and with all the song titles printed! Cool.

E.O.T. have intelligent approach, but also for tasty tunes - that's the way to do it!

Get this and try #7 and #8 as well (both 25 each), until #10 is (soon) out! [★★★★]

TRESSE Rec Box 206 Santa Barbara, CA 93102 USA

RISE AND SHINE 7" EP now available on Freedom Records. This three song record contains 18 minutes of Hippiemetal on sunrise coloured vinyl. Two of the song are previously unreleased.

Order your copy for 8 US dollar worldwide or 80 skr in Scandinavia.

Only well hidden cahn, no coins, send order to:

Freedom Records
Klubbacken 7 s-129 39 Hägersten, Sweden

SON OF WILLIAM-
"Husk" MCD (Berzerker Rec)

Here's four, 2 minute songs of industrial goth power... The mainman Spencer Harrison says: "Husk" is the collective imbalance of humankind and reflects the malign personality of the guilty people who always seem to be contaminating your immediate airspace. Hard & goofy percussion, scratchy vocals, heavy & filthy riffs... Only 6 $! [★★★★]

BERZERKER Records 90B High Road N2 9EB London ENGLAND

ENDURA-'Black Eden' CD (Red Stream Rec)

About a 50 min trip recorded between Nov '95 and Feb '96, beginning slowly with 'Satanas Ex Machina', a dark ambient quiet noise thing - like the next, 'The Left Hand Of The Dead'.

Those two are like one 15-min intro to a bit more musical 'The Devil Stars Burn Cold'. Then, 'When God Was A Snake' goes on, moving unexpectedly...

The last two, 'The Sun No Longer Sets Me Free' (low, chanting vocals) and 'A Golden Heresy' are like a 15-min outro! They say it's the most sinister of ENDURA that you will hear on record, so try out. [★★★★]

BERNHEIM-Dictus Te Necare' CD (Red Stream Rec)

Back when they were int viewed in the 1st issue, I thought they played one of the most suicidal, dark metal! On 'Dictus Te Necare', these 4 guys did 7 songs (44 min) in their very own, melodic dark metal vein.

The all-German screaming is pure feeling of total sadness & madness throughout. The language is not a problem! They've got deep melodies that are needed in this music and I can't find anything negative about this album dedicated to suicide-victims.

Though musically and lyrically 'Dictus Te Necare' is one of the most fucking negative metal albums of all time! [★★★★]

RED STREAM Records PO Box 3424 Camp Hill PA 17011-0342 USA

DETROITERS-'The Senescent Entrance' CD (Pulverizer/ Diehard Rec)

It's intense here on this 2nd album of this American 4-piece. First one was titled 'Rotting In Hell' ('93) that was followed by a demo in '94. This CD has ¼ new songs and ¾ from that (successful) demo.

Only original members today - both guitarists Frank Lerro and Dark Woods (Joe Gorski) - rip tight grinding riffs.

DETROITERS'S black death grinding is imaginative, with very twisted screams of Gannon...

'Daves Come-' and 'Stealin g Strength From The Ivory Bear' (slow son of a f**k) and others in these 34 mins are heavy (and mad) stuff. [★★★★]

CAPTOR-'Drowned' CD (Roasting House/ Diehard)

Damn, those Swedish power groovers are one more band having hard screaming vocals so alike Pea Anselmo's.

'So Bold As Cold' begins it. Going through 'Zombihead', 'Insane', 'Lost' etc and ending up with 'Sick'. Well, totally it's 12 (very) good, hard trax, some may very well get sick of it...

36
Ok, it rolls heavy but gets me many flashes of their influences. Still, this brickwall CD is ok and recommended.

ADAMELECH: Jani Ahoi
Sarakuja 81 32200 Loimaa FINLAND

ATMAN-‘Like A Pure Unawaited Magic’ CD
(New Goeti/ Requiem Rec)
Interest rises as ATMAN have a female soprano vocals (by Fuencisla). Well, they’re really unique in black metal.

‘Personification Of A Feeling’ is sung by Fuencisla alone and she is a big part of ATMAN.

SARNATH-‘Overshine’ CD
(Shiver Rec)
Shiver say this album’s going to get ‘em places where nobody expected them...Yeah, it’s well heavy, melodic and a little progressive... Folks as well.

SARNATH rumbles and twist it with their very own ideas and style. The guys, Anni K. (gtr), Mikka (gtr), Lasso (voc), Antti H. (bass) and Juha (d) can build pretty strong and groovy songs and the personally deep lyrics are sung strong, as the music insists. Vocals are cool...

It’s nine metal songs with short, weird intro & outro, in 44 mins. Try out. [★★★★]

KIBOSH SBYL KISMET- rehearsal demo’96
They’re simply melodic dark metal (not far from black) on this tape, that has no keyboards (except on the intro) which they will include in on their next recordings. In mid August they’ll get to a real studio for a demo.

NEOLITHIC-‘For Destroy The Lament’ CD
(Adipocere Rec)
‘Personal Fragment Of Life’ Demo (later MCD too) was awesome, and finally here’s more NEOLITHIC sounds!

This hideously rocking (doom/death) metal with beautiful melodies & sliding atmospheres surely deserves its listeners. Varying death & spoken vocals are sung both in English & Polish - which is cool. ‘Last Fix’ is probably the highlight...

It’s eight long & progressive, melancholic and folk doom metal songs with great keyboards...[★★★★]

NEOLITHIC Piotr Wulich
Studzieniec 19A 06510 Miawal POLAND

MORDOR, B.P. 3600, 1020 Renens VD, SWITZERLAND
MORNINGSTAR, Knuuttilantie 3 D 139, 44350 Askola, FINLAND
MORTAL GOD, J.Tauskaa, Majurintik, 12 A 7, 02650 Espoo, FINLAND
MORTIS, Arkelant, Arkelant, 29255 Halmstad, SWEDEN
gone too grimy for me, on 'Wake Up' (from '95 demo) as it's more hardcore! [★★★★]

DEUS EX MACHINA get it done with immense power. 'My Rust' has normal vocals, leafy friendly & ruling! [★★★★]

HORROR OF HURRICANES melodic & heavy grind kills too, on small doses. [★★★★]

DAYS OF LAMENTING are slow, gothy & dark atmospheric stuff w/ fine keyboards. They also bang harder that heavy drum-machine on epic 'Passing Into Silence'. [★★★★]

JUDGECA's 'Awakened By The Stench Of The Dead' MCD (Wild Rags Rec.)

If you're using this to waste someone up, it will definitely work. It's crushing death metal!
3 songs 'Forensic Pathology' (on W.R. comp. CD), 'The Black Blood Of Christ' and 'Evil Born' (with real, nasty samples of baby crying) for $7! [★★★★]

JUDGECA, PO Box 150505, Cape Coral, FL 33906 USA [★★★★]

MASSACRE-'Promise' CD (Earache Rec.)

They've turned from a pure death metal band to a bitter, hard-edge power one?! Yeah, but this shows they've been in it for the (kind of) cool tunes.

After all, it's Kam Lee's voice the biggest mutant - on this last MASSACRE album of his. Kenny Goodwin is the present guitarist/vocalist today.

What I like most on this CD is to hear some of that buzzing, fucking guitar they've always had! There's cool swarming and 'walking', 'spooky', diff. bits too. You will not be badly disappointed. Still, Earache do have better tunes... [★★★★]

HECATE ENTHRONED-'Upon Promethean Shores' MCD (Blackend Rec.)

This one is only confident, pure & technical job backed black art metal.
Six tracks here for you to find out if HECATE ENTHRONED are any different/better than... Just kidding! [★★★★]

Jon screams from his heart and the 30 min culminate with the 9th track, 'An Ode For A Haunted Wood', that still doesn't overshadow the other tracks, but shows some truly powerful things the majestic blast metal of HECATE ENTHRONED does.
They are two core-members & 3 more... And they won't stop now! [★★★★]

ADAFONI-'Alone Waking' MCD (Wounded Love Rec.)

The CD version of the same named demo '93. HADES have also a CD out (Fullmoon Prod). The band consists of Jento (voc/bass), Sig (gtr), Jorn (gtr/voc) & Remi (drums), who make strong metal with atmosphere and hokey melodies that come naturally. You see it when

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MANTICORE-'Integrating The Extreme' CD
(Warhead Rec)
90 formed fast & brutal death/metal act that was on Warhead Vol.1 compilation CD last year with 'Mask' (also here).
This is well put together from cover art to the music.
Eight pieces + SLAYER's 'Raining Blood’. All of the songs have (scary) social themes sung with low & tight growls. Some very catchy parts & cool speedups. Bit like thrash of the 90’s!
MANTICORE give you some big healthy extremity... [C.COM] MANTICORE PO Box 131/ Kooringal NSW 2650 AUSTRALIA.

GENOCIDE-s/t CD
(Warhead Rec)
And the CD’s get shorter, with this funny named band with a heavy 25-minute killer one here!
Six songs: 'Freedom' (it’s a nice starter), 'Soiled' (for the peace on earth...), 'Demon' (sh-t strong roller!), 'Possession' (cool & moody), 'Reality' and yes, 'Genocide'...
These young blokes have made something you wouldn’t want to miss out of all that heavy power death stuff... [C.COM]

NAZXUL-Toten' CD
(Vampire Rec)
After spending 9 months on the concept and execution of 'Toten', these Australians now let the 'tragedy and holocaust bleed through the music' for massive 70 mins now!
Fast one again to ascend you above the clouds (or lower down to the pits of hell)! It’s a big black metal soundwall alright.
Second to last cut is titled 'End', but it fools you (?) as there’s still a 30-minute thing called 'Eumenides' to rise really quietly, then exploding for only 3 last minutes! Hm... [C.COM] VAMPIRE Records PO Box 669; Epping NSW 2121 AUSTRALIA.

GENOCIDE PO Box 667
Chesterhill 2162 AUSTRALIA

KILLENGOD-'Transcendal Consciousness' CD
(Warhead Rec)
These 3 guys stand for strong people and belong only to themselves - not into any categories. Fine with me!
Errol, Jonathon and Dexter have fun playing extreme music and expressing themselves.
They’ve done a very thick death sound for these 28 mins. Songs like ‘Even Death Flow’, ‘Funeral Fuck’, ‘Believe In Divination’ (like a moto) + five more. The art is colorful & sick.
Lyrics to the title track go like: ‘F*ck the lord for it f*cked you...’ [C.COM] KILLENGOD 46 Parr St Biggera Waters Gold Coast Queensland 4216 AUSTRALIA

BALTAK-s/t CD
(Battlegod Prod)
The 1st Battlegod CD in black & white. Of “forever damned to the underground” music of this Macedonian, dark, atmospheric, evil black metal act... A 3-piece into fast, triumphant power-ride, with 9 tracks on this debut CD. The drummer being much like a machine with his precise (& fast) work. Guitars are well described as chainsaws and it’s all well witching.
Not easy to give points to this kinda original stuff, with so much power put to it.
As for the screams, they’re sung with emotion and echo through your head for these hellish 40 mins...
And these guys hate Greek black metal bands... [C.COM] BATTLEGOD Productions PO Box 5321 Kingsgrove NSW 22081 AUSTRALIA.

MAGIETSY-The Crown Of Scorpio' MCD
(Toutonic Existence Rec)
Lord Graveshill’s devoted & twisted doom vocals are a thing to get used to first, but then after few listeners, you’re in love! That is if you like simple and brutally beautiful doom metal with a very personal feel to it.
The sad session violin is well placed and the drum-machine pounds like it should. Also acoustic guitar’s in...
Here’s 3 songs in a simple but colorful pack with a copied lyricsheet. Truly doom! [C.COM] MAJESTY Lord Graveshill Valitie 6 a 41 61100 peräseinäjoki FINLAND.

TWIN OBSCENITY-'Revelations Of Glaaki' demo'95
Watch out TWIN OBSCENITY debut CD later on Head Not Found, ’cause this tape (from March’95) promises a lot!
Atile plays the rough riffs, mellow solos, the tight'n clear growls + the cool keyboards. Jo Anlid does the bass with a heavy hand and Knut batters well.
This 4-song tape has decent sounds. Just as great you need for this atmospheric & melodic, yet a way technical music TWIN OBSCENITY create.
So, warm yourself up for the coming album now! [C.COM]

SARCOPHAGUS-'For We... Who Are Consumed By The Darkness'
(Pulverizer Rec)
Another sub-label of Diethard, Pulverizer, with their debut CD - the 2nd SARCOPHAGUS CD this year, as the band got an EP-compilation out on Intemment Rec in January...
Hell, the 4 men wear masks (not original ones) and play hateful, grinding black death with a little keyboard backing. You just try a song like 'Fuck Pig' now, if you’re interested... It goes like: “You’re a fuck pig! A fucking fuck pig!” Other 8 other ones are bit more into evil...
The guys started playing already in ’80, but didn’t record until 90’s. Now, this kinda well-produced 30-minute blaster may get ‘er somewhere (we’ve seen it happen)... [C.COM]
PULVERIZER Rec PO Box 940 Dixieln Illinois 61021 USA

INQUITY-'Serencadium' CD
(Emanzipation Prod)
First CD from this sub-label of Diehard Music is very refreshing & shit-heavy disc (in death).
A band that has been on four Diehard’s compilation CD’s so far, since ’92! Now takin’ you into eight new dimensions...
The heavy songs swing. Low growling vocals are drippin warm blood on your face. The guitars do a lot of shrieking, but also fine melodies. Not forgetting the windmill-riffs.
Overall all the cuts are cool, like: 'Tranquil Seizure' (insane starter song), 'Serencadium' and 'Mockery Retained To Obliterate' (whatta roll).... The smoky cover art is very cool! [C.COM]

TWIN OBSCENITY Box 10901
5001 Bergenl NORWAY

THE MARBLE ICON-'Sombre Eptaph' demo'96
Continuation to last year’s Queen Dowager’ demo with 5 songs + an instrumental.
THE MARBLE ICON still do doom death on very melancholic melodies, emotional and imaginative lyrics. Few riffs are trying to drop you on your knees...
This green tape could’ve had better sounds, but it’s well...

DARK AGE-'Undying Existence' demo'96
Well, again it’s death metal. Now on this 5-song demo, of which 4 are written by drummer Johann. There’s some tightness alright. Quite heavy, slamming stuff with a few melodic parts.
‘Rotting Mind’ that ends this, is done by guitarist Erik.
DARK AGE are said to make more personal material these days - whatever it means. This was recorded in Nov’95 and will please death metal maniacs. It’s a prof. packed tape... [C.COM]
DARK AGE! Johann Lecointe 25 rue Albert-Thomas 38100 Grenoble FRANCE
The band-interview starts in doom with ABSURD EXISTENCE and TRISTITIA, then NEMBRIONIC, ABIGOR, PARRIDEG, PAVOR, LOONATIK, NEOLITHIC, NAGLAFAR, ELYSIAN FIELDS and THE 3RD AND THE MORTAL... It doesn’t end there. cause there’s also a graphic artist-interview with Mike, Jochem Bult, Juha Vuorma and Denis Grimm in between. These are pretty refreshing features!

About 13 and a half pages of packed-up metal reviews, and 1 page of cool zines... It’s surely not boring to read ‘em through. You get many tips for shopping! Then, six full-page ads (two from Displeased Rec), but it’s ok. There’s still left a 2-page Australian scene report (not very deep)... I’m really interested to see the next one (5) and so will be you after this! [@@@]

FEAR OF LIFE! Arco van Wijdenr Oude Leedeweg 39 2641 NM Pijnacker THE NETHERLANDS

SINGING SWORDS #2 (size A4, 96 pages), 5 $.

S.S. is damn heavy in weight! The motto goes: “In the darkened days of old, the law was the sword” and the true metal attitude just jumps to your eyes, when you open SINGING SWORDS (aw, what a title). This mag is out for true fans of heavy/progressive/power metal.

My eyes were immediately nailed to interviews of SOLITUDE AETURNUS, IRON RAINBOW, WHILE HEAVEN WEPT (superb). The rest: BLIND GUARDIAN, BRAIN FADE, CAULDRON BORN, CRYSTAL CLEAR, DEPRESSION, DIPHtherIA, EYz MYAT, FRACtURE, HORIZON'S END, LORDIAN GUARD, REFLECTION, SAVAGE GRACE, SKYWARD, STEEL PROPHET and Yngwie J. Malmsteen (ruh) prove to be just ok to read - much thanks to clear outlook and great writers.

Having not heard all these bands, the int views sure are very informative, and new. Also a few album- & live-reviews after the interviews, like 4 different revoos of one album, praising the show of BLIND GUARDIAN...

The other features include: a big HEAVY LOAD (after whose song this mag is named) article, 24 pages of reviews, few ads, poems and tales... So, black metal is mentioned only in places and there’s not exactly much of doom. Some yes. Darkness? No. There goes few points. [@@@]

SINGING SWORDS! Costas Pentidis D. Pournai 21 13671 Acharnai GREECE

FIGHT AMNESIA! #9 (size A5, 64 pages, price 3,10,-)

If you search for interesting int views with Misanthropy Records, NEFILIM, LAND OF PASSION, SON OF WILLIAM or Peter E. Williams (VEIL OF THORNS and CHORONZON) - you must get this one here. created by the mainman Jan Kalafatis of gothmetal act INTO THE ABYSS...

The layout has thought in it and it’s easy to read (like it should be). So... No things much to complain about can’t be found, as all addresses & stuff are in. Lots of zine reviews (many metalzines), I.T.A. tour-diary, about 14 pages of music (rock, black & all between) reviews and course merchandise lists + few lyrics printed of Janis’ great heavy gothrock band! [@@@]

FIGHT AMNESIA! Heinheimer Str. 4 d 64228 Darmstadt GERMANY

COSMIC CHAOZ #2 newsletter (size A5/ 40 pages) comes free with order

Packed-up little newsletter from Dunkel Productions, interviewing BEYOND DAWN, CONTINGENCE, FRONT LINE ASSEMBLY and INTO THE ABYSS. It’s also their mailorder catalogue, which is cool.

You know, Dunkel’s for industrial type of heavy music + other types of that, heaviness!

This is very well put together, with a lot of small text and enough of pics & photos. 57 all kinds of heavy music reviews, 18 zine-ones (lots of metal zines), and 7 pages of informative stuff.

COSMIC CHAOZ comes out only in internet now, with all the stuff they’d have in this newsletter and probably much more. I should review this Internet page (http://www.ulz.no/~larso/DUNKELPROD/DPindex.html) now too. Wait a bit... [@@@]

DUNKEL Productions! Savgeien 23 0458 Oslo NORWAY

Where Musick becomes Magick we nest and hatch...

demonosound

mailorder

BOX 685 20101 TURKU FINLAND

email DEMONO@SOUND.NET.FI
Ah, this little interview lacks a few questions - one's vocalist/guitarist Aaron Gustafson didn't answer, so I think it's a bit awkward. You have a chance to check out if there's some real fun coming with FUNERAL's brutal & melodic metal!

four guys (John Shafer drums in FUNERAL) had to form this brutally kicking, doomy band.

"NECYOMANCY means: "to foretell the future by examining the nerves of the dead."

"NECYOMANCY was Orlando, FL project band. Aaron Gustafson (voc/ gtr), Ken Barber (gtr - from NAPHOBIAS), Dave Padraza (drums - from VESICANT) ("both bands were from Orlando & NAPHOBIAS is still around), Ken & Aaron took turns molesting the bass - because our bass-player broke his finger.

"NECYOMANCY was a really fun project. We all enjoyed jamming together."

"FUNERAL was formed with the intention of being brutally raw & heavy!! The result has been chemically chaotic.

"FUNERAL formed in January of 1995 by me and Eric. John joined three months later.

What kind of thoughts bring the melancholy and doom into your songs, like 'Mourning'?

"Thoughts of happiness & joy!! Ha ha ha. Have to be able to whistle it."

Alright, your drummer John Shafer was in HEXX. Another band quite unknown to me (!). He plays really well, so what has he been doing since the split of HEXX, until joining FUNERAL?

"John has been involved in SKINLAB, DRONE + others. John came to us (Aaron & Eric) and we have been totally satisfied. John is very talented. HEXX, which was the band he used to jam in, was signed to Century Media + did a few albums. John played on the later ones. Check out 'Wetery Graves', it's the goods."

"Clint from HEXX (singer/gtr) is now in ABSCESS with Chris & Danny from AUTOPSY. Check out 'Urine Junkies' from Relapse Rec, it's some crazy stuff."

What other projects you four guys have?

"Steve actually still jams with SADUS + look for new release. Steve also jams jazz fusion in a band called DARK HALL. This is some killer goods worth checking out. Total fretless Digiorgio!"

Where would you like to play live?

"Europe, anywhere."

"How's the weather there in Antioch?"

"Hot, hotter, very hot, okay it's really fucking hot."

What kind of art have you chosen for the upcoming FUNERAL debut album?

"A good friend Jon Chandler, who did the AUTOPSY logo + Fiend For Blood' cover, is the mind behind the cover."

Your fave 5 brutal death/doom albums?

"VENOM-Welcome To Helf, DEATH-Scream Bloody Gore", AUTOPSY-'Retribution For The Dead', PUNGENT STENCH-'Been Caught Buttering', SLAYER-'Hunting The Chapel', in no order - just the first couple off the top of my head."

About other types of metal and music...

Greetings Aaron! Please invite people to this FUNERAL interview!

"Greetings!!"

I've never heard your last band NECYOMANCY, but AUTOPSY, SADUS and DEATH yes (ex-bands of two FUNERAL members Eric Cutler (lead guitar) and Steve Digorgio (fretless bass)). What was NECYOMANCY like? Tell us all the reasons you recorded three months after that."

Your favourite band?

"We all agree on the band RUSH. Rush is bad-ass."

So, you will record another demo until your debut album...

"The soon to be released 2nd demo will be much heavier than the first. We all look forward to recording it."
PARACHE News...

David Vincent left MORBID ANGEL and is in GENITORTURES. He also
concentrates on his solo material... M.
ANGEL live album will be out early '97.

Dark, ambient & surrealist SIGNS OF
CHAOS have their 'Frankenscience'
CD out in Sept 23th.

New CATHEDRAL album out in Sept
30th. - read the
freakin' review in this zine!!

And all CARCASS collectables come
out in Oct 14th, on 'Wake Up & Smell
The Carcass' compilation.

EARACHE Rec Suite 1-3 Westminster
Buildings Theatre Square
Nottingham, NG1 6LG ENGLAND

SHIVER news...

Check out SARNATH, AVATAR and
INQUISITOR CDs reviewed inside.

Finnish NOMICON record follow-up to
split-cd with SARNATH - and it'll be in
same old weird vein of theirs. It's main
Tommi Launonen has been busy 5-6
different bands including SOULCRIND.
CD is planned for '97.

New (2nd) album of RINASCIMENTO
(ex-RENAISSANCE) is a 2-CD box, entilted
'Suite For A Princess'. To be out very
soon with its 4 different vocals, lyrics in
5 languages, real orchestra backup, and
20 complex, but short songs.

Two ex-MYSTIC CHARM members look
for new members/new bands?, after
their vocalist and drummer left for
some reason.

CONSPIRACY OF SILENCE work hard
for their debut CD, to be out in late '96-
early '97. It'll be same styled as their
MCD (check out), but more direct &
better produced!!

INVERTED had a car accident on UK
tour with ESOTERIC and both bands'
equipment, clothes etc burned in it.
They're already working on follow-up to
'Shadowland' CD.

TEMPERANCE work on follow-up to
'Krapakala' album, after they return from
European tour...

New EARTHCORPSE (doom/death)
material is coming out as more melodic
but still heavy as hell!!

CADUCITY have been touring and
gigging a lot, since releasing their
debut 'The Weilando Wielder Quest', and
will soon record 2nd one.

THE SUNRIDE'S (fuzz metal
groove will appear on next Shiver
compilation...)

PEACEVILLE news...

MY DYING BRIDE's new one 'Like Gods
Of The Sun' is out Oct 7th, with 9 tracks.

Digipack version out only in Japan...
Vocalist Aaron sung on 1 song of
DOMINION's album.

ANATHEMA get their 'Eternity
(masterpiece again!!! out in Nov 11th).
They have Michelle from DOMINION on
female vocals and band have said to have
progressed amazingly!!

PENTGRAM appear on 'Dark Passages II'
(Rise Above Rec with 'Sinister'.

OSMOSE news...

Oh yeah, ABU get 'The Third Storm Of
Cythraul' out in October !!! as do
SWEDISH GEHENNA return after fast
thrash-kill of 'Hardrock' CD, now on
OSMOSE with 'King Of The Sidewalk'.
ABU also have a MCD with one new
track + 2 re-recorded oldies + 2 covers
(KREATOR & DESTRUCTION), in November.

Vocalistic musical and destructive
techniques come with old-styled, evil
death/thrash act ANGEL CORPSE's
'Hammer Of Gods' debut.

uh, the true Osmose royalty begins to
push out new material... Starting in
November with NECROMANTIA's
'ancient Pride' MCD...

Harald Helgeson drums now for
ENSLAVED and band's long silence will
be crushed by mayhemic, dynamic and
raw energy of 3rd album, recorded in
summer. IMMORTAL should release their
4th black metal hurricane around some
months with new drummer in and
INFERNOS' 'Utter Hell' CD is also coming
soon. Osmose say about it: "For sure,
you will die!"

OSMOSE Prod BP 57 62990
Beaulainville FRANCE

NUCLEAR BLAST news...

2 new German
signings of Nuke
Blast are
DARKSEED
romantic gothic metal, check out
'Midnight
Solemnly Dance' CD & EVENEVE
(romantic gothic doom/death).

In october, come at least:
LACRIMOSA
'Stolzes Herz' CD, PYGENESIS 'Blue Smiley's' CD, PUNGENT STENCH 'The
Collection' CD and UMBRA ET IMAGO
'Mystica Sexualis' CD.

Followed soon by 'Death... Is Just The
Codenumber pt. IV' and 'Beauty In Darkness
pt. II' compilations, new MACABRE album
and PAIN it won't be boring!

NUCLEAR BLAST Rec Haupstr. 109 7302
Donzdorf A. GERMANY

AVANTGARDE/ WOUNDED LOVE news...

LOOK ALCAINA, HADES MCD-reviews in
this Vol.10 for news about 'em...

KATATONIA have their 2nd - long
awaited - 'Where Heares Co At
Midnight' album out!!!

ITALIAN FUNERAL ORATION are 80's
influenced bizarre death/black metal
with several parts sung in Latin. Main-
man Nick Curri (respected u.g.-artist) has
done also the art for their 'Sursus Luna'
album - out now!

Extreme band GOKILLER released
their MCD on Wounded Love Rec...

FINNISH PROMETHEUM (int. view in
DANCE Rec) members got out of army
and finished recordings of oh-so-long-
awaited 'Gazing The Invisible' CD. Now
fear this with this avantgardish
doom metal act...

Also BLACK
CRUCIFIXION rejoined and have their CD
'On Broken Wings' out in late '96! It's big
time cult recordings in Finland.

HEFEYSTOS (incl. members from Polish
BEHEMOTH and SACRILEGIUM) release TIDAL
edit. digi-pack 3-cd single and a longplay
later this year on Wounded Love...

MOONLORDS 'The Spheres Beneath
The Universe' CD and MEMORIAM's
'shadows' CD are to be out in '96...

Watch out for other Avantgarde Music
bands 'ANCIENT WISDOM, ATARAXIA and
THIS EMPTY FLOW

AVANTGARDE Music PO Box 19, 20010
Vanzago (MI) ITALY

MISANTHROPY news...

Irish PRIMORDIAL have a split 10" EP
with KATATONIA and play in Germany in
Sept... new album is planned for winter!
BURNING material is available in
America, through Feral House Rec.
Address below...

New sub-label, Elfenblut Rec, is special for
dark ambient/rhythmic/industrial music.
Elfenblut put out BLOOD AXIS
LP-box set 'The Gospel Of Humanity'
co-operation with German Cthulhu
Rec in september (w/ bonus trax +
collectors items)

Elfenblut also release something from
FROZEN IN AMBER (side-project of
AMBER ASYLUM) soon. It's their ethereal
classical music, with cellos, violins and
an unearthly sound...

Disturbing, crazed Norwegian
industrial act, APHRODISIAC and dark
ambient etc masters ENDURA album
'Great God Pan' will be out this year,
with special artwork by Chris from the
bands also are signed to Elfenblut.

Misanthropy will release mainly a few
limited EPs, 7"s etc until end of '96!!!

MISANTHROPY Rec PO Box 9
Hadleigh Suffolk, IP7 5AU ENGLAND
FERAL HOUSE Rec PO Box 3466
Portland, OR 97208-3466 USA

REPULSE news...

All summer releases of this Spanish
label are reviewed inside... But...
NORWEGIAN MOLESTED (one CD + MCD
'Stormvold' out on Effigy Rec) - a real
brutal, heavy, fast & metallic act
signed for Repulse and have their 2nd
album out in early '97! Like also signed
American IMPRECIATION (look for review
for their debut CD) have theirs.

REPULSE Rec PO Box 50562 28080
Madrid, SPAIN

SEVEN ART news...

Label of Antonietta & Luca from
CHAOS AND TECHNOCRACY (groovy &
heavy metal - check out their MCD) has
now released DECIBUS' debut CD and
next one will be one of RIPPED'S soon.

FLOWING TEARS & WITHERED FLOWERS
CD is also out now!

Their own band start writing new
songs and release their own CD through
7 Art in '97!

SEVEN ART Music Casella Postale St.
Christophe 11020 Aosta AL

NEAR dark news...

After A MIND CONFUSED 7" (see
review), comes Near Dark compilation
CD in Nov '96, and t.b.a. releases from
DAMNATION (7"), MIDWINTER (7") and
MELEK TAUS (MCD in late '96).

Get N.D.'s T-shirt 'Satan Made Me
Hardrock' and their lists...

NEAR DARK Prod. K. Isaksen
Nackstav 34B 853 52 Sundsvall SWEDEN

MAGNIFICENCE news...

Hannes, mainman of Magnificence, says he's concentrating fully on WAR OF
CONQUER album release (read adv. tape
review) and even his own (great,
melodic rotn' roll band) AS I LAY DYING
is on ice... But now he's planning to
form his (his first band) VISCERAL
EVISCERATION again!

MAGNIFICENCE Rec PO Box 304 1011
Wien AUSTRIA

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SARCOPHAGUS Chris Hall 310 Winchester Ave. Lafayette, IN 47905 USA
SCARCHS T. Pujola Opeletta 21 59100 Parikkala FINLAND

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MCD of TORTURED THROUGH MEMORY from North Wales. It'll be old-school death/grind!

FLASHPOINT RECORDINGS
Rec/ WISHWOOD Music
Richard A. Brown, 40 Penfold Way
Dodleston, Chester, CH4 9NL ENGLAND

PROPECHY news...
Vol.9 had
EMPIRYUM
(Germany's best atmospheric metal band) interview and all about them (so get it). Their debut 'A Wintersunset...' is the record of the year here in ASCENDANCE, so get it too.

Also atmospheric, dark, obscure and emotional metal outfit PAX MORTIS have 2-sided T-shirts out, and debut 'Im Schatten des Hasses' digipack CD is out this month! Limited LP edition with special booklet is out later this month as well...

Let's say it again, Prophecy Pro/H stand for totally quality UG metal!
PROPECHY PROD/ Postfach 1469
DEUTSCHLAND

FLASHPOINT/WISHWOOD news...
Yes, Flashpoint Rec (new wave of UK death metal) and Wishwood Music (pure doom metal) are both labels of Richard!!

No, THY SINISTER BLOOM debut album scheduled for spring isn't yet released, but it'll be soon! With totally new kind of deeply private & emotive ambient doom tracks!

SEER'S TEAR (interview in Vol.9) have recorded 6 new songs for CD! Wishwood will release this SEER'S TEAR debut in Dec '96. It will be beautiful, heavy epic doom metal!!

NAEVUS-'The Wizard's Universe' 7" EP is out now with 2 tracks! NAEVUS will tour Germany extensively to end of '96!

CRAWLSPACE's energetic debut vinyl (and same time Flashpoint), 'Deny' 7" is out for $5 (Europe $6 worldwide). After this, it is planned...

EMANATION news...
This sub-division of Diehard Rec has signed Swedish death msters CENTINEX and debut CD will be out in Feb '97.

MICHAEL sings for WITHERING SURFACE and does MIGHTY metal as well!

EMANATION PROD/ Michael H. Andersen
Snerlevej 188, 4700 Naestved DENMARK

HOLY news...
With new Holy address comes:
SERENITY - 'Breathing Demons' CD that will be ultra heavy doom metal with better vocals than before! Out in Sept.

Oct - Nov '96 will bring TRISTITIA back with entitled 'Songs of Judgement' album. It's more mature & complex, heavy doom than on their debut!

SEPTIC FLESH enter studio in Oct '96 for their 3rd album entitled 'Ophedean Wheel'. Dark romanticism and ancient memory commencing in Dec, like:

The debut of Finnish YARNING - which will be new jewel on Holy!

NIGHTFALL enter Finnish Tico-Tico Studios as well, in December. Other Holy releases are planned for spring '97.

HOLY Rec/ BP 597, 77260 La Ferte Sous Jouarre FRANCE

RETAIL news...
Band with members from ABSU and EQUIVOMATIC have 'The Great Lands Of Minas Ithil (City Of Isildur)' tape re-issued by Dark Age... 40-min journey through the lands of Agurak. 55 (USA) 65 (R.O.W.)

DARK AGE Prod/ PO Box 175/ Chaska, MN 55318 USA

SCARPE news...
Just after their violent demo was reviewed in this zine, they sent a card with a new address:
SCARPE/ 3115 Helms Ave/ Los Angeles, CA 91505 USA

THE MARBLE ICON news...
Check review of their 'Sombre Eptaph' demo! They'll record debut CD until end of this year, if their vocalist has time from his military service...

Yoan works for TORMENTOR mag and its 2nd issue right now. There'll be interviews with ALLEGIANCE, VASSAGO, DAWN OF DECAY, NEXANDUS, A MIND CONFUSED, LAKE OF TEARS etc.
Find address from demo-review!

REVELATION/A Steve Branigan/ 905 S Clinton St/ Baltimore, MD 21224 USA

NAEVUS news...
These doom groovers release NAEVUS/DAWN OF WINTER/ CRY OF GOD/ MIRROR OF DECEPTION-split 12" soon! So buy now this German doom vinyl!!
NAEVUS/ Uwe Groebel/ Primelweg 8/ 74321 Bietigheim, GERMANY

EX-KYUSS news...
Josh Homme's new band GAMMA RAY has Van Conner (SCREAMING TREES) on bass. They've recorded album of material and have already 7" out on Man's Ruin Rec.

Jon Garcia is either in SLOW BURN (ex-vp of KYUSS) or singing for G/3/ZR...

Scott Reeder and Alfredo (last KYUSS drummer) reformed Scott's old band ACROSS THE RIVER.

Scott and Jason Newstead (METALLICA) both play bass in project TREE OF THE SUN, so it must be bottom heavy!

MAN'S RUIN Rec/ 2415 Third Street 239/ San Francisco, CA 94107 USA

the super-important closing words...
Yeah, it's school again, and it seems the time evanesces... Anyway, ASCENDANCE-zine will be coming out like planned - every 3rd month - at least for this year '96 we're up to...

I hope you can & will support all (!) these great bands around... Your support will always be thanked and maybe even praised! Just try, even if only to keep the mailman busy, heh!

"Sink into the depths unknown - feel the beauty of beyond... Hail and kill throughout the lands - listen to doom metal of these..."

So, Vol.11 should be out around December and if anything, it'll be god damn heavy again.

Once again, many thanks to labels, bands and people who helped in this one.?