I first had the idea for this zine some months ago, when I thought it would be a good idea to put one together featuring my favourite Underground bands. So, that is what I have done, and (at last), here is the finished article.

I have tried to include something of interest everyone - from the commercial Death Metal of CRUCIFER through grinding barbarity of INTERNAL BLEEDING to Black Metal exponents, such as THUS DEFILED. You will also find some 'alternative' music featured, in the form of the Gothic Metal of ETERNE and WHORES OF BABYLON. My principle aim was to construct interesting interviews to fill the zine, and I believe that I have done this. Consequently, reviews of Demos / 7"s / LP's etc took a bit of a backseat, as I was concentrating on getting as much out of the bands themselves as possible. Despite the fact that I haven't been able to review nearly as much stuff as I would have liked to, I think the reviews are OK, if a little brief in places (my apologies for that), so I hope that they will give a half decent idea about the bands to those who read them. I expect most readers will concentrate on the interviews I have conducted with the various bands in this issue - I have tried to ensure, and hope that they make interesting reading for you.

Hopefully, there will be something to interest every Underground fan in this issue; I would appreciate any comments on any aspect of the zine, which can be directed to me at the address below. Finally, a short piece of news...UK band ENCHANTMENT (see interview in this issue) have secured a record deal with CENTURY MEDIA for two LP's, and will record their debut later this year. It should surface in early 1994 on C.M.'s sub label, CARNIVORE Records, so all the best to Paul and the rest of the band.

Well, until I hear from anyone reading this, enjoy the zine, and stay Underground...

Evisceration Zine
C/o Tom Stannard
148 Latchmere Road
Kingston Upon Thames
Surrey KT2 5TU
England

Extra special thanks go out to Amanda for ideas, inspiration and anything else!

Special thanks / greetings:
Hans Stiles (DARK HERESY), Dave Stannard, Sam Hearn, Those who sent free tapes: Bryan Winton (ASTAROTH), Marko Hautamaki (ATER), Chris Pervelis (INTERNAL BLEEDING), and Jussi Saivo (F) for the 'Pronimo' adv. tape.

Thanks / Hello / Good Luck:
All the people who returned my interviews (esp. Jas French - fuckin' fast reply -your help is much appreciated. Cheers to tape traders Mark Fox, Steve Gillham, Dan Abrahams, Mahakala (+ for the free copy of CHARONTAPHOS zine), Rich Hardwood (ABSOLUTION); also to Jerry 'S.C.' Vicek (REAL SICKNESS ZINE) and Melinda Witzel (BLACK PLAGUE ZINE), Parm, Mike Ilinsky, John Corkill, Stu Gregg, Was, Dani and CRADLE OF FILTH, Phil and CHAPEL OF REST, Leanne Warren, Paul Houston, Gerber of BLOODLUST RADIO, Rich Blakey and INCARCERATED, Lee of CANDLELIGHT Recs., Harold Dekkers (MORTICIAN MAG - the best zine!) and anyone else I have written to who bothered writing back!

A big FUCK OFF goes out to Jason Arnopp - read the Kerrang! feature and see why.......
Florida based band ASTAROTH have recently released their second Demo, 'Lost State Of Dreams'. Bass play-
er Bryan Winton gave us the details on the Demo and how ASTAROTH are doing so far.....

When did ASTAROTH form? Had any of you been in other bands previously?
ASTAROTH formed in November 1991. Larry (Vocals) played in BRUTALITY and Demian (Guitar) played in a couple of bands in St.Thomas, Virgin Isles. (but they weren't Death Metal bands). James (Drums) had a brief stint with NOCTURNUS (RIP) after Mike Browning and

How well have your two Demos 'Drowning In Blood', and 'Lost State Of Dreams' been received? Have you had a positive response worldwide?
The response to 'Drowning...' was OK but not great, most likely be-
cause of the poor production. Our 2nd Demo, 'Lost...' is getting a
very good response so far, and yes, the response has been worldwide.
'Lost State Of Dreams' was recorded to attract label interest. Have
you had any yet, and if so, who from?
Well to start with, OSMOSE PRODUCTIONS (FR) is distributing some
copies of our Demo. Also, we were recently contacted by RELATIVITY
Recs. They are reviewing our Demo as we speak.

Who would you cite as your main influences?
I’m not sure I’m influenced by any one person or band. Up to this
point, Larry and I have written all the music – it is original, dark,
gloomy, depressive and heavy. Our ideas come from within; it is a
sort of feeling.

Do you think the Florida Death Metal scene has become overrated
and overcrowded? What do you think sets ASTAROTH apart from the
millions (!) of other bands in Florida?
Overrated? Yes! Overcrowded? Not necessarily. Yes, there are
many bands from Florida, but not very many good bands. Florida do-
es make good hunting-ground for record labels though. Our band is
different from most Florida bands in that our sound is not 'America-
nized' or 'Florida' sounding. Most bands from here sound very
similar to each other.

How extensively have you toured? Have you toured out of state at
all? What kind of reaction do you get?
We've only done a couple of shows locally, and so far, the reaction
has been very good. We hope to tour out of state this summer.

If ROADRACER offered you a deal but said you had to record at Morri-
sound with Scott Burns, would you accept?
Well, there would have to be more involved. If it was a good look-
ing contract, maybe. But we would have to have some say in the mix-
down.

Have you met or played with any of the more well known Florida bands?
So far, we've played a show with DISINCARNATE. Hopefully, we'll
do some shows with other well known bands.

To change the subject a little, why did your drummer James Marcinek
not play drums on the new Demo?
Tony Laureano joined ASTAROTH in Sept. '92, and played the Drums on
the 'Lost...' Demo in Jan. '93. Soon after the recording, Tony had
to quit the Band for reasons beyond his control. This brings us to
our new drummer, James, who joined in Mar. '93. He was inducted
into the band at the time we were having Demo covers made, so we went
ahead and included him on the cover.

What would your response be if little known Finnish band ASTAROTH
tried to sue you over rights to the bands name?
Well, I'd never thought about it, but since you mention it, I'll
tell you that the name is in the process of being Trade-Marked.

contd over/...
ASAROTH contd/...

What are your favourite bands at present? Do you listen to many unsigned bands? If so, who?

EDGE OF SANITY, CARNAGE (RIP), FLESHCRAWL, GRAVE, SINISTER, IMMOLATION, UNLEASHED, DISMEMBER, OBITUARY... Unsigned? I like DROGHEDA (US) and DEPRAVITY (FIN). Tons more!!

What is the most bizzare place you've ever had a letter from?

We've gotten letters from Malaysia, Singapore, Ukraine, Ecuador and Israel. These are a few of the most bizzare places we've recieved mail from.

OK Bryan, thanks a lot for your time. Want to add anything?

OK - mega thanks for the cool interview Tom. Also, to everyone who reads this, order our Demo, 'Lost State Of Dreams'. It costs $5 everywhere, and you won't regret it! Thanks to everyone who supports ASTAROTH and the Underground.

CONTACT: ASTAROTH, PO BOX 8552, TAMPA, FL 33674-8552, USA.

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BLEEDING PRINCIPLE (UK) came into existence after the split of NIGHTFALL (UK). The band intend to pursue a more Hardcore musical style, avoiding the kind of Death Metal played by NIGHTFALL. We got this short interview with guitarist Dan Abrahams.

What caused the NIGHTFALL split, and what motivated you to form BLEEDING PRINCIPLE? In NIGHTFALL, we realised that we were basically playing and writing the same sort of stuff as most other UK Death Metal bands, so we decided to change. We wanted to do something completely different, but still heavy as fuck! That's why we formed BLEEDING PRINCIPLE.

How would you describe BLEEDING PRINCIPLE's music? I'd say B.P.'s music is a mixture of styles. There's a big Hardcore influence in there, as well as elements of Death and Grind, and even a hint of Industrial! This mix makes the music more interesting.

When will BLEEDING PRINCIPLE record a Demo? We're hoping to go into the studio some time in September, although nothing's confirmed yet. The Demo should be available by Sept/Oct.

Are the bands influences different to those of NIGHTFALL? Yeah, a lot different! We're influenced by stuff like BIOHAZARD/COC/SICK OF IT ALL to stuff like FEAR FACTORY/BRUTAL TRUTH/SEPULTURA. As you can see, we have very diverse influences! This is because everyone in the band listens to different stuff!

Do you think you have more of a chance to 'make it' than you had in NIGHTFALL? Yeah, because we're playing different stuff to most other UK bands. The music we play now is more interesting and has more energy and aggression.

Have you had a good response from people who have heard your rehearsal tape? Yes, everybody who has heard the tape seems to like it. They're looking forwards to hearing the demo, and coming to see us live. We've been compared to GODFLESH, PRONG, FEAR FACTORY, ENTOMBED and loads of other bands, but no-one's compared us to the same band twice, which is good, I suppose.

OK Dan, cheers! Anything to add? Thanks for the interview Tom! I hope the zine sells well! To anyone who's reading this, check BLEEDING PRINCIPLE out! You won't be disappointed! Bands, get in touch for gigs etc. Write to me at: BLEEDING PRINCIPLE c/o Dan Abrahams, 'Riversley', Cunningham Place, Bakewell, Derbyshire, DE45 1DD, ENGLAND.

I'm sure Dan will be happy to tape reh. stuff for anyone who wants it, so send him a blank tape / SAE / IRC at the above address. -Tom.
It's a messy situation. Since then, WINTERMOON Prods., a new label from Norway, want to release a split CD of us and DUNGEON (ITA). We've also had some interest from SHIVER Recs., for a 7", so we'll see what happens.

**Are you gigging at present? If so, where, and with who?**

We haven't done many gigs recently. We did a gig in Bury with HYBERNOID (UK), and supported BENEDICTION (UK) in March. Our next gig will be supporting BOLT THROWER (UK) and GRAVE (SWE) at Manchester Rockworld, and then we will do a gig in Swansea with ACRIMONY (UK) and INEX TRELIS (UK). I hope to organise a gig for them in Bolton soon, and there is a possible gig in Hull with CHAPEL OF REST (UK) and CRADLE OF FILTH (UK).

**Have any of your shows ever gone disasterously wrong?**

Yes, a few. We did a gig in Leigh and the manager of the pub we played at threw us off after only one song. There was also one in Bury, where the P.A. blew. We did one at a party in Bolton last year, that we shouldn't have done, to say the least.

**What would you do if you were sued by BURIAL (US) over rights to the name?**

We'd do our best to keep the name, as it would be a pain to have to change it now. What more right do they have to the name? I think we put our 7" out first.

**How seriously do you take your lyrics? What are your main inspirations?**

Although lyrics aren't really anything more important to us than an accompaniment to the music, we feel it is better to have lyrics that we feel are worthwhile. Geoff usually writes most of our lyrics and we get inspiration from our feelings and experiences.

**How do you think BURIAL will progress in the future?**

Since doing the last Demo, we have written 4 new songs ('Weeping', 'Wrapped', 'Lung' & 'As From Dust'), and they are all more advanced than the older stuff, utilising different influences but sounding as brutal as ever! We are trying to come up with riffs that are generally different from the standard Death Metal riffs, but have that same vibe. I also think we are gradually getting more tuneful without sacrificing the heaviness. We just want to really stand out among other bands, which is quite a challenge nowadays.

**Are you happy with the way things are working out for BURIAL at present?**

Things haven't been that great recently, with the lack of gigs, and the stuff with TOMBS ONE which I mentioned earlier lowered our morale somewhat. But things are picking up, with the possible split CD, the gig with BOLT THROWER GRAVE etc. We are pleased with what we've achieved, and the support from the Underground (people like you Tom) has been amazing and has kept the morale up. We do all enjoy playing our music, and we feel we've yet to reach our pinnacle, musically speaking. That's enough to keep us happy!

**OK, thanks Kieron. Anything else to add?**

Not really. Thanks for the interview Tom, and good luck. Thanks to all the people who've supported BURIAL in whatever way. If people want to write, then please include sufficient postage/IRC.

**CONTACT:** BURIAL c/o Kieron Tuohey, 105 DEVONSHIRE ROAD, BOLTON, LANCASTER, BL1 4PP, UK.

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PULVERIZER ZINE has now ceased publication and no more demos, etc. should be sent for review as there will be no sixth issue. Any material I have already received will be passed onto other reliable zines. Zine editors wanting some cool interviews should send an SAE. Issue #5 is available for £1.50 / $5. Sorry to the few who'll miss this zine - you rule! Write to:

BILL, 36 GLENCAIRN DRIVE, GLASGOW, G41 4PW, SCOTLAND, UK.
CARDINAL (FIN) were formerly known as FESTERDAY. After dropping this name, they plan to release a new Demo soon. Ken Stromsholm gave us the details. By the way, this pic was his choice!!!

Please give us a history of the band. Are you the founding member?
We formed FESTERDAY in 1990, but we had some problems with the line up, so we couldn't record our 'official' Demo before 1992. At the end of 1992 we got some more problems with the line up, and we decided to change the name to CARDINAL. Everything is fine now, and we will soon record a Demo. It will be a bit different, but still better than FESTERDAY's. It was Timo (ex-guitarist) and I who formed FESTERDAY back in 1990, but he is out of the band now. Our bass player Jakke plays guitar and bass nowadays (until we find a bass player).

Why did you decide to make the recent name change from FESTERDAY to CARDINAL? Does the new name suit the style of music you play?
We changed the name because we were sick of all the gore shit and also because of the line up changes. Does it suit the band? Yes and no, coz I don't know! I hope so!
The only FESTERDAY flyer I have ever seen is the one which only asks for a blank tape to get the Demos. Did you ever sell them with inlay cards etc for, say $5? If not, why not?
No, we have never sold FESTERDAY's Demos, they have always been available for a blank tape and IRC, and still are. Our Demos are free coz we couldn't make any full colour covers, so we decided to give them for free.

Do you have any recording lined up under the name of CARDINAL?
No, not yet, but we will record a Demo soon, and it will be much better than FESTERDAY's!!

What ages are the members of CARDINAL?
I'm 17, Stide is 18, Jakke is 18, Kteemu is 19, and Steemu is 20.

Do you think your Demos are good/bad representations of the band?
Will the CARDINAL Demo be in the same vein, or will it be very different?
I think FESTERDAY's Demos are pretty good (I don't like them any more), but CARDINAL's Demo will be better and our music has nothing to do with Death Metal, except the sound and vocals, but it's still original. Some great tricks will be included!

Why are you so damn-ing of your cover of 'Eternal' by PARADISE LOST? It's actually quite good!
It's a great track (it was) by PARADISE LOST, but when we play it, next question!

Aside from your role in CARDINAL, do you have any other interests?
Are you involved in any kind of side project?
Kteemun: beer, golf, tennis; he has a Funk band too. Steemu: cars, work, and he collects records. He doesn't drink so much beer!
Stide: beer, sleeping (zzzzzz) and more beer! Jakke: beer, guitar playing, computers and Nintendo. Ken: beer, records, slalom skiing, Nintendo, and of course we all like girls!

If any member of CARDINAL quit unexpectedly, would you be able to take their place at a gig the same night (that is, if there was someone who could take your place)?
No, I don't think so, and by the way, we won't play any gigs for a long time. Let's give the army a big kiss muuuch! (What the fuck -Tom)

contd over/...
Are you totally commited to getting the band signed and recognised worldwide, or do you have a career interest that may take precedence?

Of course, it would be great to be recognised worldwide, but I don't know how long I would stand out for it. It would be great in the beginning, but my nerves couldn't take it! Sometimes I get psycho in front of people. I just want to record a CD and live my own life, that's all. No it isn't, yes it is, no it isn't - why not? I don't know.

Are you actively involved with the Underground scene in Finland and the world (ie. getting gigs for the band, tape trading etc)?

We haven't done many gigs. I do trade tapes a lot! We played about 10 gigs with FESTERDAY, but in those days we had a lot of projects, and we had more gigs with the projects than we did with FESTERDAY. It was kinda fun, but we didn't take anything seriously in those days, and I don't nowadays either!'

Thanks for your time Ken. Is there anything you want to add?

Yes, thanks Tom and good luck. Rock n' Roll, eieu saunoo! Hej, hur mar ni taut lugnt snart ar clet sommar. (Hope I got that right! -Tom)

CONTACT: CARDINAL c/o KEN STROMSHOLM, VANKRIKISTALINKATU 12 A7, 68600 PIETARSAARI, FINLAND.

After a good response to their debut Demo, 'The Black Abyss' in 1992, Finland's ATER are hoping for something even better second time round, with their new Demo, 'Ors'. Guitarist/Vocalist Marko Hautamaki answers the questions.....

Hi Marko, how are you doing?

Fine thanx! The reason for this is in the 3rd Q!

Can you give us a brief history of ATER?

I must admit that I hate this question, but I'll try...Well, the band was formed in early 1991, and I joined in 1992, when we started to play slower. Our first Demo, 'The Black Abyss', which was recorded in August 1992, is quite fast compared to our newer stuff. We have not played many gigs, but now that our drummer has finished school, we can start rehearsing more often, and maybe the results will be much better.

Any update on the second Demo?

Yes, the second Demo 'Ors' was recorded on May 22/23rd 1993, and should be out at the beginning of June. I can say that this Demo is 29354765687 times better than 'The Black Abyss'. It's just as Doomy and depressive, as we wanted it to be, and of course the songs are better. To get a clear picture of what we're all about, you have to order the Demo ($5 Europe, $6 elsewhere.). If you like slow, doomy stuff with some acoustic parts and a touch of originality, you won't be disappointed!

We recorded 'Ors' in the same studio as 'The Black Abyss'. That was simply because Soundwall Studios are the best studios in Finland and they're near our place. The production and sound is a lot better than that on the 1st Demo. This one really kills! After finishing 'Ors' I haven't listened to anything else, so I think this proves that we've done fucking well. Anyway, don't believe what I say, just order it and die in fucking sorrow!

How well has 'The Black Abyss' been received by bands and Traders worldwide?

The feedback has been a lot better than we expected. With 'The Black Abyss', we never expected it to be any kind of a success. It has sold about 250 copies which I think is quite good for it! I almost hate that Demo now, because it is so different and so much worse in every way than 'Ors'. There might still be some people around who contd over/...
still like 'The Black Abyss', but the only way to get it now is to send a blank tape and IRC to me. Procopied cassettes are totally sold out! I have no idea how well 'The Black Abyss' was spread by trading, but I hope it's quite well!

Are you pleased with the way 'The Black Abyss' turned out? Do you think it is still a good representation of ATER?

As I said before, No! Not at all. The production is quite good (except on Sami's guitar), but any problems have been sorted out on 'Ours'. It might have been a good representation of ATER about a year ago, but now we're playing different stuff. Order 'Ours' and you won't be disappointed!

Has the first Demo aroused any interest from labels? Have you sent many copies to labels?

We sent a few tapes to small labels before we got bored with the Demo. We got a distro deal with a rip-off label called WILD RAGS, and an EP offer. I don't know yet if we'll accept that offer. We want to spread the 2nd Demo and see what kind of feedback it gets. This time, we'll send loads of stuff to labels etc......

How often do you play gigs? Are your crowds violent at all?

The gig situation here in Finland is lousy. In 2 years, we have only played 3 gigs! It'd be a lot easier to get gigs if we had something on vinyl, though I must admit we haven't been very active in gigging. We'll have our 4th gig in the summer in Tallinna, Estonia with BLACK DAWN (FIN) and some Estonian groups.

The crowd at our gigs has been fucking lousy. At the 1st 2 gigs, they just sat and watched. The 3rd gig was better, but still not that good. It's understandable that if the band is playing slow stuff, it's a lot harder for them to get the feel of it you know?

Do you think the scene in Finland is good or bad? How many underground Finnish bands do you listen to?

I think the Finnish scene is very good, though I just wonder why 99% of interviews have this question! Finnish bands are a lot different from others, which is quite positive. I have no idea how many Under-ground bands I listen to...maybe a few hundred...FUNGUNT (now F) are a killer band! Some other Finnish bands I could recommend are BLACK DAWN and BENEFITS FORGOT.

Would you sign a record deal if it meant relocating to Florida?

It's hard to say without seeing the contract...maybe, maybe not. Probably not, but I don't know.

What do your parents think of you being in a Death Metal band?

They really have nothing against it. Our parents have supported us a lot (eg, helping with money to record Demos). I guess they're not really fond of our music, but maybe they think that playing in a band is a lot better than drinking or smoking hash. Of course we drink, but drugs? No thanks!

OK Marko, thanks a lot. Any final comment?

Thanks a lot for the interview Tom. To everyone else: order our 2nd Demo NOW! It fucking kills!!

CONTACT: ATER c/o MARKO HAUTAMAKI, KIERTOTIE 5, 61100 PERASEINAJOKI, FINLAND.

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Please, enclose one IRC for info.
I don't think we've repeated this mistake on Demo 2, or the 7". Hopefully our live set will show a bit of variety, although at our next gig, we're a bit constrained by time.

Tell us about your 7" on OBSCURE PLASMA (ITA). Will people in the UK be able to order it from you?

Well, the 7" was recorded on 30/5/93, took 13 hours to record, and was produced by that drummer chap called Gene Hoglan. He's in some band or other, I can't remember which - I don't think they'll ever bring a record out, as they're all such crap musicians. Anyway, it's got 2 new songs on it, this piece of plastic, namely 'Ocean Of Sins' and 'Dreaming Of Indigo (A Blood Red Vision)'. I guess we'll sell some at gigs, but otherwise, you'll just have to dig deep and buy the dolls for it.

Have you had any other label interest?

Yeah. Metallion of SLAYER Mag/HEAD NOT FOUND Records offered us an LP/CD deal that we declined, also we think GOTHIC Records are interested -ed in an LP/CD deal of some description. PEACEVILLE were interested until Daz and Jonny got sacked. We've also had countless 7" offers. We're not really interested unless a label can afford to put us on tour too. If none are interested, I guess there will never be a full length CHORUS OF RUIN debut, done in Dobbley.....

Do you have any gigs lined up?

Er...There's one in Nottingham on 28/7/93 with MY DYING BRIDE (UK), ANATHEMA (UK), AT THE GATES (SWE), DECOMPOSED (UK), and MTV will be there...but I guess that will have been played when you read this! There is also a chance of us playing with EMPEROR (NOR), and a UK Black Metal band, THE FALLEN.

Why did the band sack the old vocalist (Phil) for smashing up the stage at a gig?

I would have thought that was obvious. There isn't any room for 'Rock Star Bad Attitude' ego's in this band. If a gig isn't going well, then that's no reason to smash up borrowed equipment, and ruin the chances of future gigs.

How long have you been with CHORUS OF RUIN now? Do you think the band have good prospects for success?

Er..About 4-5 months now. In that time, I can say I've done more constructive things than both old vocalists over 2 years!!

About success, I think it will be very difficult for us. 1. We're still a very unknown band, even on the UK scene. 2. We're not trying to be arty and copy everything ANATHEMA do. 3. We don't have offensive T-Shirts. 4. We don't wear sheepskin jackets and look like second hand car salesmen.

Know any rip-offs you wanna crucify?

I think I'll take this opportunity to mention WILD RAGS and TOMBSTONE Recs. Both are total rip offs. I'd also like to mention Paul Watson. I don't know if his fanzine is out yet, but he's been doing an awful lot of shit stirring. I'd also like to say fuck off to everyone who seems keen to bitch about me recently-I hope you get killed by Jeffrey Dahmer...

---

DYING FETUS

THE FIRST DEMO FROM DYING FETUS FEATURES Six songs, top quality 24 track recording, and professional packaging. On top of that, this tape does have the music and songwriting to back it up. This is not a rip-off; all lovers of crushing, gore-infested death-grind will not regret this purchase. Tapes are 5 U.S. dollars worldwide (or 22 P.M. in Finland). Send to: JASON NETHERTON 5916 Old Croom Station Road Upper Marlboro, MD 20772 USA

BATE IN ENTRAILS

contd over/...
Cheers Craig! Wanna add anything?
Thax for this interview Tom, I look forwads to reading your mag
when it comes out. People who want the Demo ('Swan Dive') - it's £2/
$5 from me; the 7" will set you back $6 from OBSCURE PLASMA. I'm
sure Tom will give you the addresses.
Remember to stay Rock n' Roll - beer all day, endless nobbing!
Oh yeah - send me a stamp / IRC, and you may get a nice poster and
a badge!

CONTACT: CHORUS OF RUIN c/o Craig Phillips, 25 Aireview Crescent,
Baildon, West Yorkshire, BD17 7LS, ENGLAND.
I can't find the fuckin' OBSCURE PLASMA address - write to Craig, or
look out for flyers for the 'Ocean Of Sins' 7". -Tom.

DARK HERESY (UK) have been around for
a few years now, and after a couple
of pretty ghastly Demos (which weren't
exactly Death Metal), they released
1992's critically acclaimed 'Speared
And Twisted' Demo. After a couple of
recent line-up changes, the band are
putting together material for a follow
up, and are gigging again. Bassist
Hans Stiles talked to EVISCERATION....

How well has the 'Speared And Twisted'
Demo sold? Do you have any plans to
release a follow up soon?
We have sold about 250 copies ourselves.
That includes trading or selling copies
to distribution companies. We also had
12 stolen from us, literally, by some cunt called Trevor from BALANCE
OF TERROR zine (CAN). Furthermore, INTERNAL DEATH in Poland is pro-
viding copies for sale in Eastern Europe.
As for a follow up, we now have plenty of material in case we decide
to record a follow up Demo.

What were the reasons behind the line-up changes that took place
over the last few months?
The first line-up change was original bassist Paul leaving, to be repl-
aced by me (this was over a year ago - Tom). I only knew Paul a lit-
tle, but he struck me as a total shit, so that probably had something
to do with his departure. Loz (old vocalist) and Mat (old guitarist)
just felt that they couldn't commit themselves to the band any more,
which is a pity, because that line-up worked well. We are still good
friends with Loz and Mat. Paul, however, feels that it's necessary
to come round to our houses and try to steal things.

How far round the world have you sold the Demo?
Pretty much everywhere. South America, USA, all of Europe, Japan etc...

Were you generally pleased with the Demo, or would there be any
part of it you'd change?
I like the Demo a lot. Considering it's cost (about £60), it turned
out really well. You can hear everything. The only thing is that I
would have liked to have been in the band a little longer before the
recording. Then, I would have felt a little more confident and played
better.

How often do DARK HERESY rehearse? Does it bother you if you make
mistakes live?
We rehearse, without fail, every fortnight. If we have an important
gig, then naturally we will rehearse more.
I get really upset if I make mistakes live. Often, I will moan for
days. Thankfully, I'm making fewer mistakes now, so I'm generally a
happier person.
Who do you consider are the best / worst UK bands? Do you know any arrogant shites who don't deserve to exist coz they're so big headed? I know it's a shitty thing to say, but DEAD CHRIST are one of the worst UK bands. I've got all their stuff, and it's pretty terrible in places. Some of my favourite UK bands at the moment are THUS DEFILED, CRUENTUS, LORD OF DARKNESS and CRADLE OF FILTH.

As for the arrogant shites, of course not! There is no-one I know from the scene who is an arrogant shite. I mean, I know Tim Spear from DECOMPOSED (UK) and he isn't arrogant at all! Perish the thought! Actually, some complete arrogant bastards it's been my misfortune to encounter include Holocausto rip-off from BEHERIT (FIN), and someone called Phil Hillborne who writes for Guitarist Magazine: he thinks the sun shines from the crack in his foul-mouthed, overweight arse. I read a comment in an Irish zine made by Tim Spear of DECOMPOSED - he said that there was no scene where he lives, and that DECOMPOSED were the only band there. You live very near him - what do you say to this?

When Tim said this, DARK HERESY were pretty inactive. If he were to say it nowadays, I'd be round to Superdrug in Kingston (where Timmy works - Tom) like a shot!!

Has anyone ripped you off recently? If so, do you have a message for them?

The number of rip-offs make them too numerous to mention, but as you've given me the opportunity, here goes: Trev, cunt from BALANCE OF TERROR zine (CAN); Lee, sell out to Kerrang from DARKNESS zine; BRAIN DEAD zine; STORM IN A TEA CUP; METAL HAMMER; DAMAGED zine; ACTIVATE zine; 4 EXTERNAL USE ONLY zine; T.F.B. zine; DREDS zine; PSYCHOMANIA zine; PEARDROP zine (bastard); BEHERIT (FIN); BLACK CRUCIFIXION and METAL FORCE (don't come back).

Cheers Hans. Any message for the BON JOVI fans reading this?

I won't pretend to congratulate you on your music tastes, instead I'll just say a big FUCK OFF!!!

Thanks for the interview Tom. To everyone else: please write to me! I promise that I'll answer all letters, so until then...cheers, and support the Underground. Also, to any zines waiting for a tape (such as IMPERATOR and EMBRYONIC), I've answered your letters, it's just that I haven't enough money at the moment to post them. If you all bear with me, I'll get them to you ASAP. Thanks for being patient!

CONTACT: DARK HERESY c/o Hans Stiles, 3 Cranes Park, Surbiton, Surrey, KT5 8AB, ENGLAND.

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Anyone wishing to have their stuff distributed, should send prices (for 5 - 20 items) in £ or $ and/or a sample copy.
CRUCIFER, one of the more well known US bands on the scene, have recently released their debut album, titled 'Pictures Of Heaven'. A very commercial release, but drummer/vocalist Jeff Riddle is very pleased with it....... 

How many copies of 'Pictures Of Heaven' have you sold? Has it been well received?
I'm not positive; between us and our label I'm never sure, but in the three months it's been out, I believe about 700 copies have been sold. But, it has just started to really pick up. People are just starting to hear about it and the orders are pouring in, so it should be a lot more soon. It has been extremely well accepted, with most people saying it is by far our best release (Definately!!! -Tom). Thank everyone for that!

Do you plan to tour extensively to support the album?
We plan to leave our state of Virginia for the first time! We will be playing at the Milwaukee Metal Fest this year with TESTAMENT, MOT- ORHEAD, TROUBLE, ICE-T, IMPETUGO and a bunch of others. We do plan to do other shows outside Virginia.

Is it possible that you will tour out of the US?
Very doubtful. Sorry! Not Yet!!

What do you think your chances are of signing to a major label and touring the world?
We have a good chance. A very good chance. ('Nuff said! -Tom)

Have CRUCIFER ever faced any major problems since forming (eg. loss of important members etc)?
No, not at all. We still have all the original members. With being a three piece, each member is crucial; if we lost one, the sound would change.

How can you afford to sell your releases for $5, when WILD RAGS sells it all with nearly $5 on top for postage?
We want people to hear us. We feel like we have a lot to offer for little money! We don't make as much as our label, but that's OK - we're happy, and that's what matters.

Does the band make enough money for you to live on, or do you work aswell?
Brian, our guitar player, does not work. I have a family to support so I have to work aswell. Stevie, our bassist, works carpentry. We do not make enough money to live on.

Do you take your lyrics really seriously, or do you concentrate more on the music?
Much more on the music. Feeling is everything - lyrics take a back-seat.

Any future plans for the band?
To go as far as we can!! Thanks for the interview Tom, and thanks to everyone else for listening! I hope to hear from you all. Take care.

CONTACT: CRUCIFER c/o Jeff Riddle, 3953 Jefferson Davies Highway, Stafford, VA 22554, USA. (Send $5 for 'Pictures...')

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DARK TRANQUILLITY (SWE) have recently signed to Finland's SPINE FARM records, with an August '93 release date for their debut LP. Guitarist Niklas Sundin gave us the details.

When was the band formed? What is the current line-up?
DARK TRANQUILLITY was formed in December 1989, and the line up is: Anders Friden-Vocals, Anders Jivarp-Drums, Mikael Stanne-Guitar, Martin Henriksson-Bass, and me, Niklas Sundin-Guitar.

What are your influences musically?
All kinds of Heavy/Speed Metal bands. We listen to everything from Classical Music to Death Metal, and I believe that a wide range of influences help to create original tunes.

...And lyrically?
I read a lot of books; fiction, poems, plays...I could state some of my favourite authors, but it wouldn't say much about my lyrics. Atmosphere and emotion are vital in our lyrical output.

How well did the 'Trail Of Life Decayed' Demo sell, and what kind of responses did you get?
Well, it was recorded 2½ years ago, it sold about 700 copies, and it's also available as a 7" on the Mexican label GUTTURAL RECORDS. The response was generally very good, but the Demo doesn't reflect our current sound at all.

Tell us about your other releases since the Demo.
It's just the 'A Moonclad Reflection' 7", which was released on the German EXHUMED/SLAUGHTER Records in July '92. It features 15 mins of music and has obtained great criticism. As I mentioned, we released an EP version of the Demo as well, which was released in Dec. '92 (much delayed).

Have you had any label interest yet? If so, who from, and have you taken any offers yet?
Yes, our debut album will be recorded in June '93 and released in August. The Finnish label SPINE FARM will release it, and they seem very good. I'm sure they're capable of doing a good job. We had some other offers, but they weren't as good. SPINE FARM have been in business for 3 or 4 years (mainly as Finland's biggest distributor), so they have had the most experience.

Do you find that Sweden is a good place for a band like DARK TRANQUILLITY to break through?
No, not as such. I think that the music of the band is more important for an eventual 'break through' than where you come from. If anything, people may have preassumed expectations that we sound like ENTOMBED, DISMEMBER, UNLEASHED and all those Swedish bands, which is a threat to us. We have an original sound. Sweden's scene doesn't offer much assistance to a band without an album out either. It's hard to get gigs outside your local area when you're still on the Demo/7" stage.

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How many (approximately) gigs have you played, and what was the
response like?
We've played approx. 15 gigs in 2½ years, so we're not that experi-
nenced on the live front. Hopefully we'll get to play more shows in
the future, when the album is out. The reaction has been mainly go-
ood. We've done one or two really bad shows, but that had more to
do with equipment problems than our playing.

Which bands have you played with?
AT THE GATES, DISMEMBER, TIAMAT, DESULTORY, CEREMONIAL OATH, DISSEC-
TION, CEMETARY and EXEMPT to name a few.

Who are your favourite bands at present?
Well, BLIND GUARDIAN and MASTER'S HAMMER are the ones I listen to
mostly right now.

Anything final to add?
Thanx for the interview Tom! Watch out for our album - it will not
be "just another boring Death Metal band from Sweden"! We have an
original sound and approach, so please give us a chance, OK!

CONTACT: DARK TRANQUILITY c/o Niklas Sundin VALEBERGSVAGEN 123,
S - 427 37 BILLDAL, SWEDEN.

Can you give us a run down on the history of BURIAL so far?
We started in Oct.1990 when myself, Deany (Guitar), Geoff (Vocals),
Mick (Bass), and our former drummer, Martin, got together and began
writing our own songs. At the beginning of 1991, we did our first
gigs and then our debut Demo, 'Void In Time'. After that, there
were more gigs, and then we got rid of our drummer Martin, and re-
placed him with Dogger. We then recorded our 7" which was going to
be released through VIRULENCE Recs., but wasn't released until May
'92 through INFEST Recs. Since then, we've done the 'Optical Mass'
Demo, more gigs and went through some shit with TOMBSTONE Recs.

How well have the 'Optical Mass' Demo and 'Effigy' 7" been selling?

What is the response like?
The sales of the 'Optical Mass' Demo could be better, but we haven't
been able to send out as many flyers or tapes to zines, as cash has
been tight. We lost a lot recording it. The 'Effigy' 7" sold out
of it's first pressing of 1000 copies in the first 3 months of it's
release and another pressing has been done. Most reviews of the
Demo/7" have been good, with many people stating the improvement
from our first Demo, particularly with the 'Optical Mass' Demo.

Do you have any plans to record again in the near future? Also,

have you had any label interest?
We hope to record something in the next month or two, depending on
if we can raise the neccessary cash. We had interest from TOMB-
STONE Records last year and we planned to record our first album,
but things then started to drag and in March, COMMUNIQUE (who own
TOMBSTONE) said that they had no money to do our album, after we
had been led along all those months. This pissed us off a lot. We
feel that it's the fault of Mark Gray (who runs the label), as he
seems to have randomly offered deals to loads of bands and it seemed
that COMMUNIQUE knew little (if anything) about our signing, but
he'd rather have us believe it's COMMUNIQUE not doing their job.
Either way, there is quite an inefficiency with TOMBSTONE Records.

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New UK Gore band EMBALMER have recently released their debut Demo, amazingly titled 'Mephistophilian Atrocity'. We spoke to Bassist Ollie Jones about the Demo and how the band are getting on......

How did EMBALMER get together, and when?
Embalmr was put together around 6 months ago from members of 'PUS', a local Death - Grunge band. Our drummer left to join a Punk band (!), and we were then down to just two members - Sean (Guitarist) and myself (Bassist). We wrote songs and did a few gigs with a drum machine and they surprisingly went very well. We recorded the Demo as a two piece band.

Is 'Mephistophilian Atrocity' your only Demo? Have you had a good response to it?
Yes. It's our only Demo and it's doing fucking superb! We're writing new material while experimenting with our sound, maybe for a release later in the year.

Tell us about your influences, especially lyrical influences.
Our influences include early NAPALM DEATH, TERRORIZER, CARCASS - basically a lot of Grind stuff. We have no lyrical influences.

Do you have a permanent drummer yet? If so, are you gigging?
As I said, we've been gigging with a drum machine and it's just as good, if not heavier, and we will continue to do this until the right person comes along.

Where did the name EMBALMER come from?
Like all bands, you sit around for days thinking of a name for your band. I was reading up on James Oliver Hilberty who trained as an embalmer, and it kinda stuck in my head.

Do you have any plans for future releases as yet?
We're thinking of recording a 7" but we're not sure yet. We want to get our name around Europe and the UK first before we release anything.

How far round the world has your demo sold? Do you have any distributors handling it?
Quite a lot of people from around the world have sent for a Demo (and one or two from the States). I've had people from countries I have -n't heard of before writing to me! There aren't any distributors handling it but I'd rather there weren't anyway.

Do you think the Demo is more likely to sell or do you think people will be more likely to try and obtain it via Traders?
The Demo has been selling really well and I think people who are Traders will definately include us on their lists (You're on mine! -Tom). I don't care how the Demo is circulated!

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Who are your favourite bands?
I like mostly Gore Metal and Black Metal, but mostly bands like SUFFOCATION and CANNIBAL CORPSE.

Do you think CARCASS have good album sleeves? Did you get the idea for the head on your inlay from them?
CARCASS album sleeves are interesting. You can look at them for ages. The 'Necroticism...' cover is pure shite! The head on the inlay of our Demo is from a Geiger picture, nothing like the anatomical pictures CARCASS use.

Is there any chance of getting gigs in the south of England?
Sometime in the near future perhaps!

Thanks a lot Ollie. Any final comment?
Just that if anyone hasn't bought the 'Mephistophilic Atrocity' Demo - fuckin' get it 'cos no-one will be disappointed. Cheers Tom!

---

New UK band ENCHANTMENT are just starting to get recognised on the Underground scene. Vocalist Paul Jones gave us the details...

You've just released your debut Demo 'A Tear For Young Eloquence'. How has it been selling and what is the response like?
'A Tear...' has sold very well, considering it's only early days as far as ENCHANTMENT goes. We have sold around the 100 mark so far, but I've been in touch with a lot of distro's - they will help promote us in the near future. The response has been good, for I believe we have something new to prove, but I'm not saying we are original.

The Demo is incredibly good quality for a debut. How much did it cost to get it done?
Just under the £400 mark (approx $800) by about £5 (approx $10) or something shit like that. We are not entirely happy with our debut, and a lot of people who see us live will agree.

How long was the band together before the Demo was done?
Since September '91 and with virtually the same line up, but some of that time we were under a different name, which I won't tell you because it was shit!

Tell me about your musical and lyrical influences.
Well musically bands such as MY DYING BRIDE and ANATHEMA are obvious influences as everyone keeps telling me, but with touches of GOREFEST and SUFFOCATION which you can't hear too much in our material. As for lyrics, well only whores, sluts and sexual diseases contribute to my influences, The lyrical theme is sexual desires/fantasies which people can relate to more than gore or any other topic.

What is the scene like where you live?
Utter bollox! I've never seen such a shit scene than in Blackpool. It's swarming with homosexuality, people wearing Death Metal shirts all week but can never find the time to watch us or any other Death Metal band who play here. CADAVER just played, and including themselves, support band and us, there was only about 30/40 people who could find the time to turn up. They should support the scene and stop fucking their arseholes with their fingers all night!

Have you played many gigs yet? If so, who with? Did you get a good response?
Under the name ENCHANTMENT we have only played five gigs so far:

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supporting MONOLITH at Preston, BOLT THROWER at Liverpool, on the Underground Titans II tour at Blackpool, supporting CANCER at Bradford, and ANATHEMA at Blackpool. We have had a lot of response from these gigs and hopefully we will receive some sort of following in the future.

This may be a bit premature, but do you have any plans for future releases as yet?

Well, we have had a lot of interest from CARNIVORE Records which is a sub label of CENTURY-MEDIA. We might have to do a promo tape, but I don't know if it will be able to be traded as if they require one, it will contain new tracks including our fifth track, 'Beauty Of Liars'. However, if nothing comes of this, a second Demo will be recorded as soon as material is finished.

Who are you into at present?

Well speaking for myself, it has to be THE GATHERING from Holland. Totally and utterly fucking amazing, their LP 'Always' is a must!!

Do your lyrics reflect your personality at all?

The lyrics totally reflect my personality; I am what I write about. I have so many views on sexuality, none of them including homosexuality. I cannot express my deepest hate and anger for that issue! I just want to express sex for what it is, that being the most enjoyable pleasure known to both males and females (except twatting gays that is). Why people don't own up to masturbation or any of those experiences is past me. Masturbation and intercourse are of my self desire. No-one can tell me that they don't practice them; it is within nature itself.

Thanks a lot Paul. Any 'famous last words'?

Thanks for buying our Demo Tom and thanks for supporting the scene. May our music take everyone sexual frustrations. For more info, write to:

ENCHANTMENT
c/o Paul Jones
46 Kelsons Ave.
Thornton
Nr. Blackpool
Lancashire
FY5 4DP UK.

(Demo 'A Tear For Young Eloquence' - £3 UK, $6 IRC Overseas)

L-R: Mark (Bass), Chris (Drums), Marc (Guitar), Steve (Guitar), Paul (Vocals).

Pathological Scum Zine is currently looking for all bands for the first issue. I don't care if you play good on stage, record and tapes, or boxes; just send it! I'm looking for all produdes, traxtapes, however: punk, death, black, doom, industrial, etc.. Bands who have anything out I.E. rehearsal, demo, LP, tapes, send it in for review/article and possible interview: No Rip Off Zines, if you want to be in for interview/record whatever. Just send in a sample if you want, a box, etc... I won't rip anybody off. Artists happy to send their stuff for free and a free copy. If you want to contribute with some reports, articles, interviews, stories, go ahead! All items that I get are published. Ad space is free. Fonts, and trades can send their lists but it looks like it's gonna be a 'REALLY' cool issue with interviews and more. NO RIP OFF!! Traders are welcome when it comes out. You can send photos of your teeth, names relatives, your bedroom, dog, bike, food, freak movements, and more. You can do some good reviews on stuff like yogurt, drinks, pens, pets, records, etc.. Everybody who helps us gets a free copy. Whenever you get those flyers, try to spread them to places like, Bulgeta, Russia, Hungary, Africa, Australia, Japan, Israel, Philippines, etc. You can get stuff from the known world everywhere. So if you run a Band, zine, store, write books, etc., and for publishing in my zine. So what are you waiting for?? Mail is answered with a long letter the next day I receive it. No stupid shit RIP OFF'S!! Start on your letters to me...
ETERNE, from south Wales (UK), have recently released their second Demo, 'The Endless'. This is the follow up to 1992's 'Quietus Eterne', released under the name ELDRITCH. The band comprises of just two members, who create original sounds with the assistance of keyboards, drum machines etc. Having secured a deal, which sees the recording of their debut album in Jan. '94, a happy Dave Dando spoke to us........

Why did you make the name change from ELDRITCH to ETERNE?
Because of all the stereotypes unfortunatley attached to the name. That is, people inadvertently thought we had taken the name from Andrew Eldritch, but this was not the case. It just cut down on hassle.

What made you want to avoid normal Death Metal in your music?
It's not really a case of wanting to avoid Death Metal...that's like asking why did we avoid free-farm jazz or whatever. The music we play is 100% our natural style, so we aren't one of these new generation Death bands, trying so desperately to be original. If we felt any inclination to go in that direction then we would, but as yet, it hasn't happened.

How long did it take you to record 'The Endless'? Do you find it easier or harder, being in a band with only two people?
'The Endless' was recorded and mixed in only 10 hours, and that was possible only because there are just two band members. This prevents slackness and band politics / conflicts, which are extremely detrimental to the health (especially when a three inch thick chain collides painfully with the skull!). So, in answer to your question, it is much easier being a two piece band.

Do you play gigs? If so, how do you play the various parts of your songs? Do you use session players?
We will play gigs next year, but after the album is completed. We don't use any session players (live), so we need certain items of expensive equipment which we will purchase once financial stability resumes. Obviously, we will have to approach things differently, but hopefully, it'll all go okay.

Do you find a drum machine is better than a human drummer (')? For us, yes. But that doesn't mean I condemn real drummers at all. It is necessary for some bands, but in the past, human drummers have always lacked what we needed, so we opted for the little black box...and they never turn up for gigs late, complaining about aching leg muscles! Well, not usually anyway....

Have you ever played in a straight Death Metal band with, say, 4 others? If not, would you?
No, I haven't, but I suppose I would if the situation arose...as long as it didn't interfere with ETERNE. Actually, this band began several years ago, as a five piece, but it didn't work out, so we started again from scratch. We couldn't handle the personality clashes....

Tell us about the deal you were offered. Does it cover albums or 7"s or what?
We record our debut album next January for a CD release. The person who runs the label, Mikko of URILIAH Mag / DECORYAH has been very supportive, and doesn't give us any shit...which is great! So far, it's only for one album and one mini afterwards (maybe), but things may turn out differently. We also have a 7" EP out in the Autumn on HAMMER OF DAMNATION Recs.

contd over/...
Originally, I wasn't going to include this column, mainly because I only had a few zines which were worth reviewing. However, since conceiving the plan for EVISCERATION, a few more have come my way, from editors/traders/distributors etc, so I decided to make some kind of feature out of the reviews. Hopefully, the reviews will be of some use to some -one! See what you think..... -Tom.

ANATHHEMA (FIN) Issue 1  This is a 64 page A5 affair, which I got from AESTHETIC DEATH Distro. in the UK. It has got a nice layout, all typed, and almost every page features spiky border art (which looks great!). The guy who does it (TuPe) admits in the Editorial that his English isn't too good and his questions aren't too interesting, which is true, but it is still a good read. It's got photos, flyers, quite a lot of reviews, and interviews with bands like DESOLATORY (SWE), UNHOLY (FIN), DICKTATOR (FIN), FUNCT (FIN), OBSCENE (SWE) and a lot more (like pre 'Into The Grave' GRAVE (SWE))). A lot of the interviews are with Finnish bands, as it is a Finnish zine. Although it is a bit old now, it is still worth reading, as the features are still interesting. I'm unsure of price or availability, or if there has since been a second issue. Anyway, TuPe also says he is looking for contributors for future issues, so I guess there might be. Write to him at: ANATHEMA ZINE c/o TuPe, ROHDINKULJA 4, 00950 HELSINKI, FINLAND.

SEPTICAEMIA (UK) Issue 3  Another from AESTHETIC DEATH here. As soon as I got it, I thought shit, this is not good. It has 24 A4 pages, and although it has interviews with good bands like REPROBATE (UK), SEPHIROTH (GR), NASPHERATU (US) and more, the layout lets it down. It is stapled in the top-left corner (only), like a hand out you get at school, and it seems as if the Editor can't be bothered with logos of the bands half the time, instead just shoving in a badly copied photo and typing the bands name underneath it. Also, it appears to have flyers printed aimlessly, just to fill in space. Aside from that, it reads fairly well, although the questions aren't too original. I think it's £2, but write to check. SEPTICAEMIA ZINE c/o Anita, 79 MAYFIELD ROAD, ACOCKS GREEN, BIRMINGHAM, B27 7TT, ENGLAND.

CHARONTAPHOS (HOL) Issue 1  This is the kind of zine I really like! It features 44 A4 pages, nicely printed and laid out, with photos, logos, and no space wasted with printing flyers unnecessarily. There are five guys doing this one, although the majority of the work was done by two of them - Ndizi Na Nyama and Mahakala. They've obviously thought it out well - original questioning of bands like ABSU (US), MALEFIC OATH (HOL), BURZUM (NOR), PYREXIA (US), plus objective, lengthy reviews and a Norwegian Scene Report make it a decent all round read. I'm not sure of the price as I got it in trade, but write for an assured reply to: CHARONTAPHOS ZINE c/o Mahakala, DEN HOET 4, 3451 GW VLEUTEN, HOLLAND.

REAL SICKNESS (US) Issue 2  I like this a lot, and although it has completely sold out now, I thought I'd review it anyway. It has a nice layout, and good interviews with bands like PLAGUE FACTORY (US), ALTAR (SWE) and SALEM (ISR). The thing I really like about this zine is the amount of stuff Jerry has managed to review. Nearly half the zine is taken up with reviews of LP's/Demos/7"s etc, which are very helpful. It is well printed on A5, and those of you who have missed it, write for details of Issue 3 to: REAL SICKNESS ZINE c/o Jerry 'S.C.' Vicek, 11539 TEMPEA ROAD, PALA, CA92059, USA.

CRAWLING CHAOS (UK) Issue 1  This is quite old now, but I just had to mention it! It's one of the best A5 zines I've ever seen, with amazingly clear photos printed on nice shiny paper. It's absolutely packed with interviews (ANCIENT RITES (BEL), PUTRID OFFAL (FR), CRADLE OF FILTH (UK), DEATHLESS (AUS) etc), which are all really well written. There are also literally hundreds of reviews scattered throughout the zine. Issue 2 promises to be even better! It's done by Dave Dando of ETERNE (UK) - see their interview in this issue of EVISCERATION for the address.

MORCION MAGAZINE (HOL) Issue 3  This has to be one of, if not the best zine ever! It features 52 A4 pages, packed with reviews, interviews and three scene reports (UK, Slovenia and Pacific Ocean). Three guys write the zine, and their English is perfect. It has close fitting typing, so they manage to fit tons of stuff in. Interviews include: EMPEROR (NOR), MASTER'S HAMMER (CZ), MIDIAN (HOL), MORTIFICATION (AUS) and loads more. It is an excellent read, definitively worth getting hold of if you haven't already. If I was grading these reviews, this would, without a doubt, get 10/10! $5/£1. 6- to: MORTCION MAGAZINE c/o Harold Dekkers, BOEREO- STRAAT 86, 3312 HD DORDRECHT, HOLLAND.
Hello Chris, how are you today?
I'm okay, I'm sitting here at work right now, answering these questions. I don't like to do that, but the mail is piling up like hell over here, and my policy of a 24 hour response must not be compromised. I'm feeling a bit tired - we just had a show in Pennsylvania and it was great!

Firstly, describe the music you play. Since forming, have you now developed your own style and sound?
Well, we have laid the groundwork for our style, now it is a matter of building on that basic style, and adding a few more things to it. Currently, on our newer songs, we have added a bit of Doom into the music which really throws things around a bit. Above all, each song must remain true to the idea of 'Barbaric Mosh Metal' - it's gotta have the slammin' grooves. We are tinkering with some melodies now also.

OK, so why did you decide to adopt that style? Do you prefer it to, say, the Doom style of your previous band, AUTUMN REIGN?
Well, it's sick, pure and simple. I have seen a ton of bands, and none of them could motivate me enough to slam and go nuts. We just sat down and began writing tunes that would get us slamming, and wouldn't just wash by in Speed. The Doom style of my old band was boring, and very limiting. I no longer felt any desire to play like that. When I met Anthony (Guitarist) and Bill (Drummer), they had the same ideas as I did - everything clicked!

Do you write lyrics to fit with the style of music you play? Are your lyrics written simply to shock people, or is there a reason for you incorporating the subjects you do in them?
We do not play to shock...that is CANNIBAL CORPSE. Our lyrics mean something, but you gotta dig a little. Most of them make a statement about something. 'Despoilment of Rotting Flesh' is a gory song, but it is about a guy who has no luck with women, he's an outcast, a freak, and the only way he can find love is by having sex with the dead. 'Ruthless... contd over/...
INTERNAL BLEEDING

Inhumanity' is a stab at bands like CANNIBAL CORPSE who just write senseless Gore songs. I think the line in 'Ruthless...' that goes 'Do you celebrate within misery?' sums that up. 'Gutted Human Sacrifice' is about doing what pleases yourself, and 'Epoch of Barbarity' is about man's horrible greed, and his strange habit of killing everything and anything.

Is your logo a deliberate attempt to stay away from spiky, unreadable logos?

Yes! I hate those typical, cheesy, spiked logos. If you can't read the name of the band, what's the fucking point?! Who the hell thought of that idea? It's no wonder people don't take Death Metal seriously. We wanted something simple and catchy. Nothing you had to look up in a dictionary; something that described what we played, and the effect the listener will recieve. I won't buy a CD if I can't read the band's name.

So, tell us about the 'Invocation of Evil' Demo. Presumably it has had a better response than it's predecessor, the 'One Dollar Demo'! How well has it been selling?

Well, at this point, the Demo has been out for two months, and we need to make another 500 copies already! I think we gave away only about 20 out of the first 500, and all the rest we sold at shows, to distributors etc. It's a new Demo, and we gotta get more made already.

Well, the 'One Dollar Demo' was made more in the lines to attract musicians rather than have the public hear it. It just happened to leak out, so we sold it as a sampler of what was to come.

Did it cost a lot to get the professional tapes/inlays done? Coupled with the cost of doing the Demo, and promotion, you must need a lot of money. Do you do a day job? Do all the band members contribute equally to the band's expenses?

Yes. We worked very hard to do everything correctly though. We did not want to put out shit! We think highly of ourselves and our music. If you're gonna spend $5 of yer hard earned money on something, you want it to be good don't you? Everyone in the band contributes fairly equally. I am an art director, and I make quite a lot of money. We saved all the cash we made, and the whole thing (Demo) cost about $900. Not a bad price at all. It can be done; you just have to want it to be great.

Was the Demo made more as a Promo for record companies, than an ordinary Demo?

It was made for both. What's the sense of making a Demo for the record companies? They are not your fans. We wanted to get signed, and a totally pro set up helps, but on the other hand, we wanted the fans to have something that would be a truly good addition to their collections.

So, how many labels have had a copy? Have you had any offers – for 7"s or albums? Would you be looking more for a label that could offer you extensive touring aswell?

We haven't sent any to labels blindly. We have been asked by about 11 companies, and have been offered about 5 LP deals. I have a feeling we are going to sign with TOMBSTONE in the UK. Mark Gray is a real cool guy, and he firmly believes in us as a band. I'm a little worried though - I have never dealt with this before, so it's all new. Mark

contd over/...
INTERNAL BLEEDING cont’d...

is really showing me everything. We haven't counted anything out through; we are still accepting offers. But for now, TOMBSTONE seems the way to go! Touring would rule! It's hard though; I'm trying to work something out. We are doing a little US East Coast mini tour, and it's helping us a lot.

Are you playing many shows at present? Have you played many more with OSSUARY? How are they?! Are your gigs violent (I hope they are)?

Have you accumulated a following in NY now?

Well, we play a lot. Mostly out of the state of NY. The shows are really violent. We played a show in June where 2 people broke limbs - it's great! The live scene is where we thrive. We crush live. We've played with VADER, DISMEMBER, SUCCUBATION, DISINCARNATE, PYREXIA, MOR-GOTH, CANCER and a host of great bands like RIPPING CORPSE, DAMONACY, HUMAN REMAINS and others. OSSUARY are very cool. We're best friends with them, and they are a bizzare band; that's why I like 'em. Our following in NY is becoming quite big.

Are there any decent radio shows in NY? If so, who, and have INTERNAL BLEEDING been on them?

There are plenty of radio shows, and we've been on 'em all. The best is WUSB in Stony Brook, hosted by the almighty Parm (See back page ad - Tom). He is the coolest guy in the scene, and has helped us a lot. There is also WRUR in Rochester which is amazing.

OK Chris, thanks for your time, and good luck with INTERNAL BLEEDING.

Any message for the readers?

Well, Tom, cheers to you. Everybody should buy our Demo ($5 - address on previous page - Tom)...it'll crush your face! Thanks for all the great words from all the great people - hello to CROSS FADE, Parm, INVALID EXISTENCE and the countless friends and cool people in the Underground. Support the scene - go to local shows too!
OK, the same boring question to start with, please give us a brief history of the band.

Formed in 1989, a firm line up that was competent was realised in June 1990. We recorded our first Demo in Aug. 1990, our first 7" in Oct/Nov. 1990 (released Dec '90). We played a few gigs, wrote and recorded our 2nd 7" in May 1991 (released April '92). We did a few more gigs, recorded the 'Framework...' Reh/Demo 2 in Oct 1991, soon after which one of our guitarists left. After a couple of gigs as a four piece, we got a replacement, did some more gigs and then recorded our Promo/Demo 3 in June 1992. After more writing and gigs we recorded a Reh/Demo 4 in Nov 1992. After that we decided to use 2 tracks from the Promo as a 3rd 7". Also, we put together a retrospective CD release, and also lost drummer Alastair. We got a replacement, decided to do a live 12"/CD, so we recorded a gig in Feb. 1993, and promptly lost our replacement drummer! Brief enough?

Can you tell us the reasons behind the recent line up changes?

In the case of the last 3 departures, Darren '91, Al '92, and Phil '93, the decision to leave has been their own. Obviously I can only tell you what they told us about why they left. In the case of our 2 drummers, I think the split stemmed from the fact that neither of them listened to Death Metal, and didn't really like the music. Also, Al wanted to go to college and Phil felt the pressure of being in a band that gigged and recorded a lot and demand a very high standard. I think Phil found MALEDICTION too serious. An eg. would be if we made a mistake, he'd say it didn't matter, whereas the rest of the band would say: "We're not going to make mistakes.". Shame, coz both Phil and Al were good drummers.

Now that MALEDICTION is an established, well respected band, do you find that people who treated you as a bit of a joke at first are now taking you more seriously?

MALEDICTION has never been treated as a joke. We never played live until after we'd done our first Demo, and while our first gig was awful as far as we were concerned, we were confident enough to show we were a serious band. Also, once we'd put out our first 7", we had a good reputation. I think if a band releases something awful first off, then they get a tag that's hard to loose.

How well has the new Demo tape 'Weeping Tears...' been selling, and what has the general response been like?

The new tape is going well, we're getting about 5/6 orders a week. Really, we need to play a few more gigs to sell some at shows. In general, the response has been a positive one. It's got a couple of good reviews in zines (eg. PULVERISER) and in the main, a lot of people are very happy with it.

How do you go about settling musical disputes in the band, if there any?

I assume you just mean disagreements about songs/lyrics here. Basically, if any arise, it's usually over a riff or part of the song's arrangement. Usually what happens is the different versions are played, or altered, so the band decides on what sounds best. As Rich and Mark, the guitarists, write all the music over a long period of time, it's usually the 'finished' song when the other band memb...
MALEDICATION contd/…

-ers learn it. Everybody has a say in the music, but fortunately this doesn't lead to chaos! Any other disagreements are also talked about, and are usually settled by a compromise. Sometimes though, the complaint is ignored if the other members believe it's fine as it is. MALEDICATION is a democracy, and we usually get through any disagreement intact!

Would you consider using more diverse instruments on your releases such as keyboards or maybe orchestral instruments like MASTER's HAMMER do?

We have used keyboards on our songs - the Promo Demo has a lot of keyboards on it. Also, 3 tracks we re-recorded for our retrospective CD have some on them. A lot of our newer songs have a lot of melodic parts which I'm sure will feature keyboards or other instruments heavily. As for orchestral instruments, we never say never! We did talk about the possibility of using different instruments before, and also being very experimental in our music. Whether we'll ever have the time to spend creating something like that in the studio is another issue! I think we've never been a band to put keyboards etc on a record just for the sake of it - also we never had the time or money to record anything on our early releases other than the basic tracks. Also, of course, two of our Demos have been recorded rehearsals, and we don't use keyboards in rehearsals!

Would you, under any circumstances, change the musical direction of the band in order to secure a deal with a major label?

It depends on what you mean by change of 'musical direction'. Obviously we wouldn't change ourselves from what we are now - a Death Metal band to being say, a Grunge band, or a straight Metal band. However, if you listen to our early recordings and compare them to what we're playing now, a change in direction is noticeable. I mean our 1st 7" is evil, grinding Death! We've now moved on to being more technical and progressive, simply caused by playing together more, becoming more confident and experienced in our songwriting and not being limited in our musical tastes and aspirations. As far as being signed by a major label, I assume you mean EMI etc, I think Death Metal is too extreme for them even now, so they won't ever offer us a deal! I don't think we'd ever sign to a major label simply because aside from all the moral/ethical arguments/debates, a major simply cannot handle an Underground band, as our motives for playing are alien to the major labels and their reasons for existence. Therefore, promotion and touring would be all wrong, plus they'd have a say in how the record sounds and looks, which we're against.

Does the band have any major ambitions (eg. headlining Donington...NOT!)? Do any of the band members have any interests/commitments outside MALEDICATION that could hinder the band's progress?

I think our major ambition at the moment is to play a gig outside the UK and put out our debut LP. Personally, I'd like to headline Donington, so long as we could do it with the musical direction we have now, which is unlikely!

I don't think the other members have any other interests which interfere; nothing has come up till now. Obviously we're going to have to start earning a proper living sometime soon. I think the only thing that will split the band is the economic realities of the

contd over/…
MALEDICATION contd...

world we live in, which we're moving closer to all the time.
Would you adopt a bizarre image to strengthen your fan base (eg wearing hairy codpieces like MANOWAR do)?

No, I don't think so. We've always had a pretty straightforward 'jeans + t-shirt' image. I think we're just ordinary people who are in a band. To dress up would be false, and I'd hate it persona-
lly. MANOWAR are a law unto themselves really; it works for them, but it would be a disaster for us!
Are you so committed to MALEDICATION that you would relocate outside the UK if the others decided that they were going to?

Yes, definitely. I think I'd enjoy living abroad for a few years before returning to the UK. Really, the UK's in the shit at the moment in all aspects of life, and it's becoming more difficult to relate to people I meet in the main.

Do you ever pay to play gigs? Would you pay £2,000 (≈$4,000) to get the support slot on the European tour of a 'Big Name' Death Metal band?

No, we've never paid to play at a gig. However, most of the gigs we do are self financed, so when they don't make money, we don't get paid, which happens 60% of the time, maybe more. As for paying to get on a tour, we've discussed this and if we had the money we would do it. I know it's a rip-off, but if you get on a 'hot' tour (ie it's sold out), it's good exposure. At the moment most of the top bands are struggling to sell tickets in the UK and Promoters are going bust, so it's not worth doing now, but it probably was 2 years ago. After the start of Rock 'n Roll 35 years ago, the best way to break a band is still live, unless you have access to TV, and the more people you play live to in a small amount of time, the better. Obviously it helps to be reviewed in the 'big' mags (like this one - Tom), as they tend to review name bands and ignore Underground bands, or review them in a jokey 'I was surprised they could play' way. As I said, it's all a rip-off, but if you have any aspiration to get anywhere, you have to accept being ripped off somewhere along the line, a harsh but true fact.

OK, thanks a lot for your time, Mark. Do you want to add any final comments?

It's OK Tom, good luck with the zine and thanks for the support, it's appreciated. Remember, my opinions in this interview do not necessarily coincide with the others in the band! Anyone who's interested by this interview can contact me at: 107 INMANS RD, HEDON, HUMBERSIDE, HU12 8HU, ENGLAND, for details of our releases, what's available and how much etc. Please enclose an SAE/IRC for a guaranteed reply. I answer all the letters I receive, but don't blame me if the Post Office loses your letter! Respect.

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Further to the MALEDICTION interview earlier in this issue, Mark Fox (Bassist) sent me advance tapes of the bands new releases, their Live CD, and third 7", 'Dark Effluvium'. As he requested, I wrote detailed reviews on them, which should appear in the zine he and vocalist Shaun Stephenson are putting together. However, having been genuinely impressed with the recordings, I decided to print the reviews in EVISCERATION aswell, as a 'preview' of the material. Read on........

MALEDICTION (UK) Adv. Live CD 1993
This was recorded on 26/2/93 and features seven tracks, which span the bands career to date; from early tracks like 'Infestation' to newer ones such as the complex 'Doctrines Eternal Circles'.

The first thing that struck me about this recording was the quality of the sound. Basically, it is fucking good. The guitars are as heavy as ever (as is the bass), and with little feedback, the sound hardly suffers at all. Shaun's vocals manage to stay brutal right the way through; he never seems to get tired, and seems to be able to deliver his 'growls' as fluently as ever. That leaves the drums. I believe this gig featured former drummer Phil, and his ability is demonstrated very well. He plays fast, in keeping with the trademark riffs and solos of guitarist Rich and Mark. However, the snare drum sound lets it down somewhat, as it sounds too flat. A punchier sound on the snare would have sounded better, I believe, but aside from this, there is little to complain about when considering the sound.

The outstanding track has to be 'Framework of Contortion' - in my opinion, the best of the seven. The other songs simply complement each other, as all are played with the same level of energy and expertise that have made MALEDICTION a success. Although Mark Fox told me that "...much beer was drunk before, during and after the gig...", it has not hindered the bands musical abilities, as the arrangements are as tight as ever.

The one thing that really lets this recording down is not the music, but the response from the audience. At most, a half hearted "yeah" is heard, and at least, a measly round of applause. You would think only ten people turned up to see the band! The recording does not capture the atmosphere of a live show, as the crowd response is minimal. Also, perhaps as a result of this, Shaun sounds incredibly bored as he introduces the songs. The band undoubtedly deserve a better response than they got that night; where the fuck was the crowd looking?

All in all, I find this to be the most listenable MALEDICTION release to date; it features the best of their released material, and the sound appears to be superior to that on any of their releases prior to this. Aside from the lame response from the crowd, it is a very good listen, and thoroughly recommended. TS 8½/10

MALEDICTION (UK) 'Dark Effluvium' Adv. 7" 1993
This features better versions of two MALEDICTION tracks that have been released before - 'Weeping Tears...' and 'Framework of Contortion'.

A nice punchy intro leads us into 'Weeping Tears...' which has nice heavy riffing, and a near perfect balance between music/vocals. The same goes for 'Framework...'; these versions are more of a 'comfortable' listen, as the sound is very good. The band have also incorporated some interesting new ideas, such as the use of keyboards on both tracks. The songs are very well played, and as always, the arrangements are very tight, but the band have still retained their melodic edge, which makes them stand out from many other Death Metal bands today. This should sell very well, as overall I find it better than MALEDICTION's other 7"'s/Demos. It is an improvement on the 'Weeping Tears...' Reh/Demo, without a doubt. TS 7½/10

PRICES: LIVE CD £6 / $12
'DARK EFFLUVIIUM' 7" £2 (UK), $5 (Europe), $6 (World)

Orders should be sent direct to the band. You can either write to Mark at the address he gave in the interview, of write to Shaun at: 40 Lancaster Terrace, Chester-Le-Street, Co-Durham, DH3 3NP, ENGLAND
UK band MORBID SYMPHONY have not been around for as long as some, but have already successfully established themselves as one of the Underground's most promising acts. Soon after the release of the band's new 7" 'Permanence In Dark Earth', we spoke to bass player Tony Longworth......

How long have MORBID SYMPHONY been together? What is the current line-up?
We formed the band in May 1990. Ian (Rolls - Guitarist) left the line-up just before Christmas 1992, so the current band is:
Chris Price - Vocals
Stewart Pritchard - Guitar
Tony Longworth - Bass
Keith Hill - Drums

We're happy as a four piece, but I guess eventually we'll get another guitarist.

How well has the new 'Permanence In Dark Earth' 7" been selling?
Have you had a good response?
The new single has been selling really well so far. We are really pleased with the positive response we have received.

How do the sales/response compare to those of the 'Evil Cares For It's Own' Demo?
Obviously, we haven't sold as many singles as we have the Demo, but the single does seem to be selling quicker. I think it's due to the fact that a lot of people have either heard or heard of the Demo.

Have you been gigging lately? If so, who with, and how did the gigs go?
We haven't had a gig for quite a while now. The last gig we did was last year in Liverpool with BURIAL. Once we have enough material, we will be doing a lot of gigs.

Do you have any specific influences, lyrically or musically?
We listen to a lot of different musical styles, from DEAD CAN DANCE to CELTIC FROST. Everything we listen to and enjoy has an influence on us. On the lyrical side, we're inspired at times by films, books, etc., but a lot of the time the songs are based on our own ideas.

Who is the main songwriter in the band?
We write songs as a band, so we all contribute equally. It works best that way!

Have you heard the new MASTER'S HAMMER LP? It's fucking amazing! To be truthful, no! (Fuckin' well try to then! - Tom)

Any final comments?
Many thanks for this interview Tom. Get in touch with us if you are interested in the single or the demo, and also we should have T-Shirts available by the time you read this!

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MY DYING BRIDE have been together since June 1990, when vocalist Aaron formed the band. Since then, they have received critical acclaim for their various releases, ranging from 1990's now classic Demo, 'Towards The Sinister', to their second EP, 'The Thrash Of Naked Limbs'. This EP was released on PEACEVILLE (who the band signed to in June 1991), following their debut EP, 'Symphoniaire Infernum Et Spera Empyrion', and debut album, 'As The Flower Withers'. The band have their 2nd album due out in September 1993, titled 'Turn Loose The Swans', which promises to be absolutely amazing! Taking a break from sessions for this album, bass player Ade spoke to us...

Hi Ade, how are you?
Fine thanks, how about yourself? (Great – Tom)

What has the band been getting up to recently?
We have been recording our second LP, 'Turn Loose The Swans', which should be out sometime in September. At the moment we still have a few more bits to record, and about five more songs to mix. Aaron's voice went when he was going to do his singing, so that delayed us a bit, but it should be finished within the next week or two. We have started rehearsing in readiness for our next gig at Rock City, Nottingham. We will be playing a few of the new songs as well, to see what everyone thinks of them. MTV are also filming some of the gig, and interviewing a couple of the band members. We are also organising our European tour, which should start in Sept/Oct.

What progress have you made so far with your second album, 'Turn Loose The Swans'?
Oops (jumping the gun again!) – see above.

How extensively have you toured in support of your releases? Do you get a good response at overseas gigs?
We haven't toured very much at all – we had a week in Europe at the back end of last year, and the response was amazing. We didn't expect very much at all, but we filled most venues and the crowds were crazy! As for the UK, we have just been doing the odd one off gig, instead of playing ourselves to death and everyone getting sick(er?) of us.

contd over/...
Will you be doing a major UK tour after the release of the new album?
We should be doing a proper tour of the UK after the release of the new LP; we will also be going to Ireland and, of course, back to Europe.

Have PEACEVILLE given the band full support from the start?
PEACEVILLE are very good to us. They don't impose any restrictions on what we do, and they do their best to get us what we want. Because the office is local, we can always go in to see what is going on, or to sort something out.

After the release of the new album and any following tour, will you release a third EP, or record your third album?
I have no definite idea what we'll release next - I want to get this one finished first! It (the release following 'Turn Loose The Swans') will probably be an EP though, so as to follow the pattern we have set.

Would you tour with BON JOVI to get on the US stadium circuit?
If we wanted to tour, we would tour with almost anyone, but we wouldn't tour with a band just to cash in on their popularity, or to get to play stadium gigs in the US or anything.

Cheers Ade, all the best mate. Do you want to add anything?
I would like to say thanks to everyone who has supported us and written to us, and thanks to you Tom for this interview. For more info, contact: MY DYING BRIDE c/o Ade, 77 The Whartons, Otley, West Yorkshire, LS21 2BS, ENGLAND. Please include an S.S.A.E., postage, or a couple of IRC's.

A big thanks goes out to Ade for taking the time to do this interview - I know you've been fucking busy, so cheers a lot! Also, if anyone wants to contact MY DYING BRIDE's record label, PEACEVILLE, write to: PEACEVILLE RECORDS, PO Box 17, Dewsbury, West Yorkshire, WF12 8AA, ENGLAND.

-TOM

TIRED OF BEING RIPPED OFF BY UNDERGROUND MAIL FRAUD?
Listed below are just some of the RIP OFFS out there whom you should STAY AWAY FROM!

- WILD RAG RECORDS, RICHARD C. = RIP OFF!
- SERAPHIC DECAY RECORDS = RIP OFF!
- FILTHY TRINITY, WHORROR MUSIC, PHIL HAMPSON = RIP OFF!

HELP PUT AN END TO THESE UNDERGROUND FA KES!
REPROBATE have been together since 1990, and shot to worldwide Underground prominence in early 1993, with the release of the follow up to their debut Demo ('Stew Of Wounds', 1991), 'Tranquillities Abortion'. The band have played with many 'name bands' such as PESTILENCE and MALEVOLENT CREATION. Continual good response at gigs, and the continual popularity of the Demo, have set the band up as one of the most popular Underground acts the UK has produced in a long time. EVISCERATION talked to Guitarist Gary Spooner.....

What have REPROBATE been up to recently?
At the moment, we have just recruited a new bassist who is settling in very well. This has held us back with penning new songs for a while, but now we're back after a very unstable year, and are now set to play many gigs in the future. It has been an uphill struggle, and we are now getting to the top of it!

Tell us about the deal you have been offered by GWB Records.
GWB was actually the first label we sent 'Tranquillities Abortion' to. They replied, saying that because they were a relatively new label, they didn't have the kind of finances to fund the kind of deal we deserved, and to contact them again if nothing else came up. We did, and they asked us the cost of recording two tracks for a 7" EP. We sat down and worked it out, and so we are set to record two brand new tracks, hopefully to be released in September/October 1993.

Do you have any plans to release a third Demo?
Hopefully, yes. When we've got the single out of the way, we'll write some new songs, take the best, and release another Demo in 1994.

What/who do you draw on for musical/lyrical inspiration? What inspired you to write 'Filofucked' (from 'Stew...')?
We draw all our musical inspiration from each other. We all listen to different types of music so we don't have one single inspiration. When we rehearse, we are REPROBATE, and we just write what feels good at the time. Most of the lyrical inspiration comes from torture or pain, reflecting whatever mood Simon (Lee, Vocalist) is in at the time.

'Filofucked' was just a pisstake of all the up-the-arse-shits there are in the world, who have no values for anything except money.

Have you ever had any bizarre experiences that you have based a song on?
Just once, we wrote a song called 'Swing Your Pants' after a dance started by a couple of comedians on a children's programme on TV. We all started 'Swinging our pants' and fell about the room pissing ourselves!!

Who writes the majority of REPROBATE's songs? Does it take you a long time to structure a song?
We all write together most of the time. It's a big team effort. Most of our time is spent structuring songs. After we have found the right stuff, the work begins.

What do you consider is your best song?
I don't know - we usually go by peoples reactions. It's hard to define the difference between a 'like to play' and a 'like to hear'. 'Wickerman', 'Judas Cradle' and 'Canto 7' seem to be peoples favourites, but as for the best song - I don't think we've written it yet!

Do your gigs get a generally positive reaction from the crowd?
Our loyal fans are always at the front doing their thing (!). Any newcomers seem to like us aswell, but we don't really know if we are liked or not until after the gig, when people come up to us and talk to us. Yes, I'd say we do get a good reaction.

...contd over/...
REPROBATE contd/...

How do you rate your chances of breaking away from the Underground onto the international circuit?
It's hard today for anybody, what with the recession and all. There are still many unsigned bands today, all worthy of a deal, but still trying to beat the system. You have to be in the right place at the right time, y'know what I mean?

Give us a short playlist. Also, are there any bands we should look out for?
These days, we have basically just been playing the Demo set, because of all the bassist problems. We have many unfinished songs to try out live - come and see us to find out!!

Look out for BLEEDING PRINCIPLE (UK), CRADLE OF FILTH (UK), THE REIGN (UK), DUSK (UK) and all the others you have heard of!
Support the Underground - it's the only thing left to believe in. KEEP IT ALIVE!!

CONTACT: REPROBATE c/o Gary Spooner, 60 Beeches Drive, Norfolk Park, Sheffield, S2 3SD, ENGLAND.

(Send £3/$6 for the 'Tranquilities Abortion' Demo - money well spent!' - Tom)

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CANCER (UK) 'The Sins Of Mankind' 3rd album here from UK Death band CANCER. It's something of an improvement on their last effort, 'Death Shall Rise', but CANCER will never be that special! The riffs are better (so is the drumming), but the lyrics aren't - see 'Meat Train' for an example. Pretty good, but nothing outstanding. TS 6/10

CRUCIFER (US) 'Pictures Of Heaven' At last! The debut album from Virginia band CRUCIFER. This is in no way a disappointment. Excellent production and fucking amazing songs make this a brilliant album! The songs are incredibly commercial, but the musical ability of the band is enough to make this album enjoyable from start to finish. It's a fuck of a lot better than it's predecessor, the 'Festival Of Death' EP - DON'T MISS IT!! TS 10/10

DISINCARNATE (US) 'Dreams Of The Carrion Kind' Is James Murphyせ -ntitled at last? It looks like it, and he's made a pretty good job of his new band DISINCARNATE's debut album. His guitar playing is pretty much outstanding, and vocalist Bryan Cegon does a good job on tracks like 'Stench Of Paradise Burning'. The only thing that lets it down is the lack of imaginative drumming, yet on the whole, it's very good. TS 7/10

FEAR FACTORY (US) 'Fear Is The Mindkiller' EP Was there any point in releasing this? For starters, it isn't FEAR FACTORY, just some average remixes of brilliant songs from the 'Soul Of A New Machine' album. Some of them are OK, but a few just sound like crap dance tracks. When I listen to it, I just can't help thinking I wish 'Soul...' was playing. Not a good idea. TS 4/10

ENTOMBED (SWE) 'Hollowman' EP This is not for ENTOMBED fans expecting another 'Left Hand Path'. A somewhat radical departure for the band, 'Hollowman' concentrates on Power/Thrash riffs, whilst maintaining the Death Metal sound. It's fucking good though, I hate sea -ve no criticisms at all! Songs like 'Hollowman' and 'Serpent Spe -ech' are bound to go down well live... TS 9/10

BLEEDING PRINCIPLE (UK) Rehearsal 28/4/93 Formed after the split of NIGHTFALL (UK), this band have already proved they're a lot better! The songs lean more towards Thrash than the boring Death Metal of NIGHTFALL. There are some extremely arrangements too, especially on tracks like 'Enter The Confusion Master'. Very good, despite the bad sound. Watch out for the Demo! TS 7/10

MALEDICTION (UK) 'Weeping Tears...' Demo '93 The follow up to the 'Framework Of Contortion' tape holds a few surprises! It's got a decent inlay, and the songs are better. The arrangements have become more technical, and songs like 'Doctrines Eternal Circles' sound a lot better than material from the other tape. Well worth getting! TS 7/10

THUS DEFILED (UK) 'Blasphemous Coven' Demo '93 Are they the UK's answer to BURZUM? Yes, and they're also a good band! This Demo proves what an excellent band THUS DEFILED really are; the dodgy live tape (which was all they had out till now) didn't do them justice. The Demo has only 3 tracks, but they are all very well played/arranged. The fucking vocals are amazing!! True Black Metal, played very well! TS 8/10

EMBALMER (UK) 'Mephistophelian Atrocity' Demo '93 Different? Yep, Gore Metal with a drum machine! It works well enough, as the drum machine is backed up with excellent guitars/bass, and amazing vocals! Go on, give 'em a try - could you refuse songs with titles like 'We Will Rot You'? TS 7/10

For Contact Addresses where applicable, see the relevant interviews in this issue.
ETERNE (UK) 'The Endless' Demo '93 The follow up to 'Quietus Eterne' (under the name of ELDRITCH) is bloody good! ETERNE are not Death Metal, but they don't need to be. With the use of keyboards and drum machines, they create original songs which are a breath of fresh air from some of the shite Death Metal around. It's definately alternative, but too good to be missed! TS 9/10

F (FIN) 'Pronimo' '93 adv. tape Formerly known as PUNCUNT, F have got to be the wierdest band on the planet! This is a 21 min 'epic' as it is all one track. F are outstanding musicians, and they use plenty of wierd stuff (eg strange sound effects) on this release, as well as their amazing musical abilities, which are pushed to the fucking limit!! It has to be heard to be believed! TS 10/10

ENCHANTMENT (UK) 'A Tear For Young Eloquence' Demo '93 Yes, this is very good indeed! It features excellent production, and the band are excellent musicians. The songs are well structured, and played with no mistakes at all! The outstanding track has to be 'God Send', the opener, made even better with Paul Jones's powerful and harsh vocal style. Only 2 criticisms - the intro is too long, and Latin is becoming somewhat over-used! Other than that, excellent Death / Doom metal, played very professionally. TS 9/10

ASTAROTH (US) 'Lost State Of Dreams' Demo '93 This is the second Demo from Tampa's ASTAROTH. Are they 'just another Florida band'? No, they're not! This is original and technical Death Metal, a definatly step up from the 'Drowning In Blood' debut. Larry Sapp's vocals are pretty fucking good, as are the lyrics. Hopefully, this Demo will secure the band the deal they deserve. TS 7/10

SUFFOCATION (US) 'Breeding The Spawn' Here we have the second album from US Death /Thrasher's SUFFOCATION. As I expected, it features incredibly tight arrangements, harsh vocals (and plenty of 'drilling' on the guitars), all played at 250 mph!! It's good stuff, although not that much different to 'Effigy Of The Forgotten'... TS 7/10

PUTREFIED COMPILATION Vol. 1 John Corkill's first effort at a comp. here, and he's done a pretty good job! The comp. has an excellent sound, pro-copied onto a chrome tape. Outstanding tracks by bands such as IMPALED NAZARENE (FIN), BURIAL (UK), ICONOCLAST (ITA). It's got OK packaging, all the contact addresses, and although the cover isn't that good, it's worth getting. TS 7/10

ATER (FIN) 'Ora' Demo '93 The follow up to 1992's 'The Black Abyss' is a fuck of a lot better. This tape has excellent production, 4 tracks and intro/outtro. The songs are really well put together, especially the electric/acoustic parts on songs such as 'Evol Envid'. They have kept their Doomy sound, and are still Doom Metal, but have begun experimenting with faster parts and the aforementioned use of acoustic guitars. Well recommended, a very good 2nd effort. TS 8/10

CHORUS OF RUIN (UK) 'Ocean Of Sins' adv. 7" '93 Those who like some-thing a little different will enjoy this. It's Doom, but not cumbersome and boring. Nice gravelly vocals and decent riffs make it an interesting effort. The use of acoustic/electric guitar on the outstanding track, 'Dreaming Of Indigo (A Blood Red Vision)', adds imagination and originality to this release. It is a big improvement on CHORUS OF RUIN's previous release, the '92 'Swan Dive' Demo, and should sell well, with good feedback. TS 8/10

TERATOGENIC (UK) 'Holocaust' Demo '93 TERATOGENIC play brutal Death Metal, with a heavy-as-fuck guitar sound. 'Holocaust', their 2nd Demo, is an improvement on their debut, 'Without Conscience', yet it still suffers from not-too-good production. However, the songs are quite impressive, and with better production, they are sure to make something really special next time! TS 6½/10

For addresses where applicable, see int's/ads in this issue.
SALEM hail from Israel, and have played together in various incarnations since as early as 1986. The current line up came together in 1988, and since then the band have gone from strength to strength, accumulating a hardcore following in Israel, and worldwide Underground recognition, with the positive response to their various releases. After the release of the 'Creating Our Sins' EP, which has been receiving a good response on the Underground, EVISCERATION interviewed vocalist Ze'ev Tananboim.

Describe the type of music SALEM play. Since forming, have you changed your musical direction?
SALEM combines Death Metal with Black influences, and also with a touch of Israeli root music. Yes, we have changed our direction since the beginning. At the beginning we played Black Metal; then we turned into what we are today.

What is the current line up of the band? Has it ever changed?
The line up has changed only once in 1987, and the current line up is Amir (Drums), Lior (Guitars), Giora (Guitars), Michael (Bass) and me (Ze'ev) on vocals.

Tell us about your releases to date.
1985 - 'Salem' (Demo), 1986 - 'Distraction Till Death' (Demo 2), 1987 - 'Millions Slaughtered' (Demo 3 -live) and 1992 - 'Creating Our Sins' (CD/ mini LP).

Is the 'Creating Our Sins' EP a concept EP? If so, what is the concept, and what was the thinking behind it?
Yes - the concept is to show the listener our point of view, and make him (or her! - Tom) feel things that we feel, which he (or she! - Tom) can't because he (you know it by now - Tom) doesn't live here in Israel.

What subjects do you deal with in your lyrics? Do you consider lyrics to be just as important as music?
We deal with racism, nazism, fear of another war, and phobias that are hidden inside of us. Yes, the lyrics are as important as the music.

Do you get many gigs in Israel? Is there a good local/national scene?
We play every two months; now we play more coz the kids are on summer holiday. The national scene is great - we've got a few young bands which in my opinion will go far: TEARS, IMPURITY, ORPHANED LAND and SUBSTANCE FOR GOD.

Is it a problem, being in a Death Metal band in the 'Holy Land'?
Not at all! Once it was a problem to play live, but now as the Metal scene is very strong, nobody can say anything; we are no longer 'freaks', we are musicians!

Do your parents approve of your musical direction?
Once, they didn't approve of what I did, but now they understand that this is my way of life, and there's nothing they can do about it.

What do you think are SALEM's strengths, that will help you get more international recognition?
We are very popular on the Underground scene all over the world. The fact that we released a CD/mini LP only contributes to getting us more recognition in the world. Our main aim is to tour Europe, which will probably take place in October; that for sure will put us on the right tracks.

Where would you most like to play, if you could tour the world?
I can't point to a special place; I'll be glad to play everywhere in the world!
Thanks a lot Ze'ev, and good luck! Do you want to add anything?
Thanks to all Metal fans in England - keep on supporting the Under-
ground! Also, thanks to you Tom for this interesting interview.

CONTACT: SALEM c/o Ze'ev Tananboim, PO Box 566, Givataym 53408,
ISRAEL. Or, fax them on 972 3 6471665!

'Creating Our Sins', 22 min EP is $10, and on CD format with the bonus of
the 'Millions Slaughtered' Demo (remastered - CD plays for 80
fuckin' minutes!!), it costs $15. -Tom.

F come from Finland, and have been together since 1989. Since then,
they were known as FUNCUNT, until they changed the name a few
months ago. They have just released the highly original 'Pronimo'
(see review elsewhere this issue), and we had a word with Guitarist/
Vocalist Jussi Saivo.....

Please give us a brief history of F (a boring but necessary Q!).
Well, we started in late 1989. Originally there were four of us, but
the 4th fella slipped out in no time - guess he didn't fit into the
picture anyhow.

has been steady si Kusti (Drums), Juk
as far as I know, plans to change
on by any means.
to Demos: 'Minute 'Coldeaccol' ('91)
both will rock you 'em out and see if
like we do.

Why did you change
CUNT to F?
Mainly coz we got on - that some fre
totally incorrect
they thought it
sexually orientate
our previous name,
actually blame any
name was kinda
think of comparing
yle. Anyway, we
name, and from now
fortwards as F!

What did your pare
being in a band called FUNCUNT? Are they happier now that you have
changed the name?
Heh! Well to tell the actual truth, my parents won't give a shit for
what our band stands for, or what we are called. I guess they're more
interested in what comes out of the TV at a certain hour, rather than
showing interest in our efforts. (What nice people! -Tom)

How well have the 'Minutewelli' and 'Coldeaccol' Demos sold? Good/
bad response from people?
I haven't got any certain sale amounts available, but I think I'm not
dead wrong here if I claim that 'Minutewelli' has sold approx. 500
and 'Coldeaccol' about 800 copies worldwide. Not too much, but I'm
kinda satisfied anyhow.

About the response, well quite often, it seems that people find us
as something different/original, even exciting. Maybe that is partly
true; I don't know (it is!! -Tom). I just let everything flow out as
freely as possible; maybe that's something original and different now-
adays - I don't know!

contd over/...
Tell us about the new release, 'Pronimo'

It's a 21 min concerto, made under a voyage into a jungle of psychedelia theme. The whole thing is more or less the conclusion of a suggestion made by my brother Bull Metal, who works for a label called WARMASTER (based in Medellin, Colombia), and he told us that he'd like to release some of our material as a split-LP. We greeted this suggestion by composing this 'Pronimo', which you know so well Tom, huh. It should be out already: interested ones should send their requests together with IRC to: WARMASTER Recs. A.A. 056642 Medellin, Colombia...and ask for F/BEWITCHED split LP/MC!!

You have a full length CD due out soon—please give us the details! Will it be available on MC/LP too?

I can't give ya any precise details yet, except that it'll be approx. 50 mins lasting fish with the ice fallin' out (?? What the fuck?? -Tom). It will be a heavily themed one too, I guess, should be out when summer's gone!! About formats, well it depends, coz if we flow this out as a self-financed one, we'll have hardly any possibilities to release any format other than CD (and possibly MC). There has been some interest from a couple of labels, so........?

Where do you record your music? Who writes most of your music/lyrics?

We record all of the material in our own studio, based in an old country house in the middle of nowhere. Kinda cool place, I can tell you - nice and quiet. Music is created as a band, and all of the poetry (lyrics) -Tom is created by me.

What is the subject matter of your lyrics?

Nothing in particular - visions form the 3rd eye/ear, I guess. There's sense in 'em, but if you can't find it by yourself, I don't wanna be the one who tries to lead you in the right direction.

Will you tour extensively to promote 'Pronimo' and the new CD? If so, will you tour out of Finland?

Maybe, time will tell! At the moment, it seems that nothing too extensive will come up. Something smaller perhaps?!

What do you think your chances are of becoming incredibly famous?

I haven't ever thought of it that way! I guess that it doesn't actually matter how famous we are. As long as we are able to satisfy ourselves, that's what matters REALLY!

OK, Jussi, that's it! Wanna add something?

Olen vilpitön, kiitokset Tom-Tom!! Cool intie, that's for sure. Also, if any of you coalminers would like to get hold of any of our releases, please send one IRC to my address, and I'll tell ya how to make your moves.

Have you ever seen what green really looks like? Well...rock on!!

CONTACT: F c/o Jussi Saivo, 29750 Sörmarkku, FINLAND.

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SOLSTICE have been together since 1990, and in their few years of existence, have shown themselves as one of the best UK bands around today. The band have released two Demos, and have recently released their new 'Promo '93' tape. Produced by Gene Hoglan (of DEATH/DARK ANGEL fame), as was their forthcoming debut 7", the Promo will hopefully secure the band a decent deal, which they have undoubtedly proved themselves worthy of. The following interview was conducted with drummer Gary Riley.

How long have SOLSTICE been together now?
SOLSTICE was started by Rich Walker and Dave Talbot, who both had the initial idea. A couple of weeks later, Brendan Dawson and myself were asked if we were interested in joining. So, in November 1990, SOLSTICE was formed. The line up was completed in Feb. '91 by Paul Youd (Vocalist). May '91 saw Dave's departure, so in stepped a friend of the band, Phil Mandrake. After only four months, he departed, due to the style of music not being his vocation. In Nov. '91, a replacement was found in Dutch guitarist Lennaert Roomer. This line up recorded the first two demos - Dec. '91, 'Lamentations', our first and very successful attempt, and in May '92, our second Demo, 'MCMXCII'. In August '92, two severe blows rocked the band. Paul announced his departure due to work commitments, and Lennaert was sacked due to his lack of commitment. Undeterred, replacements were found for both within two weeks.

This line up (Gary Riley-Drums, Brendan Dawson-Bass, Rich Walker-Guitar, Lee Baines-Guitar, and Mark Stoiasavliev-Vocals), the most powerful to date, have just finished work on Demo no. 3 ('Promo '93'), and our debut 7" for CACOPHONOUS/VINYL SOLUTION Records.

Who came up with the band's name?
SOLSTICE as a name was chosen by the band in early 1991, from a handful of names we had in the pipeline, such as NIGHTFALL, AFTERFOREVER, ABSOLUTION and CANDLEMASS (only joking).

Please give us a complete discography.
The SOLSTICE discography to date is:
Dec. '91 - Enter Bradford's IN-A-CITY Studio to record our first Demo, 'Lamentations'. We recorded five songs; three for the Demo, and two just for ourselves.

May. '92 - 2nd visit to IN-A-CITY to record our second Demo, 'MCMXCII'. Six songs were recorded for this demo, over forty minutes of music, plus two for the MORNFUL DIRGE comp tape. This has been, and still is, a good seller on the Underground scene.

Mar. '93 - 3rd visit to IN-A-CITY to record four songs for our third Demo and debut single for CACOPHONOUS/VINYL SOLUTION Recs. These recordings were produced by Gene Hoglan, ex-DARK ANGEL, now in DEATH.

Tell us about the third Demo/Promo, and the 7". How did you get Hoglan to produce them?
We're just about to release our third Demo/Promo and our debut 7". The Demo/Promo contains three brand new tracks, 'Nowhere Journey', 'Neither Time Nor Tide', and 'The Revenant'. The 7" contains 'Nowhere...

contd over/...
Journey' and 'Absolution In Extremis'. This is by far our best material to date, and will hopefully help us forge our own identity in the Doom Metal field, with a lot of bands going for the 70's sound. We want our sound to be as 90's as possible. The sound on both the Demo/Promo and the 7" was given a big boost because we were able to get Gene Hoglan to produce them. This came about because Gene was over in Bradford visiting his girlfriend, so we asked him if he would do it, he agreed, and it helped us enormously.

Have you been gigging lately? If so, who with?
Our present gigs have just been local. We played one with ANATHHEMA which was an excellent gig for all the bands, and also did a few gigs we put on ourselves. We are going back to London in late July (31st) for a gig with ANATHHEMA and MOURN, and are organising as many gigs as we can all over the country to promote ourselves.

Have you had any interest from labels, aside from CACOPHONOUS/V.S.?
We've had interest from a number of small labels, but we don't want to rush things and do something that might ruin it for us in the future, so we're doing things at our own pace, and we think our 7" single is a good start, vinyl-wise.

Who is the main songwriter in the band? Where does your lyrical inspiration come from?
Song writing? There's a difficult one. The main 'riff' writers are Lee and Rich, but Mark, Bren and myself add our own riffs now and again. The lyrics come from Mark and Rich, but everyone adds their own little bit, maybe a really good line out of a film or a book. I suppose these books is where a lot of the ideas come from, as Rich and myself read a lot of books. At the end of the day, it is a band, so songwriting should be a band collaboration.

Will you be touring to promote the new Demo/Promo and 7"?
We are going to promote them, but I wouldn't call it touring. Obviously we want to do as many gigs as possible, but touring would be too expensive and premature. We want to gig as far and wide as we can, so any bands across the UK who would like to arrange a gig with us, just write and tell us; we'll exchange Demo tapes, and arrange a gig (address at end).

Do you consider yourselves to be better in the studio or live?
I wouldn't say we're better either in the studio or live, as both are totally different situations. The studio is easier, because if you balls a song up, you can have as many goes at it as you like, but live, you only get one crack at it. You really can't compare the two.

What is your opinion of Count Grischnacht, and the Norweigan 'Inner Circle'?
I haven't studied The Count or the 'Inner Circle' in great depth, but what I have read and seen, well this guy is full of shit, and the less said about him, the better.

Who are your favourite bands at present? Give us your playlist.
My favourite bands at present are; MEMENTO MORT, PSYCHOTIC WALTZ, MACABRE, TROUBLE, SAVATAGE. A few Demos I'm listening to are; MIRROR OF DECEPTION 'Mirror Of Deception', SORCERER 'The Inquisition', GODSEND 'Demo I', ETERNE 'The Endless' and a few more.

How do you think SOLSTICE will progress in the future?
SOLSTICE are, at present, rehearsing like mad, each member becoming a better musician in his own right. This is helping the song writing by adding more complex and original riffs and tunes, so hopefully this will help us stand out from the rest, and hopefully get us a deal in the not-so-distant future.

CONTACT: SOLSTICE c/o Gary Riley, 46 Round Street, West Bowling, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD5 7HS, ENGLAND.
How long have TERATOGENIC been together now?
Teratogenic have been around since mid 1989 - although to no serious capacity until two years later in early-mid 1991. Continuous line up problems and lack of anywhere to practise restricted us to just being a garage band until we got our first relatively stable line up in mid 1991. Our first Demo was recorded in early 1992 after yet more line up changes and we then started to become a known band on the U.K. scene.

Who came up with the band's name, and what does it mean?
I came up with the name - I used to work in a laboratory and I used to come accross the word 'Teratogenic' every day, written on the side of dangerous chemicals. It means 'causes mutation in childbirth' and I just thought it would be a good, original title for a Death Metal band which nobody else would think of as you won't even find it in most dictionaries.

You've just released your second Demo, 'Holocaust'. Do you think (as many people do) that it shits all over your first Demo, 'Without Conscience'?
Yes I do. The material on 'Without Conscience' makes me cringe - some of the material on that Demo was a year old before we recorded it! At the time we were happy with it, but now it does not represent the band fairly. The stuff on 'Holocaust' is better structured, faster, more brutal, and more thought out. The only downer about the new Demo is that just after releasing it, we obtained a new drummer and changed our pace and style quite dramatically. Our new stuff is more SUFFOCATION/BRUTAL TRUTH paced with far more brutal, different vocals. I think when people hear our next release they will be surprised - but don't let this put you off 'Holocaust' as it is still a release we are proud of.

Who's idea was it to use Jeffrey Dahmer's (US serial killer) voice on the intro to the new Demo? Where did you get the sample from?
It was Scott's (Bassist) idea. The sample was taken from 'News At Ten'! The intro piece was written by us and the bloke who mixed and produced the Demo with us - we decided that we did not want the usual contrived intro, so we sort of messed about with ideas and came up with the result, which I reckon is closer to a short track rather than just an intro (I hope that doesn't sound too big-headed!).

Have you had any label interest? If so, do you have any plans to release any new products in the not-too-distant future?
We have not bothered sending our stuff to any labels (apart from small 7" labels) as we don't reckon that we have developed enough to start looking for a record deal. Some bands are obsessed with the idea of getting a record deal from the word go, but we believe the most important thing is to get respect in the Underground first and allow the band to develop. We have a 7" EP coming out with SYMPHONIES OF DEATH Records (if all goes well, in a few months) and we will then start to look for a proper deal with that, but it really is not the most important thing.

Are you gigging at present? What is the furthest you have ever gigged from your hometown? Do you ever play covers live?
We are just starting to gig again, after the addition of our new drummer. We have gigs coming up with CHAPEL OF REST and BURIAL in Hull, MALEDICTION in Bradford and CADAVEROUS in Plymouth. Up until now we have never ventured out of Devon but this year we want to gig

contd over/...
all over England, so bands who could get us a gig should write! No, we don't play any covers live - we used to, but we don't any more. The covers we used to do were 'Disembowel' by AUTOPSY and, way back in the distant past, 'Sodomy and Lust' by SODOM.

Who do you think is the best and worst UK band? Is there anyone in the Underground scene who you really hate?

I don't think it's my place to say who I think is the worst band in the UK. My favourite band is REPROBATE (UK) - brutal and it has no Doom influences - really promising. The only thing I will say is that I despise Doom Metal and the English Scene's fixation with it. This music is boring and contrived, but then again that's just my opinion. A lot of people like it and the bands who play it so I don't wish to put them down - I'm just saying that it ain't to my taste and there is too much of it in the UK at the moment.

Would you ever change your views and musical direction for a record company, if it meant getting a good deal?

Well, I believe that every man has his price - but it would have to be a very good deal (enough to buy me a nice house and a £37000 Honda NR750(32 fucking valves on a V4!!) )! I think the chances of getting such a deal might be a tiny bit optimistic (!), so in real terms, the answer would definatley be NO!

Who writes TERATOGENIC'S lyrics? Are they a means of expressing personal feelings at all? Are you, on the whole, satisfied with the lyrics on both Demos, or would you change any if you could?

I write most of the lyrics (Scott wrote 'Sociopath' on the first Demo). The lyrics on the first Demo covered certain points of view on things such as the afterlife and AIDS and also on the psychology of the Serial Killer. The lyrics on the second Demo concentrate solely on the psychology of violence as I feel that music is not really the place to air your personal views. Politics in lyrics is often another big fuck-up in my opinion as if you're gonna sing about it, you've got to know what you're talking about (some of the bands do, so that's OK). Hardcore bands lyrics tend to be full of shit - plainly not thought out with no consideration for the other side of the argument, which ends up making them look narrow minded and stupid. Anyway, it's only lyrics, and I don't think they're as strong a medium as a lot of people would like to have you believe.

How do you think TERATOGENIC will progress in the future?

Well at the moment we are constantly becoming more brutal and faster, beyond this, I don't know what will happen to the band although I hope for recognition and respect.

We are willing to gig anywhere, so if anyone could get us a date, please write - we would really appreciate it. Support the Underground and don't support bands who claim the Underground is dead and full of trendy posers! These are the true 'posers' - big headed and above it all.

Cheers for taking the time out to read this and don't hesitate to get in touch - we reply to all mail quickly and personally.

Thanks!!

TERATOGENIC'S 2ND DEMO IS NOW AVAILABLE, 4 MORE TRACKS OF UNRELENTING AND INDIVIDUAL DEATH METAL. IT CAN BE OBTAINED BY SIMPLY SENDING A BLANK TAPE AND STOMP/I.R.C. IT COMES WITH QUALITY COVER AND INLAYS.

WITHOUT CONSCIENCE, THE ACCLAIMED DEBUT DEMO IS STILL AVAILABLE. IT COSTS £2 / $5 AND COMES WELL PACKAGED WITH LYRIC / INFORMATION BOOKLET.

CONTACT: TERATOGENIC, 324A OLD LAIRIA RD, LAIRIA, PLYMOUTH, DEVON, PL3 6AQ, ENGLAND.
THUS DEFILED (UK) have recently released their debut Demo, 'Blasphemous Coven', and have been enjoying a pretty good response to it on the UK Underground. One of the few (and fucking good) Black Metal bands in the UK, their Vocalist/Guitarist Paul Carter spoke to EVISCERATION about the Demo and life as the next BURZUM.....

**Can you give us a brief history of the band?**
THUS DEFILED have been around since March 1992. Myself, Jason (Guitar) and Grant (Bass) all left UNHOLY DEIFICATION to join with Nick (Drums) to pursue a more extreme, black approach to music.

**Up until recently, you have only had one live tape available.**

**Why has the Demo taken so long to surface?**
Money! A lot of bands release cheap Demos that sound crap. We waited until we could afford decent production on our tape.

**Are you pleased with the way the Demo has turned out? Do you think it is a good representation of THUS DEFILED?**
Yes. We’ve managed to capture a very extreme Black Metal sound on the Demo. It’s a fairly good cross section of what we play.

**Who came up with the bands name? Is it suitable for the type of music you play?**
Grant came up with the idea, influenced by the old VENOM lyrics "Look at me, Satan’s child, born of evil, THUS DEFILED". Hopefully our name will become synonymous with extreme Black Metal.

**Tell us who writes the majority of your songs. Do your influences inspire your music/ lyrics at all?**
I’m responsible for all the lyrics, and Jason and I write around 50% of the music each, with input from Nick and Grant. We don’t aim to sound like anyone else. Our music is extreme Black Metal, and the lyrics are totally abyssic. If people wish to draw comparisons, that’s up to them.

**Have you played many more gigs since the one on the live tape? I understand that people tend to chuck furniture about at your gigs - does this still happen?**
Yes, we’ve played 3 more. 2 local ones - one in Chichester and one in Brighton. We also supported BLASPHEMY and GORGUTS in London at an all day festival which included, amongst others, DESECRATION and CEREMENT (who we will hopefully tour the UK with this summer), ABSOLUTION and SANCTUM. We’re playing Brighton in June with NECROSANCT, we’ve got two London shows planned soon with DARK HERESY, and another show in Chelmsford with CRADLE OF FILTH. Also, we look set to play the British Death-Fest with CRADLE OF FILTH, CRUENTUS, 3 or 4 other other bands, and a big name EARACHE band to headline.

Our shows do tend to be violent - my thanks go out to all those who came to see us play.

**What is the scene like where you live?**
It’s really hard to get shows around here. The venue in Chichester has closed down, and the one in Brighton has just re-opened. There is a small but dedicated Underground following. Band wise, there is NECROSANCT and BORN IN A FEVER, who we’ve played Chichester with twice.

contd over/...
THUS DEFILED contd...

I have heard rumors of a split - LP on VINYL SOLUTION with CRADLE OF FILTH (UK). Any comment?
The VINYL SOLUTION sub-label CACOPHONOUS RECORDS have shown interest in us doing a 7". As for a split LP with CRADLE OF FILTH, I've heard nothing along those lines. It would be good if it did come off sometime - CRADLE OF FILTH are a great band.

Who are your favourite bands at present?
ENSLAVED, IMPALED NAZARENE, SAMAEL, BEHERIT, CRADLE OF FILTH, MAYHEM etc...

Give us your opinions on the Norwegian Black Metal scene - is it overrated?
The Norwegian scene is the best in the world for Black Metal. There are a lot of great bands there, so no, I wouldn't say it was overrated. There are however, very good, but less well known Black Metal scenes in Greece, Italy and Czechoslovakia. Britain now also has a small Black Metal scene appearing with the likes of us, CRADLE OF FILTH, XAZTUR and CRUENTUS. Any other UK Black metal bands contact me!

Thanks a lot Paul - anything final to add?
Thanks to anyone who has bought our Demo or been to see us live. The Demo is £2 ($5), and 2 colour T-Shirts are £7 ($14) from: THUS DEFILED c/o Paul Carter, 4 Greenacres Ring, Angmering, West Sussex, BN16 4BU, ENGLAND. Thanks for the interview Tom, and good luck with the zine. Hail to the true Black Metal following.

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CHORUS OF RUIN (UK) have undergone a few line-up changes during their 2 year career so far. They appear to be more settled now, with gigs lined up, and a 7" on the cards. New (ish!) vocalist Craig Phillips spoke to us...

Hi Craig, how are you?
Hello Tom! Not feeling too clever at the moment. Not only have I got an awful hangover from supping too much cider last night, I also feel a bit sick from eating too much protovoe, lentils and noodles. Oh well, I suppose it's all in a rock 'n' rollers lifestyle. How are you?

-Fine thanks! -Tom

What was the response to your debut Demo, 'Les Miserables' like? How does it compare to the response to the 2nd Demo, 'Swan Dive'?
The response to 'Leslie Miserable' (!! - Tom) was OK. I think it sold about 400, and about 100 to scouring zines, the majority of which never came out. People liked the songs on the whole even though the sound was shit. The main criticism on 'Leslie' was that the songs sounded too alike. I can only imagine them meaning 'Headstone' and 'In This Church', coz 'Last Dance' doesn't sound like them.

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- ABORTED TIDE 7" £2.50/550
- MERIDID SYMPHONY-PERMANENCE IN DARK... 7" £2.50/550
- BURIAL EFFIGY 7" £2.50/550
- VOX MORTUORUM-FLIESHEARE MUSICIANS... 7" £2.50/550
- CRADLE OF FILTH-TOTAL FICKING... DEMO £2.50/550
- CHAPEL OF REST-MEMENTO ORIENTE DEMO £1.50/550
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PLEASE SEND STUFF TO THE LABELS OR BANDS THANKS!!!
WRITE TO: CHORUS OF RUIN
C/O JOHN
10A NEW FERRY RD,
NEW FERRY, MERSEYSIDE, L62 1DY
ENGLAND.

P.S. DON'T SEND MORE STUFF SOMETIMES WHEN YOU ARE ONLY WRITING.
PLEASE SEND STAMP/STAMP/STAMP/THANKS!!! NO RIP OFFS HERE!!!

contd over/...
WHORES OF BABYLON are a UK duo who play a type of music which they describe as '...the ultimate Gothic / Rock experience...'. They formed in 1990 and in 1992 decided to produce a serious, good-quality tape. 'Eternal' was released at the tail end of 1992, and demonstrated the Whores' ability to create catchy, original sounds. They are happy as a two-piece and prior to the release of the follow up to 'Eternal', vocalist Shaun Atkins spoke to us....

Why are you called WHORES OF BABYLON?
I basically heard someone mention it on the TV and thought that it was a good name for a group (as simple as that!).

Has the 'Eternal' tape been selling well? Would you call it a Demo, or a Promo? Did you hope it would get you signed?
I'd call it a Promo, and yes, it has been selling really well. We didn't know what it would do; we just released it and kept our fingers crossed. So, have any labels taken an interest in you yet?
One or two labels have taken interest, and we've met one London based management / record company and discussed some possibilities for the future.

Tell us about the follow up to 'Eternal'.
The follow up to 'Eternal' is going to be called 'The Fall of Agade' and I can't say how excited I am about releasing it. There are some guest musicians on some of the tracks, some Indian musicians and some classical ones as well.

Do you relate your lyrics to real life experiences? Why did you choose to use French in some of your songs?
Some subjects are about real life experiences, and some are about mythology etc. We used some French lyrics because some of the subjects have a sort of French connection.

Do you consider your music to be really original? If so, do you think you have a better chance of getting signed than most?
I think our stuff is original. There are certain influences that I could mention, but they are so incompatible that no-one has thought of using them together before. In that sense we are original (especially the new unreleased material), and at the end of the day, most of it is quite commercial, so maybe we do have a better chance of getting signed.

Dave Dando of ETERNE says it is a lot easier, being in a two piece band.

Do you agree?
Yes, I do agree, but we do intend to expand our membership.

How would you cope with playing your songs, if you were to tour extensively?
There are quite a few ways of doing it. Obviously we are going to use the best method, which will be quite spectacular, I can assure you!

Do you take care to copyright all your material? What would your response be, if you discovered someone was ripping off your music?
Yes, we copyright our music. My response to anyone who ripped us off would be less than pleasant!

Tell us about the studio you run. Who else has recorded there?
The studio is a 10 track midi studio, and is open to anyone who wants to record. We've had quite a few famous people in, but I think you'll recognise a few names such as DEAD CHRIST and ETERNE.

What do you hope the WHORES will achieve in the future?
Quite simple: fame and fortune.

Thanks a lot Shaun. Do you want to add anything?
Thanks for the interview Tom, and look out for new material out in the future. Cheers!

Contact the WHORES OF BABYLON at:
OR KERRAPP?

Kerrang!, a UK Heavy Metal magazine, has been around for ten years or so in this country. It comes out every week, and has grown in popularity over the years, with sales (apparently) on the increase every week. With this steady increase in sales, the magazine has gradually leaned towards the more mainstream bands in the Rock/Metal genre, in the hope of gathering more readers. This has worked, and over the past few years, the magazine has degenerated from being a fairly good read to a 'trendy' magazine, focusing on bands like BON JOVI, GUNS N' ROSES and DEF LEPPARD, with coverage leaning towards the kind of journalism one finds in tabloid newspapers, such as 'The Sun' (a UK newspaper, aimed at those with a reading age of 12 or more).

Bad? Yes, it is. I mean, you can ignore bands and articles like that to a point, but when they are constantly splattered over the pages of a 'used-to-be-good' magazine, believe me, it gets fucking annoying. Still, I persisted with reading it, mainly to pick up tour news in the regular 'Mayhem' news section.

However, on reading Kerrang! one day, I discovered the 'reviews' you can see accompanying this article. This (or these) seemed, to me, the final indignation. Not content with praising fucking God-awful bands like BON JOVI, this shite Arnopp decided that he would give his humble opinion of a number of excellent (in my opinion) Death Metal releases. As you can see, he did not like them. Being a big fan of the bands, especially IMPALED NAZARENE and MASTERS HAMMER, I was promptly to write a letter to the magazine. They (amazingly enough, and to my great delight) printed this letter, which you can see below. I'm sure many of you agree with the remarks I made in this letter, especially after having heard, and read the so called 'reviews' of said albums (see Arnopp's c/o address at Kerrang! below, if you too feel like telling him what you think of him).

Death Metal suffers enough at the hands of those who brush it off as 'boring' and 'unoriginal', and it does not help when widely read magazines, such as Kerrang!, publish articles which are clearly aimed at simply 'taking the piss' out of music which is listened to and enjoyed worldwide. Many Death Metal fans, including myself, are prejudiced against a certain type of music too, that being 'cock-rock', of which BON JOVI are exponents. I, however, am only provoked into outbursts against it when I read such irritating 'reviews' as this. The rest of the time, yes, it is there, but who cares? I just ignore it. It seems that Arnopp cannot do this, instead opting to express his obvious prejudice against Death Metal.

Arnopp's dislike of the albums does not justify the fact that he passes them off as having little more than 'humorous merit'. Why employ a journalist who cannot write an objective review, incorporating constructive criticism? Because Kerrang!, or, more specifically, Arnopp, would like to see Death Metal die, and have little other than commercial crap like fucking BON JOVI in the world. Arnopp is not a journalist; he is just a stupid, small minded cunt. I fail to understand why he cannot simply ignore the music he dislikes, rather than do his best to destroy any good reputation it has.

Who knows? Who cares? The world can do without people like him.....

Tom Stannard, July 1993.

To express your opinion of the 'reviews' to the man who wrote them, contact: Jason Arnopp, c/o Kerrang!, EMA Metro, 52/55 Carnaby Street, London, W1V 1PF, ENGLAND.

K-RATINGS

KKKKK - Klassik!
KKKK - Killer!
KKK - Kompotent!
KK - Krusty!
K - Krapt!

GRIEF
'Dismal'
(Common Cause CC 002)

PYOGENESIS
'Ignis Creatio'
(SPV 084 08732)

MERCILESS
'The Awakening'
(Deathlike Silence ANTI-MOSH 001)

BURZUM
'Burzum'
(Deathlike Silence ANTI-MOSH 002)

MAYHEM
'Deathcrush'
(Deathlike Silence ANTI-MOSH 003)

IMPALED NAZARENE
'Tol Corrupt Norz Norz Norz'
(SPV 084 08702 CD)

ROTTING CHRIST
'Thy Mighty Contract'
(SPV 084 08722 CD)

ABRUPTRUM
'Obscuratatem Advoco Amplectere Me'
(Deathlike Silence ANTI-MOSH 004)

MASTER'S HAMMER
'The Filemune Occultist'
(SPV 084 08712 CD)

GRAVEYARD HUMOUR...

The same thing with last year's dull follow-up on Active Records.

Norway's Burzum, led by K's cover star Count Grishnacht, are a lot more melodic than you might expect from a band attempting to radiate pure malevolence. The strong Bathory influence is made obvious by the wild-eyed vocals, but the riffs often have surprising thought behind them.

Unfortunately, the band seem to be neo-Nazis, and therefore deserve jack shit in the way of sales.

Same goes for Mayhem, of course, with their 16-minute Deathcrush album from '97. Amusing highlights include 'Chainsaw Guts' and 'Necrolust', which Tommy Vance once aired on his Friday Rock Show, incredibly enough. Look out for them on tour (NOT), when they plan to stretch lengths of barbed wire across the stage, in order to brutally snare all stagedwellers.

At this point, things get particularly gigasome.

Impaled Nazarene are Finnish madness, writing songs like 'The God (Symmetry Of Penis)'. Their singer also enjoys displaying his genitalia onstage, whilst gore is slung around. However, the hilariously-titled 'Tol Corrupt Norz Norz Norz' is bigger bollocks than even he possesses. Count Grishnacht considers this Church Of Satan band to be "*king idiots*. At least he's got something right...

Deleting Denis Leary, stand back, Stephen Wright. The new Kings Of Comedy are here, marvellously obvious to the fact that they're even funnier than the new Saxxum album.

All of these releases (arranged in ascending order of humourous merit) are available through Plastic Head Distribution, and all but the first two are part of the worldwide Black Metal scene. Burzum and Mayhem are, of course, known leaders of the so-called Satanic Terrorist organization, exposed in K 436.

Rarely has an album been so appropriately titled as Grief's 'Dismal'. One splashy slug of a record, it crawls along, spewing distortion like an even more miserable cousin of the terminally depressive Winter. A truly wretched affair.

Pyogenesis deliver well-paced Doom Metal in the general vein of Paradise Lost (aren't they all?). Amazingly enough, they're not on Peaceville. Records, but 'Ignis Creatio' is better than some Doom efforts, inferior to others, too.

'The Awakening' is Merciless' debut album from 1989, and these Swedes are light years behind the French Deathstares with a similar name. Pointlessly aping early Kreator, they went on to do precisely

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Offering even more entertainment are Greece's remarkable Rotting Christ. The inner sleeve of 'Thy Mighty Contract' speaks of the band's "eternal ADYSSIC BLACK Earth and Satanic deities with superb names like "Einthamoo". Wickedly funny bollocks.

Sweden's Abruptum have created a strictly none-more-black CD insert. Black as the ace of f**king spades, it is. Dedicated to the forthcoming Dark-Age, "Obscenitetum..." runs for 51 torturous minutes, and comprises two tracks. Painfully non-musical, they sound like the wastelands of sadomasochistic Hell, as presented by two five-year-old children.

Stop! My aching sides!

But the best album of all belongs to Master's Hammer, who ironically look the least Black Metal. Classic song titles like 'The Magnificent Deer Has Vanished Into The Bush', 'I Don't Want, Sirs, To Pestor Your Ears' and 'Oh, My Precious Sir, Do You Remember When... simply cannot be topped.

To add to the fun, the whole thing affords both conceptual and unfathomable. Satan is surely pissing himself.

JASON ARNOPP

Taken from KERRANG!, issue 441, cover dated May 1st, 1993.
Right, you've reached the end of issue 1, so now what? Well, if this issue has sold reasonably well, and the response I get from those who read it is positive, I will attempt a second issue in the not-too-distant future. I would like to make the second issue bigger and better than this one, so here are a couple of ideas I had, that you may be able to help me out with, if and when I get the second issue started.

1. A Traders Contact Page. Those of you looking for new traders should write in and send details of name/address, favourite bands, length of list and anything else you may want to add. I will try to print your ads, and hopefully get you in touch with new traders.

2. Scene Reports. As you may have noticed, I couldn't get hold of any in time for this issue. Anyone reading this who lives somewhere with a good scene (that is worth writing about), get in touch, and we may be able to trade reports.

Of course, any other suggestions about things to include in a possible second issue (not more Demo / LP / 7" etc reviews - I know that already!) - get in touch too. My address is at the front of the zine. CHEERS! -Tom.