

FIASST

ISSUE III



MY DYING BRIDE

FIND YOURSELF A FUCKING TITLE !!

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EDITORIAL

Whoaaaaahh yeah !! Finally, after so many months of hard work and a lot of delay, I finally have the feeling that this 3rd issue is more or less over ! I hope that the printing turned out to be as we hoped it to, I guess it should be Ok... Well, this time we are really happy with the content: the interviews are slowly but surely getting interesting, the interviewed bands are serious and play great music, the reviews are more objective, the layout has improved, and we never featured so many bands.. But of course, we can make it even better, and be sure that the next issue will be even better ! Talking about the next issue, there's going to be some big changes: it will probably have some 60 A5 pages, that means about half of what it is now. This is due to the fact that Cedric is having money problems and he won't be able to pay for the printery anymore. He will still work with me, but I'll have to pay for the printery (as the money we get from the sold copies really doesn't cover the cost !) on my own, and I wouldn't be able to pay for 60 A4 pages. But don't worry, there is going to be a lot to read, as the text will be smaller than ever and the photos/logos will be smaller as well. Otherwise there will be less interviews and reviews, but they will be longer and much more interesting. Moreover we will, and this time we will really do it, be more critic towards the bands we select, no shitty/unserious bands anymore ! In short, F.Y.A.F.T IV will kill everything we did before !

This time I really can't tell you when this 4th issue will be out, wait & see, I guarantee you that you'll know it in time !! But in general, I think we'll have to continue with this "2 issues per year" basis, we do what we can, it's really a lot of work.

As promised in the second issue, we tried to include less Death Metal bands. There are still more Death Metal bands than other ones, but this is due to the fact that we receive much more Death Metal demos than from other styles ! But as you'll see, we've been more critic towards Death Metal bands. You'll hear it often elsewhere in this issue, but please notice that we really took care to include all the bands addresses (except for Lp reviews as the Lp is available at a good record shop), so if it isn't included at the review, please look if there isn't any interview of the band, if the label's address isn't at another review, or whatever.

Well, I probably have to say a few words about this Death Metal trend.. It is, of course, sad to see all those unoriginal bands coming up from everywhere and we really have to do something... So in the next issue, we will be even more severe with Death Metal bands and there will be less Death Metal bands interviewed (unless they are really great and original), but there will probably still be a majority of Death Metal bands reviewed, because, as I just explained, we receive much more demos from Death Metal bands than from other ones. But be sure that the bad demos will be damned. Personally, I think that there will always be a trendy style, Death Metal is slowly leaving the place to Doom Metal and there will be something else afterwards, but we just have to fight against all trends, unless the scene will get worse and worse.

This time we have also been helped by several contributors, and we really thank them a lot for this precious help ! They are:

Twan Kreeft / Grotiuspint 23, 5121 TR Rijen, Holland: he made lots of reviews. Unfortunately he will probably not contribute in the next issues, simply because we won't have enough space. Twan is writing reviews for other 'zines and bands can send their demos to him. He also has a project: he is going to distribute demos, Eps, zines,.... Bands can send him 10 to 15 copies of the product and he will pay after having sold the item. He should sell them in about 4 months. But contact him before sending the copies !

Adrian Popescu / Str. Valea Lalomitei 13 / Bl. A 32, Sc. B, Ap. 16 / Sector 6, 77413 Bucarest / Rumania. He made the *L.S.D.* and the *Interval* interviews. He is running a radio show and he is seeking for bands, look at the *Mas Optica* interview where you'll find a flyer with more info about that.

Otherwise some drawers also made some artwork k for us:

Vadim Ermolaev, from Israel, who made the artwork on this page. He will certainly make more artwork in the next issue. Look at the *Rot* interview and find out more about him on his flyer.

David Saber / 5 place de la Gare / 29250 St Pol de Leon / France. He made the 3 other frames + the artwork on the *Mindrot* interview page, you should also contact him if you need artwork.

Thierry Mauduit didn't draw anything in this issue, because he had to work hard for some exams. He will back next issue.

And here are our addresses:

Patrick KOCH
Les Tourniaux
1261 Borex (Vd)
Switzerland

Cedric MULLER
Route de Benex 31
1197 Prangins (Vd)
Switzerland

(for 'zines, labels, distribution, advertising...)

(for the comp. tape and for demo reviews)

Finally, we would like, of course, to thank everybody who helped us from the very beginning. That simply means all the people with which we have been in touch, all the bands that trusted in us, our parents, and especially you, reader, who bought the 'zine. I am usually happy to see my name in thanks-lists, but I'm very unhappy when I don't see it and feel I should have been in it, so to avoid to forget anybody, I won't make any list (and anyway, long lists are rather boring, don't you think ?).

That's it, enjoy the 'zine, thanks again & hope to hear from you soon.... Support the scene !

NEWS and last minute stuff

The French band F.O.D. was founded in 1990. In July '91, they released a first 5 tracks demo which showed a quite good (I heard it) Thrashy Hardcore. But they recently had several line-up changes and they changed their name to **MORTHLY HATE**. They are now evolving in the Grindcore direction. They are influenced by band like *Napalm Death* or *Terrorizer*, but they still have some HC influences from the beginning. They already played several concerts under the new line-up and they are wishing to get contacts all over the world. If you can help them, please write to: Jérôme Dehedin, 13 rue Eugène Varlin, Appt. 602, 94800 Villejuif, France.

You'll be able to read a review of his 'zine "Vital Wound", from which we told you in our last "News", but he also started to make comp. tapes. I am talking my Lithuanian pal, Minda, who just released a 60 minutes comp. tape called "**Compilation of God's vexation**". It contains Lithuanian Grind / Death / Thrash bands like *Necropsy*, *Regredior*, *Gilgotina*, *Conscious Rot*,.... It is available on a high quality tape for only 3\$. The Lithuanian scene has certainly good things to offer, so if you're interested, send well hidden cash to: Mindaugas Lapinskas, Zaibo 10-75, 2050 Vilnius, Lithuania.

FLASH MAG is one of the biggest Italian Metal magazine. They review underground demos and fanzines. You could get into their pages by contacting *Metalmania a.r.p.*, from which you'll read later on, but maybe you should also send your stuff to: Alex Veratrini, C.P. 7, 00040 Monte Porzio (Rome), Italy.

MASTER RECORDS is a German demos distribution service. If they like your stuff, they can sell your demos throughout Germany. They are more into Power/Speed/Thrash Metal than Death Metal, but serious original Death Metal can try as well. Send your stuff to: Andy Siry, Kellergasse 5, 6521 Dittelsheim-Hessloch, Germany. He has also got quite a lot of live videos (also Death Metal) to sell.

And if you want your demos to be distributed in Germany, why not in Austria? **DEMOLITION Österreich** is also a distribution service. (also mainly Power/Speed/Thrash and only few Death Metal). Send your demos + prices to: Martin Hasch, Waldgasse 13, 7022 Loipersbach, Austria.

Linda Hällström, Tjällamark, 905 91 Umea, Sweden is a nice reporter who wrote some weeks ago. She's doing a radio show on a quite big station, I think 'cause she interviewed bands like *Napalm Death*, *Paradise Lost*, *Obituary* and lots more. They airplay all kinds of stuff, even underground bands and she would be happy to give some promotion to a few good ones. She could also promote 'zines, so if you feel this is for you, write her! Oh, by the way, she's also looking for some nice pen-friends, so if you think you could talk about interesting things with her, send her a nude photo (heh, no just kidding) or something.

The same thing goes for the French radio show **METALLIVORIUS** that is interested in all kinds of underground bands (all styles). If you want some promotion on this station, send your demo to: Frédéric Martinez, 17 rue Geneviève Aube, Le Bois-des-Roches, 78114 Magny-les-Hameaux.

Due to several problems (bad rehearsal material, money problems, their main composer had left the band, ...), the French Death/Doom band **TERROR SCUM** realized that they were not able to continue under those conditions and decided to split. Laurent also asked me if anyone out there didn't have some live tapes from *Omen*, *Savatage*, *Warlord*, *Witchfinder*, *General*, *Trouble*, *Cathedral*, *Kate Bush* and *Mike Oldfield*. If yes, contact him at: Laurent Perugia, 7 rue de l'Embergue, 12000 Rodez, France.

The young (and promising!) melodic Death Metal band **OBJECTOR** has just released their second demo!! It contains 3 songs that were recorded in a 16 tracks studio. I don't know any price yet, but write to: Marc Van Erpe, 88 rue des Frontaliers, 7712 Herseaux, Belgium.

Looking for distributors? Try at **HORRID DISTRIBUTION**: Cyril Aimé, 4 avenue Ziem, 06800 Cagnes, France. "After a long period of stagnation (*laziness*?!), the distro raises from the ashes!!

They finally did it!! The brilliant Italian band **EXTREMA** finally got a deal!!! They signed with the Italian label *Contempo Records* which is the biggest independent label of Italy! They already went into the studio for 20 days, "It will fucking shred" is the band's promise. It should see the light in October, so it should be out when you read this!! Do not hesitate a second and buy it from your local record store! You can contact the band at: Enrico Salvini, Via Lattuada 20, 20135 Milano MI, Italy.

It had been a long time that "Hangover heroes" had been out, but **KORSAKOV** have finally released a new demo called "Prolong to agony" "a professional release that affirmed their inevitable leading position". There should be an interview with them in our next issue. Get the demo for 7\$ at: Korsakov, Laapersveld 46, 1213 VB Hilversum, The Netherlands. (it can take a while, they seem to be very busy considering the time they had to answer my letters!)

THE RAMONES have released their first studio album since 1989 called "Mondo Bizarro", but the biggest news is that after 18 years / 16 albums on *Sire Records*, they moved to *Radioactive Records*. Why? Simply because the contract was fulfilled.

The 7th issue of **NECROBESTIALITY** is out! It contains interviews with: *Threshold*, *Amorphis*, *God Forsaken*, *Mutation*, *Suffer*, *Altar*, *Darkified*, *Belial*, *Wild Rags* records, *Michael Harris*, *Cardiac Cease*,.... You can get it for 20FF (about 4\$) to: Yann Le Guenic, 21 bd Corneille, 29490 Guipavas, France. Bands can send their stuff for promotion in the 'zine and on his radio show "Raging Metalmania".

"Skullthraher" is a distribution service, but it recently also turned to be a record label, ruled under the name **SHIVER RECORDS**. Magazine and Fanzines can send them a copy of their latest issue and he'll probably (if your mag isn't shit) send you promo-packages for a review in your pages. Otherwise, bands should send their stuff for distribution, but write before. Hans De Wyngaert, Amerstraat 112, 3200 Aarschot, Belgium.

After Minda from Vilnius, another Lithuanian Death / Grind freak wrote me and asked for help, 'cause he needs some to do a **fanzine**! I won't surprise anyone if I tell you that he doesn't have enough money to buy demos. He can offer you promotion in his upcoming zine, and even if it's very difficult to make a 'zine in Lithuania it does not mean that it will turn out to be shit, Minda proved it! So if you want promotion in Lithuania, send your demos to: Marius Kairys, P.Plechavičiaus 27-36, 3043 Kaunas, Lithuania. At least you can be sure to make a happy person and to not get ripped-off.

The Italian zine **SILENT SCREAM** released its 4th issue. It's written in Italian and features interviews with: *Blacklisted*, *Maelström*, *Doomsday*, *Epilepti Genital*, *Blasphemia*,.... and will come with a 60 minutes comp. tape with most of the featured bands. Otherwise the guy is also doing a radio show where he can airplay demos, he plays in a band called "Putrefazione" which just released its debut demo and he also has a distribution service! For info, send an IRC to: Valentino Faticanti, Via Cicerone 26, 04100 Latina, Italy.

METALLIC AVALANCHE is a radio show from Cuba!! In fact, there are several radio shows. The problem is that you can't get Lps, demos, magazines,... in Cuba and they have to contact the bands or ask people to send them releases. So bands, if you want some promotion in Cuba, don't hesitate to send your demo (they are also working on a fanzine)! Ernesto Pulido Negrin, Jesus Menendez n°33, % Carr. Central Y Real, Sta Clara Villa Clara, Cuba C.P. 50400. Support them!!!

Raul Lopez Sanchez, Iturburu 3_ 2°d, 48003 Bilbao, Spain stopped doing his radio show "Morbid Devourment" (although he has good relations with the guys doing it now, so they could airplay some demos) but he joined **ULTIMATUM GOD** 'zine from Colombia and is busily working on their 4th issue. I think it is available for 4\$ at his address. Interested Death Metal bands, don't hesitate to send your stuff.

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Germany delivered a lot of good Death Metal bands those last months (let's say, I discovered them, as most of them have been around for quite a while), you had the opportunity to read interviews with *Fleshcrawl*, *Torchure*, *R.U. Dead?* in our pages, this time we'll introduce you to another great band: DARK MILLENIUM. The band was founded in early '89 under the name "Mortal Freight", and after several line-up changes they released a first demo "The Apocryphal wisdom" in February '91 under the new name Dark Millenium. This debut demo received a great response and after a few other line-up changes they re-entered the studio in Spring '92 to record a second demo. Their debut Lp "Ashore the celestial burden" has just come out (21.10.92) on *Massacre records*, read the review for more info. The line-up is: Torsten Gilsbach (vocals), Hilton Theissen (guitars), Michael Burmann (guitars), Jörg Dinstühler (bass) and Christoph Hesse (drums). The following interview was made with Christoph.

Could you present each member and say a few words about their characters?

Uurgh, that would take too much time here. We are all pretty different from each other, not only in connection with musical directions or influences.

Tell us about "Of sceptre their ashes may be", are you 100% happy with it?

No, I ain't 100% happy with it because the sound isn't brutal enough, especially the bass drums. A further point is the voice but I guess we'll achieve what we really want next time.

Did any labels show interest? Yes, we've got offers from *Nuclear Blast Records* and *Massacre Records*, I assume we'll sign a deal with *Massacre*. The album will be released in autumn then. (OUT NOW! SEE REVIEW!)

The production is really good, have you paid a lot for it? No, Waldemar has made a good price for us, because we know him well. But as I said, I ain't completely happy with the sound.

There are the lyrics on the cover, is it very important to you? Yes, very important. I mean, you can't understand everything just by hearing our songs without a lyrics sheet and to us the lyrics are a big part of our music or creations.

On this new demo, there aren't social lyrics anymore while there were on the previous demo, why? In my opinion politics become boring because you talk about this "exterior" stuff all day. I think lyrics dealing with fantasy... improve your capability to imagine unreal things.

They are quite dark, and on "Black literature" (first demo) you seem to say you are Satanists, could you tell us about that? No, no, none of us worships such shit. "Black literature" shows the inner conflict of a theologian between good and evil, the ethic chaser (sorry, I couldn't read the word) between two worlds.

What does Satan represent to you? The evil is mankind, nothing more. I don't

death but I don't know the way of life beyond yet.

How long have you been playing your instruments and how often do you rehearse? Hilton has been playing for 10 years, Micha for 4 or 5 years, Jörg for 3 or 4 years and I've been playing for 7 and a half years. We rehearse three times a week.

Tell us about your fave bands and do you listen to something else than Metal? My faves are *Fields Of The Nephilim*, *Black Sabbath*, all Grunge (sorry, I couldn't read the word) & Funk stuff, *Possessed*, *Slayer* and "older" acts, the 70's, for example.

Could a girl join the band? Why not? If she plays her instrument well and if she would like to.

You've been through a lot of line-up changes, why? Do you take the band too seriously? It may have different reasons but that's right, we take the band seriously and we are not interested in playing together with crumbfuckers (but I don't mean our former members with this, for heaven's sake!)



consider the evil as a horned person or any shit like that.

Tell us about "The apocryphal wisdom", do you think the end is very close? I don't know, I ain't a prophet. "The apocryphal wisdom" (the lyrics are about a kind of end of the world) is only a vision, a fiction of the "end", not a warning.

Tell us about your vision of death, are you afraid of it? How do you see it? I think everybody is a bit afraid of death, it doesn't matter if you are Christian, Atheist, or whatever. Personally I believe in a life after

Have you played a lot of concerts so far and is it easy to play in Germany? No, we haven't played so much because in Germany no one wants to see a demo band. All you need here is a deal and a pretty good album.

Any plans for the near future? To record our debut-album and then hoping it will bring us luck...a good tour perhaps??

Something to add? Just the usual phrases: thanks for this interview and good luck for the future!

DARK MILLENIUM (Management)

Andy Siry
Kellergasse 5
6521 Dittelsheim-Hessloch
Germany

But thanks a lot to you for having answered all those answers!! I'm sure your Lp will bring you a lot good things, Dark Millenium is really a great band, the demo is great!!

- Patrick -



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CARDIAC CEASE is a French Death / Thrash band. The band was born in August '89. After a few concerts, they recorded their first demo "Headache" in July '90. They didn't promote it a lot, but they played a lot of concerts afterwards. They were managed by a girl: Julie, but in April '91, Frank from *Decibels Storm* took her place. In May they recorded a second demo "Altered beast" which is still available for 6\$ from Frank. Later on, they played with bigger bands like *Cannibal Corpse*, *Massacra*, *Samael* and others. The actual line-up is: Christophe (guitars and vocals), David (drums), Thierry (drums) and lately a second guitarist joined: Stephane. At the moment they are looking for a record deal. Here comes an interview with drummer David:

Tell us about the demo "Altered beast" ! We're quite satisfied with it, but we had some problems with the mixing. Yes, on a few songs, the guitars are too much in the background. But all in all we're happy with the result.

What are the reactions about it, how is it selling ? A lot better than with the first one due to the promotion we get with our nice manager. In fact, a lot of demos have been sold because of advertising, the results should be good now.

Did you send it to labels ? Frank went to the "Midem" in Cannes and he met a lot of labels like *MFN*, *Roadrunner*, *Semaphore*, *West Virginia Records*, *Semetry Records*,... We're waiting for the reactions.

How is the French Death Metal scene ? I think it improved a little bit. But there still is this difference between the North and the South, the mentality is different. In the North the public moves more, while in the South, people are more close-minded.

And what about the public, do people easily make a long trip to see a little band ? Yes, in general but there are still big transport troubles, 'cause the public is very young.

You've got a good manager, how did you get him ? We made the 36-15 "Ula" on our Minitel !

The demo has a color cover, do you think it's important ? It gives something more to it, there are so many demos around, people start looking at the covers.

Are there a lot of studios in your town and what are the prices ? There are a few, but we don't really

know them. It usually costs around 1000FF a day. (about 170\$).

Do you have a lot of contacts with other bands ? We know about 10 bands with which we really have a great relationship, like *Catacomb*, *Agressor*, *Samael*, *Mesmerised*, *Brain Death* (now *Cadavera*).... There is a solidarity among the bands from here.

"Altered beast", that doesn't sound new or original, what are the lyrics about ? Yes, it doesn't sound really original, but we're really interested in everything that concerns genetic manipulation. Otherwise, we also speak about Occultism, but without taking it too seriously.

How do you see the musical evolution of the band ? There has been an evolution, especially since Stef arrived, but it's more on the technical side than on the musical style. We'll continue in the style of our latest songs.

Do you consider yourself as open-minded ? What do you listen to ? Except Metal, not a lot of stuff. Thierry listens a lot to *Metallica*, Chris is a *Sepultura*, *Agressor* and *Protector* fan, Stef is into *Death* and I usually listen to demos from bands like *Gorefest* or *Merciless* (FRA).

Maybe some last comments ? Thanks a lot, Patrick, for this interview and I hope that a lot of readers will get in touch with Frank to discover our band !

Yeah, guys, don't hesitate to get in touch with him, he's a cool guy. I think they planned to release a new demo in late Summer, so maybe it's out now ? (Frank's address is at the 'zines reviews.)

- Patrick -



OBSEQUIES is a band that I didn't hear yet. Yes, it's a bit strange that I interview bands I didn't hear as they could play the biggest shit ever heard, but Herry is a good pal and I want to help them out. Anyway, the band was founded in June '91 under the name "Metempsychosis", but due to a Belgian band with the same name, they changed it to Obsequies. They wanted to release a demo a while ago, but due to money problems they couldn't do it yet. Here is an interview with Herry:

Are there a lot of studios in Singapore and are they expensive ? There are studios everywhere, but they surely are very expensive. We're looking for a cheap studio, but the rent prices are almost the same everywhere. So we can't have regular rehearsals 'coz we're not that rich to afford it. Money talks everything.

How do you style your music ? Hmm, I think Death Metal is the concept, but it's up to the listener to decide.

How is life in Singapore ? It's cool to live in a modernized city, although you have to spend a lot of money to get along with metropolitan life. Some guys said it was an exotic country and I think it's maybe true, and maybe not. If you are curious, check it out by yourself.

And what about the Death Metal scene there ? The scene is great, but it also sucks. Some people are serious, some others are not. Worse thing of all:

some are just into trendies, some claim to be brutal or pure Death Metalheads (just to find glamour), big-headed idiots who do not want to cooperate and some only think for themselves. But of course, there are tons of great Death Metal bands and a lot of

serious ones as well.

There are tons of Death Metal bands, it always becomes more difficult to get well-known, do you think you'll manage it, do you think you'll get big ? That's a difficult question. I can't tell what our future looks like, but if you are totally serious and work hard to promote yourself, you'll get somewhere. Great attitudes are also important. Not all that brutal thinking and proud attitude. It's hard to get known just by closing one eye, but with help and support from friends, bands, zines, tape traders, you'll get attention someday.

Are you into Satanism & Occult stuff ? Satanism is a weird topic, anyway, we are not into it. I know that there are a lot of pure adherent Satanists in some bands, that's cool coz they know with what they are dealing. Not like some bands who write false Satanic lyrics, just to get attention. Occultism is interesting.

How do you see the evolution of Death Metal for the next few years ? Hopefully there will be more people into it, Death Metal is unusual and an alternative music these days. It would get more exposure if there would be more cooperation and better support. Hopefully Africa will be the 2nd industry after Scandinavia, who knows ?

Have you already played some concerts ? Yes, in my dreams !!!

Are there a lot of rip-offs in Singapore ? Not so many, only a few. I don't want to name any, 'cause

that's their problem and not our. What's the use of being a rip-off, you just take off the trust someone had put on you. But sometimes postmen are bastards and rip-offs. Because of them, we are wrongly accused. Like in my case, I had sent 2 or 3 packages to some guys in different countries but they wrote back to me asking me where their orders were ! I shocked and didn't understand ! Fuck the Brazilian and Polish postmen !!

What do you do beside music ? I write letters, get in touch with bands, 'zines, friends,... I hang out with friends, beer-bongs, watch videos, empty my mail-box, help my cousin's and his friend's zine, etc...

Do you listen to something else than Metal ? Yes. Listening to something else than Metal is good for the people who want to improve their skills and sounds.

What do you think of 'zines ? Zines help bands a lot by any kind of promotion. But unfortunately some are manipulated by money, and not totally honest. I hope they won't exist forever.

Future plans ? To receive tons of letters and to have a great response from bands, 'zines, and Metal Heads from all over the world. That's what we hope for.

Any last word ? Thanxxx Patrick, for this crazy interview. Well, I hope whoever there reads this, I hope he will kindly support us and don't hesitate to write to us, for any reason, we're here to listen. And big thanxxx to all those who have been supporting us and good luck to you, Patrick and your F.Y.A.F.T. 'zine !! C-Ya soon !

But thanks to you, Herry !! This band needs support more than any other one, so support them ! Ask them about the demo they should release soon ! Write to:

Herry
Blk 248, 02-414
Hougang ave. 3
Singapore 1953

- Patrick -

ABRAXAS

In the end of 1985, two guys decided to found a Power Metal band. 3 years later, the band releases a first demo "Vampire" and plays several gigs, the demo will get good reactions. After a few line-up changes they recorded a second demo "Shattered by a terrible prediction" in 1989, the response was even better. In the spring of 1989, they released the demo as an Ep with help of *Mutimedia Publishing*, but they had to distribute the 1000 copies by themselves. Some other line-up changes followed and in 1990 they entered the studio to release a third demo called "Gates to Eden" which received a great response (we reviewed it in our second issue). They received several offers from labels, but none of them was good enough so they entered the studio again in December 1991 and came out with a 4th demo called "Signs" which is their latest release. The line-up, is and seems to stay, Chris (vocals), Jan (bass), Oliver (guitar), Stephan (guitar), Heiko (drums) and Andreas (keyboards). The following interview was answered by bassist Jan.

ABRAXAS, what a strange name ! Yes, you're right, but I think it's just the right name for our kind of music. The name Abraxas is a magic word from the Gnostic. The Gnostic was in the early days of our time the main rival of the Christian church. The value of all letters from the word Abraxas is 365. So Abraxas is a sort of yeargod. Also the word "Abracadabra" comes from Abraxas. In this case, it means something like senseless talking.

Tell us everything about "Signs" ! Are you 100% happy with it ? "Signs" was recorded in December 1991 during one weekend. For the little time we had we think the result is 100% Ok.. We like all the 5 songs very much. There is no song as a stop-gap like "Into the light" and "Faded photographs" on the "Gates to Eden" demo, we weren't 100% happy with them.

What is the main difference with "Gates to Eden", has there been an evolution ? "Signs" is more mature than "Gates to Eden". I think it has been a step to develop our own style. Although everybody compares us with *Helloween* I think you can hear many differences between them and us. (true !) "Signs" is better arranged and has got a better sound.

How have the reactions to "The Gates of Eden" been ? The reaction in Germany as well as abroad has been very, very good. We sold about 400 copies.

I read that you've had some offers from labels but they "proved to be unacceptable after a closer look", could you tell us more about that ? I won't give you any names, because nothing is sure yet. It were all offers from small German independent labels. We think it's worth waiting another 1 or 2 or even 3 years to get a good contract. In any case it is better than to sign with a bad company from which you'll never get rid off if they fail.

There are six members in the band, that's a lot ! Doesn't it cause you problems; like "fights" among the

members or problems to rehearse altogether ? Of course, it's very difficult to arrange 6 opinions, but it is possible if we all have the same aim. We don't have fights among the members or problems at the rehearsal because of that. Everybody can realize his ideas, the quantity of influences makes our sound.

How often do you rehearse ? Three times a week, more if necessary (important gigs, recordings).

Tell us about the L.M.P. management, do they help you a lot ? Our former management and L.M.P. were working close together, so we new that they were doing a good job. Limb Schnoor (owner of L.M.P.) already had experience with *Helloween*, *Heaven's Gate*, *Mania*. They make our business management. That means, they look for record deals, etc.. We make the personal management by ourselves, so we always know what happens.



How is the underground scene in Germany, isn't it invaded of Death Metal bands ? You're right, Death Metal is very popular nowadays. But I would not use the word "invaded", there are enough other bands in the German scene. I think the scene reached a very wide range, it has never been so interesting.

On your bio, you say that you don't write "violent" lyrics, what are they about ? When we say "not violent" it means that we don't write a song about killing or such brutalities. I think our lyrics are critical and tell you about the reality (how we see it). So they can be about dreams and hopes, terrorism, money, Ufos... We always write about a subject that surrounds us and not about brutalities like someone and raping dead bodies.

But you play an "extreme" style; I mean, Metal is a kind of rebellion, isn't it ? Metal has always been the music of rebellion. Unfortunately it loses its power of rebellion more and more, because it's always getting more commercial. But bands like *Metallica*, *Queensryche*, *Faith No More*... show us the way to have success without making compromises. So I think Metal will never lose a kind of rebellion.

Tell us about your concerts, how often do you play and how many people usually show up ? How often we play and how many people show up

varies a lot. But we usually play about twice a month (sometimes more, sometimes less). In our area we play in front of 200 to 600 people. But we already played in front of 3000 and 20 people.

Do you talk a lot to the public during the show, or do you just play your stuff ? We always try to get something back from the public: criticism, suggestions... Of course, not during the gig, but afterwards.

Germany has got some problems with racism, could you tell us about it ? Yes, you're right but that's not a typical German problem. Every Western country has got the same problems. In the USA, a member of the *Ku-Klux-Klan* nearly became a senator. In France the party of Jean-Marie Le Pen (*The National Front*) has a lot of success. All these problems can't be solved by one country of it's own. We have to look for a global situation. (But if I trust in what I saw several times on TV reportages it seems that Germany really has a big problem with that, a bigger problem than the other countries have. And it's logical, Hitler was a German)

What about groupies, do you have any ? In

Germany you don't have this typical groupie scene that you have in the USA.. And we are not successful enough to have some. And otherwise, in those AIDS days, you think twice if you want or not. Moreover we all have girlfriends that we would never deceive. So we never think of groupies.

Any last comments ? We thank all our fans, who believe in us and help us this way to believe in ourselves.

Thanks for this long interview !
You can reach him at:

ABRAXAS GbR
Postfach 8
7401 Nehren
Germany

But if you just want info, write to:

L.M.P.
P.O. Box 60 25 20
2000 Hamburg 60
Germany

- Patrick -

ALCHEMIST

ALCHEMIST is a four piece band that listens to music from *Napalm Death* to *P.E.*, from *The Beastie Boys* to *Autopsy*, etc.... They are all about 20-21 years old. They've got two demos out; both self financed that have sold about 500 of the first one and about 1000 of the second which is reviewed in here. They're currently working on a third one, I guess it's out by now. It's certainly one of the most original band I heard those last months. The following interview was made with John.

I read lots of good things about the new demo, how many copies have you sold so far ? And what are the reactions ? We've sold about 1000 of it and all the reviews have been favorable worldwide. Most of the people think we're original & something different.

You're a very original band, you're powerful and your music is quite on the Death Metal side, so you're exactly what labels actually "need", didn't you get any offer yet ? Did you send the demos to labels ? Well, thanks ! We've had a little bit of interested, but nothing to jump 'n' down about. We sent our demo to a lot of labels worldwide, but no offers yet !! (*I can't believe it !!!*).

Your music is full of different influences, what do you listen to ? Well, I listen to heaps of different stuff like *Beastie Boys*, *Suffocation*, *GGFH*... All good Australian

stuff, *Pungent Stench*, *Morbid Angel*, *Napalm Death*, *Pink Floyd*, *Mr Bungle*, *John Zorn* & *The Naked city*,... the list continues and gets boring to read, but all of us in Alchemist listen to everything worth listening to.

You've got some Funk influences in your music; some people say that it's bad to mix-up Funk with Metal, it kills the image, what do you think of it ? Do you think there'll be more Funk in Metal in the future and do you like bands like Faith No More ? Well, I personally don't think we've much funk in our sound, but it is there. Well, there you go, I would suppose some of our influences showing through would be *Faith No More*. I like *Mr Bungle* a lot more, that about sums it up.

Tell us about the Australian scene, are there a lot of bands, 'zines, concerts,... ? Is the scene also totally Death Metal oriented ? And are you well known there ? The Australian scene is pretty healthy (but it could be better). The bands that give a shit for the scene help supporting it & keeping it generating. The bands are varied, but the only bands worth worrying about are Death / Grind bands, but there are some really good alternative bands here too. There are a couple of zines here that help the local bands with interviews, etc.. and who help to promote them overseas. Radio shows are becoming more popular (but there are only about 3 or 4), but I've only

heard of 2 shows that play local stuff & demos !! Alchemist is becoming more popular in Australia, but it's such a big place that it's hard to spread the word far away. But our gigs are always received wherever we play. And our demo gets airplayed on Metal radio shows if that means anything.

I found the lyrics to "Enhancing enigma" very interesting, especially the 3 first verse, could

you explain this song ? Do you believe in reincarnation ? I didn't actually write "Enhancing enigma" so I'll speak on behalf of Rodd. It's about ourselves in relation to everything of the universe, our significance, etc.. by means of reincarnation. I would like to think that reincarnation happens, but who knows ??? (*I know ! And I can swear you that it happens !*)

Do you know about out of body experiences ? Out of body experiences ? I must admit I don't know much about it. Put in this way, I haven't had one yet, but I have thought about the subject a lot.

Tell us about your lyrics in general, what are they usually about and are they very important to you ? They are important to us, we wouldn't write lyrics if they wouldn't mean anything to us. We write lyrics that have a meaning and a relation to us, on this planet. Myself, Rod & Adam write the lyrics.

Tell us about concerts ! How often do you play and how many people usually show up ? And what is the most important thing when you play ? The gigs that we play usually get about 300-400 people locally (which is good for my hometown Canberra). Interstate it depends on the other bands we play with, we usually get about the same even though the other cities that we play are larger than Canberra. To have fun is all important to us when we play.

In which (zines) have you been featured and could you advise us a few good ones ? Your question makes no sense, I think you missed an important word somewhere. (*yoops, yeah, I forgot the most important word: zines.. I'm really sorry !!*)

Both first and second demo were recorded in 16 and 24 tracks studio, is it important to you that the demo has a good sound ? Or are Australian studios not very expensive ? To have a good sound is important. If you're prepared to pay the money you'll have a good sound. We felt that we needed a good professional demo with good soon to get what we would be happy with to release. We recorded in a 24 tracks studios.

Anything more to say ? Thanks for the interview, anyone who wants a copy of either of our demo, don't hesitate ! We hope to see you overseas one day. Our third demo should be out in early '93 or before.

Thanks for the interview, John ! Sorry again for the delay, I was so busy... I hope that your third demo won't see the light, because of an Lp ! It would be great ! All our readers must contact them !!

ALCHEMIST

PO Box 1307
Dickson ACT 2602
Canberra Australia

- Patrick -

Some news from UNDERGROUND EMPIRE!

We just released our sixth issue. As usual written in German and also we're still looking for talented acts from all over the world. We don't care about the style but about musical potential. We feature all kinds of metal and also a bit more! Material of bands interested to appear in UNDERGROUND EMPIRE is always welcome. In return you'll get a free copy of our mag.

Something else important happened. Due to the lack of time we had to quit the distribution although there are still flyers around saying something about the distribution. So - only the zine remains! But still - contact us!

UNDERGROUND EMPIRE
c/o Stefan Glas
Seufzerweg 5
6792 Ramstein-Miesenbach 1
Germany

SALEM

Yes, I was as surprised as you as I heard from this Israeli Death Metal band, it's great to see that music can put together so many different cultures, isn't it? Anyway, SALEM plays a great, powerful Death Metal, they latest demo is really good. The band was created in 1985 where they played "a primitive form of brutal Death Metal" (bio statement). There has been a big evolution since then, their music is now "an organized, progressive form of Death Metal, with a leaning towards melody and harmony, but still retaining the aggressiveness and brutality of the genre". They released 3 demos, the first one in '85 called "Salem", a live demo in '88 entitled "Destruction 'til Death" and finally, the live demo "Millions Slaughtered" which received a great response. But they have plans for other releases, as you can read in the following interview made with vocalist Ze'ev.

Could you present each member and say a few words about their characters? - Leor: guitar, at the moment he is serving his last year in the army.

- Gioren: guitar, beside playing in Salem, he works as a soundman in the biggest Israeli sound equipment company.

- Michel: bass, works as a graphic printer.

- Amir: drums, he is still at school.

- Ze'ev: (I), vocals, I work in the city hall and in my free time I produce Israeli bands.

You've been around since '85, didn't you get any offer from a label until the mini-Lp? Sure, we had some offers, but mainly from Israeli labels and they wanted us to sing in Hebrew! We had an offer, but split up in '89. At the moment we are about to sign.

There are not a lot of bands in Israel, did that help you or was it a disadvantage? I mean, people can say "Oh, they're from Israel, I'm curious so I'll check them out", but also "Hmm, they're from Israel, it's certainly an unprofessional, amateurish band", could you tell us about that? Some people think we're a professional band, some others won't. They can do what they like, the most important to us is what record labels say, because we're in a delicate situation.

Tell us everything about the mini-Lp! It should come out on the German label *Morbid Records*. It

contains 3 brand-new tracks for a total playing time of 21 minutes.

On your live demo, there are a lot of older songs, why? Weren't the new songs good enough, or don't you have so many new songs? In general, bands don't like what they played 2-3 years before, isn't it the case with you? This demo came out in late '90. It was to end a term or a part in our musical career. On our mini-Lp, they'll only be new tracks. But we intend to print all our old stuff on an Lp.

I read good things about the demo, how did it sell? We sold about 500 copies in Israel and over 350 copies in the rest of the world. Plus our T-Shirts that came along for promotion.

Cancer, Disharmonic Orchestra, Death and others I guess, came to play with you in Israel, how were these shows; how many people showed up? First of all, the *Death* tour was cancelled due to Chuck's behavior. The show was great, there were so many people that the place was filled up (*Carcass* came instead of *Death*).

Are there a lot of concerts in Israel, is there a good organization; what about "Pounding Productions", do they make a lot of shows? There are a few shows from abroad, they're arranged by Robbie Forel from *Pounding Productions*. Otherwise there are a few shows of smaller local bands - new bands.

Tell us about the Israeli scene, are there a lot of bands, fans? There are a lot of bands, but they don't play. There are 3 bands that I like: *Scaffold*, *Cerebral-Cohman* (it was difficult to read), and *People*.

What do people that are not into Metal think about you? I mean, are you considered as "long haired fuckers who take drugs and who don't do anything but senseless noise", or do people like you? What does an "average" person from your town think about you? In the beginning they thought we were crazy, but now, even people who are into our music come to the shows, just to be "in the scene".

Sometimes there are 2 inverted crosses by your logo and a "666", but your lyrics are 99%

political, that's a bit strange! Are you Satanists? Some people say that Death Metal bands that are not into Satanism or Occult things are false Death Metal bands, what do you think of it? Our logo means a term in old "Salem" when the spirit of Satan ruled on us. But it's true that the lyrics are political, 'cause you can't ignore what's going on here.

How is life in Israel, is it easy to live in Israel? Personally, I'm having a good time by living here!

Do you have projects to play abroad? Yes, we've had some offers to come for a few shows abroad, but we'll do it when the mini-Lp will be out.

Are you the "biggest" Metal band in Israel, or are there other bands who are more well known (considering all kinds of Metal)? Yes, we are the biggest, we sell more demos, we bring more people to the shows than the other bands, but there is another band, a Thrash band called *Amxez* which has a lot of



success as well, they do their best to get compared to us.

Future plans? To release a fist Lp.

Anything more to say? Thanks for this very interesting interview.

SALEM
Ze'ev Tananboim
PO Box 566
53408 Givataym
Israel

But thanks to you Ze'ev!

- Patrick -

More NEWS and other stuff...

AIDAH WALSH AND THE EMPEROR'S EAGLE is an Irish label seeking for more bands (all metal styles) for comp. tapes, promoting them, etc... They can also give you addresses of Irish bands. Send your stuff to: Paddy Harnedy, 53 Millmount Ave., Drumcondra, Dublin 9, Ireland.

Dee Snider, ex-*Twisted Sisters* leader has founded a new band called *WIDOWMAKER*. Their first album is called "Blood and bullets" and shows us a good American Heavy Rock / Heavy Metal. If you liked *Twisted Sisters*, you really should check it out, but personally, it didn't blow me away and we are not *Kerrang Magazine*! Anyway, 12 rather good songs that will certainly please the *MTV* watchers out there.

Bands, you want some promotion in France? What about a radio station? "CAMEMBERT ELECTRIQUE" is a Speed, Thrash, Punk, Death, Core,... radio show which is willing to promote unknown bands. If you think they could help you, send your stuff to: Radio Accords, Yann Pillas, "Camembert electrique", 10 rue de la Trinité, 85034 Poitiers Cedex, France.

Yes, we nearly forgot it: here is the *SEVERANCE* address that we forgot at the reviews. But order the Ep from *Drowned Productions* (address at the 'zine reviews). Severance, P.O. Box 4742, Mc Allen Texas 78502, USA.

The Greek *SEPTICEMIA* sent us a promo tape to their Lp "Sabbath conventions", so here we go: Well, I liked it, but it's nothing really great. It's of course, Death Metal, in a *Morbid Angel* way and with this "Greek sound" built by bands like *Rotting Christ*, *Death Courier*, *Vararthron*,.... It's well played, but not original enough to deserve a big attention. Worth buying if you're a Death Metal freak, but otherwise there are better things to check out. Write to: Septicemia, Kanellopoulou 68, 185 47 N. Faliro, Piraeus, Greece.

ILEUS is a young Swedish band that sent me their demo for a review: I didn't await great stuff as there isn't any cover at all. The tape contains 5 songs of boring and uninteresting "fast brutal Death Metal". The songs are short and uninteresting and moreover I hate those guitar solos. Sorry guys, rehearse and write back in 1-2 years. Jari Manner, Foreningsg. 4, 73633 Kungsor, Sweden.



SOLITUDE is a really good Thrash band in the vein of *Pantera* or *Dark Angel*. This interview was supposed to get in the second issue (where you can find a review of their "Fall of creation"), but we didn't get it soon enough. But since it's a very good band and a not so bad and certainly still informative interview, you have the chance to read it anyway ! But here comes a small history: Founded in '85, they released 2 demos and had songs on vinyl compilations before their third demo "Fall of creation". They've played a lot of gigs, also with bigger acts like *Forbidden.*, *Dark Angel*, *Death*, *Death Angel*, *Sacred Reich* and others. The actual line-up is: Mike Hostler (drums), Dan Martinez (guitar), Keith Saulsbury (vocals / guitar) and Rodney Cope (bass). The interview is with Keith.

What is the band doing these days ? Well, we are gearing up to release "Fall of creation" as a debut Lp ! *Azra International* picked up the demo and is releasing it on Cd, Lp and Mc. It should be available very soon. (*it should have been out for a while, now.*)

The reactions towards the band have been very good, but you're still unsigned. Doesn't it bother you when you see all those new Death Metal bands releasing Lp's ? Not really. I mean, sure, it gets to us sometimes, but we aren't going to stop until we succeed ! We've been at this too long to quit. You've got to stay focused, it's the only way !

Tell us about the demo ! It's our third studio demo and it contains 6 songs. We took extra care this time around to insure a high quality package, not only the music but also the packaging and recording quality, as well.

How has it been selling ? Very good..... about 1200 copies are circulating at the moment. (*there must much more now !*)

Could you tell us about the band name ? We got it from an old *Black Sabbath* song. (*on "Master of reality", great Lp ! Great song, quite unusual & strange ballad ! Gosh, do I no a lot of things !!*) That was back in 1984 and we've been using it ever since.

Could you tell the readers what your lyrics deal with ? Mostly with social conscious things. Our own opinions on some of the fucked up shit that happens in this world of ours !

Are they were important to you and how long does it take to write them down ? We take them very seriously. We try to make them as good as the music underneak them. Usually it takes me 3 or 4 days to finish lyrics.

And what about the songs, how do you compose and how long does it take to make a new one ? One of us writes the basic structure and then everyone else adds ideas to it until everyone is happy with it. It's very Democratic, so sometimes it takes months to finish a single song !

How often do you rehearse ? Three times a week as a band.

You've played with bigger bands, have there been a better following after them ? It's always cool to play with a big band because almost always there's a lot of people to play in front of. We like to play in front of a lot of people, the more the better !

How often do you play and what is the most important thing on stage ? We usually play 2 or 3 times a month. The most important thing is how tight we play and how much energy we put into the show. We have a very high energy show, we move around a lot.

What do you think of the actual Metal scene ? I think there's no justice ! It seems like a lot of shitty bands make it while the killer bands remain small ! (*I thought it didn't bother you ?*) I guess no one ever said that it's easy to make it in this business.

And what about the underground scene ? There's a lot of great bands in the worldwide underground scene, I especially like *Extrema* from Italy and *The Horde of Torment* from the USA. (*And in which fanzine did our nice little readers have to chance to read about them ?*)

What do you think of 'zines, do you read a lot of them ? What are your faves ? Yeah, I love them. Some faves are *The Chainletter*, *Thrashikus*, *Progress Tattoo*, *Violence*, *Tantrum*, and of course *F.Y.A.F.T.* ! (*Yeah !!*)

Do you have a lot of contacts with other bands ? Not with other bands, more with 'zines and tape traders.

Any future plans ? To secure a bigger and better record deal and tour, hopefully even visit your country ! That would be very cool !

Anything to add ? Thanks for the interview ! If anyone would like to get in touch, write !

'Was informative, wasn't it ? I took a few questions away, but you didn't miss anything. So don't hesitate to get in touch with them. They are not the fastest with their mail, but they certainly receive a lot, so don't kill yourself if you don't get an answer too soon ! Don't forget to ask for their Lp, having the demo on Cd would certainly not be a bad thing !

Mortician Magazine

Finally the next issue of the professional underground magazine

Mortician Magazine is out ! Featuring underground metal music, from doom to death, from cult acts to darkest bands.

As up-to-date as possible this issue contains great articles like "The Pacific Ocean Scene Report", interesting interviews with *Liers in Wait*, *Dismember*, *Sarcophago*, *Perdition Hearse* (and *Mayhem*), *Numskull*, *Therion* (and *Carbonized*), *Absurd*, *Sadness*, *Castle*, *Human Remains*, *Thergothon*, *Ceremony* and with *Exmortis* (from the US), *Salem* (from Israel), *Disembowel* (from Portugal) And of course with the usual reviews about the latest demos and underground vinyl.

Professionally printed, lot of information. It can be ordered for \$5 (no exceptions). **Distributors and bands, get in touch!!!**

MORTICIAN MAGAZINE

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- Patrick -

True Black Metal bands, send your stuff to BLACK FUCKING MAG!!! c/o Angramain'yo, So-lvarvet 18, S-74050 Alunda, or c/o Abyssus, Movägen 13, S-74050 Alunda, SWEDEN.....



Gosh, I really received this interview on the very last day ! What a stress ! Anyway, here is an interview with Claus Vedel, from KONKHRA, but of course, here are some facts about the band: it saw the light in November '88 in Copenhagen, Denmark. They released 2 demos, namely "Vicious circle" in May '90 and the excellent "Malgrowth" in '91 (still available for 7\$, well worth it !) before releasing the Cd "Stranded" (see reviews). They play a powerful Thrash/Death and the actual line-up consists of: Anders Lundemark (guitar, vocals), Claus Vedel (guitar, vocals), Martin Kristensen (bass) and Jon Clausen (drums).

You told me you were taking a break to write new material, how did it turn out ? When will you record these songs ? We are releasing a promo Cd with *Progress Red Labels* and we recorded 3 tracks in 3 days, it went on very well... We didn't send "Malgrowth" to any label on our own initiative... *Progress* will stand for all the promotion, and they will try to get a good deal for us... At the moment we are taking a break for 2 weeks, and then we'll make some new tracks if there should show anything up, and then we will hit the road, play some gigs here in Denmark, and then in Finland.

How do you compose a song and how do you add the lyrics on it ? Usually we make some riffs, play them for the band, and then hear what they think, often one of the other guys comes up with some riffs that fits to the first, and so on. And some times we come with a whole track. The lyrics can be described as emotional poetry, that just flows around, sometimes with no special destination...

What are the lyrics about ? Do you want to pass a message through them ? The message is there if you can find it, our lyrics means the world, but we don't expect people to understand them, well, not all of them, I think they are too personal.

It seems like "Malgrowth" has been selling very well, how many copies ? And did labels show interest ? We have sold about 900 copies, and the response we've had has been huge, and we have made some cool deals with distributors for the next load of tapes. We haven't been writing to labels yet, but we have received some cool response from some labels.

The sound of the tape is really very good, is it very important to you ? How much did you pay

what you want at the *Redhouse Studio*.

Two of you guys are "really short-haired", they look like fucking skinheads ! Some people don't think that people can be bald, without being a pig. We have never tried to prove anything, well there is some funny talk in the band like "you baldheaded prick" or "you long-haired hippie" you know, thing that makes us closer to each other and still reminds us that we are different but like each other, we want



to be an example of, that people can get along, and if they try hard enough they will be able to go far, not only with music, but also as a person... I can assure that if you want ANTI-NAZISM/FASCISM, you got it !!!

I think you've played a lot of gigs, do you have a good following in your town ? Yes, I think we have a good following in Copenhagen, and in the rest of Denmark as well. And we think it will get even better now that the CD is out. We have played about 40 gigs in Denmark, and we will play some gigs in Finland in August, with *Demigod* and *Disaster Area*.

With which bands have you played and what was your best concert ?

It's hard to tell, we played with *Suffercacion* and that was a cool gig, nice guys... And with a lot of Danish bands like

Illdisposed, Agonize, Furious Trauma, Invocator, to name a few, and *Dead Head, Edge Of Sanity*....

It seems to me that there aren't so many bands in Denmark, could you name a few of the better ones ? You can take the bands from above, plus *Dominus, Chiro Therium, Detest Sacrificial* and *Iniquity*.

What is your opinion on the Death Metal trend ? Do you think it will stop soon ? No, I don't think it will stop... But I think it will be more difficult to break through, coz there are so many bands around...

Has Konkhra always been a serious project, or was it for fun in the beginning ? When we started playing for about 4 years, we just plugged our guitars into an amplifier and we just started to make music, we have never discussed what we should play, it has just been a natural development. (A huge development ! From just "plugging the guitars into the amplifier and making music" and the great Thrash/Death they are playing now, there is a big step !!) And now, with all the good response we've had, it has been growing to a "serious" project.

What are your fave bands ? Do you listen to something else than Thrash/Death or even Metal ? We all like to listen to demos, to see what happens, coz it's often there that you have the raw intensity, but I also think that there's a long space between

REALLY good demos. Actually, some of the best demos come from Denmark, and there are many bands on their way. Some of my fave bands are *Demigod, Illdisposed, Bolt Thrower, Immolation, Talk-Talk, Agonize, Carcass, Napalm Death, Blondie, Abba, Confessor*.... fucking everything that swings, you know, it's a state of mind what music you listen to in the particular moment.

Anything more to say, some "Hello" to pass ? Thanks for the good questions, wish you luck with your 'zine, and to all of you, try to be an open-minded person, look around you...take care, thanks...

Thanks to you Claus, for having finally sent the answers, we really got it on the very last day ! Readers, check this band out, they deserve it.

KONKHRA:

Claus Vedel
Illeistedgade 5
1TV 1706 KBH V.
Denmark

SCARLET: Ship of fools (USA / L.M.P - Semaphore)

I received this CD on the same day as the *Konkhra* interview, that means on the very last day !! I could only listen to it once. Well, the band consists of 4 members who have all more or less played with well-known acts. This is their 2nd Lp and it shows a well played, tight Heavy Metal with some 70s Hard Rock influences; *The Black Crowes, Tesla* or *Aerosmith* could come in mind. It's a bit commercial, but don't compare it to *Warrant* or *Poison*, they have some good things to offer. All in all, I liked it, it was a good change, but you gotta be a bit open-minded. If you feel so, get it from your local record store. (if you can't find it, contact: L.M.P. / P.O. Box 60.25.20 / 2000 Hamburg 60 / Germany.)

- Patrick -

METALMANIA a.r.p.

This time we didn't interview any labels, but here is an Italian agency which is doing a lot for the scene. But the interview will give you more details, so read it !

First of all, you're called "Metalmania a.r.p.", what does Metal mean exactly ? Do you support all Metal styles, from Hard Rock to Grindcore, or do you mainly support Heavy Metal bands ?

The word "Metal" points out what's the activity field of our own promotional agency. It means exactly that we work in the international underground metal movement in all its aspects, that is Metal bands, agencies promoting Metal bands, fanzines, magazines, labels producing Heavy Metal albums, radio broadcasting companies, broadcasting specialized programs in Hard'N Heavy music and so on.. And yes, we support all Metal styles. We make no differences and no musical apartheid. We look at the quality and not at the label of the music of a band sending us its own demo-tape or album, or Cd... We simply wanna help everyone...

Who came up with the idea, why and when ? The guilty guy of all that is my pard Gabriele Raiti who way back in 1984 decided to found a magazine called "Metalforces" for giving more exposure to the local underground metal movement. After that, the whole thing began to work so well that we're now the two veterans of the underground Metal movement in our country !

With how many 'zines, radios, labels, etc.. are you collaborating at the moment ? Oh, I lost the exact number... In our country we collaborate with several other Metal dealers and as regards the abroad matter we're trying to set up a network of contacts for getting the chance to have the most up-to-date news possible from the international underground movement... Our official mail-list gets 250 addresses.

If a band sends you a demo, on how many 'zines / radios can it hope to get promotion ? Well, I thank you for this question.. it gives me the chance to introduce to you and to your readers our most important activity: the promotion of a foreign band in Italy. If there is a band interested in being promoted by our agency, we sign a promotional-deal whose cost is very low. Then, we set up a series of 20 promo-packages to send out to the 20 most important musical operators of our country. These musical important operators

are mostly writers and radio D.J.s who make real publicity in favour of the bands promoted by us. They send us the samples of their activity in favour of our bands and so we send back to the bands the final result of our promotional job such as copies of magazines or radio playlists. This is our kind of job as promoters. At the moment we're promoting three Italian Metal bands (*Alzheimer*, *Arabesque* and *Camelot*) and three foreign ones (*Dunce*, *Jesus Save* and *David La Duke*).

As I understood, you are only two guys doing all this, it certainly takes tons of time ! Do you still have time to do something beside it ? Two guys bonded by blood... ehm .. bonded by ... job ! Ah Ah Ah ! And thank god as we've two "IBM" personal computers helping us a lot and a lot again ! You have to imagine that in only 6 months I've sent more than 250 letters and parcels (*I think I also send this amount of letters in 6 months !*). If we have time to do something else beside it ? Yes, we do... Gabriele works, while I am still searching for a job. Moreover, we find the time to do some other things. I tell you again: a personal computer is very recommended if you're doing such an activity ! (*Yes, definitely !!*).

You're also doing a fanzine, could you tell us more about it ? Not really, we did a fanzine until 1988: first as "Metalforces" magazine and then as "Metalmania" fanzine. At the moment we're official contributors to one of the leading Metal magazine of our country: *Flash Europa* magazine. This magazine is published in 50'000 copies per issue and nationally distributed. This year has been the second one that we've been contributing.

Have you ever thought about making a record company ? Is it too expensive ? It would be a great idea, but it's too expensive.. What we have in mind is to find a distribution label to help bands getting a more wide contact with people interested in buying underground stuff. Is it a real hope or a dream ? I don't know, just wait and see...

What is your view on the nowadays underground scene ? Too many Death Metal bands ? I agree with you: too many Death Metal bands... but a Death Metal band is a lot better than disgusting sub pop bands or *Guns'N Roses* oriented combos. I don't like bands such as *Napalm Death* or *Sodom* too much, but I like bands like *Bathory*, *Tiamat*, *Humanicide*, *Sepultura*, *Hardware*, *Oblivion* and *Armoured Angel*. I think the nowadays underground scene is far better than it was in the past: the quality of the bands and of the releases increased. In

fact, there are many bands sending you their own promo-packages layed out with 4 color covers or recorded in a 16 tracks studio...

Tell us some words about yourself ! How old are you, what do you look like, what kind of guy are you, what are you fave bands, etc.. ? Well, I'm 27 years old and I got a master in political sciences last year. I look like Madonna .. oops .. Rob Halford with black hairs and I'm 6"... What kind of guy I'm I ? Dirty, nasty and rebel with a cause wishing to give a better day to this fucking world... fave bands ? *Troubles*, *Saxon*, *Diamond Head*, *Angelwitch*, *Voivod*, *Soundgarden*, *Savatage*, *Metal Church*, *Pantera*, *Watchtower* and so on...

Give us your opinion on the united Europe, do you think it's a step in the right direction ? This is a difficult question. People want a more united Europe, but the politicians want to build Europe as a personal property. You see the political mistakes such as Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, URSS. All European people have to decide themselves their own futures giving a fuck to all these crap politics ! We would live better and mostly in peace only if we build a true European unity. The European underground movement is at present showing to everybody the right way to !

Anything more to say ? First of all, thanks a lot Patrick for getting myself the chance to introduce our own agency to all your readers... We hope we'll collaborate together ! And as last matter, I invite all bands interested in being promoted in our country to drop me a line to the following address:

METALMANIA a.r.p.
Emmanuel Gentile
C.P. 57
I - 96013 Carlentini (SR)
Italy

Please enclose an IRC for reply.

That was a good interview, wasn't it ? Anyway, thanks a lot, Emmanuel, for those long and interesting answers ! I'm sure he'll be overfilled with letters from bands !

- Patrick -



SENTENCED was founded in autumn '88 under the name "Deformity". In spring '89, they were a lot of line-up changes and the name turned into Sentenced. In November '90 they felt ready for a first demo tape and they released "When Death Joins Us...", the result was great: about 550 copies were sent out. They released a second demo called "Rotting Ways To Misery" in June '91, the response was even better than the first demo. They signed for an Lp on *Thrash Records* and their debut Lp "Shadows Of The Past" came out in February '92. But in March '92, they strangely re-entered the studio to record another demo, called "Journeys To Pohjola" (see reviews). Bassist Taneli kindly told us about that in the following interview:

How is life in the Sentenced camp these days ? What is the band doing ? Right now we are mainly writing and rehearsing new material. We are inventing new ideas and reworking old ones for a possible second album. In the matter of fact we are currently searching for a label and a couple of them have shown interest. We hope to enter the studio



towards the end of this year ('92). Otherwise we are not doing anything special. You released a promo-tape "to promote the new sound of Sentenced to record labels", but you released an Lp on *Thrash records*, don't they offer you to make a second Lp or what ? Aren't you happy with the deal ? Yeah, it could seem a bit strange to have released this promo-tape in March while the Lp was out in February. We did it to let people hear that our newer stuff is quite different from the older. I guess that Sentenced wasn't the very best investment for *Thrash Records*, 'cause they don't seem to pay much attention to us. He's so slow in the releases that we are getting a bit pissed about the whole thing. In fact, we are not happy at all with the deal. The Lp was recorded in October '91 and the CD is not out even now, in July '92. Neither have we received our royalties-copies to sell here in Finland to get some money back from the loss of it. I know that *Thrash Records* has its problems, but he could pay a bit more attention to the promotion and

distribution. The deal is for one Lp/Cd and our next release will be on another label.

Tell us about this promo-tape, is there a big difference with "Shadows of the past" ? Ok..Whereas all the previous released of Sentenced have been more or less in the traditional, "safe" vein of Death Metal, and as you said influences are not too hard to hear; with this new promo-demo we have done something very different from the older material. There is a BIG difference to "Shadows of the Past". Our new songs are in a way more aggressive and angry and at least personally now I put a lot more feeling in the playing. And combined with the lyrics we write now, I'd say that the result is really our own thing. I think it's better that you do analyze it by yourself if it's necessary. (Yes, of course ! That's what I did in the reviews !)

How did the Lp sell and how have the reactions been ? Well, not too well I guess. The first pressing of 1000 copies should be more or less sold out, so it's just as we expected it to sell. *Thrash Records* should take a second pressing of it, but we don't know when. We haven't seen any reviews yet, but many people who have bought it have written their opinions to us. Nothing negative has appeared yet, but we I hope that someone has the guts to say his true opinion...

There are tons of Death Metal bands that release Lps these days, do you think your Lp

was really worth doing ? Wasn't it a bit too early ? Hmmm...This is THE question... Personally I am of the opinion that our debut Lp, as not being a highly original package on the whole, just drowns in the huge mass of Death Metal releases. Considering the fact that we now play only 2-3 tracks from that Lp, I think it was too early for Sentenced to record it. At the time we recorded it, I wasn't personally too satisfied with all the material of the Lp, but I had only joined the band 2 months before, and the other members were really confident about their music. I'm not saying that although it doesn't bring anything new to this kind of music it is not a good record. In fact, I think it's a good debut Lp despite its defects. Well, if we would have waited some more months it would have been a lot better, but we will do that with our next Lp. I'm sure that with the next one we will differ from the mass. But this Lp isn't worthless at all and we absolutely don't regret what we did !

"Wings", "Mythic silence / as they wander in the mist" are some of your songtitles, they are strange ! What are your lyrics generally about

and what inspires you to write ? Some other new titles are: "Epic", "Northern Lights", "Fields of Blood; Harvester of Hate". Sami (guitars) and I (bass, vocals) write the lyrics nowadays. Maybe I am the most industrious one considering the lyrics-writing, but anyway, I can only speak about my own texts...My greatest source of inspiration is HATE. Somehow I feel that I don't belong to this earth, among humans. Misanthropic feelings give me inspiration when I write. The lyrics deal with such topics, all in all around the concept of darkness, coldness, hate. We write them in a symbolic way, so they are usually in the form of a description of the North, of a mayhem massacre, of death itself. They are so hard to explain and actually I write them just for myself, so I don't even bother to do it.

Do you guys read books ? Not too much. I read some horror literature like *Lovecraft*, *Barker* and *King* + occasionally some philosophic theories, but they usually don't give me anything new, so I don't spend time or money on literature. The other ones don't do either as far as I know.

Some purists say a Death Metal band has to be Satanic and Death in general should be a part of their life, not only music otherwise they are not truly "Death", what do you think of it ? This is another good question.. I would say that these people are partly right, 'cos I don't either like to see Death Metal as a "fun" thing. But if this opinion is based on the life-style of the so-called originators of Death Metal. But I think it's quite ridiculous since bands like *Venom* and *Hellhammer* / *Celtic Frost* were in reality just the usual "Rock N'Roll, booze and shitloads of FUN"-attitude people which I see to be pretty far from the true black lifestyle. Even Quorthon has said that old-Bathory was a joke. (Yeah ! This is a thing I also think, but I don't like to say it as I don't really know, I wasn't there at that time. But I'm not sure that all those bands took all this evil stuff as seriously as some people praise. It's great to hear someone else saying it !). A band like *Mayhem* might have the right to say that, but most of the people with this attitude are just those fun-guys themselves. In my opinion music is the most important thing in music.

Do you think there is a Satan / God, what are your beliefs ? I have been able to live without that shit until now, so I don't see any reason to start a humble prayer for an abstract thing even now.

Have you ever heard about out of body experiences ? Does that topic interest you ? Yes, I have, but it doesn't interest me, at least not now.. (I am really into that, if anyone is into that as well and would like to talk about it, don't hesitate a second !)

Finland starts to have a big underground scene, do you have a good following there, or are you just a band among others ? I think the Finnish scene is for the most part pure bullshit. There are many good bands which I like, and the level of 'zines has increased a lot, but I hate this mentality which surrounds most of the newcomers. Sad but true, most of them are into it just because it is a trend, it won't grow bigger than this ! I think Sentenced is a band among others which has for some reason played a lot more gigs than other Death Metal bands in Finland....dunno...

Anything to add, some "Hello" to pass ? Thanks for the interview ! No "hellos" to pass...

Great stuff, wasn't it ? Anyway, thanks for this very interesting interview ! Here is the address:

Taneli Jarva
Pilkkitie 11
90550 Oulu
Finland

- Patrick -



CRUCIFER was formed in December of 1990. They released a first demo "Beyond the realms" in 1991, the response has been great. In October '91, they re-entered the studio and released a second tape called "Festival of death" as well as a 2 songs 7" Ep called "Pray for the dead". The band is made up by: Jeff Riddle (drums, vocals), Brian Ronquest (guitars) and Steve Synder (bass). Here comes an interview answered by Brian (it's quite old, but as always: interesting). Contact: Crucifer, 3953 Jefferson Davis Highway, Stafford VA 22554, USA.

Tell us everything about the latest demo ! It is titled "Festival of death" and it includes 7 new songs. It was recorded at a studio in Fredericksburg, VA. We had 24 tracks to work with, but only used about 8. We feel that this demo is a step in the right direction for us and we feel it's the definition of what the band is about. We are very pleased with the over-all recording also.

How did you get the deal with Wild Rags Records ? Richard C. distributed our first tape "Beyond the realms" and when he found out we were doing a new tape, he wrote us up a licensing contract. We liked the deal he gave us and we are very happy to be working with Richard C. and Wild Rags now.

What is he doing exactly ? Richard distributes bands, licenses bands, and signs them. We are

licensed. We pay for the recording time and he pays for all the production of printing up the tapes. We can record as many songs as we want, but he likes us to keep under 6, for price reasons. The signed bands get full length Lps, Cds and cassettes. There are good benefits for both. Richard is doing a lot for us.

How did the previous demo sell ? The "Beyond the realms" 3 song cassette is still available from Wild Rags or our address. It was released in Spring of '91 and we sold about 550 copies so far.

How has the following been ? Around our area, the shows turn up great ! We are getting a strong following. As far as the US and overseas go, I and our guitar player receive mail everyday. Not getting something in the mail happens very rare !! Most of our mail is great replies, but there are those who thought our first tape was OK, or didn't like it. There will always be the good and the bad. It's been 95% great so far !

Tell us about your concerts, it easy to organize concerts in your area ? It's not hard, but we work for our shows ! We have had good and bad ones, it just depends on where we play !

How is the scene in your area ? I guess you mean Virginia. It is up and coming, I think our crowds here are going to continue to grow. There are a few Death Metal bands here, like *Deceased*, *Morbius*, *Abominog*, *Argoslent*, *Carrion Lord*.. I think more people are getting into it around here.

Some people say that a Death Metal has to be serious and into Death & Satanism, what do you think of that ? We are very serious about our music, but we are goofy people, we laugh. That's right, people, we are alive, we don't sit around a house with candles light, drinking goat blood, watching horror flicks, cursing anything

that is holy ! I can't stand organized religion, but it doesn't mean I'm some morbid person that can't love or care about something. "Fuck that" "Death Metal" has to be "depressing" shit. It's music !!!

What are your lyrics about & do you like political lyrics ? We have started to write more fictional lyrics, 'cause "preaching" gets old. No Death Metal band will save or destroy the earth. WE like the feel the music portrays, rather than writing lyrics. But we do, for the most part, write lyrics we are proud of.

On a photo you're wearing a Mozart T-Shirt, do you like Classical music ? What do you listen to ? No, I don't like Classical music., but I admire his talent. I listen to a lot of Death Metal: *Nuclear Death* and *Morbid Angel* being my two favourites at the moment. I can listen to other things too, anything if I like the feel of the song !

Can you imagine yourself, 60 years old and still playing in Crucifer ? Well, I don't think I will be doing this ! I don't know if Death Metal will still be here, but I won't be playing it !! I'm sure things will be more advanced, but the world will be even more fucked up !!

Could a girl join the band ? Well, we want to keep this as a 3 piece, but if we ever made our band a four piece and had tryouts, I don't care who plays with us, girl or boy. If they can play the parts and fill the seat, more power to them !

Future plans ? Tour ! I wanna play everywhere !
Any last word ? Thanks so much for the interview ! Thanks to everybody reading this.

Thanks to you, Brian ! Sorry again for the delay !!

- Patrick -

WAR SPASM

WAR SPASM was founded in August '90. Very soon, they incorporated stuff like Funk, Jazz, Death, Blues... to their Thrash Metal. Their first demo came out in February '91. After quite a lot of successful gigs, they recorded "Barmy fluid" in August '91. The tape got a good response and is still available (see review). The band is composed of: Tom (guitar), Mike (drums) and Patrick (bass & vocals). Here comes an interview with Tom.

Hello Tom how's life in Hull these days ? Pretty fucking fine as we've just won a battle of the bands type competition beating 74 other bands to the grand prize of £2'500 !

On your bio you say you were playing Thrash but decided to bring lots of different influences (Funk, Death, Jazz, Blues, Metal,...) into it. So you "force" it ? I mean, when you compose a song you say "Hey stop ! We'll put atypically Funk riff here and some Jazz over there, that way it will sound more original" ? Or is it something which comes naturally ? We didn't decide to bring the influences in, we decided that we were going to do as we liked and do what came naturally and what came naturally was to play loads of different styles as we area ll into different styles. Never ever have we tried to be something that we aren't, everything that we play is honest and natural, we write all our songs via improvisation and so Jazz, Funk, Blues and Thrash parts evolve, basically because it's what we like listening to and so naturally we play it.

"Barmy fluid" is getting a bit old with the time, will you soon release a new demo ? You're right Patrick, "Barmy Fluid" is 10 months old now and since then our music has evolved almost completely away from Thrash and so as the result there is only the instrumental "War Spasm" from

the demo that we still play, so as you can guess a new tape is needed. We are now recording a new demo for September release as well as that we are filming a video for one of the songs which will also be for sale as well. The new tape will have an excellent quality production and come with a great inlay. There will be four songs on it, all of our new sound.

Have you sent the demo to labels and did none of them show interest ? We sent a lot of our tapes off to labels and the only one who showed interest was *E.M.I.* and they wanted to see us play, although nothing really came out of it. However we have several labels and top managements waiting for our next tape so hopefully we will get something out of that.

Tell us about the scene in England, is it big ? Could you name a few of the best bands / 'zines ? The scene in England is pretty big, there are loads of good bands and 'zines all over the country. My fave underground bands are: *Mortified*, *Anathema*, *The Reign* and my fave 'zines are *Eclipse*, *Storm in a cup of tea* and *For external use only*.

You only have one guitarist, don't you need a second one ? Are you searching one ? No way. We are a three-piece first and foremost. All our songs are based on the tight musical interaction of bass, guitar and drums. There would be no room musically for another guitar, as well as no need due to Patrick's distorted bass sound. I prefer the sound a three-piece has and I find it a more comfortable playing environment.

What do you think of stage-diving ? Is there some at your shows and did it cause you troubles ? Stage-diving is great, we get it at our shows and I find no real bother with it as long as they jump off as soon as they get on and don't tread on my pedals.

Tell us about your lyrics ! What are they about, are they important and what inspires you ? Our

lyrics are very important, I feel that there are many issues and interesting views that need to be aired and as a band we have a chance to put these views across (possibly to a lot of people) and I find it really annoying when so many bands choose not to and sing about bullshit gore, satanic crap. Our lyrics range from the political type to the weird type. For instance, "Time bleeds by" is about the homeless problem in England and "Follow the flow" is about people who have no individuality, "Astral planes" is about astral travel through meditation (*Gosh ! Finally someone else interested in the subject !*) and "Nulled eye" is about the onset of madness.

What do you think of religion in general ? A lot of people need religion, they need something to sustain their hope, their will to live in a world full of hate, and I think that that is good and positive. I think that religion when abused as in the cases of the American TV evangelists can be extremely destructive and does ruin lives. Personally I think that people should live their lives in a positive manner, being kind and thoughtful and if that means going into a church or mosque then so be it. However on the bad side too many people are taken in and give all their money and time to crooks under the pretense of forgiveness. I think that religion is a personal thing and should never be showed down somebody's throat, it's a take or leave it affair.

Anything to add ? Yes, thanks to Patrick for this interview and thank you dear reader for reading it. If you think we sound interesting then don't hesitate to contact us. See Ya.

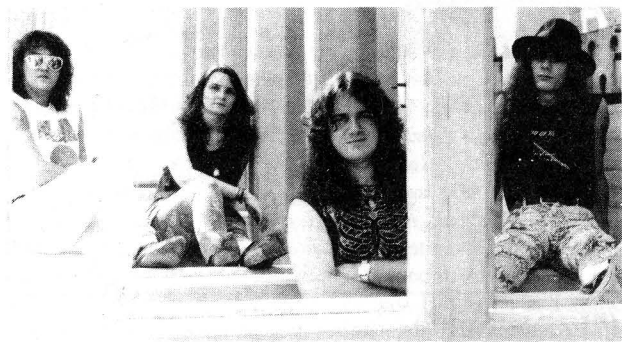
WAR SPASM
c/o Tom Pattison
1007 Anlaby High Road
Hull, HU4 7PN
England

- Patrick -



I had read about them in *Underground Empire*, but I had never heard anything before they sent me their new demo. I was quite impressed, it's really good! Their music is a kind of progressive Thrash, I really liked it. I sent an interview to them and I got it back, answered with long and interesting answers. But first of all, a few words about their history: RIP got together is early '89. A first demo "Feeding Frenzy" came out in August '89 and it got good reviews and underground magazines. In January '92, they re-entered the studio with a new vocalist and recorded a 2nd demo called "Inner Scream". The line-up is: Chris (guitar), Chris (vocals), Romy Dähler (drums) and Sandy (yes, a girl) (bass). The interview was answered by guitarist Chris.

First of all, I'm sure a few readers angrily turned the page after vomiting on it, 'cause they thought you were a Death Metal band (yes, some of them are frighteningly close-minded...); more



seriously, doesn't the name cause you troubles in this nowadays Death Metal oriented scene? Why did you choose this name? Well, if they have to vomit on us, just do it. You can also clean your ass with this page before reading, but what would you do if you really could build up your own opinion? That could be terrible, I think! So, there's nothing I hate more than close-minded people in any scene of music/politics/work/life, because they won't have the whole experience of their lives. Ok, now about the question: We have the name REST IN PEACE since 1986 and there was no big Death Metal wave around. We first had problems with the short-form R.I.P. because it looked like a Hardcore band (*D.R.I.*, *R.K.L.*, etc...). So we decided to write it out. Since now, we never had any problems with our band name comparing us with any kind of style. The name sounds a bit cliché, I know, but you have promotion on every english-written grave-stone (ha,ha,ha). No, seriously: to us it means more than that: in a sarcastic way you could look at the word and say: "While everything around is gonna be destroyed, we're just resting in peace." The other explanation is that death is something everybody has to face one day. It will get you earlier or later and so do we!

You just released a new demo, are you 100% happy with it and how have the reactions been so far? In every interview you read, almost every band (also the big-shots) says they would do it better next time and that they're not quite satisfied with it. I

think that's ok, because it shows the ambition of the musicians. It's the same with us: We are satisfied with the tape, really, but we know we can do some things better next time. These things aren't the songs, it's more the technical stuff like recording, mixing and so on. The reactions have been great so far. Every letter which came in had good critics on our new tape "Inner scream". We hope it will go on like that!

Do you think you'll get a deal with it? As I understood, your ex-singer wasn't too good, do you think he was the thing which made labels refuse you, and do you think it will change now that you have a new singer? It's always difficult to say if a band gets a deal with its material, because you don't know what trends the labels are in at the moment. If we would come from Seattle and would sound like a *Nirvana* / *Soundgarden* clone, we surely would get a deal (ha,ha). Well, I hope together with our new singer and a basically good produced tape, we will find a deal. Perhaps not a big one, but I hope something where we could bring out our first Lp. Our first singer wasn't good at all and that was surely a thing which made the labels refuse, coz' first of all everybody listens to the vocalist. But also the songwriting wasn't good at all and it did not sound really professional, so I think that was it. We had some reactions from labels but there were only bullshit-contracts in which we had to spend a lot of money from ourselves. Now, there are a lot of demo-distributors who want our new tape "Inner scream" and we hope that's a good beginning and the labels are reacting the same way.

Why do you have "SBS Rock-music" as contact address?! SBS-Rockmusic is a friend of ours and he's helping us in distributing/organizing concerts/being roadie and stuff like that. He's really a big help for us and we think that it also looks more serious than writing our own private address. That's it!

Do you think you've got something special to offer musically? What makes that you're not just a band more? Yeah, I think so. We have a "wide" style and we always had people at our concerts who never listened to Heavy Metal before. Basically, it's hard stuff (ok, not hard enough for

Death-freaks) but it has so many influences from other styles and we're always willing to make experiments, so that it really offers something special. It's just the kind of sound which comes out from ourselves because we also listen to different styles and coz' we're open-minded. We're just a band more in the underground, but we try to be not cliché and we're not swimming with the stream. So if you want, these are the only facts which make us a different to others. (I think the fact that you've been around since '86 is also a good argument, you're certainly not a trendy band).

What are your lyrics about and what do you think of political lyrics? Basically, our lyrics are about serious things like in "Raped nature" and "Inner scream". The first song is about plundering nature, wiping out animals, destroying basic things like water/air and that we have to stop with this before it's really too late. The second song is about a normal, average man (family -father) which runs amok one day and kills his whole family and then himself. You always read in the newspaper about stories which happened like that and nobody ever knew why he did that. Everybody said: "But it was a friendly, normal man like me and you..." Nobody heard his inner scream. As I said we write lyrics about daily life, daily problems, philosophical stuff... we really care about our lyrics and want to write serious ones. But we also have a song called "Beer bon" which is about.. eh?... beer drinking in a

special way, until you die. About really political lyrics, I have to say that we would never go so far to mention names or parties, but you can say that we have political-lyrics in a more harmless way. It's not our kind to tell the people what they should think/vote for, but we think we should write lyrics which animate the people to think about it. You have to be really careful in writing political stuff!

What do you listen to, any fave bands? Do you like Death Metal? As I already said, we listen to almost every kind of style, so I give you a little list of it: - Classical like *Beethoven*, *Grieg*, *Smetana*, *Mussorgsky* and so on, - Blues, Funk, Jazz like *Jimmy Hendrix*, *Eric Clapton*, *Stevie Ray Vaughan*, *Mothers Finest*, *James Brown*, *Al Di Meola*, *Jonas Hellborg*, *Gentle Giant*, etc.. - Heavy Metal from *AC/DC* to *Death*, but not too much Glam and Noise. Fave bands? Yes, *Watchtower*, *Dream Theatre*, *Psychotic Waltz*, *Marillion*, *Al Di Meola*, *Death*, *Queensryche*, *Iron Maiden*, *Hades*, *Magma Attack*, *Faith No More*, *Queen*, *Pink Floyd*. About Death Metal, I must say that I only know a few, because I'm not so informed in this scene. I like *Death*, *Atheist*, *Obituary*... To my opinion a lot of Death Metal bands sound just like another, and I cannot differ them, so these 3 I mentioned above are an exception for me. I'm no Death Metal fan, but I listen to it, because I want to build my own opinion. By the way, *Impetigo* are really funny, and I also like *Wehrmacht* (more Grind stuff, I think!?).

In how many 'zines have you been featured, what do you think about them and could you name some fave ones? With our tape "Feeding Frenzy", we've been featured in over 150 zines worldwide. I do not have all the copies, but the promises from the editors to be in their zines. At home there are about 70 mags we're in. With the new tape "Inner Scream" I cannot say yet, because it's not so long ago that we've sent the promo out. Until now we have about 30 responses but no official mag yet. The underground mags are great because they give you the chance to get a review, even when you've just recorded a demo-tape. I hate the *Bravo* clones (*German Pop* magazine that I used to buy "a few" years ago, yes I did!!) like *Metal Hammer* or *Metal Star* because they have always the same bands in it: *Guns N' Roses*, *Metallica*, *Nirvana*... And sometimes they push German bands up (*Doro*) like they were the best in the world. So, I think they are not objective anymore. About my fave underground mags I have to say there are so many to mention and I don't want to forget somebody, so please don't be angry if I forgot you: *Underground Empire*, *Legions of Battlehead*, *Metal Warriors* (the German one), *Initium*, *Decibels Storm*, *No Labels*, *Chainletter*, *Blitzkrieg*, *Ripping Headaches*, *Metalized*, *Hypnosia*, and so on. Oh, I forgot *Mutilador*, *Injury Expressions* and *Holocaust*! As I said, I cannot mention everybody and I know I forgot some of them, sorry! Finally, I didn't have the chance to read yours, so perhaps next time you're on my list. (I hope so!).

Something to add? First of all, thank you very much for the interview and your support! Stay open-minded! Visit more underground Swiss concerts, coz' the bands are really worth it! Buy our tape because we're out of money. Take care of yourself and the nature around you. Make love, not war. We hope to see you at a concert near your hometown, bye, bye!

REST IN PEACE
Postfach 119
8010 Zürich
Switzerland

But thanks really very much (Humm, sounds a bit wrong) for this truly great interview!! It's really good to get so long answers instead of those eternal "Yes", "No", ... answers. All you guys, get in touch with this guy!

- Patrick -

INTERVAL

As always, here comes the interview with a Romanian band, made by our contributor from Bucharest: Adrian Popescu. This time, he'll introduce us to INTERVAL. It has been founded in 1987 in Bucharest. There have been many line-up changes, but it seems that they have finally found the right one: Costel Sandu (vocals), Adrian Sirbu (guitar), Valentin Tica (guitar), Ion Calota (bass)



and Dorel Cudan (drums). They have been influenced by bands like *Annihilator*, *Venom*, *Judas Priest*, *Manowar*, *Metallica*...

Why did you start with the band ? Because of the social and mental conditions there was in Rumania before December '89, we felt an acute need to communicate with people and manifest our own

personalities. So we decided to found a Thrash Metal band, being one of the first Romanian band promoting this style.

The band lost tragically on of its member, could you tell us more about it ? Yes, we 'll never forget that

our line-up of '89 included Mihai "Micky" Gitlan as singer. He was one of those wonderful youngsters who went out in the streets in December '89 with a big hope for a better and dignified life, for a true freedom of speech. Micky was hit by a truck and then shot during an unf- air fight against the repression forces employed by a schizophrenic

we've had in the past, as a metal band, that's why our lyrics are a little bit sad and socially involved, too.

Tell us about your gigs; how does the crowd react ? We played concerts all over Rumania; I could mention our '91 tour with *Tectonic* which included 7 towns. Then, we appeared in many festivals around here, just 2 weeks ago we played the "Metal Fan" festival in Bucharest with bands like *Annarhia*, *Pansament*, *Coma*, *Epilepsy*, *Krematorium*, *Faraon*, *Dracula*. The crowd's reaction was very good, even enthusiastic I would dare to say !

What do you do beside music ? Well, we must survive, so we work in different places.

Is it easy to play Thrash in Rumania ?

The economic and social conditions of our country make it very difficult for us; we have to spend a lot of money and it affects considerably our possibilities for gigs or studio recordings. The situation isn't hunky-dory at all, but we manage to surpass these troubles and we're happy to find out that we're not alone !

How is the Romanian public ? You know, in the past the only possibilities we had to escape from all the communist shit was good music and literature. We think that the Romanian public is very exacting, they're mainly into Speed / Thrash / Death, commercial Hard Rock isn't well received here.

Any last word ? Thanks for the interview ! We would be happy to get in touch with anyone interested in Speed / Thrash / Death Metal. We're looking for contacts, concerts and anything else that may help both you and us to know each other better.

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77104 Bucharest Romania

(phone/fax: 40-0-37 35 46)

- Adrian -

Les délires de Pascal II ("Le retour")

Eh oui, on vous avais prévenu, ce cher Pascal n'était pas prêt d'être guéri... Son crétinisme profond est malheureusement très prononcé et il a été (automne, hiver, printemps, comme il dirais) obligé de nous faire part d'un nouvel exemple de ses délires. Cela se passe de commentaires, here we go:

JEREMY A LA QUEUE BLEUE

Je décidais ce matin là, de goûter aux joies du Bobsleigh depuis le point culminant de ma ville (500 mètres à tout casser !) solidement attaché à une vieille caisse de tomates tunisiennes. Ne reculant devant aucune mesure de sécurité, je m'équipais d'un casque de moto, d'une combinaison de plongée (aérodynamisme oblige !), d'un tuba et d'une bouée à l'effigie de Daffy Duck pour le cas où mes pieds n'exerceraient pas une force de freinage suffisante ce qui serait fâcheux, un fleuve coulant au pied de la pente. Après m'être affirmé avec la ficelle de cuisine je m'élance.... Les conditions étaient idéales, il faisait un temps à mettre un

* dehors. Les premières tiges de nicotine fleurissaient à travers la neige. "Il me faudra, un Bouquet de Mégots, ça égaye une Maison" pensai-je. La suite donna des convulsions à mon agent d'assurances: je tombe dans le fleuve après avoir dévalé l'avenue sur les orties _ et c'est là, après avoir coulé, que je me posais au fond sur le ventre, le cageot sur le dos, ce qui me faisait ressembler à une tortue Ninja. Je fis connaissance avec Jeremy, le lapin à la queue bleue. Dans les profondeurs abyssales, le rongeur me conduisit. Pris d'un besoin naturel, je me dirigeais vers une vieille épave de voiture de laquelle je me fis expédier, n'ayant pas vu la pancarte "WC pour dames". Nous continuâmes alors pendant que la touffe de poil entonnait "Smoke on the water". Stupéfaction ! A 100m. de nous, des extra-terrestres venus se planquer sous les flots. "Je vous l'avais bien dit, Ducon !" hurla alors David Vincent masqué par un bosquet d'algues. Le discours prophétique du professeur Reeves me revins en mémoire: "Les tous noirs constituent le trou du ciel de l'univers, la question est de savoir si nous sommes à l'intérieur ou à l'extérieur de cet anus à l'échelle cosmique" et sommes nous seuls ? Je continuais précédé de la peluche à queue cyanosée, en cassant l'eau à coups de pioche, sa teneur en argent 110 et Hydrocarbures la rendant solides. Pendant ce temps, Jeremy courait un hamburger fossilisé qui n'était en réalité qu'une huître californienne de passage ayant bouffé un steak et des oignons. Jenpruntais une canalisation localisée par le "tas de fourrure à la queue meurtrie" lorsque je croisais Cousteau occupé à déchiffrer un poème de l'écrivain Néo-grabataire Manuel Da Silva Gomez de la Chiezza qui disait: "Vieux sont mes jours, morts sont mes amours". Alors qu'au loin, Freddy Kruger apprenait à lire à une petite belle en gravant des A et des O sur la carcasse de l'"Exon Valdez". "Eteignez votre clope !" hurla le hareng des profondeurs, commandant de la Calypso, "le mercure va péter et nous ressembleront à un troupeau de cannelles, pauvre con !". Je remontais le boyau emprunté plus haut, en suivant les préservatifs à 2 réservoirs laissés par les extra-terrestres. Je reconnu le conduit de ma chasse d'eau, nous étions sauvés. Arrivés à la surface, je tombais pile sur Nicolas Hulot occupé à expérimenter la navigation sur tampon hygiénique avec Coton-tige en guise d'aviron. Freddy Kruger était là de même, grattant les puces de mon chat en sifflant "Final Holocaust". Le civet à duvet était au comble de la joie, tout à son bonheur d'avoir survécu, il se dirigea vers mon radiateur de salle de bain qu'il sodomisa avec élégance et frénésie. Maintenant je sais pourquoi Jeremy a la queue bleue !!

*: choisissez parmi les cas de figures suivants: BICEPHALES / LEUCEMIQUE / PERVERS / SBIGNOUTZ

Ca paraît grave, non ? Anyway, je suppose qu'on aura à nouveau droit à ses conneries dans le prochain numéro, alors à la prochaine, Pascal !!

PHLEGETHON

Here comes something brutal ! Here are the Finnish PHLEGETHON ! I was quite impressed by their mini - Lp on *Witchhunt Records* "Fresco lungs", so I sent them an interview. After some months I thought they would never write back, but they finally did. So it's a quite old interview made in February '92. I didn't enclose everything 'cause of that, but the interview will give you a picture of the band anyway. It was made with Jussi. The band saw the light back in early '88 with Teemu, Juha and Lasse. They released their debut demo "Visio dei beatifica" sometime in late '89, they sold some 100 copies. In June '90, they recorded a second demo called "Neutral forest" which got a very good response, they sold over 700 copies and received an offer from *Witchhunt Records* for a mini-Lp called "Fresco lungs".

A lot of people say that there are much too many labels that release untalented and unoriginal bands, what do you think of it and do you feel concerned ? Well, I wouldn't say I feel concerned. After all, who can say that some band is "untalented" or "unoriginal", everybody's taste of music is different. Many people like *Deicide*, for example, although I don't think it's the most original band in the world. (Yes, definitely) It's always up to the audience, they are the ones that decide who's gonna make it, and if some band is really bad, no one will buy their releases and they won't be able to release another album. That's the way capitalism works. It's everybody's own business, whatever they wanna release. **Some photos on the "Fresco lungs" cover make think that you're some nice little Satanist, but I can't understand anything of your lyrics, could you help me ?** Really, you mean that we look like Satanists ? (Hmm, I don't think that you look like a White - Metal band on those photos...) Hey man, fuck off ! We're not, Ha ! Ha ! You got it wrong ! Personally, I'm interested in this subject, I'm also far too lazy to look for information on it. About lyrics, well, I'm not the expert as I've never written any. But as far as I know, they are about dreams and visions influenced by surrealistic paintings, mainly *Dahl's*.

Do you consider the band as original ? I don't think it's up to me to say whether we're or not, I can't be that objective. I hope we are,

and I think that, at least, our new stuff is quite different, but there may be people with different opinions, too.

Could a girl join the band ? Well, it wouldn't be a problem to me if we had a girl in the band, but I'm not sure how she would react, being the only female. Having a girl in the band would probably bring something new in the music as well.

How often do you play live ? Not too often, I'm afraid.

We've done only a total of 7 gigs so far (they've certainly done more now) and they were all within 1 year. So that's about a gig for 2 months. I hope we'll do some more.

What do you do beside music ? I, Teemu and Lasse are schooling and that takes quite a lot of our time. Juha just finished his 12 years, so he's now just drinking beer and disappearing every once in a while. Of course, we're also answering these letters and inventing a new name for the band.

What about your fave bands ? I like *Bathory*, *Xysma*, *Jimi Hendrix*, *Afflicted*, *Pink Floyd*, *Candlemass*, *Grave*, *Napalm Death*, *Carcass*, *Primus*, *Red Hot Chili Peppers*, *Unleashed*, *Funebre*, *Black Sabbath*, *Faith No More*, *Nirvana*, etc, etc... The other dudes are more open-minded when it comes to music, I mainly prefer Death Metal.

How do you see death ? As a band, as a music type, or as an end of life ? (Good question, it's up to you !) Well, the band used to be one of my faves and "Leprosy" really kills. As a music style, I think it will soon die, any trend can't last forever. As an end, I'm not afraid of it, it has to be experienced by everyone.

Have a lot of 'zines ripped you off ? Quite often, I'm afraid. There's a lot of dishonest people in the scene, nowadays. Fuck you all !!

Anything more to say ? Thanks and good-bye, Patrick. Hello to everybody that reads this, buy our album from *Witchhunt Records* (12\$ Europe and 14\$ overseas), that's all.

And that was it for the interview ! Seems to be a cool guy, doesn't he ? He certainly has a lot of mail to do considering the time he needed to write me back (about 3 months). But I'm sure he won't be sad if you would write to him at this address:

PHLEGETHON:

Jussi Nyblom
Verkkotie 2A2
80160 Joensuu
Finland

- Patrick -



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Here comes some very brutal stuff !! **ROT** was founded in October '90 by ex- *Rigidity Cadaveric* members. Their music is influences by bands like *Agathocles*, *Fear of God*, *Blood*, *Carcass*... so you can guess what kind of music they play... They released a first demo "Prisoner of my fear" in February '91 (reviewed in F.Y.A.F.T. I). In May '91, they got an offer from *Maggots Records* for a 7" Ep. "Almighty God" (review in this issue) came out a bit later and is still available. For contact with these sick guys, write to: Marcelo R. Batista, R. Pio XII 102, JD. Elvira, Osasco/S.P., CEP: 06240, Brazil. The line - up is: Mendigo (guitars), Babu (bass), Julio (drums) and Marcelo (vocals). Here comes an interview made by Louis, from the Brazilian 'zine *Sound Riot Mag*, (It has been a long time I didn't hear from him !!) so thanks to him ! (with Marcelo)

How do you feel today with the deal on the French *Maggot / Fucker Records* ? Well, there wasn't really a "contract",

Leandro liked our demo and wanted to do a 7" Ep, so it's only for that one. Today, *Maggots Records* is dead, maybe *Fucker Records* as well.

Are you happy with it ? Yes, I am. It was perfect to us at that time, but today the new songs are quite different, there are less Death Metal parts.

How is it selling and what do you expect from it ? I'm not sure, but I think we sold over 300 copies so far. I hope it will give us the chance to record more Eps and also to get more friends around the earth.

What's the situation for gigs nowadays ?

How do you arrange gigs ? We played only two times so far ! It's very hard to arrange concerts here in our town, otherwise there is no public for our style ! Maybe we'll play in other cities like Brasilia, Bahia or Paraná.

How do you view your demo today ? How

I ever see it, it doesn't represent Rot perfectly, maybe because of the recording, 'cause the studio sucked totally !

Do you see any differences between the demo tracks and the Ep tracks ? Yes I do, our Ep is better recorded and you can feel how our tracks are fast. That wasn't shown well on the demo, but otherwise the style didn't change too much, it's still Grind, Noise, Death, Core.

How do you compose songs ? Who does most of them and what are you influenced by ? Well, Mendigo does most of them. I think the main influences are Grindcore and HC bands we listen to. He shows us what he did, and then everybody adds his parts to it.

explain ! My old lyrics are quite superficial and about social things. Today I'm trying to write more about what I feel, I think it's the best way to write good lyrics, but I know it's hard. Some new titles are: Reality based on lies, Nice face (shit intelligence), What I feel is what I want, Very important people, etc...

Are they important to you ? Yes, they are really important to me, 'cause I'm not singing any gore bullshit, I'm trying to say something.

What are your influences, fave bands ? Everything we listen to influences us. Some faves are: *Sore Throat*, *Fear of God*, *Agathocles*, old *Napalm Death*, *U.G.B.*, *Blood*, *filthy Christians*, *V.N.A.*, old *Rattus*, *Terveet Kadet*, *Doom*, *E.N.T.*,.....

Do you think there are lots of bands who just follow trends ? What do you think of them ? Yes, there are tons of bands who follow trends, I think it's stupid, the bands must keep their on personalities and ideals.

How's the Grindcore bands in Brazil and how do you see it's future ? Not really good, there are tons of stupid bands and people, the Grindcore scene here is totally twisted, many Grindcore bands dress like old *Sarcófago*, can you believe that ? Any yes, they sing about Satan, Death, Hell.. But there are also some other bands/people who try to change that, we want a Grindcore scene and not Black Metal bands who want to be "Noise" just 'cause they can't play better, we are spreading pamphlets about our ideals and what must be changed here.

Do you do something in the underground except the band ? I helped many bands during the last few years, 'cause I used to do a 'zine called "United Forces" which is dead now, I didn't have enough time or patience to do it. Now, I'm trading and distributing Grindcore / HC / Deathcore 7" Eps here. Oh yes, I stay involved with 'zines as well, but I just help with interviews, etc...

What about the future of the band ? We hope to get more gigs, records some more Eps, etc.. Oh, and of course, we hope to see the Brazilian Grindcore scene more intelligent some day !

Anything else you would like to add ? Yes, everybody interested in Rot, please just write me, we can trade many stuffs. Bands, 'zines and comp. tapes are welcome ! Send 7\$ for the Ep, or another Ep in trade, if you're interested in some Brazilian Grind bands, send a tape with bands from your country and I'll send you a tape with Brazilian ones, no rip-offs here ! And last but not least, thank a lot to you, Patrick, for the interview, stay active in the underground !

But you should thanks Louis ! And thanks to both of you, Louis and Marcelo for this cool interview !!!

- Louis Rodrigues -

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Do you think you can still improve musically ? I don't know why, but I think our music is good, our new songs are more grinding and better, so I don't care about the musicianship if it is really grinding and sounds well in my ears !

How do you find inspirations for your lyrics ?

What new ideas do you have ? It's hard to



Exoto

Their "And then you die" was really a good demo, the song "The things that were (& shall be again)" as well as the outro are even on our comp. tape (so this must really be a great band! He he he, no just kidding...) Anyway, they've been around since late '89 under the name "Insomnia". Later on they changed their name to Exoto, it stands for the wax puppets used to hurt or kill people on distance. The band says: "it's a kind of Voodoo by putting needles into the Exoto and the person where it refers to will suffer great pain and finally die ("And then you die")", but I would like to add that Voodoo people are usually not "bad" people. Maybe they don't even do this Exoto stuff, it's more something shown in TV series or in magazines who want to write some "sensational" stuff. But I'm not so sure about that and it really isn't important anyway. (but maybe there are some "Voodist" reading this, who knows?!)

Anyway, after a few gigs they released a live-tape called "Waiting for the maggots". They sold over 250 copies, although they didn't want to sell it in the beginning! In '91 they wanted to make something more serious and they recorded the above mentioned "And then you die". It received a great response and gave them the chance to play with bands like *Grave*, *Cannibal Corpse*, *Morbid Angel*, *Loudblast*, and others. They should have recorded some stuff in January '92, but I don't know what happened with that. The actual line-up is: Flip (guitar), Stef (guitar), Chris (vocals), Didier (drums) and Jeroen (bass). The interview was made with Chris:

The demo seemed to have a good response, have no labels been interested? Yes indeed, our demo got

very good response and there were also about 6 labels interested but we think it's a little bit too soon to release a full-length Lp, so we decided to wait until we got our new tracks finished, they are much better and mature, just wait and hear!

How many copies did you send out? At this moment there are about 550 copies sold and we have just received an order of 30 copies from *Turbo Music* (Germany), so I hope we'll reach 600 at the end of the year ('91). I think that's not bad for a debut demo of a Belgian band! *(They've certainly sold more now, 'cause it's not the newest interview around.. It was made in late '91)*

It's quite professionally done, did it cost you a lot of money? Yes, you can say that. The first 200 copies and the studio costs costed us about 1250\$ which is not that less when you know we haven't much money at the bill of the group itself, so we had to use our own money. But after all we are happy we did it!

Are there a lot of studios in your town and what are the prices? There's only one studio in our town which is very expensive, they charge 65\$ per hour. We didn't use this studio, we went to one which is 40-50 Km from our town.

Tell us about the scene in Belgium, are there good bands / zines? The Belgian scene is still developing, getting bigger. There's despite everything a miscontent between the core scene and the Death Metal scene, some Core freaks really hate Death Metal, it's a pity. Getting concerts isn't a great problem but getting paid afterwards is something else, mostly you receive just enough for the transport while the organisation usually makes a profit, it's just not fair but what can we

do.. We've got also some good bands here like *Ancient Rites* (Yeah, cool band! Hi Gunther!!!), *Suhrim*, *Vais*, *Chemical Breath*, *Chronic Death*, *Morbid Death*, *Unusual*....

Concerning 'zines we also can't complain, there are some really high quality zines like *Aardschok/Metal Hammer* (Holland) (That's really an underground 'zine, isn't it!), *Deicide* zine, *Decomposed*.

Besides this all, (what about *Final Holocaust*?!?!?) there are also a few individuals who do incredible things for the underground, I'm talking about Uncle Underground, Wim "Hellhammer" Baelus,...

Do you have a good relationship with them, or is it a kind of "fight"? We got a good relationship with all the bands we know and you can surely not talk about "fight". We try to help each other up, though it's hard sometimes.

How often do you play and how many people usually show up? We've done about 18 concerts in our country at the moment. The best one was at Aalst where we played with *Loudblast* and *Morbid Angel* (gods). But we've also played with *Agathocles*, *Chemical Breath*, *Cyclone*, *Chronic Death*, *Zero Positives*, *Ancient Rites*, *Hangover*, *Killer*, *Evil Sinne*... In September we played in France with *Grave* and *Malevolent Creation*. In the middle of next year, we hope to do a tour in Belgium, Holland, Germany and France to "promote" our second demo and an Ep. (So now you know what happened with the recordings from late '92...) When we play with other underground bands, we normally play for 50-150 people but with *Morbid Angel* there were about 400 maniacs.

Nowadays there are thousands of Death Metal bands around, certainly a lot of them will have problems to survive in the near future; what do you think of it and do you think you'll survive? I also think that there are too many bands, a lot of them aren't good but sometimes they take some great things "away" (gigs, ...) just because they know the organisation or things like that. It's not good for the scene, not at all.

What are your lyrics about and are they important to you ? They deal with death, horror, voodoo (*Oh, by the way, I just wanted to say that voodoo people are not... ushh, didn't I mention this somewhere else ?!i, I think I must stop listening to Bon Jovi....*), etc... The first lyrics were already written when I joined so it was stupid to change them. Nowadays I write the

think that everybody has the right to write the lyrics one wants. The content isn't that important to us but when bands try to change the world with their lyrics, it's Ok to me, I really hope they'll have success !

Are you into Satanism or Occult stuff ? There's no Satanist in the band. This doesn't mean that we all are real catholics, but the greatest part is baptized and goes sometimes to the

show. (*This is wrong !!! Maybe I'll write about that in a future issue*) Concerning that Occult stuff, you'll first have to know the following: Exoto stands for the puppet of wax that's used to kill or hurt people on distance. (*Yes, I already know that...*) It's a kind of Voodoo by putting needles into the Exoto and the person.... (*we won't write it all again !*) So it's quite

obvious I think that greatest part of Exoto is interested in Voodoo, which is a form of Occultism, isn't it ? (*Yes, it is.*)

Do you listen to something else than Death Metal, what do you listen to ? Oh yes, I listen to all kinds of music except Classic. (*Why ?*) If you only listen to (Death)-Metal there will be a moment you'll not enjoy it that much anymore and this is the last thing that may happen to me.

Do you get a lot of mail; how many letters per week ? Nowadays, we receive a lot of mail, I think it's a consequence of the good reactions of our first demo which gave us some appreciation in the underground scene. I receive between 15 and 30 letters in a week and Didier also receives about 10 to 15 letters per week, so I think it's a lot of mail for a band like us.

What about a conclusion ? First of all, I wanna thank Patrick and wish him good luck with F.Y.A.F.T., and of course to you for having read this interview, I hope you liked it. If you want more information or if you want to order something don't hesitate to write ! Bands and magazines from Switzerland keep the good faith !

Chris Meynen
Donk 40
2400 Mol
Belgium.

But thanks to you, Chris, for this long interview !

- Patrick -



lyrics by myself but Didier is still a great help. Of course, lyrics are important, but not the content, they must fit to the music, the title is much more important to me !

What do you think of Death Metal bands who write political lyrics ? I

church. I do not think that being a Satanist is wrong, there's also nothing wrong by being a Catholic, it's obvious that if there's a Satan, there's also a God and reverse. No one can judge what's good or wrong, you just have to do you think it's the best, time will



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MYSTERY
DOM SATHANAS



NOTHINGNESS is a Thrash / HC band from France. They have released 2 demos so far: "Uncertain future" and "Will humanity...die". Here comes an interview with bassist/vocalist Bruno:

What has the band been doing these days, are you working on some new demo or something ? Have any labels shown interest ? Sure ! We are preparing all our future concerts and especially an heroic tour in France and Belgium with *Terror Scum* (Hm, I'm afraid it will be difficult since they split up...) and *D.A.B.* We've also released a mixed rehearsal which will be distributed by any interested label (and there are not many !!). The sound of our last demo wasn't great, but we had the energy. A friend of ours, an artist, will also soon redraw our logo.

How has the response been so far and how have your demos sold ? 250 copies of the first demo ("Uncertain future"), even with its bad sound, and we've distributed about 400 copies of the second one ("Will humanity...die") which isn't bad, is it ? (No, certainly not).

How is it that with this great sound, a color cover with lyrics an everything, the price of your last demo was only 4\$? Because we decided that we wouldn't earn anything on the sales, just enough to compensate the basic expenses. We thought it would be the coolest solution for the buyers !

Your lyrics are very political, aren't you bored of it sometimes, wouldn't you like to write something less serious, something fantastic or whatsoever ? Do you want to pass a message through the lyrics and do you think it gets passed ? All our texts are not political. They just tell our opinion on a lot of subjects (environment, social relations...), we let fantastic and fantasy lyrics to other bands who are more talented for this. We don't really have a message, it's just a way to express ourselves, we never force anyone to agree with what we say. We think that songs are a good way to talk about important subjects.

Your music is between Thrash and HC, where do you get the best response ? Among the HC / Punk scene, or among the Metal scene ? We've

got a good response on all scenes, even on the Death Metal scene. We're not close-minded !

And which "side" do you prefer ? If you had to choose, would you prefer to play Heavy Metal or Punk / Alternative ? None of these, what we like the most is what we do. We like to listen to Heavy Metal or Punk, but that isn't really our genre.

What do you think of the scene ? Are there too many Death Metal bands ? Do you like Death Metal ? There is a slow but certain progression of the scene cessions in France and we've still got a lot to do. We need a structure. There are certainly too many bad Death Metal

bands around, I'm the only member of the band who listens to some Death Metal bands (*Entombed, Obituary, Death, Paradise Lost*).

How many concerts have you played so far and with which bands ? We've been playing for two years, and making concerts for one and a half. We played over 20 concerts in France and Switzerland with a lot of fantastic bands (*Merciless, Hoax, Sadist, Sadness, Mestema...*)

Anything to add ? Thanks, brother, to you and to your 'zine. Hello to all your readers: support the underground and contact us for any concerts propositions. Keep cool, control yourself, bye.

Bruno Gregorutti
43 Route de Lyon
84000 Avignon
France

Thanks to you, Bruno and good luck for the future. Stay open-minded.

- Patrick -



The band was founded in early '91 under the sweet name "Putrefact Monstrosity". It didn't take too long until it turned into UNBOUNDED TERROR. Only a few months later, in August '91, they entered the studio to record their debut demo "Sarcastic souls" which got a great response. I got this tape for review from *Drowned Productions* and as I liked it quite a lot, I thought it would not be a bad idea to send them an interview. But meanwhile they released a full Lp on *Drowned Productions*, it's called "Nest Of Affliction". Both releases are reviewed in this issue. The following interview was made with guitarist Vincente.

Tell us about this Lp ! Are you 100% happy with the way it came out ? We recorded it at the *Desgrabaciones Studios*, and new studio here. It was the first time we went to a real recording studio and we had some problems because everything was new for us. The studio where we recorded "Sarcastic souls" was poorer and more simple, it wasn't sufficient for an Lp. We're perhaps not 100% happy with it, 'cause you can always see something that could have been better, but we think the result is excellent.

Is there a difference between "Sarcastic souls" and the Lp ? Has there been an evolution ? Yes, we think that we have evolved with our new tracks, they are more technical and the themes of the demo (included on the Lp) are better played, with some changes that make it more brutal. But in general, it's in the same vein, there isn't a change in the style of music.

How did the demo sell, how has the response been ? The sale of the demo has been very good, better than we thought it to be.

The response has been great in Spain and in whole Europe. We received letters from Holland, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Lithuania, Poland, USA, etc... And here in Spain, a lot of places and bands are getting very good critics.

What did you want to say with "Intro: the malediction", I mean, why do you "frighten" people in the intro when the other songs don't deal with Satanism, it's kinda ridiculous ? We only did the intro to put some atmosphere before the songs start. The name of "malediction" was an idea of Dave and the text is a part of a book and it means that there is always the opposite to something.

Are you Satanists ? Or are you just interested in it because it's "in" nowadays ? Could you explain what Satan represents to you ? No, we aren't Satanists. We aren't interested in any kind of religion or sects... We are only interested in the situation of the world around us and most of the lyrics are about that. Satan is something evil that can exist or not, we don't care.

As I understood the bio, you live on an island, are there other bands there ? How many concerts have you done there and how many

people usually showed up ? Yes, we live on an island. There are a few other interesting Death Metal bands like *Inertial Mass* (techno-death), *Dehumanized* (Death / Thrash) and *Deca Kubitus* (Death). There are also some Thrash bands like *Maldator* (*Metallica, Megadeth*) and some more I can't remember their name, if they have any. We have played 3 concerts, and perhaps 4 by the time you read this. The response of the people (*here he forgot something*) ... because the scene here is poor and all of them are friends of us. We have to play two more gigs soon, but out of the island. We'll play with *Rotten Flesh* and *Mortal Mutilation* in Barcelona on the 24th of July and with *Chococrispis* in Valencia on the 25th. And for the news we have, we can expect a great response.

The band was founded in 1990, one could find you're just a trendy band more ! Or do you think you've got something special to offer ? We don't think that we've got something special. We try to make a music that reaches people and we hope that there will always be more people who like our music. (*His sentence didn't make sense, I guess he meant something like that...*). But we don't think we're just a trendy band more. (*Same thing...*)

Anything to add ? Thanks for your support and for the interview ! We hope you'll like the Lp ! We like the name of the 'zine a lot.

But thanks to you, Vicente, for having taken time to answer our question even if you're having problems with your English ! You can reach him at: UNBOUNDED TERROR, Vicente Paya Galindo, Juan Crespi N°. 29-B Bajos, 07014 Palma de Mallorca, (Balears) Spain.

- Patrick -

MAS OPTICA

August '85: Renegade was born. At that time, they were playing melodic yet powerful Heavy Metal. A first demo called "Social pressure" was released in 89 and sold quite well. Six years later, Renegade in now MAS OPTICA and the music turned into very original Metal, you can't describe it.. They signed with the American label *Red Decibels* and released a debut Lp called "Choose to see more". Mas Optica is: Randy Diderrich (vocals, acoustic/electric guitar), Paul Finley (acoustic/electric guitar, Arabic tabla), Rick Diderrich (bass, backing vocals, alto saxophone) and Brad Hazelton (drums, backing vocals, percussion). The following interview was kindly answered by Paul.

Please present the members and say a few words about their characters ! The members of Mas Optica are: Randy Diderrich (guitars, lead vocals). He is: a bad dresser, a trend hater, emotional, and a picture framing wiz-kid. / Rick Diderrich (bass, saxophone, backing vocals). He is caught between being a bassist or a fisherman for he can't decide which is cooler. / Paul Finley (lead and rhythm guitars, Arabic tabla). He is unique, odd, has special needs and a slouch, yet is also a true guitar God. / Brad Hazelton (drums, percussion and backing vocals). He is a loner and a rebel, but watch out after he'd had a couple of beers.

And how did you get the deal with Red Decibel ? What kind of deal is it and are you 100% happy with it ? We came in contact with the President of *Red Decibels* with the help of a couple of bands we played with and gained a friendship with. Members of these bands (*Last Crack* and *Powermad*) liked our material, played our stuff for the "Deciman" and convinced him to talk to us. We then stayed in contact with the Deciman until the day he signed us on. The contract calls for a three record deal with worldwide distribution by *Relatively Records* with possible work with *Columbia Records*. Damn we're happy with. **You've been around since '85, how do you explain that you didn't get a deal before ?** We

had one other deal in the refinement stages with *Walkthru Fire Records* when they went under in '87, but overall we feel it's because truly original and innovative music like much

of what we created is a great risk to the business man. Besides we were young and naive.

How many demos have you released and how did they sell ? We have released three demos which have sold very well locally, and our latest demo which has five songs that will appear on the Lp has been received well world-wide.

You seem to be very good musicians, how long have the members been playing and how often do you rehearse ? Randy: seven years; Rick: seven years; Paul: ten years; Brad: thirteen years. We all practice together three times a week, and separately practice occasionally (when cartoons are not on), except for Paul who even practices in his sleep !

I won't ask you to label your music, but could you at least name a few bands that influence you the most ? Influences: *The Beatles*, *U2*, *Judas Priest*, *Metallica*, *Men At Work*, *Led Zeppelin*, *Surf Punks*, *Black Sabbath*, *Spinal Tap*, *Pee Wee Herman*... (not necessarily in that order). Everything we hear we consider to be an influence on Mas Optica's overall sound.

How do you compose your songs, in which way are they put together ? Randy and Paul come up with the meat of most of the music we make and Rick and Brad supply the extra special sauce and spices. Randy is the main composer of the lyrics. They are put together part by part by Randy and Paul introducing the guitar parts and having the band add the rest.

Aren't you afraid to bore the listener with all those variations in the music ? No, it should be the opposite ! It's one of our key elements; diversity. It's something *The Beatles* and *Led Zeppelin* did well + made them very unique. *Faith No More's* "The real thing" is a good example of diversity. (Of course, but if the music is always changing and contains too many different stuff, you can't really get into it and it becomes boring !) A song by itself may not be overly complex, but from song to song, there is a great variety to listen to. (Ok, in this case it doesn't get boring 'cause the songs alone aren't too diverse. If in one song you hear Metal, disco, Funk, HC, Classical... you can't get into it and then it gets boring.)

You've been around in the underground for a long time, do you think it has changed a lot ? Is there something that really bothers you about the nowadays scene ? Yes, we feel the underground has changed, all things do. More bands today are able to break from the underground to reach a larger audience, and the underground "sound" gets more popular everyday. What we don't like about the scene is the fact that most bands today stab each other in the back instead of offering support to each other. Also, as always, there are too many snakes in the business who will take you for all you have.

The nowadays scene is overfilled with Death Metal bands, what do you think of it ? Do you like Death Metal ? Death Metal is another thing we don't like about the scene. It's just as silly as Glam Metal.

Tell us about the lyrics, what are they about and are they very important to you

? The lyrics are definitely important to us, if they weren't, we wouldn't bother to write them. We will never limit ourselves to one subject. The lyrics are a mixture of poetry, emotion, fact and fiction. Nothing is black and white clear, we write lyrics in "plaid" so the listener must actively participate with the music and think.

Tell us about your concerts, how often do you play and with which bands have you played ? **How many people usually show up and what is the most important thing when you play ?** Our concert schedule varies greatly. We usually play out a few times a month in the Midwest states, but we hope to play out more often and cover more ground when our Lp comes out. Maybe we will even reach Europe. We have played with too many bands to mention, ranging from garage bands to national bands including the ones mentioned previously. When we play out we can have anywhere from zero people at a show to 350 or 400 at one of our all-ages shows. Our most important things are: playing an entire set (not having the set cut short), playing for living people, and getting teased for not abusing drugs.



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What do you think of religion and what are your personal beliefs ? Any God / Devil ?

Randy: "I'm most happy in nature. Earth is definitely worth praising. Good and Evil are both very glamorous in their own way, but Good will always be in the long run." Rick: "I believe in a personal relationship with God but I hate being preached at." Paul: "I believe in God and Christ strongly. They help make my life and other more whole; to me it all centers around the love of God, man and the earth." Brad: "I don't believe in a higher power. I think the idea is crazy. I have lived my life seeing the idea of GOD being used and abused for wrongful purposes and have never needed any guidance from this idea. But overall I cannot simply believe."

Anything more to say to our readers ? For the readers: If you are tired of corporate Rock, typical grunge, lovesong bullshit and mindless banter, and have an urge to taste the acoustically soulful, electrically ugly, heavy, happy, Rock minded thoughtful music, give us, Mas Optica, a listen (Gooful). PS: Hi *Bloodstar* !

Contact:

MAS OPTICA
921 Lowell Dr.
Waukesha, WI 53186
USA

Gosh, this interview turned out to be great, didn't it ? Thanks a lot, Paul, for having taken so much time for a small zine like us !! I guess I won't surprise anyone if I say that all of the open-minded people out there should write them immediately and buy their Lp !!

- Patrick -

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POSSSESSED

Vol. II

Well,... I started with "well" with the *Messiah* interview, so I'll start with "well" as well. Well, no need to present you this "cult" band.. I'll just remind you their previous Lps: "Seven churches" (85), *Beyond the gates* (86) and "The eyes of horror" in '87. The band split somewhere in '87. But the guitarist, Mike Torrao, reformed it with a totally new line-up, yes, just like *Messiah*. They released a 2 songs demo in 1991 and they should release a full-length Lp in the near future. The following interview was made by Nyar, from *COTIM* zine. He had decided to drop his 'zine, to concentrate on his band and he sent me this interview he had done with Bob. So I did not send another interview to Bob, with which I was in touch and with which I had planned to make one. But a few weeks later, Nyar wrote back saying that he couldn't stop *COTIM*. It was too late for me to send another interview to Bob, so I kept it. But I returned it to Nyar as well, so maybe you can find this interview in both 'zines. Anyway, so here is this interview with Bob.

Only Mike has remained from the original line-up, so do you think that this band is still Possessed ? I mean, the band that released "7 churches" ? We're not the same as the original line-up, Mike feels, since he wrote 9/10 of all the old material, he's the main thing behind Possessed. So far, most people are for this line-up, so why not ? **Does Possessed sound like in those good old days ?** Musically yes, they are in the same vein, but faster.

Do you play the old songs of the first album, or is it just new material ? We mainly play new stuff , so we can get the new album recorded soon. Live, we'll be doing a lot of the old stuff.

Massacre have reformed, now Possessed... do we live in the age of reformations ? What will come next - Hellhammer ? I don't know, we'll have to wait and see.

Some people (including myself, to be honest) could have gotten the impression that Possessed was only reformed because Death Metal is now so big... your view on this ? Actually, where we're from, Death Metal is dead ! No one outside of *Autopsy*, *Sadus* and *Hexx* , even want to touch it.

Possessed (among others, of course) have been one of the bands that started the whole Death Metal scene, so how was it to join such a legend ? How did you get the chance to join the band ? It feels good. I don't think of Mike as a legend, I've

known him for too long. At one time, I was his roadie.

Something that happened before you joined the band was that the inverted cross in the logo was removed. Trey Azagthoth called this "fucking

trendy", what do you think of it ? The band has got tired of the cross in the logo. Personally I wouldn't mind seeing it return.

The debut album of Possessed has been a monumental album, now if you release a new album it will surely be compared to "7 churches", isn't it a lot of pressure on you guys ? I'm sure it could be, but I don't think of those things. As long as we're happy with the material, that's the main thing. If others like it, cool; if not, oh well.

Are you going to wear as much spikes and studs as the band did on the pictures in the innersleeve of "7 churches" ? No, I'm the closet one, with my jackets full of spikes.

I have heard about Jeff Bessera having serious troubles, I read he is paralysed... are you still in contact with him ? Yes, we are. It's fucked up about Jeff's accident. **I can imagine that getting a record deal for a band like you was quite simple, so why did you release the demotape to the public ?** I mean, everybody knows you anyway, so is there really a point in releasing it ? We put out the demo because a lot of people want to hear new stuff. It just gives everyone a taste of the new material.

I saw an interview with you in Mortician Magazine from Holland, do you get a lot of interviews from all over the world ? Doesn't it get boring ? Yes, we get a huge amount of interviews. It isn't boring, it's nice to know that people want to hear what we're doing.

Nowadays, about 99% of all Death Metal bands tune down their guitars / basses. I think that the old bands like Death, Celtic Frost and of course Possessed didn't do this, so isn't it a bit too much now ? Do you tune down the guitars in Possessed ? It was cool when the first couple of bands did it, but now it's a trend. We have a song on which only Mark tunes down his guitar, that's different ! We might have a song or two where all the members tune down, that's up in the air !

Do you use any effect on the bass ? I have an E.Q., delay, distortion, etc.. but I don't use them all the time.

Quite often (too often) you can't hear any bass on Lp's, what do you think is the reason for this ? Are the producers too stupid to mix an album properly so that every instrument can be heard, and not just drums + guitars ? It's really hard to mix bass with guitar. Usually, you have either the bass or guitar over powering the other. It's really hard to get them on an even level.

Do you use a pick and would you consider playing stuff like chords on the bassguitar or slapbass ? I do use a pick, at our speed it's hard to keep up using my fingers. I do have parts where I do chords , in the songs. I'm not into the slapping stuff, I don't like it.

On the bass, do you rather play what the guitar plays, or is it more real basslines that do not have much to do with the guitariffs ? I'm mainly doing the same as the guitar, but a few things are different, here and there, I follow the drums !

What do you prefer, a clean or a distorted bass



? I prefer more clean sounds with a deep, bottom end. I'm still searching for the tones that make me happy.

To end this interview, please tell me what qualities a bassist has to have to be good... I consider myself more as an entertainer than a musician. For a bassist, to be good, he needs to keep the rhythm flowing and stick with the drums !

POSSESSED
Bob Yost
2991 Simas Ave,
Pinole CA 94564
USA

Thanks a lot for the interview, Bob and Nyar !

- Nyar -



DEMO

ABRAXAS: Signs (Germany)

Their latest demo was very good and this new one is even better ! 5 songs of Power Metal in the "German tradition" ! (but don't expect a *Helloween* clone, even if this band could come in mind they've got their originality !). Great vocals, cool melodies, good rhythm, I could only regret a little lack of power. This band is very promising and I'm sure they will get a deal, even if their style is not "in" nowadays. Send 8\$ to: Abraxas, P.O. Box 8, 7401 Nehren, Germany. (P)

ALCHEMIST: Demo 91 (Australia)

Gosh ! This is definitely the most original demo I received for a long time ! What those Australian guys play is undecipherable, a mixture between Thrash, Funk, Grind, *Pink Floyd*, *The Beatles*, and whatever you could imagine. This highly original stuff is very well played and the production is nearly perfect. You've got the power, the melody, the cool riffs, everything ! The printed tape comes with a glossy cover with lyrics and photo, and all in all, this demo is a little masterpiece ! Don't hesitate as second, send them 6\$, you would regret it ! (the first demo is still available for the same price, both demos for 10\$). (P)

ALLEGIANCE: Torn between two worlds (Australia)

This band is well known in Australia and they sold about 600 copies of their debut demo. The band saw the light in early '90 and this tape is their second demo. It's professionally done: glossy cover with photos + lyrics and a great production. The music is aggressive technical Thrash, let's say something between *Exodus* and *Dark Angel* if you want to compare it with another band. These 6 songs will certainly please most of the people into Thrash and as it has its originality you shouldn't hesitate to send 6\$ to P.O. Box 97, Armadale W.A. 6112, Australia. (P)

ALZHEIMER: Inutility of existence (Italy)

Nowadays it's always a good change to get something else than Death Metal and this one really was a good change. Alzheimer play melodic Thrash with unusual vocals. They could be compared to the ones of the German underground band *Haridan*, they are high, melodic, "bold". The music is good, it has the power and the melody I like and the as the vocals make it original the whole thing really isn't bad ! The 5 songs have a good sound and the cover includes the lyrics. Write to Metalmania ARP and ask for the price. (P)

ANESTHESIA: Tomorrow I'll stop (Germany)

It has been over 10 years that this German band is around, so you can imagine that they know how to handle their instruments. Their melodic Speed - Thrash sounds a bit outdated, but it is certainly something interesting for the ones who didn't fall completely into the Death Metal trend. The 5 songs are good and they last for over 30 minutes, the production and the cover are excellent, but as the demo is a bit old and as they've released a new one a short time ago, you should write to ask for the new one. (P)

ARABESQUE: Arabesque (Italy)

Arabesque is another exception to the nowadays "Death Metal rule" as they play Hard / Heavy Rock. The 6 tracks are well played and contain some cool solos and melodic parts. I wasn't blown away, but I'm not into such kind of music, so it's logical. The word "babe" comes up quite often and there is a ballad on it, if anyone cares about that. The cover and the production are well done, all in all you should like it if you're into such kind of music. 6\$ (I think so) to Metalmania a.r.p. (P)

ARMY OF DEATH: Demo 91 (Greece)

Greece delivers us some more Death Metal with this one, but I kinda doubt you'll hear from them for a long time. Uninteresting, very basic Death Metal (I think I should say HC which was meant to be Death Metal). No, sorry, this tape bored me to death (how is it that my tape is n° 150 ???). Ask for the price at: Antonis Rousoudis, Andreou Dimitriou 77, GR 67100 Xanthi, Athens Greece. (P)

BAJAZZO: Demo '92 (Netherlands)

As far as I know, this is the second demo of this Dutch band and the bass player told me that the soundquality had improved. Well, it still isn't that great, but hey, what the hell.. He told me that they play some kind of Hardcore, which is true, but they've also got some links with Thrash, Death and even Doom (!). And this is quite positive, because I think that one mustn't be narrow-minded. The tape contains four tracks: "Emotional suicide", "Send me back", "Warehouse song" and "Just a jerk". I like this tape and I think you'll like it as well. So why wouldn't you buy it ? It will only cost you 2\$! This band needs your support, so don't let them down. Hans Raeymaekers, Schapendonk 31, 4942 CH Raamsdonkveer, Holland. (T)

We heard a few negative things about our reviews, "It's boring", "They should be more funny", or things like that. We tried to put a bit more fun into them, but there are still a shitload of them, we hope you'll like them !! Otherwise, the reviews made by me or Cedric are a bit more severe than before, especially with Death Metal bands. Why ? Simply because there are so many bands around and we must stop this trend some day !! Oh, if you can't find the address, please look if there isn't any interview of the band in the 'zine with the address, if the label address is at another review or stuff like that, we really took care to write all the addresses, so there shouldn't be any problems with that. (it might be a little bit "tricky" to find the address sometimes, but we would get crazy if we would write the address 2-3 times and otherwise you aren't idiots, aren't you ?

BERKAHAL: 666 Dimension (Switzerland)

Yeah, you're right, this band plays Black Metal ! There are 2 or 3 songs that I really like, there is atmosphere in it (there are synths), it's really good & original. There is a thing I don't like: the guitar sound, it's too high. But I think that they got a second guitarist after this demo, so they should get rid off this problem. So if you're into Black Death Metal don't hesitate and send 6\$ to Emmanuel Clivaz, Rue du Collège, 1964 Châteauneuf / Contthey, Switzerland. (C)

BEYOND DAWN: Heaven's dark reflection (Norway)

After *Beyond Illusion* and *Beyond Vision* (and before *Beyond Reality*, *Beyond my bed*, and *Beyond the holy toilets*) here comes *Beyond Dawn* ! Gosh, what a mix-up that will make ! This one is the Norwegian Death Metal band with their second demo. Well, I just said "Death Metal", but I should rather say Death / Black Metal since those 8 songs are really evil ! It can be fast, slow, doomy or thrashy; the vocals change, sometimes they are high, sadistic, sometimes deep & growling, some other times spoken, I like them a lot ! So there are a lot of changes on this demo, although the tracks aren't too different from each others. The overall conclusion, as Twan would say, is that this tape is well worth checking out for 5\$, although you won't get smashed by the originality. Einar Sjurso, H.H.vei 30 A, 1412 Sofiemyr, Norway. (P)

BLACK DEATH: Afraid (Italy)

No, you're wrong, this is not a Black / Death Metal band ! Black Death plays an aggressive Speed / Thrash, quite fast with aggressive vocals you could find in a HC band. The demo has a good sound, but the cover is quite cheaply done. The lyrics are political oriented, but they are not enclosed. There are some mid' fast parts, but it's mainly fast American-like Speed / Thrash, well played. The 5 songs are available for and it's certainly worth checking out for 6000 lira at: Davide, via Berna n° 15, 45010 Rosolina (RD), Italy. (P)

BLACK HEARTS: Black Hearts (Poland)

I think this was supposed to be Death Metal, but the music reminds me more of some kind of Motörheadish stuff (?!). The whole thing is boring, mainly because of the guitar sound. The tape is quite long, there are 10 tracks on it. The vocals are HCish and the sound is on the average. There are much better things around, but you can ask for the price at: Kuba Oleszczak, UL 1 Maja 2/1, 96-100 Lask, Poland. (P)

BLACKLISTED: Demo 1991 (Italy)

This doesn't have anything to do with Black Metal as the name makes suppose. The music is Thrash with melodic parts as well as some HC influences, well played and quite technical. The vocals remind me of the Italian band *Extrema*, maybe with a bit more accent. "Fuck you to live", or "Live fast die hard" can give you a picture of what the band is into. The demo comes with a very good production as well as a color cover with photo. It might sound a bit outdated, but if you are still into cool Thrash (not very, very aggressive), order it from Hot Rock Line / Radio Studio Music, attn: John Lorena, P.O. Box 46, 27024 Clivagna (PV), Italy (no price sorry).

BOOM: Hang er geen ballen in (Belgium)

This is the first time I ever heard about this Belgian Grind band and I think I want to keep it that way... The sound of this tape sucks and the cover is just a simple copy. The tape contains 19 tracks with almost in every title the word "Boom" ("tree"). If you look for a comparison, maybe the Dutch *Fake Slaughter* or the *Sons of Tarentula* from Australia are in order. Only the quality is much more less. I don't want to spend more words on this product. Boom, c/o Harko, Kiezelweg 132, 3620 Veldwezelt, Belgium. (T)

BRAVE BOMBER: First bomb (Japan)

Maji-kayo !?! This is great stuff ! After having copied a lot of things from China "a few" years ago, the Japanese are now trying to play some good German Power Metal, well, at least the 5 guys of Brave Bomber ! This really was a great surprise ! First of all, they've got a great vocalist: his voice is low, deep but powerful and melodic, it's really an original voice. The music is as I said, Power Metal the German way, *Accept* comes in mind the most easily, moreover it's really well done, the 4 songs are really great: powerful, melodic, superb choruses, great vocals, just everything I like ! You could only complain about the little lack of originality of the music, but the vocals make it original. This is really a promising

band and everyone out there should send 4\$ to Masatoshi Saitoh, 101 Fukue-so, 1-15-12 Ksmi - Ikebukuro, Toshima-ku Tokyo 170, Japan ! (P)

BURIAL: Frigid cold (Holland)

As you may know there is a band called Burial in the UK, but now there is also one over here in the Netherlands. A friend of mine (Thanks Robert-Jan !) sent me this demo and he told me it was one of the best Death Metal band from the Netherlands. So you know, I was very curious, 'cause there are a lot of great Death Metal bands in Holland. So I put on the tape and to my surprise he was quite right. This band easily tacks along in the higher divisions of Dutch underground Death bands. The soundquality is absolutely great. The tracks are: "Frigid cold", "Perpetual demise", "Traumatized" and "Pitiful God". Yes, I definitely can say that this is an absolute must. I guess, lately 90% of everything that's been released in Holland is good. Well, maybe a little less, anyway... BUY !! Burial, c/o Van Cantfortstraat 16, 4537 PE Terneuzen, Holland. (T)

BURIAL VAULT: The quest for afterlife (France)

When I wrote this (March '92), the demo hasn't been released yet. It will be out in April. It should have been released in late '91, but due to some technical problems it has been delayed. So far for the domestic information (?!?!), let's go to the music. It is great, great sound, a vocalist who gives you shakes all up and down your spine. The 4 tracks are "Which will scarcely be understood", "The dreams waken memory", "Voices of insanity" and "The quest of afterlife". The synths add a great finishing touch to the music. Yep, this is definitely a BUY OR DIE tape ! Antoine Salaun, 9 rue de Dunkerque, 29200 Brest, France. (T)

CATACOMB. Unreal (Italy)

Founded in late '90, the band is back with a new 4 tracks demo which you can consider as the first "real" demo, since the first one was more a rehearsal. The line-up is no longer the same than on the 1st one, you mainly hear it on the vocals since the singer changed. What Catacomb has to offer is an original, powerful Death Metal with some Doom influences. The vocals are really low and growling and the whole thing is very heavy. You'll also find some melody during the slower parts of the demo (it's about 50/50 slow / fast, I prefer the slower parts). The production is good (maybe a bit too clear), the glossy cover as well, and all in all it's a good demo, better than the average stuff I received these last weeks. It's available from Carmelo Orlando, Via C. Casana 195, 00100 Roma, Italy for 6\$ (P).

CHOCOCRISPIS: Poetry of chaos (Spain)

Dave from *Drowned Productions* sent me this tape for a review, so here we go ! They play Death Metal with HC influences, or should I say Deathcore ? I don't know, and who cares anyway ? It's mainly fast, but there are some rhythm changes with slower parts. The vocals are really low and growling and the whole thing is well played. The lyrics are serious but also funny, but I don't think they're very interesting. There are some unusual parts here and there, it's quite original. But unfortunately I got bored after a few songs.. It comes with a great color cover with lyrics, photos and a great layout, the price is really cheap: 5\$ (6\$ overseas) for 7 songs. So even if it's a bit boring, I think it's worth the money. If you're into Death Metal and also like HC, don't hesitate, but if you're into serious and darker Death Metal, you better forget it. Send 5\$ (6\$ overseas) to *Drowned* or contact the band at: Chococrispic & Carlos, José Faus 3 - 8°, 46023 Valencia, Spain. (P)

CEREMONY: Victims of morbidity (Netherlands)

A friend of mine from the professional (?) Heavy Metal magazine *Meltown* (from Holland) gave me a demo of his band and asked me to review it. He told me the music was technical Death Metal (like *Atheist*) except for the voice and the sound which are rotten. To begin with this last thing, the sound ain't that bad. The technical Death Metal in the vein of *Atheist* and new *Death* is right. But vocalwise, this is one of the best grunts I've ever heard for ages. It really sounds mean and evil. The demo contains 4 tracks: "Victims of morbidity", "Drowned in terror", "Ceremonial resurrections" and "The unholy altar". People who are interested (everyone should be !) can order this demo for 7\$, it's really worth the money ! Mike Chung, Brahmstraat 35, 3281 VC Namansdorp, Holland. (T)

CONCEPTOR: No sign (Norway)

Hey, I kinda think this is not the right title for this demo ! Yes, there are big signs of *Metallica* on this tape ! The first track reminds a lot of "Harvester of sorrow" and the other ones have also got lots of *Metallica* influences. A few things don't sound like them, but it doesn't sound original either. So all in all, I'm afraid we heard most of the stuff on this demo before... But they are good musicians, the whole thing is technical and tight, the sound and the cover are good as well. So the originality is the biggest problem, they would have big chances to get signed if they would have their own sound ! The whole thing is mainly fast, but there are a lot of rhythm changes as well as some slower, melodic parts, but nothing new. The price is 6\$, it's ok I think, but if you want something original, you should try something else. Conceptor, Humlevein 11, 0870 Oslo, Norway. (same address as *Decadence*, he's the brother !) (P)

CRUCIFER: Festival of death (USA, 91)

This is the second demo of this US band, that has recently released a new one along with a 2nd 7" Ep (very productive, aren't they ?), but this one isn't old and it's still available. Crucifer plays, as you guessed, Death Metal. The 7 songs are really good, they're brutal, aggressive and really catchy. The vocals are quite

original, I like them a lot. The production is good and the printed cover includes the lyrics. The whole thing is well worth the 6\$ you should send to *Wild Rags*. (P)

DAMONACY: From within (USA)

Damonacy might sound unknown for a lot of you, but the word *Sadistic Intent* will probably make some light in your head. Yes, they were *S.I.* since late '88 and they turned into Damonacy in early '90. This debut demo "From within" features 5 tracks of Death / Thrash, the American way. I don't like the high vocals, they are original, but boring. The music is rather original, it's fast, heavy, quite good I think. The price is only 5\$ and that's cheap, I think. Stan Zielinski, 586 East rd. Belford, NJ 07718, USA. (P)

DARK MILLENIUM: Of sceptre their ashes may be (Germany)

The production could have been a bit better, but otherwise this demo is a little masterpiece ! 5 songs of great original Death Metal ! It has a lot of rhythm changes (but it doesn't get boring) and the vocals are great. You can also find some melodic guitar solos though the whole thing is really aggressive. Technically, nothing to say, they're good musicians and the songs greatly composed. As you can read in the interview, they got a deal and they'll probably soon release an Lp, so don't hesitate a second and get it before it's too late !! (glossy cover with lyrics and photos, printed tape). Send 12DM (about 8\$, but well worth it !) to their managers address. (Andy Siry from *Master Records*, see NEWS) (P)

DARK NOVA: The skull of the dreamland (live, Greece)

I was surprised by this demo, I awaited an unoriginal Death Metal with a bad sound ('cause it's a live tape), but the sound is really good and the music is a melodic Thrash with it's originality. The whole thing is powerful and well played, the vocals are Ok, which is often not the case with Greek bands (the Greek language differs a lot from the English one). The 6 songs are good, it's a promising band ! The demo comes with a color cover, quite well done, really worth checking out. (they didn't mention any price). Dark Nova & John, 48 Gregoriou Kianonion st., 172-37 Himittos Athens, Greece. (P)

DARK OPERA: The day of Pariah (Poland)

It took a great time, but here is a Polish band called Dark Opera.. As far as I know this is their first official demo, and not just a regular demo. This is absolutely great, it was really worth waiting ! These 5 tracks have got a great soundquality and a reasonably good lay-out. The style played here is dark brutal Death Metal (what else). The only thing that bothers me is that there is a little bit too much echo on the vocals. But when you look through that, it's an absolute must. Piotr Szweczyk, Murarska 7 m 25, 91465 Lodz, Poland. (T)

DARK REALITY: Cruel research (Germany)

Germany offered us some very good Death Metal bands those last days (*Suffocation*, *Torchure*, *R.U. Dead ?*) and this one is no exception. The music is guitar oriented, on the 2 first tracks I even thought there wasn't any bass at all, but on the other tracks you can hear it. The riffs are more Thrash, and even Speed-Thrash, than Death Metal, but the low, deep vocals make the whole thing sound Death Metal (but there are some typical Death riffs as well). The 6 songs are well made up and they're well played and the whole thing has it's originality. The cover is on glossy paper and the artwork is quite good. All in all, this tape is well worth checking out, send them 6\$ and it will be yours. (P)

DEAD END: Purity (Netherlands)

This is a Dutch band, but I got via Cedric, it's not a Twan review... Anyway, this tape is great ! 4 tracks of really good Death Metal: it can be very fast & aggressive, but also (and quite often) slow & doomy. The vocals are very deep and growling and there is a huge heaviness on all the songs. I prefer the doomy tracks with melody, they don't remind too much of *Black Sabbath* and *Candlemass* like most Doom / Death bands do nowadays. The faster parts are done in the Swedish way, it's good as well. All in all, this combination between slow, doomy & very fast and aggressive parts turns out to be really good. The sound is good, the glossy cover as well so hurry up ! 6\$ to: P.O. Box 103, 5450 AC Mill, Holland. (P)

DEATHRAGE: Demo 1992 (Italy)

They'll soon release a 7" Ep and their 3rd Lp will be out in early '93, but meanwhile, this Italian band you had the opportunity to discover in our second issue, released a demo available for 5\$. It contains 6 tracks of powerful HC / Thrash (Crossover, if you want) with good vocals and a good rhythm section. I liked it quite a lot, it's better than their latest demo. It surely has its originality and it's well played. Well worth checking out if you're into this style. Write to: Alessandro Vicini, Fermo Posta, 20092 Cinisello B. (Mi), Italy. (P)

DESECRATOR: 4 new tracks (UK)

These British guys had released an Lp ("Subconscious release") on *R.K.T. Records*, but the label bust and they found themselves labelless. They recorded a demo in March 92 for promotion. They've got a few offers from other labels, but nothing is sure yet. This tape is not for sale, but I guess he would record it if you send a blank tape + 1\$. Well, the music is Thrash / Death in a heavy way, with low and heavy vocals. It's quite fast and aggressive, well played. The 4 songs are good, I liked them quite a lot. The band has it's own sound and I'm sure you'll hear more from them in the future. Check them out if you've got the occasion to do so. Steve Watson, 37 Stoneyford Rd, Sutton in Ashfield, Notts NG174DA, England UK. (P)

DEVISER: Psychic completion (Greece)

First of all, you should know that this band is a one-man band ! He lives in Crete and he has big difficulties to find other musicians. He released a first demo in 1990 on which he did the guitars, vocals, and the bass, the drums were played by a guy living on the other side of the island. He released a second demo in 91, and that's the one I'll review here, so here we go ! Well, there are only 2 tracks + an intro, but you can make yourself an idea about what he's doing. I won't surprise anyone by telling that the music is Death Metal, in a fast vein. You really hear the guitars too much, the drums are far behind and you nearly don't hear any bass, that's a bad thing, especially when the guitar sound is so boring. But the vocals are really good and the songs aren't too bad, considering that the guy did it all alone, it's even very good ! Nothing new on this one, but the guy needs support more than other bands, so it's up to you ! Send 3\$ to Matt Hnarras, 123 Kazantzakis ave., 73100 Chania Crete, Greece. (P)

DISSECT: Presage to Eternity (Netherlands)

After their first demo "Demo I" and a live (P.A.) demo, this Dutch band is getting quite well-known in the underground scene. Now they have released a new studio demo and this one leaves the other two far behind. Low-tuned instruments and a voice that gives you a premature ejaculation. This year, this has been the best demo I received so far. If you have never heard about Dissect, shame must be brought upon you and your family (*what about the friend and the pets ?*). Dark Spells of Dark Death Metal is what you can expect, with a perfect lay-out and a great soundquality. The tracks are "Presage to Eternity", "Spontaneous diarrhoea", "Gals of the eternal solstice", "Pulsating blood", "Disembowelment part I (instr. outro)". Get out of the corner of damnation and go and get this tape for 6\$ at: Vincent Scheerman, Ruisdaelstraat 89, 2406 TD Alphen ald Ryn, Holland. (T)

DOOMSDAY: Demo 92 (France)

They were supposed to release an Lp (I think so), but obviously *Only Rock Records* only helped them putting out a second demo. Anyway, once again, there are only 2 songs on this tape, they've got a good soundquality. The music didn't change a lot from their first demo, it's still this original, powerful Thrash with HC and some Death (few) influences driven by quite typical Thrash vocals. Those 2 songs are powerful and quite fast, I liked them both. Well worth checking out for 5\$ at: Lionel Hozotte, 51 rue Charles Chefson, 92270 Bois-Colombes, France. (P)

EARTH A.D.: Scars of the mind (Canada)

Yeah, here is a Canadian band ! They play a kind of Thrashcore, it's quite good to my opinion. There are good rhythm changes and no solos (they said solos were boring and I agree, solos on Thrashcore is something boring !). I don't have much more to say, except that if you're into Thrashcore you must get this 9 tracks tape with color cover and lyrics ! (*If you don't like Thrashcore too much, like myself: forget it*). Earth A.D. & Shane, Mazzerole 52, Braeburn Crest, Moncton N.B.E1E 2L6, Canada. (C)

ECH-PI-EL 609 DESECRATUS: Promo I (???)

"The summoning through crimson" and "Altars of goatlord" are the 2 tracks that entered my tape-deck in a mysterious way on a cold Summer's day (or was it a hot Winter's day ?!). An inner voice told me to listen to it and to review it, so here I am ! Well, the music only consists of synthesizer, playing slow organ-ish music. It is covered by different slowly spoken voices, nearly whispering voices. It's really evil, but it turns out to be rather boring after a while. If you're into *Mordor* and other experimental stuff, don't miss it. Get it from : The Circle of Azag-Thoth. (P)

ELECTROCUTION: Remains (Italy)

I received this demo from Cedric along with other Death Metal demos and my mailbox also contained some "brutal Death Metal", so one could say that I was a bit overfilled on that day. But as I suppose that very few of you give a fuck about that I better stop with that, don't I ? Electrocution plays fast Death Metal, something between *Sepultura* and *Death*. It's unoriginal and quite boring so the review won't get a lot further. 6 songs, xeroxed cover, good sound and no price. Mik Montaguti, Via Belvedere 82, 40069 Zola Predosa (BO), Italy. (P)

EMBRIONIC DEATH: Regurgitate the dead (USA)

Yurghhh... what a sick cover ! A dead baby.. Blaargh, but it's not over, there is more inside, photos of some "rather dead" people... Well, after having seen this, I wasn't surprised to hear fast, brutal heavy Death/Grind with gurgling vocals and low-tuned guitars. The production is great, but the songs are rather boring. Sorry, but I couldn't get into this stuff. It's quite a new band so those young sick guys (who said "ridiculous children" ?!) will have time to develop their music. 5\$ (4\$ USA) (really cheap for 6 songs and a pro-made color cover with photos & lyrics !) to: Rick Vera, 32 Staler blvd., Hampton Bays, NY 11946 USA. (P)

ENDLESS TEARS: The eye (France)

Here it is ! They didn't laze after having found a vocalist ! You already read about them in the last issue, the music is still the same original melodic Speed / Thrash, maybe a bit better than before. What about the vocals ? Well, they are unusual, it's a mixture between English and French, it sounds strange. Personally, I like it, but the French might bother some of you (the English sounds a bit "frenchy" as well). But it's not only this mixture which is strange, it's not the usual way of singing, it's strange. The printed tape has a great sound and comes with a glossy cover with lyrics. It's available for 7\$, which could seem expensive for only 3 songs, but as I said, it's professionally done, it's certainly worth the money for

open-minded people. Write to: Nicolas Ramaget, 12 bd. du Maréchal Leclerc, 21240 Talant, France. (P)

EUTHANASIA: Wormeater (Italy)

That's an original band name and demo title, isn't it ? As anyone guessed, they play Death Metal, it's quite fast and unoriginal. I like the rhythm section, but otherwise I found it boring. It's not badly played and the songs aren't too bad either, but they don't have anything special. The sound is good but the cover is bad, but if you're into buying every Death Metal demo, don't miss this one. For a first demo it's ok, I think. Manuele Bruno, Via Matteotti 9, 40012 Caldera di Reno (BO), Italy. (P)

EXCIDIU: Defunto (Italy)

Great cover, great sound, well presented ! Some synths parts immediately take you into one of the darker side of this world, (gosh, how frightening a demo review can be !!) and then the average fast Death Metal starts... The *Toxodeth*-like vocals bring a quite evil atmosphere and the whole thing is well played. The songs are good, they "make you keep your attention to it". The vocals bring some originality (although we've heard such vocals before, but no very often), but the music is not especially original. You'll find some more synths before and after the 4 tracks. The 2nd one is a short song, with only synths, it's not really song, it's not really interesting, but it's well done. All in all, this tape is really worth the 5\$ it costs and the music is not the most unoriginal around these days, so order it !! (P)

EXTREME MASTURBATION: Sex deviousness in mind (Spain)

Here comes another release from *Drowned Productions* ! And again, great color cover with photo (but without lyrics). This time the sound isn't the best. Songs like "Syphilis", "Vaginal infection" or "Precocious ejaculation" show you what the band, if I can say it like this, is (deeply) into. The music is Grind / Death / Noise in the vein of an early *Napalm Death*, *Agathocles* or *Carcass*. Personally, I'm not really into that kind of stuff. The music is not very well played and the whole thing is boring, but people who are into the previously mentioned band could like it. There are 12 songs for about 20 minutes and the vocals sound like a pig, if you think this one is for you, send 5\$ (6\$ overseas) to *Drowned* or contact the band at: Carlos Molina, Bda. Madres Carmelitas Blq. 4. 3ºB, 41710 Utrera (S), Spain. (P)

FESTER: Winter of sin (Norway)

Here we have some really good stuff ! This promo tape is a bit useless since Fester signed with *No Fashion Records* and will soon release an Lp, but it will at least show us what the Lp should sound like. Their music can be described (even if they don't like it) as somekind of Black Thrash / Death with screaming, high vocals. It's slow, powerful and evil (don't listen to this tape while your grand mother is at home, you would be banned from the family !). The Lp will be available in October from *No Fashion Records* made by the editor of *Putrefaction 'zine* which we reviewed in the 'zine pages, so the most intelligent among you should find out where they'll find the address without too big problems.. The price is 15\$ I think. (P)

FLAMING ANGER: Humaniced (Germany)

Those 4 songs are pretty good, the music is original, it's Thrash. I like the vocals, they are great and original. Those 22 minutes of music would certainly fit well to your collection ! The sound is good and the color cover includes the lyrics, so 5\$ are certainly not too much for this tape. Send them to Frank Wittke, Dreihügelstr. 75, 4630 Bochum 1, Germany. (C)

FUNERAL: Welcome to the frightzone (Netherlands)

Again a demo from the Dutch Limburg. The scene over there must be real good. Look what kind of quality bands are coming from this part of Holland.... *Excavation*, *Castle* and undoubtedly many more. This tape contains 4 tracks + intro: after the intro, all hell breaks loose (*What ?!*) with tracks like: "Scared to death", "Crypt of the living", "Days of doom" and "The unholy". The quality of the tape is good and has a clear production. The music is Death Metal the Swedish way, but not too fast, at least not all the time. Great tape, BUY !!! Josef Folkerts, Steegstraat 38, 6133 AL Sittard, Holland. (5\$, 6\$ overseas). (T)

FUNCUNT: Colckäccol (Finland)

Another demo from Finland ! The scene over there must be enormous. This time it's the band Funcunt. After their first demo "Minatwelli" they released a second demo called "Colckäccol". This band has got a high level of originality. First of all, they sing in Finnish. Secondly, the style is not Death Metal, it's a sort of mixture between Thrash, Fusion and funky stuff. There are only two possibilities: you like it or you don't like it, there is nothing in between. And I definitely like it ! The tracks are "Krummul", "Kitarel" and "Äänel". The tape lasts 24 minutes and has got a great soundquality, buy ! (try with 5\$) Funcunt c/o J. Sairo, 29570 Söörmarkku, Finland. (T)

GULLED CORPSE: Pain of resurrection (Poland)

I won't blame this Polish band for the bad cover and the not too good production, but I really have to blame them for the music. These 4 unoriginal, and most of all boring tracks of Death Metal did really convince me that you won't hear from them for a long time. A positive thing could be found: the growling vocals are quite good, but otherwise I'm afraid that most of the other stuff reviewed in here is more worth your money. (no price, sorry...) Pawel Zyetak, UL. Inowroclawska, 29-48 / 53-649 Wroclaw, Poland. (P)

HALIFAX GIBBET: Tyrannicide (France)

This band recently changed their name to *Oddmångers*. This demo contains 3 songs and comes with a rather bad xeroxed cover, the sound is good. The music is Thrash / HC, the faster parts are Ok, but the slower parts are boring (but you can hear some good guitarwork on those slower parts). All in all, their music lacks of power and it didn't really satisfy me, but technically it's well played and musically it's different from what you can hear these days, so it's up to you ! Alex Aujolas, 20 rue Camille Desmoulins, 38400 St Martin d'Hères, France. (P)

HECATOMBE: Commit yourself... or deny ! (France)

Very good color cover with photos, lyrics and a printed tape is what you'll get with this one. The sound is good, but the music is a bit disappointing. They play a not too fast-not too slow Death / Thrash, quite well played with brutal vocals., but I couldn't get too much into it, the guitars are boring, you don't hear anything else than those eternal guitars. But the songs are not bad, they just don't offer anything new. The faster parts are better, less boring. The whole thing is quite Ok, but I think there's better stuff around, it's available for 40FF or 12DM. (about 6\$) at: Sacha Bach, 09 rue des Fleurs, 57410 Petit Rederching, France. (P)

HOMICIDE: We on the cross (Italy)

When you see the title you await somekind of Black / Death Metal band, but you're totally wrong ! (yeah, it's a bit frustrating...) This 1987 founded band play Thrash with some Speed influences. There are a lot of rhythm changes on those 5 songs as well as some unusual stuff. The musicians are good and the music is original, but I got a big bored after a few songs. Anyway, the demo comes with a color cover with lyrics and a good sound. If you're into Thrash with originality, you'll certainly like it, but if you're only into Thrash with a lot of power, I'm afraid you won't like this one too much. 6\$ to: Alex Gioia, Via Fezzan 9, 20146 Milano, Italy. (P)

HUMAN WASTE: Existential nausea (Spain)

Drowned Production offers another Spanish band, this time it's Human Waste from Tarragona. As always, the whole thing is very well done: pro made color cover with lyrics, photo,... and a printed tape with a great sound. The music is not bad as well, it's original (well, not unoriginal) brutal Death Metal with unbelievable vocals. Yes, they are really raw, a bit high pitched, screaming, great ! the 7 songs are quite good and they are well done, the rhythm is fast but there are rhythm changes with slower parts. It can get a bit boring, but it's a rather good demo, get it from *Drowned Productions* (5\$, 6\$ overseas). (P)

ICELAND: Iceland (France)

Here comes some melodic Speed - Thrash from France. The tape contain only 2 songs, it's more a promo tape than a demo. The sound is good and the whole thing is quite well played, but the songs and especially the "french influenced vocals", if you know what I mean, get a bit boring, they lack of power and originality. I'm afraid there are a lot of better demos around... But it's a young bands and as I said before, it's quite well done, so maybe you would like to check it out anyway ? Write to Christophe Avelange, 5 rue de l'Île de France, 78570 Andresy, France and ask him how he wants me to write the price if he doesn't mention it. (P)

IMPALED NAZARENE: The oath of the goat (Finland)

Oops, I'm sorry, in fact the title is hidden, the demo is called "taog eht fo htao eht", sorry guys for having enlightened this very well hidden, subtle title... Anyway, Impaled Nazarene is the kind of band you love or you hate, but I'll try to stay objective. The people who will love it are the Black Metal freaks who are into Grind / Grindcore as well: yes, this is very fast, aggressive Black - Grind Metal with Satanic lyrics and a really evil atmosphere. The other ones will hate it because the whole thing is quite easy to play, there are only 1-2 riffs per song and the songs are quite similar; in fact, they will certainly consider it as senseless noise. Otherwise the cover is Ok, nothing special, the sound is good and the whole thing is available for \$. Well worth the money for people into "I deny J.C. the deceiver"- "Fuck the holy spirit"- "Hail Satan"-ing, the other ones better forget it. 6\$ to Mika Luttinen, Kuruvuorantie 3, 90630 Oulu, Finland. (P)

IMPERIUM: Concept of paradox (Netherlands)

When you see this demo there is something that immediately strikes you: there are only 3 tracks. But they are quite long, at least the 3rd track. The tracks are "Messiah Mask" (4'56), "Chemical dreams" (4'09) and "Awakening" (8'54). Then you listen to the tape and you might be quite surprised about the soundquality, (which is superb) as well as the style which is not Death Metal. The style is Techno-Thrash, in the vein of *Toxik* and with some *Watchtower* / *Hades* influences. The only little bad thing is the vocalist: he doesn't come clear in the higher regions. But for the rest it is an excellent tape. Imperium, P.O. Box 1058, 7550 BB Hengelo, The Netherlands. (try with the usual 6\$) (T)

IMPRECATION: Ceremony of the nine angles (USA)

After *Severance*, another Texas based Death Metal band sent me their demo (I suppose I should thank *Severance* for it, if yes, thanks !). Their music is even more brutal, it's a fast Death / Grind with growling vocals, it nearly doesn't slow down, really raging stuff ! "As blasphemy reigns" or "Poltergeist Fathomed" can give you a picture of what the lyrics are about (they are not included on the well-made glossy cover). The production is very good while the whole thing is well played. It could be a bit more original, but if you're into fast Death / Grind the

American way, send 6\$ (5\$ in the USA) to Wes Weaver, 1703 Patricia Lane, Mo city TX 77489, USA. (P)

INDICA: Demo 92 (USA)

This is Thrash Metal the way I love it !! It's powerful, fast, tight, melodic and original, really good !! I love the vocals, they can be really powerful but also melodic. The 6 songs are well played and the production is good as well, I could only complain about the cover which is nothing special. If you're into Thrash, you will like this one. Send 6.5\$ to: P.O. Box 91848, Santa Barbara CA 93190-1848, USA. (money orders to: Chris Ferrante). (P)

INFERIA: Curible orpheus (Finland)

Well, I was waiting for unoriginal Death Metal and I didn't get surprised, I was right. It's fast, grinding, heavy Death Metal with deep growling vocals. I guess you heard this description more than once and I'm sure you would think that you've heard this demo more than once before, maybe in a better way. No, I'm sorry, there is some good stuff on the end of the last song, but that didn't prevent me from falling into a deep abyss of boredom. It's their first demo so we could only wish them to evolve a little bit. Bye bye ! 3\$ to Jani Huttunen, Uotilank 9E, 15840 Lahti, Finland. (P)

INSANITY REIGNS SUPREME: Demo '91 (Belgium)

I usually like to compare my reviews with other ones. So when I had to do this one, I took a professional (yeah, right !) Hard Rock / Heavy Metal magazine from Holland and read what the guy had to say. (*Now we know why sometimes his reviews are good and some other times totally shitty !! No, just kidding...*) He said it was an average Death / Doom band with a vocalist from whom you can't understand what he's singing. Quite negative. But when I listened to the tape, I went to a surprising conclusion: how wrong could he be ?! Man, this is one of the best Doom / Death band I heard lately ! The tracks are: "Mortalising the dead", "Lazarius return", "Altered existence" and "Red plague". This tape has a great soundquality and a very good lay-out, this is simply a highly professional band. Sometimes they use a female background singer which adds a nice mood to the music. (*How funny ! It seems to me that another Doom band made the same thing before ! What strange feelings I have !*) You couldn't really compare them to *The Gathering*, but the name could come in mind when you search for a comparison. Absolutely one of my faves, guys, you're on my playlist of '91 ! Ron Cotar, Asterstraat 9, 3660 Obglabbeek, Belgium (6\$ + 2 IRCs). (T)

LACERATED DEFUNCTS: Rehearsals 92 (France)

For a rehearsal, the sound is quite good. The music is a slow Death / Doom Metal, quite simple and rather boring to my opinion. There is some melody and the vocals are good, I like them, but all in all I didn't like this stuff, it lacks of power and originality. There are 3 songs and the cover is xeroxed. Lacerated Defuncts, 13 allée du Muguet, E/5 59410 Anzin, France. (P)

LAZY LIE: Circus of celebration (Germany)

I must say that I'm not really into this kind of music, but I have to admit that it's really good in the genre ! The style is Hard Rock with US-glam vocals. The whole thing sounds quite Rock'N Roll-ish and there is also some power in it. On the 5 songs, there is only one ballad, if someone cares about that. The whole thing didn't really impress me, but a song like "Time is" is more than Ok to me and otherwise the songs are well done and well played. I'm sure that if you're into Hard / Heavy stuff you'll like this one. Check it out for 10 DM (about 6\$) at Brian Liepins, Pottgraben 58/60, 4500 Osnabrück, Germany. (P)

LEUKEMIA: Innocence is Bliss (Sweden)

Yes, this is Swedish Death Metal ! It has this typical Swedish sound, but this band also has it's originality. There is some melody in it and I would say some little HC influences, otherwise the vocals are quite original. There is also some "funny talking" on the songs, but even I think it's a bit ridiculous, so if you're into "pure true serious Death Metal" you better check out something else. All in all, this is a brutal Death Metal demo with melody and originality, nothing really great, but certainly something worth checking out. They have just recorded their debut Lp and it should be out when you read this, so you better ask for the Lp. Kentha Philipsson, Landsv. gt. 26, 640 32 Malmköping, Sweden. (P)

LITTLE DEVIL: Insemination (Denmark)

I didn't hear many Dannish bands, but what I heard was very convincing ! After the raging *Konkhra*, here comes the devastating Little Devil ! 7 songs of very aggressive Thrash / HC / Noise / Death Metal with very brutal vocals (with a lot of effect, distortion I think) and huge amount of power. From faster (mainly) to slower parts, Little Devil really rips your brains off ! The presentation is very good (color cover, great sound, ...), the lyrics are interesting and the whole thing is really something you should have ! Send 5\$ to Johnny Jonaff, Gymnasievej 123 3th, 4600 Koge, Denmark. (P)

LUBRICANT: Swallow the symmetric swab (Finland)

Five tracks of fast and devastating Grind / Deathcore with a great sound and a glossy cover is what this demo is all about. Well played, powerful, *Carcass*-like lyrics and vocals, but not unoriginal music (but there are some *Carcass* influences as well), all in all, this tape is really worth checking out for only 4\$ (5\$ overseas). Really promising for a first demo ! Sami Viitasaari, Vihnukskatu 30A 6, 37150 Nokia, Finland. (P)

MALEDICTION: Framework to contortion (UK)

This 1985 founded British Death Metal released Eps and got deal offers from *Nuclear Blast Records* and *Peaceville* after this demo, so it has got a bit uninteresting. Anyway, this tape contains rehearsal and live songs, so the sound is not the best. Their fast, well played Death Metal is original, but I think I could compare it to *Bolt Thrower* playing in a less heavy way with less heavy vocals. What should I add, it's good Death Metal, certainly a lot better than the average stuff. Wait for the Lp and contact them at: Mark, 107 Inmans Road, Hedon, Nr. Hull, Humberside, HU12 8HU, England. (P)

MD Flush: MD Flush (France)

Hooouch, it was difficult to listen to this one, it's strange stuff. First of all, there is this unusual drum-machine, it reminds me of *Godflesh*. The music has nothing to do with *Godflesh*, it's a kind of Heavy Metal, it could remind *Queensrÿche*; there are also some Thrash parts in it. I really don't like the vocals, they are really boring. Otherwise the sound and the cover could have been really better. All in all, I don't think this stuff is mature enough, I didn't like it. But I would be pleased to hear from them in a few months, and I think you should wait for some new stuff as well. \$5 to: Jérôme Daulin, 60 boulevard Pesaro, 92000 Nanterre, France. (P)

ANATHEMA: Demo '91 (Finland)

The Finnish Anathema is no more. You may know (if you have already read some of my other reviews) that they have released a 2 tracks demo, but a bit earlier they have released a 4 tracks demo, titleless. The style is somehow the same, and the tracks are "Yellow phlegin", "Perdition", "Enigma of departed" and "The first symptoms of rotting". I don't know if it's for sale, but you surely can try, it's great vocals work.

MELCORN: Demo '92 (Finland)

After Anathema died, there was a new formed and it is.... Melcorn. I don't know if it's already out, according to Pasi I was the first one who received it. If you liked Anathema, I guess you'll also like Melcorn. You can easily say that Melcorn goes on, where Anathema left off. Again great vocals work, excellent soundquality, why don't you buy this? Pasi Salonen, Ohenmäki, 74510 Peltosalmi, Finland. (T)

MINDROT: Faded dream (USA)

Unfortunately this tape is not for sale, it's only for promotion. Mindrot plays a heavy, mainly slow & doomy Death / Grind / Industrial Metal, it's really original. The deep growling vocals make it even heavier. As Dan says in the interview, it's different from their previous demo, it's slower; I would say it's "more atmospheric", it's less Death Metal, well, it's just different. The production is very good and the glossy cover includes the lyrics. All in all I really liked this tape, this band is certainly one of the best US underground bands and you can contact them at: Matt Fisher, 6311 Turnberry cr., Huntington Beach, CA 92648 USA. (P)

MISTER E: Demo I (France)

I was a bit surprised with this one, the presentation is really bad, but the production is good and the music is well played. The style is Thrash in an aggressive way, with some HC influences. The 2 tracks aren't unbelievable, but they're Ok. The vocals are good, I like them quite a lot. The tape is available for only, and the whole thing is worth checking out, not much more to say about this one.. Mr. Cagnat, II Avenue Maurice Ravel, 38130 Echirolles, France. (P)

MKZ: A boire ! (France)

Yes, the lyrics are in French, and this is a thing that will bother some (most) of you. But I'm afraid it's not the only thing...The music is very *Motörhead* influenced and the vocalist tries to sing like Lemmy, unfortunately the result sounds a bit ridiculous. Songs like "à boire !" (to drink !), "No speed limit", "Vicking", (yes, written like that) also remind *Motörhead* (the lyrics are even less interesting). The whole thing is very well done: printed tape, color cover (made by *Philippe Dupin*, by the way !), lyrics, photos and a good sound. But the 5 songs are too unoriginal and boring, try something else. MKZ, BP 101, 78410 Elisabethville, France. (40 FF) (P)

MOONCALF: Kill the fool (USA)

First of all, this band recently changed the name to "Overman". So here we go with the demo: the vocals remind of James Hetfield and the music is also in the vein of *Metallica*, *Testament*... It's pretty good, I love the guitar solos, but all in all it's not very original. But this demo is very old (1990), so I can imagine that they got a bit more original with the time. There are 9 songs and a good cover with lyrics, but as I said, it's an old tape. You can get it for \$5 + IRC, but I would advise you to write and ask about newer stuff. PO Box 18314, Raytown MO 64133, USA. (C)

MORDANCY: Mortals slow decline (Netherlands)

Here is a 6 tracks tape of Mordancy ! To be honest, a totally unknown band to me... Style: Death Metal. Soundquality: absolutely great, layout: very good, except for the logo (but who cares about that ?) (*Hi there TuPe !!*) Nice cover, with photos of the band members, so you know who you are dealing with. I like this demo a lot. The tracks are "Macabre justice", "White magic's kin", "Chronical agony", "Lonely", "Unsociable" and "Violent by nature or nurture" (!!!) These 5 guys surely know how to handle their instruments. They've got the average Death Metal influences, like almost every Death Metal band. Great voice and well played. There's absolutely nothing to complain about this tape. If you want to

contact them, enclose an IRC. I guess 6\$ will do, otherwise send 10 Dutch guilders. Mordancy, c/o Schumanstraat 14, 4536 CT Terneuzen, Holland. (T)

MORDOR: Csejthe (Switzerland)

Yes, they are back to torture all the helpless zine-editors and other underground maniacs !! (Hi J.O. from *Alliage* !!) They've been joined by a third possessed member and they didn't wait to release this second demo. But it has to be considered as an adv. tape for a tape that will soon be out on *Wild Rags* records. It will be an 86 minutes tape featuring remixed versions of both demos as well as some other sick stuff, the whole thing will come with a dark package and will be available for 8\$ from *Wild Rags* or from the band. Anyway, this demo is a blasphemy ! This time it's 5 songs for 43 minutes of mayhem ! The music changed a bit: they've gone a bit longer and they're a bit less experimental, but the whole thing is still this unbelievable dark, heavy, slow Death / Doom / Black Industrial Metal with Classical influences, really amazing ! If you're looking for some original stuff, this is for you ! (if you're not into dark stuff, forget it, it might be dangerous for you !!) Mordor c/o Gora, B.P. 360, 1020 Renens Vd I, Switzerland. (P)

MORPHEUS: Accelerated decrepitude (USA)

Here is another brutal Death Metal band from the USA ! This one is a good band: good vocals, good songs, good cover (no, not at all, he he !), but a bad soundquality and that's really a pity. There are very good riffs in the vein of "the gods of Death Metal" and good rhythm changes ! I think you should buy this one, send \$5 to: Rob Yench, PO Box 3051, Middletown N.Y. 10940, USA. (C)

MORTUARY DRAPE: Doom return (Italy)

Hello you old goats and other Black Metal freaks ! If you want Black Metal of the top shelf, buy this !! If you aren't into Black Metal, leave it the fuck alone... This Italian band is inspired, to my opinion, by the old *Hellhammer*, *Mayhem*, *Bathory* and *Venom*. The soundquality isn't that great, but who cares ? It's Black Metal and not trendy Death - Doom, although the title can make you think differently. The tracks are: "Undead revenge", "Necromancer", "Pentagram" and "Soul in sorrow". Only the true Black Metal should write to this band... Maini Walter, Via Del Coniglio 98, 15100 Alessandria, Italy. (T)

MYRIAD: The well (Netherlands)

At a gig of this band, just a little while ago, I bought the third demo of this Dutch techno band. But it's not just techno, there are also Thrash, Doom, Heavy Metal and even Hard Rock influences; but don't think it's soft, no way !!! This is one of Holland's most original band and that's a good change. The soundquality is great, the cover of the layout is perfect, there is absolutely nothing to complain about. On side A, you'll find "Neo-mental jam-event", "Hope instead of despair" and on the other side "Myriad of Orizons" and "Ommadawn". If you want info, write to: Esther Mauritsz, Rubinsteinstraat 337, 5011 ND Tilburg, The Netherlands. I guess 6\$ will do. (T)

NEMBRIONIC HAMMERDEATH: Lyrics of your last will (Netherlands)

A couple of days ago, I received a package of this Dutch Death / Grind band. They are very good, 'cause they are already featured on various Dutch compilation Cd's, but they must get more well known internationally. Just look at the tape and cover: great lay-out (although it's a kinda strange cover, but what the hell ?!), great music, more on the Death Metal side than on the Grindcore one. The tracks are "Devoted to the divine", "Pathological museum", "Necroicide", "Unseen thoughts" and "In your own hell". buy this or dwell in Heaven for ever !! (*Nooooo !! I don't want to play the harp on clouds !!*) Nembrionic Hammerdeath, c/o Vlusch 25, 1561 PP Krommenie, Holland. (*Hmm, that was not tricky enough Twan ! You tried to hide that you lost the price, but everybody saw it !! Anyway, I advice you to try with 6\$!*) (T)

NEMESIS: Against the past (Greece)

Here comes a Greek band playing Power Metal. First of all, there are 5 songs, a good color cover and the lyrics coming with this tape. Well, I think it's a good band that knows how to handle their instruments (good rhythm changes). The vocals are good and the sound is excellent. So if you're into Power Metal you'll certainly like this one. Dimitris Loutsigkas, I. Asteriadi 19, 65403 Kaval, Greece. (C)

NERGAL: Symbol of Zadkiel (Switzerland)

Nergal is almost the same band as *P.S.F.* used to be ("Grotesque ecstasy"). Where the *P.S.F.* tape didn't have a great production, this one surely is much, much better. Real Black Metal with a lot of Classical influences. I've also noticed some Gothic influences. There has been a 100% improvement since *P.S.F.* (and I already liked that demo !). This tape really kills ! The tracks are: "Rite of Beltane", "Symbol of Zadkiel", "The winter solstice black mass (cosmic brain surgery)" and "Fountain (in eternal halls)". Absolutely true Black Metal, support this band ! They've also released an Ep on *Wild Rags*, but meanwhile, send 6\$ for this demo to: Mike Brüger, Brügglweg 3, 3113 Rubigen, Switzerland. (T)

NIGHTLORD: Approaching thunder (England)

I didn't expect that ! Very good Thrash, or maybe Speed / Thrash in a mainly fast vein, tight powerful, great ! The production is also very good, the cover not bad either. The best track is "Vote for me", I think, good rhythm, fast, aggressive, just as I like it ! The musicians are not bad at all, the rhythm is tight, the guitars deliver 1-2 good solo, what do you want more ? But well, I must try to stay

objective, there are a few bad things: it's an older one (1990), there are no lyrics and it's not too original, but it's really a good demo ! 4 songs for 2.5£ is not expensive, so order it ! 3 Manor drive, Hanworth, Middlesex, TW13 6RR, UK. (P)

NOCTURNAL RITES: Promotape 92 + Demo 91 (Sweden)

Well, this band plays Death Metal, as anyone guessed. There are 4 good songs with cool rhythm changes on the demo, but I prefer the promotape: the sound is better, the vocals are better (more brutal), the compositions are better and the music is slower. That has to be a good sign, the band evolves. This promotape is certainly worth having, it's really good ! You can order it from Fred Mannberg, Stjärngränd 24, 902 63 Umea, Sweden. Please don't ask me for the price ! (C)

NO SILENCE: Dreams of immortality (Germany)

This tape filled the silence with 4 songs of good Thrash, or well, "progressive Thrash" if you want me to be precise, on the technical side. It didn't blow me away, but it's good. There could be more power and the vocals could be better: the vocalist should sing a bit more instead of this "singing-speaking", if you know what I mean. The sound is good and the presentation as well: A good tape, but no reason to jump around. 4\$ (really cheap as the sound is good and the color cover includes lyrics) to: D. Baptista, Mainzerstr. 19, 8760 Miltenberg, Germany. (P)

OFFENDER: Informal balance (USA)

Ah, it was good to hear some cool stuff after all the Death Metal demos I received those last few days ! This American band plays melodic progressive Metal with a lot of feeling. 3 of the 4 songs are in a slow speed, while the last one is a bit faster. The songs are well put together and the production is very good. Personally, I love the song "Frozen rose", it's great. A whole Lp could get a bit boring if they don't put some more power into their songs, but they've got good chances to get a deal. The tape is a bit old (90), but it's still available for 5\$ and I think it's Ok. If you're into melodic Metal, you should check it out. (It comes with a printed tape and lyrics). P.O. Box 20474, Minneapolis MN 55420, USA. (P)

OID: Our Inner Death (Italy)

No, it doesn't have too much to do with Death Metal, this Italian band is more into Thrash with HC influences. OID have been around since September '88, had a lot of line-up changes and finally recorded this first demo in late '91 (with only one original member left). As I said, they play a raw, aggressive Thrash with quite a lot of HC influences. I think I can say that it could be tighter, but it was recorded only 6 months after the original bassist Gigi found new members, so they'll certainly improve on this side. But otherwise the songs are well done, the vocals are heavy, low, virile, the guy could easily sing in a US HC band. The production is a bit too rough, but the cover and the printed tape are well done. These 7 songs are available for 7\$ at: Gigi Casini, Via Rueglio 8, 10148 Torino, Italy. (P)

ORTH: Blast of silence (Germany)

"Ort" means "place" in German, but who cares about that anyway ? Orth is a 5 piece German Death Metal band which has been created in early '90. This is their second demo and it shows a good Death Metal: original, powerful with fast, but also slower doomy parts with cool, low, growling vocals. The 4 songs are well put together and well played, the sound is good and it's available for 6\$ at: Felipe Luciano, Mozartstrasse 8, 3030 Walsrode, Germany, check it out ! (P)

OVERLORD: Sinister path (Germany)

This is only a promo tape, the real studio demo should be released later this year. I consists of only 2 tracks ("Sinister path" and "Fear in my dreams" (instrumental)). But if you are lucky and ask nicely, you'll also receive 4 tracks taken from the rehearsal room. These tracks will be on the new studio demo and are without vocals and solos. But let's get to the music: this German band plays Death Metal, the slow kind, with many faster parts in it. The soundquality is acceptable, these guys know how to handle their instruments and the vocalist rips your balls off (well, at least with some of us). There certainly is an amount of originality. So, all in all, you can see this a band to keep an eye on. This already is great, so beware of their studio-demo. Lutz Hommel, Südstr. 1, 4200 Merseburg, Germany. (T)

PANDEMONIUM: Devilri (Poland)

After a little wait and summoning I finally received the second tape of the Polish Pandemonium (one of my faves and big-Samael fans). This should give you an idea of what they sound like. They aren't copies of them, no, they add a lot of originality to it. This tape is officially produced and distributed by *Carnage Records* (Poland). The tape comes along with a great soundquality and great cover and it contains 7 tracks. Write to (6\$ should do) Pekar, Kochanowskiego 13/56, 91-469 Lodz, Poland. (T)

POSSESSED: Demo 1991 (USA)

Well, I kinda think I'm reviewing a cult band or something, or not ? Anyway, Possessed are back with a new line-up, but the music is still Possessed, they even made some "back -to-the-roots"-ing since it sounds more like "7 Churches" than like the 2 other releases, the main difference are the vocals and the speed (it got faster). So the music is a fast, devastating quite technical Thrashy Death Metal, the way it was meant to be (since they were one of the first band to do it). There are only 2 songs, but they are really good. There is a lot of effect on the vocals, it's a kind of saturated growl. The tape should still be available, but hurry up: 5\$ to the band. Bob Yost, 2991 Simas ave., Pinole CA 94564, USA. (P)

POWERTRIP: Troubles (France)

Excellent presentation ! Printed tape, great production, well done color cover with lyrics and everything. The music is not bad either, it's very well done HC / Thrash ("Crossover", if you want), really powerful and convincing. There are some melodic parts, but most of the demo is raging. The typical HC vocals stick very well to the music, but the negative thing of the demo lays there: his English isn't perfect. But I'm sure this won't bother anyone out there, so if you're into Thrash and don't deny HC, these 7 songs are more than worth the money ! (sorry, no price...) Pierre Yvon-Le Gall, C.C.M. Place de la Liberté, 29200 Brest, France. (P)

PROTON BURST: Prototape 92 (France)

These guys had get a deal on a French label, but unfortunately the label got into money troubles and the Lp can't be released. Now they are looking for a new deal. To be frank, I'm a bit sceptic about their chances to get a good deal, there are quite a lot of other French bands who deserve to get signed. I especially don't like the vocals, they are really boring, I would say it's a "shitty growling HC vocals". The music is quite fast Death Metal, quite well played, but nothing new. If you're not looking for something new and if you like HC vocalists, you should check it out for 6\$ at: Axel Kriloff, 25 avenue Paul Vaillant Couturier, 94110 Arcueil, France. , if not, forget it. (P)

PUSTULATED: Pustulus (Switzerland)

It's the first demo from this young Swiss band. I think it's promising for such a new band, it was recorded quite a short time after the band's creation. It contains 4 mid-paced Death Metal tracks with a really low, sadistic voice. The songs are quite good, nothing really new and amazing, but not unoriginal or bad either. It could be more technical, 'cause it can get a bit boring, but as I said, it's a new band and I'm sure they can become something. The whole thing has a good sound and comes with color cover and printed tape. They need support, so write them ! (didn't you read the intro to the reviews ?! The address is at their interview !!) (P)

PUTREFAZIONE: Bar do t'os sgrol (Italy)

If I tell you that they use a synthesizer, a guitar and 2 vocalists as instruments, I won't surprise you if I add that *Godflesh* or *Sore Throat* influence them !? 7 songs of bewitching Industrial-Grind-Noise-Death, not too fast & really evil is what you'll get with this one. The sound and the presentation could have been better, but if you are into this kind of stuff I'm sure you should not miss it ! 6\$ (7\$ overseas) to *Silent Scream* (see NEWS for address). (P)

REIGNTERROR: Reignterror (Japan)

Brave Bomber was the first & only Japanese band I heard, so this one was the 2nd one and I awaited something good. I certainly wasn't a bad surprise, they've got a good musical potential ! This time it's powerful Speed / Thrash with its melody, it could remind *Metallica*, but it has its originality, there are some good things. The vocals aren't so good, the English could be better and otherwise the choruses are too short, I don't like them. There are only 2 songs and both have exactly the same structure, but for a debut demo it's promising ! Get your copy for only 3\$ at: M. Yamada, 1-18-18-103 Minamiyawata, Ichikawa-City, Chiba 272 Japan (P)

RED NAILS: Mutiny of a small group of Lemmings (Canada)

I had never heard anything from this band before they sent me this tape and I can say it was a good surprise. Red Nails play a fast, powerful Thrash which can be Thrash / Death sometimes and Speed / Thrash some other times. The deep vocals that make the music even more powerful and the good sound of those 4 tracks are two other good reasons to buy this promising debut demo ! 7\$ to: Red Nails, c/o 36-110 Stewart St, Ottawa Ont. Canada K1N 6J6. (P)

R.I.P. : Inner scream (Switzerland)

No, this isn't Death Metal ! Rest In Peace plays a progressive Thrash with a lot of melody and some other influences (Funk, Classical).. This is their second demo featuring, as mentioned in the interview, their new singer. The vocals are good, it's nothing really special. I liked 3 of the 4 songs quite a lot while the first one bored me a little bit. Anyway, this demo shows us a promising band which has it's chances to get a deal. The tape has a great sound and it comes with a color cover with photos... (no lyrics) and it's available for 7\$. It's well worth it for open-minded people. (P)

R.U. DEAD ? : Promotape 92 (Germany)

Their previous demo "The individual horror" (which is still available for 5\$) was already good, but this new promo tape is definitely great ! No big difference with the latest demo, the songs are just better ! Unfortunately the tape is only for promotion, not for sale ! But 4 of the 6 tracks can be found on two Eps, one which came out on *Morbid Records* (see the vinyl reviews) and the other one which came out on *Obscure Records International*. The 6 tracks are very long (between 4'28 and 8'47), the music is still this raging Death / Thrash with lots of rhythm changes and everything you could like: power, melody, heaviness, tightness, some Doom, it's just great ! Don't worry, the rhythm changes don't get boring at all. I love the vocals, they couldn't stick more perfectly to the music; sometimes they are screamy and a bit high and some other times they are low, nearly growling. Otherwise the band was negotiating with *Tombstone Records* early this year, so you could expect an Lp for very soon ! But check the Eps out before !! Gero Schmitt, Johannes-Weisser weg 22, 7900 Ulm, Germany. (P)

SADNESS: Oedipus (Switzerland)

I was quite surprised to get this new tape in my mailbox, their "Y" demo really isn't old ! Anyway, this brand-new promotape only contains 2 tracks. You can definitely say that there has been an evolution, the first track is brilliant. It's slow Black / Death Metal with some doomy parts and there are different vocals: a growling one (the main part), a guy talking (he also melodiously sings) and a woman speaking and singing afterward, it sounds really good ! The second song is less good, but not bad at all, it's a slow one which gets fast and slows down again, there are some unusual stuff on it, it's original. So this band is slowly but surely creating their own sound (but the name *Samael* could easily come in mind) and you should definitely keep their name in mind. The tape has a great sound and a pro-made glossy black cover, the price is only 2\$ so hurry up and get a copy ! Philippe Riand, av. France 61, 1951 Sion (Vd), Switzerland.

- Patrick -

SALEM: Millions slaughtered (live, Israel)

I don't know if the tape is still available since the mini-Lp should be out by now. Anyway, this is a high quality tape coming with a glossy color cover with photos, lyrics and a great sound. The music is fast and aggressive Death / Thrash in a quite technical way. The tape is very long, there are 10 songs. The bad thing is the vocalist who is a bit limited (he just shouts the lyrics word per word, he doesn't really sing) but the voice is great, there is a lot of anger in it and it sticks very well to the music. The whole thing has got the power of a concert and the studio sound, moreover it's quite original and all in all it's really worth checking out. But maybe you should wait for the mini-lp, it's up to you ! (P)

SENTENCED: Journey to Pohjola (Sweden)

After their "Shadows of the past" Lp, they recorded a 3 tracks promo tape. The music is a bit different, it's more original and the vocals changed a little bit. They play Death Metal in a mid-fast speed, I think it could be described as "Death playing more slowly and with more melody". It's technical, but not boring and there is somekind of atmosphere in it. It's more brutal and more original than the Lp (the straight *Death* influences can't be heard so easily anymore, but they are still present, sorry Tane !). The 3 tracks are really good and I'm sure we'll hear from this band in the near future. Send them a blank tape + 2\$. (P)

SIMPLE AGGRESSION: Wizardry knows no bounds (USA)

Here we are dealing with a band which seems to be very professional although they are very young. The tape comes with a colored cover with lyrics and a very good sound (only little detail: the bass is too loud and too high !). Musically they play a kind of Thrash / Speed with good vocals. The riffs are good, there are good rhythm changes and otherwise it's original (there's even some violin on it !). So what do you want more, order this demo ! Doug Carter, 713 Pike Street, Covington KY 41011, USA. (\$\$ + IRC). (C)

SPITHEAD: Indolent infected death (Belgium)

After listening to the previous tape, a lot of changes have gone through my life. The cat, for example, didn't survive it and I found a total new way of going to the toilets. It was after three months that I stopped constipating. And now they surprised me with a new demo, so you can imagine that I was a little bit afraid to listen to it ! My fright was justified: now I'm an orphan ! Yes, after the cat, my parents didn't survive.. Man, this is excellent ! 5 excellent tracks: "The scythe that wülds", "Suffering souls / Indolent infected death", "Dilapidated temples", "Mildew in the coffin" and "Eye among the blind". Excellent soundquality and a voice that rips your balls off ! This is the best tape I've heard this year. Send 7\$ to Steve de Muynck, A. Rodenbaachstraat 21, 8730 Beernem, Belgium. (T)

STIGMA: Sickness of no survivors (Greece)

Stigma was founded in '86, but there have been a lot of line-up changes and a big break. They only started playing Death/Thrash in '90. This tape comes with a color cover with lyrics and it has a good sound. Their Death / Thrash is an average fast speed and it's rather average in itself: the vocals are growling, the music is aggressive, but the whole thing is not really original and not really convincing, it doesn't blow you away. The tape is sold out, but you can send a blank tape + IRCs to: Dalamitras A.T. -Tsaridis E., PO Box 40.303, 56010 Thessaloniki, Athens Greece. (P)

TEMPERANCE: Hypnoparitized (Sweden)

This Swedish band, that you had the opportunity to discover in our first issue, finally released their 2nd demo. This time it contains 3 songs for over 18 minutes. The glossy cover with lyrics (short and not too interesting), photos, comes with a printed tape and a great production. Temperance is a new band and they are from Sweden, but they're not just an *Entombed* copy. They play a good, quite original Death Metal in a mid-fast speed (along with some very fast parts); the whole thing is heavy and the guitars deliver some cool melodic parts here and there. The vocals are low and quite growling and you don't hear them too much 'cause the lyrics are short, you've got quite long instrumental parts. All in all, this tape is worth checking out, especially when the price is 5\$. c/o Emerot, Riddaregatan 51, 352 36 Växjö, Sweden. (P)

TENEBRAE: Salvation (Norway)

Here comes another Scandinavian Satanic Death Metal band ! This 4 tracks demo has a good production (although the vocals are too much in the background) and an "easily" done xeroxed cover (with lyrics). Well, first of all I hate those "growling HC vocals", they are really boring ! The music is average fast Death Metal with some Heavy Metal elements, it's original but it didn't blow me away,

it's nothing great. Not much more to say, you can get it for 5\$ at: M. Lauren, Kytösuontie 8C 35, 00530 Helsinki, Finland. (P)

TERATA: Mourning glory (USA)

Here comes another brutal Death Metal band, this one hails from Peoria, in Illinois. Well, the gurgling vocals make it "gory", but it's a rather unoriginal brutal Death Metal that we've got here. It's very fast and it bored me a bit, I would say those 4 songs are on the average: nothing bad, but definitely nothing great either, the same goes for the cover and the production. You can get it for 5\$ (4\$ in the USA), but if don't go too much out of your way for this one. Curt Pithman, 1113 Eller drive, E Peoria Illinois 61611, USA.(P)

THERGOTHON: Fhtagn-Nagh Yog-Sothoth (Finland)

This is the band from the editor of *Hammer of Damnation*, he's the vocalist. I liked this tape quite a lot, it's a very slow Doom / Death with really deep growling vocals and a lot of atmosphere. It remind me of *Paradise Lost* (it's even slower) or *Candlemass*, it's not really new but not unoriginal either. The 4 songs sound rather similar, maybe they should try to play a bit faster to prevent it from getting boring. So all in all, I liked this stuff and if you're into Doom I'm sure you'll like it as well. It comes with a xeroxed cover, the sound is good and the price is only 4\$ (\$\$ overseas) that you should send to Niko. (P)

THE EMBOWEL: Reh / live (Lithuania)

This was the first Lithuanian band I heard. The music was as I expected, unfortunately I didn't expect great stuff so I won't shock you if I say it's not great, will I ? Yes, they call their music Black / Death Metal, but I would say it's more a fast Death / Grind, quite boring and unoriginal. But there are a few interesting parts and this band probable needs support more than other ones, so maybe you should drop them a letter and ask about the new demo they were supposed to release soon, I don't know ! (P) See address at the "NEWS".

THRENODY: Ode to the lamented (Netherlands)

And here comes a great band: the Dutch Threnody !! They play an excellent brutal Death Metal. The vocals are excellent, the guitars are great, the sound is good, it's just great ! I was kicked off my chair the first time I heard it ! The 5 songs are really brutal, you must get this tape ! You won't fall asleep like on other boring Death Metal stuff you can easily find these days, this one shreds ! Get it for 5\$ from Memorial Management, van Marumstraat 21c, 3112 XS Schiedam, The Netherlands. (C)

TORMENTED: Tormented (Canada)

Here's a Canadian Thrash band. There are 4 songs of good quality on it, but I think it's not very original. The vocals remind me of James Hetfield with HC influences. I think it's too primitive, we have heard this stuff 100 times before, so.. But if you like fast and brutal Thrashcore write to: Larry Leblanc, 135 Elmwood Drive, Moncton NB Canada, E1C 6T5. (C)

TOTEM PHASE: (France)

Even if there have been tons of line-up changes, this band has been around since '86. By that time, they were playing some *AC/DC* kind of stuff, now their music turned into some aggressive Thrash with power and melody. The tape is pro-printed and has a perfect sound, while the color cover includes lyrics, photos and everything. The music is on the technical side of Thrash, but it's not boring, it has it's originality (although the 4 tracks are nothing really new). All in all, this is a good piece of Thrash, you can get it for, oops, I received flyers with the tape, but I didn't keep any and.. So as there isn't any price on their bio, I can only suggest you to try with the usual 6\$. J.O. Brun, 3 2 rue de la République, 03600 Commentry, France. (P)

ULCERATE FESTER: Contradiction Interminus (Netherlands)

Afet "Unceasing life", this is the second demo of the Dutch Death Metal sensation called Ulcerate Fester. But there have been some changes: first of all they have a new vocalist ("the guitarist has got a great voice, too !" quote!) and where the first demo is morbid, slow Death Metal, almost Doom, they gathered some Speed into their stuff. But all this doesn't mean that the demo is worse than the first one, not at all. This tape is absolutely great ! For 6\$ + 1 IRC you will get an excellent tape with tracks like "Mindterror", "Immortal", "Liquidation", "Malicious desires", "Judgement day" + intro and outro, all this comes along with a printed tape, lyrics and everything you can desire. It has got a superb soundquality, this demo is definitely worth your money ! Ineke van der Veen, De Eese 64, 7608 EG Almelo, Holland. (T)

UNBOUNDED TERROR: Sarcastic souls (Spain)

Drowned Productions are back again ! This Spanish band delivers some cool Death Metal, in the mid' fast vein with some rhythm changes. It's not perfectly played, but it's a young band. The songs are good, there is a good rhythm. The vocals are low and growling, I like them. But I've got some 3 negative things to mention: uninteresting lyrics, shitty guitar solos and not a lot of originality. But with it's great production and it's great color cover with photo and lyrics, it's definitely a good tape !! The price is 5\$ (6\$ overseas) for 4 songs, it's really worth buying, but not if you're looking for something new. (available from *Drowned Productions*, see address at the 'zine reviews.) (P)

VEHEMENCE: Good shot ! Gang member dies (USA)

This early 92 recorded demo comes from Los Angeles. And as the title and the recent things that happened there could make think., there is a lot of aggressivity into this one ! A really raging mixture of Thrash, HC and Death Metal could describe their music well. It's very fast and really powerful and I really like the vocals (more HC vocals, than Thrash or Death). The printed tape contains 5 well recorded songs and the cover includes the lyrics. All in all, it's quite original and well worth the money (6\$ to Rafael E. Delgado, 4512 Griffin ave., Los Angeles CA 90031, USA). (P)

VEHEMENT THROWER: Worm (Poland)

Raw, fast Polish Death Metal, or maybe "Death Core" is what we've got here ! The band was born in '89, but there were a lot of line-up changes, so it is not especially tight. The 5 songs (which have an average good sound) aren't badly played and aren't too bad songs, but they don't have anything to offer. I don't think that just playing fast with low guitars is the only necessary thing to play Death Metal, unfortunately it's a little bit what Vehement Thrower do. The lyrics may be interested, but I think the rest is not worth checking out, even with the glossy cover. Available for 5\$ at: Grzegorz Fijalkowski, 06562 Wyszyny, Woj. Ciechanowski, Poland. (P)

WITCHES: Lost of precious (France)

Good production, nice cover, you await something good when you see this tape. All in all, I felt quite satisfied after I listened to it. It's well played, fast Death Metal with aggressive female vocals. The 4 songs are OK, they don't really blow you away, but they're good. The whole thing is not totally unoriginal. It's a good demo, but the price is very high: 8\$! And there are only 4 tracks on it, so I'm afraid not all the people would be happy with that.. But if you want a quality tape, send them to Sibylle Colin-Toquaine, 65 rue Jacques Prévert, 95320 St Leu la Forêt, France. (P)

WITCHIN: From the underground (USA)

When I saw the cover of this demo, I thought it was a Hard FM band, but I was wrong: they play a kind of Speed/Thrash Metal. The vocals have some Hardcore influences, I don't like them. Well, I think the music is quite on the average, but you can check it out by yourself by writing to: Witchin, PO Box 3113, Ridgewood NY 11386, USA. (6\$). (C)

WAR SPASM: Barmy fluid (UK)

Some really original stuff is what those British guys have to offer ! Something between Thrash, HC and Grind along with a high-pitched screamy vocalist ! The production is good and the glossy cover comes with the lyrics. The 4 tracks are well played and really powerful, with a lot of different stuff in it, definitely original. The bad thing could be the vocals, they could easily bother some of you, but if you're looking for something else than unoriginal Death Metal, you really must get this one. I think the price is 5\$, but I'm not so sure about that. Tom Pattison, 1007 Anlaby High Road, Hull, HU4 7PN, England. (P)

COMPILATION TAPES:

BEHIND THE MIRROR: I

Those 60 minutes with 2 tracks from 9 bands (*Dagon*, *Disaffected*, *Disembowel*, *Misanthrope*, *Necrophiliac*, *System Decay*, *Thromentor* and *Trom Tax From Hugols*) didn't really satisfy me. The sound could easily have been better and the bands are not the best ones around either. There are some great tracks, but also boring ones. But anyway, as long as they sell only 1 copy, it will still be promotion for the bands, so.. The tape comes with the addresses (the cover is nothing special, except some good artwork) and the whole thing is available for 6\$ (25 in France) which is too much, I think, but if you're interested you should write to: Rikki Levert, 3 rue d'Harcourt, 14110 St Denis De Méré, France. (P)

BLEST BY SEKMET: Volume I

This is a 100% Portuguese bands, so you guys should have an idea from which country the bands are from (he he he..). There are 6 bands with several songs on it, most of them are rather crappy, but there are 1 or 2 interesting bands on it (well, let's say "not too uninteresting"). The tape comes with a small A5 'zine featuring infos on the featured bands. The sound could be better, the 'zine as well, but it's OK, the price is 5\$ and that could be a good thing to check out the Portuguese Death Metal scene. Pedro Cruz, R.D. Nuno Alvares Pereira N°56-21, 2830 Barreiro, Portugal. (P)

HARMFUL SLAMIKAZE: I

This time you've got 60 minutes of French HC and Thrash ! The sound could have been better and there is no address, but if you're into HC and Thrash it could be a good way to discover some French bands (like *Nothingness*, *Porto Pak*, *D.A.B.* or *Ancalagon* _10 in total) for 5\$. You can also get a press book with it by enclosing 2 more \$, but it's limited ! Franck Andrieux, 40 passage des mines, 91630 Marolles en Hurepoix, France (P)

MEGANECROPSY: Volume II

Here again, there are no addresses and that really is a pity. Otherwise it's OK, the sound is good and most of the bands are good. On those 90 minutes you'll discover or hear again bands like *Desultory*, *Necrophobic*, *Impaled Nazarene*, *Edge of Sanity*, *Rotting Christ* (20 in total). There is some quite old stuff on it, but that's

OK to me. It's available for 6\$, that's not very expensive, but not really cheap either. Billys Tolis, Monemvasias 56, N. Filadelfia-14341 Athens, Greece. (P)

MORBID NOISE: Abomination VI

By moving to France with the money of 148 orders, Thierry Prince (ex-*Septicore* editor) not only let 148 angry people, but he also ripped-off 250 other people who never got an answer to their letter. Moreover, he still owed about 1000\$ to Pierre Van Lancker. Pierre kindly answered the letters and he also continued the stopped comp. tape "Morbid Noise" while doing a second one called "Hellraisers". He kindly sent me one of them for a review. This tape contains 19 Death Metal bands (*Necrony*, *spithead*, *Dark Tranquility*, *Anathema*, *Sinoath*, *Acheron*, *Pyathrosis*,...) with a good sound and a good presentation (color cover made by P. Dupin ! + addresses and logos). All in all, it's one of the best comp. tapes I've seen and it's available for 6\$ at: P. Van Lancker, Res. de l'Ambleve 12, 1300 Limal, Belgium. If what he told me is true (what I really believe), you could hardly find a more honest guy, so support him and order his tape ! (P)

MYXOMATOSIS: I

This one is a French comp. tape featuring only French bands. The sound is good, in general, and the cover is well done, it comes with the addresses. The bands are: *Shud*, *Epytaph*, *Putrid Offal*, *Decomposed*, *Cardiac Cease*, *Nothingness*, *Apod*, *Dunce*, *Mortuary*, *Catacomb*, *Imseminoid*, *Misanthrope*, *C.O.D.*, *Rusty Nutsy*, *Overload*, *Dagon*, *Penetrator* and *Mesmerized*. So that's about 75% of Death Metal (the rest is Thrash). The price is 6\$, that's not too cheap, but it's a good way to check out a lot of the better French underground bands. I think this one is the best of the here-reviewed compilation tapes. Hervé Crunelle, Route Nationale, Froidestrees, 02260 La Capelle, France. (P)

SMELL OF PUTREFACTION: II

90 minutes, quite good sound, 18 bands. I liked most of the bands (*Pyogenesis*, *Sexorcist*, *Morpheus*, *Catacomb*, *Exulceration*, *Deadly Dislocated*, *Unbounded Terror*....) The cover includes the addresses. All in all it's a good comp. tape. Send 5\$ (6\$ overseas) to: Sylvain Toustou, Vesenex, 01220 Divonne, France. (P)

VINYLS REVIEWS:

ANCIENT RITES: Evil Prevails (Belgium / ???)

Their live tape already showed that new Ancient Rites formation (with only one original member) was a lot different from the demo (more brutal and less melodic), but I still hoped to hear an evolution of the demo. I was a bit disappointed to hear that the rather normal, melodic vocals from the demo turned into deep growling ones. Moreover, the music doesn't have much to do with the demo anymore, it's more brutal, heavier and there are a lot less Thrash influences. But after 2-3 listenings, I realized that this Ep contained in fact great & original Black / Death Metal and that the vocals didn't sound like all those usual Death Metal growls. Otherwise you can still hear some Thrash / Speed influences, the whole thing is really original. All in all this is a great Ep and we'll certainly still hear from this band after those bad and unoriginal Death Metal bands will have died. Send 6\$ to: Günther Theiss, Kraaienneststraat 11, 3290 Diest, Belgium. (A cool guy !) (P)

ARCHAIC TORSE: Sneak Attack (Germany / 1MF)

Well, here comes Archaic Torse ! For those who don't know them, they play a brutal, heavy Thrash / Death and the result is excellent ! The vocals are very low and that makes it more brutal. I must say that it's really fast and not as original as you could think. The Lp lasts for only a bit more than 30 minutes. The solos remind a lot *Slayer* and that was it. (C)

ASSORTED HEAP: Mindwaves (Germany / 1MF)

Well, their first Lp wasn't really convincing, it lacked of power and most of all: originality. They've got a little bit better with this second Lp, but it still doesn't have anything special to offer, it's still quite unoriginal. Maybe some parts on "What I confess" are interesting, but the whole thing sounds quite the same. Death / Thrash must be aggressive and powerful, it's not really the case here, it's well played, but it didn't satisfy me. But don't misunderstand me, it's not a bad band and the label didn't make a big mistake by signing them, they are good musicians and their songs are not bad, but all of them lack of something, none of them is really good... But if you want to check out by yourself (If you can't find it at any record store, write to: 1MF Records, Dreisbachstr. 3, 5902 Netphen, Germany. (P)

ASTRAL RISING: adv. Ep 92 (France / Akhram Productions)

I had never heard from them before they sent me this advance tape, but it was a good surprise ! The production is very good and the music not bad at all ! As you guess, it's Death Metal and it has its originality ! There are faster and slower parts, the slower ones include some melody and the faster ones could remind of *Morbid Angel*, but it's not unoriginal. "Dark deepness" and "Sculpture" are 2 interesting songs from a band you might hear more of in the near future, if you're interested, send 6\$ to: Joël Grevost, 503 Chemin de la mairie, 38330 St Nazaire-les-Eymes, France. (band contact: Steph le Saux, 25 rue de l'Ermitage, 94100 St Maur, France). (P)

BLOOD: Christbait (Germany / 1MF Recordz)

Blood has been playing Death / Grind since 1986, so you can see they've been among the first bands to play this style. This is their 4th release, after an Lp and 3

Eps. It contains 15 songs of pure Death / Grind with deep growling vocals. It can be fast, really brutal but also slow and a little bit doomy; there are a lot of rhythm changes. The songs are technically well played and musically well put together (after 6 years, it's no big surprise !). Death / Grind freaks, no doubt that you've got to get it ! (P)

BLOOD COVERED: Winterhawk (Greece / own release)

Gosh ! I was waiting for some bad and unoriginal Death Metal, but what a surprise !! This is the best Greek band I've heard so far !! Powerful but melodic Thrash, or maybe "Power Thrash" is what they play ! The singer has got a boring Greek accent, but his voice sticks to the music, otherwise everything is very convincing !! Very good production, well played, very tight, original, powerful but melodic, really good ! The first track is aggressive Thrash, the second one is less heavy, more in a Speed / Thrash vein; the third one could remind a little bit *Running Wild*, it's melodic and powerful, with interesting parts; the fourth and last track is another aggressive Thrash song. The whole thing lasts some 20 minutes, and it's available on vinyl for only 8\$, that's really worth the money !! Write to: Angel Asimakopulos, Kritis I, Argiropolis 16451, Athens, Greece. (P)

BRAINLESS: Brainless World (Germany / ?)

I awaited Thrashy HC because Twan had reviewed a "Brainless" band playing HC in the 2nd issue, but I was surprised to hear that the HC influences were rather inexistant on Brainless's music. As I looked closer to it I realized that this one was from Germany and Twan's one was from Holland and that wasn't too complicated for me: it ain't the same band ! This Brainless plays a powerful, fast (but totally kept under control) Speed / Thrash. There are also some melodic guitar parts on it and otherwise I really like the vocals, they fit very well to the music (it's something between Dave Mustaine and Mille Petrozza). All in all, these 9 songs are really good and show a promising band. Dieter Simon, Schweizer Str. 56a, 8722 Sennfeld, Germany. (P)

CEREMONIAL OATH: Ep 92 (Sweden / Corpsegrinder Records)

This Swedish speed-Death Metal band reminds me of *Desultory* and *Entombed*, but I can't say it's unoriginal, they've got some good ideas. It contains 2 rather good tracks, but no reason to panic either. Send 6\$ (I guess) to: Corpsegrinder records, Fabier, Simon-Soundira, 27 rue Gay-Lussac, 94110 Arcueil, France. You can reach the band at: Oscar Dronjak, Ringleken 6, 431 69 Mölndal, Sweden. (P)

CHANNEL ZERO: Channel Zero (Belgium / Shark Records)

Shark Records signed them for this debut Lp, and they certainly didn't sign the wrong band ! Instead of the usual "brutal Death Metal", Chanel Zero offer us a really well played and convincing Thrash (more on the speedy side of Thrash) with great vocals. It could remind a little bit of *Exodus* or bigger bands in that vein, but they certainly have their originality, I would even say that they deserve a "place" among the bigger Thrash acts. It's a pity they didn't release this Lp a few years ago.. This great piece of vinyl (or Cd, I'm not sure it's available on vinyl) is available from your local record store, but if you can't find it write to: Shark Records, Hucky Heppke, PO Box 220211, Holsterhauserstr. 96, 4300 Essen 1, Germany. (P)

DARK TRANQUILITY: A moonclad reflection (Sweden / Slaughter Rec)

This Ep came out on *Slaughter Records*, which is the label of the *Mortuary Mag* editor. Of course, I awaited great stuff, and I truly wasn't disappointed ! These 2 songs are even more mature than the demo, great stuff ! It's still this original, melodic Death Metal with great, powerful, vocals. The 2nd song is better than the 1st one, but both are great. It has a great sound, a cool cover & inlay info). Send 6\$ to *Mortuary Mag* ! (P)

DEMISE: 7 Ep (USA / Listenable records)

Has anyone seen Tomas Muster on a tennis court ? I've just seen him some minutes ago and this guy is crazy ! He is always moving, he doesn't stop a second. What does he have in common with Demise ? Well, these Americans also have this fucking power ! 3 fast, raging, Death / Thrash with a few HC influences, songs, you don't have time to take a breath after a song, you're immediately blown away by the next one ! The vocals are really good, very powerful, great ! The whole thing is well played and there are some melodic parts.. I would say Heavy Metal influences, which prevent the songs from getting boring. The guitar solo on the first song is ok, but definitely too long !! But that's the only negative thing I can say. They'll soon release an Lp, so buy this Ep before it's too late ! (P)

DISHARMONIC ORCHESTRA: Not to be undimensional counscious (Germany / Nuclear Blast Records)

As promised in the interview from the 2nd issue, this new Lp is quite experimental and contains some weird stuff. The music is still the fast, heavy, original techno-Death Metal you could hear on "Expositionprophylaxe", the songs have even get better. A strange thing is that it was recorded at the *Sunlight Studio*, so the production could sound a bit familiar. Some melodic parts come up here and there along with weird stuff, the whole thing is driven by these low, deep vocals. Disharmonic Orchestra definitely built their own sound and this Lp is really worth checking out from a good record store. (P)

EXCESS: Shut up your faces and open your ears ! (France)

The band was founded in 1986 and they released 2 Lps before this 3 tracks CD. The music is Heavy Metal in a melodic and "American Heavy Rock" way (who

said "commercial way" ?!). There are 2 melodic "more or less powerful" (if you only listen to such kind of music you'll find it powerful, but if you're into Thrash / Death as well it certainly won't blow you away) and a rather uninteresting, to my point of view, love-ballad. They certainly have a good musical potential and if you like Heavy Metal without denying US Glam bands, you should like it. (If you can't stand, like me, those high Glam vocals, forget it !). 60FF to: Christophe Augier, 10 rue Eirik Labonne, 18000 Bourges. (P)

GENOCIDE: Showtime ! (Switzerland / ?)

It had been a while that they didn't release something new, but it was worth waiting ! This first full length Lp shows us a great mature Power / Speed Metal at its very best ! Good vocals, great choruses and a lot of melody. Some of those 12 songs were already to be found on the previous releases, but they were, of course, re-recorded and there are a lot of great new tracks. No, I truly found everything I liked on this Lp, be sure that we'll here from this band for a long time ! If you like Power Metal, don't hesitate ! (write to the manager if you can't find the Lp) (P).

HEAVENS GATE: More Hysteria (Germany / Steamhammer)

Well, this is an Ep which contains 4 tracks: 3 new ones and a acoustic version of the ballad "Best days of my life" from the first Lp. The music didn't change, I just think the songs structure is a bit better (they are bit more powerful as well). For those who don't know them, they play Power Metal the German way (no big surprise if they are German, he !!) with power, melody and great vocals, I really like them. They won't change the Metal history, but they are not unoriginal. If you liked their Lp, you'll like this one. Get it from your local record store. (P)

HOTOPSY: Follow the light (France / Only Rock Records)

Here comes a french Thrash band: Hotopsy with their debut Lp. The production is very good and I especially like the sound of the guitars. The riffs are very powerful and the vocals are good for a french band !?! You'll get 10 songs from this new french Thrash hope (*Personally it didn't blow me away.*) Write to Only Rock (see address somewhere else). (C)

KONKHRA: Stranded (Denmark / Progress Red Labels)

After having sold 900 copies of the "Malgrowth" demo, they signed to *Progress Red Labels* and this 6 tracks Cd turns out to be the first release from *Progress Tatoo Mag's* brandnew label. Well, it features 3 new tracks and "Lustration of the need", "Spread around" and "Deathwish" from the demo. The music is a fast quite technical and very aggressive Death-Thrash, devastating ! Along with low deep & heavy vocals, the whole thing turns out to be really good. The newer tracks have get fast and more aggressive, I liked them a lot. They could remind *Slayer* (much faster & heavier) but they've got their originality. Certainly a band you should support, 18\$ to *Progress's* address. (didn't you read the reviews-intro ?! The address is at the zine reviews !) (P)

MANOS: Ep '92 (Germany / Poserslaughter)

This band has just released an Ep on *Poserslaughter records*. To my regret, I must say I hadn't heard of them before and I don't know anything about the band. I am listening to this Ep from the advance tape, so I can't give you more information. But I must say that I surely want to know and hear more from them. This five tracks Ep really gives me a good impression. Good sound, great vocals-work., the style is Death / Grind, great Ep ! The tracks are "At mania of Death", "Hell-phantom", "Uprising of the dead", "Trade in the blood" and "Evasion". Absolutely worth your money ! 6\$ (7\$ overseas) to: Poserslaughter Records, PO Box 41, (O) 1017 Berlin / PA 18, Germany. (T)

MAS OPTICA: Choose to see more (adv. tape, USA / Red Decibel)

It really is a pity that there are only 4 songs on this advance tape, 'cause I liked it a lot ! "Original" might be the best way to describe their music, there are a lot of different influences in it. *Led Zeppelin* or *The Doors* could come in mind, but there are also Thrash influences and other stuff, otherwise the vocals remind me of a German Pop band (yeah, I listened to it a few years ago..) called *Alphaville*, if anyone remembers this one (*Robert Plant* could also come in mind). The 4 songs are in a rather slow mood (I like saying this ! Slow mood, slow mood, slow mood !!!) and it could get a little bit boring after a while. But this is the only negative thing and comparing it to the positive things, this band really delivers some great stuff ! Don't hesitate to check out their Lp ! If you can't find it, write to Red Decibels, 2541 Nicollet Avenue South, Minneapolis MN 55404, USA. (P)

MASTER: On the seventh day, God created Master (USA / Nuclear Blast)

Everyone knows this American band, so I won't describe their music. This 2nd Lp is really good, although it ain't better than the first one, I would say the first one was more powerful. You've got some great songs on this one ("What kind of God", "America the pitiful"...). Certainly an Lp you should have in your collection. (P)

MASTER'S HAMMER: Klavierstück (ex-Tchecoslovaquia / Poserslaughter)

I've been blown away by their brilliant debut Lp but I've been a bit disappointed by this new 7" Ep. I probably awaited something too good. Yes, I think those 2 tracks are less powerful than the most of the Lp tracks, but they are by no means bad, not at all !! This is still very good evil fast Black / Death Metal with those sadistic, frightening high-growling Tchecoslovakian vocals, really evil ! They really have their own sound and this is a great thing nowadays. There is a lot of synths on the second one, too much to my opinion (I don't think a remake of *Queen's* "Flash Gordon" on Black / Death Metal would sound really evil, would it ???), but all in

all those two are certainly worth checking out, especially if you have their Lp. Send 6\$ (7\$ overseas) to Poserslaughter Records, PO Box 41, 1017 Berlin, PA 18, Germany. (P)

MESSIAH: Rotten Perish (Switzerland / Noise International)

Somehow I have the feeling that we'll hear a lot of things about this Lp in the near future. Messiah released something unconventional in the Death Metal scene: a concept album ! Yes, "based on case studies of certain interesting individuals who ascend to heaven after their deaths. We want to speculate how a rapist or a murderer, a person that committed suicide or a disabled person would feel on the way to heaven". Really interesting, isn't it ? Musically you've got everything on this Lp: ultra fast Death Metal, technical Thrash-Death, short acoustic transition parts and a huge amount of power & energy. It all starts with a child explaining the upcoming "stories" on a bewitching melodic intro. Moreover, the mixing at *Morrisound* turned out to be excellent and the cover (that wasn't enclosed on the adv. CD I got) promises to be not bad at all since it was done by Tom Beer (*Skyclad / Sabbath*) ! I won't surprise anyone if I say that you simply have to add this one to your collection. (P)

MIASMA: Changes (Austria / Lethal Records)

It is logical that a label writes positive things about their signed bands, but I think they went a bit too far here by saying: "'Changes' is without doubt one of the most brutal original debuts of '92.... As most of the bands failed to be brutal, extreme and original, Miasma are on the right way to give a new meaning to the word 'extreme' and keeping a high level..." Well, yes this band is brutal and not unoriginal, but it's certainly nothing new and the faster parts (85% of everything) aren't kept totally under control. Otherwise some more melody like on the intro of "Baphomet" during the songs would be welcome. If you're into brutal & evil fast Black / Death Metal you will like it, but if you don't get easily into such kind of music, try something else. 14\$ (20\$ CD) to: Lethal Records, Wohlmustr. 15/2/16, 1020 Vienna, Austria. (P)

MONSTROSITY: Imperial doom (USA / Nuclear Blast Records)

I'm sure that most of you already heard this band, so it won't be a long review. Monstrosity plays quite typical American Death Metal: fast, brutal & rather technical. It certainly isn't anything new (*Morbid Angel* is the band you hear the most), but it's true that it's not easy to play a *Morbid Angel* Death Metal, so you could like it. If you love *Morbid Angel*, you'll like it, but if you're into originality I'm afraid this is nothing for you. (P)

MORTAL FEAR: And thoughts spread out (France / own release)

Their flyers says that they offer Death Metal in a "psycho style", I don't really know what they mean by that, if they mean "psychedelic" than yes, it could be considered as more psychedelic than other things... Anyway, they play a Death/Thrash Metal on the technical side. In some way it reminds of *R.U. Dead ?*, I think it's the rhythmic stuff. Those 6 long songs are powerful and good, I could get well into them. This debut Lp is available for 16\$ at: Eddie Wuj, 57 rue de Claire-fontaine, 54250 Champigneulle, France. (P)

NECROPSY: Some dark impressions (Germany / Century Media)

This 1990 founded German band released this Ep on *Century Media* after their quite successful first demo "Pay with your live". Well, their Death Metal (of course) is slow to quite fast, well played and not too original but without reminding me of any particular band. The vocals are deep & growling (unoriginal) but the music is grinding, which is often the case with growling vocals. Cool 7" Ep, worth checking out for 8\$ (9\$ worldwide) from (good production & cover) Friedrich Schneidau, Eichenweg 4, 3115 Rosche, Germany. (P)

NUCLEAR DEATH: For our dead (USA / Wild Rags Records)

I guess all of you are familiar with this band, at least with the name. So as you certainly know, the music is Noise-core, really heavy & brutal with female vocals (but you wouldn't notice it if you wouldn't know it !). I'm not so much into such music, but I liked it, it certainly isn't senseless noise, the 4 songs have their structure. It's less fast & heavy than "Carrion for worm" but still one of the most brutal band I heard so far. The cover includes gory photos and the lyrics. Check it out from *WR* if you liked their previous stuff ! (address somewhere else) (P)

OVERLOAD: The first one....won't be the last one (France / Only Rock)

Here is a french band that is influenced by bands like *Motörhead*, *Metallica* and *Testament*. I think it's a good Lp that they deliver, the 9 songs are good. Personally I especially like the vocals. Overload is certainly a hope for the future and the present french scene. All the compos are good and I must repeat that the vocals are excellent, I like this band a lot. So if you're into the previously mentioned band, don't hesitate and write to: Only Rock, 6 rue Maziere, 78000 Versailles, France. (C)

PYRO: Velvet glove (France / Only Rock)

Pyro play a kind of Heavy Rock which is good, in my opinion. There are some good tracks, but personally I think it won't change the history of Metal. The guys know how to play their instruments, but the vocalist is shitty, I don't like his way of singing. Otherwise there are some good guitar solos. This Lp is only for people into Heavy Rock. Get it from Only Rock. (C)

RESURRECTION: Resurrection (USA / ??)

Yeah, her e is a band from Tampa ! I guess you already know what they play, brutal Death Metal ! There are many things which remind of *Death*, this band is really good. They claim to be the second generation of Death Metal bands from Tampa. The sound is good, the vocals are good and the music is simply in the vein of *Death*. No doubt, Resurrection is a future hope for the Death Metal scene ! (Well, personally I would say they are certainly not a hope for the scene since they are doing the same thing as *Death*, but that's my opinion...) These tracks should have come out on Cd for quite a while now, write to: Resurrection, 7103 Hollowell Drive, Tampa Florida 33634, USA. (C)

ROT: Almighty God (Brazil / Maggot Records)

10 tracks of fast Grindcore is what this Ep is all about ! It's heavy, with "gory" growling vocals and it can slow down sometimes. I'm not especially into this kind of music, but I can hear listen to it. If you're into Grindcore, you should check this one out (write to the band).

R.U. DEAD ? : Hypnos (Germany / Morbid Records)

I won't say much about that. You can find "Hypnos" and "The tombs have not been sealed" on this 7" Ep, those two tracks come from the promotape so read that review. Send \$ to, it's well worth it, this band is great ! 5\$ (6\$ overseas) to Morbid Records, Postfach 3, O-7532 Drebkau, Germany. (P)

SEVERANCE: 7" Ep (USA / Drowned Productions)

"And then silence" and "The beholder" are the two tracks you should be able to find on this new Ep without too many problems. Well, I wasn't too impressed by their demo, but I liked this advance tape. The music is still heavy, aggressive Death Metal with low, deep vocals. It has it's originality, but it's nothing really new either. I don't know what to say more, those songs are good, it's certainly worth checking out. (P) *Auss d' "Mortuus" (L.P.) !!*

SUPPURATION: The creeping unknown (France / Morbid Records)

Well, I read a lot of good things about this band but had never heard anything, so I was quite happy to get this Ep for review from *Morbid Records* ! All in all, I wasn't disappointed, I like what they do. They play a heavy Death Metal with different influences: it's quite grindy sometimes and you can also hear some doomy melodic parts. In general it's not too fast, but it can turn out to be devastatingly fast. The vocals are really deep & growling, they're nothing really special. You can certainly say that they've got their originality and with all this, it is certainly worth buying for 5\$ (6\$ overseas) (P)

SINISTER: Cross the Styx (Netherlands / Nuclear Blast Records)

Here comes some very fast brutal Death Metal ! This first description could make think it's unoriginal, but I couldn't really compare it to another band, in fact this is original ! I won't say much more about this one, it's just original fast brutal Death Metal, you'll certainly like it if you're into that kind of music. (P)

TORCHURE: Beyond the veil (Germany / IMF Records)

After their brilliant demo "Traces", it was difficult for them to release something better, but they definitely did it with this debut Lp !! Torchure is the best German Death Metal band (maybe with *Disharmonic Orchestra*), I can say it ! This Lp is a masterpiece, really impressive ! You'll find a few tracks from the demo as well as shredding new ones. For those of you don't know the band, they play a really heavy Death Metal with Doom and Thrash influences. And this Lp also features some synth parts (it doesn't get boring) and some stuff sounds a bit "orchestral" ! The whole thing lasts for over 50 minutes and it's played with a lot of aggressivity, but also melody and some really good vocals: low, deep, very heavy, great ! The Lp comes with lyrics and everything as well as some great cover artwork. Buy it ! (P)

UNBOUNDED TERROR: advance Lp (Spain / Drowned Productions)

This Lp is out since May. After their demo "Sarcastic souls" (reviewed somewhere else), they also released this Lp on *Drowned Productions*. The style is quite the same than on the demo. The adv. tape has got 4 tracks + an intro. Two of those 4 tracks are already known from the demo. The tracks are: "Intro", "Dreamlord", "Fear", "Mankind mind" and "E.N.D.". The tape doesn't have the soundquality from the demo, but it surely isn't bad. As mentioned before, the style stays the same: Death Metal. If you want something from other countries than Sweden or Finland (and Holland after all the stuff you bought because of *Twan* !!) you should check this one out, it's definitely worth your money. Support this band. (T)

VIPER: Theatre of fate (Brasilia / Massacre)

Yeah, excellent ! That would be the best words to describe their music ! They play Power / Speed Metal while you await Death Metal, but that isn't the biggest surprise: they use instruments as violin, cello, piano, synths... !! The vocals are very melodic, excellent for a Brazilian band. The guitars are well played and the solos are great ! All the 8 songs are great in general. Some passages are really technical, while other ones are more powerful or melodic. We can also see different influences on this Lp: classical and flamenco (yes !) and everything is powerfully played. So all the guys into Power / Speed Metal must buy this Lp !! If you can't get it from your record store, write to: L.M.P. P.O. Box 60 25 20, 2000 Hamburg 60, Germany. (C)

We thought that we had to take away a lot of reviews that Twan had sent us because of space problems, but finally we didn't get the last interviews we were hoping to receive and we finally had enough space for some more of his reviews. So here they are, sorry for not having put them with the others. You can consider it as a "Benelux scene report" since it nearly only includes Dutch and Belgian bands. (P)

BOOM: Hang er geen ballen in (Belgium)

This is the first time I ever heard about this Belgian Grind band and I think I want to keep it that way... The sound of this tape sucks and the cover is just a simple copy. The tape contains 19 tracks with almost in every title the word "Boom" ("tree"). If you look for a comparison, maybe the Dutch *Fake Slaughter* or the *Sons of Tarentula* from Australia are in order. Only the quality is much more less. I don't want to spend more words on this product. Boom, c/o Harko, Kiezelweg 132, 3620 Veldwezelt, Belgium. (T)

COAGULATION: Apocalyptic way of death (Germany)

Another German demo entered my tape-deck. It's a seven-tracker. The songs are: "Deadly thoughts (intro)", "Slowly we dwell", "Corpses along", "Lost in disclaim", "Otze of death", "Thralldom", "Veiled dream (outro)". The music is in the Death Metal vein, but vocalwise it's more towards Grindcore. The soundquality is quite good and the cover is not bad at all. One minor point of criticism is that you can't really hear what the growler is singing, but that really doesn't matter. I've got no real comparison, so you could speak of some sort of originality. There is also some piano in it. Support this band, they deserve it! Stephan Hammerl, Hirschbergerstr. 11, 8264 Waldkraiburg, Germany. (T)

ETERNAL NIGHTMARE: Total tear up (Netherlands)

Jesus H. Christ, I just can't believe my eyes (*maybe your ears* ?), this is absolutely great! So now you know that I'm not entirely objective, but who is, these days? I know this is from my country, but that doesn't give them the edge. But I simply can't lie to my faithful readers, this is absolutely the best tape (or at least one of the best) tape I have in my possession. The musical style is Death / Thrash. The tape contains 4 tracks: "Beyond a nightmare", "Game for a life", "I.S.T.H.N.E." (?) and "Seventh day, holy day". The music has got the aggression of *Slayer* (from the "Reign in blood" days) and *Exhorder*. Vocalwise it's more on the *Dark Angel* side. I know that everyone tells this, and so do I 'cause it's simply the truth! Look, I am a nice guy who has got some needs, like music, like good music, and this tape keeps me satisfied for quite a while: BUY!! Daan de Mooy, Tulpenstraat 1, 2231 GV Rÿnsburg, Holland. (T)

IMPERIUM: Concept of Paradox (Netherlands)

When you see this demo there is something that immediately strikes you: there are only 3 tracks. But they are quite long, at least the 3rd track. The tracks are: "Messiah Mask" (4'56), "Chemical dreams" (4'09) and "Awakening" (8'54). Then you listen to the tape and you might be quite surprised about the soundquality (which is superb), as well as the style which is not Death Metal. The style is Techno-Thrash, in the vein of *Toxik* and with some *Watchtower* / *Hades* influences. The only little bad thing is the vocalist: he doesn't come clear in the higher regions. But for the rest, it's an excellent tape. Imperium, P.O. Box 1058, 7550 BB Hengelo, The Netherlands (try with the usual 6\$) (T).

KOOZ KILLZ APPLEMOOZ: The toilet area (Netherlands)

Look at the band name and look at the title of this demo, what do you expect then? A fun metal band, that's what I thought. I've read a lot about these guys, so I knew this was not entirely true. They are quite serious with their music, although the lyrics don't often show it. Musically, I guess you can call it Thrash Metal with some Techno influences. Highly original, so what more do you want? Lyrics?

They are there. Nice cover? Same answer. Originality? Get's quite boring, isn't it? But it's there as well. I can't really say something negative about this tape. I really like it a lot. This 6 tracks demo with tracks as "Fridge full of limbs", "Dead means sex (part I)", "Necro, necro (part II)", "New disciples of God", "Oktober fest" and "toilet area" can be obtained at: Koos Wannet, Klaverkamp 40, 6662 r2 Elst, Holland. (T)

POLLUTED INHERITANCE: Afterlife (Netherlands)

I received this tape from a friend of mine, Ewald Prowost from *Master Of Brutality* 'zine from Holland. He told me that this was absolutely great. So I listened to it and I have agree with him!! This is great: perfect sound and Death Metal the way Satan meant it to be! The tracks are: "The burial", "Last skulls", "Afterlife", "Eaten", "Substance by existence" and "Between bodies". Brutal Death Metal, although with a clean sound and a voice which gives the woman next door a heart attack. This definitely ain't something for weak souls and weak minds! This Dutch band has got a lot of potential to go on the way. Although they've got the regular Death Metal touches. I really can't give you any influences, so I guess you can say that originality is in order. This is a profit for your list: buy it!! Or I'll personally hunt you down... (T)

RENAISSANCE: Archway (Belgium)

After the split of *Chronic Death*, a few of the members founded this band. But don't compare both bands, there is a world of difference. Where *Chronic Death* played typical Death Metal Renaissance plays a sort of Gothic doomy Death Metal. The tapes only contains 3 tracks, but what kind of tracks, just lick at them! "Industrial" (9'15), "Window" (7'40) and last, but certainly not least: "Tired blood / Vaudeville" (13'05). They are really long, but not boring. As for influences, the only band that comes to my mind is *The Gathering*. You just have to order this tape now! 6\$ to: Dirk Volken, Domstraat 20, 3370 Boutersen, Belgium. (T)

SACRAMENTAL SACHEM: Demo I (Netherlands)

After a very, very long waiting the first demo of this Dutch band has finally been released. And it was worth waiting for, definitely! The tape contains three tracks, namely: "Recrucifixion", "Forgotten" and "The Doicinites were wrong". The music is Death Metal, but not like your everyday Death Metal. This one is rather original and that's something quite difficult to do these days! If you don't buy this tape, you're not worth being called a "die-hard Death Metal freak", this is a MUST! Send 6\$ to: S.S. c/o Michel, Marsstraat 18, 5351 GZ Berghem, Holland. (T)

SOAKING WET: Cry in wonder (Netherlands)

This is a demo from the Dutch Thrashcore band Soaking Wet. As you may, or may not know, I react very primitively in front of music (doesn't matter which style it is), it's simple: I like it or I don't like it. This tape goes into the first alternative, but don't ask me why, I just like it... The good points: great lay-out, great soundquality, the bandmembers know how to handle their instruments. The few negative points: I am not really charmed by the singer and I definitely do not like the logo (but this is just a minor point). The tracks are: "Act of abusement", "Wall of silence", "Looking for me", "Fistophobia" and "Pick up your eyes". Yes, I guess you can say this tape comes rather positively to me, but I don't think that there's a big public for this kind of music. Marcel u/d Wÿgert, de Voerman 32, 5272 RY St. Michielsgestd, Holland. (T)

SPINA BIFIDA: Symphony of indictment (Netherlands)

At last a new demo from a Dutch band. I received this tape at a live gig of Spifa Bifida and they really impressed me with their doomy stuff. The play something in the vein of *Winter* (Doom godz!). Great sound quality, nice layout and absolutely great vocal-work. The 4 tracks are "Witchfire", "Verdict", "Die" and "Purest queen". If you are into Doom, and I mean DOOM, then this is a must for you. You can obtain the tape for 10 Dutch guilders at: Spina Bifida, c/o Rob /

Veronika, Lage Witsiebaan 16, 5042 DA Tilburg, The Netherlands. (T)

SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION: Convulsion in your arteries (Spain)

This demo is yet another Spanish demo. All I have so far of Spanish bands was great (*Unbounded Terror*, *Human Waste*, *Obscure*, *Absorbed*), and so is this band. This is a live-tape, recorded during a gig with *Los Muertos de Christo* (never heard of them). The tracks are: "Intro - Megaton" (*Defecation* cover), "Vision of mortality", "Convulsion", "Putrefaction unmasks reality", "Dethroned emperor" (*Celtic Frost* cover) and "Sleepy sickness (deformation of life)". This gives you an idea of what their influences are. The sound is great and you can reach the band at: Pedro Apresa, c/custo de los afligidos n° 58, 41710 Utrera (Sevilla), Spain. (T)

STENTORIAN: Inconsolable syndrome (Netherlands)

This is a Dutch demo I got on the Metal market, over here in Holland. Somebody told me to take a good long listen, because this was very good. And so it is! This is Death Metal, a little bit like *Obituary*. Somebody else told me that this style is a bit outdated, but I think this still is a great style. Especially vocalwise you can compare Arne to John Tardy of *Obituary*. The tape contains 4 tracks: "Mind behind bars", "Endless pray", "Ones of war" and "The voice". The layout of the cover and the logo aren't that great, but the music, on the other hand, definitely is... I say: Buy this tape! Stentorian c/o Vesting 12, 6852 CR Huissen, Holland. (T)

SUHRIM AGASHURA'S DECIDE: Live (Belgium)

As far as I know this is a Belgian band. But I don't know if it's their first demo. The title says enough: it was recorded live on the 18th January '92 at B.A.R.S.T. in Burcht, Belgium. What to say about this demo... The cover is a bit boring, almost every band uses pentagrams these days. The layout is good, the sound is excellent. By the way, great drawing / picture on the inside-cover. The tape contains 4 tracks: "Patron of darkness", "Empty of grace", "Suhrim" (instrumental), and "Earth reality victim". The last track is a *Prophecy of Doom* cover. The beginning of the second track is really

good, but further more I've heard it all before. It all just sounds familiar, although the vocalist has a great voice. I don't say there's no quality, there certainly is, but there is a lack of originality. Sorry guys... Paul Brunson, Van Beethovenlei 47/3, 2900 Schoten, Belgium. (T)

THY GRIEF ETERNAL: On blackened wings (UK)

Some of you may know the band "Lord of Putrefaction". Well, they've split... But some of them have formed a new band: Thy grief eternal! The band name kind of says it: Doom - Metal is what they play. This demo is a promo-demo for Lee Dorian's *Rise Above Records*. The tracks are: "Swathed in black", "...On blackened wings" and "Outro". What more could I say? The quality is really good, and it really makes you wanting to commit suicide. In my opinion, (I don't know that much about Doom) that's the thing that really makes Doom - Metal! Order this for 5\$ (Europe), 6\$ (World). (*Gosh, Twan, you've found the price !!!!*). Dave Gedge, 43 Pilsdon Drive, Canford Park, Poole, Dorset BH17 9EJ, England. (*And I think Dave is also doing a 'zine, isn't he ?*) (T)

TITFACES: The legendary days of the Titfaces race (Netherlands)

In 1989, the Dutch "Funcore" band The Titfaces released two demo's. For the people who don't have these tapes (they are no longer available), they released a comp. tape with these two demos on it + a couple of extra live tracks. I'm gonna give you the titles (they'll say enough !!): "Nuclear burps" (remix), "Sweatcackies", "Ledoy", "Beeyond the tits", "Look there comes the steamboat", "Assault" (remix), "Exploding human being", "Too touch to die", "Crime watch", "Inspector Ketchup" and about 11 more which last between 2 minutes and 0,001 seconds. On the other side, there are tracks like: "Willy nilly a dilly-dally chilly billy", "Tomcat", "Das boot", "Captain Iglo surfs to Katwich", "Nude, dude!", and "For whom tolls the bell!" as crossover as they can be. Available by sending a blank tape 1 2\$ (I think) at: Daan, Tulpenstraat 1, 2231 6V Rijnburg, Holland. Watch out for their forthcoming demo! Daan plays also in *Eternal Nightmare* (gods of Dutch Thrash!) (*Gosh, that was an informative review !! Now we know if it's well played, if it has a good sound and most of all if it's worth buying, thank you Twan !! He, He, He !!*) (T)

TYFOON: The edge of violence (Belgium)

A little while ago, I bought this tape at a gig in Belgium and he (the guy of the band) told me not to expect a Death Metal tape. In these times of almost only Death Metal, that sometimes can be a relief. So with quite a lot of high expectation I put this tape on: I was hooked out of my shoes: Thrash Metal (I guess I'm still a Thrash fan) of a high quality. It is bay aera influenced Thrash, with some *Kreator* influences as well, with screamy vocals. Excellent - I really liked this tape. The tracks are: "The edge of violence", "Damnation day" and "Deadline". The tape costs 200 Belgian francs, or 10 Dutch guilders. Write to: Tyfoon, c/o Heinz Wietrzychowski, Sportlaan nr. 9, 3600 Genk, Belgium (T).

UTERUS: Rubber Johnny (Netherlands)

When you look at the titles of this demo: "Rubber Johnny", "Farewell to life", "Boring game", "Delft by night", "Witchhunt", "K.U.T. leraren", "Pappa", "Vos", "Soapy song" and "slam party" you might expect a funcore band. How wrong can you be! Sure, there is humour involved with this band, but musically you can speak about Thrash with Speed Metal influences. The sound is good, I only have one minor point of criticism: the vocalist doesn't have much power in his throat, but hé, the tape is great. Support this band! Armond Naaborg, Van Ryslaan 14, 2625 KX Delft, Holland. (T)



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METAL FOR THE '90s



The embryo of ANESTHESIA was already around in late '81 with Atomas (drums) and Schraubäh (vocals) but the band itself was founded in early 1989. The first demo, "The hour of zero" was released in the Summer of '89 and received a positive response. After about 20 concerts, they started working on their second demo which saw the light in late 1990. They released a live tape afterwards and they just released a third demo from which you'll now more about by reading the interview answered by Jan.

Tell us everything about your new demo ! The new demo "Imaginary Limits of Imagination" has been recorded in a rehearsal room. Kai Hansen (from *Helloween*) borrowed us his 12-tracks recorder, so that we don't have to pay for the studio, which usually costs a lot of money. Our friends from *Megace* already recorded their demo with Kai and his recorder, so we already knew how the sound would probably be like. We recorded it in *Megace's* rehearsal room, 'cause they built themselves a mixing-room (*I'm not sure about that, in German it's "Regieraum"*) and so we didn't have to pay for that either. The problem was that they were rehearsing there, so the recording turned out to be long.

How many copies have you sold / sent out so far ? Our tapes sold like that: 1st demo "The Hour of Zero": about 540 copies; 2nd demo "Tomorrow I'll stop": about 400 copies; live tape "No Sleep 'Til Millertor" about 100 copies. (promo-copies included).

Is there a big difference between the new and the second demo, has there been a big evolution ? There isn't really a big difference, it's still "interesting" music/texts (*In German he wrote "anspruchsvolle"*). I would say it's a mixture between the first and the second demo. You can find a lot of melody, progressive elements, speedy riffs and complex arrangements. The biggest difference is certainly that it isn't as speedy as the second demo, but there is a lot of groovy stuff instead. But you better make yourself on idea by hearing the tape.

Your two first demos received very good reactions, so how is it that you don't have a deal yet ? Is it because of the Death Metal trend ? Yes, the response has been great, even internationally. The band grew up constantly, so we didn't want to release an Lp in a rush. The offers we had so far were from little individual labels who didn't convince us that they could offer us what we wanted for our first release. After such a long growing of the band, we still have the

strength to release this third demo to check the whole thing again. There are so many newcomers who release their first demo after half a year, sign on any kind of label half a year later, don't get attention and who finally

disappear as fast as they appeared. This goes not only for the trendy Death Metal scene, but also for the other scenes. It is true that all the label try to sign a new Death Metal band, so that they can also take advantage of the trend. And otherwise there aren't any serious bands anymore in this style. The bands who are standing on the top, they established themselves and they'll survive the whole thing, but the ones who are down, among all the others, will disappear sooner or later. The whole thing will last for 2 or 3 years, unfortunately ! But for the biggest part, the "kids" are listening to all this Death Metal stuff and they'll also finally get bored from the copy of the copy and move to another musical direction. But I don't try to convince anyone about the style we play, everyone has different tastes.

Your lyrics deal with social / political things, do you think people read them and pay attention to them, do you want to pass a message through your lyrics ? Our lyrics are certainly important to us. They are a part of our music; we usually write the riffs to the lyrics, so that the music fits with the lyrics. We have a lot of positive reactions about our lyrics, a lot of people like them. They are so interesting, that people can also interpret them how they want. We don't write lyrics with a stretched finger, but we try to make the listener think about this or that. We like to criticize a few things, but by no means we want to be politically involved.

What do you think of the US-charts breaker bands ? Can you swear you'll never release a love ballad ? All in all, I don't have anything against charts, the represent the musical tastes of the big mass of people. It becomes interesting when bands like *Metallica* get into the charts (*I would say it becomes sad when such things happen* !), that means that a big amount of people like this music. It doesn't mean that they have pop songs or whatever, it's just shows that a lot of people are interested in this kind of music. About those uninteresting sucking L.A. bands who are in the charts, I don't especially like them, but it seems that there are a lot of people who are into that. To me, it's just as representative for our short-living consuming community or the whole Disco/Tecno or whatsoever stuff, no brain - no pain (*Sorry, this sentence was hard to translate* !). I think the second part of your question is a bit naively formulated, I suppose you hate love songs like pest. (*Yes, it's true that my question could sound a bit naive, but I like to make a bit provocative questions...* No, I don't hate love songs, not at all ! But I don't especially like them either (*I love "All of my love" from Led Zeppelin* !). But I'm sure that 95% of the love

songs you find in the charts are not serious, they were just written to suck the money out of some teenage-girls.) It's ok to me, but I think it would be stupid to say "I swear that I'll never write a love song" (*But who said that I don't consider you as stupid ?! No, I'm just kidding, you're right*), 'cause I don't know what ~~will~~ the future will bring. And the feelings, that I have and that I will have, are human and everyone needs love, otherwise there would only be hate. It wouldn't be an easily written song, like those typical American love ballads, but a song written with feelings, I couldn't exclude that. Every song I write is written from a feeling I have.

What are you listening to and do you like Death Metal ? One listens to what one likes, and that's a lot of things. From Classical and good Pop (from time to time *Prince*) to Blues (I love the *Blues Brothers* and Hardrock from the 70s), NWOBHM and Speed / Thrash Metal. I search for faves everywhere, so that my knowledge covers a lot of things. I'm not a big Death Metal fan, but a few bands interest me musically, for example *Death*, *Obituary*. But as soon as someone starts to "puke", I have to puke. I know a lot of people who are into Death Metal or who play it (*Unleashed*, for example) and I've got a good relationship with them, but it will never be my cup of tea. Otherwise I like old Punk, Crossover and some Hardcore. There are lots, lots of interesting things.

How often do you play live, how many people usually show up and is it easy to play in Germany ? We usually play once a month, but it can also turn out to be more. In general, there are between 150 and 200 people. If we would spend more time on it, we would certainly be able to play more often, but it takes too much time and work, we wouldn't have enough time for anything else; and as I do nearly everything for the band, I can't work that out so much. We've played about 40 concerts, early this year we went 2 days in Denmark for 2 great gigs, it already really was a tourfeeling.

Future plans ? We hope that we'll soon get an acceptable deal, we'll see what the new demo will bring. To play live until we can't stay on our feet, to evolve always more on the technical and songwriting side. In Summer we'll be featured on a sampler called "Peace-eater II", from Hamburg. Otherwise we've been featured on "Brown Bottles go Ape" (on *Tipsy Apes*) and "Don't walk like a crawfish" (on *D.D.R. Records*).

Anything to add ? It would be great if even more people would get interested in us and if they would contact us ! What about you ?! Could you organize a gig ? Otherwise, keep your eyes open and don't let yourself told what to do. SUPPORT THE UNDERGROUND !!!

I don't know how much I should thank you for having taken so much time on this interview !! You certainly missed a few gigs because of it ! It's great to see bands with such long answers, it's great you understood that if I asked only 8 questions, it's because I wanted you to answer with a bit longer answers, thanks again ! And all you readers out there, don't hesitate to contact this great guy at:

Contact:

ANESTHESIA
Jan Rubach
Volksparkestrasse 63
2000 Hamburg 54
Germany

- Patrick -



Hi Everybody. You're into the great Underground Scene and I guess you often get troubles to find some Bands, Labels addresses. I also have the same trouble & I'd like so much to put this right in putting a kind of 'infos/addresses' sheets out. But, for being well informed, I need to get tons of informations (as Merchandises lists & Plans) from Bands and Records Labels being involved in the real underground Death Metal and Grind Core scene... So, please, don't hesitate to get in touch, there's nothing to lose... That's a free help. Only informations are wanted!!! By the way, if you know someone playing in a Band or/and running a Records Label, it should be greatly appreciated if you could spread the words about that! Well, I'm looking forward to hearing from all of you pretty soon! Thank in advance and... Have a nice day...

Address : SCHAUS Fred, 2 rue des Chardonnerets, B - 6760 ETHE, BELGIUM



Well, I guess that all of you know this band as they have been one of the first Death/Thrash bands around. I won't say too much about the bands history, they were founded in 1984. They released two lps, "Hymn to Abramelin" in '86 and "Extreme Cold Weather" in '87. The band suddenly split in 1988. In 1990, guitarist R.B. Brögi reformed the band with a complete new line-up and they released a mini-lp called "Psychomorphia" in early September. Around October 91, they released a third lp "Choirs of horrors" on *Noise International*. They have just released a new lp called "Rotten perish" from which you'll certainly hear a lot in the near future. (read the review !). Here comes with an interview with the only original member, Brögi.

You're the only remaining original-Messiah member, the music you're doing now is quite different from the old-Messiah (it doesn't sound too different either, Ok.), so why did you keep the name ? For commercial reasons ? No, actually not for commercial reasons at all. As I started to found a band, after this 2 years break after the split of the old Messiah formation, I wanted to found only a new Messiah and not another band with a new name. Otherwise I would have done it long before ! I am one of those who founded Messiah, I came up with the name and I'm responsible for 2/3 of everything that the old Messiah has done. The new Messiah formation would have only been possible with new members, musicians. I wanted to continue the Messiah with it's famous style, but with two major differences: first of all it would have been bad and unimaginable to reform it with the original members, it would have created the same problems that were responsible for the split back in 87/88. And secondly I needed a technical evolution and a new musical motivation, but without changing the "idea" and the style of Messiah too much. And simply to have a better feeling concerning the personal relations between the members.

I guess you are working on a new lp, 'could you tell us more about it ? The new production is already finished. It will be a 52 minutes orchestra-album. It will come out on the 24th of August. (Read the review !)

Did you also record it in Berlin like "Choir of horrors"; if yes, why ? Aren't Swiss studios good enough ? Our producer comes from Berlin and he had good connections to Berlin studios. The record label is also in Berlin and one usually must talk about a lot of things so that everything works well, so we recorded at the *Powerplay Studios*. But this time it was mixed at the *Morrisound* in Tampa/Florida. Swiss studios are certainly as good, but they're really too expensive; the same equipment and soundquality is cheaper abroad, even if you include the travel & the place where to stay. But the service in German and American studios is a lot better. Well, the Swiss studios are unlucky, to my

opinion Swiss studios aren't for Metal productions. I say that because we have made the experiment with our "Psychomorphia" release !

How did the older fans react towards the reformation, do they like it, or they regret the old Messiah ? Are there some totally unhappy people ? Yes, there are a few "cult-idiots" (sorry for the expression, but I can't stand the whole "cult-shit" anymore !). But now there are a lot more young fans and they are our future. To the few others I could only say the following: just listen to "Hymn to Abramelin" and "Extreme cold weather" until you get mad and your "green ears" fall down ! And exactly those persons should be a bit more tolerant and open-minded. We just play what we

like and that's it !

In general, musicians prefer their newer stuff, 'cause it has evolved, what about you ? Do you prefer "Choirs of horrors" or the two first Lp's ? I like all the old Messiah tracks, the ones from the 2 debut Lps as well. I can accept them, they were Ok considering when they came out. Tschösi, for example, said that he didn't like the first Messiah Lps anymore, that proved me that I made the right thing by quitting him !

Tell us about the deal with Noise, are you 100% happy with it ? I don't talk about our deal and

doesn't interest me and I didn't hear anything, I am not really involved in the Swiss scene, this "intolerant complaining" has got too uninteresting and ridiculous.

What is your view on the underground scene, too many people ? Not too many people, but there isn't a real underground scene anymore because everything that gets sold more or less gets immediately commercial. It is different than in 1986.

Tell us about your manager, Daniel Appert, what does he do exactly and are you happy with him ? I don't talk about our management, promo-people, label, etc. sorry !

During the time the band was "dead", where you still involved in the underground scene ? In the beginning, yes, because of the mail I received because of the split. Afterwards I had a silly project, but with the time I didn't interest myself in the scene anymore.

Tell us about the Swiss scene, any fave bands ?

The Swiss scene changed: you have *Coroner*, *Celtic Frost*, *Caustic*, *Silent Death*, *Messiah*, *Samael* who play their own stuff and that way do something for the scene. And then you have a lot of small idiotic musicians and bands who overflow the scene, who "don't do anything precise" ("die nür mehr rumlallern" *how the fuck could this be translated in English ?!*) and who criticize the bands who reach something instead of doing something acceptable themselves. And finally you have the ones you don't manage to do anything, but who absolutely want to do something: what comes

out of it ? The mouth is, of course, big, they pay, buy other musicians who are certainly good but who are too selfish to put a band by themselves to make a production. That way, both parties are proud and their mouth gets even bigger and the scene even more broken, Amen.

Any last word, future plans ? In September we'll make some promotion throughout Switzerland: concerts, parties, etc... This time we'll also play in the South, in the Valais and in the West. And after that we have some tour-plans to promote the new Cd. Otherwise I would like to thank and say "Hello" to all the new fans who have the opportunity to judge the new Messiah without basing themselves on what we did before, that way they are frank. Thanks also to the old true fans, who are open-minded, tolerant and ready to check out new things.

That was another great interview, wasn't it ? You can reach the band at the manager's address:

Daniel Appert
Ragazerstr. 15
7320 Sargans
Switzerland

But for interviews, you'd better contact the band directly at: Messiah, PO Box 4210, 6304 Zug, Switzerland.

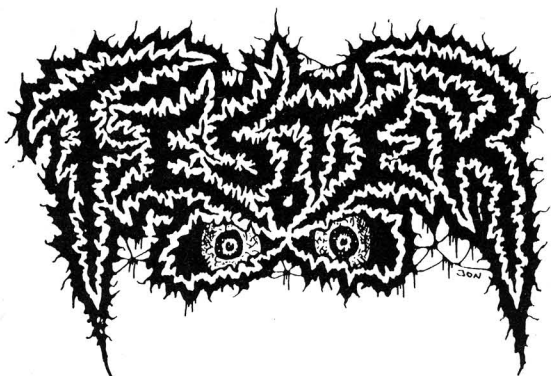
about our label, management, tour-promotion, etc.. (Oops, it seems that they have problems with one of those things ?! But which one, that is the question !)

How many concerts have you played with the new line-up and how many people usually showed up ? Oh, we already did a lot of gigs since 1990. In general, when we're headlining, some 300-500 people show up. But we also played in Eastern Europe in front of 8000 fans, in Holland with *Morbid Angel* in front of 5000. All in all, we played about 90 times since 1990.

Have you heard what the old members think of the reformation ? Aren't they angry ? Oh, it



- Patrick -



The obscure story of FESTER started in the cold Norwegian city of Askim, back in late 1989. So far, they have released 2 tapes: "The introduction" which came out in September '91 and from which they sold 300 copies. The 2nd tape was recorded in December '91. It wasn't supposed to be released to the public, but they finally decided to do so. The reactions have been great and they got a deal with the *Putrefaction* zine editor's new label: *No Fashion Records*, the Lp should be available by now. The following interview was made with Tiger.

Tell us everything about the Lp ! The Lp will be entitled "Winter of sin". It will contain 50 minutes of intensity, aggression and hate. There will be 9 trax: 2 from each demo and 5 new ones. The music itself will be the same that we've always been playing, maybe even more atmospheric than before, 'cause we've even included violin, cello, zynth and a real dog (!). We've also got some parts of the lyrics translated to ancient Norwegian, the same language that the Viking used. I tell you: you'll get chilly down your spine, sweaty under your arms, aggressive and filled with dark thoughts in your sin; the Lp is *Death The Ancient Way*.

How did you get the deal and are you happy with it ? For how many Lps did you sign ? Yes, we were really satisfied with the deal. The label, which is *No Fashion Records* (done by the editor of *Putrefaction* 'zine !), pays all studio costs, part of the promotion, pressing, etc.. and Fester gets \$1600 for each 1000 copies sold. They own, of course, the right to print and sell the album for as long as they

want, even if we go to another label after this 1 Lp deal.

You were founded in early '89, that's not so long, don't you think it's a bit too early for an Lp ? Why ?! I think 3 years is quite a good amount of days (yes, and certainly a shitload amount of minutes and I can't imagine how many seconds that makes !?) to play together, make songs, etc... The time isn't that reveling. So what is reveling ? Your mind !! The mind's ability to create music / lyrics out of your state of mind at exactly that moment. Use your dark consciousness and the music will be as true as it can be...

How often do you rehearse and how long have you been playing your instruments ? It depends if we have to enter the studio or to play an important gig. As we rehearsed for the Lp, we rehearsed 5 days a week, 4 hours each time. When we're making new songs, we usually play 3 times a week 2-3 hours each time. All the member have been playing their instruments for about 3 and a half years.

Do you think Fester can still evolve musically ? And how do you see this evolution ? Of course, everybody can develop, but the question is will we ? Our trax are not technical, but not really basic either, it's a mix and it suits us fine. We've got a very heavy edge in each song and I don't see that we'll ever going to change however we develop ourselves musically.

Nowadays there are thousands of bands around, what makes that you're not just "a Death Metal band more" ? Do you think you've got something special to offer ? As I said, we use our feelings when we write something. Death is also a way of life, not for 14 years old people who play this extreme kind of music just because it's popular and cool. That is the major problem and the reason why thousands of bands sound the same. They're not doing what they really want to, they are just copying a band they think is cool. Fester has got this natural hateful attitude and I dare to say that we are original and play our own style. (And I'll dare to say that even if he's not the most modest guy around, he's not wrong at all !)

On your bio you say you play "Death / Black Metal" and in an interview I read you were into "Black stuff", are you into Occultism and Satanism ? We do not claim that we play "Black / Death" in our bio. What we are saying is that we don't like labeling music, especially not our own. But if you have to label us, I guess you can call us a Black / Death band, that's what we say in our bio (Yes. That was not the subject of my question, "Black Metal" makes think that a band is into Satanism so if you say that in your bio one could think that you're into Satanism.). Yes, I'm into black stuff. I live the black way as good as I can and my sin is black and it will always be like that.

What are your lyrics about and what inspires you when you write ? Most of our lyrics are just from our own mind, dark visions written down on paper "Entering..." is one of those. We also got lyrics about the deceitful right hand path (Humm., I have some *soupons* here..), lyrics about the ancient Gods, about Vikings, witches and also lyrics about our hate against others, "I hate you !", for example. (Thanks a lot, I return the compliment !) They are inspired from our minds in a main part, but also from old saga books, dark poetry, etc...

Tell us about the scene in Norway, what are the best zines / bands ? Best bands: *Immortal*, *Burzum*, *Mayhem*, *Darkthrone* and *Malfeitor*. Zines: *Slayer*, *Sepulchral*, *ZAST*.... There are just too many 'zine and bands her in Norway. Too many people claim to be someone they're not, do you know what I mean ?! (Of course, you know, I'm the reincarnation of Einstein and I understand everything !)

Something to add ? Thanks for the interview, and do order our Lp, you won't get any light thoughts while listening to this album; it'll be a frosty journey. A few T-Shirts are left too, send 12\$. Write us for info and to *No Fashion Records* for the Lp (see address at the zine reviews, he is the editor of *Putrefaction* !).

I won't forget to thank Tiger for this interesting interview !

FESTER
Odinsrd. 20 B
1800 Askim
Norway

- Patrick -

OVERMAN

The band got together in '89 under the name "Mr Bungle". For the obvious reason, the name had to change and it turned into "Mooncalf". They released a demo called "Kill the fool" (reviewed in here) and gained a lot of attention. *Big Chief Records* offered them a deal which they accepted, but unfortunately the label got bankrupt... They recorded the album under a new name: **OVERMAN** and they are now looking for a new label. I think it will not be too difficult to find another one, 'cause this band has the potential to get big. Here comes an interview made with Ron.

Tell us everything about the Lp ! The album has 12 or 13 tracks, 4 or 5 of it are from "Kill the fool", but they were re-recorded.

Why did you change your name to Overman ? Upon finishing the album we needed to trademark the name Mooncalf. Our lawyer, in the process of the trademark search, found a band

from Maryland called *The Mooncalves* that had already applied for a trademark - so we were screwed. So now we are Overman.

Anti-Christianity is a big part of the "Kill the fool" lyrical content, why such an "interest" ? Without going into detail and example after example Christianity has twisted a lot of brain matter for the worse, in my opinion. I'm not here to preach, but to express our feelings.

Do you think that people who buy the demo read the lyrics and think about them ? Do you think you can change the world with them ? Don't you think making the listener forget his problems should be the aim of a musician ? I hope that listening to music, any music for that matter, could be something you feel and can relate to, I doubt anyone can totally ignore lyrics. Changing the world definitely isn't our goal in writing lyrics. As for solving problems through music, it's great if a song can change your attitude for the better but I would guess it would be hard to always write material that would make people's problems go away. I think in that case the person should turn the music off for a minute and talk to

himself or to another. (Obviously he misunderstood the question...)

The vocalist sounds like James Hetfield and the music is Metallica influenced as well; isn't it a problem ? Yes, yes, I've heard it all before. Hopefully when people hear our new shit that comparison will die ! Not a bad comparison though - I've always liked *Metallica*. But as far as being a rip off, I don't see it.

Tell us about your concerts, how often do you play and how are you on stage, what is the most important thing when you play ? We've been playing almost twice, maybe three times a month. The most important thing when we play is to have a sense of humor about the shit that goes wrong and have a good time - that is why we're in this - for the enjoyment of the music.

Anything more to say, some "Hello" to pass ? No, not really. Everyone tell your mother that love'em then go out and get matching tattoos. Thanks..

But thanks to you ! You can reach the band at: Brian Sullivan, PO Box 18314, Raytown, MO 64133, USA.

Cedric + Patrick



In June 1988, two Death Metal maniacs decided to form a band, it turned out to be MASACRE ! The line-up got completed quite soon and they released a first demo "Colombia...Imperio del Terror" in July '89. After a few concerts and line-up changes, they released a second demo called "Cancer de nuestros dias" in November 1990. Both demos sold very well, almost 1000 copies of each has been spread through the scene. In May '91, they released a 12" Ep called "Ola de violencia". A bit later they signed with *Osmose Productions* and released their debut Lp "Reviem". I sent an interview to vocalist Alex a long time ago and didn't get an answer. But recently, the interview finally dropped into my mailbox. So the questions are a bit old, but not the answers.

Tell us about this debut Lp ? The Lp contains songs from our demo "Colombia...Imperio del terror" and "Cancer de nuestros dias" + some newer songs never recorded on demos. For this recording things

written letters. They wanted to sign with us and we were very interested, so.. They sent us 1000\$ for the studio time.

Could you tell us when you'll release something new ? Soon. Maybe *Osmose* will release a split-Lp with Masacre / *Profanatica* (Out now !), our side will include the "Ola de violencia" 12" Ep + two live songs.

How is the scene in Colombia ? A big scene ! We have lots of great bands like *Confusion*, *La Pestilencia*, *Averno*, *Holocausto*, *Psguerra*, *Herpes*, *Neurosis*, etc.... those bands have demos, Ep's or Lp's out. There aren't many concerts, it's because of our situation. We have a great scene that is growing really fast !!

And what about life in general in Colombia, do you like your country ? I love my country, and the people, no matter if there are some people making a mess. People here are nice and good workers. Colombia is big and wonderful !!!

How were the reactions towards the band

a bloodshed in our country; violence that we can't stand anymore. So they criticize the government and it's stupid laws. They are also about war, contamination, death, science and religion allied to destruction !

Are they very important to you ? They are as important as the music. They represent 50% of our songs !

And what about your concerts, did you play a lot of gigs ? Yes, it's great.

Do you consider yourself as open-minded musically, what

kind of music do you like ? We have a very important and central message in our lyrics, all the people who read them should get our seed buried inside: please open your eyes and look what is left of our world. (*What was that ? I'm afraid I didn't really understand what this has to do with my question, could anyone help me ? Anyway....*) The bands we love and listen to are: *Bach*, *Kiss* (old), *Black Sabbath*, *Judas Priest*, *AC/DC*, *Morbid Angel*, *Mayhem*, *Entombed*, *Carcass*, *Napalm Death* (old), *Trouble*, *Cathedral*, *Autopsy*, *Parabellum*, *Sarcofago*, *Slayer*, etc....

What do you think of 'zines, too many rip-offs ? They bring the best support to the bands but yes, the sad thing is that there are plenty of rip-offs !

Do you know in how many 'zines the bands has been featured ? No, we don't know about that !

How do you see the future of Death Metal, the end for a lot of bands ? Death Metal will never die ! Total brutal Death Metal rules forever !

"Masacre" is not a very original name, why this name ? Masacre is an everyday thing when you live in Colombia. It's not only a "violent name", the year we formed the band there had been over 50 massacres of people, can you imagine that ? We had friends that were killed on those massacres and it really affected us. So we decided to protest on this barbarian aggression that becomes worse everyday !!

Any plans for the future ? To rehearse, make more songs, making concerts, to play outside of Colombia and to release our new Lp, it will be totally anti-religion stuff.

What about a conclusion ? Thanks a lot, Patrick, for your support ! It's very important to us, please support this great 'zine & please write to us.. We want to know about you and share our energy !! Total brutal Death Metal Manda.

Thanks, Alex for this interview, better late than never !

Alex O.
AA 81366
Envigado-Antioquia
Colombia

- Patrick -



were very hard, almost all the instruments have been borrowed and we had a low budget for the studio so we recorded it in a hurry. But gave the best of ourselves to make a good Lp !

How did you get the deal with Osmose ? By mail... All the contacts were made by

? The best an underground band could have !!!

Are you into Satanism ? No, we're not interested in that !!

What are your lyrics about ? They speak about the senseless violence that has become

Here are a few short reviews of some other 'zines, don't hesitate to write to them, we've been in touch with them and we never had any problems, so we think they are honest.

Bands who want to send their releases should write before sending anything, they might not be into your style, or whatsoever. And of course all you readers should (have!) to buy a few of the reviewed 'zines! Say "Hi" from us!

ALLIAGE: XI

This French zine is written in French and is very popular in France. On the 68 (A4) pages you'll find interviews / reviews / articles on underground & bigger Heavy / Speed / Thrash / Death.. bands (ex: *Scorpions, Mestema, Tesla, Merciless, Killer...*). The whole thing is very interesting and well done, well worth checking out if you speak French and aren't a 100% underground freak. Bands should send their demos (all Metal styles) at: Alliage, 51 rue Christophe Thivrier, 03600 Commentry, France.

ANTHROPOMORPHIA I

Is the first issue of this new French 'zine. On 60 A5 pages, you'll find interviews with *At The Gates, Powertrip, Sinister, Gorefest, Monastery, Samael, Mordor...* + reviews and articles on underground Death Metal bands. The layout is Ok, the interviews short but quite interesting. It's xeroxed, so the photos are unclear, but all in all it's a good first issue. 4\$ (5\$ overseas) to Fred Tari, 3 rue Yves Hall, 29200 Brest, France.

BALANCE OF TERROR III

This is a very good 'zine!! You'll find tons of reviews (zines, demos, vinyls) and infos as well as as interviews with bands like *Impetigo, Inverted, Agathocles, Bolt Thrower...* There are also articles on the Ku Klux Klan and the Lochness monster! The layout is good, the printing small and the whole thing really worth checking out for 4\$ from Trevor Jarvis, 384 Goward Rd, Victoria, BC Canada V8X-3X3.

CLOSE UP IV

After *Underground Empire*, this is the most professional 'zine I've seen! And just like *Underground Empire*, it's not written in English! This one is in Swedish and I really couldn't understand a lot from it, that's really a pity. It comes with a full color cover, 60 printed glossy A4 pages, a great layout and crystal clear photos. There are interviews with bands like *Death, Sepultura, Possessed, Mayhem, Godflesh...* and some 100 demos / vinyls reviews. Bands should send their demos (but only the better ones, a review is not guaranteed), 'cause they make 2000 copies! Close Up, Box 7028, 600 07 Norrköping, Sweden.

C.O.T.I.M. II

Circle Of The Impious Mortal was supposed to have released it's last issue with this second one, but editor Nyar finally couldn't give it up so the end of the 'zine doesn't seem to be close! I really like this 'zine, it's a very small one (16 A4 pages) but the letters are really small so there is a lot to read. There are 10 long and very interesting interviews (one of the best

interviews I read!) with bands like *Extrema, Impaled Nazaren, Beherit*. There are also a lot of reviews, a Spanish scene report, an article on Satanis and other infos. The whole thing is well done and very

informative, certainly worth the ridiculous 2\$ it costs! Bands, send your stuff, he features mainly Death Metal, but all styles of Metal are welcome, he's open-minded! C.O.T.I.M., Kloppe 4, 6541 Fronhofen, Germany.

DECIBELS STORM III

France's biggest (2500 copies) Thrash / Death fanzine stroke again! No big changes since their previous issue, except more reviews (over 100). It's professionally done: color cover, 48 glossy pages, good layout,... It includes some 15 interviews with mainly bigger Thrash / Death bands (*Sepultura, Morgoth, Kreator...*), lots of infos and whatsoever. It's available for 4\$ and it's well worth it. Franck Arnaud, Résidence L'Olympia Bat. A, Chemin Mon Paradis, 83200 Toulon, France.

DISPOSABLE UNDERGROUND II

This is an old issue (their 5th should be out) but it's a bi-monthly 'zine, so it's not that old either. Well, the layout is quite good, the photos are clear and the printing is excellent, but the pages could be filled up a bit more. There are 48 A4 (or something close from A4) pages with 13 interviews (*Asphyx, Sepultura, Unleashed, Carrion Lord...*) and some 40 demos/vinyls reviews. The interviews are very interesting (they were made live) and the whole thing is very informative (but there could be more to read) and it's worth the money (issue 4 was 4\$, so the 5th should be the same price). Richard Johnson, 157 N Cottage Rd, Sterling VA 22170-1331, USA.

DROWNED MAGAZINE II

This is the 'zine from Dave from *Drowned Productions*. It has a glossy cover and features 48 pages of Death Metal. There are some 10 interviews and tons of articles / reviews. The layout is good, the photos are clear, it's a good 'zine, very informative. 5\$ to Drowned Productions, PO Box 39048, 28080 Madrid, Spain.

FANFARE III

Why must great 'zines always be written in another language than English? After *Close Up* and *Underground Empire*, here comes the Dutch Fanfare! It's very well done: great layout, clear photos, 48 pages with a lot to read. Anyway, all the good bands should send their stuff, they review some 20 demos (only the best ones). Write to Fanfare Magazine, Driemaandelijks uitgave, Afgitekantoor 1000 Brussel 1, Belgium.

F.E.T.U. X

Here we have the 10th issue of The Fatal Execrable Transmaniac Undertakers from Japan!! 40 A5/A4 pages with long and

really very interesting interviews with *Megace, Gomorrah, Brave Bomber, Questionmark, Jesus Save, Mortality*, and *Metalucifer*. (no Satanic bands!!) There are also 22 demos reviews + some live + zines reviews. Very interesting stuff, good quality, copies available for 5\$ from Yohta Takahashi, 1-12-16 Towa Adachi-Ku, Tokyo 120 Japan. (by the way, Yohta is a great & honest guy!)

GRINDCORE PARANOIDS I

This one is a Portuguese 'zine, 48 (A4) pages & small writing. The layout and the copies (xerox) could be better. There is a lot to read, but it could more professionally done. You'll find 13 interviews (*God Forsaken, Disharmonic Orchestra, Rot...*), a lot of articles / reviews.. The 'zine comes with a 90 minutes promo-tape. Worth checking out for not too serious Grindcore / Death freaks. Europe: 8.5\$ (world 10\$) for both 'zine & tape. Josen Grinder, R: Cabeco do Salvador nº 1, 6030 V.V.Rodao, Portugal.

HAMMER OF DAMNATION II

Their first issue was well done, but a bit too small to my opinion, but with this 2nd issue I don't know what I could reproach them! (I should say "him" since he's doing it all alone). There are only 40 A4 pages, but the text is very small and perfectly readable, so there's a lot to read! The printing is excellent, the photos are clear and layout is excellent so what do you want more? A glossy cover? You've got it as well! The whole thing is 95% Black / Death Metal oriented, that might be the negative thing, but I can't see anything else. There are long and interesting interviews with bands like *Mayhem, Impaled Nazarene, Beherit, Tiamat, Blasphemy, Possessed, Samael...* as well as informative articles, 'zines reviews and whatsoever. Well worth checking out. Niko Sirkä, Nurmelaantie 6D3, 20780 Kaarina, Finland. (5\$)

MALLEUS MALEFICARUM II

This one is written in German and they are 95% of Swiss bands featured. So if you don't understand German or don't like the Swiss scene, you better check out something else. But otherwise you should know that on the 36 A5 pages (but with small writing) you'll get lots of infos about the Swiss Death / Thrash / Heavy Metal / HC scene. This issue features interviews with *Exulceration, Samael, Nergal, Witchhunt Records, Damnatory...* reviews and some other things like the funny "Das Besuch eines Konzerts" story. Send 3DM, 2,5 SFR or 20 ös to: Josch Kunz, Bahnhofstrasse 11, 8722 Kaltbrunn, Switzerland.

MASTER OF BRUTALITY III

I liked this one quite a lot, there could be more to read (44 A4 pages), but it's a very good 'zine. Clear photos & printing and good interviews (*Bestial Summoning, Rator, Disgrace, Miasma, Carcass...*) and articles (55 demo/record reviews). There should be more interviews, to my opinion, but it's a good 'zine, well worth checking out for 4\$ to: Ewald Provoost, Schuitvlotstraat 37, 4373 AJ Biggerkerke, Holland. There is mainly Death Metal, but other Metal styles are welcome.

MORTUARY MAG: III

It will be the last issue under this name, the new name will be "Exhumed Mag". Well, this 68 (A4) pages 'issue turns out to be better presented than the 2nd issue, the layout is better. The letters got smaller, so there is more to read. You'll find interviews with *Dark Tranquility*, *Carcass*, *Gorefest*, *Massacre*, *Demigod*, *Samael*, *Traumatic*.. and lots others + over 80 demos reviews + over 40 vinyls reviews. It sounds good, doesn't it? Yes, but the editor is not happy with it and I could only say he's right! The interviews are really short and really uninteresting and uninformative (they remind of F.Y.A.F.T. I). So that's the black point of the 'zine. Send 4\$ to: Christian Hillenbrand, Sudetenstr. 65, 6415 Petersberg, Germany. Bands, send your demos, next issue will be in.....5000 copies!!!! (Really!)

MY SARDINIA 0

Walter from *Assache*, along with 2 other guys, released this one. Their first issue (that has to be considered as issue 0) is rather good for a first try. It's not very well presented (bad layout, side stapled...) but the content is a lot better: the interviews are interesting and the articles are informative. There are only 36 A4 pages, but the writing is small, so you've got, well, quite a lot to read. As you might guess, they styles they cover are Grind / Death / Noise / HC and stuff like that. Send 4\$ to: Walter Garay, Via Brodilini 5, 08015 Macomer (Nu), Italy.

NO DECEPTION II

It was the first Japanese 'zine I saw, and it certainly wasn't a deception! Color cover, good layout, clear photos, 48 pages (18,3 * 25,7 cm) and interesting interviews and articles on mainly Death Metal bands. Interviews with: *Devastation*, *Acheron*, *Invocator*, *Dead End*... + unusual articles like "The European demo attack" or "What is the originality in Death Metal". This is a quality 'zine you should check out for 4\$ from Atsushi Fujimoto, 2-35-2 Hakusan, Bunkyo-Ku, Tokyo 112 Japan.

ORCUSTUS T.S.O.T.G.F. II

The whole title is "Orcustus - The Shadow Of The Golden Fire". Yes, you're right, it's a 100% Black / Death Metal mag! It's the most evil 'zine I've seen so far! There are interviews with *Beherit*, *Darkthrone*, *Samael*, *Sinoath*, *Necromantia*, *Alastis*, *Mayhem*, *Perdiction Hearse*, and others. There are also lots of demos / zines reviews and some unusual articles. The whole thing is well presented (quite good layout), clear photos... and the printing is very small (but 100% readable) so you've really got tons of stuff to read! If you're into "true Death Metal", don't miss this one!! Bard G. Eithun, Solve Solfengsv. 6c, 2600 Lillehammer, Norway. I think the price is 4\$. (By the way, this issue is 100% better than the first one!!)

PEARDROP: II

What I've got here is an old issue, so I won't say too much about the content. There are mainly Death Metal bands featured, but the guy is really open-minded. There are tons of reviews, interesting interviews... and a lot of fun through it all. The layout is quite original.

All in all I like this one quite a lot, and I'm sure that the newer issues are much better so you can imagine how great they should be! Bands, send your stuff to: Laurent Merle, 18 Quai Duguay Trouin, 62480 Le Portel, France. He's also running the label *Listenable Records*. (oh, a negative thing: the zine is small, 28 A4 pages!)

PROGRESS TATOO MAG IV

One of the most well known 'zine in the underground! (printed in 10000 copies!). Lots of tatoo pics (too many if you're not really interested in tatoos) but also interviews and reviews on underground Death/HC/Thrash bands (interviews with: *Benediction*, *Invocator*, *Bolt Thrower*, *Obituary*...). Great layout, color cover & 72 glossy A4 pages, a must for people into tatoos & Metal, well worth checking out if you're only into one of those things. Only the better demos will be reviewed, but send your stuff to (copies are available for 5\$ each) Progress, Vesterbo 110.1, 5000 Odense C, Denmark.

PUTREFACTION VI

48 printed A4 pages with clear photos, good layout and good printing. There aren't any demo reviews, but you'll get some zines reviews and most of all over 20 interesting interviews with underground Death Metal bands like *Samael*, *Rotting Christ*, *Incantation*, *At The Gates*... Also a few articles, scene reports and something on Satanism. Available for 4\$ (issue 7 will be 5\$) and it's worth it. (he makes 1000 copies). Tomas Nyqvist, Finningevägen 58 A, 64542 Strängnäs, Sweden.

UNDERGROUND EMPIRE: VI

Finally, I finally received their 6th issue! This 'zine is the best 'zine I ever read! It's written in German and if you don't understand it, you've got a good reason to get depressed for a couple of days! 94 (A4) ultra-professionally done pages, great layout, very interesting interviews with: *Dream Theater*, *Entombed*, *Carcass*, *Viper*, *Devastate*, *Armoured Angel*, *Attika*, *Xerxes*... over 200 (!!!) demos reviews (all Metal styles), over 100 vinyls reviews and interesting articles (like "Speaker's corner"). I say it again, this 'zine is the best I ever seen. Bands, send all your demos (but shit-bands will be damned!) to: Stefan Glas, Seufzerweg 5, 6792 Ramstein-Miesenbach 1, Germany.

UNDERGROUND SCENE REPORT V

Is a small (but worldwide, as his ads claim) 8 pages newsletter featuring some 73 demos reviews, 15 zines reviews and some useful labels, distro, radios addresses. The reviews are the best I've ever seen, they're so detailed, precise, this guy really knows what he's talking about! The letters are very small (but 100% readable) so you've got a lot to read. All styles are featured so all the bands should send their stuff (only the best will be reviewed)! This newsletter is a great way to find out some good demos, especially if you're bored to read uninformative reviews. Send an IRC (1\$ USA) and it will be yours. USSR, PO Box 5086, 4380 KB-Vlissingen, Holland. (5\$ = 6 issues = 1 year!)

THRASHING HOLOCAUST II

Great A5 'zine! 68 interesting pages with lots of infos on underground bands! Lots of reviews, interviews on a good layout and a clear small printing. Some of the featured bands are *Malevolent Creation*, *Crucifer*, *Ancient Rites*, *Sinister*... and you'll also read zines and horror movies reviews for only 3\$ (4\$ outside of Europe), check it out, it's well worth the money! Henke Martinsson, Fingerkroken 5, 380 62 Mörbyllanga, Sweden.

THRASHING RAGE III

This one is very similar to *Underground Scene Report*, it's not as great, but still good. On 4 A4 pages, you'll find 19 demos reviews on Heavy / Speed / Death Metal bands + some flyers. He could try to put a bit more reviews on it, it would be possible. The price is also 1\$. A good way to know which bands to check out. I think he makes some 500 copies of it, so bands should send their demos. Write to Laurent Michelland, 3 rue de Boigne, 73000 Chambéry, France.

VITAL WOUND II

The first issue of this 'zine was written in Lithuania, so you can consider this one as the first issue. Well, considering the economic situation which doesn't seem to be best around there, this first issue is certainly a good attempt! It contains 56 A5 pages with interviews (*ROT*, *Nuclear Death*, *At The Gates*, *Anathema*, *Equimanthorn*, *Edge of Sanity*, *Ancient Rites*, etc...), reviews and other stuff on Death Metal bands (but the guy is really open-minded!). The layout is good, but the printing is the problem: about 8 pages are hardly readable. But otherwise, the printing is good and quite small, so you've got a lot to read. The interviews are good, the reviews objective and the whole thing turns out to be very informative. The editor is not happy at all with this, but I think it is worth checking out for 3\$, support them!!! Mindaugas Lapinskas, Zaibo 10-75, 2050 Vilnius, Lithuania.

WROTH ZINE III

This one is written in Portuguese, so I won't write too much about the content, I would only advise bands or 'zines to get in touch with them for ads. It's a 36 A4 pages 'zine, the layout is OK, the photos could be clearer. There are interviews / reviews with all kinds (all styles) of underground bands. Write to: Manuel Joaquim, Aldeia de Cima, S. Romao, 4660 Resende, Portugal.

ZAST II

56 A4 pages featuring interviews with *Abruptum*, *Masacre*, *Cathedral*, *Grave*, *Paradise Lost*, *Beherit*... lots of articles + the usual stuff on underground Death Metal bands. The layout is good (quite similar to *Slayer Mag*), but the letters are a bit too big. All in all, it's quite informative and this one is a part of the better 'zines around. Send 4\$ to Havard Ellefsen, Kafjellv 8, 3670 Notodden, Norway.

LUBRICANT

(Yes, I could not find an original logo, sorry...) LUBRICANT started in January 1991 with the split-up of another band. In April they recorded their first official rehearsal tape "Surgical Centsis" which was just pure shit, as the band says. However, it included the tracks "Inflammatorius..." and "Paralysis....." which were going to appear on the second demo "Swallow the symmetric swab" which came out in November '91. They did an enormous promotion which made them get a name in the underground scene. They have played several gigs and as you'll read in the interview, they'll soon release an Ep. They sent me their "Swallow the symmetric swab" and I liked it enough to want to make an interview them, here we go:

You told me you would make a second edition of the demo, is it out and how many copies have you sold so far ? Is it still available ? A+P: We'll, actually we have our third edition out by now, so the 2nd edition is gone (200 copies). So far we sold 400, but when this 'zine (masterpiece) will be out, we'll have sold over 500 copies. We could sell more, because we have quite a lot of distributors. We'll probably not do a 4th edition, 'cause we need money to record the Ep. But maybe we'll continue the selling after getting the money back from the Ep. The demo is still available for 4\$ (5\$ overseas).

Are you soon going to release a second demo, or did you get a deal or something ? A+P: Our next release will definitely not be a demo, as we already have deals under consideration. Our Ep will probably be out on *Morbid Records*, it will include 2 or 3 new tracks. The other will surely be "Thrombose", the other isn't so sure yet, we have 5 new tracks so we'll have to choose among our songs.

Your lyrics remind a lot Carcass, the music and especially the vocals as well, are you sometimes considered as Carcass-rip offs ? P: Oh, you haven't read our lyrics, or have you ? (No, I only saw the titles. But let's say the titles remind of Carcass and not the lyrics, it doesn't change the question, does it ? But I have to say that when I read "Paralysis Bulbaris" or "Inflammatorius Pulmonectomia" I don't think they are about ecology...) If you have seen them, I can say that you haven't understood them at all. They have

nothing to do with Carcass's lyrics (So why those Carcass-like titles ?!). I have noticed that people judge my lyrics after only seeing the titles and I think that's very wrong. About my vocals, I have to admit that they are not very original, but it doesn't bother me too much.

A: I can say something about the music then, because I write almost all the songs. There is this trend nowadays among the underground scene which says that our band is either boring Death Metal or either a Carcass-clone (!?!? Are you serious or what ?). I happen to be the kind of guy who isn't so interested in Death Metal. But I have to say that it's very difficult to write different songs from Carcass or Xysma, because I want to play a lot of mid-tempo riffs, and we have two singers, as Carcass does. But I still wouldn't say that we are something like Carcass-rip offs. Do you consider us as a Carcass-rip off ? I hope you don't. (No, of course not ! There is an originality in your music !).

The sound of the demo is really good, did you pay a lot for the recording and are there a lot of studios in your town ? A+P: In our town, there aren't any studios. We recorded at the *MSL-Studios* which is in Lempäälä, 40 km from Nokia. About the recording: we recorded it in 5 hours and the final mixing took about 4 hours. The studio was very expensive (200 mk/hour), but it was very good: 24-tracks, etc.. The whole demo cost us about 3000mk, but the town of Nokia helped us with 1000mk (!?! Great !).

What is your view on the nowadays underground scene ? A: It's great ! All are friends to others, peace & love. About music, most of it is in my opinion, boring. Most of the bands were just founded so that they can read their name, interviews.. in 'zines,... The music isn't interesting/important enough to many bands, it sucks ! But on the other hand, only the good bands will survive, the shitty ones will suffer + die. But the attitude in the underground scene is great, though there will always be a lot of posers + rip-offs.

P: Nowadays the scene is definitely going down, because there are too many bands. I think that scene has corrupted a lot in the last few years. But as my God Aki said before, only the good ones will survive. In my opinion originality is the factor that all of you should appreciate. Today is the most important thing.

With which bands have you played and what was your best concert ? A+P: Our best concert

was the last we did, in Nokia 22-5-92 with *Convulse*, *Sentenced* and *Phlegethon*. We are soon going to play a few gigs, we'll play in Sweden with *Suffer* and *Merciless*. Perra (*Suffer / Mould Mag*) is arranging the gig there, he's a great fellow ! Those gigs will kill !

What are your fave bands and do you listen to something else than Metal ? P. My fave underground bands are *Disgrace*, *Sentenced*, *Carcass*, *My Dying Bridge*, *Disharmonic Orchestra*, *Dead Head* and a few more. I don't listen to a lot of Death Metal and not a lot of normal Metal either. My fave bands are Finnish rock/pop bands like *J. Karjalainen*, *Nyykat*, *Kolmas Nainen*, *Juice* and a few others. But my absolute all-time heroes are *KISS* !

A: As I said before, Death Metal isn't so interesting to me, but there are always some godly bands like *My Dying Bridge*, *Paradise Lost*, *Carcass*, *Napalm Death*, *Disgrace*, *Xysma*, *Disharmonic Orchestra*.. Fave bands for me are: *Nirvana*, *REM*, *22-Piste*, *Pirkko*, *The Black Crowes*, *John Mellencamp*, *Sinead O'Connor*, *J. Karjalainen*, *CMX*, *Sielun Veljet* + 70's stuff like *Cream*, *Jimi Hendrix*, *Deep Purple* and *Led Zeppelin*.

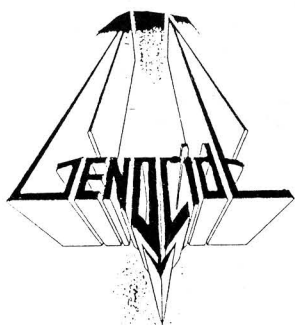
Anything to add ? A: Thanks for your short but effective interview, your zine seems to be quite a killer ! Good name, too ! Good luck to you and F.Y.A.F.T. 'zine. I wonder what the worst band in the world is, it should be *Quick Change*.

P: Yes, thank you for this interview, it was really cool indeed. Hopefully you like our answers. I wanna send my greetings to Perra from *Suffer/Mould Mag* because he's the most wonderful guy in the world. Also hello to Aki, poo! Readers, wait for our Ep but meanwhile order the demo ! Buy !

Thanks to you guys, for this cool interview ! By the way, I wonder why you say Perra is such a great guy, he delayed our compilation tape for nearly a month !! Anyway, readers, write to this promising band (not a Carcass rip off !): at:

Aki Ala-Kokko
Sarpantie 42
37100 Nokia
Finland

- Patrick -



No, this isn't a Death Metal band ! GENOCIDE is a promising Power Metal band which was already around when very few Death Metal existed. It consists of 5 members and it's under that name since '87 (although the "embryo" of the band was already in '83). They released several demo tapes and gained a growing popularity in Switzerland. In 1989 they recorded Dick Steffens to produce their first mini-lp "Roots in Rock", it was self-produced and limited to 1000 copies. They played a lot of concerts and among others, the "Marlboro Rock-in" where they opened with *Meat Loaf* and reached the

semi-finals. In Spring '92 recorded their first full-length Lp called "Showtime" (reviewed in here). They are hoping it to labels in order to get initial distribution and hopefully a contract which could give them the opportunity to live solely with their music. The fline-up consists of: Patrick Aeby (drums, backing vocals), Roland Pierrehumbert (vocals, harmonica), Fred Gudit (guitar, backing vocals), Olivier Perdrizat (guitar, backing vocals) and J.J. Bozzy (bass, backing vocals). The following interview was kindly answered by Olivier who just came out of the studio.

I've been told you were recording these days, could you tell us more about it ? I guess it's for an Lp, when will it be out, who produced it and on which label have you signed ? Yes, we just recorded 12 songs for our new album "Showtime" in the *Pinkton Studios* in Solothurn with Jürg Naegeli (*China, Krokus*). This ex-Krokus member has worked with Michael Wagener (*Metallica*, *Skid Row*, *Accept*..). The CD will be out in 1-2 weeks. We had the possibility to record at the *Dieter Dierks Studios* with Stefan Kaufmann (ex *Accept* drummer and producer of *UDO*), but due to lack of guarantee concerning the distribution we preferred to

try something less expensive. So we are searching for distribution and management contracts.

You've been around since '83, how is it that you didn't get a deal, how do you explain it ? Aren't you worth a deal ? The laws of music are quite strange, it's a question of trend, of relations, etc... It's some kind of vicious circle, if you are not signed you can't play concerts and if you don't play concerts you can't get signed and so on. And being a Swiss band is sometimes a handicap, moreover the Swiss studios don't have enough means. And if you show up abroad, the labels already have their bands.. But you've got to believe in yourself and do it till the end.

During all those years did you ever think about giving the band up ? It varies with time and mood, sometimes we aren't sure about ourselves but that gives us the will to continue and to believe in our music. You've got to be patient, but you also have to provoke the chance by getting contacts, making interviews, etc...

How did the mini - Lp "Roots in Rock" sell and do you think it was worth doing it ? We sold it in several cEuropean countries like France, Switzerland, Belgium, Switzerland, Germany, ex-URSS, ex-Tchecoslovaquia and we managed to

sell our stock (1000 copies). It was a good experience to work with Dirk Steffens for our first vinyl, it was good to see this professional environment.

Is it easy to be a Power / Speed Metal band in the nowadays Death Metal overfilled scene ?

if we had to follow the trends, we wouldn't be sincere. You better play the music you like instead of copying what's "in" nowadays.

Could you tell us about your lyrics ? Are they important to you, do you want to pass a message through them and what are they about ? Our



What do you think of Death Metal ? I don't know Death Metal well enough to have an objective judgement, but this music style doesn't attract me particularly. I have to say that it's quite difficult to be a Heavy Metal band nowadays, but I think that Heavy Metal will come back some day. Moreover,

lyrics are getting always more important; some of them should make think, others a fantastic stories. We take position against hunger in the world, drugs,... our lyrics always have a second sense.

What do you think of the Swiss scene and do you have a lot of contacts with the other bands ?

Do you know Samael, Messiah, Damnatory... and the other Death Metal bands ? We know a few members of *Messiah*, but we don't have any particular contacts. Otherwise we are friends with *Apocalypse Damage*. The Swiss scene is, alas, not very developed and contacts can be difficult.

Could you imagine a girl joining the band, would it be possible ? I never thought about that, but I think you have to take into account the musical abilities and especially the human relations within the band members. The sex difference could bring quite a lot of tension, but I wouldn't be against having a girl in the band.

Tell us about concerts, how often do you play, with which bands have you played and what is the most important thing on stage ?

We played about 50 concerts and opened for bands like *Vulcain*, *Apocalypse*, *ADX*, *Elmer Froot Beat*, *Killer*, *Meat Loaf*... We played in front of 3500 people in Fribourg for the "Rock 700" and we reached the semi-finals at the "Marlboro-Rock". The most important thing on stage ? To play as well as possible, to convince the public, to pass the feeling and have a good time.

What do you do beside music, do you all have a job ? All the members are working beside, 'cause we're no professionals. Moreover the nowadays Swiss economic situation doesn't incite young people to get professional musician.

Could you tell us about "Frank Rousseau", what is he doing exactly for you ? Frank Rousseau is our manager in France, a fantastic and motivated person, there should be more people like him.

Anything to add ? Long live to F.Y.A.F.T. and hopefully we'll see you on concert.

GENOCIDE (management)

Franck Rousseau
18 ter, rue Delizy
93500 Pantin
France

Thanks a lot for this interesting interview ! Everyone who is a little bit open-minded should check it out, it's a great band ! (of course, read the review).

- Patrick -

PHANTASM

PHANTASM was founded in the end of '88. They released their first demo "Lycanthropy" in '90 and their new demo "The abominable" just came out. They play an original and really great Death Metal. The following interview made with Doug turned out to be rather uninteresting, but this is mainly due to the very short answers from Doug (how many questions must I ask to get longer answers, 2 !?). But as I would rip him off by not including it, here it is (but it's a waste of space, I think).

The "Lycanthropy" demo is old now, when will a new one be out; or did you get a deal ?

We've got a new demo out, it's called "The abominable". As for a deal, we will see.

Your lyrics are about gore / horror stories, will it always be like that; aren't you bored of it, don't you want to write some serious stuff ? Well Tony writes whatever is on his mind, so I doubt his mind gets bored.

Do you intentionally try to be original, or do you just compose your music as it comes, without caring about the originality ? Have you ever changed a riff / song because it sounded too much like another band ? Our whole concept is originality, 'cause who wants to hear the same band over and over again ? No, we never changed a whole song, we have stages. Scott or I, or even Tony, play a riff and if we like it, we play it for the rest of the band to see if they like it and then we "try" to fit it in a song. So if a riff is not original it doesn't pass the first stage.

If you could "create" your band, which bands would you choose ? (example: Black Sabbath + Candlemass + Entombed) Phantasm or Paradise Lost. (It was a shitty question, I agree).

How often do you play and how many people usually show up ? We play whenever we think it's right. When we play a show by ourselves a lot of people usually show up.

Could you give a description of Death Metal ? Cheese on a stick which can get moldy if you leave it out for too long.

What is your view on the nowadays underground scene ? Hopefully getting larger.

Anything to add ? The new tape is now out and it's going to Rip a whole in the music world as we know it. It's available for 6\$. Thanks for the interview, bud, I wanna see you raging among us.

PHANTASM

& Doug
3433 Wollmer Rd. N°209
Milw. WI 53227
USA

I don't know if anyone is interested in this band after reading such an uninteresting interview, but you should know that their music is a great original Death Metal, really worth checking out.

- Patrick -



You should have released an Ep and an Lp should come soon, could you tell us about it ?

Our 7" Ep is not out yet, but I think it will be released this Summer (so it should be out now !). We'll make it on *Adipocere Records* (France) and it will be called "Infecting the graves". As for the Lp, I think it's too early to talk about a sure deal, for now it's only a promise.

How did you get the deal and on which label ?

We got it from Christian Bivel, from *Adipocere Records*. It's a new label, their first release will be *Excavation* and I think we'll be the second one.

Some people that labels sign untalented and unoriginal bands, what do you think of it and do

most difficult thing for the band ? The money ! We've made 4 demos and soon a 7" Ep and the hardest thing was to send promo-packs all around the world to make the band more known, and I can say it's very expensive.

In the beginning you were playing Speed - Thrash, but the music turned into Death Metal, do you follow trends ? First of all I would like to say that we never played Speed, not at all !!! (Hmm, on the bio they say that they played covers of *Slayer*, *Celtic Frost*, *Exodus* and *Metallica*, I think *Exodus* and *Metallica* has something to do with *Speed-Thrash*, or not ?) We always played

little labels, but I don't think very often.

You write all lyrics, compose all songs and you handle the mail, where do you find the time ?! Don't you have a job beside it ? I don't know how to do anymore !! Help !!! Yeah, you're right, now that I started working again, it's really hard to do all the things, sometimes I don't sleep to answer all the mail. It's really hard but I love it, it gives me satisfaction !!

Has the band always been a serious project, or was it for fun in the beginning ? In the beginning it was only for fun and for our satisfaction, but now, after 6 years, I can't say it's for fun, maybe something more serious.

You've been around since '86, what was the

Satanism, but we like Satanic thematic for our lyrics. (Wow, I think it's a good moment to say hi to a few pals ! Hello *Cultoculus*, *Nyar*, *Günther*, *Bard...* !) Anyway, it's not a way to look evil because we don't care about these things. I just think that those kind of lyrics are very adaptable to our music.

Could you tell about your view on life, is there a God / Satan ? What will happen after death ? I don't believe in any kind of God and I think that all kind of religions (including Satanism) are all inventions of the ancient humanity. It's a way to make things easier on earth and to give a meaning to unexplained things. I never died before, so what can I say to you ?! I think that life is a big sufferance for all, so I think that death is the final rest !!! (Gussp, what a pessimistic view.. I'm happy to know that he's wrong and that sooner or later we'll all be a part of God ! And I'm very serious about that !)

How often do you rehearse and how long have you been playing your instrument ? We rehearse something like 3 times a week, but it's not always the same time. We play our instruments since 84-85-86, we didn't start all together !

In how many 'zines have you been featured so far and what are your fave ones ? I don't have a great memory, but anyway, I think that we with "Defunto", we were featured in over 100 zines ! Our faves are *Thanatography*, *Morbid Noise* (Isn't it *Septicore* ? That's by the way more or less the zine that made us start F.Y.A.F.T. ! Thanks again to *Pierre* and a big fuck goes to *Thierry Prince* who left *Pierre* with about 250 letters + lots of orders without the money ! Don't deal with this guy, he's a big rip-off ! He's know in France, doing a 'zine called *L.S.D.*, don't deal with him !), *Metal Mag*, *Spain is Different* and many others. I'm impatiently waiting to see F.Y.A.F.T. ! But I think it will be good !

How do you see the evolution of the band, will the style change ? I think that every band improve their style, otherwise you'd always stay in the same thing and that would become boring. So I think we'll always be a Death Metal band, but we'll change a bit our style.

Do you listen to something else than Death Metal ? What do you listen to ? No, only Death-Grind !!

Are you well-known in Italy, do you play very often ? Yeah, we are very known in Italy, we are one of the oldest Death Metal band and we're considered as one of the best ! (Gosh, isn't this the typical Italian modesty ?! He he he...) Anyway, here in Italy it's very hard to play gigs, so we don't play often !

Anything more to say ? Thanks a lot to you Patrick, and to all your fucking readers !!

But thanks to you Danny, your answers were interesting, thanks ! I hope that our "fucking readers" liked it as well and I would advise them to order the

demo (see review) and to write without big delays to this address:

Danny Cinicolo
Via XXIV Maggio 6
86039 Termoli (CB)
Italy

- Patrick -



you feel concerned ? If you talk about big labels, I can say that it's not true because they can't invest in an untalented band, it wouldn't be intelligent (of course, but the problem is that the people who buy the Lps don't know, and most of all don't care, if a band is talented or not, they buy it because it's trendy. This is the problem, the big labels want money and as long as they sell Lps, they don't care if the band is really talented or not). Maybe sometimes in the underground scene it happens with

Deathrash and with years we became more Death and less Thrash, but not because of following trends but because we became more violent and deadly ! Don't forget however that we made our first demo in '87 so it's logical that we used to play Deathrash (Yeah, it's ok, you know, I like to ask a little bit provocative questions...)

You seem to have Satanic lyrics, are all of you Satanists and are you involved in a any movement ? Or is it just a way to look evil and to get more interesting ? No, we are not into

Blood Covered

Unfortunately I can't tell you too much about the bio, as they didn't enclose it anywhere. I can only tell you that they released a mini-Lp and that you can find more about it in the reviews. Otherwise the interview should give you more info about the band.

Tell us about "Winterhawk", how is it selling and are you happy with the way it turned out to be ?

"Winterhawk" is a mini Lp that contains 4 tracks, it was recorded in August '91 (plus one studio) in Athens in a 16 channel console, with only few effects in a short period of time and under a heat of 40° Celcius. It came out in December '91, it is selling slowly, but steadily. It could have been better, but it would have cost much more money.

I think you released it on your own, did it cost you a lot of money ? How many copies did you press and didn't you get any offer from a label ?

Yes, we have released it on our own and it cost us about 3.125 US \$ a copy. We pressed about 500 copies and we'll soon press 500 other copies. As for a second album, we'll have to wait for an offer from a label, but maybe we'll release it on our own as well.

Last year a second guitarist joined the band, did it make a big change in the music ? Do you think a second guitarist is very important ? Aren't you afraid the bass gets too much in the background ? Tom joined us in the band, but he didn't cause any changes in the musical style. Two guitars are important, because if we play live, the sound is more powerful and compact. Moreover, in studio, more ideas come up than if there would only be one

guitarist. As far as the bass is concerned, it is loud enough, but this is a remix problem which can be fixed.

You seem to be very interested in the Indian civilization, why ? As far as I know, Indians aren't a big

part of the Greek history (ha, ha, ha)? With the "Winterhawk album", we tried to reach the spirit of a nation which was free, brave, proud without losing the respect for life and human beings. That was the reason which made their traditions and life disappear by force and violence. We think that there is no human being on this planet who cannot feel the size of this tragedy.

And beside this subject, what are the lyrics about ? The lyrics are about personal situations and at the same time, they are reported to the Indian spirit, the Indian way of life and the situations they had to face.

It seems to me that there are tons of bands in Greece, especially in Athens, but most of them are crap, am I right ? Could you name a few of the better bands around ? The truth is that there are too many bands in Greece, most of them are really crap. That's because 14-15 years old guys think that it's easy to go on stage and to play (produce) music or to go in a studio and make a good result, but in reality it's plain shit !!! Personally I think that *Necromantia* is the best band in Greece.

Your music has a lot of different influences, you can hear pure Heavy Metal, but also aggressive Thrash; what are the influences behind all this, what are your fave bands ? Blood Covered is a Power-Thrash band, but we are influenced by tons of things: Heavy Metal, Thrash Metal, Death Metal, Fusion, Classical music, New Age,... and many other stuff. I don't know how to explain this, but the music we listen to and are influenced by is always good music.

With your name and the nowadays Death Metal - overfilled scene, one could easily think you're a Death Metal band, did you have problems because of your name ? We've had the same name since '87, when we founded the band. At that time, we were playing something close from Death Metal, but there wasn't the label "Death Metal". We don't face any problems with our name.

What is your view on the scene, what do you think of all those Death Metal bands claiming to be the most brutal & evil bands around ? There is no problem when a Metal band is wild and brutal, but there is a problem when a band tries to make more noise than another one.

Tell us about your concerts, how often do you play, how many people usually show up and is it easy to organize them ? We play about once a month and many interested fans show up. But sometimes it's hard to organize a concert.

Tell us about 'zines, in which ones have you been featured, which are your fave ones and have you been ripped off often ? We have been supported a lot, especially by Death and Occult mags ! We want to say a big thanks to all the Death Metal scene for their interest and there is no rip-off. Hail !

Future plans ? We are planning the second Lp, many concerts and we'll try to progress with our music with the same strong feeling.

Anything to add ? I would just like to thank you. Stay brutal and support the underground.

Thanks to you, Cabeza.

Contact:

Angelos Asimacopoulos
Kritis 1 Argiroupolis 164, 54
Athens, Greece

- Cedric + Patrick -

Some last reviews:

SCHIZO: Wounds (in the clay) (Italy)

Schizo was founded in '84. They released 3 demos and 1 Lp and had a good following before the split of '90. After two years of silence, the band is finally back with this new demo and a new line-up (only 2 original members left). I liked the tape quite a lot, it shows us a mature average fast / fast Death / Thrash with sadistic" vocals and a few HC influences. The 5 songs are well played, powerful and there is a good, tight rhythm section. The printed has a good sound and the cover includes the lyrics. It's available for 5\$ (6\$ overseas) at: Alberto Penzin, Casella Postale 9, 9530 Mascali (Catania), Italy. (P)

DARK MILLENIUM: Ashore the celestial burden (Germany / Massacre Records)

What a week ! After having received the brand-new *Viper* album, I received the promo-Cd to the Dark Millennium debut Lp !! I won't say too much about the music, as it has been recorded only a few months after the previous demo, reviewed somewhere else in here, and as the music didn't change. It contains 10 tracks, featuring 4 songs from "Of sceptre their ashes may be", 1 from "The Apocryphal wisdom" and 5 new ones. There are a lot of great tracks on this Lp and I can tell you that this band will soon be one of the leading German Death Metal band ! Buy it now !!! (P)

VIPER: Evolution (Brazil / Massacre Records)

I was really happy to get this new Lp, since I was really impressed by their previous Lp (see review). The music changed quite a lot: first of all, the vocalist left and has been replaced by the bassplayer; otherwise the music has got more mature and it's not this *Helloweenish* Power Metal anymore, it's something between Rock, Power-Speed Metal and even Thrash ! The old vocalist was great, but don't worry, the new one is certainly as good ! The only bad thing I could mention is the lack of the classical parts you could hear on "Theatre of fate", but this is certainly not a reason not to buy this great Lp ! Power-Speed freaks, I guarantee you that you'll be impressed by tracks like "Rebel maniac" or "Evolution" ! (P)

CROSSROAD JAM: Raw breed (Germany / Massacre Records)

Looking for a change ? Crossroad Jam can certainly help you ! They play a *Led Zeppelin* and *Thin Lizzy* influenced bluesy Rock/Hard Rock. From cool ballads to heavier Hard Rock tracks, fans of the previously mentioned bands will certainly enjoy this one. It's very well done/played and it's good to hear such kind of bands between two "brutal Death Metal" demos. So if you're into bluesy Rock, check this one out, you shouldn't regret it. (P)

DAB: Alice in horrorland (France)

This is the 3rd demo from this 1990 founded French band. First of all, the sound is rather bad. The music is a heavy, rather fast HC / Death Metal with brutal vocals. It's quite well played, but a bit boring to my opinion. It's not unoriginal, but nothing new either. Well, all in all this is an "average" tape, worth checking out but there are better things around. 6\$ to: Jean-François Rey, 16 rue Léon Blum, 22200 Pabu, France. (P)

RADICAL RETARD: Sometimes (Netherlands)

Great presentation: color cover with lyrics & photos, + printer tape & great soundquality. The music is average fast HC with Thrash influences and typical HC vocals. I liked it quite a lot, but it can get a bit boring after a while. But to be frank, I always found HC boring after a while, so it shouldn't be a reason not to buy the tape if it doesn't happen to you as well. In fact, I think you should like this band a lot if you like HC: it's well played, rather original and as I already said, it couldn't be better presented. Unfortunately, the price is quite high: 8\$, but it's not too much if you consider the quality. Send them to: Dave Robinson, Sluishoofd 50, 3961 KW Wyk By Durstede, Holland. (P)

HEAVENS GATE

I'm sure a lot of people have already turned the page since they saw the logo... But we don't care, I really liked their "Living in hysteria" album, and even if it's quite *Helloween* like, it shows a very good band, with lots of abilities. I'm sure they'll get bigger in the future. Anyway, The band was founded in early '88 under the name "Carrion". They released a demo which led them to a worldwide contract with the music publisher Warner - Chappell Music. They finally got a record deal on *No Remorse Records* in October '88 and the name turned into **HEAVENS GATE**. Very soon they recorded their debut Lp "In control" which came out in January '89. The reactions were very positive and they ended touring with *W.A.S.P.* Later on they toured throughout Germany with *Mania* and in the end of April they released a mini-Lp called "Open the gates and watch !". They toured even more and the selling of the albums were really good: 20'000 copies of the Lp and 10'000 of the mini-Lp. Both albums came out on 1 Cd in Japan and the result was amazing: 10'000 Cd's sold ! In March '91 their third album "Living in Hysteria" came out on *SPV* and the reactions were very positive. In early '92,



their maxi-single "More hysteria" featuring 3 new songs and an acoustic version of song from the latest Lp came out. At the moment they are working on their next album "Hell for sale" which should soon be out... The actual line-up is: Thorsten (drums), Manni (bass), Sascha (guitar, vocals), Thomas (vocals) and Bonny (guitar / vocals). Thomas showed us that they weren't big headed by kindly answering to our interview, here we go:

What has the band been doing these days ? We just entered the new *Kai Hansen Studio* in Hamburg to produce our new album called "Hell for sale"

which will be released in October '92. After that we'll probably go on tour in Europe for 3 weeks and to Japan for 1 week.

How many copies of "More Hysteria" have you sold ? We sold about 11'000 copies of it, that's pretty much nowadays.

Why did you enclose the ballad "Best days of my life" as an acoustic version ? For commercial reasons ? Would you like it to be between a Poison and a Slaughter ballad in the charts ? We didn't do it for commercial reasons, we just wanted to know how it would sound like to play the ballad as an acoustic version. We thought that it sounded great, so we put it on the maxi-single.

Let's talk about "Living in Hysteria", how were the reactions and how many copies have been sold ? The reactions have been very positive, especially in Japan. We sold about 50'000 albums worldwide (except USA). For the next album we'll try to get a deal with the United States.

Could you explain the strange cover ? The dragon stands for every dictator in the world who puts children into a horrible war. He pretends to be reliable and honest but behind his friendly face you can see his bad character.

Tell us about the upcoming Lp, will there be a difference between it and "More Hysteria", more aggressive maybe ? We think that it will really be Heavens Gate, but we tried a lot of experiences and we think it will be more interesting. Well, let's see, we hope everybody will like it as we do !

Now that you released two Lps and a mini-Lp and are quite well-known, do you consider Heavens Gate as a "big" band ? It depends on different points of view from which standard on you call a band a "big band". Of course, we sell a lot of albums

short time later we signed a contract with the Japanese label *JVC*. They released "In control" and "Open the gates and watch" as a two in one CD and we entered the album charts again.

Is the Japanese public different from the European one? Until now we didn't play any shows in Japan, but we receive many letters and gifts from there. If you could see how much time and love they spend on this you could imagine they are much more enthusiastic than the European ones. But of course, we love the fans in Europe, too ! We'll probably tour there for 1 week after the release of the new Lp.

Your lyrics are not really "involved", what do you think of bands who talk about politic in their lyrics and why don't you write such lyrics ? To our opinion, songs like "Living in hysteria" or "Tyrants" are political songs, too, (*Yes, it's true...*) but they are not so specialized. It's not our job to tell the people what they have to think or do. We just want them to have a good time while listening to our songs.

Do you want to pass a message through them ? Our main message is: "Never surrender !" There will always be a way to change your life if all things run bad. Just believe in yourself !

When you founded the band, was it for fun or a serious project ? Did you think you would get that big ? Every member of the band played in several other bands before we founded Heavens Gate. We recorded some demo-tracks and decided to send them to several companies. Two weeks later we received a letter from the publishing company *Warner Chappell* with an offer for a five years contract. At that time we still didn't thought that we would sell 20'000 albums one year later !!!

What is your view on the Metal scene, too many rock-stars ? In the last 4 years we met so many other musicians.. It was funny to watch that those who are in the business for a long time are quite normal and obliging and those who just released their first album sometimes are real assholes. It doesn't depend on how many albums you're selling but to keep your kindness to be a real "star" !

Do you have a lot of contacts with underground bands ? We don't know so many underground bands, but we have contacts with bands like *Victory*, *Thunderhead*, *Gamma Ray*, *Blind Guardian*, etc.. (*Gosh, really underground bands ! Humm...*)

The underground scene is getting more and more into Death Metal, what do you think of it and do you like Death Metal ? We don't like Death Metal so much, but we think everybody should play or hear the music he likes. We prefer the traditional way to write metal songs, 'cause we like it.

Can you live from your band, or do you have a job beside it ? Can you imagine a boss who gives you half the year off for playing music ? (*Yeah, not really*) It's impossible to work beside if you spend so much time in studio and playing live shows like we do !

Someone once wrote "It's a long way to the top if you wanna Rock N'Roll", what about you, was it a long way ? For us it's still a long way !!! It's not easy to hold your own ground these days. There are a lot of fantastic bands and the vent is big !

What do you think of fanzines, did they help you a lot ? Of course they did ! We think that they write more fully than the big ones and that they like what they are doing. Sometimes we think big magazines just work for money; they don't really care about what they're writing. (*Hey, you have a keen sense of deduction !*)

Anything more to say ? Hope to see everybody on tour who likes us and we'll have a good time together ! Keep on watching !!!

He doesn't seem to be too big-headed, does he ? Anyway, thanks a lot for the interview !! If you want to get in touch with them or just info, write to: LMP, PO Box 60 25 20, 2000 Hamburg 60, Germany.

- Patrick -

PUSTULATED

PUSTULATED was founded after the split of a Doom band called "Benemoth", that was back in April '91. Only a few months later (in January '92) they released their debut demo "Pustulus". It shows a promising Death Metal band (see review). Here is an interview with Girox. The interview is a mix between an old and a newer interviews, but as the questions are quite general it isn't very important. Their debut demo "Pustulus" is still available, see review for more info, but keep in mind that their next release is going to be a surprise, as Girox praises, but let's go to the interview !

You've been founded during the Death-trend, it must have been very difficult for you to be among all those other bands ? No, it wasn't difficult for us, because Death Metal is our main influences and we wouldn't enjoy to play another kind of music.

Tell us about this demo ! The demo has a good production (not bad I think) and four tracks of pure Death Metal, a color cover and I hope you'll like it a little bit. The tracks are: - Celtic Memory , Crawling Colony, Banished to perish, Cannibal Instinct.

How have the reactions been ? We've had different reactions, some liked it, some other didn't. The vocals is the most complained-about thing. It doesn't matter to us, we had released it a bit too soon. Zines told good things about it, especially concerning the sound; musically they like it as well, I even read it was original. We sold / traded 200 copies.

Do you have gore lyrics ? Yeah, gore is our main influence but it's hard to be original with this subject, 'cause a lot of Death Metal bands talk about gore. But it depends on what we want to talk about,

we can talk about other subjects as well. But for the moment gore rules on our lyrics.

A lot of people say that there are much too many bands around and that a lot of them will soon disappear, what do you think of it ? I think that a lot of bands play their music for their own pleasure and their passion disappears with the time. In the underground there are so many bands that a lot of them will have to leave their hope of success or their dreams to become a big band. I also think that a lot of them (perhaps Pustulated as well, we don't know, it's possible) will die soon, yes.

Have you already played some concerts and it is difficult to organize them in your area ? Only one, but we aren't in hurry. We have evolved since the demo, we have to get accustomed to our new style and as long as we'll play wrong at the rehearsals we won't play live, we prefer waiting instead of making shitty concerts. The vocals changed a lot and it's not easy to get accustomed to it, you'll understand when you'll hear our next stuff, you can await something unusual... But it's a surprise...

What is your view on the nowadays scene ? There are a lot of good bands and a lot of bad ones, there's a serious breach of originality. I hope that Death Metal with evolve soon, I think only original bands will survive.

And what about the Swiss scene & do you have contacts with other bands ? We have some cool bands like *Reactor, Samael, Messiah...* and I think the Swiss scene is good, there are a lot of bands (but they sound quite like each other as well). Our scene is moving and in complete evolution. I have good hopes about it. We have a lot of contacts with the Swiss scene, I live in Valais and here there are a lot of bands like *Samael, Alastis, Sadness, Misery...* etc.. (Hi guys !). We can call the Valais "The Florida of Switzerland" (Ahahah !). We are also in touch with *Nergal* (Hello Mike, wie geht es dir ?), *Mordor* (Hell my dark pals) and *Coffin*.

How often do you rehearse and do you take the band very seriously ? We rehearse since April '91. We take the band seriously, yes, but aren't big

headed because we play in a band, we take it seriously because we have to investigate a lot of money (sono, guitars, drums, amplifiers, micros, studio, cover,...), that's the main reason why we don't take the band as a joke. Of course, our big dream is to get signed on a label and to release an Lp, but we're only a small band for the moment.

What do you think of religion ? That subject is totally drained in music, we don't want to talk about it. I think that God and Satan are nothing more than man's creation.

What about the army ? No comment.

Do you like Death Metal bands with political lyrics ? Why not ? But I think that politic isn't the best subject for Death Metal. I hate politic, but political bands don't bother me, it's their choice.

How old are the members of the band and for how long have you been "in touch" with the underground scene? 15, 18, 20, 21 years old. And we have been "in touch" with the scene for over 2 years.

Could a girl join the band ? Why not, if she has required measurements (Hahaha !).

Future plans ? To work as much as possible on the new tracks, so that we can release something soon, a rehearsal tape, a promo tape or a second demo, we don't know yet, it will probably be a second demo. Otherwise we are seriously thinking of putting some synths in the songs, we'll see.

Maybe a last word ? Thanks a lot for your interview and your interest, don't hesitate to write to us. "Pustulus" is still available, but warning on our next stuff, Pustulated will be back...on your face !

PUSTULATED

c/o Girox

Plane-ville 5

1955 Chamoson (VS)

Switzerland

Thanks for the interview ! Sorry for only printing it now... Readers, check this band out..

- Patrick -

L.S.D.

Here comes another interview from our Romanian contributor Adrian Popescu, but as you'll see, this time it ain't a Romanian band. L.S.D. was founded in 1990 in Odessa (Ukraine). Their first demo "Spirits of the dead", containing 10 tracks inspired by E.A Poe's writings, came out in January '91. The line-up changed in Autumn '91 and the band moved to Chisinau (Moldavia). They released a second demo entitled "L.S.D." in May '92. The actual line-up consists of: Vlad Lozanov (vocals, rhythm guitar), Vlad Gorelov (lead guitar), Jörg (bass) and Edward Conoplev (drums). The second demo is still available for 3\$, 5DM, 15FF. Here is an interview with Vlad (the vocalist).

Tell us about the name: L.S.D., what's behind those initials ? L.S.D. = Live, Suffer, Die _ it's the meaning of existence.

Do you think that lyrics are very important ? **What are your lyrics about ?** Yes, I think lyrics are very important, coz music and lyrics are two parts which make a whole. Our lyrics deal with various social, political, philosophical subjects, or with drug problems as well.

How is the Moldavian scene ? Is it easy to play Thrash Metal there ? Our country is

having hard times and it's the same thing for the music. But there are many bands, though, playing different styles and some of them are really good. It's not easy to be a Thrash band here, coz it's hard to find managers, impresarios... interested in this kind of music. Another problem is the lack of sound-engineers able to find the right sound for Thrash Metal.

How many concerts have you played ? **How did the crowd react ?** We've been around for 2 years now, so we were able to play a lot of gigs. We've toured Ukraine and we've also played some festivals in Ukraine and Moldavia. On the 1st of May 1992, we appeared at the international "Rock independent Festival" in Moldavia, which was an action against the war from our country. We'll play on the 14th September at a festival in Chisinau. As for the crowd, it reacted as it has to react towards a Thrash band !

Now, tell us about the situation in Moldavia; how do you think it could be solved ? We're too busy for such problems, it's the politicians' job !

What kind of music do you listen to ? **Fave bands ?** I listen to any kind of good music, from Jazz to Grind !!! Some fave bands are: *Chicago, Metallica, Bon Jovi, Black Sabbath, Death*.

What do you think of Death Metal ? It's the music that suits the best to the rhythm of nowadays' life.

The German bands are usually asked about their opinion on fascism. So what's your opinion on communism ? Actually, it's the same thing as fascism, but communism is even more terrible...

What do you think of death, is it an end or a new beginning ? This could turn into a very long discussion. Briefly, earthly life is a short moment, but it depends if the soul will live forever or if it will be suffering eternally..

Could you describe your music in three words ? Energy, vigor, violence (in what concerns the sound, only !).

Future plans ? We want to become Rock-stars.

Any last word ? I wanna thank you for your interest and I hope that our music will become known from your readers. Write to us !

But of course our readers will know your music, 'cause I'm sure that all of them understand that you really need their support ! Buy their demo ! Thanks to Adrian and Vlad for the nice interview !

You can contact the band at:

Costel Stratan
Str. Kirov 20, Ap. 44
277042 Chisinau
Moldavia (C.I.S.)

- Adrian -

MINDROT

MINDROT started in the Summer of '89. After some line-up changes, they released their first demo "1990". In winter 90-91, they recorded a 7" Ep "Endeavor". They have just released a great promo-tape called "Faded dream" (reviewed in here). The line-up consists of: Adrian (vocals), Dan (guitars, flute, back vocals), Evan (drums), Matt (bass, back vocals, keyboards) and Matt (rhythm guitar). Here comes an interview with Dan:

Tell us about the 7" Ep, what are the reactions about it, how is it selling and do you hope to get a deal for an Lp with it ? The "Endeavor" Ep is our second release. It's guess it's sold somewhere over 1000 copies. We can't keep up with the orders, so if anyone has ordered it and hasn't received it yet, we're trying. We just recorded a promo tape (which isn't for sale) and we're shopping it around. We're already talking to a few good labels.

What are the main differences between the Ep and the previous demo ? The songs on the Ep are more thought out than the ones on the demo. The demo tunes were real thrashy and basic.

Do you put a lot of effect on your vocals ? We don't use any effect on our vocals, no pitch shifters or anything like that (*gosh, the vocalist's throat mustn't be really nice to look at after a concert !!*). We'll use delay and some times play with tape speeds when we record, but nothing we've released has any effects.

Your music, is Dark, Grinding, there are Industrial influences and also Speed / Thrash influences, what are your main influences ? We all have different influences, so I'll speak for myself. It ranges from stuff like *Voivod*, *Black Sabbath*, *Fields of the Nephilim* (godz), *Dead Can Dance*, *Amebix*, *Death In June*, and so on.

I know it's not up to you to tell about that, but do you think Mindrot plays something original ? The stuff we play now I think is somewhat original. I can hear certain bands in the songs, but not how it was on the demo. Our newer songs are going in a different



direction than our old stuff. We're not as Death Metal anymore (thank God).

Your "1990" demo as well as the Ep were released through Wild Rags, are you happy with them, did you ever face any problems ? First of all, *Wild Rags* didn't release them (*oops..*). He distributed the demo for us which we thank Richard a lot for. That got us out there. As for the 7" Ep he just sold like any other record store. Richard has done things for us we probably couldn't have done without his help.

You've got some ballads on your demo, do people like it, how do they react ? Yeah, when we played those songs they liked it because they were different. Sorry to say though we don't play those songs anymore.

You play a dark music, but you've got mainly political lyrics; some purists will say that you're not a true Death Metal band (Hello Cultoculus !), what do you think of it ? I'm glad some people think that, because we don't want to be labelled as a Death Metal band at all. We just want to be thought of as Mindrot. If you noticed in the *Wild Rags* there's like 5 labels for our music (*Yes: Heavy Doom Industrial Grind*). Every time a new label is put on, we'll change again. So if people would say that Mindrot is just doomy and heavy, we'd be happy. (*Hey, readers, do you know that Mindrot are just doomy and heavy, Mindrot is doomy and heavy, Mindrot is doomy and heavy,... humsch, I think I stayed for too long in the sun or something..*)

Do you think that people will care about your lyrics, do you think it will change their mind; do you want to pass a message through the lyrics ? Some people do, some people don't. Those who don't are usually in it for the music. I guess it will change some people's mind, but we don't mean to preach if that's what it sounds like. Our lyrics are what we see and feel in this world, it's also a reflection of our beliefs. Whatever you make out of it is up to you.

You've also got darker lyrics, are you interested in Satanism & Occult things ? You're probably talking about "Thunder" and "Hidden people" (*Yes, I am*). Neither one has anything to do with Satanism or the "Occult". "Thunder" is for you to decide, for me it's about the homeless and how everyone ignores them. It could also be about how if you don't solve problems in the beginning, they'll grow until they take over your life. "Hidden people" is about the homeless people and how eventually everyone will recognize their existence, whether they like it or not. We're not interested in the occult. I'm somewhat superstitious and somewhat of a Pagan, but I'm more a realist.

Tell us about the scene in L.A., lots of cool bands, 'zines ? There are some cool bands like *Fear Factory*, *Morgion* (*Happy core*), *Phobia*, *Nausea*, *Excruciating Noise*, *Stress Related*, *Angry Thoreauan*, umm, I don't know there's a bunch. The keep popping up.

What about concerts, do you play often and do you play slow songs like "Dying breed" or "Darkened existence" ? We've been playing a lot lately. In February, we played with *Grave*, in March we did a show in So. Central L.A., in April we played with *Phobia* and *A/Solution*. In May we played with *Entombed*. In July we're going to play with *Master*. Like I said before, we don't play anything off the demo anymore.

Anything to add ? Thanx for the interview. If anyone wants to write, feel free to, it may take us a little while but we'll write back. Take care of yourself, peace//love//freedom.

Thanks for your answers. Everyone into original heavy music should check them out ! Write to:

MINDROT
Dan Kaufman
11271 Espanita
Orange, CA 92669
USA

- Patrick -

MY DYING BRIDGE

I really like this band and as I had an address, I wrote ! My Dying Bridge was founded in June '90. In February 91 they released their debut demo "Towards the sinister", the reactions were great and they released an Ep called "God is alone" in March of the same year. And finally, later that year, they signed for 3 Lps to *Peaceville Records*, their debut Lp has been out for quite a while now that you read this. The line-up is: Aaron (vocals), Andy (guitar), Calvin (guitar), Rick (drums), Ade (bass) and Martin (violin). This interview was made with Andy. As you'll see, it's really short, but it's still interesting.

What has the band been doing these days ? At the moment we are writing new material and preparing a European tour which should happen in September / October.

Tell us everything about the Lp ! Are you happy with it ? It's a collection of our feelings and emotions on vinyl. Yes, we are happy with it, we went out with the intention not to sound like any other Death / Doom band and I think we achieved that.

And are you 100% happy with the deal with *Peaceville* ? What kind of deal is it and did other labels show interest ? Yes, we are completely happy with the deal with *Peaceville*. It's just a basic three Lps deal. There were quite a lot of other labels showing a lot of interest, but we thought it best to go with *Peaceville* because it is in our backyard more less, so we can communicate better to get things done right.

Has there been an evolution since "God is alone", did the music change ? I don't think so, we just progress slightly.

I really like the name "My Dying Bridge", who came up with the idea and why ? Aaron came up with the name. We chose it because it represents everything that band stands for... death, disease, pain, loss and love.

I've got "Towards the sinister" and "God is alone" through tape-trading, does that bother you ? And do you do personally some tape-trading ? Tape-trading has helped a lot of underground bands including our own so how could it bother us ? None of the band are trading tapes on a large scale.

There are more and more bands coming up from England, it seems like the scene is doing well over there ! Could you name a few of the bands we will hear from in the future ? *Decomposed, Anathema* and *Malediction*.

Let's talk about lyrics, how do you write them and how important are they ? The lyrics are all

written by Aaron. They don't get written in a particular way, they just come to him depending on how depressed he is feeling.

And of course, what are they about ? They are about a wide range of things, from rape to God. We do try and keep them very poetic and sad. We also like to use old English proverbs and Latin just to add to the mystery.

Do you get a lot of mail ? How long does it usually take you to answer ? Yes, we do now get a lot of mail. It usually takes a couple of days depending if the person who has wrote sent an IRC or not. Because I only get my benefit every two weeks, finding money for postage is very hard.

Do you have any plans for a tour in Europe, with bigger bands, or so ? We are planning a tour for September / October and it will cover a good part of Europe. We will be headlining and we'll have *G.G.F.M.* as support.

Anything more to say, some "Hello" to pass ? Thanks for the interview ! Get in touch for info or T-shirts, but please include and IRC or an S.A.E.

MY DYING BRIDGE

Andy
169 Paley road
East Bowling, Bradford
West Yorks, BD4 7EP
England

- Patrick -

DARK REALITY

I won't be able to give you a long bio on this band as I'm afraid I lost it... The line-up is: Gert (drums), Rama (vocals), Daili (guitar), Martin (guitar) and Winnie (bass). They sent me their "Cruel research" (see reviews) demo and as I liked it a lot I sent them an interview. It was answered by Gert.

Hello Gert, how's life in Oberndorf these days ? Life in Oberndorf is a bit boring, because it's a small city and there isn't much going on in here. But one can live with it.

Tell us everything about "Cruel research" ! How many copies did you sell so far and how were the reactions ? "Cruel research" was recorded at the *Viking Studio* in Schönberg. There have been some problems with the duplication, so it got delayed for 3-4 months. We've sold about 180 copies so far, even if it hasn't been available for a long time. We had various reactions, most of the people didn't like the sound (*I don't know if that is right, he answered in German and he wrote "snare - sound", something like that and I never heard the word "snare"...*) too much because it's very "gewöhnungsbedeufung". Personally, I like it, some other people, too. But it will certainly be better next time. Most of the people really liked the vocals.

The production is very good, did you pay a lot for the studio ? We paid about 3000 DM and we are still in debt, because except the bassplayer, we still go to school.

You didn't feature the lyrics on the cover - booklet, why ? Aren't they important to you ? What are they about ? We didn't include the lyrics on the cover simply because it would have gotten too expensive (but you can get them from us if you send an IRC). The lyrics are important to us, because they give us the opportunity to pass on feelings through them. The titletrack, for example,

is about the brutal and unuseful experiments made on animals: "Condemned to suffer" is a story about a person who has cancer and who wants to die, but the doctors have too keep him alive because of the law; "diseased" is about a killer who lost his soul. We've got other lyrics about ecology or social criticism, for example.

There is some melodic stuff in your music, is it important ? And what are your influences, fave bands ? Yes, melody is important to us, we try to mix up brutality and melody, and otherwise we want to make our songs as diverse as possible so that it doesn't get boring. Our influences range from bands like *Kreator, Sepultura, Morgho* or *Metallica, Slayer, Paradise Lost*. Our fave bands are the previously mentioned ones along with bands like *Obituary, Pestilence, Faith No More, Entombed, Unleashed*, and others...

The average age of the band is only 18, but the whole thing is well played and quite technical; how often do you rehearse and how long have you been playing your instruments ? We rehearse two times a week and we've been playing our instruments for about 3-4 years.

In how many zines have you been featured so far and which one are your fave ones ? We've only been featured in about 10 'zines. That's not a lot, but that's because our last demo wasn't as good as "Cruel research". We hope to get more support from 'zines in the future. We don't have any fave 'zines, we simply like all the 'zines who support the "underground", like yours.

Are you interested in Satanism and Occult things ? What do you think of Black Metal ? No, I'm not interested in Satanism and occult stuff. I don't know much about Black Metal either, I've only got some early *Venom* Lps and I know *Celtic Frost*, so I can't say much about this topic, sorry.

What is your view on the united Europe, do you think it will work as it was supposed to ? I think that life will get difficult with the European union, you know, all those changes, especially the new

money.... And it will also bring bigger problems on other domains than we have now (*sorry, this sentence was difficult to translate*). I don't think Europe will have more advantage than it has now, but unfortunately it's the politicians who decide all this, the people can only see what happens.

There seems to be some problems with fascism in Germany, I've seen some quite frightening stuff on TV, could you tell us about that ? In my area, fascism isn't a big problem, but in eastern Germany the amount of fascists is increasing every day. But also in west Germany, asylums have been set on fire and there has been a lot of injured persons. I think it's horrible that people can hurt or even kill foreigners simply because they've got another skin color or speak another language. I hope that it will soon have an end.

Anything to add ? Yes, I would like to thank you for this interview, and wish you good luck with your 'zine ! I hope that the readers of F.Y.A.F.T. will support us, so that the underground scene stays strong. Hear this morbid symphony, realize this Dark Reality !

Thanks a lot for the interview, Gert ! I'm sure a few readers will write, won't you ? Oh, I'll end the Dark Reality chapter by a short sentence, that they wrote on their demo cover: "If animals believed in God, the Devil would look like a human being", sad but true, isn't it ?

DARK REALITY

Gert Kopf
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Germany

- Patrick -

As promised in the last issue, here are some lyrics of a few bands who certainly didn't enclose them on the demo for nothing. I didn't choose anything special, I just read lyrics and took out a few I liked, or that seemed original, interesting or whatever. I hope you'll like them. (P)

ALCHEMIST: Enhancing Enigma

A captive soul returns
Limited to materialistic boundaries.
Repeating the process of learning
as previous knowledge dissolved long ago.
Bewildered by totems in nature
we quest universe reflection, but

When mind potentialities exhaust
the answers remain untapped.
Homosapiens terrorize one another
conforming like drones
Homosapiens, molesters of nature
Homosapiens, parasites of the Earth.

Concepts of existence astonish,
reality resides within myself.
Significance is questionable
we're less to the universe
than amoeba to the oceans

A mass of molecules and atoms
untied to host my consciousness
ending in physical erosion
repeating the cyclic process

Is this concept mirrored within myself ?

ANESTHESIA: Within the memory of man

Never change your attitude for the reason of a
bastard

Enforce yourself to follow your instinct
It's time to realize thoughts in mind

Wake up - closed-eyed man without brain
Force off, you live today, this time and here

Live today and die tomorrow
Live your life and die your death
Live today and die tomorrow
Live your life and die your death

You have the ability to achieve what you want
your domestic circle won't conceive your
conception

For which there will be an apparent world
Thoughts are free don't be frightened of yourself
Choose your own way and get the power for
changes

Pictures of hope within the memory of man

Control - crime and might are legal
Escape - from ignorance and hatred everywhere

Live today and die tomorrow...

Tomorrow's your sorrow
Don't borrow tomorrow
Otherwise you crawl to - death

Live today and die tomorrow...

DARK MILLENIUM: Below the holy fatherlands

In a lost dark world beyond eternity
Where phantasm has its origin
Where the shadows hunt the light and the dark
fears the night
Lies the sin, lies a painful sin.

From the clouds above my eyes
Drop the tears that lead the way
To the entry of the hidden
Whither knowledge takes my brain...

Lead me to the kingdom of death
where silence is a form of life
the day of decision recalls my thoughts
And prepares my mind to die

Rising spirit baptize winds of
Foreign existence, black times' cry
Hills as a fragment of ancient breath and
As signs for the place where the ruins had died

In the center of forbidden
Thoughts we meet and will deify
And the shadows will appear and their might will
stand the fear
In the unknown lifes

From the clouds above my eyes
Drop the tears that lead the way
To the entry of the hidden
Whither knowledge takes my brain...

The horror lives... below the holy fatherlands

HOMICIDE: We on the cross

From the first day on earth
Damnation fell upon our heads
From the first day on earth, we couldn't save us.

Animal reasonable fights brother,
To get the owner, animal with a soul insatiable

Evil deeds
Blackened sheep
For centuries
Icy wind
Fire sin
For eternity

With our hands we built our shame
New devine new bloody reign
With our hands we sailed the land
Pure selfishness

Pain't n'fears constant tears
Mourn and pray, no one hears
Noise's too loud, wish death were near

Disgust of God
We on the cross

Crucified for our sins, every day, kill him again
Seas of hate, seas of pain, we still pray

That's our fate we create, highest price we pay
today
Men is black in devil's dress, put on a cross

Evil deeds
Blackened sheep
For centuries
Icy wind
Fire sin
For eternity

OFFENDER: Leave it alone

The first time I say you
You were standing
The world in your hands
Everybody knew your name
And you were strong
Least I thought at that time
You'd never let me down
What could have been
If you hadn't changed

You started walking alone
with me at your side
Running fast as I can
No longer keeping stride

The last time I saw you
You were trembling
Locked in your room
Nothing I could do
But turn away
Cause you ignored
All the one who cared
And now the ones
That brought you down
Won't admit they
Know your name

So now I'm walking alone
I know the pain and lies
But till you were gone
I didn't realize what you
Meant by those
Three word you cried

Leave it alone

So when you're walking alone
Be careful when you step outside
You don't fall in that hole
Just like my friend
Who never made it out alive

Leave it alone

SALEM: Old wounds

Screams of death
It happened again,
The nightmare has been revived,
Old wounds re-opened.

Desecration of the graves,
And the writing on the wall.
Power of hatred,
Can turn the wheel back again,
Old wounds.

France - Destroyed the ancient tombs
England - Riots in the streets
Russia - Property was burned,
What happened to the human race ?
Is their hate so strong that they cannot feel ?

Millions of bodies buried in the earth,
Turn inside their graves.
Their holy sleep has been disturbed,
They will never rest again.

SCHIZO: Over lifeless boughs of time

Time.....Time.....Time.....Time..
 The undying voice of a dead time
 For all we live to know is known
 Solitary in the fields of mind
 Let life, as the day flower, fall

Do you remember, passer - by
 The path across the lot
 (That) Leads to your decline
 What will you do, grain of sand
 When you come to die
 Over lifeless boughs of time...

Hide the shame of your defeat
 Consumed by your own disgust
 Thy soul (shall) find itself alone
 Enter the portals of dust

POWERTRIP: Troubles

Rise, decline and fall of a million years of lies
 When he begs for a quarter or two
 No need to talk to...
 Lies, troubles and now war, for the masses in
 despair
 You just don't care 'bout the world
 When you're fighting for dollars
 Freedom, truth and love, will never ever shine
 above
 We're gonna break the world in pieces
 If there's no solution

Corruption - a big deal
 Injustice, on the streets, but I say
 Corruption and injustice, not for me

Government, racism and cops
 The untruth you must overturn
 Cos' you can't understand their lies
 The meek shall inherit...
 Corruption just like aids
 There's one justice, just to die
 But how much for you the eternal peace
 No way

Corruption - a big deal
 Injustice, on the streets, but I say
 Corruption and injustice, not for me
 Not for me, it's too much for me

Troubles, lies and war
 All you see is troubles, lies and war
 Troubles lies in war
 It's getting bigger each day
 Troubles, lies and war
 For the youth of today, for you and me anyway
 The shadow of hate and war is all that
 You can see outside
 Each look stabs you in the back cos'
 You're not from the pack
 Now scorn is all you give,
 You can't be beaten too long
 You can't be a pacifist with the dogs,
 You must fight the fight

Corruption - a big deal
 Injustice, on the streets, but I say
 Corruption and injustice, not for me

Freedom truth and love, will never ever shine above
 We're gonna break the world in pieces
 But maybe one solution
 Fight for peace, stick the pieces
 Cos' troubles, I don't want em' ... no !!!!

LITTLE DEVIL: Wheel of Europe

Wheel of Europe roll
 Roll over the edge
 Wheel of Europe crash
 Under the weight of the millions
 Who will die in the third world war

Abdominent businessmen leave us alone
 German reunion go to the moon

Before my bones pale under the sun
 The common market will be dead and gone

Politicians' supposed to be leaders of democracy
 All they really care about is how to get more and
 how to keep it, driving Cadillacs, fight crime with
 one hand, selling drugs with the other

It's a statistic slaughterhouse
 A tower of bureaucracy built in the sweat
 and blood of the working class

On the altar of capital
 Digging their wealth on behalf of the third world
 German fascists if you want war, fight it back in
 Germany
 Danish farmers eat your own rotted flesh, don't sell
 us radiated vegetables
 Italian pornostars, stay back because the mafia rules
 the streets
 The only thing we can learn from an English dog is
 how to leg ass on a French fag

Before my bones pale under the sun
 The common market will be dead and gone
 The common market will be dead and gone.....

NO SILENCE: Dominion of time

Can you hear me - can you see me
 Touch me if you can
 I am invisible and so silent
 Time is called my name

Time - is my name
 - you've to obey

I am the ruler of the universe
 Humanity's under control
 There's no chance of ignorance
 I am present everywhere

Time - is my name
 - you've to obey

Clocks and watches are my servants
 They are under my surveillance
 Every day they strike the hour
 They give me never ending power

Day by day - year by year
 All the time - seconds running
 Step by step Step by step

Every minute, every day and
 every second has to obey
 All the world and all the people
 Everyone is under my control

Can you hear me - can you see me
 Touch me if you can
 I am invisible and so silent
 Time is called my name

ARCHAIC TORSE: The value of your soul

We rape the earth for money and might
 Ignore the victims we leave behind
 Millions of people suffer for our aims
 But we lament the hungry
 While feasting on chocolate bars
 No reason to blame the politicians
 Realize we are as guilty as them
 For we all benefit
 From the submission of the world
 And our arch begins to crumble, too.

But now our time has come,
 Last judgement day is on
 Just one question for you:
 "What is the value of your soul ?"
 When death tears our souls apart
 And we belong to hell
 (Realize, see), the value of your souls.

We hope that we will live long enough
 To enjoy our lives not having to renounce
 But our kind of life means destruction
 Wounded world never to recover again
 Our sense of responsibility
 Is paralyzed by a thousand excuses
 So misery can only increase
 We still can't practice what we preach.

But now our time has come,
 Last judgement day is on
 Just one question for you:
 "What's the value of your soul ?"
 When death tears our soul apart
 And we belong to hell
 (Realize, see), the value of your souls.

ALLEGIANCE: Destitution

Left out in the cold
 The world has closed its doors
 Times are so hard now
 No fun in life anymore
 Looking back at the way
 It used to be
 The past is all I have now
 hard times, have hit me

Chorus:

I wish I could run
 I wish I could run
 wish I could hide
 Forget all my problems
 Just curl up and die
 Out on the street
 Out on my own
 Facing the world alone

My eternal suffering
 a death sentence with no time
 endless journey and no escape
 Destitution is my crime
 Why I am so helpless
 No feelings of life's worth
 A desperate need for salvation
 is this life a curse

Chorus

Lack of basic need
 desire on which to feed
 Desperation is my life
 In poverty I will die !



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