

Kill Yourself!!! Magazine

Issue #3 (1/1997)

— Antichristian Metal Mayhem —

Bathory



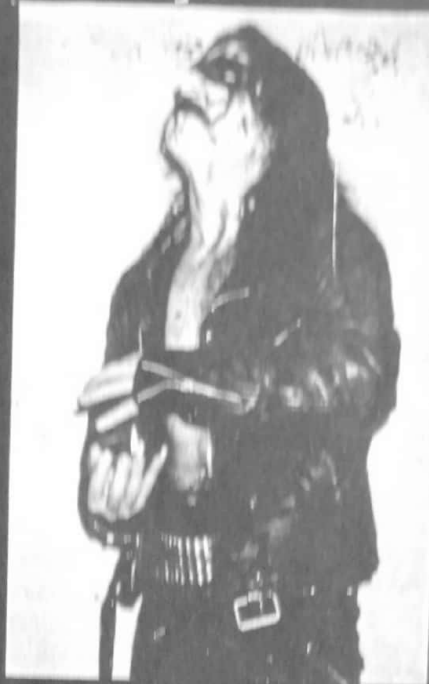
Interview
with
Quorthon
himself.
Remember
how it all
started...

Baron Brakkheim Abaddon



Baron speaks of his
various projects in our
in depth conversation

Abruptum



The audial essence of pure
black evil. The ultimate
partykiller!

Denial Of God



Extreme and violent
Black horror metal
from Denmark

Also including:

MARDUK. Superior swedish Black metal
DEMONIC. Satanic and highly intense metal from Norway
BEHEMOTH. Eastern Europe's darkest force
DET HEDENSKE FOLK. Sharp and extreme

And THROMDARR, FALKENBACH, MALICIOUS RECORDS,
THY SERPENT, TRIUMPHATOR, WANDERER + a lot of
reviews



EDITORIALS



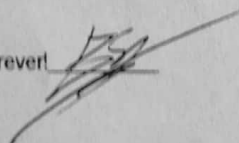
Fuck Off!

..And welcome to the fifth issue of KILL YOURSELF!!! Magazine. Many of you has been wondering why there wasn't any issues released in '96 (#4 was out at the end of '95)... We were never dead and we never quit spreading Metal pestilence, BUT in the very beginning of '96 I went to the army and was out of there in the end of '96, and in the meantime we really didn't worked with magazine that much. After I was out of there we started working with issue #5 really hard and the result is in front of you. This explains alot of things for those who thought were dead and buried... And be sure- this is not the last fist in your face either! We have planned lot of interviews for next issue, and in every former editorial we have revealed some names, but as always *the plans tend to change this time I decided not to reveal anything.* Lot of interviews is under work and some has been already mailed, but nothing more about that now...

About the reviews featured in this issue- some of them are rather outdated, but one must know that approximately 70% of the CD's/ demos/ promos reviewed are promotional material and we have decided to feature them all... So some releases might be old by now...

Anyway, now I am going to write down something of great importance, at least for me anyway... We have received lot of letters (without IRC or stamps!) asking information about us, are we still alive, are former issues available and such and most of you haven't received answer... Well, try to fucking understand that we have no money and definitely no interest to write information for people all over the world who doesn't enclose stamps or IRC... As far as I'm concerned I have answered all letters with stamps and such, but I have NO intention to spend my money for other people. This is something you people have to understand! The same goes for people who send material for review- We receive lot of promo stuff and the fact that I don't write you back immediatly does not mean that I haven't received you package. All stuff will be featured and if the post fuck's up something it's definately not up to us anymore... Everyone who sent something receive free copy of the magazine OR atleast copy of the page where their stuff is featured... Enough shit now...

Metal Forever!



Hail & Kill

Long time since the last attack? Indeed, but not up to us. Esa's military service took a lot of important time from KILL YOURSELF!!! but since he got out, things started to roll a bit more.

Finishing this issue feels great due to the fact that we worked like never before to get this out.

Through many misfortunes and too proud idiots we finally got it all done. The highlight of the work was of course receiving good answers from Quorthon. I had much more to ask and the interview might seem a bit dull, but I was absolutely certain it would never come back.

Shitty thing about this issue is that there are bands with no photos and none who doesn't do a magazine can imagine the trouble it is finding pictures that can be put in those 'views. Image counts nowadays so much that we must be very careful what to put there and the final result still often turns out to be poor. Fortunately most of the bands still take photos.

We tried to add some interesting reading besides all those interviews and reviews... At least I enjoy reading stuff like Saga 1 we have there. There should be more coming since we usually get in a lot of trouble during our journeys.

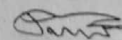
We recieved more promo stuff than ever and I can say we reviewed 100% of them. Only thing that we couldn't fit here was the Magazine reviews... We got one copy of SUB TERRA MAGAZINE from Greece and that was a kind of underground-centered subzine of METAL HAMMER, a bit boring, but good bands and stuff.

I just thank the editor here for sending it to us.

There are some advertisements but they are fully paid in one way or another and since the writing is again smaller, the readers won't lost anything comparing this to our last issue.

Then, gazing to future... If it's up to me we'll continue 'til hell freezes over. Some people come and say: "It must be great to do a 'zine", then they start their own, and produce more shit to the shitty world... Doing this kind of Magazine is nothing but pain with only very few highlights but the result is where the satisfaction comes from. If there still are idiots who seriously think Esa and I are doing this for the money, grow up! You really thought we earn a lot? Ha ha... We were just fucking with you.

That's about it, only two years to next predicted Armageddon, while waiting, read KILL YOURSELF!!!



The former issues:

Issue #1 1991/1992: 68 A4 pages (written in Finnish) with: IMPALED NAZARENE, ROTTING CHRIST, THERGOTHON, THROMDARR, RUNEMAGIC, UNHOLY and more. SOLD OUT!!!

Issue #2 1993/1994: 120 A4 pages (written in Finnish) with: MAYHEM, BURZUM, EMPEROR, SAMAEL, BEHERIT, DENIAL OF GOD, BARATHRUM, BLACK CRUCIFIXION, BLASPHEMY and more. (Partly censored by Police!) SOLD OUT!!!

Issue #3 1994/1995: 48 A4 pages (written in Finnish) with: EMPEROR, CRADLE OF FILTH, MARDUK, GRAVELAND, LORD OF PAGATHORN, THRONE OF AHAZ, BESTIAL WARLUST and more. SOLD OUT!!!

Issue #4 1995: 48 A4 pages (written in English) with: MAYHEM, GEHENNA, HADES, ANCIENT RITES, MORTIIS and more. See flyer for prices.

- Who made what -

Esa Lahdenperä:

All interviews except BATHORY and TRIUMPHATOR., most of the reviews. Also conspiring with Timo in KILL YOURSELF!!!-saga 1.

Timo Sitomaniemi:

Lay-out, interviews mentioned above, gig report, some reviews and Saga 1.

- Thanks (or hails) -

Quorthon of BATHORY, Morgan & Legion of MARDUK, It of ABRUPTUM, Witchdemon of DEMONIC, Sami of THY SERPENT, Ustumallagam & Azter of DENIAL OF GOD, Baron Drakkheim Abaddon, Deathfucker of TRIUMPHATOR, Kössi of THROMDARR, Tyr of DET HEDENSKE FOLK, Nergal of BEHEMOTH, Gerrit of MALICIOUS RECORDS, Vratyas Vakyas of FALKENBACH, Azhemín of WANDERER, Shyáithan of IMPIETY.

Jon of FULL MOON PRODUCTIONS, COLD MEAT INDUSTRY, SECUA DELENDA, Carsten of SOLISTITIUM, SPINEFARM, DISKERI, FAZER MUSIC, George of SUB TERRA, IMPURE ART CREATIONS, UNITED ENDANGERED FRONT, all of you who sent us promo stuff and others we may have forgotten.

**ALL OF YOU OUT THERE WHO INSPIRED US TO HATE YOU AND DRESS IT
IN FORM OF WORDS, MAY YOU DIE HUMILIATING PAINFUL DEATH.**

**All orders have been and will be sent within 48 hours.
If your order hasn't arrived, it's someone else's fault.
We take no responsibility of lost or stolen orders.**

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**DRUGS ARE NO FUN. DRUGS ENDANGER THE LIFE AND
HAPPINESS OF MILLIONS. IT MUST NEVER STOP.
WE APPEAL IN PARTICULAR TO THE YOUTH OF TODAY.
DON'T STOP THE MADNESS. THERE ARE BETTER THINGS IN LIFE.**

KILL YOURSELF!!! Magazine supports the Never Stop The Madness-campaigns for the use of hard drugs. Join us.



The Soundtrack From Hell!



The Audial Essence Of Evil

"It is our responsibility to spread this essence of evil and pollute the world with it."

YOUR STYLE CAN BE LABELED AS EXTREMELY SICK, TWISTED AND TORTUROUS SOUNDS, WHAT EXACTLY FASCINATES YOU TO CREATE THIS KIND OF BIZARRE STUFF? FROM WHERE DID YOU ACTUALLY GET THE IDEA FOR STARTING SUCH AN SICK BAND AS ABRUPTUM?

It: ABRUPTUM is the audial essence of Pure Black Evil, the soundtrack from hell.

We are just Satan's puppets, he places the word and tune in us... and it is our responsibility to spread this essence of evil and pollute the world with it.

We are all born to some tasks in our lives and ABRUPTUM is just one of mine.

ABRUPTUM'S STYLE HAS BEEN ALWAYS THE SAME, SO DON'T YOU THINK THERE IS THE POSSIBILITY THAT YOUR FANS COULD LOST THE INTEREST TOWARDS YOUR MUSIC SINCE YOU ARE REPEATING YOURSELF A DEMO AFTER DEMO, ALBUM AFTER ANOTHER? FOR WHAT KIND OF PERSONS YOU ARE DIRECTING YOUR MUSIC AND WHICH IS YOUR GOAL WITH ABRUPTUM?

It: The style is the same but the sound changes from album to album. There are a lot of ABRUPTUM fanatics out there and they will continue to buy our stuff no matter what, those people are the only record buyers I care about. ABRUPTUM is the absolutely most evil "music" today and the most respected Satanband of the scene... We are aware of what people worships us... They are the absolutely most respected and fanatic people.

I'VE BEEN TOLD THAT THERE HAS BEEN SOME SERIOUS ACCIDENTS, SELF-TORTURING AND SUCH AMONG PEOPLE THAT HAVE BEEN DEALING WITH YOUR MUSIC, CAN YOU TELL SOMETHING ABOUT THESE HAPPENINGS?

It: There's a danger that comes with the worship of ABRUPTUM, there is a risk it might get to your brains and do awful things with you. It's a wellknown fact by now that ABRUPTUM may danger peoples lives... one way or another, I will not discuss any happenings here... But if you have any, feel free.

BETTER NOT. OBVIOUSLY ABRUPTUM IS NOT THE BAND EVERYBODY LIKES... YOU MORE OR LESS LOVE IT OR YOU HATE IT... HOW HAS PEOPLE REACTED AGAINST YOUR "MUSIC" (WHY I AM USING THAT WORD ANYWAY?) AND HOW HAVE YOUR RELEASES SOLD?

It: The ABRUPTUM albums might not be the most selling ones... But I am content with the high

status we have gained past the years, ABRUPTUM is just what I want, a small band when it comes to selling records and to people actually listening to us, but a big band in the mouths of everybody... everybody knows about it and talks about it with respect and a bit wonder. It is shortly a band that is mystic, with high cult status and a band that brings respect with it.

Hate it or "love" it, if you hate it then you can't stand the sounds of Satan, my father and master.

BACK IN '91-'92 YOU TOLD THAT DEATHLIKE SILENCE PRODUCTIONS IS THE ONE AND ONLY LABEL THAT DESERVES TO RELEASE SOMETHING WITH YOU, BUT NOW YOU ARE SIGNED TO US FULL MOON PRODUCTIONS... ARE YOU SATISFIED TO THIS LABEL AND WHY DID YOU CHOOSE FULL MOON TO RELEASE YOUR PIECES OF EVILNESS?

It: FULLMOON PROD. was actually Evil's choice... I just went on with it letting him judge for us both, we could just pick one of the labels that were interested in the band or just let it die, we had no choice. I guess that Evil picked it (FULLMOON) since they could offer us a deal that we were content back then, I can't say that I've been content all the way with our cooperation but I am also sure that Jon from FULLMOON has done his best.



SWEDISH HELLSPAWN RECORDS HAVE RECENTLY PRESSED YOUR EP AND DEMO AS AN CD, WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO RE-RELEASE THEM? WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THESE RECORDINGS TODAY? DO THEY STILL REPRESENT TODAY'S ABRUPTUM?

It: There are several reasons why I wanted to release the old demos and the EP, I'll try to list 'em all for you.

No.1. I wanted to cash in, get some well deserved money.

No.2. There was going to be a long dead time between "In Umbra..." and the new "Vi Sonus Veris Nigrae Malitiae" album, so we wanted kind of let people know we weren't dead.

No.3. Many shit people have the demo's but how about the true ones?

No.4. They have a high cult value and should exist in a little larger quantity.

No.5. I could go on and brag about on how many albums I've been on. (This is actually not true).

No.6. I know Blackmoon of HELLSPAWN and I already had promised him that he would get something with us to release.

No.7. The razor idea would come true... finally...

No.8. All and I have finally found each other again and we wanted to get sentimental over something.

No.9. MARDUK had released their demo, I didn't want to be worse.

No.10. I wanted to spread some more of our evil. Actually I do like the old recordings but they do not represent today's ABRUPTUM. One thing interesting with this album is that one can see ABRUPTUM grow up.

SWEDISH SCENE SEEM TO BE VERY POWERFUL NOWADAYS... TOGETHER WITH DISSECTION, MARDUK AND DARK FUNERAL

ABRUPTUM SEEM TO BE CAPABLE OF "COMPETITING" (?) WITH HIGHLY APPRECIATED (OR HATED?) NORWEGIAN SCENE... WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS? WHICH SWEDISH BANDS YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECOMMEND FOR US AND WHICH YOU WOULD LIKE TO CRUSH? IS IT TRUE THAT OPHTHALAMIA HAS SOME ARGUMENTS GOING ON WITH SWEDISH NASTROND?

It: DISSECTION, ABRUPTUM, MARDUK & OPHTHALAMIA are the elite of Sweden's scene.

Actually the Swedish scene is stronger than the infected Norwegian scene, Swedish bands I'd like to recommend for you are the ones above and: NIFELHEIM, DARK FUNERAL, and mine and All's new project: VONDUR, debut album out really soon.

Norway has the following great acts: MYSTICUM (No.1), EMPEROR, ENSLAVED, DARKTHRONE & ISENGARD, GEHENNA and AURA NOIR, the rest of all bands are for crushing.

NASTROND? What the fuck is that?

YOU HAVE HAD QUITE MUCH LINE-UP CHANGES WITH ABRUPTUM, WHY SO? HAS THE FACT THAT "EVIL" PLAYS ALSO IN MARDUK CAUSED ANY PROBLEMS? IS MARDUK STILL HIS MAIN PRIORITY?

It: The only line-up change was that we replaced all with Evil, MARDUK has not caused ABRUPTUM any problems since both Evil and I know ABRUPTUM is number one, he prioritates MARDUK and I OPHTHALAMIA cause it's a hard work.

But in our hearts we prioritise ABRUPTUM.

"A TRUE SATANIST HORDE"... CAN YOU TELL SOME MORE ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION OF YOURS? IS IT TRUE THAT EURONYMOUS (R.I.P.) WAS A MEMBER OF IT AND THAT "A TRUE SATANIST HORDE" WAS THE INSPIRATION FOR INFAMOUS NORWEGIAN BLACK METAL MAFIA?

It: The True Satanist Horde was and is my organization, and yes Euronymous was a member, so was Grisfuk, the horde was an inspiration to everything linked with us, nobody did anything without the thought for the horde. The black circle became just a small part of the horde... sad they fucked up, but I still hail their deeds.

Orchestra Of The Dark

"I can say that it's harder to survive in the music scene of today..."

YOU ARE ALSO WORKING WITH OPHTHALAMIA WHICH HAVE JUST RELEASED IT'S SECOND ALBUM "VIA DOLOROSA". WHICH OF THE BANDS IS MORE IMPORTANT FOR YOU? HOW WOULD YOU COMPARE YOUR NEW ALBUM WITH YOUR DEBUT, "A JOURNEY IN DARKNESS"? WHAT IS THE CURRENT LINE-UP WITH OPHTHALAMIA?

It: As I said it's just more work with OPHTHALAMIA so it takes up the most of my time, ABRUPTUM still is number one though, the "new" album is much more wellplayed and wellthought of "Via Dolorosa" has been called the ultimate album by many... something that didn't happen with our first album.

Anyway, AVANTGARDE & OPHTHALAMIA is now planning to do a re-recording of the first album and re-release it with much more professional layout and production, of course it will include a couple of bonus tracks.

OPHTHALAMIA is now working hard with our new album, and the new strong line-up is: It- Lead guitar, Night- Bass guitar, Bone- Drums, All- Vocals, ?- Guitar No. 2.

Bone is actually Ole Ohman who played in DISSECTION before... He quit the band and started with us instead. The "?" thing is another guitarist we are checking out for the band. And now All's magnificent voice can be heard in OPHTHALAMIA as well. Sounds promising?

INDEED, WELL, IT SEEMS THAT YOU WERE KIND OF BLOODBROTHERS WITH EURONYMOUS (R.I.P.)... WHAT ARE YOUR VIEWS ABOUT THE MURDER AND DO YOU BELIEVE IT WILL BE REVENGED? WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE REFORMING OF MAYHEM? DOESN'T MAYHEM WITHOUT DEAD AND EURONYMOUS SOUND LIKE AN HOPELESS IDEA?

It: I will answer this one shortly since I find it extremely boring to discuss this matter over and over.

OPHTHALMIA, it being third from the left.



"We must remember that we don't worship music, we worship Satan."

Yes. Euronymous was my brother in both blood and soul, I believe the murder will be revenged. I do not like the reforming of MAYHEM, the idea of MAYHEM without the actual MAYHEM is pathetic.

I KNOW THAT YOU ARE, OR ATLEAST WERE, QUITE FANATIC PERSON AND WANTED TO KEEP THE SCENE ONLY FOR TRUE BANDS AND FANS... BUT THE FACT IS THAT SUCH OLD PIONEERS AS BATHORY, VENOM, CELTIC FROST AND POSSESSED HAVE OPENLY ADMITTED THAT ALL THIS WAS ONLY AN IMAGE FOR THEM, SO NOW I'M FORCED TO ASK YOU WHY IT'S TODAY SO IMPORTANT THAT THE BAND IS TRUE WHICH WASN'T IMPORTANT AT ALL AMONG THOSE BANDS MOST OF TODAY'S BLACK METAL BANDS COUNT AS THEIR ULTIMATE INFLUENCES?

It: I do not wish to discuss old bands, but I can say that it's harder to survive in the music scene of today... It is not only enough with a much more extreme image but one has to stand for his words also otherwise one can't expect to be taken seriously.
I just wonder what will come next?

Life Is Hell

"I still don't believe the exists any christian version of Hell and I still think that the Earth is really a Hell sometimes..."

SOME YEARS AGO YOU STATED THAT "LIFE IS THE ONLY HELL THAT EXISTS BUT THE DEATH IS THE SAVIOUR OF ALL TRUE ONES"... DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO COMMENT ABOUT THIS? HOW DO YOU SEE LIFE AND THIS WORLD IN GENERAL?

It: Some years ago I stated that I liked the music of XYSMA... (Rock 'n Roll-Ed.)

One grows all the time with views and thoughts, one should not be punished or looked down upon for what is in the past. It's today that really matters.

I still don't believe the exists any christian version of Hell and I still think that the Earth is really a Hell sometimes, and I still much believe in getting a better position after death if one just remains true.

IS THERE SOME BANDS/ PERSONS WHICH YOU CONSIDER AS YOUR BLOOD BROTHERS AND FOR WHICH YOU WOULD BE READY TO DIE FOR? COULD YOU NAME SOME OF THESE?

It: Ha ha ha... I would never die for a band, the music thing is just a secondary thing and we must not forget that, our main goal is to worship Satan and not make music.

I think people have mixed the music thing with our real goal way too much, as for example "the Black metal Mafia", the thing goes too far.

We must remember that we don't worship music, we worship Satan.

Music is just pathetic compared to our real goal. Of course I enjoy music, but it's just a way to fuck peoples heads up. For example we can reach more people through music and get them involved with things. We can tell people messages in our lyrics, but we are not burning churches or murdering people 'cause we are Black metal... we do it fir we worship Satan and we must do his evil deeds. One does not have to be Black metal to be a Satan worshipper... But the other way is a must.

HOW IS YOUR HOME TOWN TO LIVE, HOW DOES NORMAL PEOPLE REACT AGAINST LONG HAired AND BLACK DRESSED PEOPLE THERE, IS IT EASY TO END UP IN FIGHTS? I ALSO KNOW THAT SOME YEARS AGO SWEDEN RECEIVED 70 000 IMMIGRANTS (!!!), HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THAT?

It: Hmm... I live in the capital of Sweden, Stockholm, and we have almost two million people living here. There's all sorts of people here so they are used to see all kinds of extreme people, but people rather respect you here than start to fight you... it seems to be the other way around in Norway and Suomi though.

(Well what I can safely say is that there are idiots and violent persons everywhere. And what I've been in Stockholm (both day and night times) there's a lot of people who look at you in the certain vein or even come to fuck with you. And when there's so fucking many niggers running around the Stockholms street, I doubt is it more peaceful there than at least here in Suomi Finland-Timo.)

Was it only 70 000 immigrants?? It feels more like 7 million I tell you (Wait and see the near future-Ed), but I'll keep my views about that for myself, but I say hurray Suomi and keep up the "good" work.

YOU HAVE LIVED PART OF YOUR CHILDHOOD HERE IN FINLAND... WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER FROM THOSE TIMES AND WHY DID YOU ACTUALLY MOVED AWAY? WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT FINNISH SCENE?

It: Uhh... Yes, I actually lived in Oulu for a couple of years where I was at a private Swedish school to study, I think I was about nine years... So what did I do? Played football, ran after girls, went to school, played some jaapalloa and such uninteresting stuff, I can't remember much more and I'm glad for it.

Most of my cousins and such are living in Finland since my mother is Finnish... so I've been traveling a lot over there, mostly in Tampere which is a great place. I'll probably come to Finland soon on vacation or to do some gigs with OPHT-

HALAMIA... I've been many years now since I was there the last time, I guess I am a real hurri now huh? (Suomalaisuus veressa ei kuole koskaan perkele.-Ed.)

Finnish scene? Well BEHERIT rules the cold and wonderful country of Finland... Too bad you have all these idiots over there also. Someday we'll take back the wonderful Karelia to Finland and show the ruskins a couple of things, HAKKAA PAALLE.

OBVIOUSLY YOU HAVEN'T HEARD THE LATEST RECORDINGS OF MR. HOLOCAUSTO VENGEANCE, BUT THE ATTITUDE IS WHAT I LIKE TO HEAR.

NOW IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO LOOK AT THE CRYSTAL BALL AND TELL WHAT WILL FUTURE BRING FOR BOTH ABRUPTUM AND OPTHALAMIA, WHEN CAN WE WAIT SOME NEW RELEASES? LAST COMMENTS?

It: ABRUPTUM will release a new album soon, a picture EP, picture LP, some other vinyl and some T-shirts.

OPHTHALAMIA will release a new album, re-release /record our first album and release a demo album, also some vinyl perhaps and T-shirts+ long sleeve. VONDUR will release our debut album "Stridsyrlig" and some T-shirts + vinyl stuff, get it all. End of message.

Darkness it'll be -it 1996

ABRUPTUM
c/o I Sarkka
Cervinsv. 21
16358 Spanga
SWEDEN



DARK FUNERAL -
"The Secrets Of The Black Arts" - CD
(NO FASHION REC.)

After the fantastic M-CD DARK FUNERAL has finally released their debut full length album, and as the M-CD already promised this is a sheer masterpiece of violence, darkness and misanthropy! DARK FUNERAL surely knows how to kick some serious storms of Damnation for this album is packed with such an power that it's hard to describe with words. Slight DISSECTION and MARDUK influences are still here but still DARK FUNERAL has more or less their own sound. There are two re-recorded tracks from their M-CD ("Shadows Over Transilvania" and "My Dark Desires") and they are still work fine. The new tracks such as "When Angels Forever Die", "The Fire Eternal", "Satan's Mayhem" or the titletrack are simply magnificent pieces of Black metal. Fast and raging as hell, but still having the melodic touch. There is also a cover track, "Black Blood" from VON (USA), presented and it's quite good tracks as well. Yet nothing compared to DARK FUNERAL.

However the sound is not that powerful than in the M-CD but that's simply the only thing I have to complain in this release.

The cover artwork is brilliant and also lyrics are included.

And remember... Only Death Is Real



DARK FUNERAL

Kill Yourself!!! Supports the slaughtering of animals because of them we get tasty food. So fuck off and die!

DEMONIC

Hell awaits...

Next we have here **DEMONIC** from Oslo, Norway. I mailed some questions for **Witchdemon** and I was quite sure he won't reply as I have heard lot of rumours that this band doesn't answer that many interviews, at least not long ones like this. I have seen few interviews with **Witchdemon**, always with short answers, but now I'm glad to tell you that this is the longest and most indepth interview I have so far seen with **Witchdemon** and **DEMONIC**... So read on!



Lead Us Into Darkness

MY FIRST TOUCH WITH DEMONIC WAS THROUGH YOUR "NAR MORKET FALLER"- DEMO '94. SO NOW I WOULD LIKE YOU TO INFORM US HAS THERE BEEN OTHER RELEASES BEFORE THE DEMO AND WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS TAPE ANYWAY- DOES IT STILL GIVE THE RIGHT PICTURE ABOUT YOUR CURRENT SOUND? WHEN EXACTLY WAS DEMONIC FORMED?

Witchdemon: "Nar Morket Faller" was the first DEMONIC- release. I think there's a couple of changes which I would have done with it, but in general I think it's ok. Our music has now changed a bit, so the demo can't be compared with the newer stuff 'cause it's more fast and brutal. DEMONIC was formed in middle '94.

YOUR MCD, "LEAD US INTO DARKNESS" INCLUDED ONLY ONE NEW TRACK AND THE REST THREE WERE TAKEN FROM YOUR DEMO... WHY THERE WAS ONLY ONE NEW TRACK INCLUDED AND DO YOU REALLY THINK IT WAS NECESSARY TO PRINT THE OLD DEMO AS A CD? HOW HAS THE RESPONSE BEEN, HAS MANY OF THE NEW FANS FOUND THIS MCD AS A RIP OFF OR SOMETHING...?

Witchdemon: The reason for it is because we had only two racks ready but we weren't able to do the other one, so we only recorded "His Eyes Burn Hate". The other one will be in our upcoming full length album out this winter. The tracks is called "Diabolic Bloodwar". We had to start somewhere and NECROPOLIS gave us a deal for MCD, so we started with that. The response on "Lead Us Into Darkness" have so far been great. No rip offs here.

US- NECROPOLIS WERE THE ONE TO RELEASE YOUR HELLISH MCD- HOW DID YOU BECAME IN TOUCH WITH THEM, HOW HAS THINGS WORKED OUT AND ARE YOU GOING TO CO-OPERATE WITH THEM IN THE FUTURE AS WELL? DID YOU RECEIVED ANY OTHER OFFERS BEFORE YOU SIGNED FOR NECROPOLIS?

Witchdemon: NECROPOLIS offered us the best deal, so we signed with them. They got in touch with us and the result is the MCD. So far the things have worked out, some lack of information, but all in all great. We have now signed a contract

two albums. We got other offers but we choosed NECROPOLIS. As they had the best offer.

BY THE WAY, IS IT TRUE THAT THE BOSS OF NECROPOLIS IS/ WAS SUSPECTED FOR TRYING TO BURN A CATHEDRAL THERE IN USA- CAN YOU TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT THIS AND WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT VIOLENCE AGAINST CHURCHES IN GENERAL? HAVE YOU TAKEN PART ABOUT THE MASSIVE ATTACK AGAINST CHRISTIANITY THAT TOOK PLACE THERE IN NORWAY SOME YEARS AGO?

Witchdemon: I haven't heard anything about this, so there isn't much to tell. Support the war against christianity! I haven't personally taken part in any massive attacks. For the moment it's not going on much at that front as far as I have heard.

IN THE COVERS OF YOUR MCD YOU THANK PYTTEN (GRIEGHALLEN STUDIOS) FOR GIVING YOU "THE MOST HELLISH SOUND EVER CREATED"... DO YOU THINK THE SOUND IS THAT GREAT AND WHY DID YOU ACTUALLY DECIDED TO USE GRIEGHALLEN? DOES THE FACT THAT SOME RESPECTED NORWEGIAN BANDS SUCH AS MAYHEM, IMMORTAL, BURZUM, GORGOROTH AND HADES (TO NAME A FEW) HAVE RECORDED THEIR PIECES OF ART THERE? HOW WAS PYTTEN TO WORK WITH?

Witchdemon: Yes, I personally think so and that also goes for all the other bands he has worked with. Pytten is a professional guy so that's why we used him and Grieghallen studios, and of course by his previous work with other bands. As I said, Pytten is a professional guy so it was really easy to work with him. Some might think it's expensive, but you get what you pay for and what you get is a fucking great production.

YOUR LYRICS SEEM TO BE VERY PRIMITIVE DEALING WITH FLAMES OF HELL, YOUR DEMONIC LEADER ANTICHRIST AND THE ONE WITH THE HORNS- HOW SERIOUS YOU TWO ARE WITH THINGS LIKE THAT AND DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE IN ALL THIS? HOW IMPORTANT PART LYRICS ARE FOR DEMONIC? COULD YOU INTRODUCE SOME OF THE NEW SONG- TITLES PLEASE?

Witchdemon: The lyrics shows how I feel about christianity, simple as that. I think both music and lyrics are very important for DEMONIC. Here are some new song titles: "Diabolic Bloodwar", "A Dark Journey Towards Desolation", "Torment Their Christian Souls With Infernal Powers" to name a few.

YOU ARE TWO PIECE BAND, WITCHDEMON AND FIEND TAKING CARE OF EVERYTHING... WHY THERE ISN'T MORE MEMBERS INCLUDED, HAS THIS SMALL LINE- UP BROUGHT ANY PROBLEMS AND HOW WOULD YOU PICTURE THE PERSONALITIES OF YOU TWO? IS IT HARD TO FIND SUITABLE MEMBERS IN YOUR AREA? HAS THERE EVER BEEN NEED TO USE SESSION MUSICIANS?

Witchdemon: There is no problem with being a two- piece band. When the time comes to do something live we'll get session drummer. There is of course difficult to find someone suitable, but we are working on something at the moment. Rumours tell that Infernus of GORGOROTH and somebody from HADES are helping DEMONIC with their upcoming CD, but note that so far these are only rumours! - Esa)

YOUR SOUND HAS BEEN OFTEN COMPARED TO ENSLAVED (NOR)- DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO COMMENT ABOUT THIS? HOW WOULD YOU PERSONALLY PICTURE YOUR MUSIC AND DO YOU BELIEVE DEMONIC HAS SOMETHING TRULY NEW NEW TO OFFER? IN WHICH THINGS YOUR MUSIC STANDS FOR? IS THERE ANY BANDS WHICH YOU FIND INSPIRING?

Witchdemon: I haven't heard anything about DEMONIC having a similar sound to ENSLAVED. I personally don't think so.

If we have something new to offer? I don't know. DEMONIC was formed for only one reason: Christian persecution and destruction! I feel inspired to go on with Black metal when I listen to bands like MAYHEM (nor), MARDUK (swe), IMMORTAL (nor), DARK FUNERAL (swe), etc.

HOW KNOWN DEMONIC IS IN THE WORLDWIDE SCENE, HOW MUCH YOU BELIEVE THAT THE FACT YOU ARE FROM NORWAY HELPS YOU TO GET MORE KNOWN AND HOW EXACTLY YOU WOULD LIKE PEOPLE TO SEE

AND REMEMBER YOUR HELLISH CREATIVITY DOES IT BOTHER YOU WHEN YOU KNOW THAN NO MATTER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT ALSO ALL KIND OF STUPID KIDS ARE BUYING YOUR RECORDS?

Witchdemon: Our demo gave us alot of attention. I'd wonder, it's very strong debut demand. Esa) I don't think people like us because we are from Norway but for our music, if they like us only because we are from Norway they must be fuckin' idiots!! It helps of course, but it doesn't always mean that if a band comes from Norway, it's good. People should see us as a dark christian band. It bothers me sometimes when you see these fucking kids buying your music but I really don't fucking care about it, since I'm making money out of them. Promotion is of course important but I don't pay much attention to it.

Hellborn Evilness

WHEN CAN WE WAIT SOMETHING NEW FROM DEMONIC AND IN WHICH FORM IT WILL COME OUT? TELL US ABOUT YOUR NEW MATERIAL- WILL IT BE IN THE SAME VEIN AS YOUR DEMO AND MCD? HOW WOULD YOU COMPARE YOUR CURRENT SOUND WITH THE DAYS WHEN YOU STARTED IN THE FIRST PLACE?

Witchdemon: A full length album will be out this winter (limited) digipack CD and regular CD- limited vinyl pressing (500) with a poster. The new material is more fast and brutal, but still with the old DEMONIC- feeling. Watch out for this hellborn release with a brutal and hateful artwork.

YOU ARE HAILING FROM OSLO, SO THEREFORE I'M FORCED TO ASK WERE YOU IN CONTACT WITH EURONYMOUS (R.I.P.) AND WHAT WAS YOUR IMPRESSION OF HIM AS A PERSON AND AS A MUSICIAN? WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE REFORMING OF MAYHEM- DO YOU SUPPORT IT? DID YOU EVER VISIT THE HELVETE- SHOP?

Witchdemon: I didn't get to know him that much but I had some contact with him and my impression was that he was a great musician, person, he knew what he was doing and he also had some great plans for the future. Too bad the fucking cunt got in his way. Hail the king of Black metal, Euronymous! The new MAYHEM is very interesting and I'm looking forward to their next recording. (As we all Esa) I also visited Helvete a

"DEMONIC was formed for only one reason: Christian persecution and destruction!"

couple of times. What a great fucking shop that was (rip).

SOME OF YOUR LANDMATES CLAIM THAT ONLY PEOPLE WHO ARE "BORN AND RAISED IN NORWAY CAN PRODUCE REAL BLACK METAL"... SEVERAL QUALITY BANDS OUTSIDE YOUR COUNTRY HAVE ALREADY PROVEN THESE PEOPLE WRONG BUT I WOULD STILL LIKE TO HEAR YOUR VIEWS ABOUT THIS? IS THERE SOME BANDS OUTSIDE NORWAY WHICH YOU FINF WORTH OF SUPPORT?

Witchdemon: I think Nordic scene is the best (Norway and Sweden). Bands like MAYHEM, IMMORTAL, MARDUK, EMPEROR and DARK FUNERAL shows that for sure. Besides Norwegian Black metal I listen to bands from Sweden as I already said. Not much else. I pay attention in what's happening in the scene.

MORE ABOUT YOUR LYRICS... THEY SEEM TO DEAL ALSO WITH THE DESTRUCTION AND DEATH OF DISGUSTING CANCER CALLED CHRISTIANITY...WHAT EXACTLY MAKES YOU TO HATE IT SO MUCH AND WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE FACT THAT IN ANY OTHER NORDIC COUNTRY CHURCH AND CHRISTIANITY DOESN'T HAVE THE SAME POWER THAN IT HAS IN NORWAY?..

Witchdemon: Christianity stands for something that's weak, meaningless and useless, so it isn't very hard to hate it. Kill the christians. They think that they have some sort of power here, but their weakness will be their downfall in the end.

WHAT IS YOUR LIFE- PHILOSOPHY, HOW DO YOU LOOK UPON IT AND DOES IT HAVE ANY KIND OF MEANING IN YOUR EYES? HOW WOULD THIS WORLD BE LIKE IF YOU WOULD BE THE ONE TO RULE IT?

Witchdemon: Death is certain, life is not! If I were the one to rule this world, there would be no christians left on this planet for sure (What about muslims, hindus, jews, homosexuals, transvestites, scum who tolerate them, humanists, drug-addicts, pedophiles... Shouldn't they be exterminated as well? I think that in the future Christians will not be the main problem anymore...-Esa)

EVEN WHEN I CAN EASILY SAY THAT I HAVE RED TONS OF UNDERGROUND MAGAZINES I HAVEN'T SEEN TOO MANY INTERVIEWS OF DEMONIC, SO WHERE IS THE REASON: YOU OR IN EDITORS?

Witchdemon: Well, I don't know. I think I have answered enough interviews, how many, I don't know. Interviews are sometimes okay, sometimes NOT. I prefer short interviews (Yes, you prefer them but readers don't. They want to get what they pay for, so therefore I tried to make this interview long. I could have made it longer but I know you would have not answered it.-Esa)

IT SEEMS LIKE THESE SYNTHESIZER BASED PROJETS HAS BECAME A NEW TREND- EVERYBODY SEEM TO DO SOMETHING ONLY BY SYNTHS, SO I ASKED WITCHDEMON HIS VIEWS AROUND THIS SUBJECT...

Witchdemon: I don't listen only to synth-based projects because it's boring (Yes, only very few are worth listening.-Esa) But I like synth in Black metal in general. Apart from Black metal I listen to some Death metal, not much though.

THE FACT IS THAT SUCH OLD METAL- GODS AS BATHORY, VENOM AND POSSESSED HAVE OPENLY ADMITTED THAT EVERYTHING THEY WRITED ABOUT WAS ONLY AN IMAGE, SO WHAT HAS CHANGED NOW WHEN EVERY CURRENT BLACK METAL- BAND CLAIMS TO BE 100% SERIOUS WITH THEIR LYRICS, WHICH ARE OFTEN VERY INFLUENCED BY THESE OLD BANDS..?

Witchdemon: I don't know what has happened to the old bands, but my lyrics shows what I think about christianity in general. If you really hate something then it's not hard to express it. What BATHORY is doing now really sucks. Hail the old BATHORY (Well, we think that both old and new records of BATHORY are equally strong, simply best stuff ever made! However, "Requiem" is shit.-Esa).

AS FAR AS I KNOW YOUR MCD WASN'T RELEASED ON VINYL AT ALL, HOW COME THIS AND WHICH ONE YOU PERSONALLY PREFER? IS THERE MARKET FOR "GOOD OLD VINYL" ANYMORE?

Witchdemon: There was no reason behind it. It was just released on CD, but the full lenght will be on vinyl as I mentioned earlier in the interview. Personally I like CD and vinyl. It's good to see that more bands release their recordings on vinyl, not just CD.

WHAT DO YOU DO BESIDE DEMONIC, HOW IMPORTANT PART IT PLAYS IN YOUR LIFE AND WHAT ARE YOUR ULTIMATE GOALS WITHIN YOUR HELLBORN CREATION? HOW LONG YOU BELIEVE YOU FIND ENOUGH INTEREST TO CREATE MUSIC AND LYRICS FOR DEMONIC?

Witchdemon: Besides DEMONIC I work. The future goals for DEMONIC will be a hellish tour around Europe and more releases. DEMONIC is a big part of my life of course and how long I will create music for DEMONIC, I have one thing to say: As long as christianity is here, DEMONIC will be here.

LAST CURSES? IS THERE SOMETHING IMPORTANT YOU WOULD STILL LIKE TO WRITE DOWN?

Witchdemon: Thanx for the interview. Support DEMONIC, NECROPOLIS RECORDS and the War against christianity. HELL AWAITS!

DEMONIC
Kantarellen Terrasse 31
Leil 47
1286 Oslo
Norway
(No IRC - No Reply!)

NECROPOLIS REC.
P.O. BOX 14815
Fremont, Ca 94539- 4815.USA

Magia Posthuma

MAGIA POSTHUMA-
Promo '95

This band was completely unknown for us until they contacted us with their Promo tape '95, information and live photo (which is not included here). This tape contains three tracks and the music seems to be some kind of mixture between Black and Death metal. We think that what MAGIA POSTHUMA (formed in August '94) offers us is somehow influenced by DARK FUNERAL (swe), the only difference is that these Belgian guys doesn't have the same musical abilities and their tracks don't have the same charm and power as DARK FUNERAL. Some playing errors can be noticed and these three members don't play their instruments too well. The whole atmosphere is boring and sloppy in general, and it's hard to listen these three tracks through without loosing your interest completely. The acoustic part in "Drift" is horrible even though the solo in the very same song is not bad at all. Now MAGIA POSTHUMA is "searching a deal with serious label". Hmm... I wonder how serious label can be if they accept this kind of music in vinyl or CD as there are so many better bands/artists out there. I simply think this band is not ready to be signed, they need to progress first and that's a fact! A portugese oriented label Black Light Productions is however going to release 7" EP about two tracks from this promo ("The Song Of The Edda" + "Aeons Temple"). What an useless piece of vinyl that will be! I hope you to like our material and I hope to receive a positive answer from you very soon" stated Lord Zargan in his letter, sorry but we can't find too many positive points from this tape. Even the covers are unusually bad...

MAGIA POSTHUMA
B.P. 1642
6000 Charleroi
Belgium

DIMMU BORGIR-
"Devil's Path" M-CD '96
(HOT RECORDS)

Norwegian DIMMU BORGIR returns with their third CD- release and seem to have changed alot since their two full lenght albums. Music has moved into far more fast and ugly direction with more clear influences from older Black metal bands. DIMMU BORGIR has always had some fast parts in their music but never as grim and deathly like now. It's hard to notice that this is the same band which unleashed albums "For All Tid" and "Stormblast" since the sound is completely different and much closer to the traditional style of Black metal. I think that vocals have improved alot and the same goes for musicianship as well. This M-CD contains four tracks, "Master Of Disharmony", "The Devils' s Path" and two different versions of the CELTIC FROST- tune "Nocturnal Fear". I like all of them alot even though I think "Nocturnal Fear" is not one of the best possible C.F.- tunes and the opening track's beginning reminds us of SATYRICON's "The Dawn Of The New Age".

DIMMU BORGIR has now signed to NUCLEAR BLAST (D) for four albums and the fourth CD (third full lenght) "Enthrone Darkness Triumphant" should be out when you read this.

If you liked former DIMMU BORGIR- albums there is no quarantees will you like this one too, because this is like a different band. And for the very first time also lyrics are written in English instead of using their native language. "Sons Of Satan, Gather For Attack!" Very recommendable M-CD indeed!

IMPIETY

IMPIETY-

"Asateerul Awaleen"- CD '96
(SHIVADARSHANA REC.)

I have never been a fan of this band and "Asateerul Awaleen", their debut full lenght CD which the band kindly enough mailed us for review, does not make any exception either. This album features 39 minutes/ 8 tracks of extremely fast and blasphemous Black metal with rather bad production and clear influences from old BEHERIT (fin) and old BLASPHEMY (can). Even though I like early releases of these two bands I can't say I enjoy this piece at all. There are not many bands which can preform this style of Black metal and keep it interesting for me. The band itself classifies their music as "Neo-Barbaric Black Magick Ritual Forni- Desecration Music" so maybe that gives you some kind of impression about this album. IMPIETY has been around from the year of '90 and has always played this kind of music (I remember their demo "Ceremonial NecroChrist Redesecration") so it seem like they are totally dedicated to this kind of blasphemous Metal, which is always great to notice! IMPIETY has also recorded 5- song M-CD, "Funeralight", which should be available when you read this if something weird doesn't happen (it's not out at this very moment!). "Asateerul Awaleen" CD '96 (digipack) goes for \$16 and T- shirt's for \$19 each.

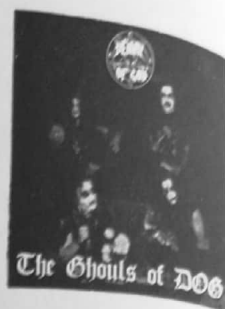
All orders to:
SHIVADARSHANA RECORDS
P.O. BOX 3005
3200 DA Spijkenisse
The NETHERLANDS

Band contact:
IMPIETY
P.O. BOX 544
Bedok Central 914605
SINGAPORE





The Dark War Continues...



Black metal in the hard way is what DENIAL OF GOD is all about. I talked with Ustumallagam (Screams of Terror) who is known for his extreme statements in magazines around the world...

Horrrifying And Disgusting

"This kind of music has to be Satanic, deadly, horrrifying, violent... Just like the old days."

GREETINGS, USTUMALLAGAM! YOU HAVE JUST SIGNED FOR ENGLISH DARK TRINITY PRODUCTIONS FOR A M-CD, SO NOW I WOULD LIKE YOU TO TELL SOMETHING ABOUT THIS UPCOMING RELEASE. WHICH TRACKS IT WILL INCLUDE AND HOW WOULD YOU COMPARE IT MUSICALLY WITH YOUR OLDER RELEASES (MEANING TWO DEMOS AND 7")?

Ustumallagam: If I compare it to our releases in the past I can clearly see that we have developed a lot, both music and in lyrics. Everything has become more better: more melodies, sicker lyrics, etc. nowadays we sound more or less like we always wanted to. The tracks on the M-CD "The Ghoul of DOG" will be the title track (intro), "Robbing The Grave Of The Priest", "Follow Those Who Died (from our 2nd demo) and "The Crypt Has Eyes". We are already working on new material for our forthcoming full length CD.

WHAT CAN YOU SAY ABOUT THIS DEAL WITH DARK TRINITY PRODUCTIONS, ARE THEY THE RIGHT LABEL FOR YOU? DID YOU RECEIVE ANY OTHER OFFERS FROM SOME OTHER RECORD COMPANIES? AND BY THE WAY, WHAT HAPPENED WITH NO FASHION REC (SWE) WHO WAS SUPPOSED TO RELEASE YOUR M-CD SOME YEARS AGO AS YOU INFORMED ME BACK THEN?

Ustumallagam: DARK TRINITY PRODUCTIONS seem to be a good label. It looks like they work rather hard for us and also they are very easy talking to. I think we are very satisfied with them. Just after signing with them we received an offer from our good friends of HAMMERHEART RECORDS in Holland, but they came too late, or else I guess we would have signed with them. We

also once received a deal from AFTER DARK RECORDS, but I guess everybody knows what happened to them. Rip offs have no place in the scene. I don't really remember what happened to NO FASHION RECORDS. I think we only sent him our first demo to see if he wanted to sign us, but never got a reply, but I'm not totally sure. I have heard he is a drug addict, so it doesn't really matter I think.

THERE IS NO DOUBTS THAT YOUR MUSIC REEKS OF VIOLENCE AND DESTRUCTION, DOES IT MIRROR YOUR PERSONALITIES IN ANY WAY, AND WHAT ACTUALLY FASCINATES YOU TO CREATE THIS KIND OF MUSIC? WHAT DIFFERS DENIAL OF GOD FROM OTHER BANDS IN THIS GENRE, DO YOU BELIEVE YOU ARE CAPABLE OF SURVIVING IN THIS PLAGUE OF TREND (OUR SCENE) ANYWAY?

Ustumallagam: I must say we are inspired by bands like VENOM, DEATH SS, CELTIC FROST/HELLHAMMER, MAYHEM, MERCYFUL FATE, etc... I mostly get the ideas for lyrics just from my own sickened imagination or things like that. I really enjoy the lyrics of the mentioned above, but of course we do not rip them off. You could say it reflects our personalities in some way, cause our music is violent and disgusting and I can tell you that several people here think same about us. The worse the better. DENIAL OF GOD hasn't anything to do with this fucking trend going on. We don't sing about mountains, lakes, fjords and other stupid things like that. Also we don't claim to be nazis or vikings, because we just aren't and most other people claiming aren't either. It has nothing to do with Black metal. We will survive because we are different.

THEN DO YOU BELIEVE YOUR BAND IS WELL KNOWN IN CURRENT BLACK METAL SCENE? HOW WOULD YOU LIKE PEOPLE TO SEE YOUR DENIAL OF GOD?

Ustumallagam: I've been told several times by people who write me, that we are very well known band and that's great. We haven't done many flyers at all, but still a lot of people write us. If the band is good the word will be spread through out the scene easily. I guess it has always been like that. I mean, if I discover a great band I often write to people that they should check out their demo or whatever, unfortunately this happens very seldom. I would like people to fear us and remember us many years if we would plit and I think people will.

YOU HAVE DECIDED TO CALL YOUR MUSIC BLACK HORROR METAL, WHAT EXACTLY YOU ARE TRYING TO SAY WITH THIS KIND OF CLASSIFICATION? IN WITCH THINGS YOUR MUSIC STANDS FOR?

Ustumallagam: We call it Black Horror metal because we are more than just a Black metal. Our lyrics deal with horror stuff and the music itself has some very eerie parts at times, etc. This kind of music has to be Satanic, deadly, horrrifying, violent... Just like the old days. No one should try to change that. We play Black Horror metal because we believe in it.

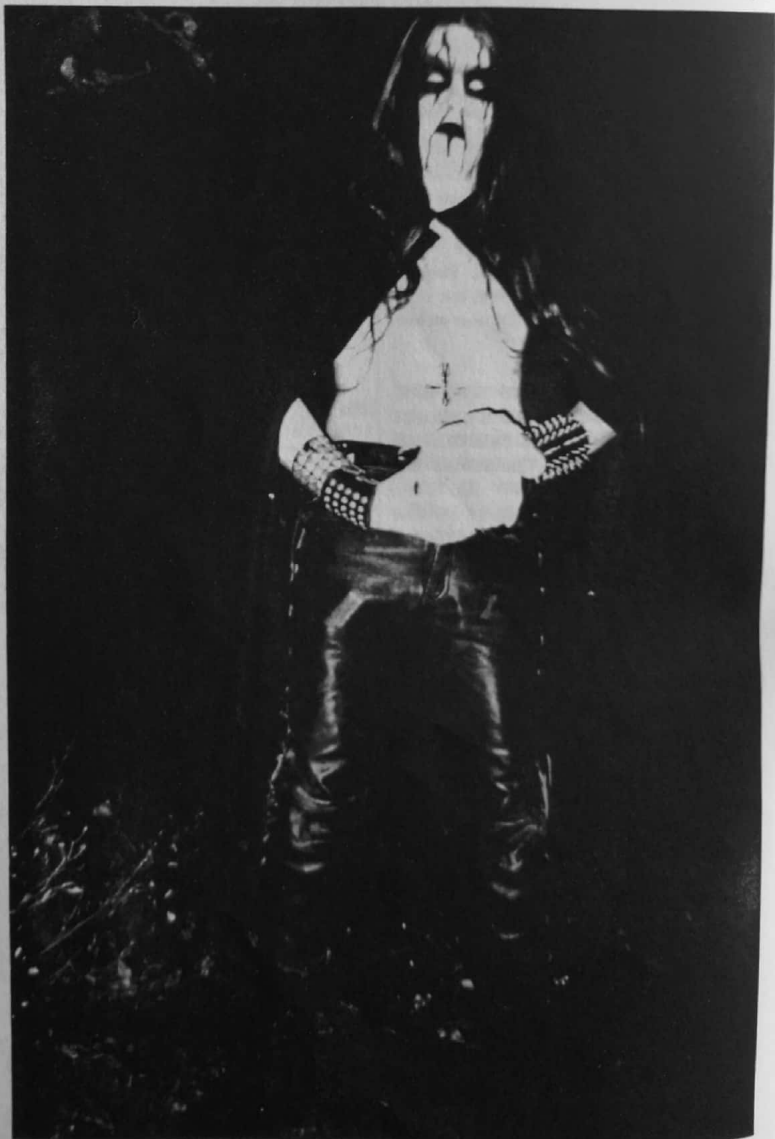
Violence Is The Cure

"Some people try to start a fight sometimes because of our long hair and thats fine by us..."

MOST OF THE TODAY'S BLACK METAL BANDS GO FOR COMPLEX SYNTHS, CHOIRS,

FEMALE VOCALS AND SUCH MORE "BEAUTIFUL" THINGS WHILE DENIAL OF GOD STANDS FOR STRAIGHTFORWARD BLACK METAL. TOTAL CHAOS AND STRONG FEELINGS OF DESTRUCTION WITHOUT THAT MANY "NICE" AND CALM PARTS... DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO COMMENT ON THIS TOPIC?

Ustumallagam: Well, on our M-CD we actually used a little bit of female vocals and keyboards for the very first time, to do it more evil and I think it worked out fine. Also we have used some acoustic parts (like we did on the past and will do in the future), but still the music is very brutal of course. I really like brutal music, I'm not really into this thing with being atmospheric by using hundreds of keyboard parts, etc. Some of these atmospheric bands are just too soft for my taste. I would of course consider our music as very atmospheric, but in totally different way (Hm... I don't agree with you totally. I mean, I'm totally possessed with such bands as DARKTHRONE, MARDUK, DARK FUNERAL, IMMORTAL, old



BATHORY and such which play their music in grim and ugly way, but it would be bullshit if I claimed that such bands as ARCTURUS, SATYRICON, EMPEROR, GEHENNA, NAGLFAR etc, who use many keyboard parts and melodies are "too soft". These bands simply rule as well! Esa)

FOR WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE YOU ARE DIRECTING YOUR MUSIC? DOES IT BOTHER YOU WHEN YOU KNOW THAT NO MATTER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT ALSO ALL KIND OF MORON KIDS ARE BUYING YOUR PRODUCTS? HOW MUCH YOU CARE WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK ABOUT YOUR ATTITUDE AND MUSIC?

Ustumallagarn: I would like to sell our stuff only for people who would understand such music, but this seems to be impossible to do. A shame. I know that when our M-CD is out, a lot of stupid kids will buy it too and this is very irritating, but what can I do. At least I hope that the stupid ones who buy it won't like it. Maybe it's not enough Norwegian for their taste. I don't care at all what other people think about us. It seems like many bands in people in Denmark don't like us at all, but that's fine by me. Denmark is a fucked up country anyway. Most people prefer to talk behind your back instead of telling it in your face.

HOW DOES PEOPLE THERE IN DENMARK ACT AGAINST THIS KIND OF CRUEL MUSIC AND IT'S CREATORS, HAVE YOU FACED ANY PROBLEMS WITH LOCAL YOUTH (WHO ARE MOSTLY BRAINLESS MORONS ATLEAST HERE IN FINLAND)? WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE OTHER PEOPLE THINK ABOUT YOU AND OTHER MEMBERS OF DENIAL OF GOD?

Ustumallagarn: Nobody here have really acted against us. All the people who I talk to here like this kind of music or else I wouldn't feel right together with them. Some people try to start a fight sometimes because of our long hair and that's fine by us, cause mostly we are a little group walking around so that's not a problem really. Of course the situation would be the same if I walked around alone and somebody told me shit. I would still use violence as a defense. I would rather get beaten up than run away like a coward I think. Often when you walk down to the street people look at you with funny faces, but most of them don't say anything. And if they do, well...

The Crypt Has Eyes

"It seems a bit stupid to me when Fenriz plays in 117 bands at time. It seems that he just wants to release a lot of stuff."

IN YOUR LETTER BACK IN EARLY '93 (OR WAS IT LATE '92) YOU TOLD THAT YOU ARE NOT WORRIED ABOUT OVERGROWING NORWEGIAN SCENE AS YOUR "BROTHER EALURONYMUS WILL TAKE GOOD CARE OF IT". WELL EVERYBODY KNOWS WHAT HAPPENED. SO WHY DON'T YOU TELL YOUR VIEWS ABOUT ALL THIS HAPPENING? HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT VARG VIKERNES?

Ustumallagarn: Well, the things didn't worked out like I had expected. I believe that most, or atleast many, of the bands there formed just after reading in newspapers about all the church burnings. To me the bands in Norway are just as boring as those from other countries. The first album of BURZUM was actually rather great and also the "Aske" record was ok. But from then on

it just started to get boring. I don't think I have to tell you what I think about Curt Grishnackh and the murder. It should be clear.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT TODAY'S NORWEGIAN SCENE ANYWAY? WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT SUCH "NEWER" NORWEGIAN BANDS AS DIMMU BORGIR, GEHENNA, HADES, ULVER, VED BUENS ENDE AND ZYKLON B, WITCH ATLEAST I CONSIDER AS EXCELLENT BANDS WHO KEEP UP THE RIGHT SPIRIT...

Ustumallagarn: Maybe some of them are ok, but to be honest I don't listen many of them. I prefer the old bands mostly, with a few exceptions of course. As already said, the Norwegian scene is just as boring as any other. Also it seems a bit stupid to me when Fenriz plays in 117 bands at time. It seems that he just wants to release a lot of stuff. Why not only to play in one or two bands and make them the best? Why do everybody say that Norway is the best country for Black metal music. (Simply because together with Sweden Norway offers the greatest amount of quality-



"I would like people to fear us and remember us many years if we would split and I think people will."

bands. You can't deny that, and I also remember that you agreed with me totally in '92-'93...Ed). Maybe they have the most bands but who cares if most of them suck.

LATELY THERE HAS BEEN NAZI- IDEOLOGY MIXED WITH BLACK METAL WITH SUCH BANDS AS BLACK FUNERAL (USA), THE HELHEIM SOCIETY (NOR), NASTROND (SWE) AND OF COURSE BURZUM. WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS? HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT IMMIGRANTS ENTERING INTO OUR COLD LANDS ANYWAY?

Ustumallagarn: Nazism has nothing to do with Black metal I think. How can these people be against shitty socially aware "Death metal" bands while they play political Black metal themselves? It is stupid to me. I won't call myself a racist, despite I must admit I don't exactly love immigrants at all. Judging people because of their colour is pure stupidity. It's what's inside that counts, despite that it's mostly shit too. As long as they keep away from me I just don't care (I wish it would be that easy. We have already had some problems with nigger-scum so I'm nowadays quite sceptical when it comes to immigrants. I just can't stand that niggers are giving shit to me and my comrades in my own fucking country. Go back to the sandlands! Go back and DIE!! Or atleast keep away from me! Ed.)

AS EVERYBODY MUST KNOW THE NEW TREND VIKING METAL HAS GAINED QUITE MUCH POPULARITY AND FOLLOWERS LATELY, WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THAT? ISN'T IT DISGUSTING TO SEE A FLYER FROM ITALIAN BAND WHO ARE MARKETING THEIR MUSIC AS "BLACK VIKING METAL WITH NORWEGIAN WRITTEN LYRICS (THIS IS NOT A JOKE, THIS HAS HAPPENED)!"

Ustumallagarn: I hate that thing. I believe you have seen the flyers of Italian Ugluk, right? (Right! Ed.) It's simply the lowest you can sink. I don't even want to talk about it because I really get in a bad mood, when seeing people being so incredibly stupid. I can only laugh at such people.

I HAPPEN TO KNOW THAT YOU, USTUMALLAGARN ARE VERY FANATIC AND WANT TO KEEP THE BLACK METAL- UNDERGROUND FOR TRUE BANDS AND FANS... BUT THE FACT IS THAT THE OLD METAL HEROES SUCH AS VENOM, BATHORY AND POSSESSED HAVE OPENLY ADMITTED THAT ALL

BREAK YOUR FRIENDSHIPS TO MAKE THE BAND WORK BETTER? DO YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF AS SOMEKIND OF LEADER OF THE BAND?

Ustumallagarn: As Azter is my brother we have a special relationship. The other guys in the band mean also lot to me, but in different way. The band could exist without them, but not without me and Azter as we do all the music and lyrics. In some way we are friends because of the band and in some way not at all. We would still split up a friendship to make the band work better, because this band means so much to us. I do not consider myself as the leader of the band, although I must say that me and Azter usually decide most things, simply because of the fact that we do most of the work, etc.

AND BEFORE WE END THIS NICE LITTLE CHAT I WOULD LIKE YOU TO NAME FIVE ULTIMATE FAVE RECORDS OF YOURS WHICH YOU WOULD SAVE IN THE FIRST PLACE IF YOUR HOUSE WOULD BEEN ON FIRE (WHAT THE FUCKING QUESTION IS THIS ANYWAY?)

Ustumallagarn: Actually it is an interesting question, but very hard to answer. I guess it would be VENOM album (I don't know which to choose), MAYHEM's "De Mysteriis Dom Sathanas" LP, GEHENNA's "Hardrocker"-CD, CELTIC FROST's "Morbidity Tales" or "Emperor's Return" or "To Mega Therion", something by DEATH SS or MOTORHEAD, CARNIVORE, GG ALLIN, DESTRUCTION, MERCYFUL FATE, MISFISTS, SODOM, EXCORCIST, SLAUGHTER, HELLHAMMER or so... This question is simply too hard to answer.

THAT'S IT. WOULD YOU LIKE TO ADD SOMETHING:

Ustumallagarn: Thanx for the great interview, it cost me alot of sweat and blood and other bodyfluids. We have patches available with cost #4. They are black with silver logo. Watch out for our M-CD and forthcoming releases. The M-CD should be out when you read this as DARK TRINITY PRODUCTIONS are pressing it right now. If you see or hear something strange, something unexplainable, at night, it might be the Ghouls of DOG...

That was Ustumallagarn. If you want to contact him make sure you write to his new adress, which is as follows...

DENIAL OF GOD
Ustumallagarn
Kaerhaeven 8C,1.
DK 6400 Sonderborg
DENMARK



DARKTHRONE-
"Total Death" -CD
(MOONFOG RECORDS)

DARKTHRONE has returned with their seventh fist in the face of god (seventh if we count the so far unreleased "Goatlord"), and what can I say? Yes, DARKTHRONE haven't changed at all, they still spit on your nice melodies and keep playing their Black metal in grim, ugly, rather simple and ancient sounding way without any compromises. It seems like DARKTHRONE is totally dedicated to

this style of music and I truly appreciate it, they seem never change.

The music is once again dirty, evil, lifeless, vocals are torturous and the sound is far away from what you would call good. This is not the best DARKTHRONE album for me as nothing beats the classic "A Blaze In The Northern Sky", but tracks such as "Earth's Last Picture", "Gather For The Attack On The Pearly Gate" and "Blackwinged" (to name some) just have blown me away.

Like Fenriz has once stated: "I Laugh at all the humans which haven't felt this enormous EVIL force". I have felt it, it burns me inside and there is no turning back. "Total Death" is another classic, it doesn't please everyone for it's not a "nice" album really, but atleast for me it's perfect piece of grimness. Some music was meant to stay Dark and Obscure!

Graveland

GRAVELAND-

"Thousand Swords" - Cass. album
(ISENGARD PRODUCTIONS)

I know that with this review I am going to piss off many of you out there, but as I really don't give a flying fuck what you people out there think about me or our magnificent magazine I'm going to tell my opinion about this album anyway. So let's start...

"Thousand Swords" was originally released through LETHAL RECORDS in the form of an CD, but as GRAVELAND seem to have something against this label nowadays they encourage you not to buy this from them, and this is also the reason why they released this through their own label (ISENGARD PRODUCTIONS) in the form of an cassette.



I have never been a fan of this band and I must say their new album doesn't make any differences either. The vocals are basically great with very cold atmosphere and some of the riffs got potential, but GRAVELAND seem to be rather hopeless when it comes to composing songs. The sounds are shit, songs are sloppy (not to mention they are VERY unoriginal) and Capricornus is one of the worst fucking drummers I have ever heard. He simply don't know how to handle his drum pots- that is how it has always been. These tracks doesn't move naturally and always when there are some potential in the riffs Capricornus comes and destroys everything with his horrible playing skills. And when also the sounds are fucking crap I just can not give too much

positive comments about this. All in all this release includes seven tracks ("Blood Of The Christians On My Sword", "Thousand Swords", "The Dark Battlefield", "The Time Of Revenge", "Born For War", "Black Metal War" and "To Die In Fight") + intro and outro.

I still think that apart from magnificent BEHEMOTH and great HOLOCAUST Magazine Poland hasn't anything interesting to offer. But maybe some day the things will change... Available for \$6.

GRAVELAND
P.O. BOX 1775
50385 Wrocław 46
POLAND

Parnassus

PARNASSUS-
"In Doloriam Gloria"- CD
(SECUA DELENDA)

"It's black- It's Swedish- It's violent- It's simply your funeral! Hard energetic Swedish Black metal at it's best!" That's how the flyer describes this album and I must say I quite much agree with that description.

This one man band (created by the guy behind ALGAION, OCTINOMOS and PUISSANCE) plays it's Black metal in it's own unique style. It would be hypocrite if I would compare this release with any other Black metal band as I don't really know any other band which uses this much melodic synthesizer parts but still keeps the music utterly fast and violent. There isn't too much place for slower changes although this album offers you some of them as well. But fast and raging Black metal with really destructive feeling seem to be the name of the game here. Synthesizers seem to be dominating the atmosphere but I still couldn't imagine anyone who could say this is "too soft" (?) album for them. This album simply reeks of violence and destruction! I also have to give the special credit for vocals which are simply great- very sick and twisted! But there is one thing that I really don't like and they are the drums which are played with drum machine. Those who have read our former issues should know that (apart from MYSTICUMS "In The Streams Of Inferno"- CD) I'm not too fond

about releases which have been played with the drum machine. As I am a drummer myself I would like to hear real drums which real, powerful sound! A drum machine doesn't really give me the real feeling of METAL which I'm looking for. I know there are many people who actually doesn't care for this kind of things, but as I am a musician myself I would really like to hear REAL drums. And what comes to drum sounds in this album... They are very weak and doesn't really fit for the extreme form of Black metal PARNASSUS is playing. Bass drums and symbols are dominating the atmosphere and snare drum is basically almost NON EXISTING! I just can't get used to these fucking machines!

But apart from this "In Doloriam Gloria" is truly a great album, I can't even imagine how great it would be with real drums and little bit heavier production. Surely it's not a new jewel but quite impressive anyway. This CD goes for \$18 from the address mentioned below. There are also PARNASSUS T-shirts available for \$17. For information include IRC for a sure reply.

SECUA DELENDA
P.O. BOX 1881
58117 Linköping
SWEDEN

Thy Grief

THY GRIEF-
"A Frozen Realm"- DEMO

More promo material. THY GRIEF was formed in the Winter of '95 in Norway and "Frozen Realm" is their debut release which was recorded at HINDU LYD studios in Bergen.

What can I say about this demo itself. Well, it contains four tracks and about 20 minutes of quite typical, fast and high pitched Norwegian Black metal with melodic touch and some slower changes as well as acoustic parts. Band seems to know how to handle their instruments but I must say that the music itself doesn't give me the kick, and I guess the reason for this is that I have heard all this many times before from bands which make all this in far better way, and therefore I don't see any reason why I should listen to this one. "Frozen Realm" isn't directly bad at all but it surely isn't anything special either. Actually it's boring as hell. German SOLISTITUM Records has however shown interest towards this band and they are negotiating about possible deal. In the mean time you can order this demo for \$5.

THY GRIEF
c/o Kjetil Monsen
Kollasen 36
N- 5095 Ulset
NORWAY

EXPLORATION ONE-

VARIOUS ARTISTS CD
(BODY AND BLOOD EXPLORATION)

What the fucking shit is this? This kind of crap doesn't have anything to do with our magazine so I don't see the point why this was sent us for review. This compilation CD offers you 65 minutes/11 bands of some kind of megastupid and boring industrial shit which doesn't make any fucking sense for me. No real music, just weird noises- I just fucking hate this kind of shit. SIGILLUM S., MSBR, GENOCIDE ORGAN and INTRINSIC ACTION are some of the crap bands that are featured on this piece of crap. Even highly praised BRIGHTER DEATH NOW sounds just crap for me! I didn't receive any kind of prices and I don't really care. This sucks!

BODY AND BLOOD EXPLORATION
Praveer Bajjal
P.O. BOX 670
Station A
Toronto, Ontario
M5W 1G2 CANADA



DARKTHRONE-
"Panzerfaust"-CD
(MOONFOG)

Some of you readers out there might wonder why the hell I am reviewing such an old release as "Panzerfaust", I mean this was out before our issue #4 was out and now DARKTHRONE has another album out... Well, the reason is simple. I am not satisfied to the reviews this album has received. Some people has called this as the "failure album" of the band and simply won't tolerate that. So do not look this as a "normal" review but as my personal opinion about this very album. So, this is a failure album? Fuck off. This is different but surely not bad. DARKTHRONE has returned the old days of HELLHAMMER/ CELTIC FROST as this album is very influenced by them. I think. These tracks are raw, simple and grim and they got the special feeling I'm looking for. "En Vind Av Sorg" and "Hans Siste Vinter" present the "older" DARKTHRONE being fast while "Triumphant Glean", "The Hordes Of Nebulah", "Beholding The Throne Of Might" and "Quintessence" are more in this "CELTIC FROST- style". You all know how they sound, don't you. "Sno Og Granskog (Utkerdt)" is again different, calm synths and proud sounding vocals... Very mighty track surrounded by very depressive aura. Nocturno Culto's vocals are this time different as well. One of my pen pals told me that in this album he sounds like an bull with a hangover. I don't think so. Vocals are grim in their own way and the fit to this hellhammerish style.

So now you might think I simply swallow everything that DARKTHRONE produces. Well, fuck off again. DARKTHRONE knows how to create great music and there is nothing you can say about it. "Panzerfaust" simply KILLS! "A monument of misanthropy and wrath"? Hell yes!

Realm Of Frost

REALM OF FROST-
"On The Path To The Demon Gates"
Demo '96

I'm quite sceptic when it comes to new Finnish bands as most of them manage to sound boring and rather sloppy for me. Well, this time the result is not bad at all. Actually this was a nice surprise. This two tracker offers fast Black metal (with some slower changes and synth parts) with huge IMMORTAL influences. Everything in this demo reminds me about IMMORTAL (of course REALM OF FROST never reach the same level as IMMORTAL). The song titles "On The Path To The Demon Gates" and "Sighs Of Immortality", the cover statement "Sons of winter fire" and the way Margoath is using his corpsepainting are very influenced by IMMORTAL. REALM OF FROST offers great riffs and I'm really interested in their forthcoming material, but the vocals in this demo need a great improvement. They just doesn't sound too good. But apart from that this is actually very recommendable release. The demo goes for 10 fmk (great to see someone still keeps low prices!) but the foreign price is unknown for me.

REALM OF FROST
Margoath
Tammitie 3 C 69
23500 Uusikaupunki
FINLAND

Solistitium Records

SOL 002

ISVIND "Isvind" 7" EP

3 hymns of grim norwegian black metal with a touch of DARK THRONE feeling. Strictly limited to 1000 copies.

ISVIND

7"

SOL 003

HELHEIM "Jormundgand" CD

Almost 50 minutes of norse pagan metal played in its most extreme and unique way. Recorded in Grieghallen, produced by Pytten.



SOL 004

NATTVINDENS GRAT "A bard's tale" CD

45 minutes of fairy, atmospheric metal played with special nordic feeling. Majestic keyboard parts meet mesmerising female voices.



SOL 005

BEHEMOTH "Grom" CD/LP

Polish black metal kings are back, stronger and faster than ever. Along with Hungarian Tormentor and Czech Master's Hammer the darkest horde ever to emerge from Eastern Europe. Grim, violent Pagan Black Metal Art !

BEHEMOTH

OUT JUNE '96

SOL 006

DARKWOODS MY BETROTHED

"Autumn Roars Thunder" CD/LP

Epic and majestic hymns which will bring forth the old spirit of "Hammerheart" or "Twilight of the Gods" by BATHORY.

This is a must !

Darkwoods
my
Betrothed

OUT MAY '96

SOL 007

ISVIND "Dark Waters Stir" CD/LP

The brand new release of mighty ISVIND from Norway. Pure black metal - nordic and majestic art !

ISVIND

OUT JULY '96

Every CD costs 19\$ /postpaid everywhere/.

Send 1\$ or 2 IRC's for more information/mailorder catalogue.

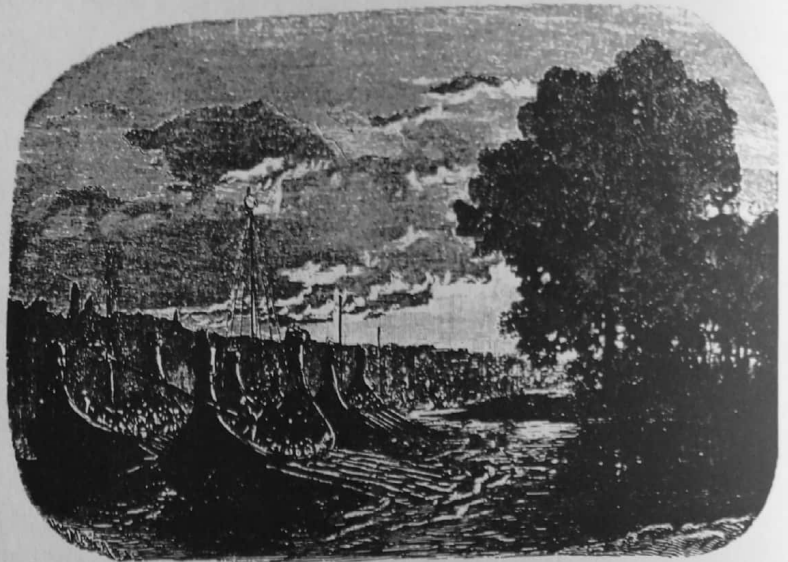
Solistitium Records

P.O. Box 1210, 26802 Moormerland, Germany

fax +49 4954 6876

The Heathen Way!

DET HEDENSKKE FOLK



DET HEDENSKKE FOLK is another Norwegian band that has born out of the scattered remains of Death metal band OLD FUNERAL, just like infamous BURZUM, IMMORTAL and HADES... Their demo had a bit too messy sound (even though it was recorded in Grieghallen) but the music was very promising, well played and I am sure their album will be very good. But as always, only time will tell. Now Tyr tells more about this upcoming album and other things...

Extreme Metal

"I think most people will be really surprised when our album is out..."

DET HEDENSKKE FOLK IS NOW SIGNED TO SOLISTITUTUM REC. (GER) AND THE FIRST ALBUM IS TO BE RELESED IN EARLY '97... WHAT CAN WE WAIT FROM THIS ALBUM, WHICH TRACKS IT WILL INCLUDE AND WILL THEY BE IN THE SAME NORDIC WAY AS BEFORE? DID YOU RECEIVED ANY OTHER OFFERS BEFORE YOU DECIDED TO GO WITH THIS GERMAN-BASED LABEL?

Tyr: This album will be alot more extreme than my demo, much tighter and more aggressive too. I am not quite sure yet but I think it will contain eight (8) brand new tracks and maybe I will re-record some of my old songs as well. We will see. However all of my new songs are much sicker than my old songs, especially the structure but still have weird melody, speed and chaos.

NO MATTER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT THE FIRST IMPRESSION I GOT AFTER LISTENING YOUR DEMO WAS THAT IT HAD STRONG INFLUENCES FROM IMMORTAL AND ESPECIALLY THEIR "PURE HOLOCAUST"- ALBUM '93- HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THIS AND HAVE YOU BEEN COMPARED WITH THE SONS OF NORTHERN DARKNESS BEFORE?

Tyr: What about your second impression (It still sounds like IMMORTAL, and not least because of the unique playing style of Abbath. Sorry! Esa). Anyway, I have heard this before from some people and to tell you the truth there will be always people around that will compare a band with some other bands around, so this doesn't bother me that much. We both use alot of chords and that sounds little bit messy, but again I must say that IMMORTAL is not the worst band to be compared either. Enough about that.

HOW MUCH YOU BELIEVE THE FACT THAT ABBATH (IMMORTAL) PLAYS DRUMS IN YOUR DEMO HELPS TO GET MORE RECORDS SOLD AND IF YOU DON'T THINK IT HELPS AT ALL WHY DID YOU DECIDED TO PRINT IT IN THE FLYER IN THE FIRST PLACE? WHAT KIND OF PERSON ABBATH WAS TO WORK WITH?

Tyr: Let me explain something for you mate. Abbath is an old friend of mine and he was also the one who took the first step. He asked me if I wanted him to help me with drums as a session member, and I said of course if you have the time to do it, and he had. That is past now. Maybe this have helped to sell more demo tapes, maybe not. We will never know that anyway. But it is Abbath who is playing drums on that demo and I didn't wanted people to think he had anything to do with the music because I am the creator of everything within DET HEDENSKKE FOLK. But the only thing that are important is that my demo is out!! And yes, Abbath is 100% into the music as a life style and he was very easy to work with and he understood what I needed too. He is really good musician.

YOU HAVE HOWEVER GOT YOURSELF A PERMANENT DRUMMER, ELTAR, SO COULD YOU TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT HIM... WHERE DID YOU FOUND THIS INDIVIDUAL, IS HE CAPABLE OF REACHING THE SAME LEVEL AS ABBATH AND HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT ADDING MORE MEMBERS WITH YOU TWO? DO YOU STILL CONSIDER YOURSELF AS A "MAIN MAN" BEHIND DET HEDENSKKE FOLK?

Tyr: He is an friend of my brother and my brother told him that I needed a permanent drummer. He used to play in a band called ILDKRIEG but he quit and joined DHF permanetly. He is one of the most promising drummers I have seen and I think he can reach the same level as Abbath, but he needs some years maybe. I think most people will be really surprised when this record is out, but we are still only two people within the band and I will always create all music as well.

BLOODLESS CREATIONS (AUS) IS ABOUT TO RELESE YOUR DEMO AS A SPLIT- CD WITH ABYSSIC HATE (AUS)- DON'T YOU THINK IT HAS BECAME MORE THAN USUAL THING TO PRINT DEMO'S AS A CD AS EVERYBODY SEEM TO DO THAT NOWADAYS? IS THERE STILL BIG DEMAND FOR THIS TAPE AND WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT IT NOWADAYS? WHY DID YOU STOPPED SPREADING IT BY YOURSELF?

Tyr: Maybe, but I don't do this just because some other bands have done it. The main reason is that I don't have the time to sell these demos, it takes too much of my time so it's really great that BLOODLESS CREATIONS have time to do it. Fuckin' great!!

The Way Of Life

"I have always created music since '88 and whole of my life is music."

DEATH METAL- BAND OLD FUNERAL WAS AN INTERESTING CASE AS IT HAS SPLITTED INTO THREE BANDS... ABBATH AND DEMONAZ FORMED IMMORTAL, VARG VIKERNES BURZUM AND YOU DET HEDENSKKE FOLK. WHAT CAN YOU REMEMBER FROM THOSE TIMES YOU USED TO PLAY TOGETHER AND WHY DID THIS GROUP SPLIT UP? HOW HAVE YOU CHANGED AS A PERSON DURING THESE YEARS?

Tyr: Actually four bands, HADES too (Really? Esa). Well, it was great to play in OLD FUNERAL but this was never a 100% band, more like fun band and that band will forever stand as mark as one of the first bands from Norway with extreme music. And that is great. But this band was never with full line-up, someone quit and someone joined, etc. No, I can't say I have changed as a person but I've other opinions about several things and I'm more grown as a person and as a musician too.

IT'S NOT THAT EASY TO SUCCESS IN TODAY'S S MUSIC FIELD AS IT WAS BEFORE SIMPLY BECAUSE THERE IS WAY TOO MUCH BANDS AND METAL- AUDIENCE DOESN'T ACCEPT ALL KIND OF SHIT- THEY WANT QUALITY FOR THEIR MONEY. WHAT ARE YOUR WEAPONS TO SURVIVE IN THIS SCENE WHICH IS FULL FILLED WITH BANDS AND

HOW MUCH YOU PAY ATTENTION TO PROMOTE YOUR CREATION?

Tyr: What is quality and who shall decide wether a band is of quality or not there will always be different opinions about this subject, but one thing is for sure: only the strongest will survive and I hope we are one of them. We have some really strong songs so I think this album will be one of the better albums. But as always only the time will tell.

WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS WITH DET HEDENSKKE FOLK, HOW IMPORTANT PART OF YOUR LIFE IT IS AND IS THERE SOMETHING THAT GOES BEFORE IT? DO YOU HAVE ANY SPECIAL MESSAGE WITHIN YOUR MUSIC AND LYRICS? COULD YOU IMAGINE A LIFE WITHOUT YOUR INSTRUMENTS OR MUSIC IN GENERAL? WHAT DO YOU DO BESIDE DET HEDENSKKE FOLK?

Tyr: My band is always number one, THE WAY OF LIFE. I have always created music since '88 and whole of my life is music. I have listened to all kinds of Metal since KISS in '78 and then MAIDEN, etc... So I guess you can say that I had everything very clear inside my head what direction I should choose, so I came up with DET HEDENSKKE FOLK. I have always been very bound up with the Norse heritage, our pure roots, so my music will always be very extreme and always about heathendom. I can not imagine life without music. Music has always been everything for me, but I can't live on the music so I am working with meat on a butchery.

WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE SONG WRITING PROCESS OF YOURS, IS IT EASY TO COME UP WITH NEW TRACK? IN WHICH THINGS YOUR MUSIC STANDS FOR AND HOW WOULD YOU PICTURE IT FOR THOSE WHO HAVEN'T EXPERIENCED IT YET? DOES THE NEW MEMBER, ELTAR PARTICIPATE IN MAKING NEW SONGS?

Tyr: I will always create everything with DHF and I will always choose what direction we will take as well. But this is also slowing me down a little bit, no doubt about that. But usually when I come up with something I record it on tape, that is the best thing for me to do it. Then I can start to think about new chords and let my mind throw totally free. Anyway, Eltar will maybe do something on the lyrical part, we'll see.

COLD FACT IS THAT THERE ARE SOME LABELS AROUND WHO WANT TO RELEASE STUFF ONLY WITH NORWEGIAN BANDS- NO



MATTER HOW SHIT THEIR MUSIC IS- AND THERE IS ALSO LOT OF KIDS WHO DO NOT BUY MUSIC IF IT'S NOT FROM YOUR COUNTRY. WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS AND DO YOU THINK IT HAS BEEN BIG ADVANTAGE FOR YOU TO EMERGE FROM NORWAY?

Tyr: This is the old typical question I get every time. Well, the fact is that many people are jealous and no matter how hard you disagree about this so are the best bands hailing from our country, no doubt about that. (Not all the best. Do not forget BATHORY (swe), DISSECTION (swe) or MONUMENTUM (ita) These creations slay totally 90% of the Norwegian bands and actually BATHORY destroys everything from Norway. I also have a strong respect for SAMAEI, their early albums are classics! But of course your scene is VERY strong. I'm just tired of people who think "only Norway rules!". Totally narrowminded thing to claim. Esa). The problem is that there are too many trendy records labels who just follow all the others and that is not our problem. If I had been from other country and in a band I would start to work 100 times harder and concentrate more about the music instead of wasting my time on shit like that. Good music will always get record deal (Yes, but also shit bands get signed far too often. Esa), no matter if you are from Norway, Sweden or Germany, etc. That is my point of view. Go home and start to rehearse.

DET HEDENSK FOLK MEANS "THE HEATHEN FOLK" IN ENGLISH, SO NOW I'M FORCED TO ASK WHAT THIS HAVE TO DO WITH YOUR MUSIC, LYRICS AND YOUR VIEWS? DO YOU HAVE ANY OPINION ABOUT PESTILENCE CALLED CHRISTIANITY AND IS THERE ANY POSSIBILITY THAT SOME DAY THIS STUPID MANKIND FINALLY CAN GET RID OF IT?

Tyr: "DET HEDENSK FOLK" is a hymn to all the great warriors who have lived before us about our heritage our roots, all those who have fought for this country with their lives, for freedom and for our breed. The heathen way of life. Do not fear, the heathens will prevail and the christians will drown. This is just a matter of time because they are choking themselves to the certain death, they don't know their own path fools!!!

World Of Garbage

"Everything that stands in my way
I destroy..."

THERE HAS BEEN SOME EXTREME ATTACKS AGAINST CHURCH AND CHRISTIANITY THERE IN NORWAY, BUT UNFORTUNATELY THIS HAS CALMED DOWN AFTER SOME PEOPLE GOT JAILED... DO YOU SUPPORT THIS KIND OF ACTIVITY OR HAVE YOU EVEN TAKEN PART OF IT? SHALL WE SEE MORE HOLY HOUSES IN FIRE OR HAS THIS WAR, WHICH WAS TOLD TO LAST FOREVER, FINALLY END? IS THE WAR REALLY OVER?

Tyr: Yes, this is true. However there is still some churches that have burned down to the ground after them. Anyway, I support all activity against church but I don't think this helps, I mean burning churches, we all have to take a stand so all true norsemen resign from the churches and burn their birth certificate. Maybe that's the way for us to go, but one thing is for sure; their religion will not last out next century. The war will never end.

NORWAY IS CONSIDERED TO BE QUIET AND RATHER SAFE PLACE TO LIVE, BUT IT SEEM TO BE VERY EXTREME WHEN IT COMES TO MUSIC AND ACTIONS WHICH FOLLOWED IT, DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHY ALL THIS HAS TAKEN PLACE IN YOUR COUNTRY AND NOT

SOMEWHERE ELSE? ARE YOU PROUD TO BE NORWEGIAN? COULD YOU IMAGINE LIVING SOMEWHERE ELSE?

Tyr: No, it could have happened somewhere else, but it didn't. I am of course very proud to be Norwegian but this has nothing to do with this activity and actions through the last couple of years. I don't need anyone to tell me what to do or not. I have always been into this music and the heathen way of life, and I'm also very glad that I have my roots in here and that I have born in Norway.

OLD FASHIONED DIRTY BLACKTHRASH IS DOING A RETURN IN CURRENT METAL-SCENE, BANDS LIKE BEWITCHED (SWE), DODHEIMSGARD (NOR) AND AURA NOIR (NOR) ARE PERFECT EXAMPLES FOR THIS. DO YOU FIND THIS GOOD OR BAD THING? IS DET HEDENSK FOLK INFLUENCED BY SOME OLD GODS AND WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THESE DEVASTATING ACTS I MENTIONED?

Tyr: I don't give a fuck what other people are doing. If they have good music that's ok, if they don't it's ok too... I am more into the old style of metal like IRON MAIDEN, KISS, POSSESSED, BULDOZER and even music like SCHULZE, TANGERINE, etc. However I can't say that DHF are influenced my some or any particular bands, but I should mention one which is fuckin' brilliant. Have you heard about VONOD from Canada (Yes- Esa), they are really something else. By the way, I haven't heard any of these bands you mentioned, are they worth checking out (I don't really know do YOU like them, but I like them very much. They have that certain grim, nostalgic feeling within their music which I appreciate. Esa).

SOME YEARS AGO IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE FOR A BAND TO DO A VIDEO AND STILL BE ACCEPTED AND EVEN RESPECTED, BUT TODAY IT SEEMS TO BE VERY EASY, BANDS LIKE IMMORTAL, BURZUM, IMPALED NAZARENE, SATYRICON AND SAMAEI HAVE PROVEN THIS. ALSO MORTIIS (NOT REALLY METAL). IS IT POSSIBLE THAT YOU COULD DO A VIDEO AS WELL AND WHAT KIND IT WOULD BE LIKE? DO YOU BELIEVE THE SO CALLED UNDERGROUND STILL EXISTS? IS RIGHT TO SHOW BLACK METAL IN MTV?

Tyr: No, we will never do a video tape (That's what everybody yells until they get the chance to do one. I hope you will keep your word. Esa). But I understand those who have done this because it gives you more promotion and it reaches much more people too. But this have nothing to do with underground, it's just as commercial as MADONNA, etc. However if you want to live on the music today then you must follow the commercial lines, but I don't take more than one step at the time for me is the music sacred. I continue to create music and bring forth the heathen folks terror. Music is life!!!

WHAT IS YOUR LIFE- PHILOSOPHY, HOW DO YOU LOOK UPON THIS WORLD AND DOES OUR LIFE ON THIS PLANET HAVE ANY KIND OF MEANING? WHAT KIND THIS WORLD WOULD BE LIKE IF YOU WOULD BE THE ONE TO RULE IT?

Tyr: I live my own rules, no one have to tell me what I should do. Everything that stands in my way I destroy, I live for my own pleasure and I want to live through all things I really want to do. I don't waste my time on thinking about the meaning of this life. Life is too fuckin' short for that! I

live for total satisfaction. When I die I die! Who want to rule this world of GARBAGE??

MANY OF THE NEW BANDS SEEM TO MIX PAGANISM, VIKINGS AND BLACK METAL TOGETHER WHICH IS WEIRD AS I DON'T REALLY SEE NOTHING IN COMMON WITH THEM. MY VISION OF BLACK METAL IS VERY CLEAR, THOUGH I DON'T WANT TO DISCUSS ABOUT IT RIGHT NOW. BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU, TYR...

Tyr: Many bands like to call themselves Black metal or Viking metal, etc, but as you mentioned Black metal is about Satanism and all those who don't have lyrics about Satan and that shit are not Black metal. Pretty obvious, don't you think (Absolutely- Esa)? However, it's even more silly to mix these things but again why bother to call themselves Black metal when their words are like dust! I am of course very interested about everything about my forefathers, I am proud of my heritage and my roots and I am proud for what I stand for!

THANKS FOR YOUR TIME, TYR. ANY MESSAGE FOR OUR FILTHY READERS?

Tyr: Live like men, get rid of the plague called christendom, we don't need that crap! EXORDIUM TO DESTRUCTION.

DET HEDENSK FOLK

Tyr c/o Jim Larsen
Elvenesveien 62
5050 Nesttun
NORWAY

impaled
nazarene

IMPALED NAZARENE-
"Latex Cult" CD '96
(OSMOSE PRODUCTIONS)

Finland's most hated and probably the oldest still existing band (which started as Black metal) has returned with their fourth full length album. I have been into this band since the day I got their first official demo years ago and I must say their new material still hits me like a jackhammer in the brains. No synths, no acoustic guitars, no female vocals, just pure devastating Metal without any fuckin' compromises. Music is the same old IMPALED NAZARENE- sadistic, destructive and blasphemous and this time there is more influences from old Metal- heroes such as MOTORHEAD as well. "Latex Cult" contains also some not so interesting material but such tracks as "1999- Karmageddon Warriors", "Motorpenis", "Violence I Crave", "Masterbator" or "Delirium Tremens" (to name some) have that certain charm only IMPALED NAZARENE is capable of doing. Lyrics seem to deal with bizarre sex and misanthropy which of course fit perfectly with the skull crushing aggression this band represents. I wouldn't say this album is masterpiece or classic in any way, but it's very good and it shows that IMPALED NAZARENE hasn't wimped out which is always great to notice. Should be available from every decent record stores.



IMPALED NAZARENE in Club Lepakko, FINLAND 1996

Then some gig reports (not from Saarijärvi, ha ha). All these were some time ago, but as we are not newspaper but a brutal metal magazine, we don't care a bit. And the bands will look the same on stage after a year or two you know... So we tell you

What can you expect from a band like...

DARK FUNERAL

They played in Club Lepakko, Helsinki, FINLAND 5.1. 1996 with LUCIFERION (swe) and TENEBRAE (fin).

What can we say, we smartly skipped the warming groups and spent the time in the bar but when DARK FUNERAL started to play, we had to go watch.

Wonderful gig we tell you, DARK FUNERAL has so much energy in their music that even it alone is enough to make watching worthwhile. And when they don't stand still but move around and try to make audience to produce some metal mayhem it really feels like you are back in the old days when bands were not so "misanthropic" and gigs were full of violence.

However, when the gig place has not any age limits, there's always some stupid fucks who pay the ticket price for some odd reason, and when they see the band they start to fuck with them. To them we say Fuck-off-and-Die! DARK FUNERAL played very entertaining gig with a lot of material that was then all new to us because their LP wasn't out yet. This goes for tracks like: "When Angels Forever Die", "Satan's Mayhem" & "The Dawn No More Rises".

And of course the BATHORY cover ("Call From The Grave") that ended the show was wonderful. Perhaps they were on stage too short time, but who has temper to listen idiots screaming: "you are not VENOM, go away".

We say, when you hear that DARK FUNERAL is coming, buy a ticket, something to drink and have satisfying time! And if you are really lucky (quick), you might just get a pig's head or two to bring home.

won't forget it. At least the well-aimed punches from Mr. Luttinen to some idiot's face and from one metalhead to Mr. Luttinen's face were highlights one won't forget!

Anyway, they are a band you can always watch again and again, and when you hear songs like "The Horny And The Horned", "Soul Rape", "Ghettoblaster" and the ultimate Tom Jones-cover "Ghostriders" live you just think that you have died and went to hell.

And when all else fails, they write a song "I Am The Killer Of Trolls", oh how we loved that because we hate trolls, dwarfs, elves, hobbits, orcs (yrchs), and shitbeings like that mixed in Black metal. DIE!

Excellent live band, one of the bests.

By the way Mr M.L., if you really have a problem with Esa's opinions, and you invite us in backstage to clear things, don't tell the security guys to stand in our way then, perkele...

ROTTING CHRIST

Since we haven't been ROTTING CHRIST fans after their first LP we really couldn't get much out from their show in Lepakko, Helsinki with MOONSPELL and SAMAEL.

They didn't do music live for the first time that's for sure, but as I said, when you don't recognize the songs it gets easily boring. They played one song from the great promotape back in '92 ("Ade's Winds") but other songs were quite gothic metal.

SAMAEL

Yes, "In SAMAEL we trust" said the guy from TIAMAT few years ago. Well, Xytraguptor (nowadays I've heard the short version "Xy" many times) did almost all drums with machines so no mistakes here! At least he had a bass drum and a few cymbals that he hit sometimes.

However, they moved enough and managed to create a good atmosphere in a strange way with a lot of smoke and colours around them.

In their act it didn't bother so much that we hadn't heard the new material a lot, it was nice to watch and especially encore, "Baphomet's Throne", tasted good.

Generally a band worthwhile to watch, not just because they are in a ways a "cult".

MY DYING BRIDE

They played in Club Tavastia with CATHEDRAL.

Now I must say that when I read reviews of that gig from Finnish rockmagazines, I just wonder what do they have against that band playing live. "Guys were like statues" and "When they started to play, everyone went to have something to drink" are typical comments to hear. And the same time they adore some shitty CATHEDRAL.

I say: Fuck off! CATHEDRAL started their show with a scream "Is there any hockey fans out there?" and that's when I left! In the bar there are TV's where you can watch the show, so I watched and didn't like at all Curse this band. But, MY DYING BRIDE, oh yes. What a delightful show they did. They didn't move fast or mosh, but when music is that slow, you have to be idiot if you wait to see that. (Greetings to N. Osterman). The violin was in perfect harmony with guitars and those together in great balance with drums, so the sounds were absolutely perfect.

And when they played at least four songs from the marvellous LP "The Angel And The Dark River" it was like too good to be true. When "The Cry Of Mankind" (my personal favourite) started to play, I was in somekind of hypnotic mood and I couldn't turn my head away from the stage or even blink, goddammit!

If they come to gig near you, I suggest you go there of suffer.

METALLICA

You wonder this? Well I let you do that, when it comes tho the great bands, this is the greatest.

They were in Ice Hall of Helsinki 18.19.11. '96. When they played in Oulunkyla Sports field back in '93, the show was great. And now when the concert was inside a building, they faced some challenge with organizing the stage show.

And original it was, METALLICA brings new ways to stage shows. Stage was wide and in the middle of the hall, there were two drum sets and both of them turned 180 degrees over so nobody missed Mr. Ulrich (who by the way got married in the early '97).

They played about two and a half hours and I would have watched that at least three hours more. It was simply so fucking ultimate show. With classics like "One", "Whiplash", "For Whom The Bell Tolls", "Fade To Black", the great new songs like "Bleeding Me", "Until It Sleeps" and finally the MOTORHEAD cover "Overkill" this was indeed very hard-to-beat metal event.

And the stage show. Chaos! Yes, after hour and a half there started to be "problems", some stuff

was broken, the pyro-effect machines almost started a fire but that was nothing. Suddenly one camera-man fell from the roof and was left to hang from his foot in some rope, well they saved him but then the whole system broke down. One man got himself in fire and Hetfield took cover in stage, at that point I had no idea it was all a show and I have to say I was a little disappointed when I realized that, but... It was impressive. Giants of metal and great stage show. No better way to spend an evening.

THIS EMPTY FLOW

This band played in Restaurant Kaisaniemi, Helsinki, Finland 31.1.1997.

Well, they're not very known yet, but they made a CD some time ago and THIS EMPTY FLOW is actually what is left of old Doom band THERGOTHON.

Finnish people might know the band better.

Allright, the "warming up band" was DEAD. AND GONE and hell, what a stupid punk shit. Oh, so very stupid. We never want to see them again.

Well, we didn't pay too much attention at them really because we were too busy drinking, and due to the fact that we had bought a great bottle of FINLANDIA VODKA (Hail) and drank quite much of it besides the beer we really didn't get much of THIS EMPTY FLOW either.

What we got, was the irritating appearance of the band, they looked like a bunch of punks... that's not good. Music was "sad melancholic synth-based shit" with quite good singer and it worked on a stage fine enough to just keep our interest on. They use very much flanging guitar riffs and echoes so that would give a change to create hypnotic mood, but hey, what do we need this kind of shit for when we've got MONUMENTUM and MY DYING BRIDE?

It seems that THIS EMPTY FLOW is directed more for the punks or should we say "those strange CHRISTIAN DEATH- stylish people" at least that's the kind of picture we got.

Although Restaurant Kaisaniemi is a fine gig place (with sick beer price!), the audience... Oh no.

When friend of us went to the toilet, there were couple of faggots wondering if they had too much mascara and lipstick on, that kind of stuff can really make you feel far away from home.

To put it all in one sentence, THIS EMPTY FLOW is a band you can watch once with interest. After that, you've lost it.

SENTENCED

SENTENCED played in Lepakko in Autumn 1995.

This was one of the last times they still performed with their headman, Taneli Jarva.

It's strange that SENTENCED has had one epoch in their music that is good, and that's the one when Jarva was in (especially "Love & Death" MCD is great). Before and after they have sounded stupid to us.

Well, as always we were very drunk and we missed all the warming-up bands but SENTENCED played aggressive and professional metal on stage. Very energetic and entertaining with the totally fitting vocals of Jarva.

However, SENTENCED is going to play in Club Tavastia soon after this is written, and we have no plans whatsoever of going to watch them!



IMPALED NAZARENE

It's obvious that if DARK FUNERAL has much energy in their music, IMPALED NAZARENE has a nuclear bomb in your stupid face!

IMPALED NAZARENE played in Finland four times while we were making this issue and we were watching them three times. First gig in Club Tavastia, Helsinki was of course the best because it was definitely the most violent one and completely free of children! I won't go to the details of that concert, but anyone who was there

MOONSPELL

MOONSPELL was unfortunately the band we had to miss, because it was the most lousy one of these (we hadn't heard "Irreligious" yet), and we had to drink beer of course, but we heard them well in the bar. They were nothing special except for the quite big influences from TYPE O NEGATIVE (everyone who has heard "Opium" must agree).

Baron Drakkheim Abaddon

Plague, Blood And Astral Energies...

Next we have here an interview with Baron Drakkheim Abaddon who tells us about the upcoming second album of BLACK FUNERAL, his main focus VALEFOR, DARKNESS ENSHROUD and other projects...



DIN YOUR LETTER YOU INFORMED THAT BLACK FUNERAL WILL SOON RELEASE ONE FINAL ALBUM, "EMPIRE OF BLOOD", SO DOES THIS MEAN YOU ARE GOING

TO QUIT BLACK FUNERAL OR WHAT DID YOU MEANT BY THAT? WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THIS UPCOMING ALBUM IN GENERAL AND HOW WOULD YOU COMPARE IT WITH YOUR DEBUT FULL LENGTH PRODUCTION?

Baron Drakkheim Abaddon: BLACK FUNERAL is releasing "Empire Of Blood" soon, however there were several reasons for stating that in past correspondence. During that period of time I was growing quite sick of Black metal as I have done it for about eight years, I felt it was not challenging or interesting really any longer. Since then I have found a new way of working with BLACK FUNERAL so it is not bad anymore. We will most likely do two more albums, however VALEFOR is my main focus. The new album is by far more colder, macabre and more diverse than the debut as well.

WHO WILL BE THE ONE TO RELEASE "EMPIRE OF BLOOD"? ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH THE WORK FULL MOON PRODUCTIONS (USA) HAS DONE WITH YOUR DEBUT ALBUM "VAMPYR- THRONE OF THE BEAST" AND DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MUCH IT HAS SOLD SO FAR? HAVE YOU BEEN DOING ANY FURTHER BUSINESS WITH PAGAN RECORDS (POL) AFTER THEY UNLEASHED "SPELLS OF DARKNESS AND DEATH" CASS. EP OF YOURS?

Baron Drakkheim Abaddon: FULL MOON PRODUCTIONS will release "Empire Of Blood", their work is mediocre, however slowly they are improving. The album has sold over 3000 copies and by now probably more. We have not worked with PAGAN RECORDS for several years, I was not aware they even released "Spells Of Darkness And Death", if anyone has a copy please send me one, I will send a CD to the one who does so (either VALEFOR, DARKNESS ENSHROUD or BLACK FUNERAL).

YOU HAVE NOW DIFFERENT LINE UP IN BLACK FUNERAL- COULD YOU INFORM US WHAT WAS THE REASON FOR TWO OLD MEMBERS DEPARTING THEIR WAYS WITH YOU AND WOULD YOU ALSO LIKE TO INTRODUCE US THE NEW MUSICIANS? IS IT HARD TO FIND SUITABLE MEMBERS FROM YOUR AREA?

Baron Drakkheim Abaddon: The new member is Abberoth, who plays guitar. Abberoth used to play in FUNERAL MIST and they released one demo. He now works with BLACK FUNERAL full time. I write all lyrics and play keyboards, Abberoth plays guitar and programs the drums, Blood Moon plays synthesizers, he is a member of the vampiric ritualistic group known as AKKHARU, he is also my artist who does our logo's and artwork.

"UNVEILED GHOSTLY SHADOWS", THE LONG AWAITED SECOND ALBUM OF DARKNESS ENSHROUD IS ALREADY RECORDED BUT AS

IT'S NOT OUT YET I HAVEN'T GOT CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE IT... YOU HOWEVER PROMISED "A NEW SOUND AND DIRECTION"- TELL US MORE ABOUT THIS! HOW WOULD YOU PICTURE THE NEW ALBUM AND WILL THE CONCEPT BE THE SAME AS BEFORE?

Baron Drakkheim Abaddon: "Unveiled Ghostly Shadows" is a collection of actual ritualistic recordings made in the winter of 1995-1996 era horrificus. We used some real bones and created tones that are associated with certain energies and necromantic spirits, we have also began doing darkwave music as well with D.E. for a long time I think, as it has NOTHING to do with the "Darkness Enshroud. Ancient Kingdoms" period. The concept is totally different as well. This due to experience and vision.

IT SEEMS THAT MOST OF THE PEOPLE HAVE PROBLEMS WITH LISTENING AND UNDERSTANDING THE SOUNDS OF DARKNESS ENSHROUD- HAVE YOU NOTICED THE SAME? HOW MUCH YOU CARE FOR WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK ABOUT YOUR CREATIONS? WHAT KIND OF RESPONSE YOU HAVE RECEIVED ABOUT "ANCIENT KINGDOMS", THE DEBUT FULL LENGTH OF DARKNESS ENSHROUD...

Baron Drakkheim Abaddon: I honestly do not like speaking of "Ancient Kingdoms" as it is very

embarrassing for me now. Total shit and once one hears the new DARKNESS ENSHROUD you will understand why we have absolutely NO connection to the new direction.



YOU ARE CURRENTLY INVOLVED WITH NEW PROJECT, VALEFOR AND THE FIRST ALBUM "DEATH MAGICK" IS OUT AND AVAILABLE... AGAIN THE MUSIC IS SOMETHING VERY DIFFERENT AND BIZARRE... WOULD YOU LIKE TO TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT THIS ALBUM AND THE CONCEPT BEHIND IT? WAS THERE ANY SPECIAL REASON FOR STARTING A PROJECT LIKE THIS?

Baron Drakkheim Abaddon: VALEFOR is our main focus and project. Our music may be described as Vampiric dark-death industrial, very ritualistic and sinister in many varied aspects. I have always loved dark music in it's many forms and especially industrial so we found a place and time for VALEFOR. It is our continuing goal to implement ritual/ occult ideals and sciences into industrial and whatever else we can create sinister and dark beautiful music with.

"Death Magick" is very cold, lifeless (Yes, *lifeless* is perfect description of the feelings it creates in

me! Esa) and haunting, everything it was meant to be, maybe boring to shallow humans, but for those with an occult understanding, very good. We have recorded the new album which will be released in the summer sometime. "Vracolaci Rises" is to be the title and nothing more can be said currently.

WERE THERE ANY OTHER RECORD COMPANIES (APART FROM INDUSTRIAL LABEL COLD MEAT) INTERESTED IN RELEASING MATERIAL LIKE "DEATH MAGICK" WHICH IS VERY DIFFERENT FROM MOST OF THE ALBUMS RELEASED LATELY?.. DO YOU THINK THIS KIND OF EXPERIMENTAL STUFF COULD BE THE WAY OF THE FUTURE?

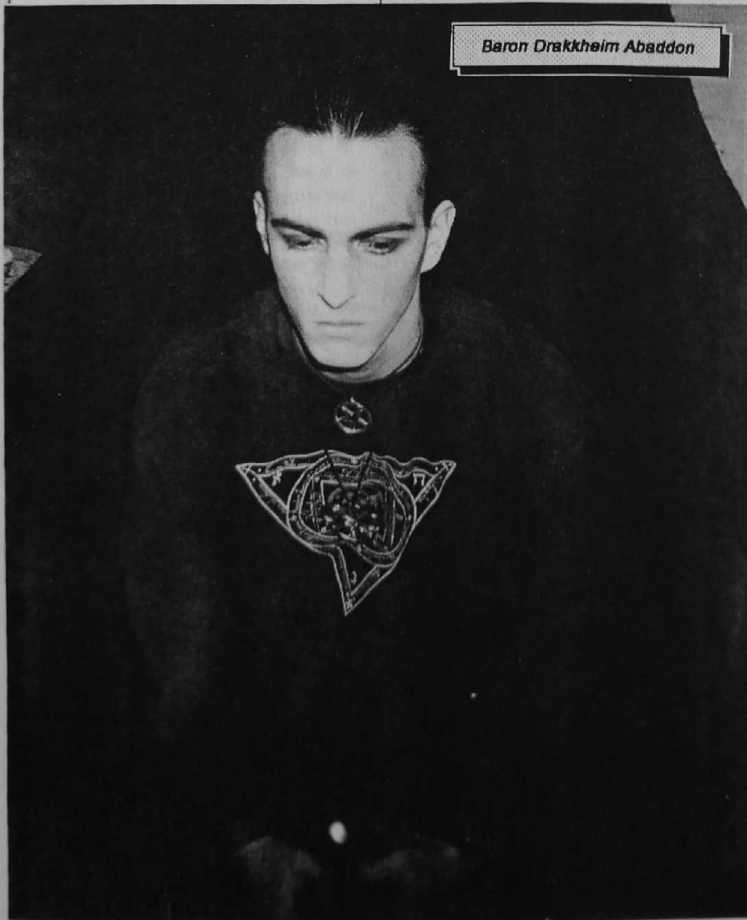
Baron Drakkheim Abaddon: I am not sure really because I am mainly interested and satisfied with working with CMI as they are quite great in our opinion. I am not too sure if experimental music can be the future as it takes a different kind of person to appreciate it in some. Time will tell.

LIKE ALL THIS WOULDN'T BE ENOUGH YOU ARE ALSO WORKING WITH TOTENTANZ, SORATH, WINTERMOON AND NOT TO MENTION SEVERAL OCCULT PUBLICATIONS- PLEASE GIVE US FEW WORDS ABOUT ALL THESE? HOW DO YOU FIND ENOUGH TIME AND INSPIRATION TO DO ALL THIS? HAS SOME OF THESE PROJECTS BECAME THE MOST PRECIOUS ONE FOR YOU?

Baron Drakkheim Abaddon: I am NO longer working with SORATH or WINTERMOON. I play only in BLACK FUNERAL concerning Black metal, so the ones I'm involved with are VALEFOR, BLACK FUNERAL, DARKNESS ENSHROUD and TOTENTANZ. We have a local coven and work with the ORDER OF NINE ANGELS as well. I enjoy my life's work- the path of knowledge and the cycle of hardship, joy, struggle, strife and will to power. There is joy and strength! I work with VALEFOR the most but I do enjoy the others as well. Each is part of me.

I HAPPEN TO KNOW YOU ARE MARRIED SO I'M FORCED TO ASK IS DARKAT SL LEJEUNE, THE MYSTERIOUS WOMAN BEHIND VALEFOR AND DARKNESS ENSHROUD, YOUR WIFE? DOES THIS ALSO MEAN YOU BELIEVE IN LOVE IN SOME EXTENT?

Baron Drakkheim Abaddon: I am not married (Ooops, false rumours again! Esa), however my closest friend, comrade and lover is SL Lejeune, "Darkat". She is very excellent musician and an accomplished witch. I do believe in love to an extent but only for a select few, a natural emotion and I have no shame in that. There is a balance within the self that must be kept, or you will destroy the self. I love myself and find joy in the shadows. I am in some ways a "perfect" misanthrope, I love murder and war, violence and death in general. I also love the shadows, graveyards and living in general life of hermetic magickian, this is the path for me obviously. Of course I have no love for 98% of humanity but if I hated everything I wouldn't care about my music,



Baron Drakkheim Abaddon

my life and thus not care of myself, I would be weak just as most are mentally. I have love and joy for myself that is Satanic in itself: PRIDE and WILL. To reach 77 is highest order, the deserts winds howl on...

YOU STATED THAT IF THERE WOULD BE WAR BETWEEN USA AND GERMANY YOU WOULD RATHER SUPPORT GERMANY... HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT MOVING BACK TO GERMANY THEN?

Baron Drakkheim Abaddon: No, what I meant was: if I was in the state of being and mind in which I was in 1994-1995, then I would support Germany if it was led by an occult fascist government.

"VAMPIRES LOOK UPON THEIR OWN PERSONAL BEING, ESSENCE AND SPIRIT AS GOD ITSELF, ALL OTHER FORMS ARE LOWER, WITH EXCEPTION OF ALLIES, COMRADES AND THE LIKE" (THE BLACK ORDER OF THE DRAGON)- SO, IS THERE ANY BANDS/ ARTISTS IN THE SCENE YOU WOULD CALL YOUR TRUE COMRADES AND WHO YOU ARE READY TO PROTECT WITH YOUR LIFE? DO YOU HAVE ANY CONTACT WITH YOUR REAL FAMILY?

Baron Drakkheim Abaddon: I have some close friends and comrades, however there are not any I would give my life for. My being is equal to 77, therefor the most precious. I don't understand how a "satanist" could give his life to protect another "satanist", does that mean the individual is giving his/ her life is not as important than the other individual who will benefit from his/ her so-called comrades life? If this concept is analyzed to the finest point it is obvious this is a

bit connected to the nazarene sickness of spirit. I would protect my can, as they would me, as well as my friends and comrades, however I would not surrender my casual life form. I do not fear the fact of NR. however I will live to the fullest able. We are Wamphyri after all! I do not speak to 98% of my birth family, no do I need or wish to.



T LEAST THE VALEFOR-ALBUM WAS RECORDED IN "DUNGEONS OF CACTICE" WHICH IS A STUDIO RUNNED BY YOU... DO YOU RECORD MUSIC FOR YOURSELF

ONLY OR ARE SOME OTHER BANDS/ ARTISTS ALLOWED TO RENT THAT VERY SAME PLACE AS WELL? DO YOU HAVE GOOD EQUIPMENT THERE?

Baron Drakkheim Abaddon: Well, after the recording of "Death Magick" we updated Dungeons Of Cactice with brand new equipment such as an 8 track 96" model, two synthesizers with MIDI capabilities, as a controlled keyboard, a drum machine, several MIDI programs into an ORBIT modular and software to create dark techno/ industrial and a DAT recorder. We also own some effect units as well as reverb, delay and more. NOW, all material recorded at Dungeons Of Cactice has a great sound and production, as you will see from each recording now. I am not sure if I will lend the studio for recording other bands, as it is mainly our private studio, the artist must be special. When recording, we use various incense depending on what mood and style of the music, use tones that are in numeral equal to certain archetypes and

energies, which can be labeled cosmic forces whic can affect the listener in some cases, drain astral energy into aa prescribed nexion: Clan Nachtoter.

IN OUR PREVIOUS ISSUE YOU MENTIONED THAT NAZI- OCCULTISM IS IMPORTANT PART OF YOU AS WELL, SO DOES THIS ALSO MEAN YOU AGREE WITH MANY IDEAS OF HITLER? DO YOU HAVE ANY VISION ABOUT HOW WOULD THIS WORLD BE LIKE IF NAZIS HAD WON THE SECOND WORLD WAR?

Baron Drakkheim Abaddon: I have in the past year and a half or more left that path, due to experience and finding it to be basically a dead path. The runes are of course still quite interesting for me though.

Some of the ideas of Hitler were quite strong and intelligent, I do respect him and I do consider my self occult fascist in all ways, however not a nazi. A nazi was someone actually fought in world war two so I would not qualify.

THANKS FOR YOUR TIME, BARON VON ABADDON! IS THERE SOMETHING WORTH OF IMPORTANCE YOU WOULD LIKE TO WRITE DOWN BEFORE WE CLOSE THE GATE? MERCHANDICE?

Baron Drakkheim Abaddon: The scene is now dead- there is no scene, demo's come out on CD now (which is fuckin' horrible), too many Metal- heads (in my early days individuals were developing occultists who like such music, now they just care about Metal), no one writes and trades demos anymore (I do! Esa), ' zines MUST be glossy or they wont sell (during the early 90' ies it didn't matter as long as there was quality) there is nothing more than quantity now. For every band that is good there are seven that are pure crap. This is why I hardly answer letters with most. You can write us letters, but atleast do something interesting for the scene.

BLACK FUNERAL' s "Empire Of Blood" will show strength and will, my dictatorship! Quality Black metal music with intellegent and well-written lyrics, await this album. Buy it and understand what Grim Medieval Wamphyric Black metal is! Await and understand the number 6891- this is vision and blood, life and death!

Thank you my friend for this interview. Hail to Cold Meat Industry for being a rock in a stream of chaos. There joy is known as murder!

-Michael Nachtoter, year of fire 1997, eh

VALEFOR

Michael Nachtoter

3122 Dunster St.

* Indianapolis, IN 46227

VALEFOR- "Death Magick" CD
available for \$20 USD from:

DEATH FACTORY

PO Box 1881

58117 Linköping

SWEDEN

DARKNESS ENSHROUD-

"Unveiled Ghostly Shadows"- CD * 96
(MORIBUND RECORDS)

This is the second album from DARKNESS ENSHROUD which contains interesting material but which is very much spoiled by rather bad production and extremely horrible drum machine. Fortunately the drum machine is not present all the time, but when it is, it destroys the whole atmosphere totally. This goes for example "Finsternis" which could be very fascinating piece without the drum computer, which by the way is one of the worst sounding I have heard... The production needs some improvement as well. The buzzing in the silent parts is very annoying... But when it comes to material presented in this disc, it's not bad at all. Maybe boring in the long

run (the albums lasts for nearly hour!) but interesting when listening just sometimes. As most of you may already know this is not about Metal music at all, BUT "trance inducing vibes, aeonic energy focussing on and delivering pure darkness", as the covers inform. Some of the tunes could be soundtracks for horror movie and my fave track from the total amount of 13 must be "Sanguinarius Umbra". The piano reminds me of some old horror movie and as I have been into everything obscure since the fuckin' childhood, this piece affects my emotions... No prices were enclosed when this entered to our mail box, but interested parties can write with IRC to MORIBUND RECORDS and ask for them.

MORIBUND RECORDS

P.O. BOX 77314

Seattle, Wa 98177-0314

USA



VALEFOR-

"Death Magick"- CD
(DEATH FACTORY)

More twisted and extremely pressuring music from Baron Drakkheim Abaddon (atmospheres, machinery, ritualistic ambience and voice) and Drakat SL Lejeune (haunting invocations), and this time it's safe to say that most of you will not like this at all, and to tell you the truth I am not totally sure what I think about this one either. The music is harsh Death Industrial and the atmosphere it creates is VERY grey and lifeless and it should drive weak minded fools into madness. The very first time I listened this through in it's entirety was when I was going to sleep- I shut the lights down, went to bed and let the sounds flow into the room, filling every single corner... This is probably the best way to listen to album like "Death Magick". The CD features ten tracks and the track titles include "Oceans Turn Bloodred (Rise Nidhogg)", "Bubonic Death", "Ritual Trance", "Plague, Blood And Astral Energies", "Spells Of Darkness And Death", "Chemical Disease" and more... Album comes with nice packaging featuring photos and such.

For more information you should read the interview as it should tell you alot more really... And if someone didn't know DEATH FACTORY is a side label for Swedish COLD MEAT INDUSTRY...

THROMDARR

THROMDARR-

"Winds Of The Fall"- Demo * 97

With their fifth demo tape THROMDARR has went into faster and more Black metalike direction, but not forgetting the feeling of the 80' ies which is clearly present here. This time there is absolutely NO synth parts, normal vocals or acoustic guitars but pure Metallic devastation and the ultimate in vocals (which are sometimes too low on the mix though...). This band trust more in the power of excellent riffs and utterly devastating vocals, which is great to notice. Every song has something special in it (maybe except for "October") which make this tape very much enjoyable experience. The production could be better but the music is fuckin' excellent! Seven tracks, namely "Thromdarr", "An Eclipse Over The Mountains", "The Ebrace Of Cold", "Winds Of The Fall", "The Eyes Of Crystal", "Frozen As The Moon" and "October"... This is Black Fuckin' Metal!



Drakat SL Lejeune

Helheim

HELHEIM-
"Jormundgand"- CD
(SOLISTITIUM)

I have seen some reviews about this CD and they have been more or less positive. One Finnish magazine even voted HELHEIM as best Norwegian band which I can't understand at all. First of all I could say that it seems like HELHEIM tries to imitate ENSLAVED as much as they can, but too bad that the result isn't anything compared to them. Music is in the same vein- very technical and fast Viking metal with strong Grieghallen production, the lyrics are written in their native language and the concept seems to be the same,

vein of DISSECTION, DARK FUNERAL and above all MARDUK. This could be good but as the sounds are total fuckin' mess I just can not recommend this for anyone. I hope TRIUMPHATOR are going to record something with decent sounds soon, because then this could kick some serious ass. Typical Swedish violence I would say. Available for \$4 (scandinavia) and \$5 (elsewhere). And remember, SHADOW Distribution supports The True Satanist Horde and 10% of the profit goes directly for them. If you order from them, you support the WAR! Write to adress mentioned above, and remember to ask the mailorder list with IRC!

TRIUMPHATOR/ SHADOW DISTRIBUTION
P.O. BOX 1803
58117 Linköping
SWEDEN



the outlook of the members wearing swords and Viking- styled clothes, and the back cover lay- out brings ENSLAVED's "Frost" immediatly into my mind. If we seek something original from this band it must be the main vocals which are something I have heard never before. That is simply because I haven't heard so BAD vocals for a long time- totally monotonous and ridiculous screaming which doesn't make any kind of sense to me. "Galder" "deserves" special credit for being the worst track in this already bad album. It's just something that can not be listened without a smile in your face. The front cover is however brilliant, eventhough it reminds me about the "Return..." album of BATHORY. This is not worth of your money, just give another listen to your ENSLAVED- albums- they rule! Check out the SOLISTITIUM RECORDS- flyer for prices!

TRIUMPHATOR-
"The Triumph Of Satan"
Promo '96

This promo tape was sent for us to review by Deathfucker (battleaxe) who is also the man behind Swedish SHADOW- distribution, and there is two very good reasons why it's quite hard to give a good review about this one. First of all there is only one track (plus intro and outro) included and second of all the sounds are SO bad that it's very hard to hear what kind of riff is going on. But when you try hard you can get some kind of picture about the music, and my vision is that TRIUMPHATOR is very fast and aggressive Black metal with the typical Swedish sound. And as everybody knows that "typical sound" I was talking about means of course Black metal in the

LYCANTHROPY-
"The Veils Of Sorrow" M-CD
(PATH TO ENLIGHTENMENT)

I was informed that LYCANTHROPY is one of those few US- Black metal bands that deserves to be supported, but after listening this M-CD (which LYCANTHROPY themselves sent us for review) I just can not agree with that. Not at all! The first thing that came into my mind was that this happens when there are too many labels around and everyone needs bands to release something with them. What LYCANTHROPY offers us is very boring, unoriginal, DARKTRONE- influenced Black metal with unprofessional vocals and fuckin' shitty sounds. If one wants to compare this with something I could mention "Transylvanian Hunger" of DARKTRONE, but do you really believe some other band can possibly produce so dirty and simple music with the same quality? The answer is of course no and LYCANTHROPY fails totally. This M-CD includes four tracks, "Of Dark Emotion", "The Battle At The End Of Time", "In Umbra Cenare" and "Invocation Of Luna" which all manage to sound very boring. And I'm not even sure does the band know how to handle their instruments. This is the first release of PATH TO ENLIGHTENMENT and I must say it was a very bad start.

LYCANTHROPY
1530 11TK ave S. 611
Birmingham AL 35205
USA

* A true friend ends your life
when you no more can *

PUISSANCE
Let us lead

PUISSANCE-
"Let Us Lead" CD '96
(COLD MEAT INDUSTRY)

"The first thing you notice when you listen to the works of PUISSANCE is the high intensity and strength that the music contains and you can't really help asking the question if this music really is written by someone of a sound mind. The answer is of course No! since one of the members were declared clinically insane about a year ago, and is now retired from all work other than his musical creations...". This was what the back cover of this promo- CD informs, and honestly speaking it's not too hard to believe, because the music presented in this album is extremely twisted, powerful and pressuring! There are two souls behind PUISSANCE, being Henry Moller and Fredrik Soderlund which is also the man behind ALGAION, PARNASSUS and OCTINOMOS. Unlike those three bands PUISSANCE doesn't have anything to do with Metal music for this is made with synths, and as far as I know COLD MEAT doesn't even want to release Black metal but sticks into this morbid synth based sickness. As most of today's synth releases are compared to MORTIIS I must tell you that this band doesn't have ANYTHING to do with MORTIIS, this is simply far more majestic, twisted and it reeks of negative feelings. Also the lyrics are completely different as PUISSANCE deals with the end of this planet. Also the song titles as "Burn

The Earth", "Global Deathrape" or "Behold The Valiant Misanthropist" speak for themselves. The other thing which differs this from MORTIIS is the fact that this album doesn't contain just two 25 minutes long track but totally of eight compositions which last for 42 minutes. All in all this is really hard to describe with plain words, you just have to face it for yourself. Sometimes this might turn out a bit boring but still I could call this as a good investment (we received this as a free promo- CD). Recommended for extremely warped individuals!

First 4000 CD's come in exclusive digipak with embossed logo, also available in 500 copies exclusive LP- version. CD costs for \$20 and LP for \$24 (B) from:



COLD MEAT INDUSTRY
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SWEDEN



"If there ever will be war between good and evil,
the outcome is already decided. Good is weak for
it is sharing trusting and love. Evil is strong for
it's greed, betrayal and lust"

Thy Serpent

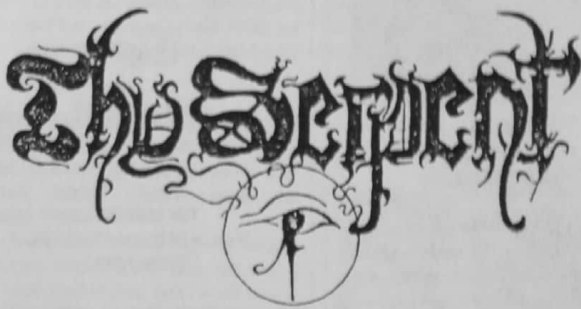
THY SERPENT-
"Forests Of Witchery" CD '96
(SPINEFARM)

After clumsy "Frozen Memory"- demo 1 and very promising "Into Everlasting Fire"- demo 2 Finnish THY SERPENT returns with killer full length CD, containing six tracks/ 48 minutes of well produced Dark metal recorded at Tico- Tico studios, Finland. This album is a fist in the face of those people who dare to claim that Finnish scene is completely dead and it shows that also we have bands that can produce quality music. THY SERPENT doesn't want to call themselves Black metal which many people think they are, but with this album they have went even further from traditional and rough Black metal which is a good thing as THY SERPENT is now better than ever! Their approach is very majestic and melodic, not to forget that the production is great as well. Synths and acoustic guitars are present almost throughout the whole album and the result is, like I already stated, killer! Vocals are a bit different this time and they vary quite much during the album. I like all of the songs apart from "Wine From Tears" which differs from the rest of the songs being played only by synths. I like some synthesizer tracks but this one turned out to be very boring and it doesn't fit with the rest of the songs in this great album. The reasons why I like this album better than band's previous demos is not only that the tracks are better but this time also sounds are far more powerful and they have get rid of that horrible drum- machine. Needles to say but this is very recommendable release! As far as I know SPINEFARM has a very good distribution and therefore this should be found from every decent record shop. Support quality music!

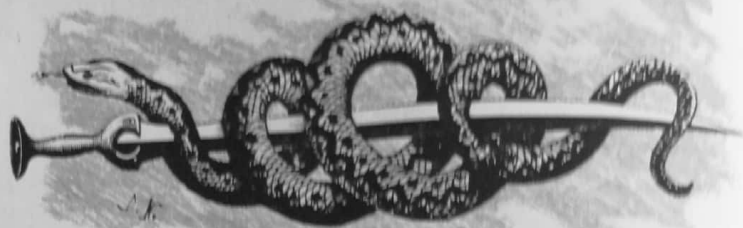


THY SERPENT
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* Everyone you care about
live only their own time, often
a short one. Unbelievable
short *



Cold Finnish Art



THY SERPENT is undoubtedly one of the strongest bands in the current Finnish scene. Their debut demo "Frozen Memory" wasn't good enough to wake my interest, their second effort "Into Everlasting Fire" was good when it came to music but I didn't like the sounds and the monotonous drum compurer was the final nail in the coffin. But what can I say about the debut album "Forests Of Witchery" (96)? It was worth of waiting. Very good songs, better sounds (although guitar is sometimes too low on the mix) and real fuckin'drums. Right now I'm waiting for their upcoming MCD which will contain some old demo songs from both of the demos. I'm really interested to hear those older tracks with good production and real drums. I am sure some of them will be killer! Anyway, I talked with Sami, the main soul behind this band...

Flowers of witchery abloom

YOU STARTED AS A ONE MAN BAND BUT NOW YOU HAVE GOT MORE MEMBERS TO COMPLETE THE LINE-UP, SO HOW HAVE THINGS WORKED OUT AFTER YOU BECAME A REAL BAND, DO YOU STILL SEE YOURSELF AS A MAIN MAN BEHIND THY SERPENT? WHAT EXACTLY IS THE CURRENT LINE-UP AND DO YOU BELIEVE IT STAYS LIKE THAT IN THE FUTURE AS WELL?

Sami: I started as a one man band in the beginning of 1993 and everything worked well. Let's say it worked well in the demo-level. But when I made contract with SPINEFARM Records, I thought that I'll get better result with "full" band, so I started to seek more members. It was quite damn hard to find suitable members for THY SERPENT, there were many musicians available but they weren't either good players or they had a wrong attitude. THY SERPENT is not a hobby band, I am 100% serious with this! I don't want to call myself as a main man behind this band, but maybe I am because I fix all the things for band and make the decisions. Of course I ask others opinion as well. But so far THY SERPENT still works by me.

"FORESTS OF WITCHERY" TURNED OUT TO BE VERY GOOD ALBUM I THINK, WHAT DOES THE MUSICIANS THEMSELVES THINK ABOUT THE RESULT? IS THERE SOMETHING YOU ARE NOT SATISFIED WITH?

Sami: After some time has passed since the recordings and I have listened the album through couple of times I can say I am satisfied with it. While we recorded it I actually thought that how the result will sound as for reason or another we were forced to drop out some things we were supposed to put on the album. But it's good like that. Next album will show more progression. But before that there will be MCD which is recorded in the same sessions as "Forests Of Witchery"...

AT THE SAME STUDIO SESSIONS YOU ALSO RECORDED TAPES FOR M-CD, SO WHICH TRACKS THIS WILL INCLUDE, WHEN IT WILL BE AVAILABLE AND WHICH LABEL WILL RELEASE IT? HOW WENT THE RECORDINGS AT TICO-TICO STUDIOS, ANY PROBLEMS?

Sami: Like I already mentioned we recorded MCD at the same sessions we recorded our full length album, and it will be released by SPINEFARM. Tracks it will contain are "Towers Of Serpent", "The Forest Of Blakulla", "In Blackenes Dreams", "Unknown" and "Dreams Of...". It will be available in the end of the year '96 or maybe in the beginning of '97. SPINEFARM looks for the hole where to put it. Hmm... Recordings at Tico-Tico went great and fast, although we were sometimes very sceptic as some of the tracks were not even totally ready yet. We were forced to finish some songs in the studio. There were no bigger problems, no broken equipment, tapes were not destroyed. So everything went fine.

WHEN I COMPARE YOUR NEW ALBUM WITH THE DEBUT DEMO, "FROZEN MEMORY" I CAN CLEARLY SEE THAT YOUR MUSIC HAS DEVELOPED INTO MORE SLOWER, MELODIC, SOFTER AND FAR MORE MAJESTIC APPROACH... IS THERE ANY SPECIAL REASONS WHY THE MUSIC WENT FURTHER FROM THE TRADITIONAL FORM OF BLACK METAL? WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT YOUR DEMOS IN GENERAL AND WHY YOU STILL KEEP SELLING THEM?

Sami: If we compare the first demo with the album one can easily notice that the music has developed exactly in the vein you described it. It's natural that the music changes when members contribute in the making of music instead of one. The progression has been natural, so no need to think it's a planned thing or something. I myself still like both of the demos I made and maybe that's the reason why I keep on selling them? Another reason is that I would like to order early

demos from CD-bands which I like, it's interesting to hear how band has sounded before they recorded CD. It's clear that many bands are shamed of their old products, but who cares. That was then and now is now. Usually all of the bands were more or less bad when they started.

DESPITE THE COMPLETE LINE-UP YOU STILL DON'T DO ANY GIGS, WHY SO? DON'T YOU THINK THAT YOUR BAND WOULD WORK FINE AT LIVE AS WELL? WHAT ABOUT THE RUMOURS THAT THY SERPENT WILL PLAY TOGETHER WITH DISSECTION (SWE) AND MARDUK (SWE) AT LEPAKKO, FINLAND?

Sami: We don't do gigs because we simply can't rehearse enough, nowadays we rehearse only twice in the month. If we would like to do a good gig we would have to rehearse atleast couple of times in the week. When we make a song we record it for tape and after that won't play that again. A gig with MARDUK and DISSECTION??? Never heard. It would be great to play with them though...

HOW DOES YOUR SONGS BORN NOWADAYS, DOES THE NEW MEMBERS PARTICIPATE MAKING THEM TOO? DO YOU BELIEVE THY SERPENT HAS CREATED SOMETHING THAT HAS NOT BEEN ALREADY MADE? HOW WOULD YOU PICTURE YOUR MUSIC FOR THOSE WHO HAVEN'T GOT CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE IT YET?

Sami: Nowadays me, Azhemini and Luopio make the music. We all make more or less ready

songs, from them we start fixing new track. The process might last from week to month. Mr. Arja Litmanen from BABYLON WHORES is helping us with lyrics nowadays. No, I don't believe that THY SERPENT has made something new with our album. Creating something new is not the main thing for me, but to make music we enjoy. How would I picture our music for those who haven't heard it yet? I don't know, it's atmosphere, aggressive, melodic... Cold Finnish Dark metal. Listen and judge by yourself.

Traveller of unknown plains

REMEMBER THAT YOU TOLD SOME BANDS INFLUENCE YOU A BIT, COULD YOU TELL US WHICH BANDS GIVES YOU INSPIRATION AND IS THERE SOME OTHER THINGS, APART FROM ANY BANDS, WHICH YOU FIND INSPIRING? DO YOU LISTEN ANYTHING ELSE APART FROM BLACK/ DEATH/ DARK METAL BANDS? WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR ULTIMATE FAVE ALBUMS?

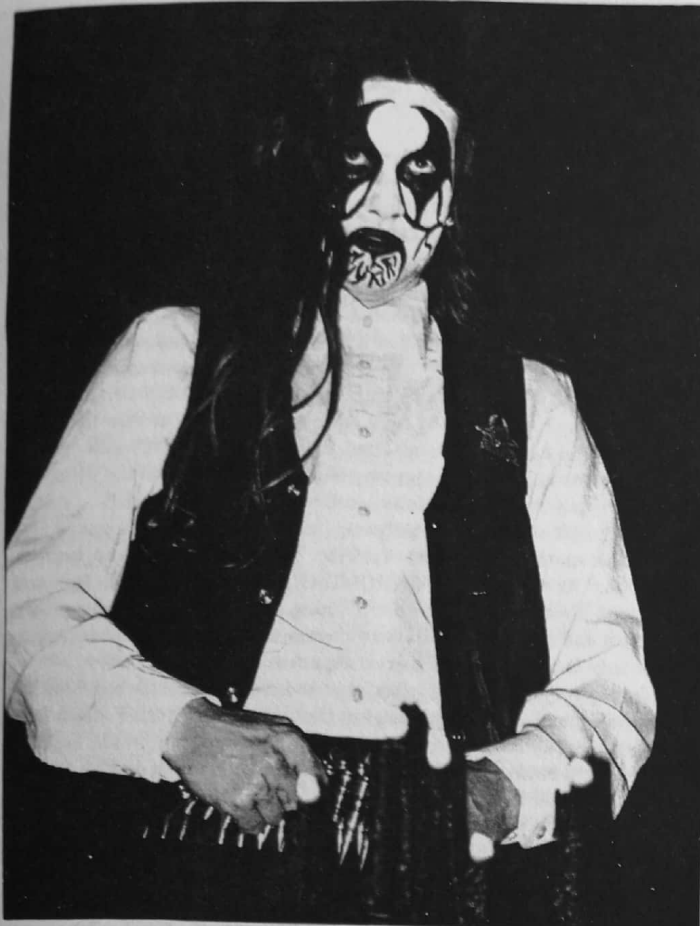
Sami: I am inspired by everything I listen, but bands like GEHENNA, DIMMU BORGIR, DISMAL EUPHONY and ARCTURUS the main ones, and maybe you can hear it from our music (Yes, I think there is some influence from GEHENNA-Esa? Everything

inspires me, everything I see, hear and think about everyday life. I don't listen much anything else than Black/ Death metal, but there are some exceptions like KING DIAMOND/ MERCYFUL FATE, RELATIVES MENSCHSEIN, GOETTES ERBEN... and of course some synth bands/projects. Best albums? This is a hard one. There are so many good albums that it is impossible to say, but some might be BATHORY: "Blood Fire Death" + "Twilight Of The Gods", SATYRICON: "Dark Medieval Times" + "The Shadowthrone", CARPATIAN FOREST: MCD, KING DIAMOND/ MERCYFUL FATE: all, ROOT: all. And the list is endless.

YOU MENTIONED THY SERPENT GOT ABOUT 15 OFFERS FROM DIFFERENT LABELS, COULD YOU TELL US FROM WHO YOU RECEIVED OFFERS AND WHY DID YOU CHOOSE FINNISH SPINEFARM (RULES)? HOW HAS THINGS WORKED OUT WITH THEM? COULD ALSO INFORM US WHAT WAS THAT LABEL WHICH RIPPED YOU OFF WITH THAT COMPILATION-CD THING...

Sami: I got something like 15 offers from releasing new demo 10





"THY SERPENT" is so important that no one can make me stop it. If my woman would give me chance to choose her or the band... I wouldn't think twice! No one can stop THY SERPENT except for me!

two CD's. Offers came around the world from which I thought about only two: Two CD's offer from UNISOUND and SPINEFARM for one CD. I decided to go on with SPINEFARM because it's really easy to work with them as I live only 15 kilometres from them. And in the other hand I had just heard some negative things from UNISOUND, so... Things are working just great with SPINEFARM. They will be one of the best labels in the future. Yes, watch out everybody, from Sweden is descending a rip-off label namely HELLFIRE/CELTIC WINTER Prod. which was run by Mike Anderson/ Damien Midwinter! there was supposed to come compilation CD in the summer of '94. But I haven't heard anything from them. I lost something like 2000 fmk, not much but still enough! I learned that one should not accept the first offer you get.

THY SERPENT IS ONE OF THE STRONGEST METAL- BANDS IN FINLAND. WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT OUR SCENE AND WHICH BANDS YOU FIND WORTH OF SUPPORT? DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHY FINNISH SCENE IS SO UNDERRATED IN THE WORLD? HOW KNOWN YOUR BAND IS OUTSIDE FINLAND?

Sam: Finnish scene is on the way to the top. Th-rough tape trading I receive many promising tapes which can become very good with hard work. Bands which will get far are DARKWOODS MY BETROTHED, I FLOW IN DEPTHS, WANDERER, GLOOMY GRIM, ENOCHIAN CRESCENT, MALEFICIA. Not to forget the "new-wave" with HORNA, VORNAT, UTGARD, FAERGHAIL, but this means hard work! (Very fuckin' hard work! Ed.) I don't know if our scene is so unpopular in the world. Or is it? (Believe me, it is- Esa) Of course it's not so good if we compare it to Norway or Sweden. How known THY SERPENT is in the world? I think it's quite well known, hard to say. At least we have got tons of mail from the world.

HOW MUCH YOU CARE WHAT OTHER PEOPLE OUTSIDE THY SERPENT THINK OR SAY ABOUT YOUR OPINIONS AND MUSIC? IS THERE ANY SPECIAL KIND OF PEOPLE YOU ARE DIRECTING YOUR DARK MUSIC, OR ARE ALL KIND OF PEOPLE "ALLOWED" (?) TO BUY YOUR RECORDS?

Sam: I don't give a shit what others think about our band. Of course one has to accept both negative and positive comments. No, there isn't any special group whom I'm directing my music. I have ment the CD for myself and the people who like it. Of course who ever are allowed to buy it, that means only more money for me. I don't understand people who think it's wrong to earn some money with your music, of course I want to get more money. My biggest dream is that I, my woman and my children could live of the band. But I guess that with this kind of music we are playing it's quite impossible.

IN SOME PREVIOUS INTERVIEWS YOU TOLD THAT SOMEONE OUTSIDE YOUR BAND MAKES LYRICS FOR YOU... WHO IS THIS PERSON AND WHY DON'T YOU DO LYRICS BY YOURSELF? YOU COULD ALSO CHOOSE FOUR TRACKS OF YOURS AND TELL SOME MORE ABOUT THEIR LYRICAL CONTENTS...

Sam: Our lyrics are made by Mr. Antti Litmanen from BABYLON WHORES, simply because he makes far better lyrics than I can. So why wouldn't I ask help from him? I don't care to describe our lyrics, I sent you some of our lyrics, print them on the magazine and the readers can draw their own opinions out of them.

HOW LONG YOU HAVE BEEN INTERESTED IN THIS KIND OF MUSIC, WHICH WAS THE VERY FIRST METAL- ALBUM YOU BOUGHT AND HOW LONG YOU BELIEVE YOUR INTEREST WILL LAST? WHAT WILL FUTURE BRING FOR METAL- MUSIC, AND HAVE YOU ANY KIND OF IDEA WHAT WILL BE THE NEXT TREND? I

MEAN, BLACK METAL HAS ALREADY REACHED IT'S TOP...

Sam: I have listened this kind of music since '89, so not that long. At least I don't twist the years like many do... However, I have listened metal from '83 with bands like MOTLEY CRUE, WASP, KREATOR, POSSESSED, EXODUS, KING DIAMOND/ MERCYFUL FATE, SODOM and lot's of other Thrash bands. The first "growl"- album I bought was "From Enslament To Obliteration" from NAPALM DEATH.

Next trend? Without doubts Thrash mixed with Black metal (You mean old fashioned Blackthrash like BEWITCHED or AURA NOIR? I very much agree! Back to the roots! -Esa)

AS SOME OF THE READERS MIGHT ALREADY KNOW YOU ARE WORKING WITH SYNTH-BASED PROJECT, VOICES OF WINDS... COULD YOU TELL US SOME MORE ABOUT THIS CREATION AND THE DEMO TAPE YOU MADE WITH IT? HOW IMPORTANT AND SERIOUS THIS PROJECT IS FOR YOU AFTER ALL? IS THERE ANY NEW MATERIAL COMING OUT?

Sam: At the moment VOICES OF WINDS is put on ice, because I don't simply have enough time for it. It thought about doing something with it in the future, which means I have to get better computer and synthesizer. I made one demo with VOICES OF WINDS in the year of '94. It wasn't a deo really, it had no covers, it wasn't spread at all. I only copied it for people who wanted it. V.O.W. is not serious or important band for me, it's more like project for free time. Do not expect new material in the near future.

"OF DARKNESS AND LIGHT" CONTAINS SOME MEDIEVAL SOUNDING MELODIES, ARE YOU INFLUENCED OR INTERESTED IN MEDIEVAL TIMES AND WHAT EXACTLY IS SO FASCINATING IN THAT PERIOD OF TIME? THIS MEDIEVAL- THING GOT VERY POPULAR AFTER SATYRICON (NOR) RELEASED THEIR MAGNIFICENT DEBUT ALBUM, WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS?

Sam: I don't have much knowledge of the middle ages and it's not part of THY SERPENT. "Of Darkness And Light" just went in that direction. We wanted to do a bit different song and maybe it worked? It is true that medieval sounding parts have increased within new bands... I don't know it is because the debut album of SATYRICON or what. I don't see problem if band uses medieval parts.

Life dedications

WHAT DO YOU DO BESIDE THY SERPENT, HOW IMPORTANT THIS BAND AND MUSIC IN GENERAL IS FOR YOU AND HOW MUCH IT TAKES YOUR DAILY TIME? WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS WITH THE BAND AND WHAT YOU ARE READY TO SACRIFICE TO REACH THESE GOALS? I ALSO KNOW YOU HAVE A WOMAN... WHICH ONE WOULD BE FIRST TO GO IF YOU HAD TO CHOOSE..?

Sam: Beside THY SERPENT I work in building business, and like you said I have a woman... Rest of the free time goes for her. THY SERPENT is so important that no one can make me stop it. If my woman would give me chance to choose her or the band... I wouldn't think twice! No one can stop THY SERPENT except for me! My goals with this band is to make my living with it.

WE RECEIVED YOUR CD AS A PROMOTIONAL COPY... HOW MANY PROMO- PACKAGES DID YOU SEND AND HOW MUCH YOU PAY

ATTENTION TO PROMOTE YOUR BAND? WHAT IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO SPREAD THE NAME OF BAND LIKE THY SERPENT, DO YOU BELIEVE INTERVIEWS ARE SOME KIND OF HELP? HOW MANY OF THEM YOU HAVE ACTUALLY ANSWERED DURING ALL THESE YEARS?

Sam: So far I have sent 80 promo- CD's and SPINEFARM something like 250 copies. There has been made 500 promos totally. I promote this band quite heavily and I think the most effective way to spread name are magazines. I have also sent some promo packages to radiostations and smaller distros. Interviews are the best promotion, of course depending what kind of interview you get. In three years I have answered approximately 300 interviews from which I have got 10 % back... About 80 % have promised to send a magazine! Who knows have rest of the magazines ever been finished?

SOME YEARS AGO NO-ONE WOULD HAVE BELIEVED THIS TO HAPPEN BUT THE FACT IS THAT NOWADAYS YOU CAN SEE VIDEOS OF BANDS LIKE IMPALED NAZARENE (FIN), SAMAEI (SWI) AND IMMORTAL (NOR) PLAYED IN A FINNISH YOUTH- PROGRAM, JYRKI, WHICH IS THE LAST PLACE I WOULD LIKE TO SEE EXTREME METAL PLAYED IN...

DO YOU HAVE ANY OPINIONS ABOUT THIS?

Sam: Yes, it is sad but true. It wasn't really a surprise for me, I expected this happen already few years ago. And believe me, this is only the beginning... It was obvious when Black metal gained more attention this was to be happen sooner or later. Soon every band with a CD out will have a video, and after that even demo-bands... It's not impossible that we'll do a video some day as well, and where to play it is up to one who releases it. There is nothing we can do about this. Money talks!

I THANK YOU FOR THE TIME YOU SPENT WITH THIS RATHER LONG INTERVIEW! IS THERE STILL SOMETHING YOU WOULD LIKE US TO KNOW?

Sam: There is not much to add. If you want to order something there are still available "Frozen Memory" demo '94 (\$5), "Into Everlasting Fire" demo '95 (\$6) and "Forests Of Witchery" CD '96 (\$18), longslieve (\$25). On their way are another T- shirt and MCD. That's it, bye!



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* Life is a disappointment after another until you no longer are part of it *

Thromdarr



THROMDARR '92, our interwee Mika being first on the left

Winds Of The Fall

YOU HAVE WRITTEN SOME NEW MATERIAL AFTER THE RELEASE OF YOUR FOURTH DEMO TAPE- WOULD YOU LIKE TO TELL US SOME MORE ABOUT THESE NEW TRACKS, ARE THEY IN THE SAME UNMISTAKABLE THROMDARR-VEIN LIKE ALWAYS? IS IT TOO EARLY TO REVEAL SOME NEW SONG TITLES?

Mika: Yeah, we have done five new songs and these are the same old Power Black metal stylish THROMDARR as before. New songs are more aggressive and heavier than we have done for a long time. There is going to be some Trash metal influences too. The titles shall be "Winds Of The Fall", "Thromdarr", "An Eclipse Over The Mountains", "October" and "Frozen As The Moon".

IS THERE ANY SERIOUS PLANS TO ENTER THE STUDIO AGAIN? ARE YOU GOING FOR FIFTH DEMO IF ANY LABEL DOESN'T SHOW INTEREST TO RELEASE SOMETHING ON VINYL OR CD? I ALSO REMEMBER THAT SOLISTITUM REC. (GER) CONTACTED YOU AS THEY WERE INTERESTED IN HEARING YOU- DIDN'T THAT RESULTED ANY FURTHER CO-OPERATION?

Mika: Yes, we'll do the fifth demo and it will be the promo demo for labels. Yes, I'll contact SOLISTITUM when the demo is out.

SOMETHING THAT THROMDARR LACKS OF IS PROMOTION FOR SURE, YOUR DEMOS FOR EXAMPLE HAS NOT BEEN SPRED AS WIDELY AS THEY COULD HAVE BEEN... ARE

YOU GOING TO CHANGE THIS THING NOW WHEN YOUR FOURTH DEMO IS ALREADY UNLEASHED? HOW MUCH YOU PAY ATTENTION FOR PROMOTION NOWADAYS?

Mika: Well, I'm still lazy bastard with lack of money but nowadays me and Ave are going to promote THROMDARR much more.

THERE HAS BEEN SOME LINE UP CHANGES IN THROMDARR DURING THESE YEARS, YOU AND AVE ARE THE ONLY ORIGINAL MEMBERS LEFT... IS IT HARD TO FIND SUITABLE MEMBERS FROM TOWN LIKE RIIHIMAKI? WHAT WAS THE REASON FOR DEPARTURE OF TUOMINEN (BASS)? ISN'T YOUR VOCALIST, AVE, RESPONSIBLE FOR SOME MUSIC AS WELL?

Mika: Yes, it'd be difficult to find suitable players from Riihimäki but we don't need any because we have perfect line-up for us now. I play guitar, Ave does bass & vocals and Lasse of SKEPTICISM plays drums. Lasse is session player but I would say that he is the third real THROMDARR-member 'cause he has played with us since 1991 and he is the best drummer which we could ever get. Marko Tuominen left the band to join LET ME DREAM. Marko has never been much into Black metal music. That's it.

Yes, Ave has give every demo some great material.

YOUR FIRST DEMO WAS RECORDED WHEN YOU WERE STILL CALLED NECROBIOSIS AND WAS TITLED AS "CONSUMING THE LIFELESS CADAVER". THIS MIGHT SOUND LIKE GIND/ DEATH FOR MANY, BUT I KNOW THIS TAPE PRESENTED PRIMITIVE BLACK METAL WITH TOTALLY BARBARIC VOCALS AND CRAPPY SOUNDS... DID MANY PEOPLE MISUNDERSTOOD WHAT YOU WERE REALLY ABOUT?

Mika: That's fucking true. That's the main reason why we changed our name. People thought we were some "CARCASS clone"-band

THROMDARR is an old Black metal band from our home town, Riihimäki. They have been formed in early '89 and there has been four demos released ("Consuming The Lifeless Cadaver", "As A Wind Cries", "Winter Of Flames" and "Silverthrone") from which at least two latest ones are fuckin' excellent pieces of Ice cold Black metal with melodic touch and some influences from BATHORY.

This band haven't got the attention it for sure deserves and we can't blame any other than lazy bastard Mika (one of the two original members left!) about it since he has done almost nothing to promote THROMDARR. That about it since he has done almost nothing to promote THROMDARR. That is truly a shame since with at least decent promotion I'm sure this band would have been signed to some label. Two latest THROMDARR-demos prove that this band has it's own way of doing riffs and also that Mika has created something we would call the THROMDARR-sound. THROMDARR works fine on stage too, although they haven't played gigs for a while now. I remember back in '92 when they played here in Riihimäki... At those times THROMDARR's music was still fast and violent and it was excellent live show. Some of the members were covered with blood and wearing upside down crosses and the music kicked straight to your ugly face. It was truly a great experience.

Mika have always talked and talked that he should print some copies of his demos and spread them some more but these years passed have shown that he never actually manages to do that, and therefore I would suggest everybody who finds enough interest to send blank tape and enough IRC's/ stamps/ money for his releases.

We had interview with THROMDARR already in our debut issue, but as two great demos have been released and this band needs more promotion we decided to give some more space for them.

If you want to contact THROMDARR make sure you write to adress of Mika Kyöstilä as Marko Tuominen is **NO** longer in the band and he was the one handling most of the mail before. No more THROMDARR-mail for his adress! Let's see what Mika has to say...

without even hearing us when they heard our name. Those times we stopped using "war paints" in pictures too.

TILL THIS DAY YOU HAVE UNLEASHED FOUR DEMOS, SO NOW I WOULD LIKE YOU TO TELL SOMETHING ABOUT ALL OF THEM, WHEN THEY WERE RELEASED AND WHAT DO YOU PERSONALLY THINK ABOUT THEM TODAY? ARE YOU PLEASED WITH THE NEW TAPE?

Mika: "Consume..." was released in 1990 and it still after the years sounds fucking raw. "As A Wind Cries" 1992 demo was our so called stupid "occult" demo. I don't like it much anymore but "Dawn Of Samhain" and "Dragonmyrmidon" kicks ass. "Winter Of Flames" was released in 1993. I think it's our best demo we have yet done. It has a great sound and it's our most different demo we have done so far. 1995 came out latest demo called "Silverthrone". I don't like much it's "crystal" sound anymore but I think it's our darkest demo, but not the best.

THROMDARR DID SOME FURIOUS LIVE SHOWS HERE IN FINLAND SOME YEARS AGO- WHY DID YOU STOPPED DOING LIVE SHOWS AND WHAT CAN YOU REMEMBER FROM THESE TIMES? WHAT ABOUT THE GIG WHEN YOU THREW UP FROM THE STAGE INTO THE AUDIENCE? WILL THERE BE SOME GIGS IN THE FUTURE?

Mika: I hate this question! What can I tell about those gigs... I can't remember much because we were always so fucking drunk. Those gigs we did

(about 10 gigs in 1991-1992) must have been total chaotic bullshit for the audience. That "throw up" gig is a legend! It was our first gig and I guess I drank maybe (a few) beers too much before the show. Yes, we could do some gigs in the future if gigs are suitable ones.

I KNOW YOU ARE NOT INTO THE SCENE AND THINK THAT MOST OF THE NEW BANDS AREN'T INTERESTING AT ALL, BUT YOU HOWEVER JOINED BLACK METAL BAND AZAZEL (MCD OUT NOW)- WAS THIS BAND SOME KIND OF EXCEPTION OR WHAT? HOW SERIOUSLY YOU ARE INVOLVED WITH THIS BAND AND DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN SONG WRITING AS WELL?

Mika: Yes, I joined to AZAZEL because Satanachia is my friend and he has got great Black metal voice. We haven't played much yet but we are going to start in spring rehearsing new material. I do material for AZAZEL but it's not "THROMDARR stylish" stuff.

FOR TWO YEARS ALL THROMDARR-MAIL WENT INTO THE ADDRESS OF YOUR EX-BASSIST MARKO TUOMINEN AND YOU WEREN'T ABLE TO ANSWER ANY INTERVIEWS OR SUCH... I ALSO KNOW SOME PEOPLE WHO SENT MONEY FOR DEMOS, BUT NO REPLY... HAVE YOU RECEIVED LOT OF SHIT ABOUT THIS? HAVE THINGS BEEN SOLVED OUT NOW?

Mika: Yes, we have, and I know some people have sent money and had no reply. We are sorry

"We don't direct our music just "one" audience, it doesn't really matter who will listen that shit."

about it but it was fucked up situation back in those days. Nowadays "rip offs" WON'T HAPPEN

YOU TOLD ME YOU ARE NOT INTERESTED IN NEW ALBUMS, HAVEN'T BOUGHT ALBUMS FOR A LONG TIME BUT STUCK FOR THE RECORDS RELEASED LONG TIME AGO... THIS LEADS ME TO ASK WHAT IS SO WRONG WITH THE SCENE TODAY AND WHICH ARE SOME OF YOUR ALL TIME FAVE ALBUMS? HYAVE YOU FOUND ANY NEW INTERESTING BANDS? WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE ATTENTION NORWEGIAN SCENE HAS GOT?

Mika: Yes, I stick with my old favourites. It doesn't mean that the scene or the bands would be shit, not at all. NAGLFAR is a great band with something new in their music. But I have been listening past five or six years music I listened back in 1983 to 1991. I don't know why but I think those Heavy/Trash/Black/Death metal bands back in 80'ies had more intense, aggressive and not so "fanatic" touch to music than bands have these days I would say. I have noticed that nowadays is more important to have some kind of "evil image" than play music. If you are "true" to the people you can play the shit you want and still people buy your records and sacrifice their parents pets for the Satanic masters of Black metal. That's fucking fake way to do music without no love or attitude for the music you play. Music comes first, then image.

My all time fave albums? These are some of those... My all time favorite BATHORY: "Under The Sign..." & "Blood Fire Death", CELTIC FROST: "Mordid Tales", HELLHAMMER: "Apocalyptic Raids", SLAYER: "Reign In Blood", POSSESSED: "7 Churches", DARK ANGEL: "Darkness Descends", SKREWDRIVER: "Hail The New Dawn", KREATOR: "Pleasure To Kill", SODOM: "In The Sign...", MANOWAR: "Into The Glory Ride", MISTREAT: "Keep Finland Clean", CORONER: "R.I.P.", VENOM: "At War With Satan", MOTORHEAD: "Ace Of Spades", INFERNAL MAJESTY: "None Shall Defy", IRON MAIDEN: "Number Of The Beast" and ONSLAUGHT: "Power From Hell".

THROMDARR HAS NEVER USED MUCH KEYBOARDS IN THEIR MUSIC, ALWAYS A LITTLE BUT NEVER TOO MUCH...DON'T YOU THINK TOO MANY BANDS HAVE LOST THEIR GRIMNESS AND TOUCH OF REAL METAL BY USING TOO MANY SYNTHS? IS THIS ALSO THE REASON WHY YOU TRUST MORE INTO THE POWER OF GOOD RIFFS?

Mika: Yes, I think so. Some bands hide their good guitar riffs under the massive wall of synths and loses same time the most important thing in Black metal, aggressive touch. Synths are great spice for the music but they should not take

guitars place as a main instrument to create atmosphere in Black metal.

Back To The Roots

OLD FASHIONED BLACK/ THRASH AND HEAVY METAL IN GENERAL IS DOING A HUGE COMEBACK IN CURRENT SCENE WITH SUCH BANDS AS INFERNO (NOR), AURA NOIR (NOR), GEHENNAH (SWE), OUTBREAK (SWE), DESASTER (GER), BEWITCHED (SWE) AND DODHEIMSGARD (NOR) TO NAME JUST A PART OF THEM- WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS? IS THIS ALSO THE NEW TREND, TO GO BACK TO THE ROOTS?

Mika: I have noticed the same thing and it's great thing to happen. BEWITCHED is fucking hard! And I guess it will be the new trend. I think it's some kind of nostalgia seeking or something like that. But I would say that the 80'ies was the best and most different decade of the Heavy metal's history.

MANY PEOPLE THINK THAT YOU HAVE TO BE SATANIST AND HAVE SATANIC LYRICS TO PLAY BLACK METAL. YOU HAVE ALWAYS DESCRIBED THROMDARR AS BLACK METAL BAND BUT I ALSO KNOW YOU ARE NOT SATANIST... DO YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THIS? HOW MUCH YOU CARE WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK ABOUT YOUR BAND? CAN YOU STAND NEGATIVE CRITIC?

Mika: You are right, I'm not Satanist When we started to play we were interested of that subject but we found out that it was just childish shit. For me that "Satan stuff" is just "christian propaganda" for scaring stupid people to believe in God or you end up into damnation or some nasty hot place. I can't believe to anything I can't see. I guess it makes some kind of skeptic. I think just a few of those new "Satanic" bands are real Satanists. Just playing with that subject like children are playing with toys. There's much things to make lyrics of. Music and vocals make music Black metal not the Satanic lyrics. (Maybe antichristianity or antireligious opinions too? -Ed.) Well, I don't care much what people say, why should I? I'm not trying to please everyone. I can stand critic if it's creative, not "I don't like you because you are shit" kind of critic is lack of brains.

IT'S NOT THAT EASY TO SURVIVE IN THE MUSIC SCENE TODAY AS THERE IS SIMPLY

TOO MANY BANDS AROUND AND FANS HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO CHOOSE WHAT TO BUY OR NOT- WHAT ARE YOUR WEAPONS TO SURVIVE IN THIS OVERCROWDED SCENE AND WHAT DIFFERS THROMDARR FROM OTHER BANDS IN THIS GENRE? IS IT IMPORTANT TO CREATE ORIGINAL MUSIC AS LONG AS YOU LIKE WHAT YOU DO YOURSELF?

Mika: Fuck! We don't have any secret weapons but we have our own style to do music and I think that's all we need. I have always done music to myself, music what I wanna hear and I will continue doing music as long as I love to do it and hear it.

YOU HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH MUSIC FOR A LONG TIME, HOW LONG YOU BELIEVE YOUR INTEREST WILL LAST? DO YOU EVER FEEL YOU HAVE RUNNED OUT OF INSPIRATION WHEN IT COMES TO CREATING NEW MATERIAL? HOW SERIOUSLY YOU TAKE THROMDARR AND MUSIC IN GENERAL? COULD YOU IMAGINE LIFE WITHOUT MUSIC?

Mika: Yes, I have been involved in music for a long time but my style of playing guitar or doing songs is now after nine years what I have always wanted it to be. I have done for the upcoming demo new demo the best songs I have ever done! So I think my interest will last at least couple of years still. I have always had difficulties to create new material. It takes time. I do about five or six songs in two years and that's not too much. I guess I have too high self critic. I take doing material to THROMDARR very seriously that I have used to promote it when the demo is ready. No, I can't live without music.

WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE DO YOU THINK WILL ENJOY YOUR MUSIC MOST? IS THERE ANY SPECIAL KIND OF AUDIENCE YOU ARE DIRECTING YOUR PRODUCTS IN THE FIRST PLACE?

Mika: I have noticed that the old Metal- freaks who are more into 80'ies Metal like our music mostly. That's strange but maybe we sound a little "old metal" for 13-18 years old Metal- fans. We don't direct our music just "one" audience, it doesn't really matter who will listen that shit.

BEFORE WE END THIS INTERVIEW I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU TO TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR LYRICS... I ALSO WISH YOU TO PICK UP THREE THROMDARR- TRACKS (CHOOSE WHAT EVER YOU WISH) AND TELL A BIT MORE ABOUT THEIR LYRICAL CONTENTS...

Mika: Happy happy joy joy for asking me Esa this most fucking difficult question. Haista vittu (Samoin saatana! Esa! Lyrics have been always difficult to do for me. I have done lyrics always just before the recording session, in the hurry.

1. "Forest Of The Black Diamonds" is about to commit suicide in the forest by night. It's about what some many/ woman thinks and feels before suicide.
2. "Dawn In The Shadows" teels about cold winter morning, not black winter day. I don't remember more.
3. "As One With The Ice" tells how proud we are of our fatherland Finland. It tells our peoples bond to this cold country and our respect to the elders legacy. That's why we are as one with the ice.

THANK YOU MIKA! IT WAS NICE TO HAVE THROMDARR FEATURED IN KILL YOURSELF! MAGAZINE AGAIN... NOW YOU HAVE GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO ADVERTISE YOUR DEMOS SOME MORE...

Mika: Yes, thanx for the interview Esa! "As A Wind Cries" is available if you sent blank tape and stamps I'll copy it. "Silverthrone and Winter Of Flames" costs 20 Fmk/ \$5. (Both demos in one tape that is:Ed.)

The new demo "Winds Of The Fall" will be out in march, it costs 20 Fmk/ \$5. That's it, end of story!

THROMDARR

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MARDUK

MARDUK-
"Glorification" M-CD '96
(OSMOSE PROD.)

From the necromantic union of MARDUK we received their new MCD featuring three cover tracks and re-mixed version of "Glorification Of The Black God" from their "Heaven Shall Burn..." album.

This 18 minutes long disc starts up with their own track which is of course superior and (together with "Darkness It Shall Be") was the strongest and most fascinating piece of music in their latest album. It's extremely fast and destructive but it's fully structured and blessed with fantastic sounds so it never gets too chaotic and messy. Listener is fully able to hear and feel all the riffs and still the band never loses it's power and hellish aggression. MARDUK is perfect example how you can create violently fast music without end up sounding like a unstructured mess. This song is simply great, full of great riffs, brilliant vocals of Legion and the lyrics are very good as well. The promotional CD we got does not include lyrics but I have red them from the full length album so I know what I'm talking about.

"Glorification Of The Black God" is followed by "Total Desaster", originally recorded by German DESTRUCTION. It's of course great track and the solo will rip your face off! Total desaster!! Next we are able to experience two PILEDRIVER-covers, "Sex With Satan" and "Sodomise The Dead", both killer songs of old fashioned Metal music.

The disc ends with legendary BATHORY- track "The Return Of Darkness And Evil" (from "Return..." CD) which is one of the strongest and eminent tracks BATHORY has recorded during these years. The original version is superior (both music and lyrics) but there is something wrong in how MARDUK performs it. I don't really know why I am not into their version but it just doesn't sound good. The vocal work is rather satisfying but sounds and the way MARDUK plays it don't do justice for classic like "The Return And Darkness And Evil" surely is...

Anyway, apart from the BATHORY- cover I don't find anything negative from this MCD and therefore it's VERY recommendable release!

Godsend

GODSEND-
"In The Electric Mist"-CD
(HOLY RECORDS)

GODSEND from Norway makes not Black metal (®) but quite shitty music with influences from rock bands and the mighty BLACK SABBATH. Vocals are clear and not really bad, and music has some promising parts, but in every single song there are few riffs from... well I don't know, maybe from electric mist? At least they suck! And when I listen the song "Nobody home" or was it "Life must go on" (?) I hear a rip-off riff from a rock classic "Sweet Home Alabama", that's not good at all. Well, I really can't say much of this as it's not the kind of music I'm into, maybe you would enjoy this... Then again, probably not.



THROMDARR 1990

Far beyond the grace of God!



Once again **KILL YOURSELF!!!** Magazine proudly presents **MARDUK**, one of the strongest bands in the current scene. This interview is answered by **Legion** (vocals) and **Morgan** (guitar)...



Death
To
Peace!

YOUR FOURTH FULL LENGTH ALBUM, "HEAVEN SHALL BURN... WHEN WE ARE GATHERED" HAS FINALLY HIT THE SHOPS. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE RESULT AND HOW WOULD YOU COMPARE THIS ONE WITH YOUR FORMER RELEASES?

Legion: It is the uttermost supreme satanic hellhymn people could dream about to lay their hands upon. We are very satisfied having created such a vast black monument of christaping Black metal. It is the best MARDUK album 'til this date, no doubt. The songs on the former ones are also killer ones and the grimmest that have been created in a long time, but there always was some fuckups with the sound etc. in the past. But we are beyond that now which makes us unstoppable.

THERE ARE NOT MANY BANDS WHICH CAN COMPETE WITH MARDUK WHEN IT COMES TO CREATING MUSIC FILLED WITH FEELINGS OF DESTRUCTION AND SHEER BRUTALITY... WOULD YOU SAY YOUR MUSIC MIRROR YOUR PERSONALITIES IN SOME WAY, AND HOW COME THAT THE MORE ALBUMS YOU MADE LESS MELODIES CAN BE FOUND?

Legion: There are melodies in our music for sure, it is just that melodies does not have to mean melodic, or nice harmonies. The more we lack of those stupid elements the more satisfied I get. It is natural that we are getting deeper and deeper into what we once started. Of course our music reflect our personalities, if we tried to do something that is not us we would end up sounding stupid.

"OPUS NOCTURNE" WAS THE ULTIMATE IN EXTREMITY BUT YOUR NEW ALBUM WAS EVEN MORE VIOLENT, HOW ON EARTH THIS WAS POSSIBLE AND DO YOU BELIEVE YOU CAN GO EVEN FURTHER WITH YOUR UPCOMING RELEASES? WHEN CAN WE WAIT SOMETHING NEW FROM YOU ANYWAY?

Morgan: Everything is possible and MARDUK will always stretch the limits and yes I think it's possible to go even further and we will. On our next album "Nightwing" we will continue the same pattern, only developed even further but on the album after that, "Panzer Division MARDUK" will be the ultimate extreme album in all ways. We are about to create the most brutal and fastest music anyone could dream of. It will not contain any slow parts whatsoever, only infernal speed at a diabolical pace.

MORE ABOUT "OPUS NOCTURNE"... THE SONGS IN IT ARE EXCELLENT BUT I HAVE ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT THE PRODUCTION IS TOO WEAK FOR YOUR EXTREME BLACK METAL. ATLEAST WHEN WE COMPARE IT WITH YOUR NEW ALBUM. WHAT DO YOU THINK THE PRODUCTION?

Morgan: Well, you are absolutely right, "Opus Nocturne" lacks alot production wise, we are still very, very satisfied with the music featured on the album. Something that has been very positive for us is that we have changed studio from the UNISOUND to the excellent ABYSS studio, which gave us the production we longed for but never managed to get it in the past. As it looks now ABYSS will be our permanent studio in the future. The owner of the studio, Peter Tagtgren (HYPOCRICY) is excellent to work with and by the way, he also played second session guitar for us during the "Heaven Shall Burn"-tour, autumn '96.

"FUCK ME JESUS" WAS PRESSED AGAIN IN THE FORM OF AN CD- EP... HAS IT SOLD LIKE YOU EXPECTED IN THE FIRST PLACE AND HOW HAS THE AUDIENCE REACTED ABOUT THE FACT THAT OLD DEMO MATERIAL HAS BEEN RELEASED AS A CD? WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS DEMO TODAY? DOES IT STILL REPRESENT WHAT MARDUK REALLY IS ABOUT?

Legion: For being so expensive in the stores compared to how much music you get it has sold extremely well, which was expected since so many people have written both OSMOSE and us and asked how to obtain the old demo recording. I was not involved in the making of that tape but I remember how fascinated I was of the raging violence when I got hold of the old demo tape when it was released. I think that it represent us

really good today as well. Raw and vicious music with unholy lyrics.

TELL US ABOUT "HELLCHILD" 7 INCH OF YOURS... I HAVE SEEN IT IN SEVERAL TAPETRAIDING LISTS BUT YOU NEVER INCLUDED IT IN YOUR OFFICAL DISCOGRAPHY, SO WHAT'S THE DEAL? IS IT SOMEKIND OF BOOTLEG AND HAVE YOU ANYKIND OF IDEA WHICH LABEL HAVE PRESSED IT?

Morgan: As you probably noticed it hasn't been released but our latest mini-album it was released as a bonustrack on the vinyl version (strictly limited to 1000 copies, sold out in one week). I can also mention that it was recorded in September '92.

ALL OF YOUR ALBUMS HAS BEEN UNLEASHED WITH DIFFERENT LINE-UP, ONLY YOU MORGAN HAVE REMAINED FROM ALBUM TO ANOTHER... WHY IT'S SO HARD TO FIND STABLE LINE-UP FOR MARDUK AND WHAT KIND OF PERSONALITY REAL MARDUK- MEMBER WOULD HAVE TO HAVE? WHAT IS THE CURRENT LINE-UP FOR MARDUK, DO YOU BELIEVE IT WILL FINALLY LAST?

Morgan: Well, it's a tragedy but some people tends to change over the years. People wimp out and don't put 100% into the band, and if that turns out to be the case they can fuck off and go to hell, they are expendable.

The line-up we have now is the same as on the "Heaven Shall Burn"-album: Legion- vocals, Morgan Steinmeyer Hakansson- guitar, B Warbass and Fredrik Andersson- drums of doom. This is the most stable line-up we have ever had and most likely we will add second guitarist to complete the line-up one that I know you are familiar with- Blackmoon (ex- DARK FUNERAL). He left DARK FUNERAL some months ago due to some disagreements within the band I was told.

"OPUS NOCTURNE" WAS SUPPOSED TO INCLUDE LYRICS PRINTED IN THE COVERS, BUT AS WE ALL KNOW APART FROM THE TITLE TRACK IT DIDN'T HAPPEN. WHAT WENT WRONG? WHAT ABOUT THE "BOOK" WHICH WAS SUPPOSED TO INCLUDE LYRICS

FOR ALL ALBUMS OF YOURS, HAS IT EVER BEEN FINISHED?

Legion: Those plans are laid on ice right now, 'cause we are planning something much more exclusive instead. As the live album was supposed to be the Black Years, "Seven Years Grim And Dark..." we are planning of celebrating our 10 year anniversary with a book with complete biography, rare photos and all our old lyrics and alot of other stuff as well. The book will be printed on glossy ppaper complete with leath cover, etc., a real collectors item. To be released year 2000.

Darkness
It Shall
Be!

YOU HAVE FIVE CD'S OUT, YOU HAVE DONE SEVERAL GIGS AND YOU ARE SIGNED TO A LABEL WHICH CAN BE COUNTED SOMETHING MORE THAT JUST "UNDERGROUND LABEL", SO THEREFORE I'M FORCED TO ASK DOES THE BAND PRODUCE ENOUGH MONEY SO YOU COULD LIVE OF IT? ARE YOU DOING SOMETHING ELSE BESIDE MARDUK? HOW WOULD YOU LIKE PEOPLE TO REMEMBER MARDUK AFTER YOU ARE DEAD AND BURIED?

Legion: With "Glorification" we have 6 CD's out (Well, it wasn't out when I did this interview for you and I didn't have that one until you mailed us the promo-CD- Esa! Yes we make money of MARDUK, but not so much that we can live of it, but that doesn't matter really cause we live and breathe for our vision. Of course we wouldn't mind making a living out of MARDUK but the truth is unfortunately that if you shall live of your music you are bound to get commercial musicwise, something that we are not the least interested of. People will remember MARDUK as a band who always stayed true to what they did and never wimped out, nor failed the concept. The band who took things to the limits and created the most hellish, intense and most brutal albums.

"The darkside is an everlasting inspiration and the strongest side a man can belong and our call..."

ONLY COUPLE OF YEARS AGO NO-ONE WOULD HAVE BELIEVED THIS TO HAPPEN, BUT THE FACT IS THAT I HAVE SEEN VIDEOS OF IMPALED NAZARENE, SATYRICON AND IMMORTAL PLAYED IN A FINNISH YOUTH-PROGRAM WHICH IS UNDOUBTLY THE LAST PROGRAM I WOULD LIKE TO SEE BLACK METAL FEATURED... IS THERE ANY POSSIBILITY THAT SOME DAY WE COULD SEE MARDUK SHOWN THERE AS WELL? WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS ANYWAY?

Legion: I can't imagine MARDUK being played in a show for kids but we will make couple of videos in late '97. Regarding videos I see nothing wrong in doing them, they are just a way of spreading your message just like CD's, etc. People wining about commercial videos, etc should stay off making CD's and LP's as well because it is just the same thing basically.

AS MOST OF THE READERS MIGHT ALREADY KNOW YOU, MORGAN ARE A MEMBER OF SWEDEN'S MOST TWISTED CREATION, ABRUPTUM... WHICH OF THESE BANDS IS YOUR MAIN PRIORITY AND HOW DID YOU BECAME A MEMBER OF ABRUPTUM IN THE FIRST PLACE? ABRUPTUM IS OFTEN LABELLED AS "THE MOST EVIL ORCHESTRA IN THE WORLD", WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS?

Morgan: MARDUK will always be my main priority and life/recreation, but ABRUPTUM will always be something unique and special. I became member of ABRUPTUM in april 1991 when All had wimped out and it asked me if I wanted to join his creation. It and I used to play together in the late 80's in a band called ABHOR and actually some ABHOR-riffs survived as parts of MARDUK and OPHTHALMIA songs. ABRUPTUM is and always will be the essence of pure black evil.

Summon The Darkness

BLACKMOON (EX- DARK FUNERAL/HELLSPAWN REC.) TOLD THAT HE AND "SOME OTHER PEOPLE BEHIND SWEDISH BLACK METAL SCENE" ARE GOING TO HIRE SOMEONE TO KILL VARG VIKERNES IN HIS JAIL. ARE ANY MEMBERS BEHIND MARDUK INVOLVED IN THIS PLAN AND WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT IT IN GENERAL? WILL IT EVER HAPPEN? SHOULD IT EVER HAPPEN?

Legion: I didn't know of that fact actually, I don't think it will ever happen, actually. Regarding Varg: Except the assassination of Euronymous we do not have anything against him since he has done a lot of great things against christianity and we salute him for that (Himm... He also did a favour for christians by slaughtering Euronymous who was very busy with promoting antichristianity. Think it this way: The churches Varg destroyed WILL be build up again while Euronymous stays dead forever. Think about it. -Esa).

I KNOW THAT CERTAIN NORWEGIAN PEOPLE CLAIM THAT "ONLY PEOPLE WHICH ARE BORN AND RAISED IN NORWAY" CAN PRODUCE REAL BLACK METAL, BUT WHEN I LISTEN TO SUCH BANDS AS MARDUK, DISSECTION, DARK FUNERAL AND NIFELHEIM I JUST CAN NOT AGREE WITH



THEM... WOULD YOU LIKE TO COMMENT SOMETHING ABOUT THIS?

Morgan: People who claim something like that prove their own stupidity. A lot of those bands sound like lamecopies of BATHORY and we all know from which country BATHORY hails, don't we? When Sweden had bands like OBSCURITY, MORBID, BATHORY and MEPHISTO Norway had nothing! Of course we don't mind the supreme Norwegian Black metal acts which are our allies, but it's no doubt that Sweden always have had a stronger and more innovative scene.

MARDUK DID SOME TOURS IN '94 AND '95 SO NOW I WOULD LIKE YOU TO TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT THESE, AND WHY ANY OF THESE DATES NEVER REACHED FINLAND? HAVE YOU PLANNED ANY TOURS FOR '96 AND IS THERE ANY POSSIBILITY THAT WE COULD SEE MARDUK IN FINLAND AS WELL? DO YOU STILL CUT YOURSELF AT STAGE?

Legion: During the "Heaven Shall Burn..." tour we played throughout most parts of Europe, but not any northern shows. We don't mind playing in our brother country Finland at all. If anyone should be interested in organizing any shows just get in directcontact with us and we will see if we can work something out. YESSSS, MARDUK still bleed for the devil and blood still runs from the altar.

ARE YOU STILL A MEMBER OF "THE TRUE SATANIST HORDE"? IS IT TRUE THAT THE "NORWEGIAN BLACK CIRCLE" WAS THE RESULT OF THE "TRUE SATANIST HORDE", AND IF SO, HOW COME THE NORWEGIAN ONE IS CLEARLY MORE WELL KNOWN? HAVE YOU FACED ANY PROBLEMS WITH POLICE?

Legion: Yes, we are still members of the TRUE SATANIST HORDE. Concerning the things you mentioned I guess the story is far too complicated to sort out on just a few lines. The Norwegian horde have made a spectacular reputation of the churchfires but that was their downfall as well, sadly enough. The Swedish horde has not been so active in those kind of actions but when the swedes have struck the police almost always have been without clues.

OSMOSE PRODUCTIONS HAVE RECENTLY SIGNED SWEDISH BEWITCHED WHICH CONTAINS MEMBERS FROM THRONE OF AHAAZ AND KATATONIA, BOTH HATED BANDS IN SWEDEN... WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS? ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH THE WORK OSMOSE HAS DONE FOR MARDUK? IS IT TRUE THAT DARK FUNERAL IS NOW SIGNED FOR THEM AS WELL?

Morgan: I couldn't care less about BEWITCHED since I don't find them interesting at all.

Legion: I wouldn't describe KATATONIA and THRONE OF AHAAZ as my favourite bands and neither BEWITCHED, but since they counteract christianity they are better than those who doesn't. OSMOSE PROD. are a very good label that have done everything that we have asked them too and never have stopped us whatever we have wanted to do. As far as I have heard DARK FUNERAL are still signed to NO FASHION (pure fashion, pure rip off).

ONE THING IN THE CURRENT SCENE WHICH IRRITATES ME IS THIS "PAGAN/ VIKING"-TREND WHICH MANY OF THE BANDS ARE BLINDLY FOLLOWING AND STILL DARE TO CALL THEIR MUSIC BLACK METAL... WHAT ARE YOUR VIEWS ABOUT THIS? DO YOU FIND ANY BANDS WITH THIS CONCEPT INTERESTING?

Morgan: Of course pagan/ viking shit has got nothing to do with Black metal, but I find BATHORY's "Hammerheart" and "Twilight Of The Gods" (the line ends here... I don't have a clue what Morgan tried to say. -Esa). Black metal is exclusively Satanic!

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT BLACK METAL SCENE TODAY AND WHAT DIFFERENCES CAN BE FOUND WHEN YOU COMPARE IT TO THE SCENE OF '90, THE YEAR WHEN MARDUK WAS CREATED? HOW HAVE YOU CHANGED FROM THOSE DAYS?

Morgan: We haven't changed, we are still working in the same vein as always. The scene has not changed either in any way except for the fact that it has been totally crowded which is both positive and negative. It's positive 'cause more and more starts to work for the devil and negative 'cause more and more shitty albums sees the light of day.

YOU HAVE BEEN AROUND FOR SIX YEARS AND YOUR CONCEPT HAS BEEN ALWAYS THE SAME, HOW LONG YOU BELIEVE YOU FIND ENOUGH INTERESTED TO CONTINUE WRITING SONGS AND LYRICS FOR BAND LIKE MARDUK? WHAT IS SO FASCINATING IN ALL THIS?

Morgan: MARDUK is now going on it's seventh year and our concept is still the same as it is the only thing we are living for. The darkside is an everlasting inspiration and the strongest side a man can belong and our call, so there you have it.

THAT WAS IT. ANYTHING TO ADD?

Legion: I can mention that we recorded the German dates on the "Heaven Shall Burn..." tour which we will release as the live album "Germania" later on this spring which will be followed up by our forthcoming albums "Nightwing" and "Panzer Division MARDUK. Anyway, DEATH TO PEACE!!

Allright, that was Morgan and Legion. This wasn't our first interview with MARDUK and if they continue to create as superior albums like they have done this far this will not be the last either. Support quality music and fuck your god!

-New Adress-

MARDUK

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SWEDEN

BEHEMOTH



BEHEMOTH

POISONING THE WORLD WITH METAL...



"After long unearthly journey through unknown dimensions, lords of Pomeranian heathendom, BEHEMOTH are back with the second full-length piece of supreme art titled "GROM". This masterpiece contains eight brand new chants of heathen sorcery, which will bring back the long awaited spirits to their roots, to the mighty landscapes of the Baltic Sea area...

BEHEMOTH is the oldest, still existing Black metal band from Poland, that has been always dedicated to the underground and it's roots. Along with Hungarian TORMENTOR and Czech MASTER'S HAMMER the darkest horde ever to emerge from Eastern Europe..."

Do I have to add more? Let's hear the rest of it from Nergal...

The Spell Has Been Cast!

FIRST OF ALL I WOULD LIKE TO ASK WHY DID YOU DECIDED TO MOVE FROM PAGAN RECORDS (POL) TO GERMAN SOLISTITIUM WHO WERE THE ONE TO RELEASE YOUR NEW ALBUM? ARE YOU GOING TO STAY WITH THEM IN THE NEAR FUTURE?

Nergal: In my opinion it was necessary to move another label just to get better distribution, more suitable conditions, etc. You see, PAGAN RECORDS is very good label for debuts, like we had at the time we signed with Tomasz, the chief of company. But I wanted to do a next big step in our development and it was a must for us to get deal abroad as it would help us to spread the hellish wings wider! By the way, SOLISTITIUM RECORDS is quite small company but they work as hell, they seem to become very big and known label in near future, and I strongly believe in these words. The label co-operates with lotsa good distributing mailorders, some more/less professional mags, trying to promote their bands the best way possible so I really can't complain. Recently they've organized a tour for us, together with Polish CHRIST AGONY and Norwegian HELHEIM, and I think it turned out very successful. I hope it'll help to promote our new album and the band's name everywhere it's possible.

BEHEMOTH SEEM TO BE THE MOST RESPECTED BAND IN THE POLISH SCENE AND YOU HAVE BEEN TOLD TO BEAT MANY OF THE BETTER SCANDINAVIAN BANDS AS WELL... DO YOU BELIEVE YOU HAVE REALLY DESERVED THIS CREDIT AND WHAT MAKES YOU SO SPECIAL?

Nergal: It's really hard for me to judge if we are special, better or whatever you want. Of course I find my own band very special for myself but that's obvious, I think. I treat BEHEMOTH very seriously and I try to do everything concerning the band in the most professional way. I always do my best. Well, it's nice when people appreciate our art, you know, statements like you mentioned above are kinda honour for us as personally I think that Scandinavian Metal scene is the strongest one. But backing to the question... I can't say what makes us special in the eyes of the listeners. Hm, hope it's mainly music, in our very specific and individual form.

BOTHER YOU THAT SOME PEOPLE ARE VERY PISSED OF WITH WHAT YOU STATED AND HOW MUCH YOU PAY ATTENTION FOR WHAT OTHERS THINK ABOUT YOUR VIEWS AND MUSIC?

Nergal: I don't give a shit about what people think about this statement, really. Honestly speaking I believe there are not that many guys around who have problem because of that. You see, these arrogant words were directed for some fuckin' assholes from very ignorant Polish so called Black metal scene. At the moment I don't need to repeat such words just because our position in the european scene is kinda 2FUCK OFF to all those wankers who didn't believe in BEHEMOTH, were trying to fight us or disturb us in any way. I hope they have already realized that WE, bards of

pomeranian heathendom, BEHEMOTH are far beyond earthly dimensions, where they still rot. With our magnificent art, strong antichristian attitude we'll always milestone ahead of this disgusting plague! The BEHEMOTH's spell has been cast!

WHAT I TRULY MISSED IN YOUR NEW ALBUM WAS THE ANCIENT SPIRIT AND OLD BATHORY- INFLUENCE WHICH WAS VERY STRONG IN YOUR MCD ON ENTHROPY PRODUCTIONS... ARE YOU GOING TO RETURN THIS OLD FEELING IN SOME OF YOUR NEW RELEASES AND WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS FANTASTIC MCD IN GENERAL?

Nergal: It's fantastic, he, he... But seriously, I still adore this stuff. Eventhough the tracks are not that fresh anymore we play "Transilvanian Forest" live, for instance. When it comes to the music from this Mini-album, yes, it's true that it was highly inspired by early BATHORY- LP's and some other old Death/ Thrash metal bands from the mid of eighties. And well... at that time it was great indeed, but you must know that BEHEMOTH is not going to repeat himself on each new release. It would be rather boring to record the same albums all the time, don't you think? We're progressing with each riff, each arrangement, each song we make and I would like it to stay the way it is... You know, everything is going great till we're developing, if you get what I mean. If you listen to our new album "Grom" more carefully

you'll hear even more so called "old" influences, hm, maybe a bit more aggressive and brutal but they still exist in our music, it's quite natural for me. Finishing this theme, I personally think that "Grom" is much closer to our Mini-album when it comes to arrangements and it's brutality than our first LP "Sventovith". But as always the new release is definitely more matured and great... at least in my eyes.

IT SEEMS LIKE YOU NERGAL WERE THE ONLY REAL MEMBER IN YOUR MCD AND THE REST OF THE GUYS WERE MARKED AS SESSION MUSICIANS... BUT NOW BAAL (DRUMS) IS BACK AS A FULL MEMBER AND ALSO LES (BASS) HAS BEEN TAKEN INTO YOUR LINE- UP, SO NOW I'M FORCED TO ASK WHY YOU WERE THE ONLY MEMBER IN YOUR MCD AND WHAT CAN YOU TELL ABOUT THE NEW MEMBER, LES? IS IT HARD TO FIND SUITABLE MEMBERS IN POLAND? WHAT HAPPENED TO FROST AND OLCUS?

Nergal: I won't spend my time on talking about all the creatures that were involved in BEHEMOTH. It would take too much space and believe me, there is nothing interesting to talk about... I'd rather concentrate on the present time, ok? So, at the moment Baal left the band as he is totally dedicated to his own band called HELLBORN. You see, it was impossible to continue it longer and we found out that the best way to solve this problem. By the way, I would recommend you to check out their MCD called "Hellborn" (PAGAN REC.) It's really worth money, believe me! At the moment I'm working with a new drummer whose name is Inferno and he is permanent member just like Les (Did you know that Swedish SWORDMASTER contains member called Inferno as well? Esa). Their main band is DAMNATION, it's kind of Death/Black metal in the vein of early MORBID ANGEL and you should check out their second album which is now out on German LAST EPITAPH Rec. Hm, what can I say about new BEHEMOTH- members. They are very strong individuals, dedicated to evil arts and Black/ Death metal. We're working together on the new tracks... It should be a surprise.



Metal Of Hell

MOST OF THE NEW BANDS DON'T CARE FOR SOLOS ANYMORE EVEN THOUGH THE OLD ONES DID, THIS DOESN'T GO FOR YOU AS YOU HAD THOSE INFERNAL, BLOOD FREEZING ELECTRIC SOLOS ESPECIALLY IN YOUR MCD (AGAIN!). WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS? ARE YOU INFLUENCED BY SOME OLD BANDS?

Nergal: As I said in one of the first answers, we are inspired by old metal bands what is quite easy to notice when you listen to our songs. Especially me and Les are influenced by the German Death/ Thrash scene with bands like old KREATOR/ TORMENTOR, SODOM, POISON, MINOTAUR, DESTRUCTION. I am also inspired by some power metal bands like RUNNING WILD or HELLOWEEN and as you probably know they all had these great, bloodfreezing solos in almost every track which we found very interesting. Well, it's rather impossible to reach the same level as

"BEHEMOTH SITS ON THE HIGHEST THRONE"... CAN YOU TELL US WHAT DID YOU MEANT WITH THIS STATEMENT, DOES IT

"The pagans were just a bunch of stupid farmers, totally overrated by the crowd of today." - Morgan of MARDUK

Mike from DESTRUCTION but we still try to keep this old tradition alive, anyway. I'm going to do it again on our future releases as we are in better technical condition now... it should sound more professional than before, I believe.

YOU HAVE CHOSEN TO CALL YOUR MUSIC "PAGAN BLACK METAL"- WHAT PAGANISM HAS TO DO WITH BLACK METAL AND WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO MIX THEM? "THE PAGANS WERE JUST A BUNCH OF STUPID FARMERS, TOTALLY OVERRATED BY THE CROWD OF TODAY"- WHAT CAN YOU SAY ABOUT THESE WORDS? WHAT DOES PAGANISM MEAN TO YOU?

Nergal: We have chosen this name for our music 'coz it simply fits it very well. It fits our personalities, art we create and all that we stand for. You see, I come from the area that keeps lotsa great, ancient mysteries, myths, legends and history as well. Personally I am heavily into heathen history of the land where I live and not only. There were also lot of other great civilizations in the past and I hail Europe of a thousand tribes. Well, when it comes to statements you've mentioned it only proves that the one who said this has no fuckin' knowledge about history, that's all. I don't give shit about ignorants... But back to the topic, I must admit that BEHEMOTH is a Black metal band, definately. It's true that our concept is in some parts based on folklore, pagan past and history but it only makes our music essential and individual. We don't deny our Satanic roots and if you read the lyrics from our new album (for instance "Thou Shal Forever Win" or "Rising Proudly Towards The Sky") you'll probably feel our Satanic expression hidden within these tunes. You see, the point is that I'm not an ignorant to my roots and I strongly believe in the mighty and magnificent past of my forefathers and I just put all the feelings straight from my heart and soul into the music I write. That's what I feel and can't deny the blood that runs in my veins.

POLISH SCENE IS NOT TOO APPRECIATED IN THE SCENE OF TODAY, NOT LEAST BECAUSE OF "YOUR" MASSIVE RIP-OFF REPUTATION... ARE YOU AWARE OF THIS, WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT YOUR SCENE AND WHICH BANDS (BESIDE BEHEMOTH) YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECOMMEND US?

Nergal: It's true that this scene sucks and there is lotsa shit bands around, but as I said before, we are far above the plague... The bands worth mentioning are for sure: VADER, CHRIST AGONY, DAMNATION, HELLBORN, KAT, DECEMBERS FIRE, IMPERATOR... Maybe I forgot something but nobody's perfect.

AS WE ALL KNOW YOU USE SUCH THINGS AS CORPSE PAINTINGS, BLACK LEATHER, AXES, SWORDS AND SUCH IN YOUR PHOTOS- WHAT ALL THIS REALLY MEANS TO YOU, HOW IMPORTANT THEY ARE FOR YOU AND DO YOU HAVE ANY OPINIONS ABOUT PEOPLE WHO THINK THINGS LIKE THIS ARE CHILDISH AND RIDICULOUS?

Nergal: These things have accompanied us since the beginning and I'm not going to resign from it because someone doesn't like it, thinks it's childish or just because it has become fashion recently. I still think that it perfectly fit our perso-

nalities, our music and concept behind the band. I won't talk about it's origins and roots because it wouldn't have any bigger sense. One thing is certain, we do what we feel right and honest with ourselves, so I won't bother my head about anyone who dislikes my attitude... The only thing I can advice him is not to listen to Black metal if he doesn't understand it's meaning.

OLD FASHIONED, UGLY BLACKTHRASH IS DOING A HUGE RETURN IN TODAY'S SCENE WITH SUCH BANDS AS BEWITCHED (SWE), AURA NOIR (NOR) OR DODHEIMSGARD (NOR) TO NAME A FEW- HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THIS? IS IT GOOD OR BAD THING AND DO YOU HAVE ANY OPINION ABOUT THESE SPLENDID GROUPS I MENTIONED?

Nergal: I must admit that I totally adore this return and I really like the bands you mentioned above. Guess I could also add NIFELHEIM from Sweden, GEHENNAH or INFERNO from Norway. Well, yes, maybe it becomes a real trend but I don't care about the shit until it's quality music I like. As I said in one of the answers you can also

the main reason why it has been called a rip off, but I don't care about it anymore. Now I have different ideals and to name few of them, Roman Kostrzewski from KAT, Atilla from TORMENTOR, Cronos from VENOM (the best one!) or Schmier from DESTRUCTION. These are my fave and ideals and eternal inspirations. Hail to the ancient ones!

BEHEMOTH SEEM TO DO SOME COVER SONGS AS WELL- IN YOUR DEBUT DEMO YOU DID THE SUPREME "AGRESSOR" FROM HELLHAMMER AND THE SECOND DEMO HAD "DEATHCRUSH" FROM THE TRUE MAYHEM... WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO COVER THESE PARTICULAR TRACKS AND DO YOU PLAY ANY OTHER COVER SONGS? WILL THERE BE SOME OF THEM IN YOUR FUTURE RELEASES?

Nergal: Since I remember we have been playing covertones of other bands and we have always been finding it a great idea... I think there is no other special reason for it than simply that we enjoy it alot. Yes, we play also many different



feel this old fashioned spirit in our music but it's not that essential anymore. You know, the point is that mentioned above bands do just SODOM, KREATOR or DESTRUCTION rip off (And MOTORHEAD+ VENOM when it comes to GEHENNAH! Esa) and they absolutely doesn't care about the opinions, the medias, etc. and that's great. Most of them seem to live this old Thrash spirit and it's quite obvious that they play that kind of metal in the mid of nineties. I have nothing more to add.

YOUR VOCALS IN "FROM THE PAGAN VASTLANDS"- DEMO WERE OFTEN CALLED AS IMMORTAL RIP-OFFS ("DIABOLICAL FULLMOON MYSTICISM"+ THEIR 7 INCH), HAVE YOU NOTICED THE SAME THING AND WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT IT? DO YOU HAVE ANY VOCAL INFLUENCES NOWADAYS?

Nergal: Maybe I was influenced by IMMORTAL too much at that time and I also did some of these "wow, wow" screams on this tape... I think it was

ones, especially of BATHORY, VENOM, DANZIG, KAT and will surely do it in the future, so... Why did we choose HELLHAMMER and MAYHEM? I believe no words are needed to explain what role they used to play for whole Metal scene. These tracks were kind of tributes to these glorious bands. Through them we wanted to show our respect and I must admit that I'm pretty satisfied with that. For instance we're playing "The Freezing Moon" by MAYHEM on live performances and it's turning out great in my opinion...

THERE HAS BEEN SOME CHURCH BURNINGS IN POLAND AS WELL, DO YOU HAVE ANY OPINIONS ABOUT THIS? DO YOU FEEL DESTROYING GOD'S HOUSES IS RIGHT THING TO DO, DOES IT HELP THE DESTRUCTION OF CHRISTIANITY IN ANY SERIOUS WAY? DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WILL THERE BE ANY BURNINGS IN POLAND IN THE NEAR FUTURE?

Nergal: So far I have tried to concenrate mostly on my music and to be dedicated to it in 100%, therefore have not been involved in such actions. I haven't thought about it as well because I know there are many more succesful ways to reach the goal, destruction of weakness. Yes, there were some churchburnings in Poland but I wouldn't be so sure if it was that succesful. In my opinion it only made christians stronger and forced them to keep together against an antichristian weapon. That is my opinion. Of course I support all the anti-church actions and it's always great when the fire is set upon the Jehovas palace. But I think there are no special effects of these efforts, well, I guess maybe just selfsatisfaction.

Endless Damnation

YOU WERE SIGNED TO PAGAN RECORDS DIRECTLY AFTER YOU RELEASED YOUR REHEARSAL TAPE (III), DON'T YOU THINK THE DEAL CAME QUITE FAST, DO YOU THINK YOU REALLY DESERVED THIS DEAL EVEN WHEN YOU DIDN'T HAVE A SINGLE REAL DEMO OUT? WHICH TRACKS THIS REHEARSAL INCLUDED AND HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT IT TODAY?

Nergal: The sound was very poor and the songs weren't that good, especially because of the very bad production I guess. But I still enjoy some riffs and I believe that if we were able to record this stuff once again in a professional studio it would turn out very well, for sure. Of course "Endless Damnation" demo tape is not anylonger available so if there is anyone who owns this one, he must be very lucky. It was sold in 100 copies, I guess, I thank gods that no more... To make it clear, the deal with PAGAN Rec. we got before, we signed them for full length LP. It was a contract just for releasing a professional demo tape, that's it. It's called "The Return Of The Northern Moon" and it was followed by "From The Pagan Vastlands" which is quite known I think. Then came the right time to release the first LP of BEHEMOTH so we decided

to give our future to the hands of PAGAN Rec. and I must admit that we don't regret it. So, as you can see, we were waiting for a real contract for almost three years which is quite long period of time, I think. Today if you play this so called Black metal you can get deal easily and that's shame... I hate most of present bands. They bring nothing fresh nor new into this kind of music.

IN OUR PREVIOUS ISSUE BAAL TOLD THAT "NOWADAYS YOU ARE ABLE TO EARN SOME MONEY WITH YOUR MUSIC AND HOPE TO BUY BETTER EQUIPMENT IN THE FUTURE"... SO ARE YOU ABLE TO LIVE WITH YOUR MUSIC AND WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE IDEA? DO YOU HAVE ANY OPINIONS ABOUT "DIE HARD BM- FREAKS" WHO THINK THAT YOU ARE NOT "ALLOWED" (!?) TO EARN MONEY WITH BLACK METAL?

Nergal: No, I'm not able to live off my music and that is a pity, but finally I'm able to buy some

"The one who said this has no fuckin' knowledge about history, that's all. I don't give shit about ignorants... -Nergal

new equipment and that is excellent. I don't think about these idiotic rules, really. Years ago bands like SODOM, BATHORY, or VENOM didn't care about shit like this. They earned lotsa money and nobody said anything negative about it because their music were the most important thing. What do I think about "die-hard BM freaks"? I guess that I should call them "die hard hardcore freaks" because all those silly rules! Hey, who really did establish it (There are many of these people out there, but I guess that your landmate Capricornus of crappy GRAVELAND is good example for this. Esa? He? It's typical for hardcore bands not to sell that many records, stay in the fuckin' underground, print unprofessional fuckin' xerox flyers and earn no money because all these, called by them, "commercial" tricks will kill the music and the scene. To be honest, I would like BEHEMOTH to be a really big and important band on the Metal scene, therefore I am going to conquer the world with our Black metal art and that's the point. I won't waste my tie on chatting about what is true and what isn't (Nobody asked you to, I simply don't want to hear the word True anymore. Ever! Esa). I won't listen to anybody who tries to tell me what is good and what is wrong as long as I'm honest with myself! That's my opinion and if anybody feels or thinks different way, let him fuck off!

BEHEMOTH DOESN'T DO GIGS. WHAT IS THE REASON FOR THIS AND IS THERE ANY POSSIBILITIES THAT THIS COULD CHANGE IN THE FUTURE? DO YOU PERSONALLY EVEN VISIT ANY CONCERTS?

Nergal: Well, I think you have some not so fresh informations (Yeah, maybe, but this was taken directly from some of your old interviews where you said there will be NO gigs- Esa). The truth is that we have already played live. For the last four months we played about 15 gigs and most of them were quite successful I think. Recently, in september '96 we played a tour in Europe called PAGAN TRIUMPH TOUR. We were together with Polish CHRIST AGONY and Norwegian Metal act called HELHEIM. We visited the most interesting places in Germany, Holland and Belgium and believe me, mostly there were just terrific! Especially the crown id Essen, Berlin and Fraurouth in Germany, was the most aggressive and mad. It proved me that there is still Metal spirit alive and it won't die as long as all the fans are really devoted to darkness and METAL! Of course we are going to play a tour next year if possible. So far it's the best way to reach the biggest amount of souls, to poison them with Metal and cast the Blasphemous spell upon them!

Possessed By EVIL

AS WE ALL KNOW THERE HAS BEEN SOME EXTREMELY VIOLENT HAPPENINGS AROUND SOME BLACK METAL BANDS (NOT ONLY IN NORWAY!), SO DO YOU BELIEVE BLACK METAL- MUSIC REALLY HAS THE POWER TO POSSESS AND TWIST THE MIND OF HUMANS AND MAKE THEM DO THINGS LIKE THIS? HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF SOMEONE WOULD COMMIT A MURDER AFTER LISTENING YOUR MUSIC, WHICH YOUR LABEL AFTER ALL ADVERTISES AS "VIOLENT"?

Nergal: I don't try to spread any propaganda through my tunes (what would surely influence some people) but I really believe that evil music can posses the souls. I have said it before. If people are strongly dedicated to music they listen to, feel it and live it then it's a proof itself of their devotion. I don't care what the music will bring to their minds, how it will influence them. I don't care about it because it's not my business anymore. I am an artist, not a psychologist.



"Metal spirit is alive and it won't die as long as all the fans are really devoted to darkness and METAL!"

OBVIOUSLY YOU ARE VERY FASCINATED BY WOODS AND NATURE IN GENERAL, WHAT IS SO OBSSIVE IN IT AND WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT PEOPLE WHO DESTROY IT? DO YOU THINK LOVE FOR NATURE AND BLACK METAL HAS SOMETHING IN COMMON?

Nergal: Yes, it's true that I'm very much into nature. I think there is nothing strange in it as it simply is important part of my life, it is my life. You see, human life, it's character, instincts, everything is based on nature and that's the reason why I so adore it. I wouldn't like anybody to think of me as a mr. greenpeace or such, I just have a very big respect for what surrounds me, nature in it's mighty form.

When it comes to the second question, I think it does. At least for me as I'm part of Black metal and what it stands for. I believe that everything depends on an individual interpretation. In my opinion it would be rather silly if the satanist denied the nature 'coz he is simply part of it. But as I have pointed before, it depends on interpretation.

NOW IT'S TIME TO LOOK AT THE CRYSTAL BALL AND TELL WHAT CAN WE WAIT SOMETHING NEW FROM YOU AND IN WHICH FORM IT WILL COME OUT? ARE YOUR DEMOS STILL FOR SALE?

Nergal: There is a picture disc format of our second album "Grom" coming in few days (SOLISTITIUM). It will be followed by usual LP version as well. PAGAN RECORDS/ LAST EPITAPH are releasing our demo tape on white vinyl, it will be strictly limited, so if you are a vinyl freak, just get it, it@ a collectors item. If anyone is interested in other BEHEMOTH- merchandice like T- shirts, long-sleeves, bios, photos, CD's, etc let him write to the label and ask prices. I can assure that all our stuff is professional and of high quality. You won't regret buying it. If it comes to future releases, we are going to record an EP in the beginning of '97 to fill the waiting time between full length albums. The third masterpiece is going to be recorded in the second part of '97, I guess.

THANK YOU, NERGAL! IS THERE SOMETHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD BEFORE WE

CLOSE THE GATE?

Nergal: Thank you for the support and interesting questions! I'd like to greet all the finnish freaks

out there, especially Northwind from I CAME FROM DARKNESS and Teemu from DARKWOODS MY BETROTHED. There is nothing more to add, maybe except to: Hear the voices from Hell and await the conquerors next coming!

That was Nergal. Interested parties can obtain "Grom" from SOLISTITIUM Records, prices and adress can be found from the flyer enclosed elsewhere in this magazine. "Sventevith" CD goes for \$19 from PAGAN RECORDS. Personally I am not much into BEHEMOTH's other releases, but you can take this interview as a tribute to their M-CD which is simply great. I could also point out that the HELLHAMMER- cover, "Agressor" from their first demo is supreme! Poison the world with Metal of Death!

BEHEMOTH

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POLAND

**PAGAN RECORDS/
HOLOCAUST MAG.
P.O. BOX 12
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POLAND**

Soulgrind

SOULGRIND-
"La Manza, El Himno Pagano" CD
(MMI RECORDS)

"This Is Music For The Few, You Yove It Or You Hate It". Well, we got this in a big promo package and after listening four first tracks from this album I was sure that I hate this! Utter piece of worthless crap! The album lasts for 46 minutes and can be described as mixture between Metal and Industrial music. Songtitles include "The Pit", "Santa Sangre", "Kouta", "Summoning" and "Dark Misty Trail" (to name some of them) and they are

just as shit as they can get. I am not openminded person when it comes to music and I can't stand this. Trying to find atleast some positive aspects from this album would be completely hypocrite so I won't do that. Do not buy!

MMI RECORDS
c/o Markus Woeste
Heerstrasse 77
58553 Halver
GERMANY

MORTICIAN-
"House By The Cemetery" - CD
(RELAPSE REC.)

Brutal Death metal is the name of the game here. We find this utterly shit and annoying album and we can't see point why someone could actually like this. Also lyrics (which are enclosed in the inner covers) are worth of shit. Is there any fans left for this kind of megaboring stuff? We don't know, we don't care and we rather not write anything about this. The only problem is that this came in a promo package. Buy if you want.



RAGNAROK-
"Nattfard" CD '96
(HEAD NOT FOUND)

Here is another new Norwegian band which will appeal for most of you out there for sure and I'm also convicted that this one will sell well. Why? Because most of you people out there swallow everything that comes from Norway. I know it and I surely do not understand that. I think this is boring as hell, musicianship is clumsy, the lyrics are shit (and full of spelling errors) and the music is mixture of ten other Norwegian Black metal (or whatever) bands which has made all this far more effective way few years ago. I feel like I have heard every single riff in this album before and when I read the lyrics same time when I listen to the already shit music all hope is lost. This is bad indeed. If you can't write correct such simple words as "Mother Mary", "with", "winterland", "sent", "world", "ripped out", "whisper", "extreme" and many more then you should perhaps not print them in the covers where everybody can laugh at them. There is absolutely nothing I would call positive in this album. No wait! I liked the covers though, but does it help?

Go and buy this, I know you will. You know, it's Norwegian, they have corpsepaints and some of the lyrics are written in their native language. I still prefer load of other albums which has been obviously great inspiration for RAGNAROK. Support the originators, not cheap rip offs.

RAGNAROK
Box 489
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NORWAY

**EROA
KIRKOSTA**

- piiskaa jehoville!

Kill Yourself!!! - saga I: Journey to Saarijärvi

Here's a funny story about well organized chaos in Black metal gig in Saarijärvi, the Black Hole of Finland.

KILL YOURSELF!!! was of course present as well as HORNA, UTGARD (local teen Black metallers, formerly known as UTGARD LOKI) and VORNAT. We know a few names of the local bastards but as we speak of experience, it might be wise not to mention those names here...

When we heard about a gig like that, we automatically thought: "Well, shitty acts in a shitty town, but it's always great to go conquer a new place, to do some camping, spread some propaganda in form of KILL YOURSELF!!! 'Zine and to drink a huge amount of beer" so we packed up, and headed towards Saarijärvi with nothing else in mind than listen to metal and have a good time.

What happened? Ha ha, after few hundred kilometers of speeding we arrived to the place. Quiet little town, we thought, nothing special. After we had parked our car and bought some more beer, there comes a guy from some band and tells that the gig is probably cancelled due to the announcements done to the police by local hystericals. You see, when so many, say 40, Satan worshippers gather into one small place you have to expect at least some church burnings or stuff like that.

But after some time we heard that the journey hadn't been waste of time and that the gig was going to be after all.

We went to our car and took our camping things and started to walk away to look for good place when this one son-of-his-own-sister comes and asks if we "had come here to pick a fight and beat people". Leaving no room for answer he punches several hits to us all and yells like a monkey. What is a man to do in a situation like that? Dunno, at least I took my Morningstar (R.I.P.) and made a plan: When he comes again, we'll simply crush his empty head. Might sound a little short-tempered, but you should have been there... Nothing happened though, because when we were warming up for some serious damage there

came a police, and took our weapons away. The local fuck was released, of course.

Then we took our tent and made a camp into city area near some stupid sport field and life was good. However, some farmers started to circle around us near to the concert place with their old TOYOTA's and Madonna tapes playing loud. And just like if that wasn't enough, they had some stupid whore with 'em laughing at us. Ugly bitch that was, if we may say!

We thought what we thought, but did it silently and absolutely not in any irritating way, we didn't see them if it was up to us.

When they realized we are not going to attack them but to drink beer and have our own conversations they got pissed off, so they parked near and came to ask if we had come there to sacrifice their beloved cats (no joke, that's what they said with serious face). We said that we don't use cats and after those glue-sniffers had carefully and slowly thought it over, they left.

Then police of course told us to move our Satanic Temple (our tent) away because there was houses near and they didn't want us to show bad example for their kids. I'd say there's enough bad example when family father makes love to his daughter but I guess that is a very decent thing to do in Saarijärvi.

When a gig begun, there started to be more and more of these inbreeders, and when Esa (hail) left to the grill nearby to have something to eat (not something to beat or something to burn) he quickly returned with ripped shirt but no food! Indeed that was irritating, but there's more to come. When HORNA played, some women came to tell us not to panic, but the house was besieged. Fuck! Then we checked outside just to see these lowlife farmers standing shoulder to shoulder and probably practising some homosexual activities. Someone was waving an axe and one had stolen his father's airgun now aiming at us...

The most brave ones came even quite near the window but when we started to take pictures for this issue they got really scared and ran away to

the forests and never returned.

Generally there were people from every village nearby and that's a lot of tractors and rubber boots let me tell you.

And what can you expect when two hundred dicks stand erect all at one? When they see cars that probably belong to these horrible Satan worshippers God tells them to ruin the tires of course!

So after they'd prayed all together they selected few heroic crusaders to do the holy work with dagger, seven tires were broken (from our car only one). And all these cro-magno humans were yelling like pigs when we came out from the building.

At least the Law and Order Inc. were kind

enough to be there when we changed our tire and to arrange police cars after AZAZEL and HORNA when gig ended, but if they can't handle a bunch of fuckers outside a house, they might as well legalize murder and let us arrange situations like that ourselves.

Fortunately we had a chance to spend a night at some local kind girls (well, of course they weren't born in Saarijärvi but moved there some time ago, that explains a lot) and in the morning we left to buy a new tire.

Did it end here? Hell no! First we had to wait for the tire about four hours (and that was some used lousy one) and second, when we started to change it, those same fucking shitheadgluesnifferlowlifescums aargh! I'm choking on my own rage here! They came and



told us really slow that they didn't want us there and that they wanted us to leave. Like we hadn't get that! How fucking stupid can a "man" get when he's inbred?

So when I explained that "yes, we realized that because we are not stupid, but we'll have to change this tire before we can leave, so if you could just excuse us for a moment..." they got really confused and were withdrawn a little back. Then one of them (really disgusting bastard with some kind of plague all over his face) came back and tried to explain it again but then he got mixed up in his words so he slapped a friend of mine to the face.

It was this time their luck, that there happened to be a cop in that SHELL service station, because we had really had enough from them and the end would have been really different without that officer. But he came, the lowlifes left to do some inbreeding and farming, and we left back home without even getting a change for revenge.

Now, we are sure there's a lot of tough guys out there reading this who say how they would have handled things, but we would really like to see how do you handle that kind of crowd (it was 40 against 200-300)? Welcome to the next gig in Saarijärvi!

And at the end another humorous story from the same place. Finnish rockband PUNAISET MESSIAAT (=RED MESSIAHS in English) were supposed to play in Saarijärvi too, but it didn't work out because everyone there thought they were a Satanic band and their gig bus was attacked! Ha ha.

Well, if this is the way people get treated when all they have in mind is to watch bands and spend time with other metallers I really wonder when someone still has guts to tell there is a God and that we all his children. The Higher force must be a bitch when these kind of half-man-half-apes are free to run in the streets...

May the wild rabious dogs besiege the church of Saarijärvi next sunday morning, because we know you all are there then! Maybe there's gonna be a wedding, between mr. R. (suffer you ultimate scum!) and his mother, ha ha! DIE!

SYYTÄJÄN RANGAISTUSVAATIMUS

Vaadin Sitomaniemelle rangaistusta seuraavasta rikoksesta:

Vaarallisen teräaseen hallussapito yleisellä paikalla.

Sitomaniemi on 20.4.1996 Saarijärvellä Saarijärven kaupungin omistaman, nuorison kokoontumistilana käytetyn nuorisotalon piha-alueella iiman hyväksyttävää perustetta pitänyt hallussaan toisen vahingoittamiseen käytettäväksi tarkoitettua 44 senttimetrin pituisesta teräsketjusta ja sen päähän kiinnitetyistä 6 senttimetrin pituisesta ja 70 gramman painoisesta teräskartiosta valmistettua, yhteispainoltaan 260 gramman painoista lyömäasetta, joka esitutkinnan yhteydessä on otettu takavarikkoon.

Lainkohdat: Teräaseasetus 1 §

Teräaselaki 1 §, 3 § ja 6 §

BATHORY

-The Legend Never Dies

Now here's something fucking fantastic, an interview with Quorthon of the almighty BATHORY.

When I made this 'view I was quite sure it would never come back and made it very short although I had much more to ask. But Quorthon surprised me with maybe the longest and greatest answers ever seen in the pages of KILL YOURSELF!!! Magazine and with a good attitude.

Now when I look at today's underground and see these new Black metal fans who consider EMPEROR and BURZUM as "old good bands", I'm really pissed off, BATHORY was around in early '80's and is around now and has made albums that are absolutely masterpiece among this giant ocean of shit quality trend bands.

People & Zinemakers who call themselves metallers but do not recognize a song of BATHORY should not be taken seriously.

So let's hear it from Quorthon...

In Conspiracy With Satan

QREETINGS, QUORTHON! HOW ARE YOU AND WHAT ARE THE LATEST HAPPENINGS IN BATHORY-CAMP?

Quorthon: Hi Timo, well I'm great. We have just finished the mastering of "Blood On Ice" and are starting to build up a schedule for the promotion of the album (to be released end of April).

SO IT SHOULD BE OUT BY NOW. LET'S TALK A BIT ABOUT THE PAST. BATHORY HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN INFLUENCE TO ALMOST EVERY YOUNG BLACK METAL BAND. NO WONDER WHY, YOUR FIRST LP, "BATHORY", IS EVEN NOW A MASTERPIECE OF PURE FUCKING BLACK METAL AS FAR AS I'M CONSIDERED.

BUT AFTER ALL MUSIC YOU'VE MADE, WHAT KIND OF MEMORIES IT AWAKENS TO HEAR THE WICKED SOUND OF YOUR NO. ONE?

Quorthon: Well, the first album cost us some 2000 SKR to record and it took us about 36 hours including the sound-check and mixing, so I guess there aren't too much on that album to really sit down and analyse - except for the raw energy itself and of course the fact that it has meant a lot for Black and Death metal ever since (Even though it's not at all a great album on it's own).

If our first album, the first albums of, say VENOM or SLAYER or any other of us "old" bands, would be released today - I am sure nobody would care. Not one has to put each album into it's own "time perspective". Of course I am aware of the fact that BATHORY has been a long time influence to so many bands within both Black and Death metal - just as MOTORHEAD was an influence to us when we started BATHORY.

I should say that I haven't listened to the first album throughout since maybe in '85 or '86. I've listened to a few songs from the first album when in '93 we worked on a

couple of tracks from "Bathory" when we did "Jubileum vol. 1" and "Jubileum vol. 2".

THE NEXT LP WAS "UNDER THE SIGN OF THE BLACK MARK". I'VE HEARD THAT YOU HATE IT AND HAVEN'T LISTEN IT SINCE IT WAS MADE. WHY IS THAT? AREN'T THE SONGS LIKE "ENTER THE ETERNAL FIRE" AND "CALL FROM THE GRAVE" AFTER ALL SOME REALLY STRONG AND DARK MUSIC?

Quorthon: Correct me if I'm wrong but isn't "The Return..." (from January '85) our second album? (Fuck, I know that but when I made these questions, the computer fucked this one up! -Ed). Never mind, I think no band in history of recorded music has been able to write and record a completely great album. There are albums with handfull

of great stuff on them but there's always also some stuff on every album that isn't too good.

Not even THE BEATLES, my all time favourite band, managed to record a whole great album even if they are the greatest band that has ever been. When we did "The Return..." in January '85 and "Under The Sign Of The Black Mark" in '86 (I don't remember which month we did that one) I think we were at certain stage in our lives as people and as musicians just as we are on a different level or stage today. You develop and expand all the time and if you stay on the same spot all your life as a musician you are gonna die.

Therefore I think it's unfair to the material on old albums to sit down 10 or 11 years later and criticise it from the standpoint you're on at the time. I leave the criticising bit to other people but I never bother about reviews. One person's idea

about an album can never reflect another person's view on the same material.

Bathory's Ride Over Nordland

QHEN WE JUMP TO "BLOOD FIRE DEATH", I'M NOT INTO FAST SONGS IN IT, BUT I NEVER GET TIRED LISTENING "FINE DAY TO DIE" OR "BLOOD FIRE DEATH". YOU'VE

MENTIONED A LOT OF CLASSIC MUSIC COMPOSERS IN YOUR PLAYLISTS INCLUDING JEAN SIBELIUS. WELL I CAN SOMEHOW HEAR A PIECE OF "FINLANDIA" IN "ODEN'S RIDE OVER NORDLAND". IS IT JUST MY IMAGINATION?

Quorthon: Actually I never thought about it. If there's anything in "Odens Ride Over Nordland" that resembles of Sibelius "Finlandia" maybe it is the basic melody using A⁺ and A⁻ minor, but one must understand that stuff like that is never done intentionally and not until you now told me I started to think about it myself, so you see I never stole anything or tried to copy "Finlandia". I didn't even have it in mind at the time.

WHO MENTIONED STEALING HERE? I JUST THINK THERE IS A CERTAIN MELODY IN IT THAT BRINGS THE "FINLANDIA" IN MY MIND, AND I DIDN'T MEAN IT AS A NEGATIVE THING.

NOW, THE ALLMIGHTY "HAMMERHEART". TO ME IT'S YOUR BEST PRODUCT YET MADE. AND IN IT (PLUS IN THE NEXT, TOTG) YOU USED FIRST TIME ALL VIKING LYRICS. I BELIEVE YOU WERE THE FIRST ONE (SINCE THERE WAS THAT VIKING THING IN EVEN SOME OF THE SONGS OF BFD), WHERE DID THE IDEA FOR THAT CAME?

WAS THERE ANY OTHER BANDS USING SUCH LYRICS BACK THEN? OPINION ABOUT VIKING-METAL BANDS ARRIVING FROM SPAIN (IT HAS BEEN DONE)?

Well I don't know if "Hammerheart" is a "viking"-album. I would call it a Nordic album because we weren't too specific about vikings as such anywhere in the lyrics.



We really needed something else to write once I came to the conclusion that the whole dark or occult act was a hoax created by the christian church. The prechristian Nordic scene seemed just a natural thing to pick up for your lyrics to a couple of albums. And now tons of bands have mixed both satanism with the Nordic-cult to become something extreme also saying that BATHORY worked as influence there as well.

"Viking"-stuff from Spain? Are you kidding me? That just can't be, man...

WELL, IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN FROM ITALY TOO, BUT IS IT ANY BETTER? NO IT'S FUCKING DIRTY...

THEN A BIT MORE ABOUT THE LYRICS. I RED SOMEWHERE THAT AT THE TIME OF YOUR FIRST LP'S YOU JUST WROTE DOWN WHATEVER GOODSOUNDING THAT CAME INTO YOUR MIND. BUT WHEN I READ THE LYRICAL SIDE OF "HAMMERHEART" & "TWILIGHT OF THE GODS" OR EVEN "BLOOD FIRE DEATH", I START TO WONDER IS IT STILL THAT WAY?

HOW DO YOU HANDLE YOUR LYRICS NOWADAYS? IS THERE A HARD WORK IN EVERY TALE AS THE NEW LYRICS ARE CONSTRUCTED REALLY PROFESSIONALLY.

Quorthon: It may be true for the first album that I wrote down whatever shit came to my mind at the time that sounded good enough to make it as a lyric for a song. But when you grow as a musician and as a lyric-writer you start working a little bit more on the lyrics. By the time we did "The Return..." I had already started to think about lyrics in a much different way. Today lyrics is an effort that takes two or three times the amount of time compared to when writing a song. You can say a lot more with your lyrics than with the music so I guess it's only a natural that it should take some more time doing lyrics. Not to say that the music isn't any important, just that music seems to come natural.

THIS IS THE LAST ONE ABOUT YOUR RECORDS... I STILL HAVEN'T HEARD "OCTAGON" YET, BUT ONE SONG CAME FROM THE LOCAL RADIO TITLED "BORN TO DIE". QUITE DIFFERENT, MORE ROCK I THINK ALTHOUGH MY FRIEND CLAIMED IT TO BE AN OLD SONG. IS THIS THE BATHORY WE CAN WAIT TO HEAR FROM THE FUTURE LP'S AS WELL? THE END OF EVOLUTION? AND A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE QUORTHON-LP?

Quorthon: "Born To Die" is not an "old song" as your friend stated but it was written and recorded in January '95. I am surprised that anyone could call it a rock-song. (I don't dare to classify it to Rock-category, it's just to that way from "Twilight..."-Ed.)

There's tons of 16th-beat double-bass drums in there and hysterical vocals as well. Nevermind, I think one problem with BATHORY is that people tend to bother too much about style than actually just sitting down enjoying the stuff. People compare stuff we did in '85-'86 with one particularly song off a record today etc etc...

We know nothing of what BATHORY may sound like in the future just as little as I knew back in '85-'86 how BATHORY would sound today. One can not think of a band as a specific sound or beat style or image. People change, sounds and styles change and lyrics will change just as images come and go. Only people and bands who can not invent something of their own, their own sound or their own style will criticise others for wimping out, for not being true satanists, for being too slow or for being commercial.

I have been in this business for 13 years now. I have done 13 albums. I have done TV, Radio, and thousands of magazines and fanzines. I have fucked close to 400 girls in the ladies-room at clubs, at the toilets at Boeing 747's (A proud member of Club 10 000 Meters!-Ed.) and in the back of limousines. I must have signed a million autographs during these years. I can safely say I

"Even though I have never heard MAYHEM I think It's safe to say that it's impossible to claim that they pioneered any scene or style simply because they were not around when we made our first bunch of albums."

have recieved well over 100 000 letters over the years and to a great extend answered most of them. In other words... I have been through stuff that most bands only dream of, I am at a point today where I can just sit back and enjoy working with BATHORY as something that is really great fun and not as something that means a lot of pressure or image or stealing influences from others. I can safely say though, that I take it as an insult if you say that "Born To Die" means the end of evolution for BATHORY as band or for me as a song writer. I hope that was just a misunderstanding or a result of lack of knowledge of English from your side.

(Now listen, that was simply some dramatization from my side as I wondered was this latest product from you the kind of stuff you might want to play in the future too. I never claimed that it will be it. And how could I have after every LP BATHORY has ever made has been different and I believe it will continue that way. So do not take that as an insult for it certainly isn't so.-Ed.)

You wanted a few words regarding the "Album" as well. It was great fun thing to do. It never was a BATHORY album, it truly was a solo effort. I did everything on it myself; guitars, bass, drummachine and percussion plus of course vocals. The strange thing was that even though we expected a lot of shit reviews for it we did receive some strange criticism but never really any bad ones... and "Album" actually is one of the better selling albums at the Black Mark label... and other bands tour, make videos and produce endless piles of line-up photos and bio's... I have recieved tons of mail from people who asks me to do a second one.

Up until now I have always said "No", because the priority since the first solo-album has always been BATHORY. Last year, in May, I was actually supposed to do a second solo-album but "Blood On Ice" took all the time and was really number one priority. Now that "Blood On Ice" will be out at the end of April, maybe I will begin to record a second solo-album.

I hope you're gonna like that one better than the first one.

The Return Of Darkness And Evil

ARE YOU INTO UNDERGROUND ANYMORE? ARE YOU INTERESTED ABOUT NEW BANDS, MAGAZINES AND STUFF LIKE THAT? FAVE UG-BAND?

I THINK THAT AFTER A SHORT UNPRODUCTIVE SEASON THE SCENE HAS PRODUCED SOME REALLY FINE NEW BANDS. CAN YOU EXPECT FOR ANY GOOD BANDS ANYMORE? WHAT COUNTRY HAS THE MOST PROMISING SCENE?

Quorthon: I am really the worst possible person to ask about the Underground or new bands or even what is happening at all out there or in Sweden. I know absolutely nothing. I only know the ones that are in every magazine every fucking day, but if you'd play on me one band I could not tell you who they are or what their style is all about.

I know no bands, no new styles or images, this whole cross-over scene has really taken metal in so many different directions I have lost track. I

think it's good though coz you can not go around sounding like everybody else for too long. Just look at us, we created Black metal 13 years ago when there was only NWOBHM. And Death metal around. Then we picked up the Nordic sound and lyrics and created a whole new scene. I know that metal will always be around forever. The only thing is we can not just sit where we are and pretend we know what metal should sound like or not. The type of metal our kids will listen to in 25 years from now will be different from stuff that's around today, just as metal today is different from the stuff you and I grew up listening to respectively.

I grew up with THE BEATLES, MOUNTAIN, LED ZEPPELIN, old KISS, MOTORHEAD, SEX PISTOLS and BLACK SABBATH. Today we have a million different bands out there, the market is flooded with styles and sounds. Ultimately the ones who will get the best out of this are the fans, they only need to pick up their favourites. The shit bands will disappear and the good bands who have anything to say or who can prove themselves to be innovative will remain.

Look at the bands who were around about 13 to 10 years ago. POSSESSED are gone, HELLHAMMER/CELTIC FROST are gone, DESTRUCTION are gone, VOI VOD are gone, DEATH are gone, AT WAR are gone, SODOM are gone... and the list could be miles longer.

The only ones left from the start are really BATHORY, SLAYER, and METALLICA, and I think maybe that is because these bands have always had their unique style and have always given the fans what they want. I know that VENOM may reunite, but since they haven't sounded any good since '84 or something I see no reason why they should reunite.

I DEFINITELY AGREE, IT'S JUST A SHAME THAT THE SHITTY BANDS HANG AROUND SO LONG AND YOU HAVE TO HEAR AND SEE THEM...

BUT WHAT KIND OF PERSON ARE YOU BEHIND THE BATHORY? DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER JOB OR DO YOU LIVE OF BATHORY?

WHAT'S YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO KING ALCOHOL, ISN'T IT RELAXING TO HAVE A FEW BEERS SOMETIMES? HAVE YOU EVER BEEN INTO DRUGS?

Quorthon: When not working with BATHORY material, I guess I'm just a normal guy. I am into reading stuff, great books about great subjects, I listen to very little music on a whole, I paint alot and write alot, it's been almost 10 years since I went out to any clubs (I find it degrading to lower yourself to a level where you are drunk).

I can't even stand the smell of beer (???-Ed.) and prefer a bottle of fine old wine or very clean and pure Vodka. I used to take any type of job (mostly untaxed work) but for three years now I've been able to live from BATHORY totally. It's been taking many years for alot of people in more

than 30 countries to collect all the figures and to have all the paper-work concerning royalties and copyrights done.

And to wrap up your question: No I think drugs are for people with low intelligence and no self-discipline.

Winds Of Mayhem

YES, WELL YOU MUST HAVE HEARD THE BIG MAYHEM-STORY, DEATH OF EURONYMOUS, NORWEGIAN BLACK METAL-BOOM, CHURCH BURNINGS, MURDERS... I THINK WE SHOULD REALLY HEAR YOUR OPINION ABOUT ALL THAT.

MAYHEM BY THE WAY WAS A REALLY OLD BAND. SINCE YOU BOTH WERE PIONEERS IN THE WAY OF UG-METAL, DID YOU HAVE ANY KIND OF CONTACT WITH EURONYMOUS IN THE PAST?

Quorthon: Even though I have never heard their stuff I think it's safe to say that it's impossible to claim that MAYHEM pioneered any scene or style simply because they were not around when we made our first bunch of albums.

Nevermind, I didn't know anything about all that stuff that had happened in Norway until some English journalists jumped me with the issue when I was in London for a promo-tour for "Album" (whenever that was?).



I really don't bother about any of that. If a metal fan in Japan sets fire to his school or the director of a fanzine in Argentina eats his own shit or whatever... there's no fucking way you or I are gonna bother about it simply because these actions has not anything to do with metal as genre or us as individuals. Whatever has been done in Norway by whomever is not important at all. I couldn't care less. They can burn down every church in Norway and I still can not care at all. I can't defend it but I can understand what they are trying to do, it's an act of defiance against the christian faith... a church is the house of God... christianity is a fascist religion... Norway is very conservative country and the church has alot to say.

Fuck christianity and fuck the church... wipe the whole shit out of Scandinavia I don't care... but don't confuse it with metal and don't mix the actions with music...



IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO NOT MIX THEIR ACTIONS WITH MUSIC SINCE THEY HAVE REACHED THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE "BIGGER PRESS" AND IN THERE THEY ARE NOT AWARE OF THINGS THE WAY WE ARE, SO WHEN A BLACK METALLER BURNS A CHURCH AND HAPPENS TO HAVE SOME KIND OF BAND IT'S A STRAIGHT CONTACT BETWEEN METAL AND BURNINGS. UNFORTUNATE BUT TRUE THING... OK, LET'S MOVE ON...

YOU NEVER DO GIGS, AM I RIGHT? WHY IS THAT? I'M SURE THERE WOULD BE A GREAT AMOUNT OF AUDIENCE IN BATHORY-GIG SO THAT WOULD BE QUITE LUCRATIVE.

Quorthon: Well we used to play concerts in Stockholm back in '84 and '85. But there was no metal scene back then and no places for metal bands to play.

(Yeah, back then METALLICA played in Finland in front of 70 people. -Ed.)

If you wanted to play in the city at some big club you could not look and sound the way we used to and consequently those concerts were really small club shit.

When we became big and touring seemed the most important thing to do we of course wanted to tour Sweden, Scandinavia and Europe. But the band EUROPE was very big in Sweden in those days and everytime we had put out adds for a new drummer or bassplayer the guys who would come down the rehearsal place would smell of perfume, their hair style would look like that of a pudeland they weren't too sure if they wanted to sweat on stage or wear leather and studs.

It was really hard times trying to find people to a band like BATHORY. They may have been able to play pretty fast and brutal and consequently would end up on the records, but they would never stay in the band long enough for BATHORY to have a solid line-up and therefore there was never any tours and concerts after '85. In '86-'87 sometime, we were supposed to tour with DESTRUCTION and CELTIC FROST in the United States of America. But they could never agree on anything nad I felt that our music by that time had developed so much it would have been virtually impossible to reproduce on stage what we did on record. People in both Europe and the U.S. have sent me letters and fax's telling me that if we come to play here one there they would guarantee us to get one million kronor.

Personally I am not interested in concerts and feel that it would be wrong to go on stage after all these years. I feel very comfortable with the studios and hence there will be no BATHORY tour in the future.

NOW THIS IS A QUESTION THAT SHOULD MAYBE HAVE BEEN AT THE END OF THIS VIEW, BUT WHAT THE HELL...

IN SOME MAGAZINE (I THINK IT WAS NORWEGIAN ONE), YOU SAID SOMETHING OF YOUR LYRICS. YOU SAID THAT YOU STARTED WRITING LYRICS OF EVIL STUFF BECAUSE YOU WERE TOO YOUNG TO WRITE ABOUT FAST CARS AND WOMEN WHICH YOU HADN'T EXPIRED YET! IS THAT TRUE OR WERE YOU JOKING?

Quorthon: It's not all too wrong actually, I was very much into occults in those days and at that age (I was 16-17 when I started BATHORY) you really don't have that kind of view on life as I may have today. Our stuff in those days were really more horror type of shit than any serious attempt to be true satanista... we didn't have a clue.

THAT'S SOMETHING THE BANDS OF TODAY WOULD NOT ADMIT, BUT NO MATTER HOW "TRUE" YOU WERE, YOU MADE AN INFLUENCE OF ALLTIME WITH YOUR FIRST LP'S.

THEN TO THE LAST QUESTION, HOW LONG WILL THE TALE OF BATHORY CONTINUE IF IT'S UP TO YOU QUORTHON? IS THE MORE CHAPTERS TO COME OR HAVE WE REACHED THE BITTER END? AND IF THERE'S SOMETHING TO ADD, DO IT. I'VE SAID EVERYTHING.

Quorthon: It's really up to the fans to decide whether BATHORY should continue or not. We sell more records today that we have ever sold before. BATHORY is such a big name that everybody it seems wants to hear a new BATHORY album when we've released something, and it seems not everybody care too much about how it sounds, if it's fast or heavy or satanic or nordic or whatever... It would really be stupid to stop right here just like that.

I will certainly not be the one who decides when BATHORY should lay to rest... that will be decided by fate...

That was Quorthon of BATHORY.

There's something unique in every album of BATHORY and we have to remember that Quorthon and his first albums (which got far too little respect at the time) showed the way for Northern Black Metal being ultimate raw, dirty, and evil. And Quorthon wasn't even born and raised in Norway! How's that possible? Ha ha... Black metal turns into "Heathen Metal" or to some other "great term" and bands wimp out to sing about some stupid dwarfs, but BATHORY's Unholy Trinity ("Bathory", "The Return" & "Under The Sign Of The Black Mark") shall stand as a monument of wrath forever. Hail & kill

Deeds of Alcohol and Hate:

Pampulla kirkkoa vastaan

Kaksi 1977 syntynyttä sai vahingonteosta ja vaarallisen teräaseen hallusapidosta kuuden- ja kahdeksansadan markan sakot.

Nuoret rikkoivat lukuisia ikkunoita Keskuskirkosta 40 sentin mittaisella ketjupampulla, jonka päähän oli teipattu paino.

Enemmän sakkoja saanut oli aiemmin heilunut samanlaisen asean kanssa Saarijärvellä rokkijuhlassa.

Kill Yourself!!! Magazine #4 (2/95)

Still available!

48 A4 pages featuring interviews with: MAYHEM (Euronymous), GHEENNA, HADES, BLACK FUNERAL, ANCIENT RITES, THORNIUM, NASTROND, SIGILLUM DIABOLI, FULL MOON PROD. and more!

Also a lot of reviews.

The prices are: 20FIM/ \$5(Europe)/ \$6(elsewhere)

(Issues #4 & #5 together for 30FIM/ 8\$(Europe)/ 9\$(elsewhere)!!!)



Horna

HORNA-
"Varjoissa"-
Demo '95

This is also something that was sent us for review and honestly talking I can not give too many positive comments about it. Well, I like the cover photo (which shows Gorthaur) but apart from that this demo actually managed to bore the hell out of me. The music is very Norwegian alike (some riffs keep reminding me about both GORGOROTH and DARKTHRONE) and it's very unoriginal. The sounds are crap, especially the guitar is just horrible, playing skills are weak and the vocals are totally irritating. All of the four tracks ("Hel", "Praconum", "Surun Ikuistama Henki" and "Varjoissa") are very much alike and it's totally impossible to name the best of them. They all just suck. And if somebody is interested I could also mention that all of the lyrics are written in Finnish. And for reason or another one of them remains VERY strongly about "Finnish translation" about "Inno A Sata-na" (EMPEROR).

I lost the flyers Skald mailed for me so I can not say how much this demo actually costs but I guess 20fmk/ \$5 should be enough. I do not recommend!

HORNA
Sankikatu 9
53500 Lappeenranta
FINLAND

Lords Of The Left Hand

LORDS OF THE LEFT HAND-
"Reality Is In Evil..." Demo 1
'95

LORDS OF THE LEFT HAND doesn't follow the Norwegian or Scandinavian way of Black metal as in this demo they are more in the fast, destructive and highly blasphemous Brazilian-like vein with clear influences from early BEHERIT and especially IMPALED NAZARENE which most of you new 15 year old kids find "trendy" since they haven't burned any churches or murdered anyone.

Fuck off!!! Still I don't think this is a copy as LORDS OF THE LEFT HAND has also included something of their own in this release. This goes especially for the title track which is not fast at all but has some weird, even rock-sounding riffs. Quite original combination I must say, but I still prefer BEHERIT and IMPALED NAZARENE. The vocals deserve special credit and I love the scream "Jeesus oli homo!". Four tracks you have to face in order to survive through this blasphemous attack. I don't know the price as we received this for free. Listenable release and I'm curious what this band is up in the future.

LORDS OF THE LEFT HAND
c/o Sir Snar
Kuokkalankuja 1 A 11
13500 HML
FINLAND



EMPEROR-
"Wrath Of The Tyrant"- CD
(WILD RAGS)

As most of you may already know this CD includes EMPEROR's "Wrath Of The Tyrant" demo (from May '92 with the original line-up, being Ihsahn, Samoth, Faust and Mortiis) and two songs from their "As The Shadows Rise" 7" EP (from December '92) now pressed in the form of an CD. Needless to say but this CD is without any doubts something that every decent Black metal maniac should already posses.

What comes to the demo tracks in this CD, they have a terrible sound quality but I guess that's one of those things which makes it an brilliant piece of grim, dirty Black fuckin' metal. The

may already know Samoth received two years of imprisonment for arson, but he will be released on parole in summer '96. So he is out before you people out there read this magazine. Any letters with great importance can be mailed to adress below, but as Samoth already told me: No answers guaranteed.

EMPEROR HORDE
P.O. BOX 53
3812 Akkerhaugen
Telemark, NORWAY

Crimson Midwinter

CRIMSON MIDWINTER-
"Us Mere Mortals"- Demo 1996

Arghh... We receive more promo- material than we can fucking handle... What can I say about this one? Well, "Us Mere Mortals" is very professional package: High quality color covers with photo, great sounds, great musician ship... But does it help if music sounds boring... Many of you may wonder this review as there isn't basically nothing wrong in CRIMSON MIDWINTER and I'm sure most of you will like this... But let's put it this way: CRIMSON MIDWINTER's fast and well played Death/ Black metal (or what ever!) doesn't have the spirit. It doesn't have the soul and it leaves me empty feelings. Very soulless music. I just can't help it. Interested parties can obtain this four tracker attack for 20mk/\$5/\$6 and T-shirts (what's the point, does somebody really like this so much?) are available for 65 fmk/\$15/\$16. Demo '95 (which I haven't heard) can be ordered for blank tape and enough stamps/ IRC's.

CRIMSON MIDWINTER
c/o Jussi Helenius
Mantykankareen-
katu 14 as. 13
21200 Raisio
FINLAND



The EMPEROR horde
with old line-up

Bewitched

BEWITCHED-
"Diabolical Desecration"-CD
(OSMOSE PRODUCTIONS)

This band features ex-members of such bands as KATATONIA and infamous THRONE OF AHAAZ and their (debut?) CD "Diabolical Desecration" kills! This record is good old Black metal in the vein of old VENOM and BATHORY so picture it yourself... All songs are done in the certain destructive vein except "Firehymn" represents stuff that doesn't belong into this kind of sick record. All other songs are "good drinking music" because they make that certain feeling in your head, listening this you got it going on! Especially the songs

"Hellcult" and "Holy Whore" are an army boot atraight to your fucking face.

Names of the songs are great, being straightly about flames of HELL instead of trying to sound as much an art as possible, just look at the songs like "Burnin' Paradise", "Deathspell", "The Witches Plague" and so on...

Although I can't promise this first passion lasts, the CD is worth your money well.

It's good that someone keeps the old flame burning, this CD is "just as it seems, hard and it's heavy, dirty and mean!!".

Finally some great promomaterial.

Master's Hammer

MASTER'S HAMMER-
"Slagry"-CD
(KRON-H)

From promo package...

Yes, MASTER'S HAMMER surprises me in extremely negative manner, it's TOTAL SHIT!

There's nine songs which include at least one folksong and a Chuck Berry cover (nigger!) "Rock 'n Roll Music" without vocals of course...

One song (too hard to write) is something horrible, it makes you think of a happy little fairy jumping in forest on a sunny day and singing to squirrels and birds about his wonderful life, after a while it should make you puke...

Strange thing is that when I hear new techno hits I hate them knowing that there are people who will buy those records, but for MASTER'S HAMMER I can't picture any kind of buyers, so what's the reason for publishing this kind of shit? I guess the guys in KRONH (OSMOSE) are just too rich and have money to burn...

VORNAT

VORNAT-
"Gjotnejm"- Demo '96
(Noitatorni Tuotannot)

This young Finnish Black metal band has chosen to play Black metal in the traditional vein which doesn't bring anything new or fresh to the scene but should give satisfaction for those who are into this kind of stuff. Like their first demo, also this one is dedicated to Fenriz and Count Grishnackh and I don't see it as a wise move at all. Why to dedicate your stuff to people you haven't even met? I'm sure Fenriz and Vikernes are irritated as well when it comes to this kind of behaviour, but I guess it was the music I was supposed to talk about. Well, like already said, VORNAT plays their Black metal in the traditional vein and influences from DARKTHRONE and BURZUM (this goes especially for insane vocals which sounds just great!) are obvious, actually they are so



obvious that I don't see any reason why I should listen to this one as I can listen to the originators on Northern darkness themselves. The sounds are far better than in the bands debut demo, but it's sad to see that any of the songs in "Gjot-nejm" doesn't reach the same level as "Korppi" did in their first release- this track is simply the best stuff VORNAT has wrote. I'm sure this demo appeals for most of you out there but it didn't insure me. I have simply heard all this too many times.

VORNAT
c/o Shadow
Munsaarentie 19
48300 Kotka
FINLAND

NEFANDUS

NEFANDUS-
Behold The Hordes" Demo ' 95

Henry from SECUA DELENDIA (swe) sent this demo for us to review since they have signed NEFANDUS for full length CD... The demo starts with relaxing synth intro which is followed by the title track which represents powerful and fast Swedish Death/ Black metal with typical screaming vocals and heavy production. Rest of the tracks ("In The Moonlight", "On The Path To The Other Side" and "Death's Beaty Met" + outro) are in the same vein and all in all this release turned out to be more or less boring. The musicianship is great and the band gets potential, so their album could be good... But in the other hand it could be boring as well. Only future will tell. Anyway, this demo is only average and it doesn't contain any special elements. If you want to contact the label check out PARNASSUS- review for adress. "Behold The Hordes" goes for \$6 from the same address.

LUCIFERION

LUCIFERION-
"Demonication (The Manifest)"
(OSMOSE PRODUCTIONS)

I can't really understand the reviews this record has received. Many people have actually liked this and there has been talking like like "true Death metal", "As long as there are bands like LUCIFERION Death metal is NOT dead" and I could go on with examples. This seem to have something to do with the fact that DEMONICATION has Satanic concept, but does that really make this band worth of listening. The fact is that this could be the new CANNIBAL CORPSE or SUFFOCATION- album and this is just as boring as above mentioned bands who seem to be very hated by today's Black metal audience. The music is very technical Death metal with (horrible) growling vocals (and some screaming ones), extremely fast double bass parts, grind blasts, heavy sounds (which remained very strongly about Morrisound- production) and a cover version of SODOM's "Blasphemer" (which LUCIFERION has ruined totally, huh). There is no words to describe how boring I find this album and how irritated I get when I see people who talk shit about Morrisound- bands praising this "True Death metal"- album into heavens (or deepest of Hell?). This is just as boring as any US- Death metal band (although I like the debut of DECIDE- very aggressive album). We received this for free and this is not recommendable release... Unless you love CANNIBAL CORPSE of course. If you want true Death metal I suggest you to listen DISSEC-

TION or ZYKLON- B instead as "Demonication (The Manifest)" sucks! 34 min/ 10 songs!

PAZUZU

PAZUZU-
"Adv Tracks" + "True Witching Metal"-
unreleased Demo

Don't confuse this with Australian PAZUZU (with album out on HEAD NOT FOUND) which is plays completely different music. This one is PAZUZU from USA which seem have sworn into old styled Black metal with influences from HELLHAMMER and such (with some clear modern influences as well) and which sent this tape for us to review. The music really is influenced by older Black metal- generation and I must say that some of the tracks really create some kind of feeling inside of me. The sounds are good and the vocals are torturous, yet very monotonous and boring. Adv. tracks (for what, I was not told) include "Our Time Of Imperium Regency", "Hellhorde Reigning", "Infernal Iron Legion", "Trendkill" and "Blue Skies Of Falseness" and the unreleased demo includes the title tracks, "On Our Day Of The Triumph" and "Trendkill". I guess that interested parties can obtain these releases for blank tape and enough IRC's. PAZUZU was formerly known as INFERNAL HORDE if someone didn't know. For contacting this Black metal band write to:

PAZUZU
1103 Longford
Westmont, IL 60559
USA

PAZUZU-
"Infernal Iron Legion"- Demo ' 96

Couple of months after receiving the first promo-package from US- PAZUZU another one arrived into my mailbox. This time the package included their new demo "Infernal Iron Legion", from which I don't have really anything special to tell. The reason for this is that all of the four tracks this tape contains are included in above reviewed PAZUZU- release as well. This time only sounds are better and real covers are been sent as well. I have never been into US- Black metal but I guess PAZUZU is the most promising current Black metal band from there. Recommended for true Metal- freaks. The adress for the band can be found above.

BATHORY

BATHORY-
"Blood On Ice" -CD
(BLACK MARK PRODUCTIONS)

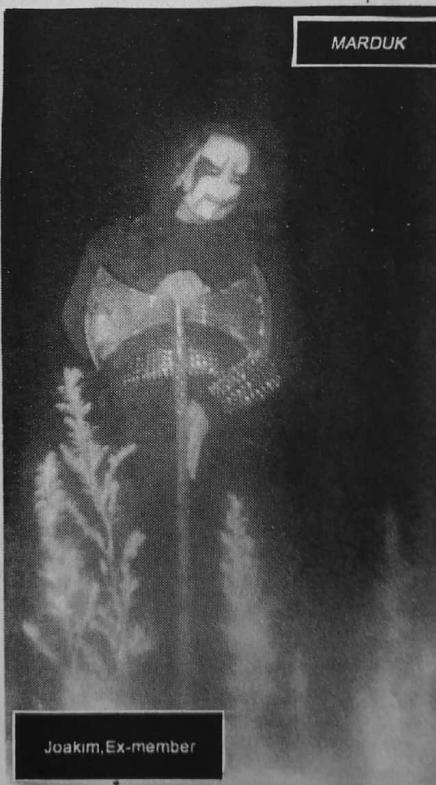
Finally out is the third epic masterpiece Quorthon has made. Among "Hammerheart" and "Twilight Of The Gods" the "Blood On Ice" is best BATHORY ever, it simply fucking kills! The record is (like the covers tell) a saga of blood on ice and all effects used give a nice feeling and makes it easier to picture the story in lyrics in your mind. Quorthon has recorded this between "Blood Fire Death" and "Hammerheart" and mastered last year (1995) but if I'm not wrong, at least "The Ravens" has a vocals done much later than back then... Totally different voice when you compare it into other songs. Well, the record as a whole is majestic choirs and fucking ultimate riffs without forgetting good faster songs and fine guitar solos. It's really hard

to pick up the best songs as the whole record is wonderful. Maybe the songs "The Woodwoman", "The Stallion", and "The Lake" would deserve a special hail. I would say BATHORY created a totally own style when I listen these tree records mentioned above, if there weren't these quite huge MANOWAR influences (Everyone who's familiar with MANOWAR songs knows what I'm talking about) but since Quorthon does this music 100 times better it really doesn't matter. Wonderful last (so far) epic album. If only Quorthon would make one more of these masterpieces (and another and another...).

MARDUK

MARDUK-
"Heaven Shall Burn...
When We Are Gathered" CD ' 96
(OSMOSE PRODUCTIONS)

"MARDUK" s music has always tended to develop further into violence, darkness and Evil since we are the sons of Satan and not the lambs of light. It is just a natural move for us to plunge deeper into hate and malignity than peace and love. My vision of evil is very unmelodic and we are here to reflect the roaring depths oh hell where the tormented souls will forever burn in the sulphur fire... A lot of new bands as well as some certain others do not dare to play to play music which really reflect what evil is truly about. Playing melodic is to walk in the direction of pop and gospel which is created by feeble minded people who worship life, love and light...".



Joakim, Ex-member

This was what Morgan (guitar) stated in the fourth issue of US- PETRIFIED magazine and I guess that together with such song titles as "Black Tormenter Of Satan", "Infernal Eternal" and "Darkness It Shall Be" it tells you what this album is really about. Too many melodies can not be found from this album nor any kind of depressive feelings... All of the tracks are fast and raging as hell itself and the production is heavy as well. There really isn't much more to tell, this album can not be described with plain words- you have to listen it by yourself. This is excellent album- as always when

we are talking about masters MARDUK. Buy it and DIE!!

BLAZING ETERNITY

BLAZING ETERNITY-
"Over Sorte Heder"- Demo ' 96

No! Please save me from this unoriginal and worthless shit! Why do we always receive this kind of demos for review? Do people really expect us to swallow all kinds of crap with really "evil" vocals, "beautiful" lyrics "original" song structures, "atmospheric" cover photo about a forest and "classy" photo about four guys with corpse paint and one of them carrying a Danish flag! What can I say about the music? Nothing! It's so typical and uninteresting that I can't tell anything about it. It's just shit! Lyrics bring's smile into my face as they are really naive... I bet the guys behind BLAZING ETERNITY are really proud about this release and think that the lyrics are really great, of course not forgetting the evil photo... But for me this is as worthless as new BON JOVI Five tracks can be found from this tape and half of the lyrics are "naturally" (?) written in their native language (how original!). That's really all I have to say. No more this kind of demos, please!

BLAZING ETERNITY
c/o Nattevogter Peter T. Mesnickow
Vaedderens Kvt. 7C
2620 Albertslund
DENMARK

ABSENT SILENCE-
"Demo II" ' 96

This was actually a positive surprise for me as I found band's debut demo more or less boring and the sounds were crap as well. Now the music has calmed down, the use of synths has increased and sounds are FAR better too. This demo won't probably give anything for those who seek for violent and destructive moods as ABSENT SILENCE is based more into calm atmospheres... And I must say that this band does well what they are doing. The music remains me very strongly about what GEHENNA (nor) did in their MCD, only vocals are completely different. ABSENT SILENCE uses whispering vocals mixed with some humming voices and such... Sometimes during these four tracks (plus intro and outro) it shows that ABSENT SILENCE is a young band as music seem to be like in "child's shoes"... Still I think this is far better than most of the new Finnish stuff I have recently received for review and "Lakes Of Mist" deserves a special credit for being the best track in this demo. I don't know the price for this as I received this as "a promotional copy" from the vocalist Juhani... But if you see a flyer, I guess it's worth of your money.

ABSENT SILENCE
Lansitie 15 as 30
11120 Riihimäki
FINLAND

* Every life hurts more *

MALICIOUS RECORDS

-Every Blood Is Dirty Blood



I think that it's not only important to interview quality bands but also labels who put out Black metal releases to poison the world. This time I choiced German MALICIOUS RECORDS which should be known for many of you out there. Some people outside the label informed me that this label have had some problems with distributors worldwide as well as German police who were not too happy about releasing and spreading a certain misanthropic record. This was of course the infamous (and utterly brilliant) "Blood Must Be Shed" of ZYKLON B. Police took away some stuff at Gerri's place, some of them being atleast "Dawn Of The Black Hearts" from MAYHEM which cover had a picture of Dead's bloody corpse after his suicide.

MALICIOUS RECORDS is one of the strongest current labels around. Not many new records can match with intensity of the albums like "Blood Must Be Shed" (ZYKLON B), "Antichrist" (GORGOROTH) or "Monumental Possession" (DODHEIMSGARD) to name some.

This interview is not longest possible as Gerri skipped of entirely some questions. These were mostly personal ones about his life ideology, satanism and the violent happenings around German Black metal circle. Anyway, let's start...



FIRST OF ALL YOU COULD TELL US WHEN DID MALICIOUS RECORDS STARTED UP AND WHAT WAS THE REASON FOR FORMING A LABEL DEDICATED TO UNHOLY BLACK METAL MUSIC? WAS THE BEGINNING HARD?

Gerri: We started in 1990 as a distribution, then when Black metal scene didn't existed at all. We felt to support few bands, zines, etc. with all our energie, since we live for it ourself. 1992 we developed the distribution with our first singles from VOND and STRID into a label.

IT SEEMS THAT YOU ARE RELEASING MOSTLY RECORDS WITH NORWEGIAN BANDS- WHAT IS THE REASON FOR THIS, DON'T YOU FIND ENOUGH INTERESTING BANDS FROM F. EX. GERMANY? WHAT DO YOU EXPECT FROM A BAND/ ARTIST BEFORE YOU ARE READY TO SIGN THEM?

Gerri: Well, we know the Norwegian scene very good since it's very beginning and we have been couple of times in Norway, have met a lot of people and have made us our own picture about several bands there. We have also met lot of bands from other countries f. ex. Germany and there is just nothing that can satisfy our demands when it comes to sign a band. And you can't deny that groups as GORGOROTH, DARKTHRONE and others crush most of the stuff from other scenes (Yeah! Total Fuckin' Death! Esa). The thing is also that we think a lot of Norwegian and Swedish bands are original and great in their own way. Compare groups like GORGOROTH, SATYRICON, DARKTHRONE, AURA NOIR, DODHEIMSGARD, IMMORTAL, MYSTICUM, EMPEROR, etc. together, you won't find any similarities. When it comes to other scenes, like Germany, the people just copy those mentioned bands and what is coming out is not too good (I think you make it sound that only Norway and Sweden are able to produce good music, which is wrong of course. I think you forgot some supreme acts such as

MONUMENTUM, SAMAE, NECROMANTIA, IMPALED NAZARENE, THY SERPENT, THROMDARR and Polish BEHEMOTH to name some. Esa).

NEXT I WOULD LIKE YOU TO LIST EVERY RELEASE OF YOURS (SO FAR AND UPCOMING), YOUR PERSONAL OPINION OF THEM AND HOW MUCH THEY HAVE SOLD? DO YOU REGRET SOMETHING YOU HAVE RELEASED AND WHAT IS YOUR BEST RELEASE?

Gerri: VOND- "Harvard Vond" single, STRID- debut single, MORTIS- "Fodt Til A Herske" LP, CD, TS, LS, VOND- "Selvmord" CD, ZYKLON B- "Blood Must Be Shed" MCD, MLP, TS, LS, poster, DODHEIMSGARD- "Kranet Til Konge" CD, gatefold LP, TS, LS, poster, GORGOROTH- "Antichrist" MCD, limited MLP, TS, LS, poster, GORGOROTH- "Pentagram" CD rereleased plus limited LP, BORKNAGAR- debut CD, LP, TS, LS, poster (features members from GORGOROTH, ENSLAVED, ULVER, ex- IMMORTAL Erik), GORGOROTH- "The Last Tormentor" single, limited red vinyl. Coming: DODHEIMSGARD- "Kranet Til Konge" LP, normal cover, transparent vinyl 150 copies, DODHEIMSGARD- "Kranet Til Konge" LP, normal cover, red vinyl 150 copies, GORGOROTH- "Antichrist" picture vinyl limited to 500 copies, DODHEIMSGARD- "Monumental Possession" CD, LP, TS, LS, poster, DODHEIMSGARD- "Satanic Art" single, limited to 1000 copies, KAMPFAR (Norway)- debut CD, LP, TS, LS, poster, AURA NOIR- "Black Thrash Attack" CD, LP, TS, LS, AURA NOIR- limited single, 3- 4 unreleased tracks. More is planned and can come up shortly.

Our fave is so far GORGOROTH's "Antichrist". It's a very short one but absolutely worth it's money. Our albums usually sell more than 5000 copies, only VOND has sold 3500- 400 copies, GORGOROTH should reach the 10 000- almost 8000 sold and gone now and it has been two months. DODHEIMSGARD and BORKNAGAR as well as MORTIS sell/ sold fine. ZYKLON B was also fine with 6000- 6500 copies. We have not regret anything we have released, and if we have doubts we will ever do this.

DO YOU LOOK MALICIOUS RECORDS UPON AS UNDERGROUND LABEL, ARE YOU ABLE TO LIVE ON YOUR RECORD COMPANY AND WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT PEOPLE WHO CLAIM THAT YOU ARE NOT "ALLOWED" TO EARN MONEY WITH BLACK METAL? HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT MAKING VIDEOS OR TOURS WITH YOUR INVESTMENTS?

Gerri: Well, what we at MALICIOUS absolutely do not like is selling out business, releasing as much

as possible without any dedication for the releases. We put out our whole energie in the releases and it's mostly selfsatisfaction what we enjoy so much in doing this.

We earn of course money and I wouldn't call MALICIOUS an underground label, but I think when someone is living for this music and is putting his whole energie and total dedication towards the work, there is nothing wrong in that. But the first aim should be the dedication which you should posses towards the thing you are doing and not the money.

We have already done a tour for GORGOROTH with DISSECTION and SATYRICON and couple of gigs, etc. I don't see tours that important but if band really wants to play live and doing tour we will of course arrange that, but I'm not much into it.

YOU ARE PUTTING OUT ALBUMS WHICH PRESENT EITHER UNHOLY BLACK METAL MUSIC (GORGOROTH, DODHEIMSGARD...) OR EXTREMELY DEPRESSIVE SYNTH- MUSIC (MORTIS, VOND...)- VERY "NEGATIVE" MUSIC ONE COULD SAY. SO, WHAT EXACTLY DASCINATES YOU IN THIS KIND OF TWISTED STUFF AND HOW LONG YOU HAVE BEEN INTO THIS KIND OF MUSIC?

Gerri: We can identify us sometimes in that what few bands bring forward through either their music or lyrics. We do see upon Black metal as a life style and we are not fascinated by Black metal how you say it, it just belongs to us as a part from ourself (Not fascinated by Black metal how I say it? What did you ment, Gerri? Of course Black metal is a life style, a thing you just can't quit! And not only Black metal but METAL in general! Metal Forever! Esa).



PERSONALLY I FIND MALICIOUS AS ONE OF THE BEST CURRENT LABELS WHEN IT COMES TO QUALITY OF THE RELEASES, BUT WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT OTHER LABELS, DO YOU THINK YOU CAN COMPETE WITH SUCH COMPANIES AS HEAD NOT FOUND, FULL MOON, OSMOSE OR NO FASHION TO NAME A FEW...?

Gerri: I don't think much about other labels, we deal together with few you mentioned. I don't care if we can compete with other labels but we easily can. We put our whole energie into our label and dedicate our concentration totally ourself and the label.

FOR WHAT KIND OF AUDIENCE YOU ARE DIRECTING YOUR YOUR RELEASES, DOES IT BOTHER YOU WHEN YOU KNOW THAT NO MATTER YOU LIKE IT ALSO ALL KIND OF STUPID KIDS (AMONG OTHERS) ARE BUYING

YOUR STUFF? HOW DO YOU PROMOTE YOUR RELEASES?

Gerri: It can be irritating when people you spoke of buy the records, but we don't care and we have our reasons.



WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE VIOLENT HAPPENINGS THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN GERMAN BLACK METAL MAFIA? ARE YOU PROUD OF YOUR METAL- HISTORY (KREATOR, DESTRUCTION, SODOM AND SUCH IMPORTANT ACTS)?

Gerri: Like I said, I do not think too much (or nothing to be exact) about other scenes (I think you misundersood this question in some way, but... Esa). Yeah, SODOM, POISON, KREATOR, DESTRUCTION... reigned supreme!

I WAS INFORMED THAT IN GERMANY DISTRIBUTORS AND RECORDS EASILY START TO BOYCOTT RELESES WITH SATANIC CONCEPT "AS IT MIGHT BE DANGEROUS FOR THEIR STUPID CHILDREN". HAS THIS HAPPENED WITH MALICIOUS- RELEASES?

Gerri: ZYKLON B was of course extremely boycotted. I suppose that in Germany we sold only 400 copies or something, while with another name we could have sold 3000 copies. VOND has been boycotted because of the cover. DODHEIMSGARD has been boycotted because of the appearance of Fenriz. GORGOROTH a bit because of some extreme statements in some magazines. A lot of Norwegian bands and others are boycotted in Germany since the whole country is paranoid when it comes to facism and racism.

YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO RELEASE "RETURN TO NORWEGIAN HELL"- VIDEO WITH DARKTHRONE, GORGOROTH, STRID, GEHENNA, DIMMU Borgir, MORTIS AND OTHERS BUT THIS NEVER HAPPENED- WHAT WENT WRONG? WILL THIS BE UNLEASHED THROUGH SOME OTHER LABEL?

Gerri: A lot of people mixed up things. INVASION RECORDS from Germany was supposed to release it. We have been ordered to ask our bands if they want to perform as well, and a lot of people thought it was us.

Well, if anyone likes to get info of this he should get into contact with them.

GERMANY HAS A VERY INFAMOUS HISTORY (HITLER, GASCHAMBER EXTERMINATION), WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT IT, ARE YOU PERHAPS PROUD OF IT AND DO YOU HAVE ANY KIND OF VISION WHAT WOULD THIS WORLD BE LIKE IF GERMANY HAD WON THE SECOND WORLD WAR?

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT BLACK METAL MIXED WITH NAZI FASCIST IDEOLOGY?

Gerrit: I think we all should thank Hitler that he depopulated the Earth in such a great way. I would not have cared if 5 million Germans would have been gassed in KZ's. Every blood is dirty blood. I'm a misanthrope and I enjoy to see the earth populated (?? You must mean depopulated-Ed) I can identify myself not with any ideas of Hitler, we just thank him that he created more space free from humans. And that he destroyed whole Europe, brought eternal disease and misery, chaos and death.

Black metal is not meant to be based on any political ideology. Be it fascistic, racist, communistic or whatever else. A lot of people do not understand this. I don't care. Mostly they are quite new in scene.

Gorgoroth

"Antichrist"

SOME YEARS AGO THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE BUT IT'S A KNOWN FACT THAT TODAY YOU CAN SEE MUSIC VIDEOS OF IMPALED NAZARENE (FIN), IMMORTAL (NOR), SATYRICON (NOR), AND SAMAEI (SWI) PLAYED ON MTV, AND I'M SURE WE'LL SEE MORE BM- BANDS IN THIS CHANNEL VERY SOON... WHAT ARE YOUR VIEWS ABOUT IT AND DO YOU BELIEVE THE EXISTS SO CALLED "TRUE UNDERGROUND"?

Gerrit: We don't think this is good. We don't like it and we'll most likely not do though. I doubt if there is any underground.

MOST OF THE MALICIOUS-RELEASES HAVE BEEN UNRELEASED ALSO IN VINYL FORM(!!!) WHICH IS PRETTY UNUSUAL NOWADAYS AS MOST OF THE LABELS GO ONLY FOR THE CD. WHY DID YOU WANT TO RELEASE VINYL AS WELL, WHICH ONE YOU PREFER AND COMPARING WITH CD'S HOW DOES A VINYL SELL? WHY VOND-ALBUM WAS RELEASED ONLY AS A CD?

Gerrit: Vinyls sell mostly not more than 750-1000 copies. We do it for self-satisfaction. VOND was released also as an LP, but from the NECROMANTIK GALLERY label, which is by the way not existing anymore.

I'M CURIOUS TO KNOW WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT FINNISH SCENE, DO YOU FIND ANYTHING INTERESTING TO OFFER AND HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT OF SIGNING A FINNISH BAND? WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT SUCH SPLENDID ACTS AS THY SERPENT, DARKSTYLE OR IMPALED NAZARENE?

Gerrit: I must say that I'm not impressed by the Finnish scene, but I'm positive it'll get better.

THE END IS YOURS, SO FEEL FREE TO WRITE DOWN WHAT EVER YOU WISH...

Gerrit: Alright, you should check out the new GORGOROTH and BORKNAGAR album.

MALICIOUS RECORDS
c/o Gerrit Weiher
P.O. BOX 21 04 08
72027 Tübingen 21
GERMANY

Borknagar

BORKNAGAR-
Debut CD '96
(MALICIOUS RECORDS)

Another great discovery from MALICIOUS RECORDS! Infernus (GORGOROTH), Ivar Björnsen (ENSLAVED), Garm (ULVER/ ARCTURUS), Grim (who have visited in both IMMORTAL and GORGOROTH) and Øystein G. Brun (MOLESTED), who seem to be the main man behind this new band, have recorded an excellent album containing nine tracks/ 44 minutes of Norwegian Metal-music. Recording has taken place in Grieghallen and the sounds are great- rough and powerful, eventhough guitars are sometimes a bit too messy. Riffs are bloodfreezing, musicianship is of course great and the atmosphere that surrounds this album is majestic and has a certain charming feeling. It was easy to notice that Garm did the vocals for this album as his screams are very similar to both ULVER and ARCTURUS, and words are not enough to picture his majestic and truly proud singing he is using from time to time. There is no doubt that these five norsemen has made up very good album and MALICIOUS RECORDS should be proud to release this one. "Vintervredets Sjelesagn", "Dauden" and "Krigs- tev" deserve the special hail for being the most impressive tracks in this already amazing album. Very recommendable indeed! If you don't find interview with this band from this issue you can blame only Øystein for it, because just while ago I mailed an interview (+IRC) for him...



DODHEIMSGARD-
"Monumental Possession" CD '96
(MALICIOUS REC.)

Norwegian DODHEIMSGARD is back with their second full length album and seem to be grimmer and uglier than ever. Comparing to their previous album they have now added more of those wonderful Blackthrashing riffs which makes the result far more primitive and bless the whole record with ancient, nostalgic feeling. This time sounds, especially drums are more powerful and vocals are more variable. Some times comparable with previous album, some times pure old Thrash, some times sapled with demonizing effects- but always dirty and utterly horrifying! We got this as a promotional CD packed in



black covers with MALICIOUS- logo and no song titles at all, but I guess that track three is almost perfect example what Black metal is really about. We didn't received any prices either, but I don't see any point why this should cost different amount of money than other MALICIOUS- releases so therefore this should go for \$20 (CD)/ \$17 (LP). This one is not even officially released yet but it WILL be when you read this. Nine tracks/ 37 minutes! A must for sure!

X-TREME RECORDS
PROMOTIONAL TAPE #1 '96
(X-TREME RECORDS)

This one was sent by Mikael Uimonen who is also known from Vampyr Black Metal band NASTROND. Front cover informs that this tape is not for sale, so I guess it was meant only for magazines. Anyway, four Swedish bands you have to face in order to survive this tape. Some of them are X- TREME RECORDS- bands and some are just bonus promo- tracks and the sound quality is always rather good.

INFERNAL GATES conquers the whole side A with their melodic Death metal. Band has some interesting parts to offer, but still this sounds more or less boring and clumsy for me. They have potential and might offer high quality- music in the future, but they have to work hard to reach the satisfying level. This was not bad though...

Side B starts with Black metal band SORHIN which have just released MCD through X- TREME RECORDS and these two tracks, "Skogsgripen Rike" and "... Och Om Natten Min Sjal Dansar" are taken from that particular release. My vision was that SORHIN is operating in rather normal field of Black metal and it's safe to say that we all have heard this many times before. The originality is missing and what is most important the QUALITY is missing. I truly think that you don't have to be original to create good Black metal but the fact is that SORHIN doesn't do this right. These songs left me with totally empty feelings and the result was the same if I had listened to pure silence. It might be hard to understand but this was what I felt. I don't like the sounds either, they lack of power. Vocals were straight rip- off from four first BURZUM- albums, so eventhough I actually liked them there is no point to praise them as I simply listen to BURZUM instead of this.

Next one was INVERTED which is, as far as I know, very disliked band in the scene. I don't care about others opinions but the fact is that INVERTED was as shit as it could get. Death metal with growling vocals is the best description I can give. There is no need to waste more space for them! Three tracks were what they offered, all taken from their "Shadowland" CD which must be truly horrible album.

NASTROND were the one to end this tape, and what can I say about them? They were undoubtedly the best band in the whole tape. These two tracks ("En Sang Fran En Pestbesmitta Grav" and "Lord Of The Woods") appear on their debut full length album (on Austrian NAPALM REC.). Comparing with their demo they have become more original and it's impossible to compare them with any other band I know, which was very easy before. They have also managed to capture one of the most roughest and face ripping guitar sounds ever created- very original and something you have heard never before. Both songs are highlights among the other boring songs this tape offers. This doesn't mean they are brilliant or something but surely something special comparing with some of the other shit this promo offers.

INFERNAL GATES- "In The Mist Of Dark Waters" CD goes for \$20/ 140 skr and SORHIN- "Skogsgripen Rike" MCD for \$12/ 100 skr from:

X- TREME RECORDS
Fajlviolen 3
Van 5
42448 Angered
SWEDEN

OBSECRATION-

"The Inheritors Of Pain" CD
(HAMMERHEART REC.)

More promo- stuff and this time not too good either. I actually thought about not writing anything about this Greek band simply because the covers pisses me off to the uttermost point. You know, it was truly hard to read who have released this, what song- titles this CD includes, what stands in the contact adress and what is the name of this damn band. Sounds weird? Well, let me tell you: The font was fuckin' UNREADABLE and top of all printed with totally senseless colors. It's impossible to read any kind of technical information about this and I still don't know what's the adress for this band. It's simply impossible read! What a shit! And what about the music? Shit. It was shit! Eventhough this hasn't anything to do with such Greek- bands as ROTTING CHRIST or THOU ART LORD this has the typical "Greek- sound" and the music itself can be labelled as boring Death metal influenced thrash mixed with some uninteresting and hopeless synth parts. Vocals were utterly annoying growling totally without any kind of feeling. This is simply as boring as it could get. And the guys behind this band thanks for the CD but next time print the god damned adress clearly so people can probably read it.

There is nothing more to add. No contact adress.

* The way to suicide is long
and crawling, full of rocks
and thistles.
And just too many times when
you have arrived to it's
last meters you meet a new
hypocrite "friend" who leads
you back to suffer *



This interview is with Vratyas Vakyas of German one-man band FALKENBACH.

Goddesses and Gods

IN YOUR LATEST LETTER YOU TOLD ME THAT YOU HAVE GOT SOME OFFERS FOR ANOTHER ALBUM BUT YOU ARE NOT EVEN SURE WILL THERE EVER BE NEW ALBUM FROM FALKENBACH - COULD YOU EXPLAIN WHAT DID YOU MEANT BY THIS? HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT GIVING UP THE BAND OR WHAT? COULD YOU REVEAL US THE LABELS WHICH WERE INTERESTED IN YOU?

Vratyas Vakyas: You know, the question is why FALKENBACH exists. And the main reason isn't to suit the listeners with fine melodies, but to convey a special message. Soon I had to realize that nearly everyone takes the superficial way, and that nearly noone understood FALKENBACH attitudes & aims, it's true origins. That's why I had doubts about going on with it. Labels interested came from France, Italy, Sweden, Netherlands and Germany, all in all near to a dozen, but finally I decided to go on with the co-operation with NO COLOURS, 'cause I hope to give back a bit of what they gave to FALKENBACH from the very beginning: support & confidence!

ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH THE WORK NO COLOURS RECORDS (GER) DID WITH YOUR DEBUT ALBUM "...EN HEIR MED RIKI FARA..." AND WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS PIECE OF MUSIC IN GENERAL? CAN YOU INFORM US WHAT IS THE MEANING BEHIND THIS TITLE?

Vratyas Vakyas: Well, NO COLOURS did alot for FALKENBACH, and they supported it the best they could. For sure they are a quite small label, and they don't do alot of promotion etc., but nevertheless I appreciate their work absolutely! It's not just a question of selling- standard to be on NO COLOURS, but they really care about the real underground. To talk about the title called "...En Heir Med Riki Fara...", it's in english "...And Glorious They Will Pass..."

FALKENBACH STARTED ALREADY IN THE YEAR OF '89 BUT IT SEEMS THAT YOU ARE RATHER UNKNOWN BAND FOR MANY, SO WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING DURING THESE YEARS AND HOW WOULD YOU COMPARE TODAY'S FALKENBACH WITH THE TIMES YOU STARTED? HAVE YOU PAYED ANY ATTENTION FOR PROMOTION?

Vratyas Vakyas: During all those years FALKENBACH did seven tapes all in all, but only the 5th one I sent to labels. All the other tapes weren't meant to be spread in great number, so they were limited strictly. I never did any promotion for FALKENBACH as I didn't want to let any fuckheads listen to it. It was a very

personal, religious thing for me. The 5th tape "Laeknishendr" is a re-recording of six songs from during the years before, and I gave away exactly 33 pieces of it. The first four tapes carried no names, as they weren't meant to be the result of a band, but I think some tapetraders have copies of one or another FALKENBACH deed anyway.

BEFORE YOUR FULL LENGHT ALBUM FALKENBACH DID THREE DEMOS - PLEASE TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT THESE. HOW WIDELY THEY HAVE BEEN SPRED? HAVE YOU PAID THESE TAPES ALL BY YOURSELF OR HAS THERE BEEN SOME LABELS INVOLVED?

Vratyas Vakyas: Before the debut CD I did four tapes without to use the name FALKENBACH for it. The 5th one (see question three) lead to the contract with NO COLOURS. After that I did two more tapes called "...Skin Av Sverd: Sol Valtiva..." and "Asynja", both limited to nine pieces. I do not sell or trade any FALKENBACH tapes, but I give them away as a courtesy, a present, to those who seem to be worth to receive it due to their support or their friendship to me. The differences from tape no. 1 to tape no. 7 are too great as I'm able to compare them. Musically I think tape no. 1 isn't worthy to be mentioned, only lyric-wise. It only contained acoustic guitars, percussions and voices, and was any kind of Metal for example.

YOUR ALBUM, WHICH WAS MY VERY FIRST EXPERIENCE WITH FALKENBACH, WAS POSITIVE SURPRISE FOR ME ESPECIALLY IN COMPARISON WITH THE STANDARD CRAP THAT IS DESCENDING FROM YOUR COUNTRY... BLACK METAL MIXED WITH FOLK MUSIC, MEDIEVAL FEELINGS AND SOME FRESH IDEAS - WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT MY DESCRIPTION? FROM WHERE YOU DRAW YOUR INFLUENCES?

Vratyas Vakyas: Hmm... I think there are "medieval" parts for sure, and folk elements play an important role, too, so your description is o.k. according to the points you mentioned. But I think there're much more important contents than those anyway. FALKENBACH takes no influences from other bands, neither music- or lyricwise, 'cause it's not me who is the true origin of what FALKENBACH conveys and stands for, but the Goddesses and Gods.

GERMAN SCENE IS NOT TOO APPRECIATED IN THE WORLD, BUT DO YOU FEEL FALKENBACH HAS GOT THE ATTENTION IT DESERVES? ARE YOU PART

OF THE SO CALLED GERMAN SCENE AND IS THERE SOME BANDS YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECOMMEND US? DO YOU HAVE ANY OPINION ABOUT THE VIOLENT HAPPENINGS IN ABSURD- CAMP?

Vratyas Vakyas: I'm not involved with any so called scene, not in Germany nor anywhere else. And I cannot tell you if FALKENBACH even tries to get so much attention there in, 'cause the main thing of it is to be understood, not to sell as much CD's as possible. FALKENBACH doesn't contain any kind of "satanic" or "evil" attitudes or aims, so the typical Black metal scene (even if it's filled with thousands of "fresh heathens") isn't the best ground for it, I think, although music-wise it's comparable to Black metal anyway in a lot of points. Bands to recommend I do not know, 'cause those who play good music are known for their fucked up attitudes and aims are o.k. play a kind of music I do not like too much. About ABSURD happenings you should ask them (I tried, but they are not allowed to answer any mail any more. I did all I could to fix an interview with them but it didn't worked out- Esa), not me or anyone else, 'cause rumours are always a first step to make some senseless trouble, and most of them are lies anyway, isn't it (Yes! Esa)?

AS FAR AS MY KNOWLEDGE GOES YOU ARE NOT ALONE IN FALKENBACH ANYMORE, IS THIS CORRECT AND WAS IT HARD IN THE BEGINNING? DID YOU GOT ANY OUTSIDE HELP WHEN RECORDING THE ALBUM? AREN'T THE DRUMS MADE BY DRUM COMPUTER?

Vratyas Vakyas: I don't know why you think that someone else than me now plays instruments for FALKENBACH, or who told you that someone should have joined me (Rumours! Esa)? Well, it's simply not true, and I even did not try to find one until now. The instruments I played all by my own, in the studio as well as on all the tapes, but I want to state that it's not a "must" to stay as the only musician for FALKENBACH, it's just hard to find people who fit the contents and are skilled in playing their instrument. By the way- the drum sounds are original ones, but corrected and placed with the help of a computer, so I think it's up to you to decide...

"HEATHENPRIDE" IS INTERESTING SONG AND I LIKE IT, BUT I MUST SAY THAT THE LAST PART OF THE SONG, THE MEDIEVAL SOUNDING RIFF(S), DIDN'T TURN OUT DARK BUT RATHER HAPPY WHICH SOMEHOW MAKES THIS ONE SOUND LIKE CHILDREN'S SONG - SO, WHAT ARE THE MOODS YOU TRIED TO CREATE WITH THIS? HAVE I JUST UNDERSTOOD WRONG WHAT YOU TRIED TO CREATE WITHIN LISTENERS MIND? HAVE YOU HEARD ANY OTHER COMPLAINTS ABOUT IT?

Vratyas Vakyas: You know, no FALKENBACH deed, no song nor a single riff was ever made to please the listeners ears by sounding as dark or evil as possible. It's more a need to carry and to convey the meaning and the message of the song, it's lyrics and feelings. Those who understood the song "Heathenpride" will know that at the end of the song is no need for a dark sounding part, 'cause it would not fit to the whole meaning anyway. That's why this song turned the way it turned out, and not to confirm most peoples prejudices. The most comments about that song (and this special part...) were good ones (to 95%, I think), but who cares if people just like the sweet melodies without to care about the deeper meaning...

Key To Valgrind

LET'S TALK MORE ABOUT "HEATHENPRIDE"... IT CONTAINS LYRICS WHICH DEAL ABOUT HOW CHRISTIAN MEN RAPED BLUE EYED WOMAN IN THE WOODS, KILLED HER HUSBAND AND TOOK AWAY CHILDREN WHICH WERE NEVER TO BE SEEN AGAIN... IS THIS YOUR OWN PROPAGANDA IN ORDER TO SHOW THAT CHRISTIANITY IS NOT NEEDED HERE, OR WHAT WAS THE MESSAGE BEHIND THIS POEM? HOW STRONG PART CHRISTIANITY PLAYS IN MODERN GERMAN SOCIETY?

Vratyas Vakyas: Puih! It seems alot of people doesn't care about the lyrics more than to read them superficially... (I care for the lyrics. Bad and naive lyrics can ruin a song totally while excellent ones makes the song sound even mightier! Esa). The maiden you are talking about is a character standing for a virginal thing, for pureness so to say, and that means that she hasn't got any own children, nor a husband, right (Yes, I mixed things up. It wasn't the blue eyed womans children which were taken away. Neither did the farmers which were killed by christian men had anything to do with this female. I understand that now- Esa). But anyway, "Heathenpride" is a metaphor, filled with characters and symbols which stand for a different meaning (like in all songs...), and it's only a chlichee if you take it in a too superficial way, that's it, that's the problem. FALKENBACH isn't a band with dogmas, and doesn't try to convey a message in a such paltry way like most bands do, just to let everyone understand their poor meanings, at least their poor way to transform them into lyrics. So I would say everyone should make up his/ her own mind about it (and the whole thing...) without to be told by me what to think about it, how it has to be



understood. Those people will hold the key to Valgrind who are able to get it with knowledge, wisdom and self-confidence... not those who're unable to think about it by their own. Discussions about it are welcomed, and I love to write with people who have their own thoughts about it (if they aren't just misunderstandings or simply ridiculous), but I do not want to act like a fucking teacher, according to everything FALKENBACH stands for.

SOME OF YOUR POEMS, ESPECIALLY "HEATHENPRIDE" (AGAIN!), SEEM TO BE BIT INFLUENCED ABOUT WHAT BATHORY DID IN THEIR EPIC-METAL ALBUMS... HAVE YOU TAKEN ANY INFLUENCES FROM THIS LEGENDARY BAND AND WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THEIR ALBUMS? DO YOU HAVE ANY (OTHER) LYRICAL INSPIRATIONS?

Vratyas Vakyas: Lyric-wise "influences" are Vatan & Asatru, nothing more, I think, but it's hard to say as I just convey them. About BATHORY: well, I adore their first five (!) albums, but no further releases, not "Twilight..." nor "Blood On Ice" (Why not? These two are excellent albums-Esa). But that's his own creation, and for sure it's up to him to do and create whatever he wants, isn't it (Of course, Has someone claimed something else? Esa)?

I KNOW THAT SOME GERMAN PEOPLE ARE SHAMED ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED IN YOUR COUNTRY IN THE PAST (HITLER, GASCHAMBER EXTERMINATION!) AND RATHER WISH NOT TO TALK ABOUT IT - HOW ABOUT YOU? DO YOU HAVE ANY VISIONS HOW THIS WORLD WOULD BE LIKE IF NAZIS HAD WON THE SECOND WORLD WAR? ARE YOU PROUD TO BE GERMAN? COULD YOU IMAGINE MOVING SOMEWHERE ELSE?

Vratyas Vakyas: I hate every form of politic, no matter if it contains some good aspects or not, 'cause religions like islam and christianity as well as politics changed the world to that fucked-up places it became today. If the N.S.D.A.P. would have the rulership today in Germany I think I would have to stand alot of problems, not because of my genius, but 'cause my opinion I never want to see adjusted to a great masses opinion, although some ideas (like in every theory...) are comparable to mine, I think... At the moment Germany has a totally fucked-up rulership (Christian party of Germany...), and most of all people are fuckfaces, too, so I'm not proud to be part of Germany of today. But I'm proud about my own origins, about my ancestors, about this countries past, it's traditions and culture, so I'm proud to be a part of the real old German Of

course I can imagine to move somewhere else, 'cause as most of your readers probably know I had to stay at a foreign place nearly the whole time of my childhood due to familiar reasons.

False Rumours And Prejudices

EVEN WHEN YOUR CURRENT SCENE DOESN'T HAVE MUCH INTERESTING BANDS TO OFFER, IT WASN'T CASE IN THE EIGHTIES SINCE YOUR METAL- HISTORY IS VERY STRONG... HOW MUCH SUCH OLD PIONEERS AS KREATOR, SODOM OR DESTRUCTION (WHICH SURELY HAS BEEN BIG SOURCE OF INSPIRATION FOR MANY) HAVE INFLUENCED THE WAY YOU ARE WRITING MUSIC? WITH WHICH BANDS YOU STARTED LISTENING METAL AND WHAT ARE YOUR CURRENT FAVE ALBUMS?

Vratyas Vakyas: I started listening to Metal in general with a band called PARIAS (the kindred...) '88 or '89 I think, later on with BATHORY, SODOM, MANOWAR, KREATOR, etc. Today I only like some single songs from a new bands such as EMPEROR, SATYRICON, GEHENNA, DARKWOODS MY BETROTHED, etc., but most of all I listen to ENYA, E. GRIEG, R. WAGNER, F. GROOTHE and BATHORY's "Blood Fire Death" & "Hammerheart".

IT SEEMS LIKE IN GERMANY CENSORSHIP IS VERY STRONG AND MANY RECORDS HAS BEEN BOYCOTTED WHEN IT COMES TO BLACK/ DEATH METAL- MUSIC... HAS THIS NARROWMINDNESS IN MUSIC BUSINESS CAUSED ANY PROBLEMS FOR FALKENBACH AND WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS IN GENERAL? IS IT TRUE THAT F. EX. DARKTHRONE- ALBUMS ARE ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO OBTAIN FROM ANY OTHER BIGGER DISTRIBUTORS/ SHOPS?

Vratyas Vakyas: I can't tell you if it's hard to obtain any special releases, 'cause I never ordered by big labels or distros, and I never bought any CD's in great stores. I use to receive my CD's/ LP's from NO COLOURS, 'cause they are 100% worth to be supported, and even if it will two or three days more to get the stuff, I don't care. And their prices are also o.k! But alot of people seem to have problems with NO

COLOURS releases due to some false rumours and prejudices, and due to the fact that bands like GRAVELAND and ABSURD are usually boycotted by big distros (Both bands are involved with murder! Esa). Also FALKENBACH became boycotted by most of them, too. I do not know why, but it's their problem, and I don't really care at all.

I REMEMBER READING REVIEW WHERE YOUR MUSIC WAS DESCRIBED AS "SOMETHING THAT COULD HAVE BEEN MADE BY NORWEGIANS...", ANY OPINIONS ABOUT THIS? DOES IT SOMETIMES FEEL

HARD TO CREATE MUSIC AND TRY NOT TO END UP SOUNDING LIKE SOMETHING THAT HAS BEEN ALREADY MADE? IS IT EASY FOR YOU TO COME UP WITH NEW TRACKS? WHAT IS YOUR FAVE COMPOSITION FROM FALKENBACH?

Vratyas Vakyas: It's not hard to "create" new deeds, 'cause I just have to arrange and convey them after I found them already 100% structured and completed. It's not Norwegian-like in my ears, but it's up to the one who think's so. My fave part is the first one minute of "Asum Uk Alfum Naer...".

HOW SERIOUSLY YOU TAKE FALKENBACH AND MUSIC IN GENERAL, IS IT MORE THAN JUST A HOBBY? HOW BIG ROLE MUSIC PLAYS IN YOUR LIFE? HOW LONG TIME YOU HAVE PLAYED YOUR INSTRUMENTS?

Vratyas Vakyas: FALKENBACH is religious art to me, so it's pure reality! It's a sign of the relationship between them and me, I give them and they give me, so it seems it's one of the most important things in my whole life I have been involved in... Maybe the most important? I put my whole heart and blood into it! I do not just take it seriously, it's a sign of real facts to me, it's reality! It's the pure truth! Guitars and keys I play for about 8-9 years now, all other instruments (drums, flutes, percussions...) only since a couple of years... At least in acceptable way I think. But FALKENBACH isn't too complex structured, so that's not too important therefore in my opinion anyway!

WHAT MAKES YOUR LIFE WORTH LIVING FOR, WHAT IS YOUR LIFE PHILOSOPHY AND HOW YOU LOOK UPON THIS WORLD? DOES OUR LIFE ON THIS PLANET HAVE ANYKIND OF MEANING? DO YOU BELIEVE LIFE IN OTHER DIMENSIONS IS POSSIBLE? IS THERE LIFE AFTER DEATH? IS THERE ANY REASON TO FEAR DEATH LIKE AVERAGE MAN USUALLY DOES?

Vratyas Vakyas: In my opinion Midgaard isn't more than a playground for a soul to make all possible experiences, to grow with wisdom and strength through knowledge about reality. There's no life after death, simply because there is no death, at least as long as the upcoming battle wasn't fought, but this won't happen here on Midgaard as well all may know, atleast those who "believe" in this. There's also no need to fear the end of your actual existence, 'cause it's up to everyone him/herself to determine your next one, the following time. My life philosophy is mainly based on Vatan & Asatru-aspects, but it would go too far to write about in a not too superficial way now, so I think it's better to do not. But again: Who's interested in discussions about that topic should feel invited to write, as I'm not too secretive person if it comes to that topic!

NOW IT'S TIME TO TAKE A LOOK IN THE CRYSTAL BALL AND TELL WHAT CAN WE WAIT FROM FALKENBACH IN THE FUTURE? COULD YOU ALSO REVEAL COUPLE OF GOOD REASONS WHY READERS SHOULD BUY YOUR ALBUM IMMEDIATELY AFTER FINISHING THIS INTERVIEW?

Vratyas Vakyas: In February of '97 a.o. there will be the shirts and the limited LP- version with gatefold cover (500 pieces only). In second half of '97 the new release will be obtainable, but I can't tell you any exactly dates. That's all about the so-called future plans, according to FALKENBACH only for sure, 'cause my personal future may be different, as me and FALKENBACH aren't identical in all points, you know! Anyhow, FALKENBACH speaks for it's own, so I can't and do not want to give any reasons why someone should check it out, but I want to recommend it to those few people who carry a true heathenheart in their breast, and who're looking

for something representing the awakening of skaldic art!

HEILLIR AESIR!! HEILLIR ASYNJUR!! HEILLIR VANIR!! HAIL TO THE TRUTH OF HYPERBOREAN VATAN

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*"En Their Medh Riki Fara...". CD goes for 22\$ from:

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MEDIEVAL ART-
"Demo '97"

MEDIEVAL ART comes from Riihimäki, Finland and plays somekind of gothicromance-metal.

First I have to say that it's really clear what this band thinks of themselves and their attitude is wrong. Although they've rented a honestly skillful lead guitar player who improves this shit a bit, it doesn't help them to manage reaching even average whole...

Boring this is, that's for sure, the song structure follows the same line in all three songs and the AMORPHIS-like Death metal pounding goes on all the time for the rhythm guitar sounding... boring.

And the vocals? Oh, man. Anyone heard the NATTVINDENS GRAT's ultimate shit LP "Bard's Tale"? Well, although mr. Ahonen who does the vocals doesn't sing quite as wrong here, he sure as hell has very annoying voice... No "colour" here, just same stupid howling on all the time...

The scene seems to produce more and more of these love-bands and that's really a shame for they block the way of good violent angry metal we like to hear! I can assure you that some asshole takes MEDIEVAL ART to make a record because shit sells... Sad.

NECROMICON-
"Realm Of Silence"-CD '96
(IMPURE CREATIONS REC.)

More promo- shit here!

This CD contains 8 songs and 37 minutes of the uttermost typical Death/Black metal one can think of. Really an uninspiring and boring CD.



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Our dear enemy Sweden (as the elder say) seems to produce less heathen and more satanic bands everyday which has been great to notice. I got in contact with Deathfucker some time ago and soon I heard the promotape of their band TRIUMPHATOR. The soundquality was shitty but the message was clear: Fast aggressive Black metal in the vein of DISSECTION and MARDUK. And as they've got a deal with NECROPOLIS REC. for a CD I thought there should be an interview done. So let's hear what Deathfucker has to say...

The Triumph Of Satan

*"We'll keep on doing our stuff... Black metal
in the way it should be!"*

THE MUSIC OF TRIUMPHATOR IS (AT LEAST IN THE PROMO) QUITE TYPICAL SWEDISH BLACK METAL BEING RAW, FAST AND SATANIC. ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH YOUR STYLE OR IS YOUR MUSIC STILL IN IT'S "CHILD'S SHOES"? HOW LONG HAVE YOU PLAYED AND IS THERE ANY CHANGES WORTH MENTIONING COMING?

Deathfucker: Of course we are satisfied with our style! Well, we formed TRIUMPHATOR in '95 so we haven't played together too long... there are no changes to come... We'll keep on doing our stuff... Black metal in the way it should be!

SWEDEN WAS THE PROMISED LAND OF DEATH METAL SOME YEARS AGO, WHEN THIS HUGE TREND (SWOLLEN CORPSES MEET SUNLIGHT-STUDIO...) WAS ON BUT WHEN THE SECOND WAVE OF BLACK METAL ARRIVED, NORWAY CAME FORTH.

NOW WHEN ALL NEW "BLACK METAL" BANDS MIX PAGANISM AND THOSE STUPID VIKINGS AND NAZISM IN THEIR MUSIC YOU HAVE KEPT THE OLD SATANIC STUFF ALIVE. WHAT DO YOU THINK, WHY THE NEW BANDS DO THAT? WHY DIDN'T YOU? DO YOU BELIEVE IN "MODERN VIKINGISM (HA HA)"?

Deathfucker: This was one of the reasons that we formed the band (to keep satanic music alive). There are too many bands who aren't Black metal but are connected to it... this must be changed! All these "circus, tvoli" bands must be stopped!

I don't know why new bands mix these subjects in their "music"... they're probably so stupid (or young) that they don't know what to do!

I don't care about "modern vikingism".

YOU ALSO RUN SHADOW DISTRIBUTION AND SAY THAT 10% OF THE PROFIT GOES STRAIGHT TO THE TRUE SATANIST HORDE. NOW I'M INTERESTED WHAT EXACTLY DOES THE T.S.H. DO. SOME SATANIC PROPAGANDA PERHAPS, OR WILL THE MONEY BE USED TO HIRE A KILLER FOR COUNT GRISNACKH (HEH HEH)?

Deathfucker: I won't tell anyone about this... I think this is secret... try to get in contact with "it" if you want to know anything!

WELL, WE ALREADY DID, AND IT MIGHT BE WISE TO KEEP IT AS A SECRET, TOO... IS DISTRIBUTION BUSINESS OF YOUR SIZE LUCRATIVE? WHAT IS THE REASON YOU ARE RUNNING A DISTRO?

Deathfucker: No! It's not lucrative... I earn some money but it isn't much! (Welcome to the club... -Ed.) That's not why I'm doing this... I just want to be a "good price" underground distributor! Don't actually know why I started... Just an idea I got and it has been quite successful so I've just kept on going and it has become bigger and bigger... write for list!

WHAT DO YOU DO FOR LIVING, SURELY YOU DON'T LIVE OFF NEITHER SHADOW DISTRIBUTION NOR THE BAND AM I RIGHT? HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN INVOLVED IN UG-BUSINESS?

Deathfucker: I work at the factory which makes valves to Nuclear Power Stations and other factories and stations so I don't live on the money from SHADOW Distr., but I wish I could! I hate working... but it's necessary to survive...

Actually I don't know when I got involved in the UG business... I started shadow late 93/early 94...

TRIUMPHATOR IS QUITE UNKNOWN AND NEW BAND AND WHEN I HEARD THE PROMOTAPE, IT WAS NOTHING REALLY SPECIAL (MOSTLY BECAUSE OF TERRIBLE SOUNDS) BUT YOU GOT A DEAL FROM NECROPOLIS... DID YOU DO MORE SONGS



TO TYPHON THAN "THE TRIUMPH OF SATAN"? DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE SOMETHING UNIQUE TO OFFER OR ARE YOU JUST "GOOD ENJOYABLE" BLACK METAL?

Deathfucker: No, Typhon just got the promotape and signed us upon that...

Well to me we do something unique. I think our songs are the best!

But if it's unique for someone else or not, I don't care! I mean we do the music to please ourselves and hopefully others...

WHAT KIND OF ANTICHRISTIAN ACTIVITY THERE IS GOING IN SWEDEN? DO YOU HAVE A LOT OF BLACK METAL PEOPLE IN YOUR TOWN AND IS THERE MUCH ANTI-BLACK METAL FANATICS?

Deathfucker: It haven't happened anything special lately here in Sweden (at least not in my areas). Some month ago there were plenty grave desecrations in the North... but nothing else.

There aren't too many B.M. people in my town... I can probably count them on my hands... But I guess there are quite some people that I don't know about... (the younger ones that is...)

I've never met any anti-B.M. fanatic... maybe because I hardly ever go out, except for my work.

DO YOU BELIEVE IN BLACK METAL? I MEAN THAT VENOM NEVER WAS SERIOUS ABOUT THEIR SATANIC IMAGO AND NEITHER WAS BATHORY (DIFFERENCE BETWEEN VENOM AND BATHORY NOWADAYS IS THAT VENOM JUDGES AND CAN'T UNDERSTAND ACTIONS OF NEW BANDS) SO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE THE SAME WHEN YOU ARE OLDER? THINK YOU CAN GET BORED?

Deathfucker: I am what I am, and so it shall be! Get bored of what? (Get bored of playing simple fast raging metal all the time when musicianship develops all the time and the abilities one has will be more than enough for composing slower complicated melodies or vast solostructures-Timo)

Kill The Christians

"There are too many shit bands who claim to be evil and play pop music... FUCK OFF!"

IN SWEDEN THE LEADING BANDS SOUND QUITE THE SAME (DISSECTION, MARDUK, DARK FUNERAL AND SO ON) AND THE UNISOUND STUDIO IS A LITTLE RESPONSIBLE OF THAT FACT. IS UNISOUND COMING THE SAME WAY SUNLIGHT DID DURING THE DEATH METAL BOOM DAYS? WHY? ARE YOU GOING TO UNISOUND?

Deathfucker: I think UNISOUND was on the way to be the "new" SUNLIGHT... But since they'll close the studio soon, it'll not happen...

So we aren't going to UNISOUND, and we never planned to do so either, since all I've heard about D. Swano from my closest friends... We'll hopefully go to ABYSS studios to record our debut CD...

WILL YOU EVER DO LIVE GIGS? AS YOU KNOW A BIT TOO MANY BANDS DON'T DO THAT, BUT WHEN PEOPLE PLAY HONEST METAL MUSIC I THINK THE GIGS ARE A

MUST. MAYBE DISSECTION WAS RIGHT WITH THE STATEMENT THAT THE NEW BANDS ARE AFRAID OF LIVE SHOWS BECAUSE THEIR MUSIC IS SO MUCH BASED ON SYNTHS. YOUR OPINION?

Deathfucker: We'll probably do some live gigs... nothing is planned though. The statement of DISSECTION (which is one of the best live bands! Hail!) is true! Too many bands base their music around synth and it'll be hard to do a good live performance... that's why you shouldn't use it!

MANY PEOPLE SAY THAT YOU HAVE TO BE WHITE TO PLAY BLACK METAL. I DEFINITELY AGREE, BUT STILL REMEMBER BLASPHEMY... (HA HA) WHAT DO YOU THINK? CAN A NIGGER PLAY BLACK METAL?

Deathfucker: A nigger can probably play Black metal... but they won't get any respect from me! So the answer is No! They better go to the jungle and climb some trees like they used to!

IT SEEMS THAT TODAY EVERYONE HAS A BAND SO THE WHOLE IS POLLUTED, WE SAY! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE SCENE IN SCANDINAVIA NOWADAYS?

Deathfucker: I think the scene is quite bad... too many shit bands who claim to be evil and play pop music... FUCK OFF! But I also think Scandinavia (at least Sweden and Norway) has the best bands, like: MAYHEM (heard 2 new songs last summer ('96 -Ed) when we were in Oslo... sounds excellent! Everyone who doesn't like that they still are playing can fuck off!), MARDUK, DISSECTION, OPTHALAMIA, DARK FUNERAL, SWORDMASTER, DODHEIMSGARD, GORGOROTH,

EMPEROR, NIFELHEIM, GEHENNA, ABRUPTUM, MYSTICUM, ZYKLON-B, DARKTHRONE, ALLEGIANCE, BATHORY etc.

WELL, DO YOU HAVE GOOD FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN BANDS THERE? IS THERE A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO TRY TO FIND "TRUE" BANDS AND KILL OTHERS?

Deathfucker: Yes, I've good friendship with the most important bands like MARDUK, ABRUPTUM, D.FUNERAL, OPTHALAMIA, SWORDMASTER and so on... and loads of other of course. No, there's not much of that... but the "true" will stand strong while others will fade away!

LAST TIME I WENT TO STOCKHOLM I SAW QUITE MANY IMMIGRANTS, NO MORE THAT IN HELSINKI BUT TOO MANY... HAS THE SITUATION GONE MUCH WORSE? (I HEARD SWEDEN LEADS THE IMMIGRANT NUMBERS OF NORTHERN EUROPE) ARE THESE PEOPLE CAUSING TROUBLE? SOME OF THEIR CULTURES ARE A BIT WEIRD AND BECAUSE OF THAT IT MAY NOT BE WISE TO BRING THEM HERE. DO YOU HAVE ANY POLITIC PERSONS LIKE WE HAVE IN FINLAND WHO TRY TO GET RID OF THEM SERIOUSLY?

Deathfucker: Yes, we've too many immigrants! And they are of course causing trouble... running around streets robbing and kicking people down... I don't care for politics! (No one in scene (including me) seems to care about politics yet everyone wants to change the world... ironic. -Timo)

THAT'S IT, THANKS FOR YOUR TIME. ANYTHING TO ADD?

Deathfucker: Thanx for the interview Timo! Hail! Everyone interested in TRIUMPHATOR should write us... promotape still available (\$4). We also have T-shirts for 100SEK/17\$... look out for our debut CD which will be out in '97!

Do also feel free to write for the latest SHADOW DISTRIBUTION list with tons of great stuff for cheap prices!

OK, das war alles! Only death is real.

**TRIUMPHATOR/SHADOW
DISTRIBUTION
P.O. BOX 1803
58 117 Linköping
SWEDEN**

CYBERPUNCTURE

**CYBERPUNCTURE-
Compilation CD
(THE UNITED ENDANGERED FRONT)**

Another fuckin' weird compilation CD containing 15 tracks/ 57 minutes of music delivered us by 14 bands which were all completely unknown for us. The music featured in this disc varies from techno/ ambient/ industrial to something that we don't know what the hell is it. The bands featured include DANOS, INTUSED, WRACK PROCESS, NOXIOUS EMOTION, SEPARATE FAITH, WAGE CLASS SLAVE, NOOKLEPTIA, DIVERJE, WHITE TRASH COMPACTOR and more... We have now received couple of these weird compilation CD's and as the music featured doesn't have anything to do with our magazine we don't really understand why people keep mailing these to us!... I however like the cover art which shows slow and extremely painful way to die and which was used in the middle ages. We didn't receive any prices, actually not even a letter, only CD and covers, so we can't say how one can obtain this. If you are interested you can always write and ask. I could also mention that this is the first release of the label and limited to 1000 copies...

**THE UNITED ENDANGERED FRONT
P.O. BOX 554
Englewood, Co 80151**

Old Man's Child

**OLD MAN'S CHILD-
"Born Of The Flickering"
(HOT RECORDS/ CENTURY MEDIA)**

Another excellent album from Norway and this time featuring some members from well known DIMMU BORGIR and Aldahn of DODHEIMSGARD doing some vocals as well as most of the lyrics. "Born Of The Flickering" contains 10 tracks/ 51 minutes of quality Black metal with high level of composition and great vocals, which sometimes remind me a bit of DIMMU BORGIR. Classical guitar, synth and some female vocals are present but fortunately not all the time as I would personally encourage bands to look for more into excellent riffs (and good musicianship- I hate musicians which are sloppy with their instruments!) than covering everything under the massive wall of synthesizer. This has become more and more usual nowadays which is fucking shame. All ten tracks are great but I believe "Demons Of The Thorncastle", "Born Of The Flickering" and "On Through The Desert Storm"

are the highlights for me. Lyrics seem to be dealing with such things as the dark age, suicide, Satan and the destruction of human creations. I guess there is no need to point out how satisfied I am with the fact that OLD MAN'S CHILD does not write about vikings or "beautiful" nature (!!!). The version I have here is released under the exclusive licence from HOT RECORDS by CENTURY MEDIA, and as far as I know the original pressing by HOT RECORDS contains different covers and lay-out...

**OLD MAN'S CHILD-
"In The Shades Of Life"- M-CD
(HOT RECORDS)**

"In The Shades Of Life" is the newest release from OLD MAN'S CHILD, but does not contain any new songs but old demo material from '94. This was supposed to be released as a split album with Norwegian VED BUENS ENDE through ANCIENT LORE CREATIONS, but as the label delayed HOT RECORDS took things in command... Well, well, well! First of all I must say that I'm extremely pissed off due the fact that all fucking demos or even reh. tapes (!!!) are being pressed to CD nowadays, and the excuse seem to be always the same: "there was a strong demand for this particular release"... Wake up! People are so stupid that there is demand for every fucking shit... rehearsal tape in the world, there is no point to print CD's of everything... Except for greed that is! Anyway, in comparison to their excellent full length album this sounds lot more like older DIMMU BORGIR, and I don't find this one very necessary investment in general. I simply like the album too much to care about this a bit... It's also "nice" to notice that HOT RECORDS advertised this only as a MCD in their catalog, not a single word about the fact that there isn't anything new in this fucking CD. Five tracks/ 28 minutes, nice packaging and good sounds (for the demo)... Nothing more to add. This has been a bad day...

**HOT RECORDS
P.B. 8805
Youngstorget 0028
Oslo
Norway**

**GODS TOWER-
"The Eerie" + "Canticles"- Demos**

Here we have two demos of this Russian five-piece in one promotape which was mailed for us by Semyonoff Alexander. He is some kind of manager for the band and had the rights to re-release the demos and distribute them all over the world. First of all I must say that we had extremely hard time listening this tape as the music is completely boring. The vocals remind me very much of the first demo tape of Finnish BARATHRUM ("Witchmaster" that is...) but the music isn't Black metal at all, it's more like mixture between Doom and Heavy metal and everything sounds very sloppy- this goes especially for drums which are very simple. I don't know if this was the intention, but it doesn't work with this outfit. The sounds are rather bad, somehow "empty" and I can't get off the BARATHRUM- feeling when it comes to vocals... This is very different release from most of the other demos/ promos/ albums featured in this issue, and it doesn't appeal for us... No prices were given... You can write to their "manager"...

**Semyonoff Alexander
P.O. BOX 290
220107 Minsk
Belarus**



Wanderer

Searching for the perfect death...

WANDERER is one of the newer bands in Finnish scene. They are not too known outside Finland which is a shame, because I really think they are one of the better bands emerge from our country. There is nothing evil or destructive in this band but if you seek for simplistic, dreamy and majestic atmospheres this might be music for you. It's impossible to name any band which sounds like WANDERER, but Norwegian STRID (their 7 inch on Malleous Records) is probably the closest I can get. But while STRID's simplistic soundscapes managed to bore me after a while WANDERER however manages to keep my interest alive, so I really prefer them. Anyway, we met Azhemini at Club Iepakko where SAMUEL MOONSPEIL and ROTTING CHRIST were doing their shows and after few conversations we thought about fixing an interview with this new band. So here it is available for you all...

Wandering Music

"As long as I like my music, it will be close to my heart and I'm not heading for a Top Ten Countdown"

THERE WAS SOME RUMOURS ABOUT YOU GOING TO RELEASE NEW CASSETTE EP THROUGH DARK MOON PROD. (FIN) BUT IT SEEMS THAT THIS NEVER HAPPENED, SO CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE PRESENT SITUATION? IS THERE ANY SERIOUS PLANS FOR NEW RELEASE(S)? COULD YOU TELL US ABOUT YOUR NEW TRACKS?

Azhemini: Yes, it has taken quite time with the second demo of WANDERER. I don't really even know is the offer for our new tape still available. I hope so... We have been working with some new symphonies, and they are in the same old WANDERER-style, the same which "Surrounded..." already presented. There is maybe a bit more variation in the new ones. You can wait more variable WANDERER in the future... Lyrics will be again dealing with nature (as it belongs to our music). The date of release is not decided yet but it will be out sometime in '97. Reason for this delay is the M-CD of I FLOW IN DEPTHS, which is also delayed a bit (out in '97).

"SURROUNDED BY THESE FIRS", YOUR DEBUT DEMO '95 CAN BE MUSICALLY

DESCRIBED AS DEPRESSIVE, RATHER SIMPLISTIC, SYNTH-BASED METAL WITH A BIT BURZUM-LIKE VOCALS, AND ONLY BAND THAN CAN BE COMPARED WITH YOUR STYLE MUST BE STRID (NOR). SO NOW I'M FORCED TO ASK WERE YOU INFLUENCED BY THEM AND DOES MY DESCRIPTION DO JUSTICE FOR YOUR MUSIC? WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS DEMO TODAY?

Azhemini: I think your description fits us quite well, and our demo really is very simple, but that is the purpose and synth belongs to WANDERER like any other instrument. Synthesizer brings atmosphere to our Wandering music and it makes it work better. I of course prefer real orchestra, but that is not possible right now, and probably will never be... I would leave those BURZUM's and STRID's out of the question, because our vocals doesn't sound like BURZUM and the music has nothing to do with STRID... But we all have our own opinions. About this demo (well it's not too new anymore), the production pisses me off, the same with vocals and "drums". But it's still quite good demo in my opinion. It sold 400 copies!

IT'S NOT THAT EASY TO SUCCEED IN TODAY'S METAL-FIELD AS IT USED TO BE SOME YEARS AGO SIMPLY BECAUSE THERE IS TOO MUCH BANDS AND COMPETITION-WHAT ARE YOUR WEAPONS TO SURVIVE IN THIS PLAGUE OF TREND (OUR SCENE!) AND DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE SOMETHING FRESH TO OFFER? DO YOU FEEL YOUR

MUSIC HAS GAINED THE ATTENTION IT REALLY DESERVES IN YOUR OPINION?

Azhemini: WANDERER is not here to win some stupid competition. I don't care are we "famous" or not. As long as I like it, it will be close to my heart and I'm not heading for top ten countdown. I despise soulless bands, those who want to achieve as hard image as possible and make so pathetic and trendy music blinded by their mighty heroes. Our new songs are better arranged than before and now we have more normal vocals which sound just great in top of the new material. There is also more speed in some parts. And as the production will be better I believe it will destroy "Surrounded..." easily. Our music has been noticed well in our country and we have received lot of positive response. Over half of the demos sold has gone to Finland... Our music is not too known outside our country yet, so we haven't got much feedback, which is a shame...

YOUR DEMO DIDN'T HAVE REAL DRUMS AS THEY WERE PLAYED BY SYNTHESIZER WHICH IS ALWAYS NEGATIVE POINT. WILL YOUR FUTURE RELEASES HAVE REAL DRUMS? WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO USE SYNTHESIZER IN THE FIRST PLACE?

Azhemini: I can't say for sure will our next demo have real drums, but it's looking good... The reason for synthesizer drums was the lack of real drums at that time.

THE SOUND OF WANDERER IS DOMINATED BY SYNTHS WHICH WAS PRESENT THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE THREE-TRACK DEMO... THIS IS NOT BAD THING AT ALL (AT LEAST NOT IN YOUR CASE) BUT DON'T YOU BELIEVE YOU CAN CREATE TRULY ATMOSPHERIC MUSIC WITHOUT USING SYNTH AT ALL, OR DO YOU CONSIDER THEM AS A "MUST"? HAVEN'T (TOO) MANY CURRENT BANDS LOST THEIR GRIMNESS AND TOUCH OR REAL METAL BY USING FAR TOO MUCH SYNTHESIZERS?

Azhemini: If music sounds better (more atmospheric) with synth, why not to use them? It's music we are making here and synth fit us extremely well. It brings more power, even though using it has become trend (unfortunately). But as long as it sounds good no one should have reason to complain. I can make music without synth, like anyone else. But I have chosen this way and I will continue as long as I have interest. Some bands have lost their rawness by using too much synth, but it depends only how you use them. It's not enough to push one key and wonder with smile in your face.

I TALKED WITH YOUR NEW DRUMMER SOME TIME AGO AND HE TOLD THAT "AZHEMINI IS WANDERER"- IS IT SO? DO YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF AS A LEADER OF THE BAND OR SOMETHING? ARE YOU ALSO THE MAIN

SONG WRITER? WHO FORMED WANDERER IN THE FIRST PLACE?

Azhemini: I am wanderer, like we all are in our own way... I make all music and lyrics but I don't consider myself as leader or something... My words count most in the band though. Wanderer was formed in spring '95 by me and Korppi.

Where The Day Ends...

"Tales of WANDERER are based in nature and woods..."

AS FAR AS MY KNOWLEDGE GOES YOU ARE INVOLVED WITH SEVERAL BANDS/PROJECTS AND THIS GOES FOR YOUR OTHER MEMBERS TOO- WHY IT'S ALWAYS SO NECESSARY TO HAVE LOT OF SIDE PROJECTS WHICH, AFTER ALL, TEND TO SOUND MORE LIKE GIVEN PERSONS MAIN CREATION? WHY NOT TO CONCENTRATE ON ONE BAND AND MAKE IT SIMPLY THE BEST?

Azhemini: Yes, I have been involved with many bands during these years. Maybe it's just good that you can make music depending how you feel for some other band. It's hard to make music for just one band, it makes you run out of ideas when you try to do material in the same vein all the time. Of course there are similarities between those projects, that's for sure...

PROBABLY THE MOST KNOWN BAND OF THESE MUST BE THY SERPENT WHICH HAVE JUST RELEASED THEIR DEBUT ALBUM... HOW MUCH YOU HAVE WRITTEN MATERIAL FOR THIS ALBUM (WHICH TRACKS EXACTLY?) AND WAS IT HARD TO TRY NOT SOUND LIKE WANDERER? WILL YOU CONTINUE WITH THY SERPENT?

Azhemini: I have written "Only Dust Moves" and "Of Darkness And Light" (which is crap!) for it. This song is fuckin' old and we played it already in some old rehearsals with WANDERER. It was much better in rehearsals. I don't believe our next album will have any songs in that vein. This song has nothing to do with real THY SERPENT. Best tracks in the album are "Flowers Of Witchery A Bloom" and "Only Dust Moves", but the rest are listenable as well. I will continue with THY SERPENT as long as things are working out well.

FORESTS AND NATURE IN GENERAL MUST BE ONE THE MAIN THEMES IN YOUR LYRICS- WHAT IS SO FASCINATING IN FORESTS AND DO YOU THINK THINGS LIKE THIS HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH BLACK METAL? COULD YOU ALSO TELL ABOUT LYRICS IN YOUR DEMO? WHERE DOES THE COLD STEPS LEAD..?

Azhemini: Tales of WANDERER are based in nature and woods, fax the lyrics of "Surrounded By



Azhemini

These Firs* tell about reaching perfect death, right place in the right time. It's those lyrics I like most in the demo. WANDERER is not directly Black metal because we don't have anything to do with Satanism. I could describe us Wandering music because that is what we are all about. Where do Cold Steps Lead?... Where the day ends.

Surrounded By These Firs

"The feeling is the most important factor in music, it has to be dark... I hate happy music."

IF YOU ADORE DEEP FORESTS AND NATURE AS MUCH AS YOU SAY IT MUST BE IRRITATING TO LIVE IN CROWDED TOWN LIKE VANTAA FROM WHERE YOU DON'T HAVE TO TRAVEL TOO MUCH TO ENTER THE CAPITAL OF FINLAND, OR WHAT DO YOU THINK? HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT MOVING AWAY FROM THERE? DO YOU FIND ANY POSITIVE ASPECTS ABOUT LIVING IN RATHER BIG TOWN? COULD YOU IMAGINE LIFE SOMEWHERE OUTSIDE OUR COUNTRY?

Azhemin: Vantaa is ok place to live, and the fact that this is a "big" city doesn't mean that we don't have forests here. God damned! Here where I live is lot of forests. Especially the place called Mustavuori is very important for me. Yes, it's easy to travel into Helsinki. I haven't thought about moving out of Finland, I have born here after all.

YOU ARE USING CORPSEPAINTINGS AND DIFFERENT KIND OF WEAPONS IN YOUR PHOTOS AND ALL THIS MAY GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF AGGRESSIVE MUSIC; BUT THE FACT IS THAT YOUR ART IS MORE SYMPHONIC AND RATHER CALM- DO YOU FEEL THESE PHOTOS REALLY FIT INTO YOUR MUSIC?

Azhemin: I believe corpsepaintings suit us very well. I have some new ideas for upcoming photo sessions which we haven't got time to use yet... We represent dark music so dark photos fit us very well.

I HAVE NOT SEEN YOU FEATURED IN ANY MAGAZINES OUTSIDE FINLAND, SO WHERE IS THE REASON? HOW KNOWN YOUR BAND IS IN THE SCENE AND DO YOU PAY MUCH ATTENTION TO PROMOTION? DID YOU SENT ANY PROMOTIONAL COPIES OF YOUR DEMO? IS IT IMPORTANT TO SELL MUCH RECORDS? CAN YOU STAND HARD CRITICISM TOWARDS YOUR BAND?

Azhemin: We haven't received too much interviews outside Finland. The thing WANDERER lacks of is promotion for sure, we have taken very few flyers. Only Tommi from DARK MOON and Northwind from I CAME FROM DARKNESS have spread our name, thanks for these guys! "Surrounded By These Firs" is not good enough in order to send it for labels, I think. But I believe we'll send the second demo for some record companies when it's out. I think it's not important to sell many demos, but of course it's good if it sells... We don't start to cry if we somebody don't like us, everybody can't like our music.

WANDERER WAS FORMED SOMETIME IN '95 WHICH MEANS THAT YOU ARE VERY NEW BAND- DID YOU HAVE ANY MUSICAL EXPERIENCES WITHIN ANY BAND BEFORE WANDERER AND HOW LONG YOU HAVE BEEN PLAYING YOUR INSTRUMENTS? WOULD YOU CALL YOURSELF AS A PROFESSIONAL MUSICIAN? HOW LONG YOU HAVE BEEN INTO THIS KIND OF MUSIC AND WHICH IS SO OBSESSING IN IT?

Azhemin: We started working with bands in '91 but the music wasn't that good in that time. I have lot of good memories from those times, especially our first gig which was horrible (hah!) I have played guitar for six years now, I'm not an expert, but I'm able to play what I need to. I have also played synth for some time now. I have listened to this kind of music from the day I got "Drawing Down The Moon" by BEHERIT, it's brilliant album and still one of best. Long time ago I used to listen VENOM as well but it didn't have the same effect on me like BEHERIT. BEHERIT is still the best band from Finland (rip!) The feeling is the most important factor in music, it has to be dark... I hate happy music.

METAL HAS SURVIVED THROUGH YEARS, IT HAS DEVELOPED INTO NEW DIRECTIONS BUT WORTHLESS MUSIC STYLES LIKE DISCO OR HIP HOP (SPIT!) HAS NOT MANAGED TO DESTROY IT... DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT WILL BE THE NEXT MAJOR TREND AFTER BLACK METAL HAS ALREADY REACHED IT'S TOP? DO YOU HAVE ANY OPINION ABOUT THIS RATHER MASSIVE RETURN OF UGLY BLACKTHRASH WITHIN SOME SUPREME BANDS?

Azhemin: Next trend could be some Gothic influenced stuff or old fashioned Black metal. I'm not that interested in the return of Blackthrash, it has been already done, why to go and spoil it. WIZARD and BEWITCHED are listenable though (Hmm... I think that WIZARD sucks but BEWITCHED rules supreme! The same with AURA NOIR. But this is of course matter of personal taste again- Esa).

I COULDN'T REALLY IMAGINE YOUR MUSIC AT LIVE BECAUSE I SIMPLY BELIEVE IT WOULDN'T WORK TOO WELL... WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS? HAVE YOU EVER PLAYED OR EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT DOING SOME SHOWS? DO VISIT OTHER BANDS GIGS OFTEN?

Azhemin: I don't see WANDERER as live band either, but I'm sure we will do some shows in the future, we will see how they turn out. I visit as many interesting gigs as possible if they happen

to be near enough. The latest good gig was with SAMAE, ROTTING CHRIST and MOONSPELL. I also wait a lot from MERCYFUL FATE.

SOME YEARS AGO NO- ONE WOULD HAVE NEITHER BELIEVED NOR ACCEPTED THE FACT THAT BLACK METAL WILL BE SHOWN IN MTV AND YOUTH PROGRAMS... SAMAE, BURZUM, SATYRICON, IMMORTAL, IMPALED NAZARENE, DIABOLUS RISING (NOT REALLY METAL) ARE GOOD EXAMPLES OF THIS. WHAT ARE YOUR PERSONAL VIEWS AROUND THIS MATTER?

Azhemin: I am not interested are these bands in MTV or not. I'm interested in videos in general, some of them are very good. I would have never believed some of these bands end up in MTV, but there is nothing we can do about it...

THANKS FOR YOUR TIME, AZHEMIN! IS THERE SOMETHING WORTH OF IMPORTANCE YOU WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT BEFORE WE CLOSE THE GATE?

Azhemin: Thanks for this interview, Esa (You are welcome! -Esa). All the best for your magazine. "Surrounded By These Firs" demo is no longer available from me, if you want it try somewhere else. New demo will be available in the middle of '97.

Wanderer

c/o Azhemin
Maalinaluuhantie 13 C 24
01280 Vantaa
FINLAND



Monumentum

MONUMENTUM-
"In Absentia Christi"-CD
(MISANTHROPY REC.)

MONUMENTUM has always produced very strange music in unbelievably melancholic tune, and that makes them one of my favourite bands. In this debut LP they have somehow built songs of ultimate grayness and weirdness that simply make you destructive to yourself. Listen this CD several times over and try to smile... It's maybe the most depressive and most near-death that music can be, and we love it! All songs from classic tune "Nephtali" to new ones and even to the studio-improvised cover song "Fade To Gray" simply crush the feelings of joy and replace them with the Very Melancholy. We suggest that you get this immediately if you don't have it yet.



MISANTHROPY REC.
P.O. BOX 9
HADLEIGH SUFFOLK
IP 7 5AU
ENGLAND

GEHENNA-
"Malice"-CD
(CACOPHONOUS RECORDS)

GEHENNA sure has come a long way from their demo... unfortunately to all wrong direction. Their M-CD was actually really something with those dominating synths, then the debut LP turned out to be quite crappy with only one good song and "Malice" is no exception.

Again they managed to do one excellent song ("Touched And Left For Dead") with really great mood on all the time (although the pronouncing of certain words is bad), but the rest 50 minutes is uninspiring and uninteresting Black metal with extremely strange conclusions in songwriting. There are so many stupid sounding tempo changes that it really does irritate.

Whether they think this is a great development I know not, but GEHENNA's direction in music is DOWN on me... Well, of course all their fans will love this album and it'll sell fine so I'm sure there's nothing to worry about, but if the music had been composed with a little more patience instead of just putting riffs after riffs this would have been good.

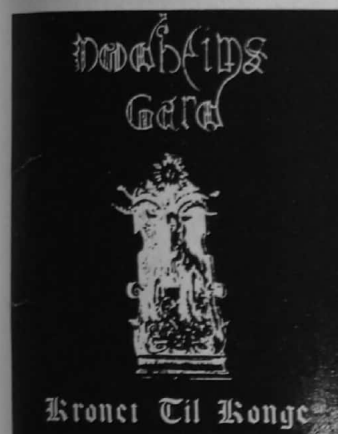
Lyrics are good old GEHENNA- style (Read: not very bright at all), and the thing I really got pissed off is the lyrical side of the song "Ad Arma Ad Arma" that being about nuclear disaster. That's something that may work when it's done by IMPALED NAZARENE but GEHENNA? Hell not Third spell of nuclear hell, far away from the usual I say...

Azhemin & Korppi

noah's Gara

DODHEIMSGARD-
"Kronet Til Konge"- CD '96
(MALICIOUS RECORDS)

To tell you the truth I didn't actually like this album so much when I heard this for very first time, but for my surprise the more I have listened this during these months the better this album has become. And now, after listening this one more than I can even remember this has turned out to be a masterpiece. The atmosphere that surrounds this album is very cold and it brings icy, lifeless, nocturnal pictures into my mind. DODHEIMSGARD has created their own style of Norwegian Black metal even though some influences from DARKTHRONE ("Transilvanian Hunger") can be heard. And after all, Fenriz himself is doing the bass guitar and some backing vocals in this album. Aldrin's vocals are undoubtedly one of the best I have heard. Very original, not usual for Black metal but still something very cold. Overall this album is absolutely great and such songs as "A Slakte Gud", "En Krig A Seire", "Mournful, Yet And Forever" or "Midnattskogens Sorte Kjerne" are freezing knives in the face of God. The album lasts for over 54 minutes so there should be enough music for everybody. "Kronet Til Konge" goes for \$20 (cd) / \$17 (lp) from:



MALICIOUS RECORDS
Gerrit Weiher
P.O. BOX 21 04 08
72027
Tubingen 21
GERMANY

Misanthrope

MISANTHROPE-
"1666... Theatre Bizarre"-CD
(HOLY RECS.)

French MISANTHROPE's CD is filled with music that "could have been something but then it didn't". I really don't have anything good or bad to say about this except the vocals are annoying and some riffs are good. Simply a band among others, nothing special. CD contains eleven Death metal songs and is truly not an good investment, we got it in a promopackage.

ACID DEATH-

"Promo- tape '96"

Some of you might already know this Greek band as they have been around from '89 and beside their only demo, "Rotation Of Insanity" ('90) they have also some vinyls out through MOLON LAVE (gre). Right now they are preparing their new CD "Pieces Of Mankind" and in the mean time they have unleashed promo tape which is ment only for promo use, definitely not for sale. This particular tape was us for review by Savvas-Jake (bass/vocals) and I am here trying to tell something about it. The music can be labelled as technical progressive Death/ Thrash and the sound quality is simply almost perfect. Although this is not the kind of music I'm into (I found this VERY boring indeed!) I can honestly say that these dudes really know what they are doing. They know how to handle their instruments, they managed to get professional sounds for this release and as they have been here for six years now they seem to be very dedicated as well. I raise my hat for that! The upcoming album might be interesting piece for those who enjoy technical Death/Thrash with good production, but for me? Not at all!

ACID DEATH
P.O. BOX 31902
10035 Athens
Greece

NATTVINDENS GRATT-
"A Bards Tale" CD
(SOLISTITIUM REC.)

Wierd thing is that when I received three-track advance tape from this album before it was even out I actually liked it alot. But now after listening the whole album carefully through my views have changed radically. "The Echo" (which was also in the advance tape) still manages to sound very good and I actually keep on listening to it from time to time, but the rest of the songs... They are not good at all. Vocals are extremely bad, the singer doesn't know how to sing at all and "The Road Goes Ever On" is perfect example for this. I don't like the rest of the songs either, they sound mellow for me (this goes especially for "Song Of The Tide Waves"- it's horrible!) and the lyrics are something which I can't get into. Influences from BATHORY ("Twilight Of The Gods", "Hammerheart" and "Blood On Ice") are obvious and even when both of the editors are great BATHORY fans we think this album is very bad. The front cover is not that great either, though it's the music which counts the most... It kind of shows that this band wants to be something that they aren't and that they tried too hard to make this album something very special but failed totally. This album seem to be appreciated very well by some Black metal people around and I don't see point for that. Check out the SOLISTITIUM- flyer for prices.

Gorgoroth

GORGOROTH-
"Antichrist" CD '96
(MALICIOUS RECORDS)

One of the best Black metal bands is back with their new assault containing 25 minutes of old fashioned Black metal, as dirty and grim as it was meant to be. Their debut album "Pentagram" was my ultimate fave as together with DARKTHRONE- albums it was one of those few records that could be



The sin of Satan is the sign of
GORGOROTH

counted as pure, ugly Black Fuckin' Metal, and fortunately "Antichrist" is not an exception either. Comparing to their debut album any kind of progression can not be noticed and that is simply great because THIS is Black metal. I am totally possessed by old BATHORY and within GORGOROTH there is a BIG influence of this old god, and maybe that is the reason why this album is so great. "Possessed (By Satan)" seem to be GORGOROTH's own version of BATHORY's killer "Possessed" (from "Return..." of course!) with adding some totally new parts as well. This particular track returns the old way of Black metal and therefore is my fave track from this unholy album. Infernus seem to be the only true member left and the other musicians in "Antichrist" are just session members, ex- member Hat and Frost (SATYRICON and ZYKLON B) being some of them. "Antichrist" is released in support of Never Stop The Madness- campaign and is dedicated to Euro-nymous (r.i.p.) who's photo appears in the innersleeve.

There is nothing more to say. Especially recommendable for Metal maniacs who doesn't care only for progressive Black metal with tons of synths, technical playing and female vocals... Available from MALICIOUS.

Step on their cross and piss on their dreams!!!



NAZXUL

DARKWOODS MY
BETROTHED-
"Autumn Roars
Thunder"- CD '96
(SOLISTITIUM
RECORDS)

After their debut CD "Heirs Of The Northstar" DMB is back with new album and seem to be stronger than ever. Music in this album have splitted into two directions: Fast and ugly Black metal in the Norwegian vein and more calm tracks with influences from ISENGARD, little bit new BATHORY and some folk-influences. Honestly I don't have enough interest to listen these faster songs that much, probably because I have heard that kind of stuff thousands of times before, but these slower tracks are great. The title track and "Red Sky Over The Land Of Fells" are very good examples for this. Sounds

are better than in previous album and the same goes for vocals as well as playing skills. I don't think this album is a new jewel or something but it's quite good anyway and will appeal for most of you out there! It's a great improvement from the debut album and is worth listening for sure.

Once again, check out SOLISTITIUM- flyer for prices!

NAZXUL-
"Totem" CD '96
(VAMPIRE RECORDS)

From Australia comes NAZXUL with their 70 minutes (!!) long attack containing extremely strong and destructive form of Black metal in the sick vein of SADISTIK EXEKUTION (aus), BESTIAL WARLUST (aus) and BLASPHEMY (can). The main thing which differs NAZXUL from these bands are the vocals which are full of effects and manage to sound utterly twisted and horrifying. No sweet melodies, only pure skull crushing violent armageddon which should give satisfaction for maniacs who are into above mentioned bands. This is not the music I would call brilliant or totally satisfying but there are times when I can actually listen to this and even enjoy it! Musicianship and sounds are good and some riffs are very enjoyab-

le. Track titles include "Watching And Withering", "Hatred", "Admired The Flames", "Endless Reign Of Power" and "I Awaken (Amongst Them)" to name a few. I don't know would I call this an good investment as there are SO many better albums available, but that's your decision actually. We received this as a promo- CD and among the big ocean of crap we receive it was NOT bad at all! A special hail goes to the title track "Totem" for being the most outstanding track in this sick album.

Available for S25 (Australia) / S18 (US and rest of the world).

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DARKTHRONE-
"Goatlord"- CD '97
(MOONFOG PRODUCTIONS)

This is the album that was supposed to be released after "Soulside Journey" but wasn't unleashed until '97. The tracks featured in this piece has been recorded in '90- '91 and the vocals has been done in '94 by Fenriz and some additional help from Satyr. The covers doesn't inform who did the main vocals, but if you have heard "Spectres Over Gorgoroth"- demo '89 and "Hostmorke"- CD of ISENGARD it's easy to notice that it's Fenriz behind these outstanding vocals. The sounds are rather bad (remember that "Goatlord" is rehearsal tape!) but the music is good and the vocals alone makes this album simply great. The ones who despise "Soulside Journey" (their debut album, if someone didn't know...) shouldn't like this one too much either because the music continues the same vein of technical and dark Death metal. Only vocals are pure fuckin' Black metal and mixed with some seductive and bizarre female vocals. I have always liked their debut album as well ("Cromlech" is a classic!) so I naturally do like this one too. Some old lyrics such as "Crossing The Triangle Of Flames" and "Summer Of The Diabolical Holocaust" has been used again for this release. This album contains ten tracks and the titles include "Pure Demoniak Blessing", "As Deserts shadows", "In His Lovely Kingdom", "Rex" and "Birth Of Evil Virgin Sin" among others. This is another great release from DARKTHRONE and I raise my hat to them for keeping this malicious style alive. UNHOLY BLACK METAL FOREVER!!! Check this one out!

KATATONIA

KATATONIA-
"Brave Murder Day"- CD '96
(AVANTGARDE MUSIC)

Another brilliant album from Swedish KATATONIA! The ones who liked their former releases ("Jhva Elohim Meth"- demo, "Dance Of December Souls"- CD and "For Funerals To Come..." MCD) should be satisfied this time too as with this album KATATONIA continues the unique style they have created and descend even deeper into the realms of melodic, depressive and executed Metal music. The production is better than before and the band has come up with even more catchy songs which appeal for me perfectly. This album contains six tracks ("Brave", "Murder", "Day", "Rainroom", "12" and "Endtime...") "Day" being unusually soft track for KATATONIA. Though not bad at all. This release is a must!!

Album of the issue



DISSECTION-
"Storm Of The Light's Bane"
(NUCLEAR BLAST)

Now what do we have here? Not a fresh album, but definitely the most impressing CD for a long long time! When DISSECTION made "The Somberlain" it was something wonderful. And now, well, we'll have to say that their second strike crushes that and by the way almost every single record the underground scene in the world has ever produced.

After all 5 issues we've made this far we think that with MAYHEM's "De Mysteriis Dom Sathanas" this is an evil masterpiece way ahead of others, an album where every single song, every single riff, and lyrics, are absolutely crushing!

Songs like "Unhallowed", "Soulreaper", and "Thorns Of Crimson Death" impress their way to the listeners' mind and won't probably ever leave. And the same goes for all others... We see no end here, and we don't want to!

The skillful playing of members, brilliant riffs, fresh ideas, and the feeling that this was made with a heart makes "Storm Of The Lights Bane" the album of the KILL YOURSELF! issue #5.

And although it's impossible to improve the music from here (even when you conspire with evil like they do) we do have some great expectations towards their third satanic attack Hail!



"Pain, plague and pestilence shall sweep through your sight / Grim is the truth that hides behind the fading light The eyes of the beholder stares empty silent and cold / For the deeds of the dark ones are fearful to behold. With lifted, dreadful swords we swear allegiance for our lord / We're the unhallowed usurpers of the throne. Dusk will bring the gathered ones upon the feeble man of god / Superior mighty warriors of pure unhallowed blood. Shoulder to shoulder, they reign in the darkest of nights / Together at the edge of time brought forth to slay the light.

Thy majesty, our majesty, sole superior evil itself. We'll be your instrument and the blade of their damnation.

So futile humans on their knees for the satanized / burning high in the stakes with the love of christ. Do not rest in peace, may your souls all burn black / your sons and daughters I'll kiss, with a poisoned smile Sing out the pain of your roots that you cannot deny / and we'll crush your worthless prayers of the weak forgotten lie. The apocalypse is here, oh fools of the withering sky / Encounter darkness as you fall into the endless fire the jaws of darkness, open wide lost souls scream out in vain / All will writhe eternity's perpetual, infernal pain.

With lifted, dreadful swords we swear allegiance for our lord / We're the unhallowed usurpers of the throne."

"Unhallowed", Lyrics by Nödveldt / Särkkä

SENTENCED

SENTENCED-
"Down"- CD '96
(CENTURY MEDIA)

Fine title for album containing material that we find very poor when comparing this to the previous release, great "Love And Death" MCD. After Taneli Jarva quit the band, there was some mighty shoes for the new vocalist Ville (Ex-singer of lousy MAPLE CROSS) to fill and of course he can't make it.

The songs are of course made with superior musicianship, but the ideas featured here have been heard for a bit too many times. Fuck the song they made a video of, "Noose" has straight PARADISE LOST ("The Last Time") rip off drum beat and style and when vocalist is imitating both Jarva and James Hetfield the result is pathetic.

Now, although this CD didn't impress me, I'll have to say that SENTENCED is clearly heading towards the bigger press and more or less becoming mainstream. It's good that Finland manages to produce some metal to those assholes around the globe like AMORPHIS did, but it was a big disappointment to see SENTENCED fade away from the eyes of UG-metal.

AMORPHIS-
"Elegy"- CD '96
(NUCLEAR BLAST)

On their way down is AMORPHIS too in our eyes. Again, "The Tales From The Thousand Lakes" had surprisingly many great songs in it but "Elegy" has not one.

And as "T.T.F.T.L." featured lyrics from KALEVALA (the boring Finnish national epos) this CD uses KANTELETAR (same type of book) as the source of lyric line ideas.

The acoustic version of "My Kantele" is successful piece with good lyrics, "Against Widows" is listenable and that's about it.

There is one great riff from some Finnish folk song like there was in the previous CD too but it happens just the same here when the rest of the song sucks truly. And like that wasn't enough they've even fit techno in one song. Fuck off!

The new lead clean vocals singer has an irritating voice somehow and therefore even the normal singings do not impress anymore. In fact, there are parts that sound like RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS.

Well, at least I didn't even have any expectations so the disappointment wasn't so great.

Moonspell

MOONSPELL-
"Irreligious"- CD '96
(CENTURY MEDIA)

MOONSPELL is one of the bands that have come a long way from their "Anno Satanae" demo back then and although it pisses me off when satanic band slowly changes their topic they have produced some fine material here. Well, what can you expect of few guys from Portugal?

"Raven Claws", "Opium" and "Awake" are great songs and they alone make this CD's rating high. Only bad thing here is that their search of strange melodies sometimes sounds even desperate and as a conclusion they've copied parts from TYPE O NEGATIVE which was unnecessary.

I almost feel sorry for myself I hadn't heard this CD before they played in Finland. Maybe I wouldn't have skipped their part of the show.

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