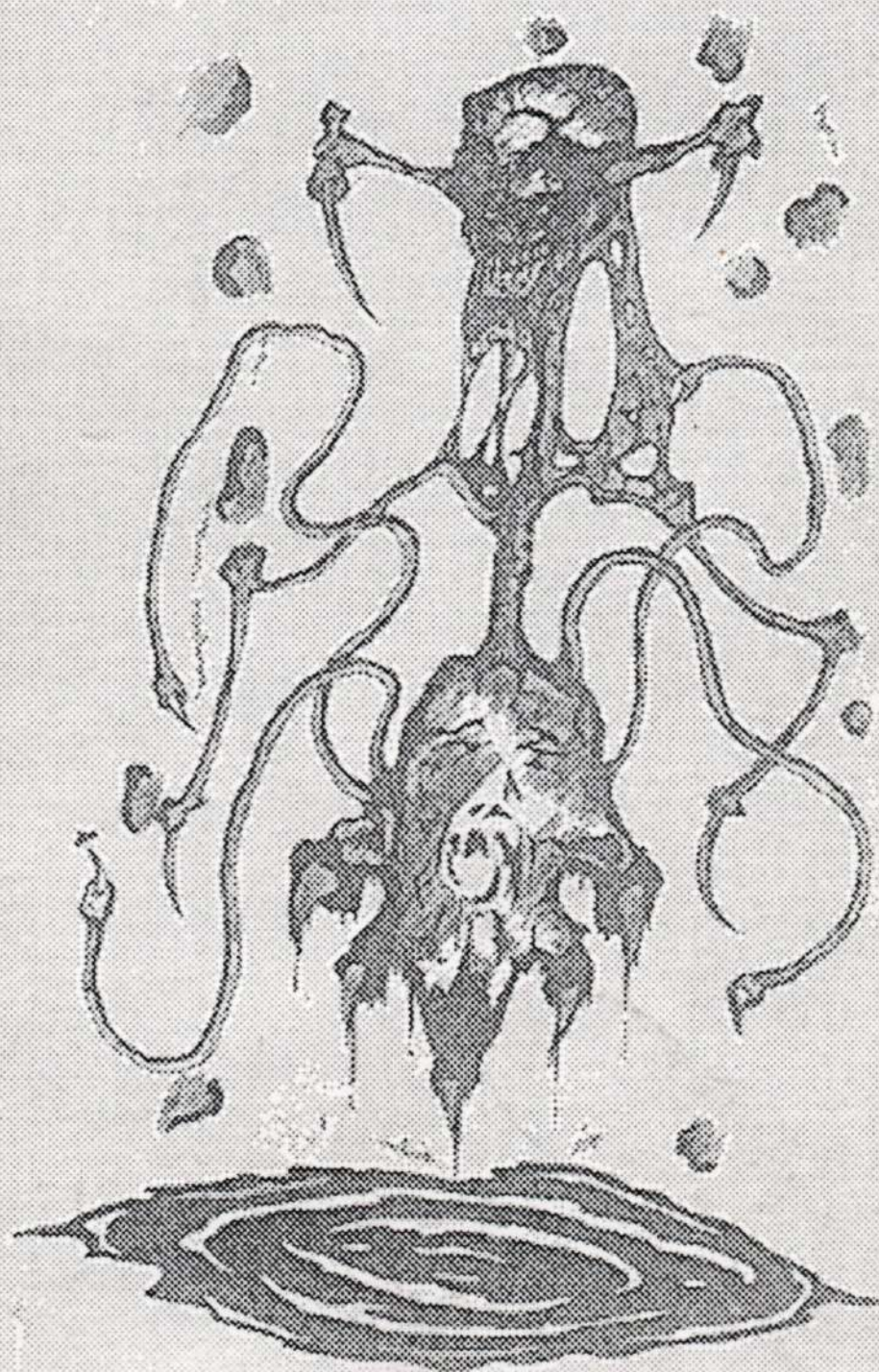
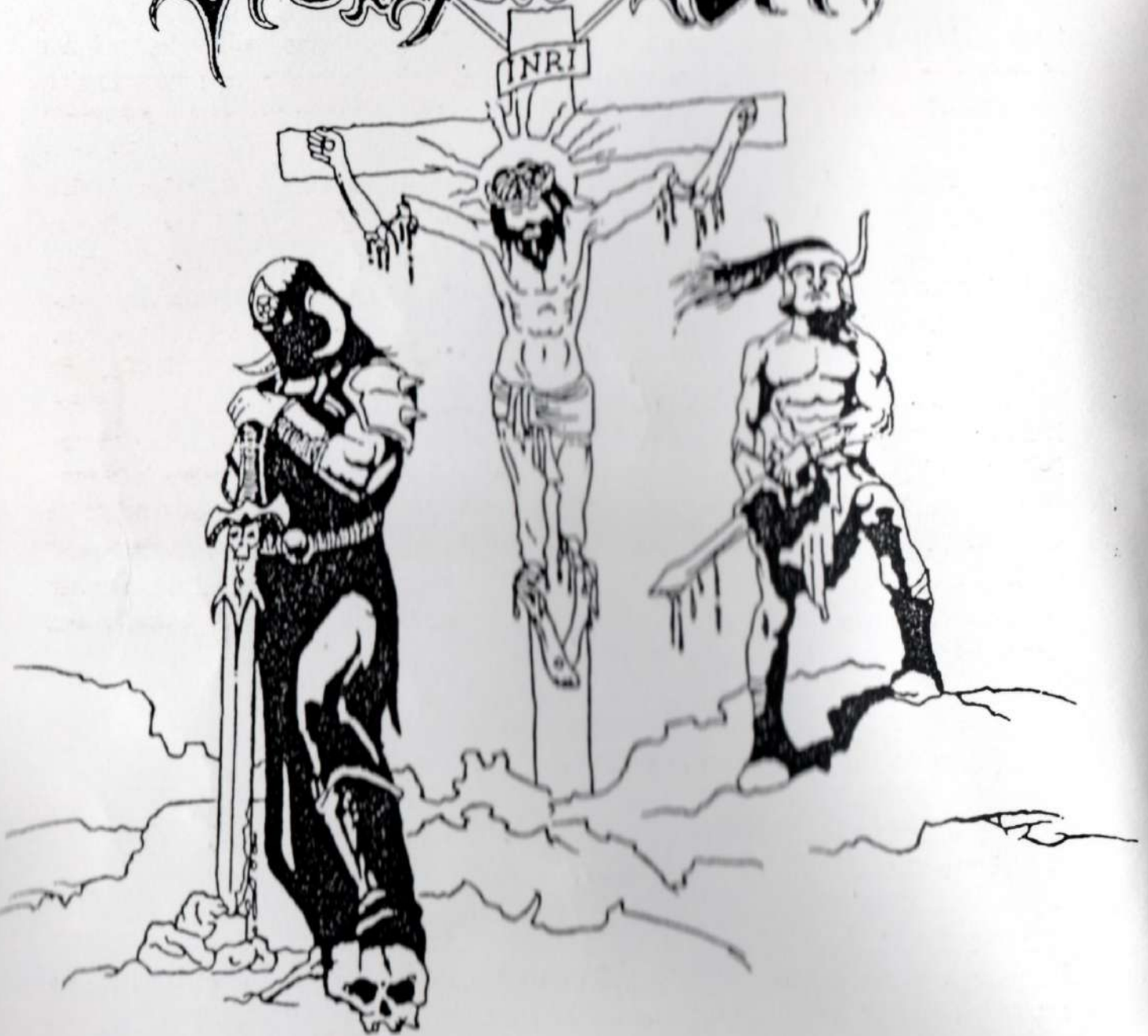


HELLBOY

MONSTROSITY N. 1 - August 1996



Heavenly Host



HEAVENLY HOST

Monstrosity

Hail! Welcome in the first number of Monstrosity! I know that probably you have already heard this name, in fact we have chosen it principally as a tribute to this great band which have done the story of brutal death-metal: Monstrosity Rules!! Besides, it is rumoured that they have ready a new album, we will see. Find bands more and more violent, powerful and valid, it is our commandment therefore in this issue you can find interviews with brutal canadian Kataklim, which are going to publish their new album; with prog. death-metallers Dark Tranquillity and Hybris or with darkful Opera IX (the opus of mistery). We have also wanted interview who works in the underground but above all for the underground like Metal Massacre on stage Prod., Osmose Rec., Beyond Prod. and Extreme Brutality Distribution. Of course you can find a montain of reviews of demos, EP's, CD's, etc. Monstrosity also is a distributor principally concentraded on the brutal death-metal, but where you can find also black, doom and death-metal bands, so if you search bands with these requisites write now. Excuse us for possible mistakes but we want to specify that this is the first time that put to the prove our english. In conclusion I like to remind to all the black, death, doom, gothic, grind and brutal bands and labels who wish to appear in the next numbers of Monstosity to send their stuff. Well, that is all for now and remember to spread our name everywhere!

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Monstrosity Staff:

Daniele Ioannilli, Andreas Santori, Simone "Er Frangetta" Amicucci, Francesco Fraschini, Alfonso Demunno & Matteo Kleemann.

On the next number you will read great interviews to:Cannibal Corpse, Immolation, Vader, Glacial Fear, Undead, At The Gates, Seven Art and many others....

Andreas would like to thank the followings:

Myself, Annelise and Studio Grafico Carlo Santori, Giovanni, Simone, Sebastiano, "Sepultura", Serena, Manuela, Riccardo, Flavia, Stefano, Michela from Ostia Chicco and Undead, Cristiano and Prediction, Carmelo and Novembre, Alessandro and Oceana, Manuel and my Discount's friends, Roberto, Sabrina, July, Niklas and Dark Tranquillity, Jan-Chris and Gorefest, Emilio and Blood Stained Host, Cristiano and StormLord, Antonietta and Seven Art Rec., Luca and Chaos and Technocrazy, Johan and In Flames, Iblis and De Occulta Philosophia, Giuliano and Endaymynion, Gianluca and Journey Through The Dark, Rob and Immolation, Webster and Cannibal Corpse, Vader, Gianluca (Mysteria Distribution), Jacopo (Bloodstorm Distribution), Francesca and Pluvia Metalli, Gianluca and Glacial Fear and to all the people that I have forgotten, sorry.

Daniele would like to thank the followings:

Alessandro and Mortualia'zine, Giovanni (Beyond Prod.), Balfo and Stefano (Metal Massacre), Matteo (Hanful of Hate), Cristiano Borchì, Francesca Fabi, Frabrizio Massignani, Yuri Bianchi, Luca Fini, Laurent (Impure Creation Rec.), Samuel and Morphal, Patrick and Callenish Circle, Boundless Rec., Chris and Gorgon, Flegias and Opera IX, Francesca, Alex and Forgotten Silence, Enrico and Undertakers, my friends of "Piazza di Spagna", Max Varani for your cover, Francesco Conte and D-Form, Andrea Toro and Francesco, Carmelo, Fabio Marinelli, Osmose Prod., Monstrosity (I'm waiting for your new CD), Oppressor, Roberto and Defunctis, Northern Darkness Rec., Ghouls, Eternal Sleep, Semeion.

Simone would like to thank the followings:

None, but a material and spiritual remembrance to the most ethereal human being of the universe: Eve Gabrielle. Hail also to myself.

Front cover by Max Varani; "Editorial", "Reviews" and "Monstrosity" logos by Simone Amicucci



Journey Through The Dark

After their first amazing demo, called "Screams of Syrens", the band will come out with a mini-cd for the Wampiric series of Nosferatu rec. Monstrosity'zine has captured the feelings of Gianluca Vecchio, the spokesman of JOURNEY THROUGH THE DARK, one of the most promising band of our underground.

Your first demotape is out since some months: how have sold and what kind of responses have you received?

Well, the responses have been everywhere very good, and the sales are excellent too. We have sold over 700 copies, and for a debut demotape is really very good!

After some months do you have some remorse of the final work or would you make some alterations?

Obviously I think that every person, after a work and after sometimes, says that something

must be done in different way. I think that in our demo the guitar had to be recorded better, also I think that respect our new compositions, the songs of the demo are inferior; but the progresses are done step by step.

After the reading of your lyrics I noticed the particularity of them. What are your subjects and in what way they born?

All depends from the thoughts that are in our mind in the moment in which one of us write a lyric. Usually they are flies in the fantasy or a solution to free anguished situations that oppress our soul and that bring to see the masquerated reality of a sad veil and dark, in which don't look to filter a ray of sun. Anyway, we don't like to talk about politic or religious arguments because we aren't inside these ambits.

"Screams Of Syrens" had brought to the band a

contract with Nosferatu rec.; what is your first impression and what type of contract have you signed?

We have just ultimate the record-session of our mini-cd called "... Among Secrets" and now we wait that will be out. The impression that we have of Nosferatu rec. is good. I think that they are serious persons that know their work. I hope that the promotions will be adequate, because this mini-cd could be a possibility for a full-length. Above the economical part of the contract, this one isn't so favourable, but I don't care because for me music is passion and it is an internal need to give voice to my hate and sorrow that won't appeased.

Talking about music of "...Among Secrets", what must we expect from the new compositions?

The work will be clearly better respect our demo, under all point of view, even because is very suffered and restless, there are acoustic, ethnics and medieval parts, but above all the work will have a sinfonic movement, all filter by sad doom parts and ferocious-fast



parts that bring to all the work variety and the mini-cd never will be monotonous. Also the production is really good especially for the guitars that are powerful and the atmosphere majestic. For this I want to thank Alex Guadagnoli of Electrocution, that was near us for all the record-session, giving us great advices. The most important compliment did is that all the people wanted to know what kind of music we play; haven't a ticket is a great target in the life of a musicians, because it demonstrates completeness and an open mind. About the lyrics, the speech is personal because they want to strike and they are without logic; everyone can draw the meaning that he wants from the metaphors. What is real in the lyrics is inside me because is personal. Only the first track talk about a mythological argument and it needs a lot of words because is really clear.

The release of "... Among Secrets" will be supported by a tour. Could you describe your live-stage?

I hope that will be the possibility to make a tour after the release of our mini-cd. We just prepare for this and we hope to make shows in north of Italy and also in the center, like in Rome. Our live-stage isn't perfectly defined, but we try to create a mystic atmosphere that puts in relief the spirituality of our music.

You have just signed a contract. What do your

advices to all the young bands?

They must understand that they have to work hard and they must enter in the circuit! Don't think to become famous and make a lot of money, because is difficult to see money in this world and the attitude to become a rockstar mustn't become to a musicians. The real thing is believe in himself and play music for himself and not for the other people.

Ever about the band; what are the bands that you like, in general?

Uhhh, this question is really embarrassing for me, because I don't know from where I must begin, I hear a lot of stuff and not only of death/black/doom. I can make only some names: Candlemass, My Dying Bride, Cradle of Filth, Tiamat, Morbid Angel, Cannibal Corpse, At the Gates, Dissection, Venom, Celtic Frost, Bathory, Atrocity, Crematory, and so on.

Now I would to talk about a different speech. What do you think about religion?

I want to distinguish religion from religiosity; I don't follow any religion because I don't want to close me in one visibility and because this form of aggregation brings the scattering a self individuality. It doesn't mean that I haven't my religiosity or that I don't believe in something because I have my ideas on this problem. I am enchanted by the mystery of death

because in this way I value more my life, and I can say to you Andreas that none know what there is after the eternal sleep; so, in the doubtful, I hope that there is something after, in fact I don't hope in the reincarnation or in the transmigration.

What do you think in general about our society?

I wouldn't reply to your question, because my words could result banal and rhetorical; anyway I am a person that love to live alone, and so I am alien to problems that for other people are very important.

Salutes and future project.

I want to thank for all, and I want to express my gratitude to all the people that have allowed to arrive at this point. I hope that our mini-CD will be out as soon as possible and I want to begin to work for our full length-CD. Thank you Andreas for your opportunity and see you soon!!!

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Messina (Italy)

(A.S.)

ENDAYMYNION

With their second demo, called "Thy Art", Endaymynion break the scene and great are the hopes for their future! So, we have called the band spokesman, Giuliano, for this funny interview, check it out.

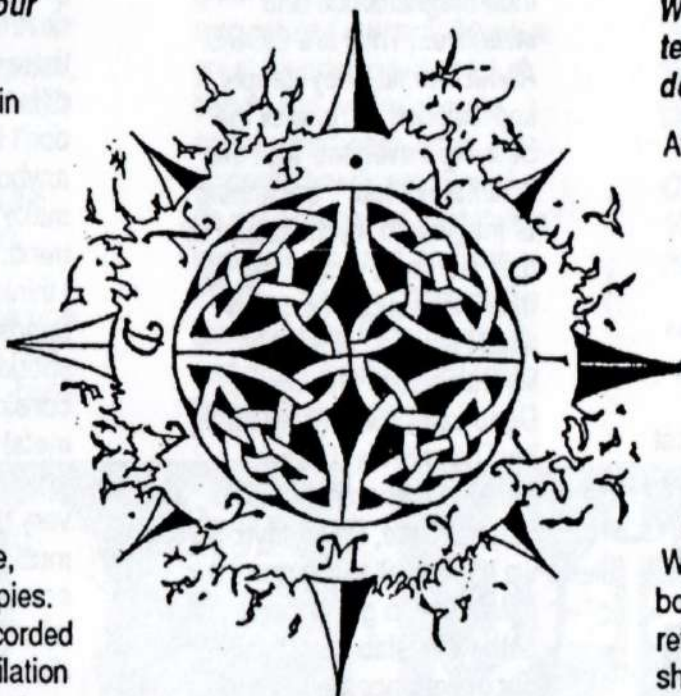
I hate to do this question but I think that is necessary: could you illustrate your story so far?

The Band was formed in Dec'90, but only in August'94 we realized our first demo tape titled "Sonnets of Inquietude" with 4 tracks of sinphonic doomdeath with dark e prog influences, that received good responses from specialized Magazines and Fanzine world wide, and it sold over 700 copies. In december '94 we recorded a new song for a compilation CD with some of the best death-doom-black italian bands like: DETESTOR, DESECRATION, GLACIAL FEAR etc. etc. In December '95, after a change of line-up, the band realised "THY ART" our new demo, it contains 9 brand new tracks of OPEN MINDED AVANT GARDE METAL, more progressive and tangled with intricate score but full of harmony, folk and dark arrangements.

Like you said before, "Thy Art" is your second demo:

how are the sales and what types of new contacts and opportunities have you had?

"Thy Art" is came out in December 95 and in 3 months we have sold out the first printing of 250 copies, with "Sonnets" and especialy with "SCREAMS FROM



ITALY" comp CD we knew a lot of persons disponable to help and support us, so we hope to sell the most copies possible; for the moment we are selling a lot of copies in East Europe in country as: Bulgaria, Polonia, etc; maybe thanks to a great collaboration by fanzines in those country, unfortunately in Italy few kids read important devices as fanzines. I hope that soon this attitude will change. We received some opportunity from italian

labels, but their conditions didn't satisfy us, we are in touch with other European labels, but I wouldn't talk about it for the moment... we hope to get soon a good deal to produce our new songs.

I think that a lot was changed from the time of "Sonnets of Inquietude", What are the main characteristics between the two demos?

After we released "Sonnets" (that came out with almost one year of delay for various trouble) we felt the need to try new paths and experiments new solutions and emotions, so our evolutions sweeped us in ours inners and we agreed that our mind should be free. Without any prejudice our bound, our music should reflect our spirit with any shades, influences, and sensations. So we reched for a new line-up that would grown up with this conception. In "Sonnets" all the tracks was composed and arranged by me and Athos, on the contrary the songs in "Thy Art" are costituted by the shades of four minds and hearts. Unfortunately Jessica joined just 15 days before we records these songs, and Mattia after the released. Anyone brought their personal experiences and backgrounds, and we try to

melt these fragments together like in a kaleidoscope of emotions and reminiscence of life. We changed approach to our songs and also in this moment we try developing this new attitude, we took what we like from doom and put it on other coordinates that satisfy our souls, to reach our personal way, I don't know if we have find it and we don't ever consider ourself original or innovative, we just play what make our spirit feel good.

Reading the lyrics, I had notice a lot of deepness; could you talk about them and what are the source of their inspiration?

Thanks for your appreciations, for us our lyrics are very important, every words must be as one with the notes of the music, with our lyrics we try to analyze ourself. We do almost a process of catharsis in which every experiences becomes as streams of energy to join the vast oceans of the time. We were infatuated by romantic poetry those great acts like; Gray, Young, Keats; Yeats, Goethe etc. etc. ; but also ermetic poetry as: Verlaine, Pound, Rimbaud etc. etc.. We just try to read our emotional cataclisms, we don't bring any message or impositions, we would just that who hear our music should feel our research for serenity and reminiscence of truth.

"Thy Art", is a demo in which you can hear influences like Cynic and Tiamat. What are your

background and in what way you can melt together these influences so different?

Like I said before we consider ourself an open-minded band, we listen to many different kinds of music. death, doom, jazz, prog, dark, industrial etc. Without any prejudice we try to stay boundless, we are very honoured that you compare us with Cynic, but I think that none may reach their magnificence and inventive... They are GODS. About Tiamat, they deeply impresioned us, one of the best live I ever see was the "Wildhoney tour", something of magic and mystic pread by their persons, expecially by their singer, I can't explain what i feel that night! My favorite bands are: Cynic, Dead can Dance (they rule!!), My Dying Bride, Dream Theater, Depeche Mode, Tiamat, Cure, Pink Floyd. So we try to melt together all this influences to get our own paths and elaborate again our experiences in atmospheres and moods of coscience united by melody and research of experementations.

I know that the band now work on new songs: what must we expect from a band like Endaymynion?

The new songs are in the vein of those which are contained in "Thy Art", more powerfull and atmospheric, we pay more attentions to keys sounds, it will be full of anguish, there will be some

samples. Unfortunately when we mixed "Thy Art" we have lost the power that you can find when we play live, we also take more care of the voice parts with more recitative and visionaire attitude...and more sorrowfull way!!!

But in this way do you think that the band leave his base: the death-metal?

No, I don't think that you must play ultrafast or accord your guitar in B to be powerfull and destructive. Also in "Sonnets" there was many elements of different musical cultures, we don't betray anything or anybody, we just play what make feel good our soul, no trend, no compromise. Maybe I think more brave those bands that try to make some sperimentations; we never consider ourself just a death metal band, I listen death-grind from the origin and I'm very happy that this kind of music still devenlope and envolve itself... so free your mind, there are many dimensions to find !

What do you think about all the Integralist death-metal bands?

Anybody is free to play or listen what he want. I respect the work of everybody, so it should be. Anyone can tell you are a posers or you betray your origin, maybe because we use less death-growls or we don't play tipical death parts. Look to Dark Tranquillity, they find a new frontier.

Now we change speech. In what way born a song of

Endaymynton?

The main ideas come from me or from Athos, then we and Gabriele and Mattia try to find a good ritmical sessions, then we joined keys and voice parts. Often we use some poetry that me or Athos just wrote before; other times we play some jam togheter, or we start from some sounds of key that Leo propose us.

Unfortunately we all live in distant towns, so often anybody work lonely and then we unite our ideas or opinion.

I think that your prerogative is the surprise, like your monicker: what it represents ?

ENDAYMYNION is a celtic words that means "light's forest" praticaly is an introspective journey through soul's forest, to find the real emotions; often we are blind

in the daze of reason and we don't consider the shades of our life, and we still dold ourself with stupid convintions. ENDAYMYNION means research of serenity and comunion with the essences of the Universe.

Now in Italy there are a lot of good bands. What do you think about the scene and what ore your advices to all the young bands?

I have a great opinion of our scene, I think there is a lot of grest bands that deserve respect and success. I have a great friendship with a lot of bands and we vollaborate and support each other. My favourite bands are: Sadist (in my opinion the best Italian band), Kaos Lord, Sarnath, Pilgrim, Journey Through the Dark, Glacial Fear, Opera IX and many more. I don't think to be the right person to


advice anyone, we have a lot of things to learn, I think that everybody must collaborate.

Future project and salutes.

Just in these days we received a proposal to rerecord our first demo, so we are reassanging that songs... We would a good deal to realise our songs at its best and play live the more possible. Thanks Andreas for your concern in the band and your support, I hope that every good Italian bands may find success... GIVE A CHANCE TO OUR MUSIC...MAY YOU WANDER THROUGH THE PATHS OF THE ART!!

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(A.S.)



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0686 Oslo
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THE NEW ALBUM

Hastur was born in December '93 by the idea of Haizmann and Herman, and after the line up was completed with Rob and Andrea. After 7 months of sessions they released their first demo called, "Live in fear". The demo contains 4 songs + intro of Ancient Black-Death Metal and with the distribution of Beyond prod. (that also had produce the demo) has sold about 450 copies!

What type of background do you have?

Ours preferred bands are: Edge of Sanity, Deicide, Suffocation, Morbid Angel, Slayer and many others.

Is Hastur your first band or you came from others experiences?

We have had other experiences but they were just fun and even Hastur was born with these purposes, but now everything's changed.

You define your music an "Ancient, Black-Death Metal", why? But above all, what do you have of "Black"?

We define our music "Black-Metal" for the lyrics, ancient for the sound remaining the old black bands like Possessed, Necrodeath, etc. However the new lyrics are different and about other subjects, while the sound is grown but not changed.



Which is the message synthetically, of each lyric but above all of "Purgatory"?

Only our singer can answer to this question with accuracy, but unfortunately he's doing the military service and we can't answer, so as to satisfy you and your readers.

How is the scene in Genua? Is easy to find rooms where you can play?

The musical scene of Genua is one of the best in Italy, with great bands like Detestor and Sadist, and others in stage of growth like us and Deadness, Barathrum, Belief, Esmegor, while about the concert halls, they are few and wrongly administered

Untill now how much has the demo sold and where is it distribute?

We've sold almost 450 copies of our demo and it's distributed in the underground, not only in Italy but even in Belgium, Eire, Germany, Portugal, Greece, France, U.K., Brasil, Cyprus and we hope to increase the number of the sold copies.

Have you met some rip-off?

Let our "manager" Giovanni answers:

"I've undergo no rip-off in the distro of the Hastur demo The only one I've undergo is very small and I don't want to say the name of the protagonist. No free publicity (neither negative)".

The new songs will be always based on a violent death-grind metal?

You will can listen to our new work (demo or 7") in February, we haven't inserted sperimental parts in our songs, our sound is however grown, becoming more powerful, melodic and carrying. The ultimate judge is up to the listener.

In your opinion which are the best Italian bands?

In this moment we think that Sadist, Detestor, Extrema and Opera IX are more worthy.

What do you think about religion? In what do you believe?

We side with satanists (expecially Haiz), for their thought about the church. We don't care of the other religions, because they're false.

Already have you play as headliner?

Our many live shows are those with Detestor, Opera IX,

Cruentus and Novembre.

In your opinion which will be the trend of 1996/97?

We don't know and we don't want to express an opinion.

A final message for all our readers.

Go on to support the Italian scene and we hope to give something effective to the scene and demonstrate that Italy is not only the mandolin country. Thank you for the interview and greetings to all!

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(D.I.)



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With their last, amazing, demotape, Blood Stained Host have break the underground scene and I see a fantastic future for the band! A prerogative of them is to astonish, a thing that you can understand after the reading of this interesting interview.

Like all the interviews, I want to begin with a biography of the band.

Blood Stained Host was made-up by me and Eric (guitar) after the split of another band, called Kenning. The line-up was completed by Alice (keyboards), Ivan (vocal) and Paolo (bass-guitar) in September of the 1994. After the getting out of our first demo we have take part in a CD-Compilation for the Dawn of Sadness Rec. with a song: Bloody Tears. In the February of 1995 we have recorded our second demo, that proposes on innovative death/doom, based on the melody and on no monochord vocals part.

Do you want to illustrate, for whom that don't know the band, what is your music-line and what are your principal influences?

Well, we like all the music-styles, from rock to the grind and to the cyber and for this reason we are doing a type of music very different, with a lot of influences but without

BLOOD STAINED HOST

copying the famous-bands.

Now, before to talk about your demo, we want to know what is the meaning of your monicker and why did you choose this?

We have choosen because we liked it, and it is a protest against the Church that is the contrary of what they have to be.

So you'r against the Church of these days, but do your bellive that there is an exit from this?

I think that now there isn't a way to escape from this corrupted society; we can't change this type of thing, but the people can understand this situation!

Is out now your last demo, "Mirror of Soul", do you want to say what songs make up it, and what are they characteristic?

Yes. In the demo the person is the absolute protagonist, its soul-state, the analysis of our soul and of the our merit that really count in our life. These arguments are all in the lirycs and they all are connected through these arguments.

So "Mirror of Soul" presents differences respect "Blood Stained



Host" your first demo?

Yes, our first demo was less studied than "Mirror of Soul", in fact the last one is more rich and different, like the songs that we make in this moment; from that you have to try to do, ever, a different type of thing and don't fossilizing ever with the some thing and for this reason, now we prove with two guitars.

Before you have said that your influences are a lot and different. What do you think about the new musical-choose of bands like Tiamat and Moonspell?

I think that they have made the right thing, and they can do what they want to do, if the people like that they buy their records and it's all!

What do you think about the extreme Italian-scene, and, for you, what are the main differents compared to some years ago?

I don't like the Italian scene, because the bands, even if are made-up by excellent musicians, they aren't able to create a personal style, coping the famous bands, and the situation is the same compared to the beginning of the eighties.

In Italy, what are, for you, the best bands that are more original and why?

Now Calvary, Mortuary Drape, Endaymynion and Hanger; because they are the only bands that, during the hearing, excite emotions and interest.

Your last demo was produced by the Macabre Rec., did you have some offers to record your first album?

Well, we have had some offers from two little labels, one German and one Spanish, but they wanted money for the recording but

we aren't rich persons, and so...

Well now the interviews is over, but before do you want to explain the future plans for the band?

After this demo, that have sold three hundred copies, we now work to create new songs, and is out now a CD-compilation with on our songs of the first demo. So thank you Andreas for your opportunity and see you soon, bye.

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65022 Bussi (Pescara) - Italy
Tel. 085/9809201
Fax: 0864/210520.

(A.S)



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Undertakers

Another interesting extreme band come from Naples (Italy) and his name is: "Undertakers". The band in question started his activity in november 1991 from the idea of Enrico Giannone (voice) and Marco Locasero (guitar) both ex-member of the thrash-core band Bestial Invasion. Then they realized his first demo-dape "In Limine Mortys", which sold more of 600 copies. In 1994 they had various changes of line-up. That will settle only with the realization of the second demo "Beholding the Reality". With this line-up: Antonio Pucciarelli (bass), Sandro Laurenzano (drum), Marco Locafero (guitar), Tony Matthewtune (guitar) and Enrico Giannone (death grunts). As theirselves love to define, their musical style is "Pure death metal" much powerful and based almost exclusively on the impact; but because of this definition

they will explain it theyselves during the interview.

What Is the message that you want to give with the lyrics? Do you want that me kids are influenced by them?

I have no particular message to give to the kids. I like writing lyrics based on fantastic stories with psychological and introspective themes. I don't think kids will be influenced by my lyrics, but just fashioned by them.

What is the mean of the cover-demo and what represent the picture?

The face on the cover represents the unconscious monster who is inside the human mankind. A lot of times this monster can't permit yourself to express your personality.

How is the scene in Neaple, and what do you think about it?

About death-metal there is no scene in Naples, only some bands that stop their activity soon.

What is the death-metal for you?

I'm talking about my point of view. Death Metal is my vital energy, not only about music or my bands; I would like to say thanks to it, I have known and met people of different countries, I'm cooperating in a zine and so on.

Do you think that the classic death-metal, your music style, could renew without contaminations with other kind of music, ad happened in these days?

Yes, I believe in the evolution for a band, but I don't like the style changing in a band keeping with same audience or with the same attitude.

Have you met some rip-off?



According to my opinion, Rip offs represent the cancer of the underground.

Have you had problems with your american homonymous or did you make an accord with them? What do you think about their music?

I don't know this band, their music style, but I would like to know them, I know only one difference between them and us , we have the "S" at the end of the name.

From the title of your demo is natural to say: what do you think about the reality around you?

It's a sad reality caused by society problems, sometimes it's better dinding a shelter with the "Unreal Works", this is the meaning of the demo.

Have you met some serious label? Yes they were much intersted to the money or to your music.

We have a reationship with some labels and I hope to inform of new about something of positive for us in the next future.

How are the sales so far are you satisfied?

If I consider that I'll send 500 copies to U.S.A., we'll arrive to 800 copies sold, abviously we're satisfied.

You define your sound "pure death metal", could you say why?

The "pure" definition represents a provokation to defend the death metal, I

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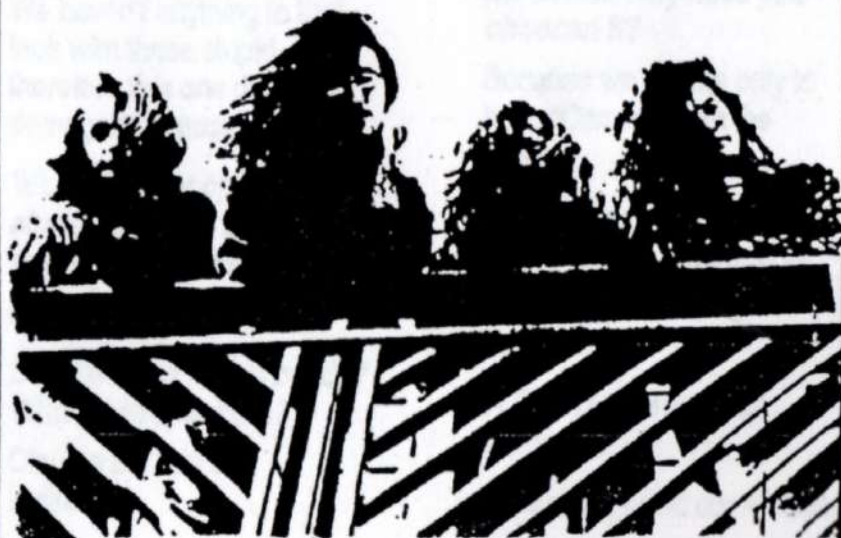
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(D.I.)

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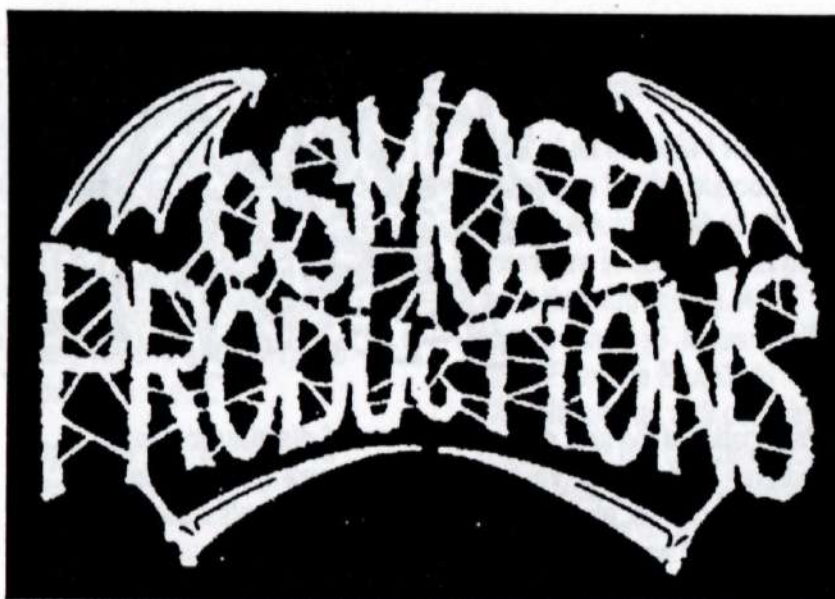
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For who search in a band brutality, blasphemy, velocity and impact of course he has as point of reference Osmose production. The French label, born in 1991, is able to win the extreme part of the metal market thanks to bands like Impaled Nazarene, Immortal, Marduk etc., brings to the light a musical style like black metal untill to some years ago unknown (except for Venom, Bathory...) but now, a little for fashion, a little for real passion, followed by hordes of blasphemous followers.

Therefore we can consider Osmose production of the mother of the black metal movement of these days, counting among his first releases like Samael, Rotting Christ, Necromantia, etc., bands on which nobody would spend their time and money. Managed by Hérve, Osmose prod is, thanks also to the lucky choice to put under contract Dark Tranquillity, destined to become a label of great dimensions (not that now it's of small dimensions!). Somebody though, for vandalic acts like profonation of tombs and churches etc., has criticized this label because mouthpiece of this movement not considering that their bands weren't involved in those things. Therefore I have thought to ask with this interview more information to Osmose; but I don't want anticipate to you anything therefore you go to read it!

When was born your label?

En 1991 quand ma grand-mère a accouche d'une machine à laver (?!/?/ndr)



Which is the reason for that Osmose prod. was founded?

For the musical passion.

How must to be a band to attract your attention?

There are not particular criteries.

Many black metal bands are implicated in profanation of tombs and other acts of vandallism; being the more important label of black metal bands you don't think your image can be damaged ar associated to those things?

We haven't anything to that look with those stupid therefore this one don't damaged Osmose!

Which is your opinion about satanism and religion In general?

No comment.

Do you know Italian bands? Which you like more?

Claudio Barzotti and Bulldozer.

There are good French

bands? The extreme scene Is followed by French kids?

Yes but the 90% of the people is stupid.

Really ,how much cost to produce a CD?

900 F.F.

In your opinion what is black metal?

A great musical style!

Recently you have founded another label: Why?

To make the things more outrageous possible.

"Osmose" Is a name much particular. Why have you choosen it?

Because we are the only to be in "Osmose" with the music!

What do you think of the actual politic situation In France?

No comment.

A final message to all readers...

We are the world domination

(D.I)

EXTREME BRUTALITY

Prerogative of the stuff of the Extreme Brutality is a great impact and to be, also, extreme; but we of Monstrosity'zine without fear have made this interview the boss, Luca Fini, a great person and also a great supporter of the music: check it out!

When was born Extreme Brutality. Who have founded It and why?

Extreme Brutality is been founded by me, Luca Fini, about 4 years ago with the intent to promote and help all italian bands of the underground scene more extreme. Then, thanks to the flyers, my name is goes out also over border so that many bands started to write me to receive a little of help in the distribution of their stuff in Italy. Till to now I'm much satisfied of my work. I hope to proceed so far much other time!

What are the principals difficulty that you meet to work In the underground?

Sincerely big difficulty I have not met; this because I find always to found a true relation of friendship with the persons with that I'm in contact.

Do you carry only a service

of distribution for correspondence or you supply also stores?

The work for mail is that to which we give more space because it permit to us to be in contact with many persons. The stores on the contrary take our material in account-sale, that is if you sell it give to us the money, otherwise they give back to us all.

Do you succed to live of this activity or you have another work?

Absolutely no!! The earnings are very low, at least to my levels, but this is for me above all an hobby, perhaps much binding but for this moment it's only an hobby.

What do you value before to decide to distribute a stuff?

Generally we distibute whatever. Recently yet we are attent to the graphic presentation of the demo. We prefer not to distribute demos with the cover photocopied because can happen with exchanges some copies not originals of the stuff. For this reason we as Extreme Brutality propose to those bands that have not a profes-

sional graphic presentation to print the covers to our charges (together to the tape) with a percentual that will go to the band for each copy sold. Besides we see also the "wholesale prices" because we have a, price of base for demos of \$ 4 (L. 5.000) that we want not raise absolutely! Our price besides is dready inclusive of p.p. and this is valid also for all my stuff!

Do you distribute stuff also abroad?

Yes, but abroad we do above all many exchanges with labels and distributors, and it's that permit to us to can bring in Italy foreign bans .

Are you for or against or the hire CD?

Sincerely I have never thought to this problem. I understand yet that is much profitable to hire a CD rather than to buy it seing the prieses of today. However I appreciate much the "tape-trading" between kids.

Recently I know that you have founded also Torture Records and your first release Is the Corpsegod's MCD. What did hit you of them?

I see that you are much informed about my activity ! Well, you must to know that before to found Torture rec. I was already the management of the Corpsegod. Then, having decided to found Torture rec. I proposed to them to make a MCD for my label and fortunately they have accepted.

What are your next releases?

My next releases will be two 7" respectively of the Necrobstantiality from La Spezia (Italy), band grind-core on the style of first Carcass; and of the Coredawn, band ultra-brutal on the style of Dying Fetus and brothers...; and a MCD of the Blood of Christ. There are come other things ,but for now I prefer to be silent!

How much really a CD cost?

For 1000 copies only of press and cover i spend L. 2.400.000, therefore each CD cost L. 2.400.

Do you think to produce only brutal death metal bands?

Yes! Here to Torture Rec. you'll find always only brutal death metal! If you search "melodie" you can however to write to Extreme Brutality wrong which I offer all types of extreme metal.

Why have you decided to found this label?

Pricipally because I speaked to myself. "We want show to all these "trenders" of the moment that there are bands still as valid of the black metal bands". That's all.

What do you search in a band to put under contract?

I search bands that have good musicians and playwith they like . The originality is another factor to which we see but it's not the plus important. I want to work with honest people to whom I can give my confidence. If you play brutal death metal write

me soon.

Final thoughts...

First of all Daniele I want to thank you for the support. Then I would to salute all those are in contact with me (and they are many). Ah, I forgot. Since 15 January will out a Extreme Brutality's Newsletter that wittl contain together to the distrolist also some interviews, articles etc.; and it will be of 10 - 12 pages write in Italian because it will be sold only in Italy and will cost L. 2.000 but it will be send gratis to all that will buy whetever from me.

Well, for now is all... Immersed in blood, stay brutal Luca!

Contact: Luca Fini
Via Grande 215
57123 Livorno (Italy).

(D.I)



Beyond...Prod.

Already known with the name of "Behemoth Prod." The active label of Giovanni Indorato comes at the third year of life and we of Monstrosity have wanted to know, obviously, as the things are going also in view of an his enlargement. (Recently Daniele from "Antropophagy'zine" is entered into the staff).

When was born Behemoth prod. and why?

Behemoth prod. was born in October '93 with the issue of my first production that I don't name because it's a bad release and it's sold-out. The reason of my work is the love for music and for the underground.

Now you have change your name In Beyond prod. Can you say why?

The reason of the change of monicker is the grownth of my concept of music, owed to the numerous listens and lived experiences. In this way I want to delimit the first period from the new. In fact I've not denied my past but I've developed the best aspects, leading my activity in every direction that merit respect like Dark, Gothic, Doom, Prog, Folk, Psichedelia, Industrial etc.

From the Monicker you

can peircive that you want to be "rival" of the important Osmose prod. Is so? What do you think about his activity?

It's sure that the old monicker can seems a good name for a black metal label but I've never realized nothing of pure black. , The old Bathory have invented the black metal an the others have derived every character from that damned and very wonderful sound. I don't want and I can't compete with the Osmose prod. but I like some bands of it like Necromantia and Dark Tranquillity and I've appreciated some old releases like Panthymonium, while I hate the useless black bands of the Osmose prod.

Untill now you had produce only Demotapes. Above all why this choice and when and with who you will produce a 7", MCD or a CD?

'Till now my economical condition have allowed to me of realizing just demos but I hope to realize other supports like 7", MCD's, CD's, in the 96 but only with the right bands. Make CD is a work more serious, it's necessary to give economic and promotional support to the band, otherwise every

thing would be vain.

What is the most difficult that you had met during your work in the underground, expect the economical side, of course?

The free time is very little but I try to make my day in the best way even if I work alone to my activity. Unfortunately the times of work are long because the italian mail is very low and unreliable.

What is your type of contract?

I've not a type of deal; It depends on the economic condition of the moment and the future purposes of the band. I always try to divide the poor earnings in equal parts and in the limits of my means I spread the art of the band. However I like being like a member of the band, that advice, judge and undertake to do always better works.

Where your demos are distribute?

I'm very gratified for the vast distribution of my products in our peninsula, they are present even in some music shoppes like "Disfunzioni Musicali" in Rome. In the rest of the world, my products are always more known, and

some shops have them. The nations with one shop at least with my material are Belgium, Eire, U.K. Cyprus, Finland, Colombia, Brasil, U.S.A., Norway, Malta, Spain, Denmark, France, Portugal, Greece. However the number of sold copies is always increasing.

Do you think that death black metal is dead or there is interest in the kids?

This is a not easy answer. My personal opinion is that the interest of the kids is always very intense but the Death is dead by now, while the black is dead with his creator, Bathory that could end to publish rubbish-albums. Only the insert of melody, technical ability, orchestral parts, sperimentation and fusion of different styles, keep alive the underground scene, giving birth to bands like: Tiamat, Sadist, Moonspell, Dark Tranquillity, Death, Fear Factory, Samael and others that have learnt to evolve thenself in the time.

What must have a band to merit your attention?

Ahead everything, a little of originality, seriousness, in the work of the band. Sympathy and willing in the

cooperation. Another aspect that I've neglected in the past, is the ability in the creation of walls of feelings. In future this aspect will be fundamental in the selection of the bands.

Can you live with this activity, or have you have other works?

This activity give me many personal satisfactions but only a little of economic satisfactions even if I can give something as a present to myself, I succed in doing the management of my activity with the money I earn with it, because I'm in search of a real work, instead of those part-time.

Your valuation on the Italian scene!

I could write a book about this subject! I think the italian scene is in stage of growth but it's not still good. The demonstration of this note is the Comp. CD "Screams from Italy" by Dawn of Sadness and Occult Shop Rec. a show of the extreme italian scene. My respect is for Sadist, Detestor, Extrema, Hybris for the high level of their productions and for growing up bands like Glacial Fear, Hastur, Altered Vision, Evol, Will o'Wisp and a few of others.

What will be your next production?

When you read this interview, my new production will be alreidy out it's the tape E.P. of "De Occulta Phylosophia" from Milan titled "Obscura Sinfonia"; 40 minutes of Sinfhonic black-doom, while it will be imminent the release of "Anthony Tears" (tape or 7"). He propose Sperimental Dark. Even "Be Ash" fanzine will be imminent. It's written in Italian. Dark, Doom, Gothic, Prog, Folk, Psychedelia, Industrial etc. are the style more treated but every good band is welcome. Be Ash will contain a comp. tape with the interviewed bands.

A final message to all our readers.

Ahead everything I want to thank you and Monstrosity 'zine for the support. Keep in touch to me for every information and for having the list of my distribution with demos, 7", CD's, etc.

Contact: Giovanni Indorato
Via Menotti, 51/1
16154 Genova (Italy).

(D.I.)

HYBRIS

Together with Electrocution, D-Form, Novembre and Pilgrim, Hybris constitute the point of diamond of Italian death metal, today more and more in expansion. Born as grind-core band with the name of Butchery on July '93, after only three months, thanks to the introduction of Keyboards, they change their name in the actual Hybris, and with it also the musical style in a more modern death metal. In the biography they define their musical style as a "grooving and glacial assault", but in my opinion they have forgotten to add "in a sound extremely original". Impact, and technique are joined together creating a new musical style that I think will be destined to mark soon the type of death metal played here in Italy, just like it has been for black metal in Norway and for death metal in U.S.A.

Well, we start explaining in detail of what your lyrics talk about!

I'm the only responsible of our lyrics which deal with social and introspective problems of this fuckin' human life that I've tasted in first person. For example in "Raise myself" I speak about the inner strength that every person has inside, strength that we must put-off in the adversities of our existence;

in "For enchanted dream" I explain what is the most important thing of my life, and this is my band; you know every person has a secret dream in his own life and I think that we must follow our dreams, we must try to realize what we enjoy. After that there is "Tears" an instrumental track dedicated to Steven (a great friend of us that is dead in a car accident where was involved also our drummer Vince), this was the only way to communicate our great friendship. The last track is "Sons of 8th day" that speaks about the problems that handicapped persons have in this society, you know they aren't protected at all by administration, there is a great hypocrisy about these problems.

You have called your first MCD "Ethereal Hopes". Can you explain to us what is the meaning of this title? Is the cover connected with the title?

The cover photo of our debut-MCD is really strange, it shows a man which looks the earth by another planet, he wants return to his home, to his life but he can't and for us this is an ethereal hope. You know; ethereal is something that we can't touch, it's some thing of

spiritual and with this title (and cover) we want represent the spirituality, the dreams and hopes that we have inside us.

Why have you signed for Boundless rec.? Which type of deal have they proposed to you?

We have a deal for two albums with Boundless rec.; you can look to it quite strange, they are a young label but the deal was so good that we've signed for them immediately. Also they work really hard for us, all the cost of production and promotion are covered by Boundless rec. and we hope to grow day by day with this fantastic guys. Also they are distributed by companies like Osmose Prod., Plastic Head, Semaphore, so we look for a quite good future.

Which are the differences between your demo and this mini-CD?

The differences are big, on our debut demo '94 "In Spite of Despair" we play classical death metal with keyboards, many people have compared us with Phlebotomized but now on our MCD, I think that our songs writing got more mature and actual. Respect our old songs.

In your mini-CD is evident an

Influence of Electrocution. Are you granted with my affirmation? How is born the collaboration with Luca Canall, drummer of Electrocution?

Electrocution are great friend of us and the collaboration with Luca is born after the car accident of Vince (that was laid in coma at the Hospital) that now hasn't the motivation to return to play. For return to your question, I think that we are much more brutal and, at the same time, melodic (thanks to the keyboards of Inaly) respect to Electrocution

Besides, I like much your use of keyboards; do you'll try again in this way? Do you think that the only way for death metal to continue to live is try to mix it with another musical style?

Yes the keyboards of Inaly have a great role in our sounds because he is a great musician and will be a permanent member of the band forever. Also I don't know if the future of this music will be a crossover with other musical style or not. (I like many classic death metal band like Broken Hope, Malevolent Creation and

Meshuggah, Leukemia, Dissection, Pink Floyd, Novecento, Dream Theater, Broken Hope, Fear Factory, Primus, Clawfinger, Tribal Teck and many others. Like you can see I am an open minded person and I can say the same for the other guys of the band.

What is the meaning of your monicker?

Hybris, in the old greek's Philosophy, represents the concept of human-laughtiness and we've took it because represents in the best way the spirit of our band. We beilive strongly in our selves (but



,and also I think that our songwriting is much more personal (we aren't so influenced by bands like Cynic). But this is only my opinion and I accept with serenity your impressions.

others) but, for sure, we'll do what we really like.

Which is your background?

We listen to all the good music, from pop to death metal. In special like band as

we'rent involved in occulti sm or satanism: we are just atheistperson).

Are you pro or against the musical tickets ?

Sincerely I don't know ; by one way they are a limitation but by another a person when read a reviews must have an idea of the sound that the band shows.

Let us drop the subject: what do you think about the present politic situation in Italy?

I look to the italian situatuon with fear because is really caotic situation and, also, the return of this strong right-wind (fascists) in our country give me much anxiety. I really hope that people could open their eyes for improve this shitty situation.

In many nations there is the capital-execution. What do you think of it?

I'm totally against this anti-democratic law because

nobody has the right of kill another person. This is my personal opinion and I know, isn't too much, but I haven't big knowledge about this problem and I don't want be retoric, I hope that you can understand.

Already have you some songs made to record your debut CD?

Yes we have two new tracks and their title are "In your Face" and "Only": this new tracks are really groovy and fresh. Wait for our debut album and you could hear the impact that'll smash your face over!

What do you think about black-metal?

I like bands as Dissection, Cradle of Filth, Unanimated and Emperor but, in general, I don't like the black metal scene for many bad musicians

and for some Nazi-fascists attitudes of some bands which disgust me at all.

What are your future projects?

Now we hope to find a permanent drummer as soon as possible to play live as we can, and at the end of the year, we'll enter in studio to record our debut full-lenght.

Final thoughts:


OK Daniele, thanks a lot for this fuckin great interview and your 'zine: Monstosity rule! To the readers: Check always Hybris out and stay fuckin' positive.

Contact: Max Barbieri,
via L. Da Vinci 14
40133 Bologna (Italy)

(D.I.)

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Dark Tranquillity

Ladies and Gentlemen here is the death-metal gods of this time! Of course I'm talking about Dark Tranquillity, who else! Yes, at last, I have succeed to interview this band. For me Dark Tranquillity are something of special and magic but also something of undescribable. With my reliable pen and paper I had interviewed a don't easy Niklas Sundin, so check it out!

For whom don't know the band and his history (I think that they are few!) could you describe the story of Dark Tranquillity?

Dark Tranquillity was formed in Billdal, Sweden in December '89 for the purpose of creating original and atmospheric music with emphasis on melody and intensity. The present line-up is as follows: Mikael Stanne - voice, Niklas Sundin - guitars, Anders Jivarp - drums, Martin Henriksson - bass and Fredrik Johansson - guitars. After an initial period of releasing a demo tape and two 7" EP's ("Trail of Life Decayed" and "A Moonclad Reflection") which gained the band a strong reputation as one of the most original and creative bands in the

underground scene at the time, our debut album "Skydancer" was released in September '93 on Finland's Spine Farm Records. After the release of "Skydancer", we replaced our vocalist Anders Friden, causing Mikael to move from rhythm guitar to lead vocals. To fill the empty slot, Fredrik was recruited on second guitar, and the refined line-up spent the rest of '93 and '94 concentrating on writing new material. In November '94, the band entered Studio Fredman to record the follow-up to the debut album, and after some delays, the "Of Chaos and Eternal Night" mini-CD saw the light of day in May '95, featuring three brand new compositions as well as a remix of "Alone", the stark and brooding death-ballad from "Skydancer". After having spent the spring negotiating with different labels, Dark Tranquillity decided to sign a two-album contract with Osmose Production (France), and the first album under that deal, "The Gallery" has just been recorded, again in Studio Fredman, Gothenburg. The result is a stunning 11-track affair that displays the atmospheric

richness and versatility of the band, with material raging like a thunderstorm through the complete spectrum of musical emotions and expression. From intense riffing at a blistering pace to mellow acoustic interludes. Dark Tranquillity steer the helm towards areas yet unexplored in the field of extreme music, executing their concept with talent and professionalism.

Mikael, could you describe, to the people that hadn't hear it, your last album "The Gallery"?

Actually, it's Niklas and not Mikael who's answering to this interview, but here we go. (ehmm, excuse me but the emotion...) I would say that "The Gallery" is more or less a logical progression in the right direction for the band. The sound and playing is better than on the previous recordings, but the general style hasn't changed too much the basic Dark Tranquillity ingredients are still present, but the whole concept is delivered in a more powerful way, I think.

This album is out since some months, how are the responses in all Europe?

The response has been great; I've only read one negative review so far (in a US Internet 'zine in which we were called a Brutal Truth/Carcass - rip/off, which as you know is far from the truth. We never even been compared to any of those bands before!), and Osmose are very happy with the sales.

Now there are some defects in the recording sessions or there are some parts that you would change and why?

I don't know... Of course there are things which would have been done in a different way if we were to record the same songs tomorrow, but I think that the album shows our capacities at the time of

recording. Most of the songs are 1-2 years old now, so they don't reflect what we're capable of today.

This album was recorded with a new label and with a new line-up. Why all these changing and do you think that in some ways, this is not good for the life of the band?

Why shouldn't it be good for the band?!? We've only changed one member in our six and a half years of existence and that was in the summer of '93 we've had the same line up for almost 3 years now. And I can't see how signing to a better label can be a minus.

I heard some differences between the first album and the last, in fact the part of female vocals are

less, could you explain these differences?

At first, we didn't even plan to include female vocals on "The Gallery", but prior to the recording we decided that some parts would sound good with a lady singing. Having female vocals on other songs wouldn't have made them any better.

I find in your music a lot of feelings and deep emotion, but ever with great knowledge of your instruments. Could you say what is the secrets to melt these two things?

There's no major secret. It's all about finding a good mode of expression in music and then make sure that you know how to perform it well. We wanted



Photo: Kenneth Johansson

Markus Henning

to combine the aggression with death/thrash metal with a lot of harmonies and melancholy, and it's up to others to judge if we've succeeded or not.

Also, in your music, I find a lot of influences. What are the most important?

I don't know. We're all quite open minded and listen to lots of different music, and I think that it helps when trying to write interesting songs with an individual character.

Reading the lyrics of all the albums I can see that the literature is very important in your life. What are your favorite authors and books?

I don't have any faves at the moment; I enjoy everything from comics to more academical literature, and the same goes for Mikael (vocals/lyrics) I guess.

In November and December, Dark Tranquillity made an european tour with Six Feet Under. In what ways

is gone the tour and how was to play with a band so different to Dark Tranquillity?

The tour went well, and Six Feet Under were nice guys. Perhaps some of S.F.U.'s fans didn't get into our music too much, but that's always the case when playing as a support band. In general, the response was good, but it's a real shame that the two gigs planned in Italy (Rome and Torino) got cancelled because of some trouble at the German border. Hopefully, there'll be the opportunity for us to play in Italy sooner or later, but there are no dates planned in your country on our forthcoming tour with Impaled Nazarene, Cannibal Corpse, Vader and Immolation in May. I don't know the reason for this, as Italy is known to be a rewarding country to play in.

What are the best five albums of all the times and why?

Things like that changes all the time. I don't listen to

music in a competitive way.

"The Gallery" is your third studio album, what do you want say to all the young bands that try to create some original songs?

Well, it's hard to say...A golden rule is to play what you feel for yourself without bothering about what's being popular at the moment. Also, some degree of musicianship is mostly needed to write quality material. I don't feel so suited to give advice to others on this matter. The important thing is to enjoy playing in a creative sense; the originality of the music isn't everything. One can write totally unoriginal music that still is very good and vice versa.

Now the interview is over, but I have to you this space for what you want to say.

Yes, thanks a lot for the interview and stay ever tuned on the release of the band, goodbye.

(A.S)

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OPERA IX

In the Italian black-metal scene, one of the most important bands is Opera IX, that was born in 1988 by the idea of Ossian (guitars). Only in 1990 they realized a first demo-tape called "Gothik". After a lot of changes of line-up, the band is now made-up by: Cadaveria (vocals), Ossian (guitar), Vlad (bass) and Flegias (drums). In 1992 they realized a second demo, called "Demo '92" and they realized a 7" for Wimp rec. At the end of 1993 Silent Bard completes the line-up and so began the record session of "The Call of the Wood" for the Italian Miscarriage rec. After a lot of shows they work on new songs.

Can you tell us of what your lyrics talk about and in particular of "Esteban's Promise"? Who is Esteban?

Our lyrics talk about our personal experiences in the Occult world, about the sensations we feel staying in an obscure place, meditating in a cemetery in the silence or breathing the wind of a wood. Some other times the lyrics are our personal interpretations of ancient rituals or an homage to a great poem we have read. For example the title track "The Call of the Wood" is our ritual in honour of the horned king Cernunnos. If you like to know something more about the song "Esteban's Promise", I

can say that this song is part of a trilogy containing other 2 songs that are "The last Dawn" and "Malum in Sacrum" included in our Demo '92. It's the long story of the rebellion of Nature against men and their ignorance through a black angel, a son of the dark called Esteban.

What are your influences for the writing? Actually what are your readings?

Surely by "Le Legioni Di Shaitan", by "Fronde Dell'Antico Noce" and from all those books and grimoires which talk about Occultism and Paganism in a serious way. In these last times I'm reading a book on the power of the use of some particular incenses during rituals.

Has been a your choice to have a woman vocalist?

Simply in 1992 we were looking for a vocalist and Cadaveria was already part of our company, so she decided to try and she was ok, not only for her voice but also 'cause she has the same our interests.

Listening to your CD the songs pass from malinchoric parts to more violent parts so much to seem divided in "Acts". Is that so or it's only a my impression?

When we make a new song, first we write the lyric and then

the music (the riffs) comes. The music must express the words of the lyric in the best way, it must follow the different parts of the concept or of the story. This is the reason why there isn't the same atmosphere during the whole song: different emotions in the lyrics are amplified by a different use of the instruments (the voice also) and by different rhythms.

In your opinion are music and spirituality one only thing or are it independent?

Yes, they walk together. Music is the expression of our real way of being.

Why into the book of the CD there is not the photo of the keyboardman? Is he only a sessionman?

Silent Bard, our old keyboardman, had decided to leave the band after the CD was out. So it didn't seem a reasonable thing to promote a CD which shows the photo of a member that doesn't exist! Actually Triskent has replaced Silent Bard, and with him we are composing the new songs for a new album.

In what do Opera IX believe? Who has had the idea to use this moniker?

The name Opera IX was born from the mind of Ossian the guitar player and first member of the band. Our religion? Mather Tenebra... But is

Ghouls



Still brutal death metal for Rome. The band of which I am talking is called Ghouls and they are just arrived to the debut demo (see reviews). About them I haven't many things to tell because I have known them only one month ago; therefore to know more news about them you must read this short interview

Can you say, to our all readers, the story of your band?

Ghouls was born in November 1995 when Massimiliano decided to form the band with Fabrizio, Andrea and Marco with the intention to play death metal without any deals.

Can you make a track by track of your first demo?

"Fears" talks about my nightmares that they don't permit to sleep. I wrote "Antichrist" with the intention to kill the church and everything that christianism represents. "Absolout Domin io", as the title says, is the conquer of Satan over Christ. "Evil and Hate" is my hate towards the people that hurt me, and in consequence the hate that has matured towards a big part of humanity, Christ is the death of good.

What is the meaning of your moniker?

The ghouls are demons that take the dead, and pray the death of god. It's a group goverened by satan.

After that I want know if you are satanists?

Yes we are satanists, but mostly anti-christians. We believe in the satanism that is our way, and we do not follow the doctrine of satanism. (!!!?/NdA.)

What is the meaning of your music?

As we said before our music is music without any deals, we always play death metal, but always in our way without any programs.

What are your main influences?

Morbid Angel, Slayer, Deicide, Death, At the Gates and good music in general.

So you play a classical death metal; how the band will change his sound ?

We can keep on living even through other musical contaminations.

How you promote your demo?

In first place, there is the problem of money, the possibility to play live, because there are no structures and the military service, which is now holding for one year our bassist and in future, our drummer and guitarist.

What do you think in the Ideology of black-metal?

The ideology of black metal is the practical side of the

violence of satanism that we believe only in part. For what other bands think it is a singular problem, and many of these do it because they really believe in it, as others think do it for fame

What do you think about the Italian scene?

I think that the Italian metal scene is in pure progress, than in other years, giving more room to Italian bands. There is a lot of envy; I think we could fight this factor helping each other, and with more solidarity.

Do you think in the

Immortality of the spirit?

Yes because the spirit is immortal and for me (Massimiliano) is not my first life. Death is the beginning of life, and life is the beginning of death.

What are your final thoughts?

We are convinced of our forces and this demo-tape is only the beginning. A special thanks to whom has already bought our demo-tape, to whom had to give up with us and another thanks to our fans!

(D.I.)

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KATAKLYSM

Kataklysm In Italy aren't know as well; for this reason do you want to remember the story of the band?

Kataklysm got formed in September of 1991 released the first demo and only one "The Death Gate Cycle of Reincarnation" had some member changes and theme shopped around for a record deal, had some good offers but accepted the best one which was with Nuclear Blast Records, released "The Mistical Gate of Reincarnation" E.p. '94 and first Album "Sorcery" in '95. We have toured Europe with Decide and Brutal Truth, and U.S.A. with

Incantation in '95.

After the hearing of your last work is clear your music line. Could tell us your main influences that had characterized your sound so brutal?

Any form of music that is powerful, dark and aggressive and influenced us.

After the presentation of the band with talk about the album. What are the songs that made up the album and their characteristics?

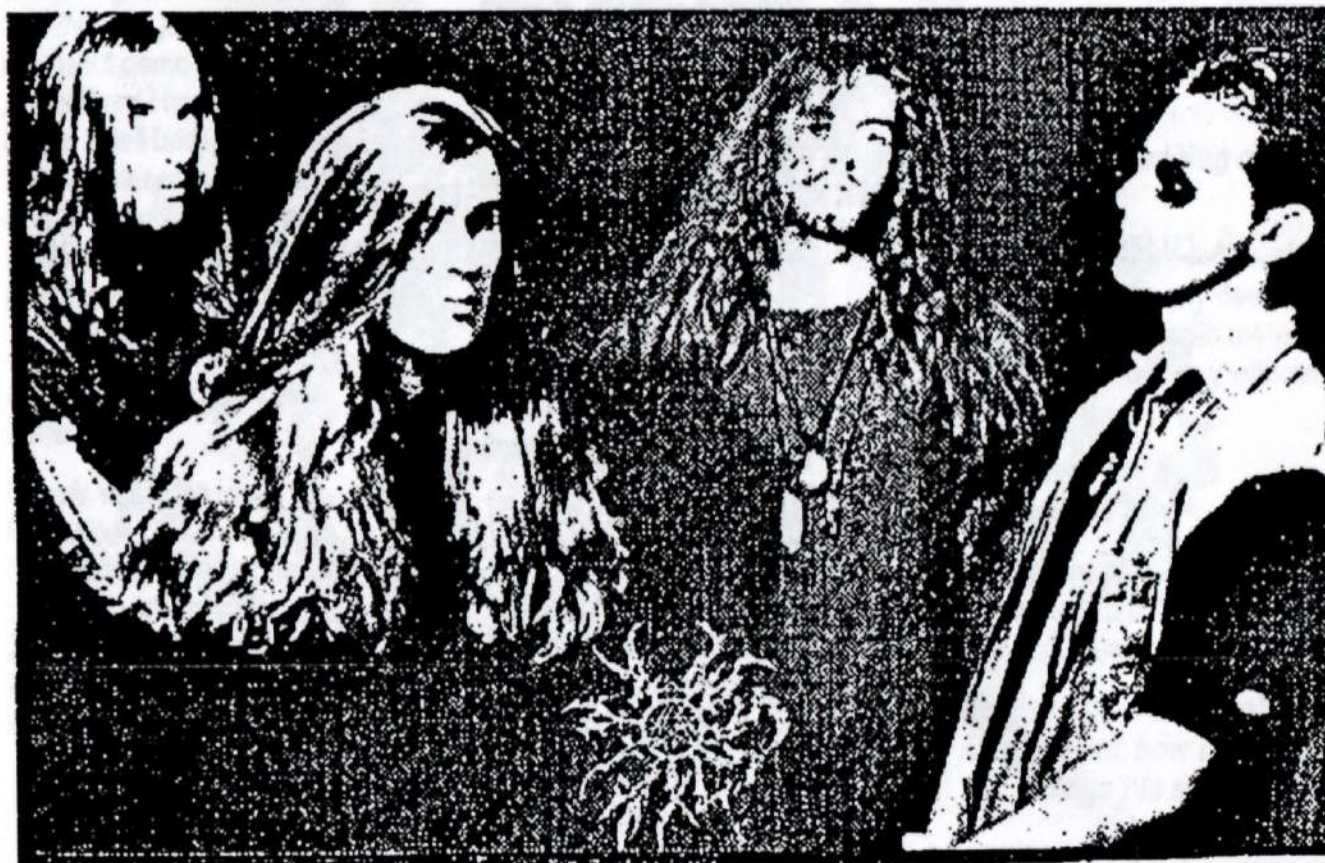
"Sorcery" contains nine songs which are divided by two trilogies and Sorcery,

Elder God, World of Treason which all stand alone. It's a concept album that deals with many evolution through spirit since the beginning of time and the dangers ahead!

An amazing thing of "Sorcery" is the reason of the division in five acts, and what you can tell about the lyrics?

Some influences come from the Necronomicon, they are very mystical and mysterious; reading Kataklysm lyrics is like reading a book.

Now we talk about the technical part of "Sorcery". Where did you



record the album and how was this period?

We all work together for the music, it's a group effort, we write our music and with the lyrics we try to make the concept as real as possible for the people to have an idea of what there is on the other side. We are inspired by every things around us.

Do you remember a particular fact or an unexpected contretemps that is happened in the studio?

We recorded "Sorcery" at Morin Eight Studio in Quebec (Canada) and we recorded in one week.

The tour that you have done with Decide, Sinister and Brutal Truth, how was?

Not really, everything was great! It was really great for Kataklysm. We had a great respons, we had the second best sales in merchandise of that tour but I wish it would of been longer!

Do you have the idea to do another tour or do you think about new songs?

How will be Kataklysm in the new album?

Well, we have just finished recording in the second album, it will be entitled "The Temple of Knowledge, again we have evolved differently than our last to releases. It is a lot more intens, fast, powerfull and melodic; it is our best song to date! No more trilogies, this new album will breack new ground! Expect a tour summer '96, extreme is way to go.

Had you sign the contract for Nuclear Bast, what type of deal is it and in what ways they support the band?

Nuclear Bast was distributing our demo; they where selling wery well and people were saying good things about us. So they offered us a deal. Nuclear Blast are o.k.,they have a lot of band so hard to satisfy all of them but they have been very supportive and extremely enthusiastic with our next record.

How is the death-metal scene in Canada, and do

you know some Italian death-metal band?

The scene is great in the East side of Canada big crowds and true fantastic; the west side needs more work! I know a few Italian band like Enthralement (now Corpsegod), Schizo and my favourite Agonia.

What are the project of the future for Kataklysm?

Expand our music to more people and to keep this scene strong by releasing original material.

Now the interview is over but I leave conclude this one...

Thanks my friend for supporting Kataklysm and hopefully we will pass throught Italy on our next european tour! Support the Underground, Ciao!

***Contact: P.O. Box 34
Cote-des-neiges, Montreal
Canada (Enclosed 1 IRC/1\$)***

(A.S.)

KATAKLYSM

Metal Massacre on stage productions

Of course you are asking the utility of an interview to a concerts organization and like you have perceived, the answer is: none! Only who play in a band and have made a concert can understand the importance to play for honest and trusted people, and that don't use, to cite the most obvious and diffuse apology of the scarce affluence of people or to pay with false money, or don't keep the promises done before. This is the work of Mostrosity, to uncover and to make know who are the right persons and who not. In fact we want understand, through precise questions, what is the mentality of these organizations or understand even the problems and when you are in front of a ripp-off.

When is born Metal Massacre Prod.?

Metal Massacre on stage Prod. was born in the first months of 1993 after the split of H.D.M.M. (Heavy Duty and Metal Massacre) an agency for Roman bands concerts. The split happened because in H.D.M.M. there were people not really interested in that job.

Why have you decided to create this activity?

Because we were always ungrateful with Roman clubs which never did metal nights and with promoters who offered about one or two big concerts in one year (in good periods).

When had you made your first concert?

It was in november 1991 at Teatro di Villa Lazzaroni: Way Out, Blind Mirror and Thrus. Audience was about 150 people. We didn't have money enough to produce that gig so it was coproduced by the bands! Sure everything when you begin is always very hard.

During this time there is an economical crise. Has it damaged also your work?

Yes, of course. People don't love so much money to spend, and so they don't come to the concerts so often as it happened about three years ago.

In what way do you contact the bands?

It is top secret! No I'm joking. Sometimes we have the address of tour manager or a record

company, sometimes a good friend give us the telephone number of great musicians. If the cachet is good the gig is on.

What are the main problems that you meet in the underground?

Above all we have problems with the clubs. It is incredible but in Northern Italy they are never interested in any band. We risk not to do some italian tours of foreign bands because we can do the roman gig but we can't find a place for a second gig. Also in Rome Frontiera is quite good, but in the past we had problems with the staff of other clubs, especially of Circolo Degli Artisti. Also life with roman bands has been not always so easy. Some of them live their concert as rock star and don't want to work at all for preparing.

There is a thinking line inside the Metal Massacre Prod.?

We think that results arrive only by working. Also we must be careful in not "Sputtanarci" with the audience (so no space to shits like techno, Sanremo music etc....) and finally

everybody must be himself in working. For us this is a serious job, but we want to enjoy ourselves very much in doing it.

In what way do you organize a concert? What are the costs?

First you have to sign a contract with the band or the tour manager. Then you must start with promotion: fax, posters and promo distribution. Finally you have to do Siae permission and then set up the club and wait for the band.

When do you understand that you are in front of some ripp off? What are your advices to all the young bands?

Be careful before signing a contract or anything else, sometimes consulting an advocate. Also never take part of competitions like Emergenza Rock. They are good only organizers, because every band must bring as much people as

possible to the show in order to be voted. So the bands play always for mothers, father, uncles, aunts.....That is not at all good for promotion.

What is for you the underground world?

Underground is independent rock scene, that is to say the bands with independent label albums, or with demo tape, or with self-produced stuff, or with nothing!

What are your standards in the choice of a band that must play live?

The band must only be famous enough to have a good audience for paying it. We don't want to speculate but of course we can't lose money.

Can you live of this activity or do you have other works?

We absolutely want to live with this job because this is a real job.

What are your future project?

In the future we want to continue everything we do now and we want to do it better. At the moment every Friday night we have Metal/Punk discoteque at Velvet Rock Club in Rome, via Carioli 29, and a band play at the beginning at the night those bands must be more and more important. Even at Frontiera gigs must be bigger and bigger. Also we rent a P.A. It must be better and better.

Final thoughts...

Is anybody still reading this interview at the 13th question/answer? Anyway see all of you somewhere night. We are totally friendly with everybody!

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(D.I)

Metal Massacre on stage
productions

THE GHOULS

GHOULS - GHOULS

Vote: 3 1/2

Good debut demo-tape for Ghouls, band coming from Rome (Italy). During the four songs that made up this demo they show us a ferocious death metal on the style of bands like Morbid Angel and with some parts typically brutal, especially in the grind parts. They aren't very originals but thank to a good impact they are able to keep live the attention of the listener for all the during of the demo (about 20 min.) and to find also personal starting points. The future of death metal isn't in Ghouls but if you search violence and technique "Ghouls" would do to your case.

Contact: Max Franceschini,
Via Colle del Miglio, 27
Fiumicino (Roma)

(D.I.)

FUNERAL ORATION- PROMO '95

Vote: 4

Another great Italian band comes from Taranto, and their name is: Funeral

Oration. They present a promo with a good packing and with interesting compositions. Death/black like first Absu, uncontrollable velocity and a great drummer are the ingredients of the two tracks: "The Ase of Apotheosis" has a great riff and it grows with intricate sonorities, but also with extreme fluidity. "Pagan Joy" is characterized by a joke of spectral voices really worrying. This band had really strike me; now to Funeral Oration serve a good promotion to express as well their potentiality Good luck!

(F.F)

REPULSIVE ATTACK COMPILATION

Vote: 2

Repulse rec., active label with boss Dave Rotten, presents this compilation to the use of great fans of brutal-death metal. Only exceptions: the spanish Golgotha, clonic band of Amorphis, with a track of unbearable during; the japanese C.S.S.O with a chaotic grind-noise; the finnish Godfall that present a good melodic death. For the

rest, if you exclude the great Immolation and the devastating Decrepit, we are in front of an irritant monotony. All the bands play in the same way: without riffs, without any idea, etc. The worse band is Haemorrhage, that have a singer with stabbling intestinal sorrows; also the swedish Reincarnation with a stupid song and a bass-player that looks came from a jail. In the average: Avulsed, Darkfied, Fleshgrind and Heatsheads. Best riff: Vomitory. This compilation completes that this kind of music is at the end of the line. If this compilation is the representation of the underground scene that must give new ideas to this type of music, well the end is ever nearest!

(F.F.)

CORPSEGOD - OPINION ABOUT SORROW

Vote: 4 1/2

Just known under the name of Enthralment, Corpsegod record their debut with the young Torture Rec. This mini-CD is made up by 5 songs and presents, in the lyrics

and in the music, a pure mix of bands like Cannibal Corpse and Incantation; and also keeping a slow line of real good impact. All this brutality is increased by a great use of very particular keyboard effects, and this is the strong point of Corpsegod: to dare the undaring.

Contact: Max Varani,
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00182 Roma (Italy)

(D.I.)

MORPHAL - MEMENTO, IN PULVEREM REVERTERIS.

Vote: 3 1/2

With "Memento..." the French Morphal arrive to the second demo, made-up by 4 songs + intro and outro for a playing time of 30 minutes. They define their music an "Atmospheric dark-metal" but for me is doom-black metal, very well playing, even if the record is too much rough. All the songs are made-up by interesting riffs and they pass from dark doom parts to black parts, in which the drummer is really fast and precise. So the band is on a good level for compositions and technique and I think that is ready for a debut CD.

Contact: Samuel
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(D.I.)

MISCREANT - DREAMING ICE

Vote: 4

Uh, oh, surprise! First album

for these five guys from Sweden but they have clear ideas in their mind!. After two demo-tapes ("Ashes" and "Promo tape 93") they signed a contract for Wrong Again rec. and now is out their debut CD called "Dreaming Ice". This album is a mix of hate, melancholy and sadness, in fact you can hear this type of feelings in songs like "Forever not to be" and "Nacked". The most important difference from the other death-metal bands is the voice. Yes, it is never monochord and is totally original also because is the first time that I can hear this type! Great also are the chorus with clear and male voices: a must

(A.S)

DE OCCULTA PHILOSOPHIA-OBSCURA SIMPHONIA

Vote: 4

With this monicker I though: "Oh fuck another black metal band that copy bands like Immortal and Burzum". Instead, after the first listening I was satisfied of the total work of this band, called "Obscura Simphonia". Great preparation of these fine young guys and also great ideas. In fact the five tracks are a good exemple of dark-death/doom with a great use of keyboards. Sometimes the voice is too monochord but I think that this is just a detail because this is a great demotape.

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(A.S.)

DETESTOR - IN THE CIRCLE OF TIME

Vote: 4

After two demotapes (called "Wasted Soul" and "Dark Reality") and a lot of gigs all over Italy, the time of the release of their first full lenght is arrived. Year after year Detestor are increased and in this "In the Circle of Time" you can hear it. The sound of the band is a death metal with a lot of melodic parts and mid tempos like in "Neurocircuit", "Life Goes" and in "Lord of Gold". Detestor don't leave their roots and, in fact, you can hear all Detestor's brutality in songs like "I Have the Power" and "Kill Me"! So I think that, with bands like Detestor, our country has something to say in the death-metal underground.

(A.S.)

SEPULTURA - ROOTS

Vote: 4 1/2

Oh, oh, this is an album that after the last one "Chaos A.D.", I have awaited and awaited! The sound is developed but is also back to the roots. No, it isn't a joke! With this album Sepultura demostre that you can play in an aggressive way but at the same time playing tribal

struments of their home country The thrash time of Beneath/Arise are far, and I think that this is a good way to involve this type of music. The death-metal matrix is fade (the only negative thing of this album) but there are new fresh ideas also near to hardcore-punk sonorities. So great return for Sepultura.

(A.S.)

SCHIZO - ADVANCE MINI-CD

Vote: NG

What is that! What I have on my hands is the advance CD of the last album of Italian Schizo that will be called "Aritifice of Reality N° 1". This sample is out only in a limited edition of 10.000 copies but we of Monstrosity review this one without fear! The first idea that I had of this new Schizo's album is good but the two songs contained ("Tones of the absolute" and "Deify me") are few to give a final valuation of the album. Anyway there are great aggressivity and great technique in this two songs and there are great hopes for the next album.

(A.S)

GOREFEST - TANGLED IN GORE (DEMO 89)

Vote: 3

Oh my god what I have on my hands? Yes is really the first demo-tape of Gorefest, the death-metal gods of our

times! This demo presents four songs of "Mindloss", their first album, and during the hearing is curious to hear the progress that the band have made during this years. The composition are in pure Pungent Stench sound but the band has changed their music style in a death-metal clear and ferocious. So check it out , because is a good exemple of what death metal was. For further in formations you can write to my address.

(A.S.)

JOURNEY THROUGH THE DARK - ...AMONG SECRETS

Vote: 41/2

Good return on the scene for Journey Through the Dark that, after their first demo, have signed a deal for the Italian Nosferatu rec., and so is out their first mini - CD for the Vampiric series. The sound of the band is grown up and you can also hear epic influences in a song like "Zancle...Ancient Land" that also is the opener of the mini-CD. Great dark emotions go out from songs like "Torment of Silence", emotions that are only a consequence of their first compositions. The production is really cool (behind the consolle there is Alex Guadagnoli from Electrocutation!) and give to all the work a strong tone. Only negative note is the voice that is too much rough but for the rest this "Among Secrets" is really a good work!

Contact: Gianluca Vecchio
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98124 Messina (Italy)

(A.S.)

HYBRIS - "ETHEREAL HOPES"

Vote: 4 1/2

These Hybris have really stike mel Of good albums, (in this case it's only a MCD) during all 1995/96, I have listened few. In fact I remember only: Sentenced with "Amok", Dissection, Absu with "The Sun of Tiphareth", Immolation with their new "Here in After" and another ten bands always death-black metal; and now at this short list are added Hybris with "Ethereal Hopes". Although they are at debut MCD, made up by 4 songs, they show already a technical-compositive ability not indifferent, and each song is based on a ritmic-section that is able to make monstros things! Very particular is also the use of keyboards which insert in this contest result much original; to understand it, you must listen the opener "Raise Myself" or the conclusive "Sons of 8th Day". "Ethereal Hopes" is a work that enclose three essential quality for any bands: technique, impact and originality

Contact: Max Barbieri
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(D.I)

DARK TRANQUILLITY THE GALLERY

Vote: 5

Masterpiece! Only under this name "The Gallery" could be catalogued; in fact Dark Tranquillity strikes again; and after a mini-CD and with a new line-up give to us this wonderful work. The result of the record is a stunning 11-tracks where power and aggressiveness are in a perfect symbiosis with the melody. Melody that is present in the solos or in a song like "Mine is the Grandeur". In a thunderstorm of sounds, like The Gallery, you can hear inside you and your soul great and strong emotions; with this new full-length you can fly on the music of "Punish my Heaven", where the voice of Mikael is in great relief. The band shows great versatility, creating rich atmosphere, this is a must for you! Thank you Dark Tranquillity, thank you.

(A.S.)

ANATHEMA - THE SILENT ENIGMA

Vote: 4

"The Silent Enigma", this is the name of the new album for the doom-gothic master Anathema. After a mini-CD, called Pentecost III, a lot of things are changed for the band. The sound that Anathema present is a sound more ripe and tangled respect the last works. For example the vocal parts alternate parts with a voice

very deep and parts with a voice typical of the beginning. All the songs, from "Restless Oblivion" to "...Alone", are very heavy, but never boring and lots are the melodies presents.

(A.S.)

ELISYAN FIELDS ADELAIN

Vote: 4

Debut album for this duo that comes from Greece and authors of a death-doom very powerfull with a lot of references to the My Dying Bride and Anathema sound, above all for the keyboards. All the songs are articulate as well and they are supported by a good and powerfull rythmical-bases. The vocal-parts are never monochord, in fact it can pass from a type very deep and dark to brutal parts! Unfortunately in the doom-parts sometimes you can fall in boredom but I think that, at last, this is a good prove and with little more experience these errors will be cancelled.

(A.S.)

SEPTIC FLESH - ESOPTROM

Vote: 3 1/2

Third studio-album for the Grecians Septic Flesh and it was produced by the unfailing Magus Wampyr Daoloty. Even if now, Septic Flesh, is a duo (in fact Chris

has leaved the band before the record-session), Esotrom is a good album of doom-epic death metal with more recalls to the ancient and mystic respect the first album! The death-metal that they present is very slow and it alternates parts very lugubrious to parts very aggressive and brutal like in the title-track and in "Ice Castle" with fast change of rhythm. Get in touch with the ancients!

(A.S.)

CANNIBAL CORPSE - VILE

Vote: 3

For Cannibal Corpse become more and more difficult to record CDs worthy of their great reputation. Able to provoke strong emotions thanks to an immense brutality and to astonish with their "gore" inclination; Cannibal Corpse have achieved their apex of glory with the great "Tomb of the Mutilated", a concentrate of violence which; together with "Effigy of the Forgotten", represent surely the CD more extreme that death metal has generated. Then "The Bleeding", to consider as a step back respect to the precedent work and now we have this "Vile", to confirmation of how much their past is become an ereditry too heavy to bring before. To not much is served the achieved of George "Corpse Grinder" Fisher, impossible for him to replaced Chris Barnes (now with Six Feet Under),

even if his vocal work in "The Bleeding" it hasn't become enthusiastic.

(F.F.)

NATRON - FORCE

Vote: 2

First demotape for this quartet from Bari that have left me surprised! The technique of every guy is good but what I don't understand is why the band want to play grind-core. Yes I'd like this type of metal but I prefer to listen historical band like Napalm Death that played this type of music in 1986! So I think that, after ten years, isn't so usefull to play grind core during these years in which the extreme scene must evolve. The negative valuation must incite yourself to progress and not to regret; I hope to see you soon on this page.

Contact: Massimo Marzocca
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70054 Giovinazzo (Bari)

(A.S.)

TRISTITIA - ONE WITH DARKNESS

Vote: 3 1/2

New release from Holy rec. and just new revelation! Yes Tristitia had strike me with their extreme-dark doom/metal that just left me without words. First album for these three guys from Sweden but with great and clear ideas in their mind: stryke the listner with great emotion and great sadness translated in music. In this album you can hear a lot of

influences from classic music to Godsend, Candlemass, Katatonia, etc.; but the only error of the work is the lenght of the tracks but this is only a detail! Tristitia: a clear and sad name for the future.

(A.S.)

HYPOCRISY - ABDUCTED

Vote: 4 1/2

Oh, at last is out! After a long awaiting Hypocrisy are back with this "Abducted" a great and heavy album that is the child of "The Fourth Dimension". The album isn't so different from his preceding, and so the structure of the tracks is the same and we can see it in songs like "Roswell 47" and "Killing Art" that propose the typical Hypocrisy sound: doom and heavy parts and after fast and brutal parts. Yes I like a lot his sound but my question is: how long can you play this type of sound?

(A.S.)

ENDAYMYNION - THY ART

Vote: 4 1/2

Wow! I've no words to explain and define this second demo of Endaymynion. This is called "Thy Art" and in fact we talk about art, because the nine songs of this demo are only pure form of art! Endaymynion has create a particular personal sound but sometimes I can hear the Cynic sound like in "Foil Dispels", and Tiamat sound

like in the instrumental one called "Perspectives". The tape, also, was recorded on professional ways with full coloured cover, photo, lyrics, etc. Great feelings are exprss in all the songs and you could also fly on the music of "One More Star" or cry for a song like "End of a Season". The only error, unfortunately, is the voice of Giuliano that sometimes is monochord, but I think that this is a wonderful demo.

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30030 Favaro Veneto (Ve).

(A.S.)

ETERNAL SLEEP ETERNAL SLEEP

Vote: 3

Debut demo for this band that play a dark-doom sufficiently played even thank to interesting ideas. The demo is made up by five songs for a playing time of 20 minutes. The predominant themes that are in the songs are: love, and in side B: sorrow; emotions that are set in relief by guitar riffs very melancholies, and parts with keyboards and violin! But for me, Eternal Sleep, could articulate their songs on a greater number of change of rhythm, because this songs could bore the listener. On the totally it is a quite good demo but I prefer to hear the second demo to do a final valuation for ours Eternal Sleep.

(D.I.)

IMMOLATION - HERE IN AFTER

Vote: 5

After five years of inactivity Immolation are back with a new brutal album. "Here in After". On the totally, they continue the musical speech that began with the first one "Dawn of Possession", even if maybe for the long time of inactivity, now they show a violence and impact without precedings. The eight songs that made-up this "opus"; in fact are structured on very fast parts in which the two guitarrists show all their brutality with fast and heavy riffs, the same that characterized their sound. Brutal death metal is not dead and Immolation are here to display it with an album simply brutal, so: stay Immolation.

(D.I.)

IMPALED NAZARENE MOTORPENIS

Vote: 2 1/2

New MCD for Impaled Nazarene, that advance the release (I hope!) of the new album. Hearing Motorpenis, I am in front of a doubt: I don't understand if with this five new songs they would make a parody of Motorhead or a tribute ! I say that because it seems the leading to extreme their sound with the bass on a higher volume and riffs sometimes very stupid and sometimes very interesting. So to you the last sentence! The total running is eight

minutes so I advice the buying only for the obstinate fans.

(D.I.)

ETERNAL REST IV OBSCURE REGNAE CONSACRATIO

Vote: 4 1/2

The active Northern Darkness rec arrive to the fourth edition of Eternal Rest compilation; about 60 min. of music with 10 great bands of the international death black scene. It starts with the Callenisch Circle, good band, from Holland that propose a song based on a lot change of rhythm and riffs very interesting, and it ends with Journey Through The Dark with a great track. Also interesting the Necromass song that also is unpublished! All the bands of this compilation are worthy of mention but the space is few, and I can only advice you to buy this tape.

Contact: P.O. Box 5110052
Bardonecchia (To) Italy

(D.I.)

DEIMOS - DEMO '95

Vote: 2

This demo comes from Argentina and also with a great packing. Their name is Deimos and they propose six tracks with a strong Sepultura inspiration, like in the opener "Mas Alla De La Fe", with the same structure of "Beneath the Remains". With a granitic mid-tempo there is "Tu Alma" and

"Nadie", probably the best song of all the work. As you can understand it is a thrash/death singing in Argentine in the side A; the side B is very different because the band sing in English and there are boring tracks like "Unixpected" or the instrumental, "Bajo lo Scuro", that stimulate me good soporific reaction! So the band show quite good tecqnique, but isn't ready to realize a coherent and homogeneous work.

(F.F.)

GOREFEST - SOUL SURVIVOR

Vote: 5

This is an album that I looked with a lot of curiosity because I don't know in what way. Gorefest, could change their sound. With this new "Soul Survivor" they open new ways to death-metal, to change his approach; in fact the band is returned to hard rock/heavy metal sonorities but ever with their great impact and great technique. Also they introduce hammond parts in the low parts but in the faster too. I think that this is one of the best album of this 1996 even because Gorefest had introduce new sonorities and is a band that has saved this kind of music!

(A.S.)

SEMEION - FUORI TEMA

Vote: 1

Oh my god! I hope really in our extreme underground but

I must be serious and partial with all the band that I review and I have to slash a band when they aren't equal to the situation. So in this case, Semion are slashed because their demo is simply horrible! First of all you must decide if you want to sing in english or in italian and also you must change musical direction. Your tracks are boring and without sense and you are able to ruin a song like "Seek and Destroy".

Contact: David Genovese
Via Napoli 33, 00055
Ladispoli (Roma) Italy.

(A.S.)

LOVE HISTORY - DESIRES

Vote: 4 1/2

Good news from the East! I think that Love History is one of the bests band that came from this part of Europe and that I ever heard! This is, if I say the thruth, the debut MCD but the band has great tecnique and great ideas. The sound is a dark-doom metal with some epic sonorities and with a powerful voice. All the tracks are a good exemple of what the band is and they are on the same level. So I think that this band must be suported because is great!

Contact: Northern Darkness
Rec. P.O Box 5110052
Bardonecchia (To) Italy

(A.S)

SADIST - TRIBE

Vote: 4 1/2

After a long period Peso and company are back with a new, fresh and great album! After their first album (called "Above the Light") and a long tournee alover Italy and Europe they recorded this "Tribe" in England with Alberto Penzin from Schizo behind the consolle. The sound that the band proposes is more mature, respect the beginning, and more progressive. You can, in fact, hear a lot of influences in the eight songs that made-up this album, and it shows that even the italian bands are valid. So go on to support our underground!

(A.S.)

DISSECTION - STORM OF THE LIGHT'S BANE

Vote: 4

With this new Dissection album I complete the vision that I have of the new extreme music: a new frontier is created and it thank of bands like Dark Tranquillity, In Flames, Naglfar and of course Dissection. After two years and with a new line-up (they replaced their old guitarrist) the sound is changed. Of course the melody is ever in their music but there are a lot of new epic sonorities and also the tracks are more intricate but never boring. New frontiers are born, we must only explore them.

(A.S.)

HASTUR - REHERSHAL '96

Vote: 3 1/2

After the release of "Live in Fear", demo of 1994, the italian Hastur are back with this new rehershhal tape, that also is no official. In spite of a no so good record I say what I had just said after the hearing of their first demo: good capacity and good song writing with also great atmospheres and a good use of keyboards. So I add few to all that I have just said for "Live a Fear", but I think that with a second official demo they will arrive at great levels.

(D.I.)

DARK TRANQUILLITY - TRAIL OF LIFE DECAYED (DEMO 1991) - A MOON CLAD REFLECTION (7" 1992)

Vote: 41/2

Oh my god! What I'm reviewing is a pure piece of the underground story. Yes, at last I have the firsts and unfinding works of death metal gods of our times. The records are old but with these you can understand the evolution that Dark Tranquillity have made along these years. Even in 1991 the band had great technique that even now melt with melodic parts and also fast and brutal parts the demo tape and the 7" are two of the best underground works that I ever heard even if the records aren't so good. Anyway I think that these two mini "opus" must be yours now! For further information you can write to my address.

(A.S.)

**NONGOROD - ADVANCE
TRACK- DEMO '96**

Vote: N.G.

New good band comes from Italy. The demo will be out for Northern Darkness Rec. as soon as possible.

Unfortunately I have only a track ("From The Flesh He Was Created") and so (like the Schizo's review) I don't want to make a final valuation because of course I have only a song. Anyway I think that the band as good potentiality and the present a various death metal with good slow parts and a great use of the clear voice. Sometimes, in the faster parts they fall into chaos but it is only a particular.

*Contact: Northern Darkness
Rec. P.o. Box 51 10052
Bardonecchia (To.) Italy*

(A.S.)

**ROTTING CHRIST
TRYARCHY OF THE LOST
LOVERS**

Vote: 2 1/2

After the release of "Non Serviam" the greeks Rotting Christ are back with this new album. Yes, I know that they are one the best black metal band of the scene that have influenced a great number of band, but I really don't like their sound. The music contains in this album is in the classic Rotting Christ sound but I fell very old and inadeguate to our times. Neither the Sabbath and Gothic riffs give to the album

a new tone. Excuse me but a band can't really continue in this way.

(A.S.)

**SENTENCED-LOVE AND
DEATH**

Vote: 5

After the release of the lucky "Amok" (out in January 1995) Sentenced are back with this new MCD called "Love and Death", made up by five songs for a playing time 20 minutes. Confirming their great qualities already showed in "Amok", with this work they depart more and more from death-metal to become an heavy-metal band, as we can realize from the first notes of opener "The Way I Wanna Go". In this MCD you can find also a cover of "White Wedding", a song of Billy Idol but remakes as Sentenced are able to make. If you have loved the melodies of "Amok", you must love also this MCD, world of Mostrosity!

(D.I.)

**CALLENISH CIRCLE
LOVEBORN**

Vote: 5

Fantastic demo for these five guys from Netherlands. Technique, impact and melody are all melt in this "Loveborn". The Callenish Circle sound is a death-doom played very well with also great use of pianos and clean voice parts. I don't know why

they haven't a deal for debut CD because there are the capacity! Their sound is fresh and new and they are very different from all these new death-doom bands that for me are very boring. So check it out this "Loveborn" because the future of death-metal is in their hands. A must!

*Contact: Patrick Savelkoul
R.D. Beerenbroucklaan 28,
6123 AC Holtum-Born-The
Netherlands.*

(A.S.)

**FORGOTTEN SILENCE
THOTS**

Vote: 3 1/2

After "The Nameless Forever" ours Forgotten Silence are out with this new good demo. The sound that they present is really strange but at the base you can clearly hear a death-doom with a lot melody but also you can peircive darkness and hate. This death-doom from east Europe is also open to fast and ferocious parts but they never fall into to chaos. Also the work has a good record and good packing, but above all they have great technique that I heard in few bands. There are some breaks that for me are too strange and they are not so in line with the death-metal.

(A.S.)

SARNATH-CARESS

Vote: 4

Good demo tape for Sarnath that present a great preparation and good ideas for their music. This demo is

made up by four songs for a total running time of about 35 minutes. During this time you can hear a lot influences that are melt very well: melody, sadness, hate and happiness are all present in this "Caress" and also for this reason I think that this is a great demo. Even if the songs are too much long Samath have a precise personality and great possibilities to make a great debut CD. In this work there is also the space for female vocals and keyboards parts; so with these premises I think that this "Caress" must be your.

*Contact: Fausto Fornasier,
Via Leonardo Da Vinci 13,
30027 Sardonà di Piave (Ve)*

(A.S)

SIGH

Vote: 2

Sigh kind of make me laugh. This LP from Japan might try very hard but they will have to keep on trying. They attempt to evoke a sinister atmosphere, somethings which can hardly be achieved through amateurish playing, plus a rather ridiculous combinations elementar black-metal and cheap sounding effects. By no means everything is bad on this LP: some songs, for instance, come a cross as being more matur in terms of song writing. There is obviously talent inside Sigh, they just need to find the right way to release it to their advantage.

(S.A.)

SATYRICON-NEMESIS

DIVINA

Vote: 5

Another striking release from Norway, the land of nordic talents, where cold winds blow and churches burn... "Nemesis Divina" is Satyricon's third official album, the follow up to "The Forest is my Throne" EP was raw potential, as now grown into an evocative viking-metal opera. Blowing winds, freezing guitars, classical melodies, a lot of great sound effects and unusual arrangements turn these eight tracks into violent orchestral tuneful epics. The songs, featuring icelandic and ancient pride of the lyrics, are very complex; the tempo changing quite a lot from super fast to slow. It is also obvious that Satyricon are inspired by Norwegian folk. Great album.

(S.A.)

PRIMORDIAL-IMMRAMMA

Vote: 4

They still have to gain more originality, sounding rather black-metal, but are very eager to distance themselves from it with an often slow doomy guitar sounds laced with keyboards. The singer, Naimass, whispers poetically pagan lyrics and especially embraces the listener with mournful romanticism and melancholy languorous sounds. Over all a promising LP full of dark, longing tunes.

*Contact: Alan Averill, 22
Station Road Sutton, Dublin
13, Ireland.*

(S.A.)

ASHEN MORTALITY

Vote: 5

One of the most innovative and intriguing new metal acts I have heard in ages; Ashen Mortality combain intense doom rhythms with death-metal attitudes and a strangely compelling medieval atmosphere. The result could have been a mess, but it is quite brilliant. The opening "The Darkest of Nights" finds Bolton's well constructed medieval keyboard ambience and fragile vocal textures. "Yesterday's Gone" displays a passionate ability to melt Celtic Frost gothicism with Sabbath-esque doom and unrelenting classic death-metal.

*Contact: Melanie - Sarah
Bolton, 74 Witley Avenue -
Halesowen, west Midlands
B63 4DW.*

(S.A.)

NAGLFAR-VITTRA

Vote: 4 1/2

A new revelation come from Sweden and his name is Naglfar. With the release of "Vittra" this band is arrived at the same point of bands like Dark Tranquillity, In Flames and Miscreant: where impact and melody are melt together! Also Naglfar make a great use of fast and brutal parts with a great sense of epic. During the hearing of thid album you can imagine the black and cold forest and a return to a pagan way of

thinking. Check out this fantastic album because the future of death-metal is also in their hands.

(A.S.)

SLAYER - UNDISPUTED ATTITUDE

Vote: 4 1/2

I have awaited this album for a long time because I was very curious of a punk tribute. In fact I didn't imagine a band like this (that have made the story of trash) that play punk songs. So the result is excellent because Slayer have gave some of their own particularities to these songs, and so they are more aggressive and with more impact. During the hearing of the 15 songs you can feel the real passion for this music and not only a business. This is totally different from the other Slayer album but is a good way to see the band in another point of view.

(A.S.)

HELLRAGE-GHOST LIFE

Vote: 4 1/2

This band confirms all what I said before: the Italian underground is full of great bands! These 5 guys of Pisa present good preparation (above all the drummer, a pure machine) and a trash death-metal without compromises. During the 6 songs of this demo, for a playing time of about 46 minutes, they are able to play very aggressive music but this is never boring, and is for

it that this demo had strike me! Sometimes the voice is too much aggressive and maybe you can introduce more melodic parts. Good luck.

(A.S.)

IN MEMORIAM CENTURIES OF SORTILEGE

Vote: 2

This demo tape comes from Brazil and made up by two songs and an intro (the most horrible intro that I ever heard) of trash death-metal with a not so good record. I haven't so much to say because there are poor ideas even if the band has a good preparation of the instruments. With this demo they want to provoke pain, instead my reaction was only great laughter. So I advice this demo only to great fans of this music.

Contact: R. 32,81-Timirin-Timoteo-MG Cep: 35180-000 Brazil

(A.S.)

DRASTIC - CREATOR OF FEELINGS

Vote: 2 1/2

This is another one man band but, with my great surprise, he doesn't play black-metal. This demo is made up by five songs and it presents a good record but an horrible cover. The music that Chris Buchman is quite strange but with a good knowledge of all the instruments. He mixes dark and electronic sound with

slow death-metal parts, and also there is space for a part singing in Italian by a female vocalist. The final result is not so bad but is really strange this type of music, even if I think that this demo will like.

Contact: Chriss Buchman Via Morosini 23, 30019 Sottomarina (VE) Italy

(A.S.)

ATHRAZINA - ELEMENTS

Vote: 3 1/2

Really good demo for this band that comes from Milan (Italy). Athrazina present a four tracks demo, with a good packing and a good record, of trash metal never boring and, the most important thing, fresh and new! All the members of the band present good technique and knowledge of their instruments. In the songs there aren't melodic and harmonious parts but the final work has great impact and originality.

Contact: Massimo Calvi, Via Collodi 6, 20065 Inzago (Mi) Italy

(A.S.)

DARK AWAKE- PROMO 96

Vote: 4

Another good band come from Rome and his name is Dark Awake. The band (where play also Alex from Oceana) has good ideas and they show them in this promo that, unfortunately, hasn't a good record. Anyway there is a good music and originality in these two songs. You can

hear a lot of influences from Paradise Lost to Sepultura (of the first times) but all melt as well. So I think that this promo must be your and good luck to Dark Awake!

Contact: Enrico Taggi, Via Rugantino 125, 00169 Roma Italy

(A.S.)

CORPSE FUCKING ART - REHEARSHAL '96

Vote: 5

Ultramegabrutal! This new creatur of Max Varani (Vocalist of Corpsegod) is very brutal and extreme. The ingredients of this massacre are a brutal death-metal on the style of bands like Cannibal Corpse, Morbid Angel and Suffocation (above all in the grunts): therefore violence, brutality and perversion. At the drums we find Marcello, already in Aiwaz, thank to whom the two songs that made up this tape walk on the railroad of the ultra velocity, ulteriorly raped by very heavy riffs of guitar. If you like the violence brutal death-metal and perversion of gore this tape must be in your collection.

Contact: Max Varani Via Orvieto 24 00182 Rome Italy

(D.I.)

CRIMSON MIDWINTER-US WERE MORTALS

Vote: 4

Very good this second Crimson Midwinter's demo

tape. This band, coming from Finland, propose to us a black-metal (they describe their music "Blackish Crimson Rockabilly, in the second number of Mostrosity we will know why) well played but not recorded as well. This demo is made up by 4 songs for a playing time of about 15 minutes. As you can understand their music alternate some parts of pure black-metal on the style of Immortal to some parts of Scandinavian death-metal. On the whole this is a demo that leaves well thinking for the future.

Contact: Jussi Helenius Mantykankareenkatu 14 AS 13 21200 RAISIO (FINLAND)

(D.I.)

GLACIAL FEAR - ADVANCE TAPE

Vote: 4 1/2

Very Interesting Advance Tape of the new CD called "Frames". After the release of the lucky MCD for Nosferatu Rec., are ready these six songs that have surprised me! The kind of music presented in "Altasphere" is grown up and is become more powerful and more intricate like in "Garden of Sight" one of these new songs. So I think that buy this CD will be a great idea.

Contact: Gianluca Molé Via Conti Di Loritello 13 88060 Santa Maria di Catanzaro Italy

(A.S)

The Legend of the Stepping River- Demo 96

Vote: 5

On the whole this is one of the best demo that I ever heard! The sound that the band presents is a dark-doom/death metal with sad and melanchonic parts, but every ticket isn't able to describe this pure form of art. But the most incredible thing is the singer: a genius! In fact he is never monochord and is able to sing in a brutal, black and sad way. Also in this great demo there are parts with clean female and male voice. The only advice that I can give to you is to buy this tape. For orders please write to ours addresses.

(A.S)

OCEANA- PROMO 95/96

Vote: 4 1/2

First record for this young band from Rome. This promo presents a good packing and an excellent record, essential thing for a demo tape. Oceana shows good capacities and they play as well a doom-death metal with also a good use of the clean voices. This one of the few bands that is ready to record a great first full lenght, but for now I think that is a good idea to buy this promo tape.

Contact: Max Pagliuso, via Delle Tortore 3, 00169 Roma

(A.S)

DARKTHRONE EXCUSES

Controversy still continue to dog the hapless Norwegian Black-Metal combo: the band had originally insisted that the back cover of their "Transilvanian Hunger" should feature remarks considered derogatory to the Jewish race. At the time, Darkthrone's label, Peaceville, had reluctantly agreed to run this statement on the album's sleeve, but refused to promote or support the album in any way. However, subsequent events have put increasing pressure on both Darkthrone and Peaceville, with various distributors and media outlets across Europe threatening sanctions against band and label if this album was released as it stood. This has now led to Darkthrone being forced to make an official statement in an effort to calm the situation. The main text of this statement is the follows: "Darkthrone can only apologize for this tragic choice of words. In Norway, "Jew" is used all the time to mean something that is out of order...it is just a coincidence in our slang language. When we wrote "Jewish behaviour" in our previous press statement we could easily have written, according to the Norwegian language, "stupid"; instead...none of our albums have ever contained any racism/fascism or Nazi slant. If the music press and our distributors will let Darkthrone and Peaceville continue to release great music we can assure you all that future releases from Darkthrone will be totally neutral" Whether this somewhat unusual explanation proves sufficient to defuse this potentially damaging scenario remains to be seen. On a more positive note, Darkthrone already have two more albums ready to roll. The first of these, "Goatlord" is said to be in the band's traditional "soulside journey" vein. The second, Fenriz' solo project, is a new chapter of the new age ambient affair, heavily influenced by German band Tangerine Dream.

(S.A.)

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NEWSLETTER# 5

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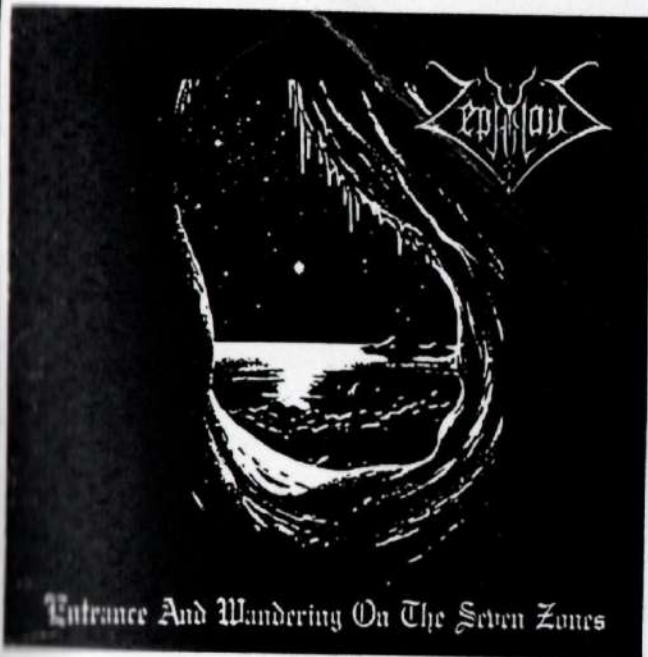
JIM IS BACK FOR THE ATTACK AND SHOWS HIS APPRECIATION TO FRANK RINI OF INTERNAL BLEEDING AT THE RECENT OPPRESSOR/ INTERNAL BLEEDING SHOW IN CLEVELAND, OHIO.

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