

# Mortician NUMSKULL

'zine

the joint fifth issue of Dutch' underground magazines Mortician and Numskull

Interviews with:  
**Chorus Of Ruin, Enslaved, Gorefest, G.G.F.H., Ghostorm, In Flames, Invocator,  
Inquisitor, In The Woods, Misanthrope, Morfen, Mortils, Occult, Polluted  
Inheritance, Ulcer and Vibron**

Scene reports from:  
**Bulgaria and Romania**

Tour report from:  
**Dead Head, Incantation and Sinister**

Articles:  
**301.20, Françoise Duvivier, Noise and the last chat of Euronimous and Dead**



# EDITORIAL

Hi there,  
the miracle has happened en the proof of that is right in front of you: the fifth issue of what's the result of the co-operation between Morticain Magazine and Numskull 'zine. Six intense months of which the sixth was rather hectic. With this co-operation we hope to offer you readers and the bands some more quality and some better and broader content of this magazine. And, when I did a good job, something attractive... I myself am rather curious about your critics!! Okay, this about this issue.

To be honest my work method is rather messy and because of that I'd like to thank all the people who helped me out on the very last moment (you know who you are!) Of course thanks to everyone who supported me after the release of Numskull 'zine #4 and made me go on with my underground activities! I especially would like to thank my parents who had to face the fact that I possessed the computer for about two complete weeks and of course Jan Niemeijer for is everlasting hospitality and his willingness to temporary yield his equipment for some of my activities; without that this magazine would be nothing! And of course there's the thanks list: when you read it and your name isn't there while you think it has to; don't feel personally attacked. There are so much people who have to be thanked that it's easy to forget one...

Back to the last six months; a lot of new releases, a lot of new bands and some bands which decided to stop. I myself gained a lot of new contacts and experiences which were good aswell bad. I hope the next six months at least will be as positive as the last one, but that mostly is up to you.

Okay, have a lot of fun reading #5, please let me know your opinion. Take care and keep in touch!

Wicked Wolly

Of course this re newed 'zine will cary a new name in the future. Our work name at this moment is: **Legend 'zine**  
Any kind of suggestions for a new name are welcome...

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Before we start to thank all the persons we have been, and still are in contact with, and the ones who helped us out like for some friends we like to thank one person first: Roel van Reijmersdal. At this moment Roel remains in hospital, getting medical test to find out what is his mysterious illness is. Roel decided to cancel all the business concerning the underground, especially Vic Records, to concentrate for a serious recovering. Well, you see, he's still prominent present in this issue and we don't think he's never able to leave the underground metal scene, because that is his real incurable illness. We think he will return to the club soon. Please, respect that he had some problems to answer the mail. His official address is still: **Roel van Reijmersdal, Tafelberg 71, 3328 RS Dordrecht, The Netherlands.**

We know we have forgotten too many people, but we succeed to mention the following ones:

Sascha Roth, Cor Snijders, Evert Termeer Aaron (for the great cover art!), Friendly Snare Distro, Gore Distributions, Dolores Records, Relapse, Hellion, Necroharmonic, Ezra/Eroded, Aesthetic death, Exhumed, Black Axe, Boudisque, Kees, Simple Fonds, K-baal, Elpee, Grachten, Plato, Waaghals, Sam Sam, GWB Distro, Dolores Recs & distro, Power Records, Silenced Souls, Morbid Metal Distro, Fred Schaus, Nel...

Hervé (it's always Hervé) of Osmose Records, Max from Napalm Records, Pat of Red Stream, Decapitated, Displeased (Lars and Ron, thanx a lot for the great co-operation), Mariusz Krystev of No Rip-Off, Holy Records, Witchhunt records, Nuclear Blast, Evil Omen, Dark Ocean, Exhumed Productions, Roberto of Avant Garde, Pat of Red Stream, Wounded Love, Adipocere, Primitive Art, Drowned, Gothic, Earache, Peaceville, Black Mark, Candlelight, Obscene Productions, Warmaster, Common Cause, Eric and Growing Deaf (we want more!), Cyber, MMI, Progress, Rip Off Prod, Tessa Records, Creepo, Morbid recs, Nosferatu, Metal Balde, Foundation 2000...

John of Thou Art Lord, F, Fernan of Mortem, Pessimus, Chorus of Ruin, Endura, In Flames, Ghostorm, Mortis, In the Woods, Polluted Inheritance, Ulver, Enslaved, Katatonia, Misanthrope, Loz & G.G.F.H., Jacob & Invocator, Robbie & Dead Head (twee kantjes zei je?), Jan Chris & Gorefest, Vibron...

Rado of Cold Death, Russ Smith of Terrorizer, Roman Ivanov of Gothic...

Fear of Life 'zine, Yordan Kolev of D.E.A.D. 'zine, Morten Nissen of Trechoma, Wounded, Niko and Hammer of Damnation, Emanzipation 'zine...  
**Harold personal thanks:** Paw Nielsen, Francoise Duvivier, Timothy Dovgy, Monica Johanssen, Einar (Beyond Dawn), Overlord Svitjod, Ancient (hail to the Norwegian tour!) The Gothenburg area I will visit (especially Niklas Sundin), Stefan Lauwers, Ilse Schrier, Jeroen Visser, Philippe Courtois and the gang, Theresa, Ion Cheptea, Daniël Strengman, Fred Schaus, Steph le Saux.

**Wolly personal thanks:** Sandra, mom & dad, Pieter Bas (Groeten aan chop chop Jan!), Bert, Gerard, Albert (for telepathic support), Silvia + A.J. (met die kop van je) & Beyond Belief, everyone at The Hobbit (is de afwas al gedaan?), Chriss & Renaissance, Darren & Anathema, Erik, Ali, Menno (wat zeg je nou?!), Jan Niemeijer, Fons Hensen (de volgende cover is de jouwe!), Bas (heb je ook een achternaam?) for life visjons...

**Cor Snijder's thanks to:** Woody at Chainsaw records, Bruce Bennet at Krystal Rose Music Matt Coe at Urban Warfare Prod., Roberto at Nosferatu rec., Limb Schnoor at L.M.P., Oliver Goß at Institute of Art Records Eric of Inquisitor, Chuck of Tripphammer, Langsuyer of Moonspell and all the bands who have send stuff to review!

Cor Snijders Playlist:

1. Infamous Symphony - Hell is round cass.lp '93
2. Hellwitch - Syzygial Miscreancy cd '90
3. Eldritch - Promo tracks '93
4. Epitaph - Iniquity Reigns demo '93
5. Skeletal Earth - A taste of Bile demo '88
6. Infernal Majesty - None shall defy lp '87
7. Bestial Warlust - Reh. 5-'93
8. Doomstone - Promo tracks '93
9. Inquisitor - Your pain... demo '94

Playlist Harold Dekkers

1. A tribute to Venom comp. cd
2. Eucharist, A velvet creation
3. Burzum, Hvis Lysat tar oss
4. Sarcasm (Swe), A touch of the burning red sunset demo
5. Sadness, Ames de Marbere
6. Beyond Dawn, everything
7. In Flames, Lunar Strain
8. Reincarnation of the Sun, comp. cd
9. Shades (Pol) demo
10. Obliveon, Nemesis

Playlist Wicked Wolly

1. History Of Things To Come - Underground compilation
2. Renaissance - The Death Of Art
3. Beyond Belief - Promo '93
4. Invocator - Weave The Apocalypse
5. Piledriver - Everything
6. Tekton Motor Corp. - Human Race Ignition
7. Hades - Alone Walkyng
8. Messiah - Psychomorphia
9. Winter - Into Darkness

Demos

*Demos; it seems that there will never come an end to this phenomenon. Even now that there are that many underground labels, the biggest part of the underground bands have no other choice than this way of releasing. In spite of all the shortage of possibilities of this way of releasing there, fortunately, always are a couple of bands who are willing to present themselves as professional as possible. Praise for all of them loose from their musical capabilities. And of course there is a huge amount of bands who still present their recordings in an unprofessional way: a pity. Demos are not the way to get rich, so get yourself some more respect and present something professional, or at least show us your supporting your music for a 100% or that you believe in what you're doing; that will be the only way ever to reach something with your music.*

Wicked Wolly

**Abraxas (Pol)**  
"Demo '92"

There are many Abraxas', this one comes from Poland and does not have brutality at all. Sometimes it is powerful, not strange because this is sympho rock from Poland. You will not often get a chance to get this kind of music from this country. Well I don't have the original demo, but a copy with bad quality (I got it from the Forgotten guy). This sort of music should sound bombastic but on this poor copy all power is gone. Still I don't think it is bad, some melodies are so cold, you can feel the sphere on the countryside in Poland. When you have a headache caused by the brutal stuff, you should take a listen to this tape and relax (price?). Write to: **Shemo, Wichrowe Wzgorze 35/20, 61-699 Poznan, Polska-Poland.**  
Cor Snijder

**Abraxas (Ger)**  
"Compilationtape '93"

Compilationtape? Yes, this band is founded at the end of 1985 by Jan Müller (bass) and Heiko Burst (dr.). They already have 4 demo's and one album. Still they were not familiar to me, that is not that strange because last three years I mainly have listened to black and death metal. In 1990 shouter Chris Klauke (ex-Mania) joined them. When I listen to this band I hear for example Helloween, Iron Maiden and Judas Priest. Still this band has good riffs, but every time I get a Judas-, Maiden- or Hello-feeling. This band is not original at all and that is why they will not break through, I think. You get six tracks of catchy, not original and well played power metal by sending DM 15,- to: **LMP, P.O. Box 60 25 20, D-22235 Hamburg, Germany.**  
Cor Snijder

**Age of Agony (Hol)**  
"Fragments"

This is rather technical thrash with a lot of breaks. This is a cross somewhere between the bay area thrash, death metal and the new wave of british heavy metal. Vocals are in the way of the bay area thrash to give you an indication. The thrash of these guys is rather busy, and maybe to busy. In the breaks I can not always understand the music, maybe this is caused by the -not too clear- sound or the breaks are not played as smooth as they should be played. So guys give some attention to these points of critic. The basswork on this demo is remarkable, also the guitar solo's, because they sound delicious and damned fanatic like in the old days (back to the eighties). Give this band a chance and send \$7 (eur), \$8 (world) to: **Age of Agony, Boekweitstraat 12, 5025 KR Tilburg, The Netherlands.**  
Cor Snijder

**Agonia (Ita)**  
"At the darkest spawn demo '94"

A lovely cliché in the vein of Cannibal Corpse. What need I say more! \$5.- to **Agonia, c/o Carlo Gervasi, 25035 Ospitaletto, Brescia, Italy.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Amon Amarth (Swe)**  
"The Arrival of the Finbul winter"

Dissection are one of the leaders of melodic metal with screaming vocals, a new and very popular style, specially in Sweden. **Amon Amarth** is such a band, only a bit more death metal influenced. Melodic and fast twin guitar parts, dark vocals and a lot of screams. This band is only from the Stockholm area and not of the Gothenburg scene, but can be compared to the bands from that region. \$5.- to **T. Lundström, Norrskensbacken 7, 146 46 Tullinge, Sweden.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Altered Vision (Ita)**  
"demo '93"

Maybe a first listening test gives this band a review like a normal death metal band, but this demo is a result of a search to an own identity. The usual low grunting vocals don't support this statement, but the rest of their music is technical, fast and mainly fresh. A morning breeze that comes from your speakers. The solos, rhythmsection and anything else place their music somewhere between Misanthrope, Threnody and a technical powermetal band (the Polish Pascal if you're interested in names). Yes, I'll keep this tape apart and place it between the unexpected newcomers with unchallenged talent, worth to interview. \$5.- to **Massimo Parolin, Via Primo Ferraro 5, c.a.p. 31020, Liedolo di S. Zenone (TV) Italy.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Angra (Bra)**  
"Reaching Horizons"

This band comes from Brasil, the native country of Sepultura. Expect no Sepultura, this is power metal in the vein of Helloween at the time of "Keeper of the Seven Keys part 1". This is metal that makes you glad, no depressive stuff. In Angra sings Andre Matos (ex-Viper), and he is the "reincarnation" of Michael Kiske. Yes this is hardly to believe but those two vocalists sing exactly in the same way: high, higher, highest and with the same vocal sound. What are the differences between Angra and Helloween? In the first place the country they come from and besides that Angra plays fas-

ter, a bit more technical and not as orchestral. Angra would be better out when they play much more original. The die-hard fans of Helloween should order this tape immediately. Send DM 15,- (Eur) or DM 20,- (overseas) for this six-songs-tape to: **Angra Fanclub, P.O.Box 60 25 04, 22235 Hamburg, Germany.**  
Cor Snijder

**Argentum (Mex)**  
"Matter Misericordiae demo '93"

Professional, the cover and the music too.... maybe some narrow minded people might think that only in the Morrissound produced sounds can reach the highest level... it's not true. Argentum sounds old, like old and original death metal. They remind me of the first album of Paradise Lost. Musically they don't grip your emotions like that great release did, Argentum sounds more sick, but the originality can be found in the direction of doom metal. It's a kind of sick doom/death metal with strange high sounding solo guitars that have a special sound, it's weird. If this band get the chance to develop themselves in the same luxurious way as Paradise Lost... they will turn out to be great doom band... perhaps even better. Order for \$5.- at **Khabëë, 7a AV. No. 574 Col. Cumbres, Monterrey, N.L. 64610 Mexico.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Asafated**  
"Humanity Landscape" ('94)

Wow, only two death metal tracks on this one. I always think two songs are a bit too less to get a proper opinion about a band, but... I'll try. As I said two death metal songs with a reasonable production. I can't say this is great 'cause it ain't. "Humanity Landscape" could be more varied and definitely have better solos which are really louzy (sorry guys). The second song "Divine Suffocation" is a mess; in the beginning of this song they try to give it some kind of My Dying Bride atmosphere which could have been done much better and the rest of the song could be played tighter too! Well, this is worth your money when you've got too much!! All millionaires should send their money to: **Asafated, P.K. 13-34760 Zeytin Burnu, Istanbul, Turkey**  
Wicked Wolly

**Ashes**  
"In The Abyss Of Darkness" ('93)

Yep, at least starts with a very nice intro. Regarding the cover and title I expected doom... But let's talk 'bout what's on the tape instead of what's on my mind. Six tracks (+ intro & outro) doom death metal. Ashes really has some nice ideas, but really need to vary their songs a bit more. Due to the power production you get a kind of Hellhammer sound, but I think this music is a bit too mature for this sound. Nevertheless a rather good demo with, as I said, some really good ideas. They only have to find a way to let them show full advantage, get a better studio and make the songs a bit more complicated and you've got another good Polish band. Demo available for US\$ 5.- at: **Ashes, ul. Dembowskiego 25/6, 71-535 Szczecin, Poland**  
Wicked Wolly

**Atrax (Nor)**  
"Promo '93"

No black metal this time, but doom death from Norge! I think this is the ex band of Gunder of Godsend. The band was formed back in '88 under a different name, Suffocation. This tape is recorded in november '93 and was engineered by H. Sten from Motorpsycho. Maybe a bit in the Godsend vein, only not that much Cathedral influenced. More with a death metal approach, so that's nice and entertaining death metal with doom influences. They are trying to obtain a deal with this four track promo, so interested labels should write to **Atrax, Box 18, N-7082 Kattern, Norway.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Avulsed (Spa)**  
"Promo '94"

This promo contains five tracks, two from the Dead Flesh compilation CD and three from the ep on MMI records. They recorded the track "Demonic Possession" from the old cult band Pentagram, the one from Chile!!! Avulsed plays brutal Spanish death metal, good stuff from Espana. Recently they replaced their drummer by Fukni, ex-Intoxication, who should be better than what I've heard on this tape. **Avulsed, P.O. Box 39048, 28080 Madrid, Spain.**

Roel van Reijmersdal

**Beyond Belief**  
"Promo demo Feb. '94"

After the release of their debut album "Towards The Diabolical Experiment" back in 1993, Beyond Belief entered Franky's recording kitchen to record a promo for their label. Unfortunately this promo isn't available, but hopefully this review will give you an indication of what Beyond Belief is doing at the moment and of course tells you that they still are working on new material. This promo shows us five new songs which, again are typical Beyond Belief. Supported by melodic lines and solos and some key parts "Cursed (Screams Of The Pleasure Act) is the first and the best song of this promo (as far as I'm concerned). All songs are more powerful than the ones on their album. Far more structured and aggressive, but still melancholic and depressive. I think when Beyond Belief goes on like this their second album will be one to look out for. Other titles from new songs are: "Chosen Ones", "High On The Moon", "Blood Beach" and "Tyrants Of The Sun". For more info on Beyond Belief write to the following address. **Beyond Belief, c/o A.J. van Drenth, P.O.Box 390, 8260 AJ Kampen, Holland.**  
Wicked Wolly

**Beyond Dawn (Nor)**  
"Promo '94"

Still drifting away upon an ocean of tears, it's a right follow up of 'Longing for scarlet days', but this time the atmospheric songs like 'Storm' and 'Teardance' moderate the guitar crunch to a far apart feeling. It's still the melancholic approach, but it's far more different with the use of 'tuba-trumpet' modulated sound that accomplish a similar effect. A little progression is needful to get this band into the region of wave and Dead Can Dance, yes Beyond Dawn's remarkable keyboard sound is sometimes used by this gothic outfit. The revengeful vocals are still present, it's still Beyond Dawn as we're able to recognize in each different composure they bring out.

Every release they do progresses in several way. I keep enjoying following the footsteps of this band. **c/o The Black Leather Cult, H.H. Vei 30A, N-1412 Sofiemyr, Norway.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Beyond Serenity**  
"Nov '92 - Feb '94"

Whether this is a demo or something like that? I really don't know. I'll just review both old and new tunes and when it sounds interesting you'd better write to Beyond Serenity. All right, Beyond Serenity plays more a kind of power thrash metal. Very remarkable is the (normal) vocal part which is used very well; good balance between vocals and music! First 'old' song reminds me of the Type O Negative style with a very good acoustic part. Songs are well composed maybe the riffs are a bit too simple, but some bands became big with that... Anyway, the newer songs are better musically seen; riffs are better and they still have those vocals! This band is really good when you're into the melodic and power version of metal! I only hope that they never make solos as they did on "Mind of Despair" any more! For info write to: **Beyond Serenity, Drosselvej 7, 3600 Frederikssund, Denmark.**  
Wicked Wolly

**Blatherskite (USA)**  
"40 Dase and 40 Nights"

Blatherskite claims not to perform death metal and they're absolutely right. They're more! The solid base in probably death metal but they mix tons of weird but great influences in their music and label it as 'mindcore'. So you'll find grindcore, hardcore and punkcore, all in all a great mix. It's really brutal and very original. Far more better than all the other 'brutal' death metal US acts. Two other tapes of this band: 'Pieces of Elizabeth' and 'Abstract' are available. \$5.- to **Blatherskite c/o Andrew, P.O.Box 29092, Cuberland, IN 46229-0092, USA.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Blind Jesus (Ita)**  
"From real to unreal demo '93"

Blind Jesus is a somewhat chaotic power/trash metal band. Maybe the production is as muddly as their demo cover, at least their music is as weird as their band name. What they need is a better production, this band is fuckin' technical, original for the weird and sometimes cathy experimental music they play. The vocals remind you of an average slow death/grind band from Finland or US. Sometimes it's even like Xysma, but on the whole, it stays in the metal region. \$5.- to **Blind Jesus, c/o Canilo Fornaro, Via Amendole 25, 17100 Savona, Italy.**  
Harold Dekkers





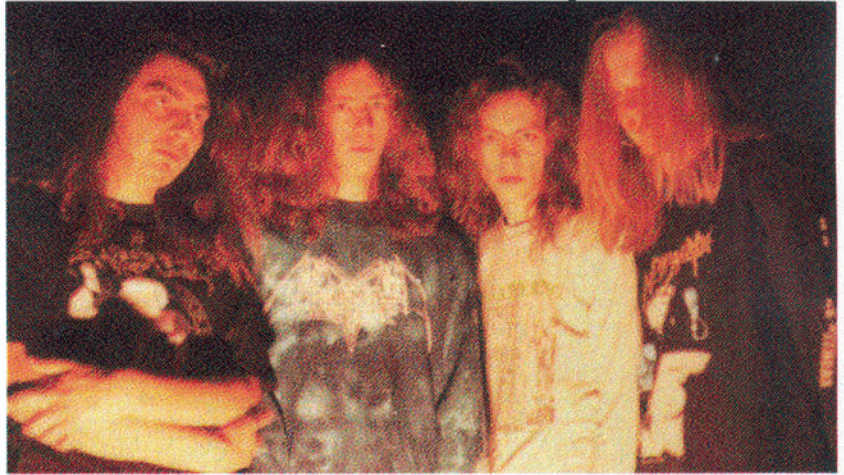
# Misanthrope

*How fascinating a band can be... I read their lyrics! It seems that Philippe Courtois de l'Argiliere wants all the copyrights of everything that has to do with misanthropy. Maybe he will frighten us with his texts (sometimes in French), but it's maybe only the isolation of their music in which Philippe wants to express his feelings. (Their tour in Holland didn't attract a big audience at all). Mixed with ideas from great French people from the past, his lyrics are theories, and his band is a sect. After all, Philippe isn't a chauvinist, it's only the wine and champagne he likes!*

**I didn't expect such a metamorphose after the split album 'Hater of Mankind'. Now you're playing less heavier, you are also the brain behind the band, but how was the situation in Misanthrope during the time of the split-album and why did you change your style?**

Are you sure that Misanthrope did a complete metamorphose during those two last years? You know that's not so clear in my teary eyes. On the split CD which sounded honestly good at that time (back in the really early 1991, but song-written in 1990) except the awful guitar sound there is the avant-garde touch that Misanthrope always built-up except on our shitty 'Inductive Theories' 1989 demo. People have to know the deep meaning of the band. We are not here to do the perfect most avant-garde stuff but to offer the Misanthropist sect new basis to elevate their not so proud soul to a realm where we will arise in our rebirth. In 1990/91 our sect movement and way of life wasn't that nearest to what it has to be... I wanna live in an everlasting paradise. As the time past our conditions (for your readers which are certainly a classical human being) become aggravated, but so close to a true hater of mankind guardian. Maybe our music is less 'metal' but who cares, only the message is real and when you play good music, everything is more easy. I personally think that our style is nothing more than a small step in the universal eternal symphonies. We are not the best, but we're doing our best.

**Well, you're perhaps one of the better bands. The atmosphere of the 'Variation on**



**inductive theories' tastes like a concept. I don't think the whole album tells a chronological story, but the view of each song seems to be seen through the same pair of eyes (if I'm right), who's eyes?**

Variation on inductive theories is not a concept album, but lyrically the following of all our past songs. Could you imagine someone writing more than 30 songs on the same thing which is the so long waiting of the human genocide and our way of life in front of the others, the poor human with a predeterminate mind? I did it, I'm not here to put my personal name in front, but all the lyrics and atmosphere on this album are you through my eyes and me through yours. Yes, those are your readers, more than mine. Read the lyrics, you will see what I think of our future mass extermination. The Misanthrope hordes won't let the dogs scream! If the album will be a concept one with a boring chronological story the title 'And also the lotus' will be at the beginning and not at end, but maybe the lotus flower is our universal rebirth, only God knows. And he died on a cross for that!

**You seem to work out the meaning of the word 'misanthrope'. The first CD already had the title 'Hater of Mankind' (and not the spelling error 'Hater of Manking'). You know the painting of Pieter Breughel, 'The Misanthrope'. An sad old man, a stranger, retired in himself, while the stupid world is robbing his money. Is this painting symbolizing the themes that you put in your texts?**

As you maybe know you cannot say, yes I'm a real misanthrope, as someone says I'm a real satanic slave. This is a lie, and I'm not here to tell bull shit. Let this be for all the Swedish and

Finnish bands. The only words I wanna hear is: be yourself and do not follow the crowd, stay away from the mob which rules as everybody knows, but one day in some year, some life, everybody, even the narrow minded legendary Polish rip off, will understand the avant-garde of our words and its deepest meaning. You have to change and maturity and wiseness will come a day, maybe in paradise. For sure, this painting symbolises us to a bigger audience. Maybe I can recommend you to try to read the misanthropic book, written in the seventeenth century. This is my honest father, the great Moliere: The retirement is my final future, I know that I can't die without it, alone in the deepest solitude without any family. Misanthrope is pure nihilism... No more trees and rivers!

*... In Silence*

*Slow skull embodiment  
Emerge to my faded mind  
Altered emotion of impurity  
People are septic to my Misanthrotheories*



**The Misanthrope** (pieter Breughel)



Let me roar Eurl! Feel the utter evil  
 Oh... that's truly black metal  
 Alone in the depths of solitude I lay  
 Their cancer attacks a part of my crisis inside  
 Oh fall shadows, fall... belong the waves  
 Replace my mind, with a normal human one  
 Desperate Misanthrope,  
 lonely world carbonize my thoughts  
 Humanity pays: Every hour they're trying to  
 give me  
 In a followers mould, blessed Lord confess it  
 Jesus' suffering, three days on the cross  
 I'm just twenty two, why so long a cost?  
 Machines won't (let go) nature go God's way  
 ...In silence I denounce:  
 Life of harmony is a pledge to be  
 doomsday hours alleviate slowly the carrion's  
 path  
 This call is for me, Allowance times arrives,  
 Sing the Obituary of Misanthropy  
 Take my hand, Slowly, Pulls is unhuman  
 Present And see differences between the past  
 & present  
 Future Time keeper memorize the...  
 Past Operation dissect my gated's  
 compressed mind  
 Brain changing necessity  
 Human's system, security  
 Sing the Obituary of Misanthropy

**Your music and lyrics seems to connected to your own style of living and thinking. So please, give me a short abstract of your theory.**

If I had nothing to offer to our listeners, I had never built up a so-called 'band'. Only my faith in the misanthropy give you the privilege to find Misanthrope in the street. Back to 1985/86, we saw the small lights of human hate, disappointments by the other relations and thoughts. Nearly nine years later we stabilised some rules which have to be followed by all human haters, members of the misanthropic sect. Your aim is to watch and to help the human being to annihilate it's own race by himself, we are preaching our own god (who have no name and no face, he is the one we don't call) to unleash the complete genocide as soon as possible. We are basing our complete job to utopian theories for someone, but wait and see our world situation is so shit, we are with too many, we needs a good genocide. And at this moment, we 'the band' are explaining to others this faring dawn. But if in our year, things don't go further in the way of our worshipped life in its pure harmony, I will stop live for the human kind and will build up a place to live far away form you in the deepest solitude. There is no other way, I'm afraid. I'll set my soul to the night and may be commit suicide with tears in my eyes.

*Mmmm... Strange and bizarre, but there are more people who basically have this idea (see the song ...In Silence: 'Oh, that's truly black metal...') But indeed, the misanthropic theories*

*are real, maybe Courtois De L'Argiliere speaks his opinion in a too direct way, that makes it radical. On the other side I found in his lyrics:*

*'Le murmure de notre amour se mêle à la  
 lumière  
 Sur un divan, couchée'  
 (L'Erotique Courtoise)*

**The lyrics of 'Childhood Memories' are a bit risky. They handle about incest, seen through the eyes of the sick raper. Is it because of that, that you call the written introduction on the album booklet a "warning"? Holy records didn't do any kind of censorship, especially on that song and we are proud of Severine at Holy records for that. Yes, for some other bands it could give really dramatic consequences (on the sales) for that, but not for us, we don't care of money. When you speak about real sexual description, everybody turns crazy because it's still a taboo! But, strange as it is, the lyrics of that song are the fave of 80% of the listener. But they aren't mine, because in our misanthropic theories, sex is pleasure, so we are not 100% into it, especially Jean-Jacque Moreac (bass) isn't. I don't want to feel any pleasure with a human being. So, female, stay at home when we will come in Holland, no place for whores with us, your minds are so deliciously poor! (Mmmm... we were almost the only visitor of your gigs in Holland -ed)**

The warning doesn't have nothing special to say about the song 'Childhood memories. Every pervert listener shall find their own orgasm into it, I have nothing to say on their reaction. The warning is for people who do not know me personally, so they need a little introduction on our theories. If you are taking the songs lyrics too straight, your suicide is for tomorrow!

**The Subtitle of he 'Variation On Inductive Theories' is: 'Architecture Screenplans'. In the written into you make clear that his comes form the words of Pascal. Please, explain us what you mean with this!** Blaise Pascal (1623-1662) is a french priest, philosopher and scientist, he rote before his death a book as enormous as the holy bible: 'Pensées' ('Thoughts') and said: 'What a pity not to be a poet: being a main'. Pascal is an avant-garde philosopher into misanthropy before the creation of the word misanthrope itself. I turned 'Poets' to 'Architects' to proof the deep meaning of our words and to show we aren't just four crazy dudes who just try something to do. This subtitle is based on the 'Variation on inductive theories' idea. Normally an inductive theory is not structured, but here we built up some new bases and that is a pure architecture art. The word 'screenplans' is here to push the whole thing to a technological modern feeling. That's all.

*For so long we talked about the lyrics... but in fact it's the music that's carrying the lyrics.*

**You changed the style of Misanthrope, but still I could recognize your guitar sound on the new album. Do you think it is possible that every guitarist will never loose his recognisable way of playing like it are his own finger prints?**

Thanks a lot for this words, you have to know that even if I'm playing guitar for more than nine years now, I'm not that great (I'm more into the vocal education now **Yes, you need that of your life performances -ed**) I personally think that Charles Henri Moreac is at least some step higher than me, but he is not writing music for the band. The same feeling is the way I try to turn the riffing in our song, to be honest I worked to give the new song something not 100% difference than in the past. But to let here and there some trace of the past. I like unity and osmose in a same track. When someone knows our music and listen really carefully to our new stuff, he will know that we are back. Yes, there are some guitarists who built up their own style and even if the songs are different, you always recognize them, take for example Tom G. Warrior, Trey Azagthoth, James Murphy or Gregor Mackintosh, they all have their typical own style and they create all the time new stuff in their own mood, even if it's good or crap stuff. It will be always themselves, that's why I can admit appreciate their carrier.

**Do you still play the old songs of Hater of Mankind? Some old riffs are on your second album.** No, we never played live a song of 'Hater of Mankind' on stage since September 1992, because the actual line-up does not work on this old stuff and we haven't enough time to work on the new material which is at least 40% more difficult as the music on 'Variation on inductive theories' and the older material. We are so misanthropic that we rehearse 3 hours a week only, which is nothing in front of some bands, but we really don't need more! We prefer working a lot in our solitude than drinking beer or burning churches! I know that's really too bad, so we decided together to offer on our next CD and lives a more than 9 minutes long version of the song 'Hater of Mankind' with some parts of 'Paradoxical Burial' and brand new parts to give the whole track a perfect equilibrium. There are some french lyrics now: 'l'Erotique Courtoise' and it's dedicate to all our true sect followers since the beginning of the Hate reign (Autumn 1988) **Yes... Severine is maybe one of your disciples...**

*Misanthrope recently released their second album 'Miracles -Totem Taboo', more a tribute to their past and future than a real album, a nice piece of strange art with five fantastic new songs of real avant garde value.*

Harold Dekkers



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**Brainwashing (NL)**  
All live will end

This second demo has now even further increased the extremity level. Sharp edged death metal with traditional old drum patterns, as violent as Suffocation and primary fast. The rhythm session isn't that tight, but it gives a very special swing in the way of some pre-death metal bands like the former Sepultura, to mention something. It's brutality can be heard in the classic wild solo technique too. It puts this band to the standard of older equals like Kreator, Sadus and Merciless. \$5.- to **Marcel van Dongen, Anthoniusstr. 50, 5171 DC Kaatshoevel, The Netherlands**  
Harold Dekkers

**Calvary (Ger)**  
"Facilities of Life" demo '93

This is slow heavy metal, some people call it doom metal. Calvary is not so depressive, maybe because of the rather clear guitar sound and not really depressive (sometimes sad) melodies. The beginning of "The hour Glass" reminds a lot to Iron Maiden. In one of the few faster riffs Calvary can be compared to Slayer. I believe on this demo there is a lack of originality and identity. The vocals are a kind of thrashy (a not really deep grunt), and I can not call them impressive, because there is not much spirit in it. Still there are some impressive guitar riffs, solo's and idea's on this tape. Definitely it is not a standard product of metal, average maybe is a better word. I feel there is talent in this band, but it is not fully used, maybe next time. Send \$6 to: **Joerg Goehlich, Am Trienensiepen 26, 44229 Dortmund, Germany.**  
Cor Snijder

**Catharsis**  
"Your Truth" ('93)

Almost half an hour Polish death metal. Six songs (four songs, an intro and an instrumental song) of rather messy death metal. Unfortunately Catharsis sometimes tries to include too much variation in one song which doesn't result in the best way of making songs. Probably also due to the weak production and the bad solos. Though Catharsis ain't very bad their music isn't shocking. Maybe too average..... Available through: **Damned Production, P.O.Box 3, 32-606 Oswiecim up 6, Poland.** Comes in full colour glossy cover  
Wicked Wolly

**Cedric Crouch**  
"Rodeo Biker Chick vs..." ('94)

Rodeo Biker Chick vs... The Ankles Of Angst. A solo project of the man behind Rip-Off Productions. This tape presents eight punk rock songs which, unfortunately, are sounding alike. This probably because of the same drum rhythm on each song (boom-chick-boom-chick). Cedric shows some nice ideas, but like I said before; all songs have those same ideas; catchy and cheerful. Nah, a bit more variation wouldn't be a bad idea I think. Comes for US\$ 5.- in a nice cover... Orders to: **Rip Off Productions, 46 Oberholzer Rd., Bechtelsville, PA 19505, U.S.A.**  
Wicked Wolly

**Celestial (UK)**  
"Promo demo '93" (Nosferatu)

All these songs on this tape are taken from the "Reborn Inhuman" demo, released under the monicker Healer. So here are no new tracks, this is just to make the name Celestial more familiar to the undergrounders. Where is this band all about. Mainly this is thrash metal with death metal influences and some experimental parts with more melody than the rest of the music on this tape. And especially the experimental parts are good, but these ones don't occur that much. Most stuff on this tape sounds average to me, nothing special. The vocals are average and sound a bit like Inquisitor (Hol), only without inspiration. Maybe their new tracks for the coming album on Nosferatu are much better, anyway I hope so. This promo costs only \$3, send your money to: **Nosferatu Records, Via Mineo 23, 95125 Catania, Italy.**  
Cor Snijder

**C.E.T.I. (Pol)**  
"Black Rose"

Also of this demo I got a bad copy of the Forgotten guy. So I can not give you my honest comments on the sound, although I believe the original tape has a good sound. This band already exists about 15 years. Nine songs on this tape, which all have Polish lyrics. Not strange they have never broken through, because not many people want and can listen to Polish lyrics. To the music, this is heavy metal in the way Judas Priest and Malice (USA). I especially compare them to Malice, because when you listen to the first song of Malice, you think it is great. But when you listen to more Malice songs you notice there is a lack of variation. This band has the same problem! You can write to: **Fan-club "C.E.T.I.-a", ul. Wojskowa 5, Klub "Na Pietrze", Poznan-Poland.**  
Cor Snijder

**Chaos and Technocracy (Ita)**  
Abstract reflections.

Bongiorna Italia comesta? Italy again. When I heard the first few riffs I realized it was another Pyrexia or Broken Hope clone. But hell, no, non inferno, what a miscalculation. Then I heard some sort of Donald Duck vocals, que? After my surprise fade away the female vocals showed up. This is brilliant. Raw riffs, down tuned guitars, heavy pounding drums and female vocals. It sounds like a swinging folk act on death. So immensely strange and refreshing. Mega grande, more stuff like this demanded! \$5.- to **Isolated Rec, via**

**Avondo N°27, 11100 Aosta, Italy.**  
Roel di Reijmersdal

**Cha'm (Aust)**  
"Sanity doesn't pay"

A confusing name of a band, playing confusing music. Confessor meets punkcore? The vocals aren't my favourite ones and their production could have been better. This strange metal core has something different, but if it really makes them different from the dozen alternate punk band to become a respected metal act with avantgarde influences? I don't know, there are at least more Jazz influences in it than in the last Pestilence album! c/o **Reinold Beyer, Hütteldorfstr. 323/2, 1140 Wien, Austria.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Change of Seasons (Hol)**  
"Promo '94"

These guys play already for six years together with the result this outfit plays pretty tight. If you want quality music you should take a listen to this band. Again no brutal stuff here, but progressive metal/rock with great riffs and good melodies. The guitar sound on this demo sometimes reminds me of Giant, do not compare them with that band. C.O.S. has much more complicated and inventive guitar riffs and drum patterns. No! commercial shit is going on here. Send \$6 to: **C.O.S., P.O. Box 178, 7640 AD Wierden, The Netherlands.**  
Cor Snijder

**Coarse (Fin)**  
"Demo '93"

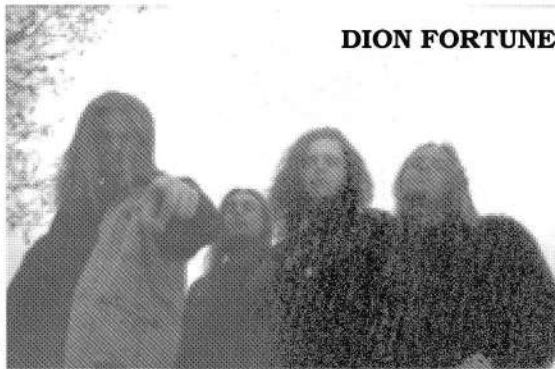
Coarse is a warlike death metal band like Amorphis and Bothrower, perhaps even more elementary than this bands, without losing too much charm of course. Acoustic lines mixed in between gives this band an heroic touch. Order this brave product for \$5.- to **Sauli Kivilathi, Savelantie 34, 00720 Helsinki, Finland.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Crucifixion (Ger)**  
"Colour your mind"

This band opens with a radio broadcast tune, followed by a scream that presents the kind of vocals for the whole tape. During all the tracks the sound stays a bit chaotic. Everything happens in between, but nothing really special. \$5.- to **Helge Hustedt, Bächerstr. 2, 38533 Rethen, Germany**  
Harold Dekkers

**Crystal Age (Swe)**  
"Promo '94"

What comes from Gothenburg is rather good! Crystal Age is formed by the members of Liers In Wait: Hans Nilsson and Moses Jonathan. Oscar Dronjak comes from Ceremonial Oath. Also a thrash player, Fredrik Larsson, is involved in this new band. And like it's so expectable, Crystal Age is a new technical outfit of the type of Decollation, Liers in Wait and At The Gates. Their music is of course of a good quality. Crystal Age is not that high tech with countless breaks or 'red eyed aggressive' like the bands mentioned before. The vocals are raw, like the Chilean Torturer and the basic leads are just like of an average technical death metal band. But the Yngwie Malmsteen solos mixed in a death metal like At The Gates that make this tape. Especially the one on 'Retaliation' is a real composition it varies like a classic part of symphonic music. Maybe I am missing this ideas a bit in this band, there are only a few solos. But the fast and technical drumming and nice guitar lines are filling the tracks in the way of Mekong Delta last albums: an everlasting metal attack with no any weak points, but seldom a real peak. All is arranged on a too high level to have some highest points. Especially the effects are comparable to some lines of Mekong Delta, all in the death metal way of course. Instead of brilliant albums, there are coming brilliant bands from Gothenburg (they are not from Bildad again). Write **Crystal Age, c/o Dronjak,**



**DION FORTUNE**

**Ringleken 6, S-431 69 Mölndal, Sweden.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Dawn**  
"The Darkness Within" ('93)

German four piece Dawn comes with their new demo. Five semi death metal songs which I think are comparable to a mixture between Morbid Angel (at least some times) and (old) Gorefest. Not bad at all. Well played and with a pretty good sound quality. Dawn likes to vary catchy pieces with some grind attacks, but that must be played tight when you want it to show full advantage. Besides this small point of

criticism this demo is worth checking out for all death metal freaks! Comes in nice full-coloured cover for US\$... at: **Dawn, Germany**  
Wicked Wolly

**Dear Life (USA)**  
"Demo '93"

First time I saw the name of this band, I thought it was an AOR-band. Totally wrong, this band shows very tight rhythms and heavy riffs in the speed/thrash mid-tempo sector. This is all powered up with an excellent recording. I think they are coming from the Pantera-corner (power metal). My intuition brings me this in, I only heard Pantera one time in a record-shop. Anyway this band is not bad all, it shows plenty of energy, which is caused raw by riffing and supply performed rhythms and contra-rhythms (yeah). After the recording of this demo there have been some line-up changes (I don't give the boring details), the new line-up seems to be stable and exists already half a year. Dear life has changed the name into XXL. Under this name you can expect an album, which will be probably out at the time you read this. You can order this excellent recorded three-songer for \$6 at: **Dear Life, c/o Mark Horne Screaming sheep publishing Co., 93 Centre St., Brockton, MA 02401, 8th floor, USA.**  
Cor Snijder

**Decrial (Den)**  
Desires Unfold

A heavy five track pack with blasting death metal. Massive Sweden-format death metal like bands as Unleashed, Grave and even Decollation. The lead guitars constantly swing in their slamming rhythms. Drums aren't special cymbalic or bass sounding, it is the deep guitar sound and original song lines that provide the most cliches. Sometimes there are a few well developed melodies like Arabian music lines. It's a pity this band split up, the songs are varying enough to have an own particular formula for separating from the rest. The demo is still available: \$6.- to **Flemming C. Lund, Møllegaade 9a, Skodborg, 6630 Rödning, Denmark.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Deinonychus (NL)**  
Promo '94

Sick and primitive, but also symphonic. It's the grind/death where Deinonychus stands for. Maybe bands like Blasphemus lost interest, but this dark band, a mixture between Abruptum and Behirit is rather interesting. Beats and screams are structured and the dark keyboards sound grotesque! At all not the overpowered mess but a well performed black metal holocaust. It seems an debut album will be released soon. c/o **Odin, Junostraat 20, 6446 RG Brunssum, The Netherlands.**

**Deracination (Austr)**  
demo/cass. ep '93

Brutal and excellent down under metal, yes, it's Deracination. They're more brutal than countrymates Mortification, more in the US death metal vein with its notorious '-ions', but not totally comparable. And when I'm right this band has done an album before this release. The cassette contains seven tracks, nice produced and well performed. It's worth checking out, they are one of Australians leading acts. The cover of the tape look descent, lyrics are included and the production of the sound is very raw and heavy. \$7.- to **Scott M. Waller Management, P.O.Box 1545, Northgate, Hornsby 2077, NSW Australia.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Disaster (Ger)**  
The Fog of Abalom

What kinda metal do you expect reading titles such as 'Into a magical night', 'Northern Breeze' and 'Countess Bathory' the Venom cover? Black metal of course! 9 tracks including an intro and outro. It's pure black metal inspired by the older black metal bands and sometimes a bit similar to the new Immortal. Each track has got the same original guitar riffs, a bit in the old Messiah vein. Only the vocalist is a bit too screamy. \$5.- to **Markus Kuschke, Johanstrasse 76, 56218 Mülheim-Kärlich, Germany.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Despise (Gre)**  
State of Brutality

Four progressive tracks of wild thrash metal. It's all pure Thrash that is played here. Yes, it's the only right description, it's purely based on some slyer riffs. Most riffs are recognizable from the last three albums of the biggest thrash example. I know a lot of bands playing the same style like slayer, but the sound of this demo is literally stolen from Slayer. Well, being such a clone deserves some attention, surely when you play with three members only. The music is enjoyable any way. Unfortunately they didn't answer my short interview. \$5.- to **Maria Vassilaki, 104 Kountouriotoust, Galatsi 111-46, Athens, Greece.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Dion Fortune (Swe)**  
Demo '93 + Tales of Pain demo '94

Sometimes the label 'death metal' is only an indication for heaviness and that depends on the production mostly. Two tapes recorded shortly after each other. The first is progressive metal with a touch of death metal, something like Sindrome meets Misanthrope. The solos are technical, it's a pleasure to listen to, without a total freak out you get with Atheist or Cynic. On their second demo there comes more trashy elements, containing more chorus' in the music. The



recording is much more rough and that makes it sounding more death metal. But I think Dion Fortune is a straight metal band, with the same high qualities of their countryman like Hexenhau. Definitely one of the own styled bands without any special genre. \$5.- to **Mattias Berger, Brunnsgatan 26 B, 553 17 Jönköping, Sweden.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Discomposure**  
"Demo No. 3 C.O.D." ('93)

Five deathrash tunes with a snare production which can easily be called irritating: too loud. I think the whole production could be improved as well. Some readers might ask themselves why I'm always paying that much attention to the production. Well, there's such a big amount of demos available and the most important thing is the production: that's what you'll hear the whole demo. A bad production could ruin a tape even when there's some good music on it... This does not really count for Discomposure; besides the irritating production I think their music is too simple (concerning this already is their third demo). Not my cup of tea... Send US\$ 5.- to: **Discomposure, Niels Bohrsvej 3, 6430 Nordborg, Denmark.**  
Wicked Wolly

**Doomsday (Spa)**  
"Summit Meeting" demo '93

**Doomsday** plays death and bass orientated power metal with an imperfect production, but with strong thrashy compositions, swinging rhythms, ending in some enjoyable solos. Finally a band which make their bass guitar almost visible due to the clean production with less effects. But this clear studio work hide too much of this band. I guess we have to do with one of the better bands from Spain. So, an heavier production will give the band the rights they are worth to get. \$5.- to **Christian Zetterwall, c/o Ventura Playa, 42-3°2, 08028 Barcelona, Spain.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Doomstone (USA)**  
"Promo '93"

The songs on this tape are to promote the album "Those Whom Satan Hath Joined", to be released in December of 1993. The album will be out for half a year, when you read this if everything is going alright. So to be sure I do this review.

Not strange that **Doomstone** plays doom metal. This is not doom metal the boring way (My Dying Bride, The Gathering (Always)), no this reminds me of Black Sabbath and the slower parts of Lethargy (remember the mighty double live tape of Dead Head/Lethargy back in 1989). The guitarsound on this tape is one of the honest raw and brutal metal sounds, not deeply distorted and heavy as old Entombed. No it is more the metal sound in the vein of Hellwitch and Sadist (only much slower!). To give you a direction, the vocals are in the vein of old Dead Head and Hellwitch. It is more a scream than a grunt, I am deeply in this kind of vocalizing! Order this promo with four tracks and a good sound for only \$5 to: **Nosferatu Records, Via Mineo 23, 95125 Catania, Italy.**  
Cor Snijder

**Dysphoria (USA)**  
"Day of Atonement" demo

Brilliant, excellent... if there is nor originality, feeling, expression to base your music on, try it in this way! It's already a long time ago again I heard such a brutal and heavy death metal band from the USA-school. Eternal Torment and Imprecation were the last one. But fortunately this type still exists! **Dysphoria, c/o Warhead Productions, 4847 Walsh Ave, East Chicago, IN 46312, USA.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Ectopia (UK)**  
"Hate Release"

If there are some fans in the metal underground from the core scene, they will be highly interested in this thrashcore release which goes back to the primitive roots of slashing thrashmetal. A very strong and good produced demo. It's nice to hear such a violence between all those weak death metal. £3.- (UK) £4.- (= \$6.-) Overseas. **Ectopia, 20 Comton Road, London, N21 3NX, UK.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Eldritch (It)**  
"Promotracks '93"

When I asked LMP for this demo, I thought Eldritch came from the USA. After hearing their tape I had the same thought, but their biography let me read they are coming from Italy. That was really a surprise to me. Excellent progressive power metal bands are also in Europe! This band plays very technical, but still very tight in the way of Dream Theatre. Dream Theatre? Yes, but do not expect a second Dream Theatre. This band has a much rougher and rawer guitar sound and that is why Eldritch has really power and doesn't not sound as sweet as D.T. Terence Holler (voc) knows how to impress, not a second Geoff Tate, Midnight etc., original excellent vocals. A combination of melody and technique show the skills of the musicians. I could not find a bad song on this 6-song tape with an excellent sound and a good cover. IMPRESSIVE STUFF, the promise of 1994? Send now DM 20 to: **LMP, P.O. Box 60 25 20, D-22235 Hamburg, Germany.** Write today.  
Cor Snijder

**Endless Tears (Fra)**

Their demo contains a pretty technical thrash metal from France. The vocals are a bit boring and powerless, but

sometimes surprisingly original and brilliant. The guitar parts are pretty complex, sometimes a bit too complex. It's pretty hard to hear what is going on and the production won't help that either. The sound is somehow a bit chaotic. Endless Tears are searching for a record deal, so interested label should write. They have a hell of a promo package! This sounds like a heavy version of Suede. \$6.- to **Ramaget Nicolas, 12 BD du Marechal Le Clerc, 21240 Talant, France.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Endless Trudge (Ita)**

Forced technique from Italy? Endless Trudge shows us a very mobile kind of aggressive thrash that separates their music in two parts. One side of their music is a rhythm attack of fast drumming, boundless power thrash with ditto vocals. On the other hand their are really technical outfits, in the vein of Sieges Even and Watchtower, yes! In some musical passage both styles are played without any connection but it suits well and mostly it ends in an acoustic silence, filled by a female voice, then a tam-tam sounding drum and a brutal voice comes up... again the thrashing beats. This band reminds me to the Polish Pascal or Geisha Gohner. Finally an essential newcomer to give the technical genre an impulse. A must for all guitar intellectuals. **Michele Brastia, Via Montale 10, 20151 Milano, Italy.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Entity (Swe)**  
demo '94

This band is one of the best dark gothic, acoustic doom rock acts ever! Totally no distorted guitars, only acoustic parts, keyboards, normal vocals, screaming black metal growls, brilliant melodic parts etc. This band has got it all. This promo contains one intro and three super tracks. Can somebody get this band signed? Entity really deserves at least an ep deal, so labels, don't hesitate. New address: **Entity, Tompa Gustafsson, Brattensv. 8 B, 311 35 Falkenberg, Sweden.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Enuresis**  
"Promotape '93"

Well according to John of Detest, this band is his fun band. According to the "cover" of this tape this is not a fun band. This band is consisting of members of Detest, Idiosyncrasy and Deranged. Anyway the music seems rather serious to me. This band plays very brutal death/thrash with deformed brutal vocals. The guitar sound on this tape reminds me of Whiplash (USA). That was rather a surprise to me, because it doesn't sound bad at all. Some riffs are pretty good, some others are a bit better than average. Well this is a project, the tape has not an excellent sound and the cover is very primitive, I should give a real band first a change when you do not have a lot of money. Send \$5 to: **Bjarke Ahlstrand, Brandholms alle 26 F, 2610 Rodovre, Denmark.**  
Cor Snijder

**Epitaph (USA)**  
"Iniquity reigns demo '93"

This is a thrash-outfit with the roots in the Bay Area metal. Besides the recognizable jumping riffs there are a lot more interesting riffs with some enthusiastic solo's here and there. If you think we go back to Testament etc. with this band you are wrong. It is a kind of Bay Area thrash in a jacket with a more groovy, technical and core-ish approach, which results in a fresh kind of power speedy metal. The power on this tape is expressed by a clear and raw sound and very tight performance. This aggressive kind of music is stand by the raw vocals of Joey Allen. He doesn't usually sing on this tape, but it sounds much better. Joey should not force himself to sing raw, but he is not irritating; he can do a better job next time. Eric Meyer plays in this band, I am not sure that he is the same guy of Dark Angel. Anyway this band has nothing to do with Dark Angel. My conclusion is that "Iniquity reigns" is a great 7-song-demo, but is not setting new standards. Send \$9 (world), \$6 (USA) to: **Chainsaw Records, 13456 Community RD., P.O. Box 104, Poway CA 92064, USA.** Cor Snijder

**Esoteric (UK)**  
"The Death in Ignorance demo '94"

A release of Esoteric Emotions, for Disembowelment and Winter lovers. The fast parts, and there are quite a few of those on the A-side of the tape aren't as good as the slow ones. This gorging band can also be compared to Thergothon. Echoing vocals etc. The few experiments they put in it make it worth listing to, but I can't understand why there are three guitarists in the band. This is food for doom fanatics. £3.50 = \$6.- to **Esoteric, 19 Fairmaed Rise, Kings Norton, Birmingham B38 8BS, UK.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Euthanasia (Ita)**  
cass. ep '94

Brutal semi grinding death metal di Italia, molto granda? Nostalgia a Cannibal Corpse in any case. Only a bit less brutal and growling. This is the debut release of the Danish Enansipated Michael. Just brutal metal like the US acts (and some Spanish as well). A bit less variation in the guitar lines. The production is clean and heavy as well. Contains a descent cover. \$6.- to **Michael H. Andersen, Holbergsvvej 137, 4700 Naestved, Denmark.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Excavation (NL)**  
"Promo '94"

Some more news of Excavation... The band is still struggling for a good sound and a separation from the rest of all 'the

same sounding' bands. The only thing I can conclude is that they are trying their hardest. There are now and then some different riffs, complex notes, etc. etc. all mixed in the mainstream metal. If the sound would have been better this tape would have been a great follow up to their good debut demo and would have satisfied me a bit more. But it remains a nice indication of their further direction in death metal. **Excavation, c/o Siem, Odahn. 46, 6129 HX Urmond, The Netherlands.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Exhumation**  
"Deepest Side Of Fear" ('94)

Now the newest release of Exhumation. Four years after the release of their "The Rebirth" demo they created "The Deepest Side Of fear". Compared to "The Rebirth" demo Exhumation faced some progress. Still some deathrash, but they got rid of their Kreator way of writing. Now they even included some key parts which sounds like the "Testimony..." release of Pestilence. Also technically seen the whole have become more interesting. Also a deep semi-grunt is added. Some fine catchy tunes of which the production could be better, but as far as I know it's rather difficult to get a proper production over there in Greece. Nice job, comes in full coloured cover and is worth your attention. \$6 to: **Exhumation, papadimitriou 19, 55131 Kalamaria, Thessaloniki, Greece**  
Wicked Wolly

**Fertilizer (Ger)**  
"Human Sickness?"

At first, I expected some more professionalism, according to their perfect demo cover. Well, I've to listen to this band to discover their real image of course. You may think it's a fun band, they have hilarious promo photos, but their music is maybe just like their cover. It's like a painting of Pieter Breugel, the tragedy of human fools with their idiotic obsessions. Fertilizer shows this in a musical way with a perfect production of their slowed down death metal. There are some nice parts, but after all I would like to see something more refreshing, not matter it is funny or doomy. Just a bit more development in the doom metal it seems to be. This is able to become a talented band at least. \$5.- to **Markus Münch, Staudenäcker 32, 76771 Wörth 2, Germany.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Fifth Dominion**  
"Rage, Pain and laughter"

I really don't know what to say about Fifth Dominion. "Rage Pain & Laughter" contains six experimental songs of which the best description probably is techno deathrash (?). Fifth dominion sometimes use choirs to add an extra dimension to their music. The problem is that the production is rather bad and sometimes their timing could be better. Both make this tunes rather messy; a pity. Musically seen Fifth Dominion ain't that bad, but there still are some things which need some big improvement. Info at: **Fifth Dominion, 14 Tamarish Ave, Kilmacanagh, Dublin 24, Ireland.**  
Wicked Wolly

**Forgotten (Pol)**  
"Platoon" demo '93

No this is not brutal death metal from Poland, no this is heavy metal from the eighty's. It is a pity these guys haven't anything new to offer, tracks with fast metal riffs in the way of Judas Priest did in the faster tracks. It is a pity they have not the same quality. At the moment there is a lack of new good refreshing metal bands, I believe. If there are other heavy/progressive/speedy thrash metal bands in Poland or other places on this world can write me at: **Cor Snijder, Schoterlandseweg 64, 8454 KG Mildam, Holland.** Still Forgotten offers us some cool melodies and fat melodic guitar solo's. Especially the solo's are nice to listen to. Some acoustic guitar parts also features nice melodies. The vox reminds me to Killers from France (released an album in the mid-eighty's), and that is not a voice which suits the music well. First thing they have to do is to look for a good melodic vocalist. Anyway write these initiators of heavy metal in this rip off death metal country at: **Shemo, Wichrowe Wzgórze 35/20, 61-699 Poznan, Polska-Poland.** Only \$5 for this demo with a playing time of 40 minutes.  
Cor Snijder

**Fulgor (Ger)**  
Promo '93

Fulgor, another German black metal band with a logo similar to Behert. They claim to play mystical black magic metal. I can't see the magic and mystical aspects, but it's black indeed. A lot of dark atmospheres are created on this promo tape, keyboards and normal vocals for example. The guitar sound is very awful, you hardly can hear what's going on and it sounds all like a vacuum cleaner. The tape contains two tracks plus the usual in- and outro. Exclusively distributed by Merciless Records, so \$5.- to: **Volker Schwegkheimer, Luitpoldstrasse 12, 97421 Schweinfurt, Germany.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Goden (NL)**  
"Demo '94"

Goden... the next in line of bands, great acts, like Spina Bifida, Pentacle and good old Dead End. Perhaps their music is suitable for this genre (they are from Brabant too) But the record quality doesn't proof this. The drums and especially the vocals sound really awful. That's a big disappointment, because their music style is very okay and their name gives an impression of a brilliant band like Winter. \$5.- c/o **Vital Welten, Aalsterweg 128 B, 5615 CJ Eindhoven, The**



# art? FRANÇOISE DUVIVER art!

Now and then I see a top of the mountain of the art of underground artists, used by our music. Euronymous Bosch, Gustav Dorée and H.H.Geiger has mostly become ripped off by the bands who really didn't look deeper. Sometimes it even looks that our scene art only exist by Dan Seagrave and some logo designers. To promote more of the real underground artwork I found the incredible work of Francoise Duvivier, a parisienne with a straight vision to the end of all our lives.

**If never seen such a work that represent the subject death in such a strong way. So, the first question is, why are you dealing so much with this subject and why is it the only thing that reflects in your collages?** Since our birth, we're condemned persons, having more pain all along our life, which appears in a cruel struggle to me. It's sure that in front of this whole ocean of cruelty and darkness, the majority of mankind is creating a false and romantic world full of lies, a world where bloody shadows continue living. It all depends on the way of life you've chosen and you can say to me that the world is wonderful, soft and peaceful, you're free to say so. But I can answer you that on the contrary I see hate, plenty of wars and perfect killers. I also can say that we're just this organic meat, crying, wearing our cruel suffering through a dark destiny. We don't hold our future in our hands and we can't dominate our death. Death is powerful and strong.

I'm obsessed by death, I always reflect it in my collages. It is because I want to exorcize it, and perhaps, death appeals to me because it's strong and unknown too. I know that if I face to death, I might discover the unknown. I like very much the Shamans travels between our two worlds: the one of life and death. And you always come back to life with something more which I can't describe. It's my philosophy about death. I know that it brings me something after facing it.

**How do you create this macabre collages. Where do you use all those samples and pictures from?**

It's magic. Indeed I've some difficulties to explain how I create all this. I don't have any preconceived ideas before doing this collages. It's the deep mystery of an uncontrolled meeting between me and the image. These images are more special parts of paper in grey, black and white, parcels of destroyed images. These samples come from various books I find in the libraries. They feature often nudes, babies, human anatomies, skulls, dolls and more...

I don't want to use these complete pictures, I have to destroy them and to create something else with them.

**Is their anything you paint by yourself on your collages, or is every particle of your collages taken from something?** I rarely paint on my collages. It happens sometimes that I like to draw some kind of black and with nervous slashes on them. It's a spontaneous need and often I want these slashes, to be broken and clumsy. I don't know why. Sometimes it seems to me that these slashes look like some dark diseases on the body

or death which is invading these corpses.

I try to play with the various palettes of grey/white, grey and black colours, and so I create a world made of macabre ashes. These bodies are made for me out of grey dust, and I try to express this feeling with some of grey and black papers. It's a difficult work and I'm rarely satisfied. I think I will never be satisfied.

**You combine bodies, mutilated limbs, bones, skulls with instruments. It makes me thinking of H.H.Geiger's great works. This man must**

**have been an inspiration for you, isn't?** Indeed, I know a little of the work of H.H.Geiger, and he is for me a great artist... But I can't pretend that this man only has been an inspiration for me, because 'everything' is an inspiration for me. Other people tell me that my work makes them thinking to Peter Because, although I didn't know anything of his works.

It's difficult to describe, but I think that men like H.H.Geiger and P.Because, men living in this century, are feeling the same things as I do. Together we feel the atmosphere of our era and it's sure that we have common points in our different sensitivities, expressing this world and reflecting the fears and ideas of people.

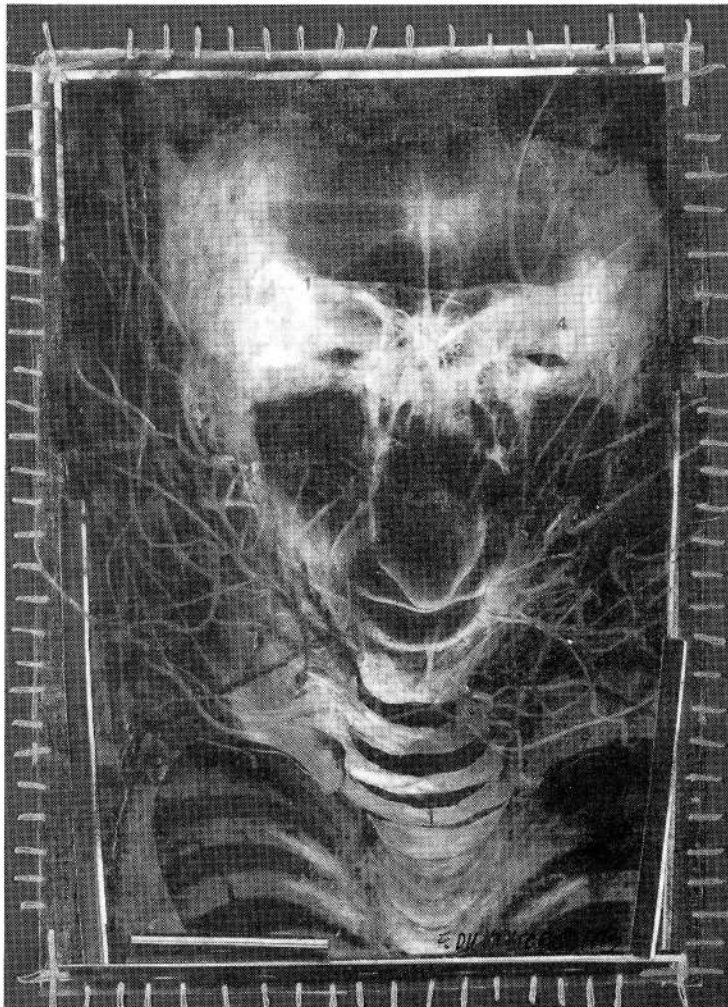
**You also use some numbers or strange words in your collages. Just like the word 'NAAR'. That word means in dutch something like 'awful'. You use those words for the strange sound in their pronounce, or is it that you add them like the words or numbers as medical registration numbers on the body bags, graves etc...?**

Sometimes I like using numbers or words in my collages. It depends on

the atmospheres of the collages if it needs something more. I listen to what the finished image needs. It may need a sound, so I find (for example) the word 'Naar': very sinister, expressing something 'awful', but 'terrible' too. It looks like a heavy destiny.

The numbers express the coldness and they are depending on their architecture they bring to the image. Indeed, I've this feeling to obey to my images and I don't want to work them more than they want, letting them free.

**Sometimes there are some trees in your collages. But will you ever use threes with leaves?** You're right, I sometimes use trees in my collages and these trees are always winter trees, without leaves. They are often broken, like broken lives. It's only symbolic because spring and summer bring leaves to trees in life, but not to the human mind. Everywhere in summer, countries like Yugoslavia and others continue, always knowing their violence.







**What do you do with most of your collages?** Some of them are destroyed, others are kept, others are published in magazines or featured on CD covers, etc. But generally, these collages are destroyed or are kept and forgotten in some parts of my flat. I'm more preoccupied in doing other collages.

**Which band was the first one who wanted to use some work of you?** It was not a band, it was rather a label: 'Rrrecords' from the U.S. which firstly used my work. The label 'Freedom in a vacuum' (Canada) used a lot of my work too, for their CDs and invitations to their shows.

**Why are you more known in the US than in Europe and is this changing now?** My collages were become popular in the U.S. quickly, while the majority stayed indifferent in Europe. I can't explain this dynamism in the U.S. well. I guess they need more visual communication. Actually, the situation is changing in Europe, I suppose because of some musicians like Dive in Belgium and Zygote in German who have published my work in their albums. So, now more European people start to like my images more.

**You never got censored in the US?** No, I've never been censored in the U.S. And I don't get well why you ask me such a question. **Well, everything that's too much in the mainstream will be censored by those moralists, your work might be frightening too much. But luckily you're an underground artist.**

**How many bands already used your works and why are they almost underground bands?** Not so many. They are more from certain labels which are using my work, just like Rrrecords (US), ND (US) and Freedom in a Vacuum (Canada). Some musicians used my work for their CD or LP: Mark Alhanait (France, noisy music), he used my work on his LP. Schimpfluch (Swiss, noisy music, lp), Dive (Belgium, hard techno) featured some CDs and a book/CD: 'Images' with my collages. I did a visual performance during their show in Germany in 1993. Actually Dive continues using my work during their shows. Zygote (Germany, lp + a big poster), Brume (France, CD).

Yes, I mostly work with underground bands, because the majority of people who like my work are mostly musicians and work in the

alternative middle. Anyway, people of the mainstream culture don't like my work. I don't want to deal with this cold mainstream culture. I've chosen to work in the underground sphere and I feel more free and I find these contacts more alive and healthy. **Just the right words in the right mag. What's your personal taste of music?** It depends on my mood, but generally I like music which talks somewhere to our deep subconscious. I'll mention for example the music of Lustmord. But I like convulsive and hard music too, like In Slaughter Natives or Dissecting Table. (They are only examples) I also can dark and hard techno, very loudly played like heavy metal music. I like it when it's strong, not ordinary and brings something new to our ears. Music is a drug, it helps me to create. Everything I do needs music.

**Your are also making masks and dolls. It all sounds very voodoo-like to me. Are you such a macabre personality? Don't you never want to create something different?** The masks I make often frighten people because they see life in them, certainly because I do believe in my creatures. I always make them with love and I feel a little connection to the shamanistic philosophy. I give spirit to everything which is (called) lifeless. I consider my dolls and masks as alive and I don't feel alone surrounded by them.

I'm not a macabre personality. I think to taste life better because I like travelling through the death spheres. This philosophy brings me a lot and helps me to face up to life and death with serenity and accept people like we are: monsters and no more!

**For so long the interview around with Francoise (I still can't find that accent that belongs to the 'c') around this exposition. For serious contacts write to: Francoise Duvivier, BTE 394 7\_ET, 18 Allée des orgues de 11flandre, 75019 Paris, France.**





**Netherlands.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Hades**  
"Alone Walking" (Wounded Love)  
Norwegian Black metal again? Yes, again, but this time I think we ain't dealing with a bunch of kids who're willing to shock their neighbourhood and willing to get popular by burning down churches. No, Hades is a rather good atmospheric black metal band with some bombastic influences. Well written songs which have to remind me of good old Bathory and the first Samael. Three good songs with the usual production. Hades might be interesting for, for example, Osmose. I think we soon can expect an album of this band (at least I hope so). People who want to check 'em out yourself should contact Wounded Love Records  
Wicked Wolly

**Harmony (Swe)**  
"Until I Dream"  
My nose for talent... I discovered again a band that shows an own styled progression. They really deserve an interview and I had made one if I wasn't stuck up with all those f'cking reviews. But when there weren't any reviews I probably never discovered this. Why is this talented? They haven't such a highly original riffs, but the usual progressive keyboards. Harmony has something like the music of Dark Tranquillity and In Flames... maybe their dancing music is of the same 'folklore', the tale telling metal of Harmony is a bit different from what we are used. Their music is heavy with a slowed down midtempo. The recording isn't perfect, the vocals are too loud compared to the rest, but it won't surprise me when this band will also have a silent release on a obscure label with a perfect recording by accident. I've warned you, keep an eye on this fantasy metal band! \$5,- to Peter Karlsson, Oxhagsvägen 27 B, 645 51 Strängnäs, Sweden.  
Harold Dekkers

**Hate Squad (Ger)**  
Theatre of Hate demo '93  
Hey, this stuff is not as aggressive as the moniker implicates. It is brutal stuff indeed! The voice is rather remarkable on this demo, a very deep roar. That gives a nice contrast with the guitar sound, which sounds more like brutal heavy/thrash metal. Guitars are not ultra low tuned.  
The rhythm section is very tight, varying in the mid- and fast tempo range, no hyper speed. One track I have to mention is "Everlasting life", an house track with heavy guitars added with some traditional house synthesizer work (including the computer drummachine). I have to admit this track sounds rather cool, but I hope this kind of jokes will not be repeated too often. Anyway this is good not too original demo with a good sound and very tight rhythms. Send \$7 to get this 5 songs: Burkhard Schmitt, Schuetzenstr. 19, 31275 Lehrte, Germany.  
Cor Snijder

**Hideous Sun Demons**  
"Mindcontrol" ('94)  
The first thing that will catch your eye is the good looking cover which indicates that the H.S.D. have a pretty serious attitude. The four tracks on this demo were far from what I expected (don't ask me why). Anyway, four tracks of melodic thrash. Good structured, well played, good (normal) vocals, good production, good solos... what do you want more? This one definitely is worth checking out when you're into something more than Death Metal. I think this ain't the last thing we hear from this one... Available for \$10,- (I think US\$ 6,- will do too) at: Hideous Sun Demons, Koopmansgracht 8, 8606 AA Sneek, the Netherlands  
Wicked Wolly

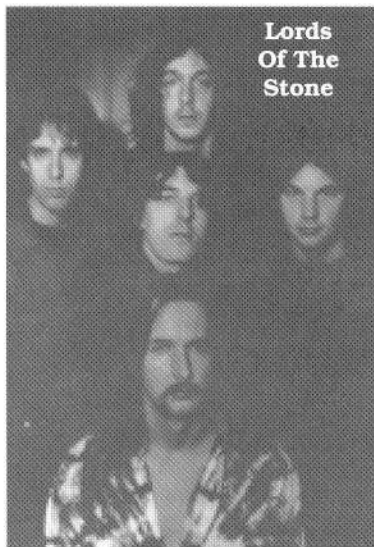
**Holy Death (Pol)**  
"Megido"  
Catacombic doom metal from the darkest crypts. The unholy feeling of the band echoes against the walls of ancient dungeons. The mystical and gruesome atmosphere reaches the heights of black metal. Slow and black, Holy Death is fascinating till the last fading tune. One of the really special and different tapes I received from Poland. \$5,- c/o Leszek Wojnicz Sianosecki, ul Stradom 14/16a, 31-058 Kraków, Poland.  
Harold Dekkers

**Homicide (It)**  
"Retaliation fall"  
This band is already founded late in 1987. Since 1992 Homicide has a stable line-up with only one original band member, Massy on bass. Again a very promising band from Italy, this time the music can be defined as techno-thrash-metal. Not in the way of Atheist or a Toxik, no this is more a kind of an Hallow's Eve with a lot of technique (Hallow's eve is one of the ex-bands of James Murphy (Disincarnate). The thrash is rather complex here. The guitar sound can be compared with their country-mates of Sadist on the "Above the light"-album. Definitely no sweet thrash like Forbidden, this stuff sounds rather furious. The vocals remind me a bit of Hallow's Eve too. By the way Primitive Ritual (Hol) reminds me of Hallow's Eve too, maybe Hallow's Eve is the new cult-act of 1994! Do not understand me wrong this is no cliched stuff, order this excellent demo!  
Send \$6 to: Alex Gioia, Via Fezzan, 9, 20146 -Milano -Italy.  
Cor Snijder

**Infernal Gates (Swe)**  
"In Sadness"  
Their name looks like 'At the Gates', their music too. "The

veiled sky' starts with an Eucharist riff and they continue with a speed up version of At the Gates with a speedy sound of Grave. Than it's My Dying Bride that turns out into a heavy death metal song. I'm trying to say Infernal Gates had a good listening to the scene around them and combined different styles to one heavy Swedish death metal style. \$5,- to Stefan Sundholm, Huginsv.9, 665 33 Kil, Sweden.  
Harold Dekkers

**Inner Sanctum (UK)**  
Shine demo '93  
Do not confuse this band with the American Inner Sanctum, which play a very, almost sweet, melodic kind of power metal/hardrock. Here and there pop up bands which have the metal of Queensryche/Dream Theatre in mind, but think that they are playing too soft or commercial and use power riffs of speed and thrash metal with a clear technical and progressive approach. Than you get for example a band like the mighty Eldritch from Italy. I think we can place "Shine" in this corner too. Inner Sanctum plays very progressive metal with "balls". Progression and technique are combined with powerful fat riffs supported by some speed-ups here and there. The great melodies give the tracks an extra dimension. I believe there are no ego's in this band, the performance says enough about the skills of the regarding musicians. The vocalist John Knight has a good and variable not too high voice, in the track E.F.M.S. he even starts too whisper. That part reminds me... just a bit of Necromantia from Greece. Sure, worth investigating this demo! Send £3.50 to: Karen Gooch, 120 Somerton Avenue, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR32 4EZ, England.  
Cor Snijder



PIC by: Harm Jan Stiepel

**Inner Strength (USA)**  
Shallow Reflections cd '93  
Institute of Art records  
The next band with "Inner" in their name and indeed this band is playing technical power metal too. Don't understand me wrong, this band plays excellent metal. It is not stuff you like after one time listening. You have to grow into the music, because of the complex and variable rhythms and melodies. Overproduced? No, the sound on this cd is raw, fat and heavy supported by the tight power drumbeats. This band is influenced by Rush, Queensryche and Watchtower. The music on itself has not much to do with Rush or Queensryche, because Inner Strength is much heavier and is not as melodic as the mentioned ones. Joe (git) plays interesting riffs and solo's and even the bassplayer can draw my attention. Yes this band has skilled musicians. As you might going to think, this music is not only technical, it carries cool melodies too. There are some quiet parts on this cd, "Shallow Reflections" is a memorable song because it is one of the few speedy acoustic ballads on this earth. That sounds not bad at all. A lot of undergrounders call Inner Strength a progressive band, however they do not set new standards. So they aren't that progressive, still an excellent band. Write to: Inner Strength, P.O. Box 481, Lake Grove, New York 11755, USA or Institute of Art Records, P.O. Box 1331, 63153, Mühlheim/Main, Germany.  
Cor Snijder

**Intrusion of Dark Journey**  
Compillation tape (Mal)  
The second compilation tape of Dark Journey. All bands on this tape are from Malaysia. Some of them are primitive grindy death acts, but there are also some simple black metal bands like Nebiras and Aradia. Bands like Bazzah sound rather aggressive, with more consecration and variation Malaysia will become a new black metal country. At least the sound is very, very good and the production is excellent. A primair release to get known with what's going on in this country.

**Inquisitor (Hol)**  
"Your pain will be exquisite"  
This is the second attack of the dutch blasphemers (in parti-

cular) Inquisitor. If you are deeply into very aggressive music you have to order this tape. I don't not want to compare them with Sadus, Hellwitch etc., but these guys play thrash in the same corner, only a lot faster. Midtempo's on the tape are to compare with rhythms of the faster Dead Head, you know enough? The riffs sounds very raw, but not low tuned as they do in the death metal sector. The band is also influenced by metal bands like Agent Steel and Holy Terror from the mid-eighty's, which especially can be remarked in the fanatic guitar solo's with melodic touches. The solo's often make nice contrasts with the raw and fanatic energy shown on this tape. Alex (voc) is a brother of Johan (screamer in the refounded! Desultory, Hol), Alex' voice sounds even more screamer than Johan once did in the early period of Desultory, I call it impressive, excellent voice. Order this hyper fast and aggressive tape for only \$6, write today to: Erik Sprooten, Mandenmakerstraat 79, 3841 VD Harderwijk, Holland.  
Cor Snijder

**Lords Of The Stone**  
"Diamond In The Dust" ('94)  
After their debut demo "The rhymes Of Bitterness" it was clear that L.O.T.S. was a band with a descend future. Listening to "Diamond In The Dust" it seems that L.O.T.S. had a little change in their musical style: from pounding doom to more heavy metal. Two of the three songs "Diamond In The Dust" and "Weep" present their new style which can be seen as a mixture between Cathedral and Black Sabbath. The other song "Fire In The Winter" shows that L.O.T.S. still is able to create a depressive atmosphere. A real good demo which shows quality on every point of criticism. Really worth checking out for: f12.50 / US\$ 6,- / DM 12,- at: Lords Of The Stone, Wittevalkenstraat 17, 9411 LG Beilen, the Netherlands  
Wicked Wolly

**Lost in Misery (Hol)**  
"Tragic Romance"  
Sometimes it happens that I write to bands and ask them that I can review their demo, mostly I get some nice letters back. This correspondent didn't write a word, not even what they want. To be honest, with writing you reach more in this scene.

The title of this demo is more for some commercial bands like Poison, Kiss, Sneeze Beeze and other worse bands which can not offer interesting riffs. Apart from this, I still have to admit that this is an excellent demo with great power metal riffs with mystic touches. It is not wrong to compare them with Chastain, because that band was rather mystic too. Vocalwise, you can not compare these bands to each other. The female vocals on this tape are powerful and mystic indeed, but not as raw Leather did once in Chastain. The drums sound very steady and heavy, that suits the music on Tragic Romance. You have to listen to the melodies a few times, before you will understand them. Die-hard metal fans have to order this tape immediately, younger ones under us should give this tape chance too! Order this demo with an excellent cover for \$7 from: Rob Vinken, van Salm Salmstraat 30, 5175 CG Loon op Zand, The Netherlands.  
Cor Snijder

**Maelstrom (Spa)**  
"Aurgy of Decline demo '93"  
This band can easily compete with the bands of the 'Spanish death metal' compilation C.D. for sure. First of all the cover looks highly professional, as always when it concerns a Spanish demo... Six tracks of spanish death metal (does it exist?). Brutal sometimes, grinding death metal in the US vein. The production and sound are satisfying, the riffs and drums are also okay, but not very special at all other convincing aggressive death metal. \$5,- to Anaconda Rees, c/o Marsina, 220-224 Esc. AL-2, 08020 Bana, Spain. For band contact: Rafa Corpes, c/o Juan José Garate 5 Pral.1, 50007 Zaragoza, Spain.  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Manifest (NL)**  
Hagridden demo  
Their music feels very complex, this latest effort is something like a Syndrome or Oblivion release. Manifest bases their music on two ideas: Melodic structures and intentions to a technical development which mainly can be found in the technical drumming. This makes a brilliant, but somewhat schizophrenic thrash/death demo. But don't be afraid, such a composition gives a nice technical outfit! Manifest is a great progressive newcomer! c/o A Heyden, Corn. Houtmanstr. 76, 2593 RJ Den Haag, The Netherlands.  
Harold Dekkers

**Mayhem (USA)**  
"Promo"  
Just like Euronymous once said in an interview of Morticians former outfit C.T.I.-Magazine: "Bands should have a better look around them and come up with more original names". Who dares to call his band Mayhem? It's not even black metal, just down-tuned death metal from the basic class with a strong point in a tight played and very nice acoustic parts. But the affair with the name is just like the one with Slaughter. \$5,- Polaris Drive, Louisville, Kentucky 40229, USA.  
Harold Dekkers

**Moaning Wind (Swe)**  
In thy forest  
Dark vocals, bright vocals, keyboards... what can you expect... probably doomy death metal? Yes, acoustic parts are included as well besides the melodic leads. The fur tracks are





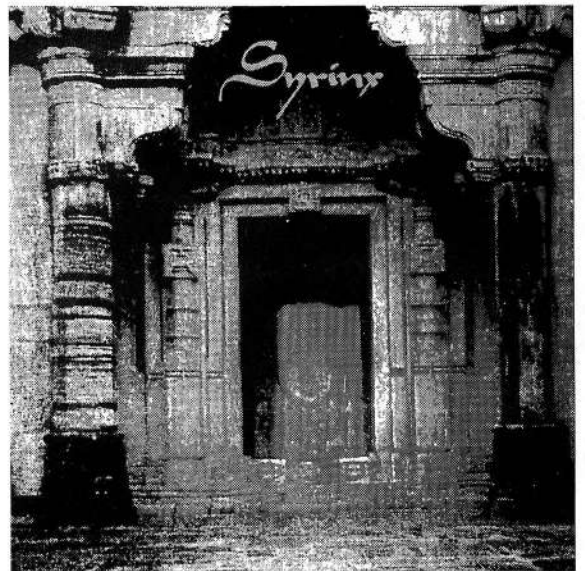
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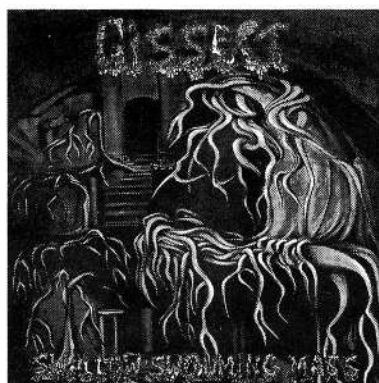


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AUSTRIA: Napalm Rec.

A while ago, it was in our second issue, (at a time nobody hadn't ever heard of Numskull 'zine - and Mortician (C.T.I.) was nothing really special ed.) we already promoted the great doom outfit Chorus of Ruin. After the nice 'Swandive' demo there happened nothing special. Well, there were certain rumours about CD's and ep's, but it's for sure the band didn't reach anything more than developing great music. To up-date you what's going on and to inform you about the new products of this upcoming dark gothic rock band to someone else this time: The vocalist Craig Phillips.

**Tell me Craig, you're the new vocalist of Chorus of Ruin, why did the old one leave?**

Well, the new vocalist ain't exactly right. I used to sing and play bass in the very earliest and primitive Chorus of Ruin line-up, while we were 'Sorrow', I left. Phil joined, Phil left. Dave joined, Dave left, I rejoined. I've been in Chorus of Ruin over a year now, I sang on 'Ocean of Sins'. It was me who was grunting on the peaceville rock city gig etc. Really, it was because Dave wasn't really into it. And I can be rusted to reply the mail!

**Why all those line-up changes? How's the line up now?** Oh God! Well, no I is because Clive wasn't really a very good guitarist, plus he had to get his head together, so he had to go. Ian, well, I'm very sorry that our bassplayer Ian had to go. We've been friends, no, we've been best friends for over five years, then this stupid bitch came and started talking shit about us, saying we were calling her 'ugly' when we weren't. Anyway, he left because of that and now we've lost touch. Barry, the drummer went because he really just wanted to play fast, mid eighty's thrash metal and Wan had got a kit by that time, so we welcomed him back with open arms.

**Did the releasing of your material suffer because of all those changes in your line up?**

We haven't released anything with the new line-up yet! But our new material is our strongest yet. Maybe, some people will say our most commercial, especially the track 'Wanton', but this is not so. How can we well out with no record deal, no fans etc?

**How was Gene Hoglan, why did he produce the 7" ep. I heard because his girlfriend liked it?**

Well, his girlfriend (now ex) did like it, but he liked it too. He was okay I think, we were just a little pushed for time.

**What about the split CD. I only heard about a mini-CD, but that were rumours only.**

**Who's on the other side and on which label it is brought out?**

Oh no! I'd rather forget the split CD! We recorded it for £70 and it really sucks! It's

gonna be out on Rising Realm Records and Sororicide are on the other side. **The worse the recording, the bigger the cult status... nice to hear from good old Sororicide again. Who recorded and mixed your new promo?** It hasn't been recorded yet, but we'll record it at in-a-city where we recorded 'Swandive' and 'Ocean of Sins'. So far tracks look set for inclusion are 'Windswept', 'Vanessa', 'Cascades', 'The Eidolon'. We're really gonna spend a lot of time and money on it. Not only on the recording but it will be professionally duplicated onto chrome tapes, with full colour cover and a Fields of the Nephilim type layout/artwork. It will be out by the end of August and will cost \$6. Oh, it will be called 'Tragedies'.

**Is Chorus of Ruin ready to line up in the row of My Dying Bride and Anathema now? What can we expect from your band soon?**

Ha! We wish, but no-one's interested in us. Yet a lot of bands seem to enjoy stealing our ideas and gaining a lot of success with them! I think all your readers should write to Black Mark, Century Media, Osmose etc. and advise them to offer us a deal and tour. Then we'd be able to record the ultimate Chorus of Ruin cd!

**Bye. Bye Harold and thanx for this opportunity to inform readers what is going on. I also gotta inform everyone that even though 'Ocean of Sins' was released in November '93, it is now June '94 and we have only received 5 out of 150 of the ep's Roberto promised us. Draw your conclusions. Buy our shirts for \$15.- and I gotta say hello to that gothic chick, Angelina, if she is reading this. Thanx again Harold, Mortician is cool, bye!**

**Chorus of Ruin**

**Craig Phillips**

**25 Aireview Crescent**

**Baldon**

**West Yorkshire**

**BD 17 7LS**

**UK**

**Harold Dekkers**



performed decent and even the sound is good, although it's recorded in very primitive conditions as they wrote down on the demo cover. It's a bice band, only without an own identity, but that will come of course. **Martin Bjöörn, Spiksmadsv. 10, 653 46 Karlstad, Sweden.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Moriah (USA)**  
"Live tape '93"

Moriah means something like a secret or an unseen power. The music is a combination of core, rock, thrash, classical stuff, new wave and jazz. I do not know much about jazz or for example classical music, so I can not say how far Moriah is influenced by these ones. As you will understand Moriah plays progressive metal and do that live on this tape! This tape has some excellent songs, especially side A appeals to me. Great riffs and great melodies. The singer sometimes reminds me of the first singer of Dream Theatre (on When Day and...), sure it is a good singer, but I do not appreciate the high yells in some of his song lines. They play in the corner of Fates Warning, but Moriah has more power, fatter guitar riffs, variation and is a bit catchier. Good stuff! I do not know the price of this tape, anyway write to: **Bovine Theory, 47 Harkness Rd., Pelham, MA. 01002, USA.**  
Cor Snijder

**Mortal God**  
"Promo '93"

Well, I hope this is not the tape Mortal God recorded in a 40 track studio where Jarno told me about. (Ghee, how are they going to use all those tracks?) 'cause it sounds like a rather good reh. or a 8 track recording. Anyway, this promo contains 3 songs which can be described as thrashy. Mortal God's tunes are rather catchy and well written. Only the vocal part sound a bit too forced to me and the production is a bit dull as I wrote before. I can't say Mortal God is bad, but they aren't very shocking either. They got some nice ideas, but nothing out of the ordinary. I don't know whether this tape is for sale so write for more info to: **Mortal God, Rapattilantie 550, 54250 Rapaitila, Finland.**  
Wicked Wolly

**Mortified (Est)**  
**Serenity, Tranquillity, Peace**

This is an album cassette of the first death metal band from Estonia I heard. It's at once a very good one. The way the songs are played, the whole sound, it all reminds me to the English band Morbid Symphony, especially the track 'Oblivion My Brother'. The track 'The Twilight Zone' that also appeared on their 'Introitus Mortifer' demo is the top of their musical development. I like to connect this band with the old ones like the old Tiamat, old Paradise Lost, but that's only to indicate the serene atmosphere that is completed by some marvellous keyboard and female voices on their best track. No, the band most in common is Shades from Poland. I wanted to interview this band, but it's a pity they didn't answer, so I had better take this band. With some further development in the way of 'The Twilight Zone' I think we have to do with a big act, equal to the status of Visceral Evisceration. \$4.- for their demo, the cassette lp will be out now. **Raimo Jussila, Öismäe tee 150-12, EE0035 Tallinn, Estonia.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Mortis (Nor)**  
**The Saga of Mortis**

This is the project from Mortis (ex Emperor). Don't expect any Emperor orientated stuff because it is no metal. This saga is totally brilliant funeral music. It's incredible gloomy and depressive. The total running time is about 30 minutes and consists of 8-10 different instruments, played on a keyboard by Mortis. It's a classical masterpiece. Hard to explain the music style, it's more like an orchestra. The debut CD will be out soon on **Malicious Records** (hail to thee!), **Kirchstrasse 9, 72149 Neustetten 3, Germany.** Check out the interview elsewhere in this 'zine'.  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Mortify (Gre)**  
**... And darkness was upon**

The second affair of Mortify is tricky. Their Rotting Christ based tunes are attractive, maybe due to the orchestral sounding drums and keys. Their black doom is a bit inspireless, but the dark atmosphere will catch a couple of followers who are into this. It's just an remarkable release from Greece, but not from the top like Nifelheim, Varathron, Necromantia and more recently, Thou Art Lord. **P.O.Box 79006, 172 02 Himittos, Athens, Greece.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Näströnd (Swe)**  
**From a black funeral coffin demo '94**

You will not believe it, but this is black metal from Sweden much in the way of their colleagues in Norway. Only the lack of quality goes back on this can not be Darkthrone, Emperor or Enslaved. This is pure, but very unoriginal, black metal and it is worth to deny. The performance is okay, but so typical. The sound is so predictable. Only 666 copies! Speaking about originality?! \$6 (Eur), \$7 (us) to: **Enowall, Hubertusv 6 D, 43333 Partlie, Sweden.**  
Cor Snijder

**Necromantic**  
**Demo 1993**

Four songs of death metal on Necromantic's debut. Whether they'll play this style on their next release is doubtful because they are planning to change style. Anyway, this demo does not show very high qualified death metal. Rather plain and

regular; could have used some more variety and a better production. Their flyers say: Death metal as it was mend to be, but I think Thormod is more anxious to get their name in print... So, keep an eye on this band; they might come with something refreshing next time. Interested people can order this demo for US\$ 5.- (Europe), US\$ 6.- (rest) at: **Necromantic, Ole Nilsens V. 9, 4300 Sandnes, Norway**  
Wicked Wolly

**Oblique Visions**  
"Reh. demo '93"

This was mend to give me an idea what their demo "Silence In Judgement" would sound like. "Silence In Judgement" should have been released in Jan. '93. Jan '93 is more than a year ago so I wonder why they didn't send me the original demo. Their doomy music sounds rather interesting, but this is a reh. demo which most of the time means (and does this time) that there's a bad sound quality. What I can hear is some melodramatic music with really great ideas. You'd better write 'em for more info 'bout their demo! **Oblique Visions, Francis HSE Triqvil - Parilja, St Venera, HMR 16, Malta**  
Wicked Wolly

**Orphaned Land (Isr)**  
**The beloveds cry**

What a debut! Pure excellent death metal with tons of breaks, original riffs etc. These are all the aspects a good demo should contain. They label themselves as the first oriental death metal band, well they're not that oriental although there are a few eastern melody lines. Overall its quality death metal up to the European/US standards. The demo contains six tracks and the sound is very good. It should be great to see this band on ep or mcd in future (no, their debut lp will be out on Holy records -ed) They're much better than the tons of crap bands who appear on vinyl these days! An excellent debut! \$5.- to **Kobi Farhi, Katzenelson St 55/A, 59512, Bat-Yan, Israel.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Oscura (Ger)**  
**Deep Grief**

Doomy German death metal, Oscura. A new outfit, just recorded their debut demo on an 4 track tape deck in the drummers living room. And I have to confess the sound isn't bad at all. The four guys of Oscura produced a nice and atmospheric kind of metal. Not like The Gathering or the UK doom gods, but more into the death metal direction. A lot of acoustic parts and even some female vocals, but not in the UK vein. I guess Oscura can develop itself into a nice direction. I've noticed some talent in any case. 35 minutes for \$5.- to **Joachim Weigel, Guldnestrasse 17, 64385 Reichelsheim, Germany.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Osiris (USA)**  
**Respectfully stuck it.. demo '93**

No, this is not the techno-thrash band from Holland. This is a social-critic mid-tempo thrash band from the USA, in about the same corner as Dear Life. Because of the variation they speed the rhythms up sometimes, mostly this band terrorizes in the mid-tempo sector. Pushing drum patterns, which contain here and there some nice anti-rhythms. In general there are heavy shredding riffs on this tape. Sometimes there are some slow riffs with a "scary" feeling. That doesn't sound bad at all. In the tracks itself is a lot of variation, but between the tracks there could be some more variation. Maybe some more memorable parts in each track could have some positive effect on that. Remarkable on this demo are the power vocals of Matt Loureiro. To give you a direction, it is a mixture of Udo Dirkschneider (Accept) and David Wayne (Metal Church). Only Matt sings with less melody. The excellent production gives this band a very powerful sound. Although this is rather refreshing stuff, you should not expect original music. Anyway this is a very good demo, and definitely not a bad investment.  
Send \$6 to: **Pete Costa/Osiris, 152 Braley Rd., E. Freetown MA, 02717 USA.**  
Cor Snijder

**Pavor**  
"demo'93"

This band was dumped with a bad review in Numskull.... In my endless torment I bought that crappy 'zine business and added Mortician to it (speaking about crappy - Wolly). So I can write at least a rectification. Maybe this band isn't that original, but still tons of times better than some of the brutal metal band that came up in my mind. It's brutal with brains. Pavor is straight, straight to their goal, but aims with a technical development that isn't very often found in today's bands. Pavor isn't Death nor Cynic, but the band's hidden technical structures are connected with aggression, just like Liers in Wait. Well, that Swedish band is maybe a bit over-structured compared to Pavor with its more down tuned grunchy sound. But surely this isn't a Benediction or something like like that awful Hypocrisy! Hail to Pavor, c/o **Rainer Landfermann, Lärchenweg 17, 53424 Remangen-Oberwinter, Germany (\$6.-)**  
Harold Dekkers

**Pentacrostic (Bra)**  
**Promo '94**

It's an incredible pity I lost the address of this great band. The address of their former contactman seems to be valid by some reasons, but they also didn't write their address on the letter (only on the envelope). I could have written a very positive review, again Pentacrostic is great and even better than on the debut lp. But without an address it's worthless to pay so much

attention again. So, let it be an warning to all other band. Prices and Addresses are important. Put them always on your letters and demos. And, please, put you demo in a box! We've surely no time to organize a complete registration for you, we get in too much!  
Harold Dekkers

**Perpetual Demise**  
"When Fear Becomes..."

Dutch band with a four track death metal tape. A good combination of aggression and brutality. First song "Where The Ancients Remain" sounds a bit too much to Bluurgh... as far as I'm concerned. After seeing them life I got the impression they had a good drummer who liked to vary things. After listening the demo I got the impression he doesn't... a pity. Songs are pretty good varied with fast and slower parts only the production could be heavier; now it's too hollow I think. Come on guys; you can do much better than this; I experienced it myself! And tell me; When fear becomes what? More info: **Perpetual Demise, Handellaan 24, 4102 AE Culemborg, Holland**  
Wicked Wolly

**Pessimus (Lit)**  
"Prayer to Fire"

The Lithuanian scene makes a quick progression, it's fascinating to see this scene growing up. Maybe it is because their roots aren't founded during the communistic reign like the case was in Poland. This country seems to be more open and free than the straight forward average death metal that is brought out by the polish Carnage records. Pessimus isn't a technical skilled band, but they did a lot of inventions to make their demo attractive, just with some basic ideas. Their kind of music remind me a bit to the Belgium Caducity, but they put a bit more heavy bass and grind influences in it. Also the effects in the guitar sound gives a professional feeling and even the production, (a good one is a problem of many in this country) is effective enough. The evolution (more a revolution) is going on. \$6.- to **Ramunas Platukis, Saltiniu 12-4, 4580 Alytus, Lithuania.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Polluted Inheritance (NL)**  
**Demo II**

After a too long silence I finally received the evolved music of Polluted Inheritance as an advance demo. Their style can be described as death metal based on techno thrash. There are reverse rhythms, in some parts amazingly fast and with a far more dimensional value than the simple mega-blasts. The vocals aren't that special, but fit well to the music. The use of some sound effects makes it a bit hallow and progressive, it's nice. Also funny are the solos. They are classical brutal styled, old fashioned for a modern outfit like this band, but with a high degree of technical development and anti-riffing. Yes I'm glad to see a band developing within the territory of death metal without the use of some artifices. Three great tracks for \$6.-/Hfl 12.50 to **Ronald Camonier, Schuberstraat 6, 4536 AS Terneuzen, The Netherlands.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Posguerra (Col)**  
**Eccidido**

Colombian death metal is a bit rare in the European 'zines but it really exists. Posguerra proof this here with a review of their seven track demo. It all looks very good and professional. And surprisingly it's very great. Especially the vocals are very good! Sometimes very black metalish and sometimes more grunting. All lyrics are in Spanish by the way and are dealing with pollution, the rainforests etc, it's all social awareness. The music isn't grind, hardcore nor crossover as you may expect, but death metal which is a bit influenced by the first death/thrash bands from around '85/'86. \$5.- to **Alcoholic Rec., A.A 80588, Evigado (Ant.) Colombia.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Purgatorium (Swe)**  
**Travels**

A picture of a 'Vikingskipet' on the front cover, a band from the North of Sverige, what else do you expect than pure 'Hammerheart' metal? Well, that's not really the case. It's more deathmetal with some slight thrashy hardcore influences on the guitars (where do I get that from?). Anyhow it isn't as great as I expected. Especially when on the cover is stated 'this demo is a tribute to the glory days of Scandinavian history'. I immediately expected some excellent new Bathory or 'pagan' black metal stuff. Nice to try out but not a shot in the bullseye. \$5.- to **Purgatorium, Box 82, 910 31 Tavelisjö, Sweden.** Hugins search goes on!  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Putrefy (UK)**  
**Presumed Dead**

Straight, just in one line, a railway to grind with very deep barking vocals. 'Splattered', 'Boiled in a grave', 'Putrified Lust', 'Presumed Dead', all bondless noise from the old days, like Nunslaughter, but with a technical crystal clear production! c/o **Jeff, 26 Dalriada Gardens, Bally Castle, Co Antrim, North Ireland, BT54 6DZ, UK.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Repositor (Pol)**  
"Give'm Help!"

This is speed/thrash from Poland, I got this tape from the Forgotten guy too, you know about the sound. Nine tracks of not surprising metal, there are some good riffs and solo's. Mostly it is average quality on this tape. Besides that the vocals are too brutal for the music and have no



# GOREFEST

This interview was held with the frontman from Gorefest: Jan Chris. Gorefest; not really an underground band anymore, but after listening their new CD "Erase" there seemed to be reasons enough to have the whole cleared up....

**Hi Jan Chris, of course we'll start with a question about your new album: "Erase". It contains a huge musical change, are there any reasons for this?**

Hi Wolly. Yes, it's a fact that there has been a huge musical change. This change has some logical reasons. First we have done 135 gigs for the "False" album. During this gigs we saw the enthusiasm during songs like "Reality-When You Die". During the death metal songs there of course was a huge pit, but with the previous mentioned song there was response from the whole crowd. Look, it has been two years since the release of the "false" album and there's a certain pressure when you realise that the "False" album has sold over 50.000 copies. Okay, it still has to be Gorefest, but it has to have a good groove, a good feel. Boudewijn (guitar - W.W.) is in the middle of a seventies trip and appeared with those riffs. When Frank (guitar - W.W.) heard those he completely went out of his mind and said: "Oh, is that allowed?". Of course!!

**So, isn't it a bit commercial, considering you write songs which are based on the audience's reaction?**

No, I don't think so. I don't think we can say that we played it save... And then there's the question of what's commercial? Look, when we wanted to be commercial we probably had recorded an other death metal album. And of course we take into account the audience's reaction. We did 135 gigs for the "False" album and we hope to cross the magical border of 200 gigs for the "Erase" album, but what's the fun doing 200 gigs in front of an audience which is not willing to respond?

**One huge change is the vocal part. Have you changed it to save your vocal cords or to distinguish yourself from the mass?**

To be honest, none of the reasons you mentioned was the reason. Definitely not to save my vocal cords. I'm blessed with a pair of vocal cords which can easily stand a tour. After the first two gigs they hurt a little bit, but after that it just goes great. Look, the lyrics are pretty important to me and when I listened to our live album I thought: "There's no human, including moi, who's able to understand a thing of what is sung there?". Look with Collin it always had to sound very brutal and heavy what resulted in that I had to do the vocal part line after line and sometimes even word after word in the studio. Pete wanted some more flow, some more feeling... You sing the lyric two or three times to warm your vocal cords a bit. I took some tea and honey and after that it almost was recorded in one time.

**That also is a change: the producer. Why did you change from collin to Pete?**

Collin wasn't interested.

**Oh?**

Look, everything was settled. I'd called Collin about five months before we went into the studio and we arranged that he'd do the production. Seven weeks before we should enter the studio his wife and manager called my manager to say: "He got an offer he can't

refuse" and that's why we were pretty pissed off. When he called himself and had said to me: "Jan Chris, I can earn much more in the states" I would have said "Okay Collin, good luck. Send a card now and then and call sometime to tell how you are and a lot of success...", but that's what he didn't do and that's why we were pretty pissed off. Look seven weeks is not a long time and Pete was a logical choice because we had worked with him on our "False" album too; he then was a mixing engineer... The funny thing was that when his wife told him Gorefest wanted to work with him again and this time as a producer he jumped a hole in the air. And that, of course, is a positive thing. As far as I'm concerned, the result is much better than our previous albums; there's more balance. This is a perfect example of a blessing in disguise

**Can we use Gorefest's new style as a directive for Gorefest's new material?**

I think you can in the near future. Look, we just feel like this at the moment. When we're going to record a new album in a about two years we probably have changed as human beings and that definitely will have some influences on our new material.

**What I thought was pretty funny was that you said in the Aardschok (Holland's biggest Metal Magazine - W.W.) that you never have to say something negative about your previous material. Somewhere later you're speaking in a rather negative way about "Mindloss" and "False". Does that mean that you still support them, but do not really like them anymore?**

Oh, did I say that? What does it say then?

**Well, that you recorded a couple of nice songs for the "False" album... It sounds a little inferior to me.**

No, what I mend was that there wasn't any pressure yet. "Mindloss" sold about 11000 copies. Then there's not that much pressure to prove yourself, then you enter the studio a bit more relaxed. That's what I mend with "Some nice songs". After "False" we received good critics from everywhere and we sold about 50.000 copies and then you'll enter the studio with a different kind of feeling.

**As you said before your lyrics are very important for you. Does that only count for you or are you willing to hand over a message?**

Well, on both "False" and "Erase" a have a lyric dealing about anti-war, anti-racism and fascism which I prefer to call disrespect. Look, the problem is that those people can't respect other's way of life and thoughts; it ain't the black and white idea of the past anymore. I have a great media machinery behind me so I see it like my duty to expose my opinion about those things. You, of course, have a lot of fans who are at the age that they are easy to influence and that's a thing which you have to be careful with.

**When I read the lyric of "I'll Walk My Way" I instantly have to think about the quarrel you had with the Dutch band Occult. Is that**

**lyric really dealing about that?**

In one way, yes. Look, is isn't just about that, but about the fact that I won't let walk over me again. "I'll Walk My Way" is a kind of macho title, but it just means that I won't do one step back anymore. It's just based on all the problems we have had after the "Mindloss" release: the stealing of the band name and the crap that you're on the black list of The Inner Circle and stuff like that.

**For the last thing you personally took some action didn't you? Could you tell something about that for the ones who don't already know?**

I constantly nagged them at each opportunity I got and at a certain moment I went to Euronymous and confronted him with me. I told him to calm down his sheep or just had to practise what he preached. He said he would calm down the rest and that he would send me a personal letter when I had to die. I insisted that he would write his address on the back so that I was able to confront him again and we were able to look who was the strongest... The next thing I heard from him was that he was killed... Look, I already had been irritated that whole day; when I entered the men's room I though I'd entered the wrong one because there were a bunch of those idiots painting themselves hahaha...

**And that's your nature or the image you have on stage?**

That's typical me; on the stage you'll see a more intense form of my nature...

**On May 20th you were for the second time playing on the Dynamo Open Air festival, true on the camping, nevertheless. Is that a kind of honour for you guys or is it just a logical result?**

I think it's more a logical result. When you're playing at the Dynamo every year it loses it speciality, but it was our first and only gig we did before Rocking Colonia where we played as headliner two days after.

**Didn't you have any doubts when you was asked for the Rocking Colonia? I mean that isn't really a place for a death metal band.**

Honestly we'd expected that there were thrown a lot of beer towards us while we were playing, but they just threw two beers on the stage and that was during our first song. Of the 25000 people a lot left after the first song, but about 15000 people stayed and gave a very good response. Rocking Colonia was, I think, the most important gig we've done in our career. It's a new barrier, we do not always play save. It's typical for the Dutch' way of life: everything is possible...

**Are you besides the interviews, still connected with the underground?**

No, not really.

**Why's that?**

Mostly because of the lack of leisure. Look, the little bit of leisure which I still have I rather spend with my wife or with a couple of friends in the pub than drive a long way to see a small, unknown band playing

**What did you like most: the "demo-time" or**



the "CD-time"?

Everything has its charms, I know that's a very easy answer, but it's true. Only the good moments will stay. In this period the conditions are much better for us and we're able to demand some more of course. Now we're able to take a shower while we're on tour and now there are descend dinners available. It's of course ridiculous that those people treat you like dirt while they're making a lot of money out of you.

**Is there something you haven't reached yet with Gorefest?**

"The sky is the limit!" Look, everything is going great at the moment. We now are negotiating with a huge English booking agency; Fair Warning, who also are doing Metallica, but I think the best is that everything is going smoothly with Gorefest.

**Something else; there are plans for a new tour with Death isn't it.**

# G O R E F E S T

## e r a s e s



There were plans, because the whole is cancelled. Their label told Death to record a new album first.

**And there's going to be a video clip.**

We already made that one. It's from the title track "Erase". He came out 95% of what I had in mind and that's pretty much. He was recorded on film in stead of video and we had a huge set. It became a small story; artistic justified. (Probably broadcasted on MTV's Head Bangers Ball quite some time - W.W.)

**Okay, final question: What do you think is the best newcomer?**

Fight. Without any doubts.

**Okay, thanks a lot for the interview. Is there something you'd like to add?**

Thank you too. No, I think I've said it all.

# The sky is the limit!



## SAD WHISPERINGS - SENSITIVE TO AUTUMN

The debut album of these Dutch Deathdoomsters. A more than 60 minutes journey through brutal and emotional atmospheres. 'Ten songs of which Paradise Lost and My Dying Bride can be jealous.' (Nuclear Blast mailorder catalogue) So don't you think this must be in your possession? Check it out at your local record store or order directly from Foundation 2000 for only US\$ 16.-

**FOUNDATION 2000, Veldbloemenlaan 5, 3448 GK  
Woerden, Holland**

**Sad Whisperings, G. Boelmanweg 26, 9945 RJ  
Wagenborgen, the Netherlands**



inspiration. You can write to: **Factum, Sebastian Wicinski, Os. Oswiecenia 99/5, Poland, 61-211 Poznan.** Cor Snijder

**Resistance (Ger)**  
"Fahrenheit 451"

Again a very professional package from a German band, a picture of the band, info booklet and a professional cover. Germany has not many bands which shock the world, and I believe this band will not change this. This is heavy metal with some progressive touches, including some nice fat metal riffs. So far, so good, so... often the melodies are too sweet and commercial. These facts makes them drown in the ocean of bands with average qualities. A pity, because I like the guitar riffs most at the time. So guys make some songs with good and strong melodies and think about the refrains. Send DM 20 (Eur) or DM 25 (overseas) to: **L.M.P., P.O. Box 60 25 20, D-22235 Hamburg, Germany.** Cor Snijder

**Sacramental Schem (NL)**  
"Promo '93"

This is the first time I heard something of the music of the dutch (well known ?) band Sacramental Schem. Their status already brought them deal on a small label, Lowland records. I hope their '94 album will have a better production than this promo, if so, then it promises to become a perfect release. In the territory of death metal, Sacramental Schem uses keyboards too, meant to give their music a classical dimension. And even when the riffs aren't that complex, they bring a brutal piece of orchestral death metal. It stays pure and simple indeed, but sometimes the whole composition isn't timed so parallel; the nice lead solos are mixed too soft and the heavy grunts aren't that good as they are in are in many other bands. But these are only some technical problems which can be solved anyway. Awaiting their debut, try to order this promo at **Ronald v. Kuringen, Spinestraat 11, 5402 AL Uden, The Netherlands.** Harold Dekkers

**Sacrificial**  
"Sadistic Slam" ('94)

They're Back! Five crushing tracks of (techno) deathrash "Pressure Supreme", "Deaf, Dumb and Blatant", "Manipulate On Compassion", "Carnivorous Preferences" and "Observations". The rather popular Danish formation is hunting for a new deal I guess. Well, they're worth it. Catchy, tight, mindconfusing songs with a rather good production. Sacrificial offers pretty normal vocals parts, raw screaming guitars, tight and fast double bass drums and a descend piece of originality. A Danish band which will definitely raise their voice in the near future. Beware for that and when you can't wait order this demo for US\$ 6.- at: **Sacrificial, Ø Verstedvej 118, 6760 Ribe, Denmark** Wicked Wolly

**Sarcasm (Swe)**  
"A touch of the burning red sunset"

Yes, it's still there, the old raw Swedish brutality. It's not the all round aggression of Hypocrisy, but a far more heavier kind of ultra fast death metal, guided with a technical structured sense that makes the Entombed days live for ever again. Sarcasm gives an atmospheric interpretation to the violence (yes even females again) and that's where death metal has to stand for. A very echoing production of the style a la Sentenced, a very tight sound filled with amazing melodies and some invention in the vocalization. Order this: \$5.- to **Heval Bozarlan, Bareusgatan, 745 21 Uppsala, Sweden.** Harold Dekkers

**Sequoyah (NL)**  
"demo '93"

No this is not music you expected in this mag in the first place. Yes rock instead of metal, this is southern rock from Holland. I do not know in how far this kind of music is popular, one thing is sure this is not trendy stuff at all. When you are also into decent rock, you should go on with reading. To be honest this band is not bad at all; well built up songs with good melody's. The singer knows how to interpret songs and gives the songs a typical feeling. So when want something different and it has to be good, than send \$6 to: **Wim Deeben, Van Galenstr. 39a, 5571 BP Bergeyk, Holland.** Cor Snijder

**Shredded Corpse (USA)**  
"Ejaculate on the soul"

Yeah, for some hours in a studio, fixing some Cannibal Corpse and Corpus Rottus tunes together and... there you have the worst demo of this year. Just add an incredible title to it and it's ready for sale. This release exist such a simple music that I'm even thinking to add this band to my play list. This cliché is so brilliant, maybe as great as Nunslaughter! If every band sounded like that it would make my work more easier. \$4.- to **David Sroczyński, 809 Lowering Oaks, Jacksonville AR 72076, USA.** Harold Dekkers

**Sick Of Society**  
"Bitch" ('94)

Starting with a nice spoken intro with some slight industrial influences I expected more than I got. Thrash core. Even though it's pretty catchy and they have a guest appearance of Bastian Herzog (Fleascrew) I still think their music has a childish and amateurish touch. Especially something like "Schlußschmarrn" a tv sound compilation does nit fit on this tape, or maybe it's typical for their music, but then; what is a song like "S.o.S" doing on this tape which is pretty good and has an emotional idea behind it? I don't know. I think we

must see it as a band with some good ideas, but which hasn't found it's direction... Variation for people who dare to take the risk... Send US\$ 5.- to: **Sick Of Society, Römerstr. 26, 89269 Vöhringen, Germany** Wicked Wolly

**Silent (Nor)**  
"Rehearsal '93"

A strange tape, I really expected dark/black metal, but it's all a catchy kind of power metal, performed with question-answer chorus'. The vocal lines are amazingly perfect and original. The soloing completes are a bit more moody in the style of some other melancholic bands. All in all, this rehearsal has the same emanation as some other pagan bands. The recording is good enough to enjoy. Contact **Ronny Strand, Fuglevikkleiva 34, 4635 Kristiansand, Norway.** Harold Dekkers

**Sloug of Despond (Lit)**  
"Destiny to die"

Three words: atmospheric doom metal... but their distortion is much too noisy, the boys have much to learn about recording. But, according to the noise and acoustic riffs (sound without distortion is much better) this band is interesting. Within a year the (ex-)Russian scene will be developed to a strong scene, in the atmospheric doom side too. It takes only a bit of time. Sloug of Despond sounds now like a bad Chorus of Ruin, but they are an example of hidden talent. I think I well hear of them in the future. **Harold Dekkers**

**Solslice (NL)**  
"Mors Omnia Vincit"

This is the most up-date Solstice release and also their best so far. The guitar sound is a way better than on their previous releases. Less grinding and much more warm and atmospheric. I'm glad that you finally can hear what Solstice stands for, their previous products and sound were not really exciting. This one is great in any case; doom death metal with a lot of atmosphere, not created by female vocals or keyboards, just pure metal. \$6.- to **Solstice, Gasthuiskamp 28, 7203 BJ Zutphen, The Netherlands.** Roel van Reijmersdal

**Spectrus**  
"Demo ('92)"

Might sound stupid, but making this review I started listening to side 2 (don't ask me why). Side two starts with a poppy sounding ballad. Normal vocals, emotional music with some raw sounding solos... Oh yeah, yeah!! After listening the first song I prepared to face some serious metal... Nope, okay it had some more raw guitars, but calling it metal would be wrong. Well, lets face side 1. Ah, sounds better; catchy thrash speed... phew! Metal which was made in the days of Halloween. Well played, but could use a better production I think. Well, I can't blame 'em from too less variety. Contact Spectrus and check it out yourself: **Spectrus, Caixa Postal 6983, São Paulo - SP - CEP 01064-970, Brasil** Wicked Wolly

**Squeaky Fromme (USA)**  
"Fish demo '93"

Yes this is a strange band, as already the moniker of this band suggests. No straight metal is going on here, a kind of windy guitar sound, but still rather raw, with tight and irregular drum patterns demand most attention. This band is not fast, nor slow either. There is even a rap-part in the track Resurrection, it doesn't sound bad at all. No this band is very good in what they are doing, believe me. Especially "Message" is a track with an excellent upbuilding and structure, warm, low vocals supported by some nice riffs and drum patterns. The drummer is hardly to follow with your would-be or invisible drumsticks. Sometimes the vocalist sings aggressive, another time with a lot of feeling. Variation is what you get on this tape, but there is always a lot of power in this music. A kind of groovy music based on a lot of guitar and drums, but is hard for me to put it in a corner. Give this band a chance because this music is good. Send \$6 (USA), 9\$ (rest) to: **Chainsaw records, 13465 Community Rd. # 104, Poway CA 92064, USA.** Cor Snijder

**Stone Age**  
"Elgu Fæces" ('94)

I think that "Elgu Fæces" must mean something like Ugly faces. The sub-title of this demo is "Pulsierende Porno Punk". When I saw that I double checked whether this wasn't a Dutch band, but it isn't In Dutch it means Pulsating Porno Punk and I can hardly imagine that it means something else in Danish. Stone Age's music is pulsating, but what the porno punk is for I really don't know. I think a better way to describe their music is Pulsating Doom Thrash or something like that... Even though Stone Age shows some nice ideas this ain't a tape which will change your life. An intro and five songs which are pretty good though, but due to the too dull - production not showing full advantage... Available with nice looking cover for US\$... at: **Stone Age, Denmark** Wicked Wolly

**Taranis (Pol)**  
"Moon Silver Mask"

A new band on a new label, Taranis on Damned promotions. It's rather great black death metal. Sometimes a bit like Samael or Alastis and sometimes with a more death metal approach. Great vocals and a nice production. \$5.- to **Damned promotions, p.o.box 3, 32-606 Oswiecim, VPT 6, Poland.** Roel van Reijmersdal

**Tenebrae (Fin)**  
"Trancequake promo'94"

The Tenebrae debut CD should be out around now, released through Spinefarm records. Trancequake is the three rack promo, recorded just before the CD. The promo is (I suppose) still available and it contains a great and professional full coloured cover. The sound is very brutal, a bit like Pyrexia of Broken Hope, only musically it's without also those blast beats. Instead of this Tenebrae uses a lot of experimental and original riffs and leads. The vocals are not really deep grunting, but more or less screaming. c/o **Jussi Heikkinen, Kytösuntie 8C 35, 00300 Helsinki, Finland.** Roel van Reijmersdal

**Timeless Necrotates (Spa)**  
"Mournful Melodies for Darkness"

A Spanish gothic doom/dark metal outfit. Although there are tons of these bands, Timeless Necrotates is pretty good in what they are doing. Of course the songs contains keyboards, sad melody lines, spoken parts etc. but it's quite original. The members are good musicians in any case, so that's and advantage. Only the vocals are a bit powerless, nor grunts or so, only depressive spoken parts. They are for sure better than the gothic countryman Golgotha. **Timeless Necrotates, c/o Taquígraf Marti 6-8 Ent 2°, Barcelona 0802, Spain.** Roel van Reijmersdal

**Tornscrown (Spa)**  
"Demo'93"

Tornscrown displays an uninteresting kind of simple death metal with core influences. Besides Human Waste and a few others, the Spanish scene still doesn't have anything to offer us, sorry. Maybe it's interesting for Dave Rotten! **Tornscrown, Jordi Martos, Montserrat 59 A° 2°, P.O.Box 08850 Gavà (Barcelona) Spain.** Harold Dekkers

**Tristitia (Swe)**  
"Reminiscences of the mourner"

The second demo of Tristitia sounds far from their debut. Miscally they progressed in a marvellous doom band. And with 'doom' I mean a tempo in the songs that is slower than Candlemas. Yes, maybe Tristitia is a connection between this band and Godsend. The vocals are common to the depressive and monotonous voice of most slow bands, now and then changed into an immense low grunt. It's very easy to lead. \$5.- to: **Luis B. Galvez, A-Ringen 111, 302 55 Halmstad, Sweden.** Harold Dekkers

**Ulver (Nor)**  
"Promo '93"

Brilliant Norwegian dark pagan metal! This promo kills. Ulver, definitely one of the best new coming bands following the trace of the older Norwegian black metal bands. Every song is full of original, an sometimes a bit experimental, riffs. Also the vocals are great, sometimes even like Franta Storm! The normal vocals sounds super as well a bit amateurish maybe, but the idea is very great! (Did I hear some influences from Tomas 'God' Gabriel Warrior voices during 'Into the Pandemonium'?) I hope to hear more from this promising band. I see a bright future, not only in the Valhalla, also on this mortal earth! Write to **Kris R. Solfjellsheogda 5, N-0677, Oslo, Norway.** Roel van Reijmersdal

**Undertakers (Ita)**  
"In Limine Mortis demo"

The dozens are too small, they should be thirteen big. Even than cliché will be left. That's all. Sorry, this is death metal, but I haven't heard it that empty of ideas. But when I don't take account of the clichés Undertakers is a nice, straight edged, fast death metal band with screaming solos and an own sound. \$5.- to **Enrico Giannone, Via S. Rocco 31, Marano (NA) Italy.** Harold Dekkers

**Winter of Torment (UK)**  
"Peace"

I asked myself for a several times: Why Metallica? And why are there no bands sounding equal to them. Well, Winter of Torment is the answer. And they have rather some better and heavier tunes, based in the Justice for all album of their big examples Metallica. Especially the vocals are very imitated, but the music is heavier and different from the average thrash tunes. Basicall bass orientated thrash. **W.O.T. Promotions, 7 Manthorp Road, London, SE18 7SZ, UK.** Harold Dekkers

**Wretched**  
"...With Malicious Intent" ('94)

I wrote in Numskull #4 that I received "...With Malicious Intent" containing just two tracks which, I thought, was not much for a demo. Now it seems that that was a promo tape for the full length version of "...With Malicious Intent" of which I got a copy some time ago. This one is containing eight tracks of power speed thrash (is that a proper description?) Well played, but less original. Though good structured, catchy, clear production and with great solos... I think I've to mention that these guys use normal vocals as a death grunt is as normal as waking up each morning nowadays. Definitely worth your money when you're into thrash... Comes in B/W cover for US\$ 6.- (US) or US\$ 9.- (else) at: **Wretched, P.O.Box 982, Crystal Lake, IL 60039, USA** Wicked Wolly



# G.G.F.H.

When I went to see a My Dying Bride gig in Holland I was blessed with seeing their support act: G.G.F.H. Due to circumstances there was only one man one stage. I had some kind of respect for this person doing the support act of a sold out My Dying Bride gig all alone. After speaking with him, I decided this was the perfect band to give some attention. Not only because Loz was a very sympathetic person, but also G.G.F.H.'s industrial crushes each bone inside of your body. Read this and discover that there's something more than death and black...

*The answers are a bit short now and then, this because Loz is new with G.G.F.H. and does not know each tiny detail about them (I could have known that...)*

**Hi Loz. The last time we met (29-11-'93) Brian just was discharged from the hospital (he was in there because on the tour they had a car crash - Wolly), but wasn't fit enough to do a gig. Please, could you tell us Brian's condition at the moment?**

Hey Wolly, thanks for the interview and the chocomel (when I met Loz he'd just discovered Dutch' chocomel and became totally addicted to it. I've sended him some of it as it isn't available in England - Wolly.). Brian is fit and well and back working on his computers, but still got a nasty hole in his side

**G.G.F.H. stands for Global Genocide - Forget Heaven. Could you tell us why you've chosen that specific name?**

I could not tell you really what the name is about because god knows what Brian and Ghost were thinking about at that time

**Ghost was caught at the border of England. The most wildest stories and rumors about porno and drugs are circulating. Clear that up please and tell us exactly what happened...**

Ghost got turned back at custom's fo the Missy stage prop in his bag, but no one pressed any charges. Ho ya and I think he could have had some drugs too, so I guess he got off lightly

**After the crash you had to do the gigs all by yourself. What did you think when you first realized that and how did you experienced it?**

It was cool, more beer for me ha, ha. No, it was a little scary, but you just got to face it and get on with it; there's no time to fuck around.

**Your shows also include TVs which show some shocking pictures. Why do you show them?**

To fit with the music...

**When they're both on stage there's another kind of "stage-act". Could you tell us some more about that?**

When Ghost and Brian did the shows in America they had a fuckin' big cross with little Missy nailed to it. Missy is the doll we use for our stage acts and could be in Europe because of the reason mentioned in one of the previous questions. During the show they cut open the doll and pull her guts out; they even had some babies mixed in it, ha, ha. It's really cool to see and when you've paid some attention you could have seen it on the television on the stage... Next time we promise you'll get everything live on stage!!

**G.G.F.H.'s tour with My Dying Bride (MDB) just finished. What do you think of the combination of an industrial band and a band like MDB?**

It's cool. The fans can listen to the music we play and visa versa. Besides MDB are lovely too, so we're not that bothered who we play with just as long as they're no fuckin' rockers

**Most of the audience probably came to see MDB. What was the audience's reaction towards G.G.F.H.'s music as it's something completely different than MDB?**

We got cool reactions so no complains on that side. Holland & Germany kill's!!

**Because you guys make sick and weird music people seem to think they have to give you sick and weird gifts. Could you tell us something about them?**

Yep! Brain once recieved a wooden box at his place which smelled awful when he opened it there was a dead cat lying in there; he still has the cat. He also once recieved a letter from someone who liked G.G.F.H. and worked at the morgue. He cutted a tatto out of a body, putted it behind glass and enclosed it with a letter; that one is still hanging on his wall. On this there was a man who came to me after I had done a show. He said he liked it very much, handed me a dead snake in a jar and disappeared... Pretty strange, but it's fun

**You told me about a lyric which was dealing about Jeffrey Dahmer. Are all lyrics about psychopaths and gore? Could you tell us some more about G.G.F.H.'s lyrical concept?**

I think you should ask ghost about that because he writes all the lyrics

**What is the intention of your music to do with our minds?**

To change and corrupt you all into killers. What ever you think it should change you into, we might even inspire the pope

**How's the way G.G.F.H.'s songs are created?**

First Brian writes all the music on his computer, then he calls Ghost on the phone and he comes over and sings over the top.

**Your next album will be out on Halloween. Eventhough that takes a little while; what can you tell us about G.G.F.H.'s new material?**

Well, first it's not new. All the songs are from the old demos, just put on CD. They are still fuckin' wild songs, but different stuff

**That album will be the last one you're able to make on Dreamtime with this deal. Have they already offered you a new one, are there any other interests from other labels, or what?**

I personal think it could be the time to move on and I think Brian and Ghost have the same idea. So we are open to offers.

**You told me you were doing the film school, so I guess you're pretty interested in movies. What's the best movie you've seen lately and what does it make it a good movie?**

Plan a from outer space is wild, but I saw faster pussycat kill kill at Brian's in February and that's my favourite film ever it's just full of one liners.

**What, do you think, is the best newcommer in the underground?**

everything is good realy, just as long as you are not a glam band

**Okay Loz, that's all. Thanks a lot for your time and support!! Do you have anything to add to this interview?**

Yep! Thanks for the interview and if you liked our music write to Brian and tell him to do more music NOW!

G.G.F.H. information at the Dreamtime address (enclose 1 I.R.C.)





## reviews 7 Inch reviews

Vinyl. Is the inventor of that ever rewarded? Pushed away by the digital CD I still enjoy every time I hear the sound of squeaking vinyl when the needle clears his way through the channels. Only this already would be a good reason to support the smaller labels. Because for them, vinyl is the best way to realise their first release. Also this time there were a couple slices vinyl to work up; great! As far as I'm concerned this will last for a couple of years, but the ever growing popularity of the CD might disturb that heavily. Time will tell... Now, at least, a couple of reviews of the black (well, black...) gold  
Wicked Wolly

### ACME (Ger)

#### 7"ep (Machination Records)

Hard to label this one, probably grinding death with experimental hardcorish elements or so. In any case brutal and grindy. A lot of noise actually. There are four tracks in total, pretty well produced. Three tracks from their 'Mensch Machine' demo and a new recorded track. **Machination Records, Jeroen, P.O.Box 90, 8500 Kortrijk, Belgium.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

### Bethlehem (Ger)

#### "The Pale Dominion 7"ep'93" (Nightmare Records)

The two tracks (recorded in '92); Supplementary Exegesis and Wintermute are the same as on their demo, reviewed in the last Mortician. Pressed on eternal vinyl, I only can repeat what I said in the former review. Enjoy this great piece of darkened doom/death metal. This band is one of German's most original. I'm looking forward to their future releases. \$5.- to **Nightmare Records, Roermonderstr.74, D-41068, Mönchengladbach, Germany.**  
Harold Dekkers

### DEAD

#### "Slaves To Abysmal Perversity" (M.M.I.)

This one really gave me some problems with finding the right speed. It sounded nice on 45 Rpm, but I think 33 Rpm must be the good one 'cause the production sounded much better this way. DEAD obviously focused on extreme and perverse sex. Four deathrash songs with some grind influences underlined by sometimes low grunting vocals, sometimes high pitched vocals and sometimes a combination of both. As expected a female lust scream on the song "Slaves To Abysmal Perversity". Technically DEAD isn't on a very high level, but the songs are good varied and no problem listening to. Comes on Red vinyl  
Wicked Wolly

### Garden of Silence (Fra)

#### 7"ep

A remarkable ep. The cover has a gloomy drawing in the vein of Gustaf Doré. Kasper David Friedrich must be a great artist, it's used some times before. Anyway, the music suits well to the cover (or the cover to the music...) At first I had the idea to review Garden of Silence with a description like the old doom bands as Black Sabbath, Count Raven, Saint Vitus. But in the first song a raw vocals bursts open and gives Garden of Silence a 'red colour'. Red, aggressive raw doom death, comparable to some slower At The Gates tunes.

### Gore Beyond Necropsy

#### "This Is An EP You Want" (M.M.I.)

Oh, is it? Is this an EP I want? How do they know? Who are they? Gore Beyond Necropsy! What do they play? Music! What kind of music? Grind! Well, I won't bore you any longer with this monologue. Gore Beyond Necropsy; the Japanese version of (old) Carcass. This time with a drum computer which gives them the opportunity to include some industrial influences. That's a nice variation. It's only a pity that these influences are obviously taken from Ministry. So not very original, but a realization of a mixture between Carcass and Ministry. And last but not least a Meat Shits sample to end with. Comes on green vinyl  
Wicked Wolly

### Kataklysm (Can)

#### "Hymn'94" (Boundless Records)

Kataklysm opens with a classical thrash riff? Soon after that tune an orgy of sick and brutal death metal takes the upper hand with immense growls, claiming most of the attention. But the thrash elements stay. After their mega fast debut demo, pressed on vinyl and silver by Nuclear Blast, Kataklysm slowed down a bit. In doing that they gave some aggression away and queued up with the other medium grind and death metal bands. But for real grindcore freaks it's still a perfect release to purchase and that mainly because of the chaotic fast parts that are mixed between the trashy rhythms. \$5.- to **Boundless, P.O.Box 41, B-6740 Etalle, Belgium.**  
Harold Dekkers

### Lemegethon (Gre)

#### Demonic Hellhounds 7"ep (Wounded Love)

The Greek Lemegethon doesn't make the cosmic dimensional avant garde black metal I expected. Instead it's a very 'ugly' rip-off of Nordor and Necromantia. The Greek scene still has a very own style, but its brilliance doesn't become better by this amateurish release. **Wounded Love, Via Fonzo 2, 20148 Milano, Italy.**  
Harold Dekkers

### Lobotomy (Swe)

#### "Hymn" (Rising Realm recs)

I guess Lobotomy will play the typical Swedish metal till the end of time. Right? (Hi, Daniel, are you dead or so?) Well, sadly for the new ambitious label R.R.R., this is the most worse sounding Lobotomy release ever. New members Etienne and Max should be kicked out if you want my opinion; they don't deliver anything new or better. \$5.- to **R.R.R., P.O.Box 16, 01661 Vantaa, Finland.** and ask for the excellent magazine they are doing as well. Future release will be: Chorus of Ruin -Last Dance MCD: godly, but with a poor sound, Soricide -Godlike 7"ep and Mourning Sign -Desert

### Sun MCD.

#### Roel van Reijmersdal

### Midian (NL)

#### "Sadistic and Obscene" (Effigy productions)

Well, Midian isn't an unknown band to the Mortician staff so it's nice to see that they're successful. This ep explodes from aggression, brutality and high speed death metal. A great vinyl debut by this Dutch band. It's recorded in the Beaufort studios, so the sound is pretty good! In total four tracks of aggressive death metal, check it out! \$5.- to Effigy productions (has also a great mailorder service) **Thv. Meyersgt. 83, 0552 Oslo, Norway.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

### Mordor (Swi)

#### "Dark is the future" (Shivadarshana Records)

The dark star on the firmament of orchestral emptiness still spread its black light. Next in line of their Cjeth cassette, this release is a brilliant follow up to the technical semi-orchestral morbidity and gloominess of single keyboard tunes, female vocals and vibrating scenes. I'm not gonna add it to my play list again, it's already a cult item. By this vinyl before their debut album, the re-recorded Sjethe will be out on Wild Rags! For the 7"ep: \$8.-/Hfl 15.- for 15 minutes to **P.O.Box 3005, 3200 DA Spijkensisse, The Netherlands.**

### My Dying Bride (UK)

#### Unbridled bitterness flexi 7"ep (Unbridled Voyage records)

This ep contains a totally rare version of 'The Bitterness and the Bereavement' which also appeared on their debut CD. It's taken from a rehearsal tape from april '93. The sound is okay, even it's a rehearsal recording. I don't know if MDB or peaceville know about this release (What the heck! -ed) It's a kind of a die hard My Dying Bride fan collectors item. \$4.- to **Unbridled Voyage, 86 Ramsden Rd, Hexthorpe, Concaster, S-Yorkshire, DN4 0BN, UK.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

### Neuthorne (Bel)

#### 7"ep '93

A new ep by the Belgium Neuthorne. Not the doom core from the former releases. This time a simple punkrock track 'Take it or leave it' and an instrumental track on the B-side which presents a metal sound in the way of their former releases. At least it refreshing! \$5.- to **Neuthorne, Bijselestr. 182/b2, 8900 Ieper, Belgium.**  
Harold Dekkers

### Opera IX (Ita)

#### The triumph of death 7"ep

A prominent release from the growing Italian scene. Recently bands like Sadist and Mortuary Drape broke through. Opera IX also adds an orchestral element to the Italian genre. The black metal from this Roman peninsula is similar to the Greek one, solid, bizarre and original. (Italy hasn't changed since the renaissance). The third release of this opera quartet presents a 'Necrophagia' feeling. It's fast, macabre metal with a swing of unmatured rhythms. Its sound is like a dated release but that fits specially to the kind of music. 'Born in the Grave' and 'The Red Death' (E.A. Poe) are strong examples for the genre I like to call 'Dark Metal'. The historical standard of the first demo of Sinoath still isn't reached (put that demo on CD before the earthmagnetic field destroys its electrical information!), but you can feel their impulse to a same atmosphere. \$7.- to **Alberto Gugiotti, Via Don Carra 57, 13040 Saluggia (VC), Italy.**  
Harold Dekkers

### Purgatory (Ger)

#### "Psychopathia Sexualis"

Maybe you remember the review of Musical Massacre. That band rests in piece now and some members of M.M. founded Purgatory.

M.M. was pure midtempo death metal in a raw form. This is a mixture of black and death metal with a... death grunt on vox again. Nothing new on this EP, standard riffs and drum patterns. This EP can be obtained at: **Falk Schäfer, Gottschaldstr. 25, 08523 Plauen, Germany, for \$6.**  
Cor Snijder

### Regredior

#### "Touched By Thanat" (M.M.I.)

M.M.I. typically is a label who keeps the vinyl alive (as far as I'm informed this is his 6th ep) and I'm grateful for that. This time green vinyl filled with Lithuan music from Regredior. Three brutal death metal songs with some melodic lines now and then. Though the production could use some improvements on some places this really is a nice ep to listen to. Emotion good varied with brutality. Played tight and well composed. Obvious some Gorefest influences, but that doesn't matter as far as I'm concerned. Great job, also the technical part!  
Wicked Wolly

### Sarnath (Fin)

#### "Cosmopolitan"

Most at the time I am not pleased with 7-inches, because they are difficult to handle, have more rustle and features only two

songs. And this you get for the same price as a demo with 4 or 5 songs. Still 7-inches are damned popular in the underground, for me hard to understand. This is a strange 7", I have to admit; for 95% it is instrumental. As regards this fact this release is original, but it is not that original. Sarnath performs death/thrash with some melodic touches and maybe even some progressive touches. So it is not stuff in the vein of Xysma, old Disgrace, Purtenance etc.. This release can not totally convince me, partly caused by the lack of vocal-performance. Despite this, there are some nice riffs on this black piece of vinyl. You can order this for \$6 to: **Regress Rec., c/o Enrico Leccese, Via C. Metella 10, 00179 Rome, Italy.**  
Cor Snijder

### Sathanas (USA)

#### "Ripping Evil" (Reaper, Midian Records)

This is the rerelease of the demo Ripping Evil (1988) of Sathanas. In 1989 some guys of Sathanas formed Bathym and the others Acheron. These bands were rather familiar in the underground, especially Acheron (USA!). In 1992 Sathanas is rereleased again and released the mighty rehearsal '92. This 7-inch is a dive in the past. Mostly I can not respect this kind of releases, let the past rest and look for new talent. For this time I make an exception, because people have a chance to learn the original version of "Jaws of Satan". Some people call this an underground hit and I believe they are right. It is already covered by Bathym (not strange), Acheron and the dutch Occult. Strange is that the new undergrounders call this 7-inch black metal, for me it is a sort of a simple thrash with screamy vocals, okay the lyrics are quite satanic. Maybe Sathanas played not as tight as they do now, still these songs sound great, these ones will never loose their charms! This ep is selling well, so be quick and send \$6 to: **Midian creations, Zavelbosstraat 10, 2430 Laakdal, Belgium.**  
Cor Snijder

### Scud

#### "Scud" (Purge Records)

As we're used from Purge records this ain't death thrash or doom. Purge obviously prefers the punk rock side of the metal music. Scud is a good example. A two track punk rock 7". First song "Pearl Necklace" is a bit more poppy then "Po-face" with the famous Primus bass sound. Rather clear production though the songs sometimes are a bit messy. I'd suggest some more variation, but on the other hand that's pretty normal for this kind of music (which I'm not very familiar with). As a outsider I'd say this is rather good, but I cannot guarantee that you'll agree  
Wicked Wolly

### Solstice

#### "An Era Of Weary Virtues" (M.M.I.)

Dutch doom formation comes with their debut 7" on M.M.I. Two songs with a total playing time of almost 14 minutes. Depressive and slow, but that's what doom metal stands for. Though Solstice's songs are quite long I can't really say they're boring. Built up quite well and have some really nice melodic lines. The production is rather clear and sharp, could have been more bombastic as far as I'm concerned. "In Memoriam" (not Cathedral's version) definitely is the best tune which somewhere reminds me of good old Sabbat (especially the vocal part). Solstice prefers pure nature doom metal: no female vocals, no keys, no violins. People who liked M.M.I.'s Castle release definitely should check this one out. Worth your bucks. Comes on red vinyl.  
Wicked Wolly

### Toxic Narcotic

#### "New Ways To Create Waste" (R.P. Records)

I think they should have called it "New Ways To Create Music". When I compare this 7" to their first one "Popultura" this is more thrashy music a bit in the vein of Sepultura instead of the crossover kinda music on 7" no. 1. Both songs "War Song" and "Act Of Rage" are pretty catchy, built up well, rather brutal and have a clear and heavy production, but they are less original than their first 7". Some people call this progress... A lot of people will like this for sure!  
Wicked Wolly

**Ex-Ejaculate (rip) drummer zoekt een serieuze en gevorderde band die niet bang is voor professionaliteit, grote plannen en een technisch spel. Ik ben in het bezit van veel ervaring en goed backline! Schrijf of bel naar: Richard Willemse, Mozartlaan 117, 2394 GC, Hazerswoude Rd. Tel: 01714-15059/14587.**

# NOISE

I like to give some space for some really different bands who still can't be placed in any particular genre expect under the misused name 'Noise'. Along with all kinds of metal there is a different style that is a parasitic plant under the pavement of music. I decided to look deeper in the world that lives under my feet. We already have seen some marvellous acts like the Swiss Mordor and hopefully colleague Wolly caught the Norwegian Piledriver for you (No, sorry, but I hope I'm able to feature them in the sixth issue...). Well, we both seem to have the same taste in common and since GGFH performs with a well known metal band I decided to pay some extra attention to this kind of underground music that is maybe even stronger than the metal scene.

## **Endura (UK)** **Urania's Children**

Well, the first deed I wanted to do was to interview **Endura**, the ex **Abraxas** (see review in the former *Mortician* magazine). But due to the everlasting heavy business of ours I couldn't find enough time to prepare a good interview. So wait till next time! That's a pity because an interview with them would be rather interesting. Their philosophic ideas in the music deals with many mystical cultures and legends. It's one symphonic medley of different samples, just like in **Abraxas**. But this upcoming album is also more involved with structured keyboard compositions that moderates the most bizarre elements. But if you want to have some really avantgarde electronical experiences contact their small label **Enlightenment Communications** for a bizarre compilation tape with bands and projects like **Cathedra**, **dRome**, **Sub Requiem**, **S/Fade**, **Stigma**, **Never**, **Smell & Quim** and off course you will meet the legendary **Pat Maccahen** of **Candiru**.  
**Enlightenment Communications**, 48 Wood Lane Ferryhill, Co Durham DL17 8QG, England.

## **Maitreya (Ita)**

This band claim not to use any samples or keyboards in their music/noise. If this is true than they are the darkest band ever. I can't understand how else they can generate the copper sounds and hallow tenor voices coming from the sounds of medieval monasteries and cathedrals. Five tracks over bizarre composings in the way that are often used by other dark metal bands. **Fabio Ghezzi**, Via **Bonfadini**, 85 - 20138 Milan, Italy.

More will follow soon

Harold Dekkers

At this very moment I'm messing up the entire lay out made so far as I recieved this article on the very last day and didn't read it until now. I thought it would be nice to select all industrial reviews I made and print them on this page. This will not happen in the next issues, but I thought it would be nice to select this genre to make you aware of it's existence as I'm very into the industrial side of metal and am willing to show you how interesting this can be... Enjoy, and hopefully I'm able to present some new industrial bands in the next issue

Wicked Wolly

## **Dog Meat** **"Bite"** (Suggestion)

I hoped **Suggestion** had provided me of another industrial release. But, can this one be called industrial? Well, part of it can. There for sure is used a drum computer 'cause no one can drum that fast. Rest contains fast and distorted guitars and raw screaming vocals... Lets label it as **Grind Industrial**. Very aggressive and not very monotonous: three tracks with a rather clear production. **Dog Meat**: a solo project from **Mikko Muranen** (who the f\*ck is that?). The other two songs on side B sound kinda tame compared to side A. "**Shrouded Tears**" is more a rock industrial tune and "**Razors**" has definitely some black metal influences... Pretty good release. When you're into the early **Godflesh** this might be something for you (Not that it's the same). This one on normal black vinyl.  
Wicked Wolly

## **Elixir** **"Elixir"** (Suggestion)

And again an industrial release through **Suggestion Records**. This time a three song 7" on yellow vinyl. **Elixir** isn't comparable to **Piledriver** which also is released on

**Suggestion**, but **Elixir** is more monotonous and more based on samples. In fact **Elixir** is the same as the mighty **Candiru**, but to prevent you of getting the wrong impression of **Candiru** they chose another name. "**Tranquillity & Seduction**" has some aggressive parts and a very abrupt ending which confronts you with the fact that you're sober and still on this planet. "**Judgement**" and "**Elixir**" are more based on **Hip Hop** rhythms than on metal rhythms. This could create a new direction in the industrial scene. Refreshing piece of work! For industrial freaks who are willing to explore new directions. Comes with nice **Elixir** balloon.  
Wicked Wolly

## **Piledriver** **"Piledriver"** (Suggestion)

A two track 7" of this Norwegian Industrial formation. They obviously took another industrial direction after their demo (it also is possible that the production makes the difference) Aggressive and fast on "**The Fall**" and aggressive, fast and mind mangling on "**I'm A Man**" Clear production, screaming vocals, drum computer, raw guitars and weird samples seems to be the perfect formula for a good bunch of industrial! Great release!! Must be in the possession of each industrial freak!! Comes on green vinyl  
Wicked Wolly

To save the lay out I decided that you have to search for the **Tekton Motor Corp.** review yourself...

## reviews MAGAZINE reviews

### **Fear of Life (NL)** **Issue 2 '94**

Really one of the better issues of Dutch magazines. I can't find any other magazines that are so well done. It starts with **Beardsley** art on the cover and that goes on to the artists of our 'zine. **Fear of Life** gives a nice view over different logo designers and drawers **Christophe Szpajdel**, **Steven Koster** and **Misja Baas** etc. There is also a really interesting and very complete scene report of **Israel** and interviews with **Celestial Season**, **Opera IX**, **Consolation**, **Darkseed**, **Orphaned Land** and so on. The cover is glossy, the pages not, but the lay-out of the 40 pages shows professionallity any way. Also the amount of reviews is big, but still acceptable (that will change!). So, order this, it's really worth your money!

\$5.- to **Arco van Winden**, **Oude Leedeweg 39**, 2641 NM **Pijnacker**, **The Netherlands**.  
Harold Dekkers

### **Trechoma (Den)** **Issue 4 '94**

Not a bad 'zine, really not. It contains a coloured cover and glossy pages within. It looks like a black and white mixture between **Terrorizer** magazine and a fanzine and maybe that's a problem. It features big acts, no matter, but also reviews of big releases and that all makes it a bit more to an upperground magazine which is, on fanzine base, always a bit out-

dated. So, it gives the reason to send them more demos to review! (**Sindrome**, **Chiro Therium**, **Paradise Lost**, **Psychotic Waltz**, **Gorefest**, **Memento Mori**, **Alchemist**...) \$6.- to **Morten Nissen**, **Solvangen 55**, 6715 **Esbjerg N. Denmark**.  
Harold Dekkers

### **Death Industry (Lit)** **Issue 4**

Yes, from the professional side of the ex-Soviet Union: **Lithuania**. Together with **Wounded** this magazine is a rather professional one, just like one of the former issues of **Numskull**. Maybe it's cliché, but again you'll find interviews with the most interviewed bands on earth: **Disharmonic Orchestra**, **My Dying Bride** and **Ancient Rites**. Okay, maybe this magazine is out-of-date, but that isn't for the interviews with **Trechoma** magazine, **Impetigo**, **Psychosis**, **Korpse**, **Eterne** and so on. Yes, finally I found an article about the doom/industrial act **Eisenvater**, something for **Winter/Grief** fans. So order this magazine before their next edition is out! \$4.- to **Ramūnas Platūkis**, **Saltiniu 12-4**, 4580 **Alytus**, **Lithuania**.  
Harold Dekkers

### **Trifixion Radio Show** **91.8-92.2 FM, Italy**

This is not a magazine, but a serious radio show, so it has the same function as a 'zine.

**Luca** send me a tape of one of his shows and it looks very serious. All different kind of music from the metal underground is promoted. From **G.G.F.H.** to **Ghostorm**. **Trifixion** is broadcasted every Friday from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. from the studio 'A' of **Radio Calolzio International**, a local network of music, information, news and entertainment. It's located in the area in North-East of **Milan**, so that's in the region of Italian scene. Radio airplay is guaranteed to the bands who send their promotion material. **Trifixion radio show**, c/o **Luca Frigerio**, Via **A. Grandi 8**, 24032 **Calolziocorte (BG)**, Italy.  
Harold Dekkers



**A tribute to Venom**

**"Promoters of the third world war"** (Primitive Art)  
Alchemist, Flegma, Furbowl, Pingo's Inferno, Afflicted, Shit out of luck, Therion, Deranged, K.O.Corrall, Dead, Morpheus, Koskon Hardcore, Geronimo, Kazjuro!, Joyful Deadbeat... all delivered one cover track for the best sampler and in the same time, the greatest tribute I've ever seen. 15 tracks of Venom played in death metal, thrash or hardcore style, a nice unification to our godfathers (Really strange there isn't a black metal outfit on this tribute... really strange). All versions are really great, this samples has become a collectors item too (maybe due to the limitation up to 1000 copies, so it will be sold out by now) The best track comes from Pingo's Inferno, I've never heard such an original cover. It's nice to discover the identity of the bands in the Venom songs (Furbowl - Buried alive, Afflicted -Seven gates of hell, Morpheus -Welcome to hell). Except Witching Hour of Therion is really apart from their style, but brought it to a really different cult standard. **Primitive Art, c/o Paulo Staver, Stålgatan 40, S-302 51 Halmstad, Sweden.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Acid Jack (USA)**

**"Ipmc '93"**  
This is a fresh new twist for any Lollapalooza Fan! This band has some ex-members of the popmetal formation Witch Bonie. No, these words are not mine. Why I use these words? It is not my style of music. Also the music is difficult for me to understand if it is good or bad. It is a kind of Seattle stuff: slow guitar parts and rhythms. The guitar has a heavy sound, so that is not bad at all. Nine tracks on this very professional release, you can order it for \$7 at: **Warlock Productions, 78 Grove Ave. Wilmington MA 01887, USA.**  
Cor Snijder

**Agathocles (Bel)**

**"Theatric Symbolisation of life cast"** (Cyber Music)  
Agathocles is one of the few real grind bands that are still playing. That needs respect. 29 tracks of the good old Agathocles grind. The newer tracks do have some slight death metal influences although Agathocles their selves do deny that fact. It's no problem to me, it's even better this way. I guess (no, I'm sure) the follow up to this CD will follow on Cyber soon. Pure energetic expression!  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Altar**

**"Youth Against Christ"** (Displeased)  
"Religions are no fun, religions endanger the life and Hapiness of millions. It must stop. We appeal in particular to the youth of today. Stop the madness. There are better things in life." Well, that's what you're dealing with: Anti Christians. Also called the Dutch Decide: Altar. With "Youth Against Christ" they make their debut after releasing their demo "And God Created Satan To Blame For His Mistakes". Altar's music surely is mega brutal (besides the music the vocal part also is very important for their brutality), fast, tight played, well produced and aggressive. Featured on this album are the four demo tracks (re-recorded) and the magnificent and ultra brutal song "Jesus Is Dead!" which was previously released on the D.S.F.A. compilation CD, and three new tunes. With their debut and their new songs Altar proves brutality is immortal and that they are one of Holland's most brutal death metal acts nowadays. So "Youth Against Christ" offers you an almost fifty minutes anti Christian death metal journey the Dutch way. Definitely worth checking out when you like it fast!  
Wicked Wolly

**Amorphis (Fin)**

**"Privilege of Evil"** (Relapse underground series)  
A true cult release, I was disappointed when I saw the band Abhorrence split up into Amorphis. The demos of Amorphis weren't that great as their later albums and I was aware that the "Vulgar Necrolatry" would rot away in my eternal tape collection. With the great comeback of Amorphis the track also named "Vulgar Necrolatry" appeared on "The Karelian Isthmus" and by now Relapse brought out the Privilege of Evil mini album. I guess this has been a lost promo or split-album of the previous wild period of Amorphis/Abhorrence. Privilege of Evil unearths the old destructive style of death metal just before the 90's started. Some classics won't be reached by new bands nowadays, so let's re-release the old ones.  
Harold Dekkers

**Amorphis**

**"Tales From The Thousand Lakes"** (Nuclear Blast)  
Tales From The Thousand lakes... The second full length of Finnish masters of atmospheric death metal. Well... death metal? After the release of their first full length The Karelian Isthmus they added a keyboard player to the line-up which is doing a full time job on the Tales... album. The music can be described as orchestral doom death rock I think. Titles like: "First Doom", "Black Winter Day" and "Forgotten Sunrise" must tell you enough. One thing is sure: adding the keyboard player to the line-up has had a great influence on Amorphis' music. Though Tales... can be seen as a logical continuation on The Karelian... Good structured and catchy rock with melodic solos, death grunt which sometimes is supported with normal vocals. Sometimes they even use futuristic and dreamy sounds and effects. Their lyrical concept is based on Finnish National Pole Book Kalevala (for those who are interested). Again recorded in the sunlight studios which is standard for a good production by Thomas Skogsberg. Real interesting release!! Check out this album when you're into orchestral death rock!!  
Wicked Wolly

**As Serenity Fades (Fin)**

**"Earthbow"** (Adipocere records)  
As Serenity Fades, a band, well-known by their 'Lowering Sunset' release which was released in the begin of the wave of European atmospheric doom/death metal. Their music is still atmospheric and melodic, even a bit depressive. But they accelerated their music to the equals like Dark Tranquillity and that makes As Serenity Fades more metallic. Some parts are coming close to the melancholy of the natural Gothenburg bands, but this line is broken by a track (Oriental) that opens with a new sound and style. So their music reach the atmospheric originality, due to the use of fast (death) metal only, no other accessories and that makes them brilliant.  
Harold Dekkers

**Atrocity (Ger)**

**"Blut"** (Massacre)  
The third Atrocity album and also on their third label, strange! Is this band that hard to work with or so? Developing from a techno metal act into a bring hardcore death assault, nice done! What a crap band. The vocals sucks like the new Entombed, some sort of hardcore screams are replacing the grunts. Only one track on this CD is really brilliant. It's strange, but that track is really excellent! If they made an album full of these track, Atrocity would have been really alive again. Too many boring metal riffs in my eyes.  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Attika**

**"When heroes fall"** CD'93 (Massacre)  
Decent power-thrashmetal, that's what Attika is all about. The leads are definitely far better than the standard, they are actually very exciting, good old heavy metal solos. The vocalist is o.k. not a poser voice or heavy thrash voice, more something like the Manowar (false metal, ha, ha) vocalist. Luckily the riffs are not as wimpy as the commercial Manowar stuff. Rather nice listening material besides the usual black/doom/death acts.  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Baphomet (Ger)**

**"Trust"** (Massacre Records)  
I swear, this band have been sounding different before. Only one layer of intelligence and originality on a naked substrate of normal death metal. But that new colour hides the band in a perfect reconstruction of Voivod elements. Only the sound is different from the mentioned cult band, but the structures, song lines, feeling and strange emotions gives you the idea this is a perfect release of an alternating form of metal. Luckily almost all ideas aren't copied from any other band, so their will to play in an original way stays very spontaneous and enjoyable either.  
Harold Dekkers

**Belial (Fin)**

**"The Gods of the Pit part II"** (Moribund Records)  
A re-release of their debut demo, powered up with some remixes. So it's in fact a mixture between their debut (mini-album and their former work. Still rather brutal. I'm not sure this band still exist. Maybe they split up and formed the band Mythos, that's playing with the same brutality as the last work of Belial. To have the Belial collection complete, this is a must! It will also appear on mini-CD. (\$9.- for the Mini-CD I guess) **Moribund Records, P.O.Box 77314, Seattle, WA 98177-0314, USA.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Benediction**

**"The Grotesque\*Ashen Epitaph"** (Nuclear Blast)  
NB 033, NB048, NB059, NB073 and ND088; Benediction releases through the years. The last one is this one with two new tracks (see title for this) and three live songs, but I seriously doubt whether these are real live recordings as the sound is very good and probably too good for that. Benediction says this is to introduce their new drummer: Hello! Benediction fans probably are obliged to purchase this one, but others better wait for the Benediction full length which probably will contain these two tracks... (which, by the way are in the vein of older Benediction material). So check it out at your record store and decide whether it's worth your money...  
Wicked Wolly

**Beyond Dawn (Nor)**

**"Loning For Scarlet Days"** mini-CD'93 (Adipocere Records)  
In a time when you've to speak 'Norsk' to express your pagan feelings and live in the land where everything turns to black there is a band that has something totally weird. It's hard to describe, it's like Afflicted goes doom and wave. No, Beyond Dawn still plays fast as on their 7"ep, and still the idiotic jumping rhythms are into it. Their sound is one of low tuned resonating guitars in a maelstrom of tubas and trombones with background guitar noise/ wave styled metal. This band slowly drifts to the vague side of death metal, but with a strong defined composition style which its maybe it's roots in one famous avant-garde ancient metal band!  
\$16.- to Adipocere.  
Harold Dekkers

**Blood from the Soul (USA)**

**"To spite the gland that Breed"** (Earache)  
We can be very philosophic about this, but for me it's clear. This project (?) isn't a Tortured Garden/Naked City or any other industrial/experimental stuff, followers of the great Zorn. The two men, Lou Koller and Shame Embury play a kind of thrashcore with the well known psycho-dramatic tunes. In this way it sounds a bit like the 'Grin' album of

Coroner, to give you an unclear hint. Sometimes, the songs are opened with industrial samples and the sound is very the same on the whole. It works out hypnosis, but that was meant to, I guess.  
Harold Dekkers

**Brain Police (USA)**

**"Bullet"** (Red Stream)  
George Orwell? No, a wild punkcore mix with a classic drumming and demented and tortured backing vocals. The leading vocalist and the screeching six-string stragulation work close together with the simple bass lines, mixed to a radical version of Prong. No, nothing for hardcore die-hards, but luckily fat too heavy for nowadays guitar alternatives. Surely, the track on the back side 'Lovely Funeral' sounds much better than all those improving new rock hypes.  
**P.O.Box 342, Camp Hill PA 17001-0342, USA.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Castle**

**"Castle"** (M.M.I.)  
The debut CD of these Dutch doomsters. After their demos "Chasing Unicorns" & "In Purple Visions" there was no sign of life for a long time, but now they finally released this self titled full-length. A thing what disappointed me a bit is the few new songs which are included on this album; a great part of the material already was released on one of their demos and only is re-recorded. Anyway, four new songs which all are tunes of eternal depression and melancholic feelings. Slow..... yep, this is something for doom freaks only. Maybe this review sound a bit negative, but "Castle" is a good doom release above all. And for people who don't have their demos Castle will be a new way to release your emotions. Though the production is a bit vague (opzet Han?) this CD is worth paying some attention.  
Wicked Wolly

**Ceremonium (USA)**

**"Nightfall in Heaven"** (Necroharmonic prod.)  
Ceremonium's debut ep contains a very heavy bass sound, not down tuned, but more prominent. The genre they present us is like these of Mythic and other american bands, just some changes between fast and slow. The doom parts in the songs are in each track mixed with a single keyboard part to fill this ep with some atmosphere. It's a pity that this music won't cut any deeper with some solos, the it's music follows the right american tradition.  
\$5.- to Necroharmonic, P.O.Box 1253, Kearny, NJ 07032, USA. Or write to the band for a great demo: \$5.- **Tom Pioni, 2068 E. 61 St Street, Brooklyn, NY 11234, U.S.A.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Corpse (Rus)**

**"Remembrance of Cold Embodiments"** (Final Holocaust)  
Marvellous, I thought only bands like Necrok.i.Ll.dozer are found in Russia among some communistic thrashmetal bands. As you can see in the Russian scene report, nothing is true about that. Many bands started when the iron curtain opened and the result is remarkable. I've seen what happened in Lithuania, but that also happens in Russia. No, I don't think all those Russian bands get a direct influence due to the opened borders, it's maybe they have the possibility now to show how they are. The style of **Corpse** is not a strange one, but it can't be compared to any atmospheric acts from Scandinavia nor from the UK. The great solos are as good as the moodily and grotesque ones I've ever heard from the Northern woods. But **Corpse** isn't black metal, but more or less an aggressive and heavy US style which varying drumming fits well to the guitar lines that are soloed over the brutal blasts and that dominates the atmosphere. Those solos even beat the lines like Visceral Evisceration! \$5.- to **Final Holocaust, P.O.Box 69, 121059, Russia, Moscow.**

**Crematory (Ger)**

**"Just Dreaming"** (Massacre)  
This band is a total fake gothic doom death act, that's all. The vocals are far too growling for this type of metal, the keyboards are uninspiring, the guitar riffs are weak. It's not extremely bad, but just such a clone! The production is really okay, but this band only exist due to the popularity of keyboards.  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Daemonium (Fra)**

**"Dark opera of the ancient war spirit"** (Adipocere)  
This CD is an original concept album consisting of nine acts. It's a kind of black metal opera as the title implicates. It's rather good structured with some nice climax. There are a lot of theatrical aspects, many keyboard parts, acoustic guitars, screams, dark vocals, whispering etc... The black metal 'midtro' is maybe not really special, but it fits pretty good in the whole atmosphere. It's worth listening to cause of the flexibility and several kinds of moods. \$17.- to **Adipocere Recs, 152 Rue des Acacias, 01700 Miribel, France.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Decayed (Port)**

**"Conjuration of the Southern Circle"** (Monasterium)  
Finally, Portugal also has his band to be proud of. It won't be surprisingly this band is black metal styled. Their devon't isn't for 100% pure, but there are strong equals with Darkthrone, Marduk. The 'purity' is like as those of Mystifier, but besides the raw darkness there are some nice inventions which only can be found in more original bands like Emperor or Occult. We are awaiting the debut of Moonspell, but it will become difficult to beat this release. 666 and buy this CD! \$15.- (Europe)/\$17.- (World) to **Monasterium Rec. P.O.Box 1078, Sto Anonio dos**

*bloodless*



*iron warrior*



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# Enslaved

Enslaved was formed early 1991 when the line up, which is still the same, was found. In '92 they recorded their only demo called 'Yggdrasil' which got them a deal for 3 full length albums on deathlike silence prod/voices of wonder. Before the release of their debut album they recorded a mini album called Hordanes Land which was released on vinyl and as a split CD with Norwegian Black metallers Emperor on Candlelight Records. That CD doesn't need any introduction, it was one of the highlights of 1993!

In spring and summer of 1993 Enslaved recorded their full length debut album 'Vikingligr Veldi' in the Grieghallen Studios. Their second album 'Frost' won't be released on DSP, after Euronymous' death it won't be the same any longer with this cult label. Frost will be released on Osmose, in the fall of '94. And I'm for sure that album will be as excellent as their previous releases! This band rules! I did the following interview with Ivar, the guitarist who's responsible for the music and lyrics of Enslaved (and plays the electronics and piano on the Enslaved releases).

**How do you feel about the mini-LP on Candlelight?** I think it's quite okay. A shitty budget made a shitty production, but I think the music makes up for it. Also Emperor is an excellent band, so I think it was good for us to do this.

**I heard that Lee from Candlelight said that Enslaved sounded too much like Manowar and that's why he didn't sign you for a full length album, is that right? WHAT???** Is that Lee guy a schizo of something? We didn't want to sign on Candlelight. We wouldn't sign a deal with Lee if he shuffled it up our asses! Firstly, we already had a deal with Deathlike Silence Productions, so why should we give that up. Secondly, we were never satisfied working with Lee and Candlelight. He never contacted us, I guess he hoped us to forget the money he owed us. But luckily for us, his former 'mother-label' Plastic Head were honest all the way, so we got our money at last. If Lee thinks we sound like Manowar (nothing wrong with the band, by the way), he should really get out his sawdust and ear-wax and print out a Manowar tribute-album of it.

If Lee didn't want us and think we're jokes... Fine by me... We despise him as well!

**How does it come that split CD mates Emperor attract so much more interest in the scene than Enslaved? Bot bands started around the same time, released a demo etc. A pretty similar development. Maybe because of the bigger mouths and more bizarre stories around Emperor? Do they really?** I'm really curious about how you can know that. But, okay, I'll try and cough up some reasons for you. Firstly, Lee didn't like us as I said, so he gave a huge shit in our promotion. Fair enough, really, if you consider the fact that we weren't on his label. And Emperor has made a lot more fuzz about themselves, with their image and the fact that three of them are spending time behind bars. But we're good pals and still in touch. We have developed quite similar since we started. It seems like Emperor is going to break now, since the majority of the band is locked up.

**I thought Osmose wanted to sign Enslaved after Candlelight didn't go on?** Osmose were willing to step in, but not for the first album. We released it through Voices of Wonder Rec/D.S.P. Candlelight never refused to sign us... We never came to the pint of taking action, before V.o.W stepped in.

**How do you describe your music?** Metalion



## We are the inventors of Viking metal

wrote something about 'a young black metal band', but Bård Faust said once in an interview in Mortician that you guys claim not to play black metal! I think it's more heavy/black metal with some original sort of symphonic influences and with a Viking attitude. Bård Faust is right, we are not Black Metal. We are the inventors of Viking-Metal. yes, I guess there will be a lot of people who claim us to be wrong at this matter, but prove to me a band who has had Viking-lifestyle, Viking lyrics and called themselves Viking metal at the same time. Please do that. **Well, I think the Enslaved attitude is original, indeed, according the revival of the Viking spirit. The Viking stuff is pretty popular nowadays but no other band has released an CD so far. They're mainly demo bands, right? You're one of the first in any case Although Bathory did it as well on the last two albums!** Yeah, Bathory is the main reason for us doing this. His last two albums deal with the subject and he's always calling it doom metal, not Viking metal! But we owe him and in a few years, the only serious Viking metal bands, namely the inventors: Enslaved and an upcoming band called Einherjer, will make a tribute CD to Quorton and Bathory, with a mixed band. As far as I'm concerned, there are no other true Viking metal bands around. But if I'm wrong, get in touch a.s.a.p!!

**Almost every song has a running time of over the ten minutes, so the CD contains 'just' five songs. How will you develop that in the future? Longer epic songs?** We still have a few long tracks, but we've cut down the average to about 5-6 minutes. They're even more epic now, but we've tried to capture the atmosphere in a more intense way, which leads to a shorter amount of minutes. The next album 'Frost' will contain 8 tracks. About 45-50 minutes playtime. You can calculate yourselves the average time for each track.

**Your guitar sound on the CD is sometimes a bit similar to the sound on the Burzum and Immortal CD's and the Hadez demo, how come? Is the CD also recorded at the Grieghallen studio?** I can agree on the Immortal and Hades part, but I'm sure how you figured out that the guitar sound is similar to Burzum? I think it's totally different. But okay, if your ears hear other things than mine, I can accept that, you might be right, who knows?

Yes, our CD is recorded in Grieghallen, which is the best studio for us. It's the closest studio within range for us and we really enjoy

working there. Pytten is a genius man, hail!  
**Can you give a short description of the Norwegian myths, the gods are Thor and Odin with his Hugin, right?** Okay, but then it has to be a very briefly briefing, okay? The world we live in is Midgard. No godz except Oden wanders this world. The other gods don't care much for the mortals of this world. There's only one way to get to the lands of the gods and that is over a dimensional rainbow called Bifrost. Finally, you have Valhalla, where the gods live. And in the great halls of Valhalla all the worthy dead warriors live, where they fight, drink, eat and enjoy themselves in any way they can. Oden is the highest god and his two ravens, Hugin and Munin fly above Midgard to bring back news to Oden. He also has two wolves by his side. Then you have Thor, which carries the mightiest weapon of all time, Mjollnir. That is a warhammer, who returns to Thor no matter what happens. And below Valhalla, there's Hell, where all evil dwells. There is a ship who collect the dead from the river of Hell and that ship is called Naglfar. Okay, I guess I made this sound like a fucking fairytale or something, but these are some important parts of the mythology... If we meet in the flesh, I can give more.

**Most of your lyrics are written in Icelandic, is the Icelandic language the most close to**

the Viking language? Yes, defiantly... What more can I say, yes, absolutely... Yes, you're right, I guess you can say that... (I'm trying to make the most out of this interview, as you can see...)

**Who's the guy who did the lyrical translation and how did you get in touch with him?** Sigvalda Throlakson is the father of a friend of ours in Bergen. We knew that he was from Iceland, so we asked our friend Thorlak to ask his father if he could help us out with the lyrics. He agreed and I think that's great. He even made up titles for us who fitted better than our suggestions. I really hail that man.

**Do you know 'The lord of the rings' by Tolkien? I really think Enslaved's music should be the soundtrack of that brilliant book!** Yep, a total masterpiece. I'm honoured by your suggestion about the soundtrack, but I'm anxious to know when you will invent a book with a soundtrack.

**Do you like Mater's Hammer's albums and style? I think some (just a few actually) parts remind me of those Czechian albums.** No, but I don't hate them either. I just don't care. I don't find their music interesting to listen to at all. Yeah, I liked them before and that may have influenced our previous work, but that kind of influence is totally out of the question now.

**What was the drum coordination of Hellhammer and Padde in the studio?** Hellhammer helped us out during the creating of our drum sound and the recording. He lent us his symbols and pedals and some percussion. Padde also popped in with a few words of advice during the recording and we also lent some parts of his battery, just to make the sound the best we could. But Padde took care of the drum-coordination in the mixing of the album. Without these two true souls, 'Vikingligr Veldi' wouldn't be the same.

**Is Padde an ex-Amputation and ex-Old Funeral member? Does Old Funeral still exist, I heard they're playing black metal as**

well. Yep, that's the guy. A killer bloke, if I may say so. We've known him for ages now and he's a true friend. Old Funeral is dead now, but Padde is doing a new project in true doomy veins together with a friend. Look out, it will be a killer for sure.

**Keyboards and piano are pretty important to Enslaved's style, do you like The Gathering?** They are very clever musicians and I'm sure they're great guys. But I find the music out of my reach. It's too boring to my ears. I know lots of people who like The Gathering. It's a question of taste, don't you think? I haven't seen any laws who say that you have to like The Gathering, I don't see the pint in this.

**But I heard one of the Enslaved members, I don't know who, ordered the CD 'Always' and a T-shirt from The Gathering but when he saw how those guys looked he sold the CD and burned the T-shirt, what was that?** Nooo! I see why you asked. Oh why? Yes, I sold both my T-shirt and cd. I didn't burn anything. As you think I'm stupid or something? I know there are a lot of dutch people who know this fairytale. So what to this I did? Who cares? But I didn't, so this is nor an actual problem to me.. Is it for you? If you saw my face in the flesh, you would understand that I didn't sell the CD because of their looks.

**Sometime ago some people were threatened by Enslaved members cause they liked their life, they adored life. They should apologize for enjoying life otherwise some friends of Enslaved (probably the Circle members) would be informed. I seldom heard something more pathetic and stupid than that. I really don't know if it was you or it's just a lie. Can you tell something about it?** No, no, no... what's this? Enslaved's filthy-deeds-in-the-past-show or what? We have never been members of any black metal circle because we've never been a black metal band. I don't care what words are put in my mouth, but this isn't right! Yes, there was a band which

Mayhem wanted to get rid of. This was because that the band spread false rumours (they're not the first ones to do that) and claimed to be something they weren't I was together with Euronymous when he ordered them to quit, but I hadn't anything to do with it! I myself enjoy life a lot and the accusations are fuckin pathetic. We don't threaten anybody for enjoying life! But okay, you're doing your job, I guess.

**Your albums is out on DSP, a real cult label for ages. I heard that it was Euronymous who contacted the bands and some other guys worked out the deal and released and distributed the albums. How's that going on right now with 'Voices of wonder'?** Yep, a cult label for sure. Yes, Euronymous offered us a deal and Voices of Wonder distributed and paid pressing costs. Voices of wonder is doing well still.

**What are the future releases on DSP? Finally the cult and ultimate Arcturus album?** Mysticum is going to be released soon. Also Arcturus I guess. But it will only be bands who were on DSP before Euronymous' death who will be released on DSP/VoW now. Look out for Mysticum and Arcturus!

**Okay, thanks a lot for the answers and good luck with the mighty Enslaved!** Okay, thanks for a real good interview, bloodbrother. If I have to put my finger on something, it would have to be the questions concerning the Dutch gossip which has been a pain in the ass, ever since it started. But okay, nice chatting with you! Keep up the Spirit!

**Well, about those rumours, let's drop the gossip and forget it! The Enslaved guys are great and friendly, so I can't understand where all those shitty rumours came from. Hail to Enslaved, they are among the best, musically and as persons. This band deserves eternal recognition!**

Roel van Reijmersdal

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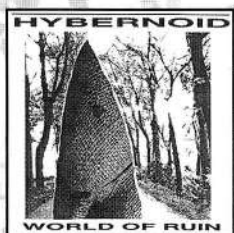
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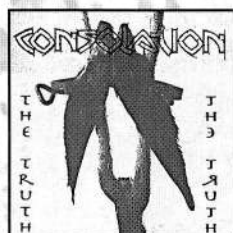
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# The Colloquy of Euronimous and Dead

**Euronimous.** 'Born Again?'

**Dead.** Yes, fairest and dear Euronimous, 'born again'. These were the words upon whose mystical meaning I had so long pondered, rejecting the explanation of the priesthood, until Death himself resolved for me the secret.

**Euronimous.** Death!

**Dead.** How strangely, dear brother Euronimous, you echo my words! I observe, too, a vacillation in your step - a joyous inquietude in your eyes. You are confused and oppressed by the majestic novelty of the Life Eternal. Yes, it was of Death I spoke. And hear how singularly sounds that word which of old was wont to bring terror to all ears - throwing a mildew upon all pleasures!

**Euronimous.** Ah, Death, the spectre which sate at all feasts! How often, Dead, did we lose ourselves in speculations upon its nature! How mysteriously did it act as a check to human bliss - saying unto it 'thus far, and no farther!' That earnest mutual love, my own Dead, which burned within our bosoms - how vainly did we flatter ourselves, feeling happy in this first up-springing, that our happiness would strengthen with its strength! Alas! as it grew, so grew in our hearts the dread of that evil hour which was hurrying to separate us forever! Thus, in time, it became painful to love. Hate would have been mercy then. And now, I'm murdered before I ordered to stop snowing. I'm cold by the snow itself.

**Dead.** Speak not here of these griefs, Euronimous, mine forever now!

**Euronimous.** But the memory of past sorrow - is it not present joy? I have much to say yet of the

things which have been. Above all, I burn to know the incidents of your own passage through the dark Valley and Shadow.

**Dead.** Suicide, only suicide, not in case to meet the death like you claimed, but in fear of life. But what about you?

**Euronimous.** Also not to see the dead, to see Dead nor the Death. Some cuts in my hart were given by the ones who followed me until

I passed the threshold to this place.

**Dead.** And do you like this place that seems to be so interesting for your 'followers' down there?

**Euronimous.** No my dear Dead. They down on earth don't know where they are heading for, walking the same road I travelled. If they should know only a bit about the presence over here, that hell or heaven is boring anyway, they would have washed their black faces before I got the idea to do.

**Dead.** So they don't know?

**Euronimous.** They don't know.

**Dead.** So, we are still glorious as in the old days, like a myth. So we are in the brave Asgard now?

**Euronimous.** Sure, there is no doubt about that! Even the recordings weren't finished and I'm already here.

**Dead.** Ah, how gracious to see there was at least something worth dying for!

Anonymous



## reviews **ALBUM** reviews

**Cavaleiros, 2670 Loures, Portugal.**  
Harold Dekkers

### **Daemonium (Fra)**

#### **"Dark opera of the ancient war spirit" (Adipocere)**

This CD is an original concept album consisting of nine acts. It's a kind of black metal opera as the title implicates. It's rather good structured with some nice climaxes. There are a lot of theatrical aspects, many keyboard parts, acoustic guitars, screams, dark vocals, whispering etc... The black metal 'midtro' is maybe not really special, but it fits pretty good in the whole atmosphere. It's worth listening to cause of the flexibility and several kinds of moods. \$17.- to **Adipocere Recs, 152 Rue des Acacias, 01700 Miribel, France.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

### **Decoryah (Fin)**

#### **"Wisdom Floats" (Witchhunt)**

A strange release, well, actually Witchhunt is releasing more strange things, like Xerxes. It's all good and moodily music. I suspect Decoryah for being the remains of Falatomy, the great rip-offs of Therogothan. Well, you can hear some slight influences from that demo, audible in the keyboards. But it's no wonder, some members of Falatomy are in this band. The style has changed a lot, they jumped from the ultra slow and very emotional doom metal to this melancholic electronic composition. In fact it's not a big difference, the atmospheres are almost the same. And it's nice to have such a semi-gothic deeply impressed music between all the raw atmospheres that are appearing on disk today.  
Harold Dekkers

### **Detest**

#### **"Dorval" (Progress/Nuclear Blast)**

Unfortunately I received this album just after the dead-line of Numskull 'zine #4 so this review is a bit out dated and you've probably read a bunch of reviews on this one. Anyway, I'll review it for people who haven't people who have can go on to the next review 'cause I'm afraid I won't tell anything new. Thirteen deathrash songs are blasted through your speakers when you're listening this one. Detest likes to put a lot variation in their tunes. Besides their catchy deathrash they are not afraid to put in some doom melodic parts or spoken samples. They do not even fear to turn one spoken sample into one tune or include an almost classical part in the tune "Gathering Of Darkness". All tunes are played tight and are pretty good composed! Also the production is pretty good; raw and clear. Anyway, "Dorval" definitely is a nice album which won't bore you as far as I'm concerned.  
Wicked Wolly

### **Detonation Vol.1**

#### **"Sampl'er '93" (B) (Tessa Records)**

A Belgium compilation release tries to bring you listeners a cross section of the Belgium metal scene. Famous names like Tyfoon and Ancient Rites are on the list. For the security I tell you the twelve bands on this compilation produced their tracks on their own... to make sure a close-to-real sound. Sorry, it only turned out in a non-professional product. Maybe not every production can be completely tight, but most bands don't bring too much special. Simply constructed and boring tracks, cliché solo's... even Ancient Rites doesn't give much away. I hope the next release of Tessa will be much better. I'm looking forward to their release of Exoto, one of the better bands. Also Anesthesia is promising... but not on this CD! Only Belgium people will like this product I'm afraid. **Tessa Rec's, Stationsplein 18, B-9160 Lokeren, Belgium.**  
Harold Dekkers

### **Disciples of Power (Can)**

#### **Power Trap**

This is one of the first albums by the Canadian deathrash band Disciples of Power. Anno '94 they are more technical than back in '89. But the technical and inventive approach stays. Sometimes it's a bit similar to the first thrash metal bands like Exodus (the first one) and stuff like that. Write to Fringe Recs (who also remixed, remastered and released Slaughter's Strapped cult album): **P.O.Box 670, Station A, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5W 1G2.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

### **Discharge (Swe)**

#### **"Seeing, Feeling, Bleeding" (Nuclear Blast)**

Discharge, Discharge, Disgust, Disrupt, Disorder, what is this? Another Dis... (member?) Good old punkcore like Discharge, less changing rhythms, rather aggressive but always the same sort of riffs and vocals. I guess this is ex-No Security from Sweden. It's recorded and produced in the Sunlight Studios. All tracks have an equal sound.  
Roel van Reijmersdal

### **Disgust (UK)**

#### **"Brutality of War" (Earache)**

This album should be a return of the legendary pre-grind/punk period, well it's not. It's totally bad, 13 tracks all written in the studio and immediately recorded, all in six days when I'm right. How can you be able to write and record 13 tracks in such a short time. Well, it's simple, using the same riffs and rhythms all over again. This is also the band of

Lee, the owner of Candlelight. Candlelight is signing some very excellent bands such as Emperor, Opeth, Monumentum etc. So I thought Lee really does know how real music and metal should sound, but I guess I'm wrong after listening to Disgust. But the energy on this album has a high level.  
Roel van Reijmersdal

### **Dissect (NL)**

#### **"Swallow in swooning mass" (Cyber Music)**

Pure death metal in its heaviest form. Brutal stuff like old Grave or Rottevore. No compromises, keyboards or different vocals. Just down tuned brutality. No blast beats, more mid tempo riffs and drum parts. Heavy and gory production. Sometimes surprisingly melodic leads, not! Great cover art!  
Roel van Reijmersdal

### **Divine Eve (USA)**

#### **Nuclear Blast**

Divine Eve's debut demo on CD, pretty brutal and alarmy death metal. I'm glad that this isn't the usual US death metal. It's far more European orientated, the vocals are pretty Swedish and some riffs are in the early European death metal vein, from before the second death metal wave of 1990. A lot of doom parts are there as well, a bit like Winter. I don't know if they'll record more stuff for Nuclear Blast. In any case they'll release a picture ep on Candlelight!  
Roel van Reijmersdal

### **Donor (Hol)**

#### **"Release cd '94" (Mausoleum)**

This is undutch. Donor released in 1992 their first cd "Triangle of the Lost". At that time they played rather technical speed metal and Ard Bers was still on vox. Ard got once an offer to sing in Watchtower, but he didn't except it. Now Ard has left Donor and I can not regret that. The music on the debut was pretty good, but I didn't like his high vocals. Good news was that Ard left Donor because of his private live. On the other hand it is difficult to find a good singer here in Holland. It turned out pretty well, Richard Dijkman has a variable low voice. A new singer and a new approach of metal. In the beginning Donor was technical speed outfit, now they play much slower, less technical and much more mystic emphasized by the mystic voice of Richard. Here and there you can notice some typical Donor things, but in general we have a new band here as regards music. The sound still is rather Donor. What we have got here is 10 well structured quality tracks with lots of variation, diversity and unpredictation. The tye track takes 10 minutes, this is a well build up song and is from the beginning to the end exciting. Jelle and Bart are miracles on the guitar, because they play excellent interesting riffs and solo's. This is not because of the technique the riffs and solo's ware, but melody's, strangeness and feelings they carry. "Release" turned out in a great mystic power metal release. This is excellent, this is undutch.  
Cor Snijder

### **Driller Killer**

#### **"Brutalize" (Dolores)**

I was afraid of this when I saw the cover; punk. Not that I'm afraid of punkers or something like that, but more that I'm not really into this kind of music. This fact makes it rather difficult for me to say something useful about Driller Killer. To me everything sounds alike... So punkers, don't pay too much attention to this review, others which are like me probably understand what I'm going to write. Fourteen songs which, like I said, sound pretty much alike. Clear though heavy produced and all up tempo. Pretty catchy and cheerful, short and powerful. But, when you want a proper opinion about this you'd better check this one out and make it up yourself...  
Wicked Wolly

### **Earthquake**

#### **"Theatricals" (Eurorecords)**

Are there still bands playing thrash metal? Well, Metallica is immensely popular (but are they thrash? not any more) so their clones will exist as well. The vocals by the guitar player

Pete are the same as on Metallica's Creeping Death ep, so here we're dealing with a Hetfield rip-off. Or the guy just has the same voice, right? The music isn't really exciting, standard thrash metal with some huge Metallica influences. **Eurorecords, v. Storgatan 21 A, 294 34 Sölvesborg, Sweden.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

### **Enslaved (Nor)**

#### **"CD" (Deathlike Silence)**

Without any doubt this is the best release in 1994 so far! Hell yez! This album with 45 minutes of majestic viking hymns is totally brilliant, excellent, a masterpiece, simply the best! Super riffs, tight and fast drumming, great screaming vocals, acoustic parts, epic keyboards and pianos. All packed in five songs. Most tracks have a play time of around 10 minutes and it's a hell of an exciting event listening to. It's far more better than 'Pure Holocaust', 'Aske' or the 'Filmince Occultist' so be sure not to miss it. It's brilliant pure heavy metal. **\$20.- to D.S.P. THV Meyersgt. 33 N-0555 Oslo, Norway.** T-shirts are \$20.- as well!  
Roel van Reijmersdal

### **Etherial Winds**

#### **"Saved" (M.M.I.)**

At this very moment thunder and lightning is filling the sky in good old Meeden (say: Maiden) and to be honest it's a nice addition to the intro. After that "Into the Serene" starts and fades all sounds from outside. Powerful melodic doom deathrash, which (they probably have heard this before) has some obvious The Gathering (Always) influences. And again the powerful vocal part o "Winter" is added with some thunder and the following key part with some lightning... That was close! while Meeden is the witness of Mother earth's cruelty Etherial Winds play on and on. Very nice job and you really should listen this with some thunder and lightning! Great effect. Twenty minutes clear produced bombastic music. Worth your attention.  
Wicked Wolly

### **Exoto**

#### **"Carnival Of Souls" (Tessa)**

Belgian kings of thrash? Who knows... Exoto shows to be good musicians with their debut full length on Tessa Records. Clear production of these good structured deathrash songs is very good to consume. I wonder why they make a tribute to Iron Maiden in the song "Escape The Eternal Sleep", but that could be to attract the listeners' attention even more... Anyway, in the whole this album can be seen as a good debut; well played and well written songs. The only thing which could be improved is the originality, but that also can be seen as an impossible task nowadays. I also would like this opportunity to express my sympathy concerning the death of Exoto's drummer Didier Mertens who was killed in a car crash on April 10th 1994. And I would ask to you readers not to make it more difficult for the parents of Didier; please do not send any mail to the Voodoo cult address. When you want to express your sympathy write to the fanclub address... Exoto decided to continue their activities so be prepared for releases in the future, but first check out this one which is really worth your attention.  
Wicked Wolly

### **F (Fin)**

#### **I - III (Independent)**

This needs a critical listening and that's hard. Finland's funk holocaust last for over the forty minutes with only three songs. It's progressive anyway and really enjoyable, that's the first positive score. But this everalstin own styled folk music from outer space doesn't change that much on the whole CD. Due to the length of each song the music is cut in parts, connected with nice musical midtro's with all different styles. The Finnish lyrics in strange sounding vocals (They need to be sung in Finnish, 'cause it's the most avant garde language in Europe and that fits well) are just as weird as the music. But this kind of singing is exhausting for the listener. After one track I just draw the conclusion that the music is wierd and perfect as the projects of John Zorn, it gives a strange





# GHOSTORM

*I was amazed when I heard the second demo of the Lithuanian Dissection (got by tapetrading) from my tape deck. I recognised a bunch of technical ideas with some slight jazz influences. Cynic was popular around that time, and I was hungry for more. So, I got some information about another great band, Ghostorm. Ghostorm plays an US style of death metal, styled like Atheist, Death and Cynic. Some ideas are great, the production of their tape isn't brilliant nor aggressive, but there are much technical elements to enjoy, especially the new songs I received recently. Such a creation from the Lithuania scene (an exotic one, but not for long) had to be promoted, so I took contact with Omenas, the founder of his own band.*



## My opinion is that Carcass and Entombed are more technical than Pestilence...

**Ghostorm is Sarunas 'Omen' Tamulaitis, the rest are session members from Dissection (the Lithuanian one!). Why couldn't you form a steady line-up to form your band? There are enough people wanting to play death metal in Lithuania.** First of all I'd love to tell you that I'm not the only member of Ghostorm any more. After the recording of the demo 'End of all songs', drummer Brazas (ex-Dissection) joined Ghostorm. Dissection was (now they are split up) a band that had the very best musicians of Lithuania, playing death metal. That's why I asked them for help. Now we also have the very first line-up together and it consists (besides Brazas and me) by bassist Adrius (from the Lithuanian hard rock band Volis) and guitarist/vocalist Kanopa. This is the present and steady line-up of Ghostorm. Unfortunately Kanopa had a very bad and sore throat: something got wrong with his voice and his doctor forbade him to sing for a while in order not to damage his throat completely. So it's very possible that we will have to invite the vocalist of Regredior: Marius, for a next recording. We hope Kanopa will recover as soon as possible. He has no problems with his guitar (he doesn't have to roar it!), he still plays.

**About other musicians here, yes, there are plenty of those who want to play death metal, indeed, but you can count on your fingers the ones who are really able to.**

**Why are the Dissection members the only guys to play with? If you want to play in a technical band, why can't you enjoy Dissection then?** I love to say that I've played with other people, than with Dissection members only. Some months ago we did a rehearsal recording where Regredior's vocalist Marius and guitarist Taraile (he recorded the solo on The Sea (a new track -ed)) also participated, as well as Andrius. And I don't think Dissection would have let me in and I was not a great fan of their music.

**Why was the drummer Brazas deleted from the line-up description on the demo cover?** Brazas wasn't deleted from the line-up. On the cover only his name was removed as being a Dissection member, because at that time he already was in Ghostorm.

**You are still waiting for an offer to play in a good band outside Lithuania? What are the conditions for this?** Many things are changed since that time. Back then I was alone and that's the reason why I wanted to join an other band. Now I don't think I would leave Ghostorm ever, it's my own band now.

**Your favourite bands are from Florida: Atheist, Death, Cynic and Resurrection, Malevolent Creation, Morbid Angel. But have you ever heard Vader and Liers in Wait? What do you think of those bands?** I don't listen to those bands just only because they are from Florida. I just like them musically, they are great! By the way, my taste has changed a bit. Now I'm into Entombed, Pantera, Carcass and certainly the same Atheist and Cynic. Their new CDs are fantastic. And we are into many styles of non-metal music. We think it's necessary to put as much feeling and thought into any kind of music. The way the music is performed is also very important and the quality of its recording (unfortunately we cannot boast of this). As regard on the bands you mentioned, I can say that Vader won't be a big impression for us and we haven't ever heard of Liers in Wait.

**That's rather a pity. They are very technical, maybe a bit over the top. And what about our own Dutch (semi-)technical Pestilence? What do you think of their playing? Are they just that technical and jazzy as they always shouted around?** We often listened to the previous

Pestilence album (Testimony of the Ancients). Maybe it was a bit primitive, but the music was really beautiful. We were really surprised and disappointed by their new CD Spheres. During all that time they could have improved very much, but nothing happened. I was really surprised to hear the interview with them on MTV. They were speaking about themselves like they were really virtuosos, but my opinion is that Carcass and Entombed are more technical than this guys. I couldn't find jazz influences on their new album. But maybe I'm wrong... **Ha, ha, no, you aren't. Maybe they got so angry about that, they split up for ever this time. But I did noticed some jazz influences in Dissection and also your music must be influenced by jazz. Can you tell me the non-metal influences if you didn't have your ideas from Cynic etc.** Yes, we listen to a lot of jazz and jazz rock, but I don't think this has a big influence on our current music. On the demo you can clearly find the influence of jazz in the song 'The end of all songs'. I can mention some names of musicians we are into: Dave Weckl, Chuck Corea, Horsworth, Scofield, etc.

**Please, tell me your history as a guitarist. When you started playing, in which bands you've performed etc, etc,... everything.** I touched a guitar for the first time about five years ago. Back then I played with the current Ossuary guitarist Laimis (ex-Dissection). At the time our band was called B.F.D and I remind these times with a smile on my face. You can imagine what level our music was. Each went his own way after this and I met the drummer Juodas and with him I formed a band Bloody Altar. We played a kind of death/grind and a while later the moniker was changed into Conscious Rot. The line-up was: Joados - drums, Makas - guitar, Osva - vocals, Vyga - bass and me. Later another bassist, Andre, joined us. I spent for about 2-3 years in this band but I noticed that the progression of the other musicians couldn't satisfy me, so I left Conscious Rot to form my own band Ghostorm. I don't consider myself as a good guitarist. Even here in Lithuania there are a lot of better musicians than me. But I won't stop and I will try to achieve my goal.

**Well, I think you are one of the better metal guitarists. Do you know the music of Eucharist? I haven't heard of that band. Well, they seem to be technically great, but in fact it are only the compositions and the new ideas that makes them good. That's maybe the same with Ghostorm. About death metal in your neighbour countries. There is metal in Estonia too, what about Latvia?** I know one band from Latvia only and that is Remains. I cannot tell you that the level of the band is very high but they had a very good guitarist (as far as I know he has left the band yet). In my opinion Lithuania has the richest metal scene. I've heard only of two or three bands in Estonia.

**But what will be your future plans in that rich scene. Can we expect a second demo by Ghostorm and will the production be better?** We have great plans, really. Now we are rehearsing the material for our debut CD. The material is already completed. I can note that our music has changed a lot. If we sign Cenotaph records, we will record our album somewhere in Poland or Germany, but we aren't sure yet.

**This was Omenas from Lithuania. To contact the band or order their demo (\$5.-) write to their manager Sėkla, Architektu 9-25, 2043 Vilnius, Lietuva/Lithuania. Maybe one label will invest in this great scene, it's really worth to promote it.**

Harold Dekkers

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Jesper, their guitarist is not that good in answering interviews, but I let him speak about his band anyway.

I don't know anything about your band. In Flames is excellent, but the 'Lunar Strain' will be a sudden release. So you have to introduce your self in everything. Just tell a brief history about the band and about the line-up. Thank for those nice words! In Flames has been around four about two years now. We started like a project band, not so serious. I was a member of another band called Ceremonial Oath at that time. In august 1993 we went to a studio to record our debut demo which contains three tracks: 'In Flames', 'Clad in Shadows' and 'Upon an oaken throne'. We sent the tape around to various record companies, but no one was interested. There was only one label, called Wrong Again records, who liked us so far and they signed us a few months later. We entered the same studio in december to record our debut album which will be out in May/June. About the line up. We have had so much problems with members who had to quit and came back, so it's too complexed to explain. Anyway, the line-up today is Me (Jesper) -Lead guitar, Johan -bass and Glen -Lead guitar. On the album we got help on the vocals by Mikael Stanne from Dark Tranquillity. I played the drums as well.

Aha, that's why I see such a strong connection to Dark Tranquillity. About your music style... it's like 'Dark Tranquillity' isn't? I will never label you as a rip-off, your music is really great, but it will stay a usual type of Gothenburg metal, like Dark Tranquillity, Ceremonial Oath, Dissection and In Flames. Is there an explanation that everybody is trying out the new style, after the trend of Entombed? First of all, I don't think we are too much like Dark Tranquillity. There is a big difference, for example, Dark Tranquillity plays very fast and has completely a different style in their riffs, we are playing much slower and more influenced by normal heavy

# I N F L A M E S

It's like this band has been around like one of the classics. After the great release of Dark Tranquillity and the surprise of this year: Eucharist, I became in contact with a brand new band from the Gothenburg area. In Flames, the next interview in line after those with At The Gates, Liers In Wait, Decollation and Eucharist. (And they gave us new information, so you can expect that Gothenburg will be continued in our testament, the fusion with Numskull.)

This band plays in the popular style of Dark Tranquillity, but is much more thrashier. There are some funny violin tracks on their debut album which I don't like, but for the rest, there melodies are interesting and serious songs like everlost part I+II froze my heart.

metal. About this new style of melodic death metal, I think it's a natural progression, you have taken the brutal death metal as far as you can and I think people are a bit tired of that. I don't know why it's typical for Gothenburg bands to play this type of music, maybe it's all the herring that we eat?

In this days black metal is also changing style. Especially the Norwegians are specialised in making atmospherical and orchestral metal that has lyrically more to do with nature than with evilness. But this flight to the 'old metal' makes also contact with your genre that is also moving to the heathen feeling of the past. Your music is connected to black metal in this way, but are the ancient 'feelings' really the same? Sorry, I don't really understand this question. Well, let's try it in an other way, your music style, does it reflects the medieval ages of 'song and dance'? Yes, we try to get that atmosphere in the songs. Our new material that is written after the debut album goes more in that direction, we are planning to use many funny old instruments on the next release, more like folk music.

Ehh.. not that awful scratching violin again I hope. What about the use of different instruments. Is it possible to make an ancient folk metal band of In Flames with more instruments? Yes, as I said in the previous question, we are going to use more instruments than just the basic drums, guitars and bass. Much more violins, flute and other acoustic instruments.

I hope you will use them better than on your debut. What about the female singer? I don't wonder if she did a job in Dark Tranquillity before? No, she didn't, we used a girl called Jennica, she is not the same as on Dark Tranquillity's 'Skydancer'. We used her because we had written a song on acoustic guitar and we thought it would be interesting

to put female vocals on it. We are not completely happy with the results, though we had not too much time to record it, so the vocals is not that good on all parts.

Really? Well, when I had a first listening to the advance tape and she opened her mouth I became electrocuted. But perhaps that's because the good arrangement. Okay, let's continue about music, but enough about Dark Tranquillity, they are maybe only an influence. But your music has different styles too. I noticed some cool thrashy riffs in some songs. There must be other bands that are your faves? Yes, I don't think Dark Tranquillity is a too big influence in our music. We have many fave bands like Halloween, Skyclad, Sodom, Destruction, Blind Guardian, Running Wild, Forbidden, Exodus, Slayer, Kind Diamond and of course all the swedish heroes like At The Gates, Dissection, Katatonia, Excretion, Ancient Slumber (everybody check them out!) Crystal Age, Dark Tranquillity... Some non-metal bands? Yes, I like Mike Oldfield, Dead Can Dance, Hedningarna, Garmarna Väsen, Enya, Yes, Asia and a lot of more bands.

Are you a 'lunatic'? I mean, you're obsessed by the moon? Please, explain me a bit more about the title 'Lunar Strain' and about that song. Who write the lyrics? Mikael wrote all the lyrics. I haven't read the lyrics in their depth, so I can't say what it is about.

Well, you had to ask Mikael. In Flames is a kind of discovering for me, maybe for Wrong Again Records too. The will have a big hit of the album of Eucharist (rip). How did you get that deal. W.A.R. is just a label from your neighbourhood? W.A.R. is a quiet new label, they have released just one album so far (Yes, the great Eucharist, a gift from heaven! -HD). We just sent our demo to them and they

singed us. I think it's a good label so far.

Are there still unknown acts around Gothenburg? there are a few. For example there is a band called Ancient Slumber, who is one of the best bands in Sweden. I really hope that they got the attention they deserve. There is also a band called Crystal Age who is a new band consisting of ex-members of Ceremonial Oath and Liers In Wait, they are quite unknown, but I think there will be no problem for them to get a record deal.

In the beginning there weren't that much local gigs in Sweden. How's the situation now! It's worse than ever. The only place here in Gothenburg where you could paly gigs has shut down, but I don't know about the situation in the rest of Sweden.

Destruction of their own culture. But ow's the situation in Gothenburg now? It's a cool town to go out and have fun? I don't know, I usually don't go out very often.

What can we expect from the Gothenburg class in general? I've noticed already a couple of bands playing the same style: the second level acts have arrived in between. So there will come a new overkill of this type of metal bands? Yes, I think this type of metal will become very popular in the future and it's not from Gothenburg only.

And you, belonging to the pioneers of this genre, will survive? What can we expect after your CD is out? Yes, I think we will be around for a long time. Maybe we don't become big, but we are going o keep playing together I hope.

Speaking about your debut CD. How is the deal with Wrong Again Records and how are the CD's distributed? We have singed for only one album and it's at the moment just going to be distributed in Scandinavia by H.O.K. But I hope that it will be released in Europe soon. They are working on it.

Well, your last words. Tell the readers how to get your CD and add anything you want to this. Good bye! Okay, thank you Harold, for showing interest in our band. We will have our debut CD out in May, check it out. If you want to order a T-shirt, the price is \$15.- (\$18.-overseas), bye....

Jesper Strömblad,  
Rödgan 9,  
421 65 Västra Frölunda,  
Sweden.

# INVOCATOR

This interview was held with Jacob the guitarist and vocalist of Danish thrash formation Invocator by fax just before the dead-line of this issue and just before Jacob went to the Roskilde festival. I'd like to thank him this way for his quick response. It might be that there are some type mistakes in names because I wasn't able to read it. Anyway; you'll understand what Jacob has to tell us about his band. Enjoy!  
Wicked Wolly

**Hi Jacob, let us first spend some words about your latest release "Weave The Apocalypse" when was it released and what are the reactions like?**

"Weave The Apocalypse" was released back in August '93 and the reactions were really good. Especially in Denmark and Germany. We got some great, great reviews, but it seemed that that wasn't enough. In Denmark we outsold all death/thrash metal bands (of course we are from Denmark so...), but I don't think it sold as much as it should have in other countries. It was released in Jan. '94 in the USA and Canada, and we have been told by the distributors that we're doing very well; especially in the USA. I guess our music isn't really music for Europeans. But hey, we think we made quite a good album and it is still selling all over, also in Japan.

**You've been touring with Cemetary and Morgan Lefay. What was it like and where have you been? (perhaps you could tell us some anecdotes)**

Yes, we toured with these bands. The tour itself was pretty bad arranged in terms of promotion. We didn't see any posters for the first 4 - 5 shows! I really hated being on that tour, but Cemetary were really great guys and we got pretty well along with the tour manager (hi Björn). I won't mention the behaviour of some members of Morgana Lefay, but I think they have an excuse because they were the oldest folks on this tour (!). I could tell you a bunch of negative anecdotes about this tour, but I won't take your time for that. When we were touring with Dark Angel and Sacrosanct things were much better and everybody got along very well. They, at least, are no bunch of Mr. Rock 'n' Rollers!

**Invocator has done some things for Danish television. Could you tell us some more?**

Yes, we were invited to participate in a TV show called "Tak For Karre", which is a talk show. They did a feature on heavy metal, and I was the one to tell about the different genres in heavy metal. They decided that we had to play a song so we played "From My Skull It Remains" playback!! It was a great experience. In the end of the program we jammed with a famous pop star called Johnny Remiar (?); cool! We have also been filmed for a program to be broadcasted later this year. It's about this town's metal environment. They shot the program in one day and filmed a show with us in the end. That's going to be cool. We also played four shows with Paradise Lost at their first four dates of the European tour. There were about 1000-1200 people each night! Really great!

**So, Invocator has quite a reputation in Denmark, and as far as I know also in the underground scene. How come that Invocator hasn't had a breakthrough while you've released two albums 'till now?**

You're right. I keep asking myself that all the time, but I guess we haven't been that lucky yet. We need some more experience in releasing albums and such, and Black Mark never helped us out. They know nothing about that kinda stuff as far as cover and approach goes. I think we need that a bit. In Denmark it's impossible to be bigger as a band like us. We sell tons of albums over here, but Denmark only is a small piece

of the world... I think our new album will push us a little more in the good direction. We will try to do things better and better and we will get more professional promotion this time as we hope to change label.

**What's your local scene like and how do you experience it?**

It's kinda dead at the moment. Everyone is having line up problems: Caustic, Inconoclasm etc. But there are a few new bands worth looking for. They just need some more experience. One of the best local acts definitely is Chiro Therium, as the rest is pretty unaware of what's going on. The local scene isn't what it used to be...

**Invocator is leaving Black Mark. Are you already able to tell which label will release your third album?**

No, because we haven't really left Black Mark yet. We have, of course, spoken to a couple of labels, but we don't know much yet. We are looking for a professional label with good people and distribution. Our lawyers are currently speaking with Black Mark's Lawyers

**I understood you're going to record the third album in August. Will it be in the vein of Weave... and could you already give us some new titles?**

Ahhh... no, I don't think so. We will record a mini CD in August and release it in September, but the whole album will have to wait a bit longer... We only have 5 - 6 songs for it. It will be in the vein of "Weave..." yes, but less thrashy I think. It will still be heavy, but in a different way. We hope that we can do something completely new this time. It surely will be something more melodic, but not like, for example, Fates Warning. More like... good songs and melodies that you can hang on to, with a technical edge of course. The vocals will be a bit higher, because I try to sing in notes, and they will have more dubs, but no ridiculous screams! Some titles: "Hole", "Living Is

Limited", "Search" and a few others; still untitled

**Any news about the upcoming European tour?**

Well, at the moment everything is pretty quiet. We decided not to think about touring before our new album is out. That's because we don't want to rush through the songs. Last time we did six songs in one month for "Weave..." and we don't want to do that again. We also have a new bass player and he has been put into band through the live shows we played lately. His name is Kylling Nikkelson (Chicken!)

**Invocator is moving through the underground for quite a while now. Which things are changed for the better and which aren't through the years?**

I have been around in the underground since '86. Tapetrading with Nicke Andersson (Entombed), Gylve Nagell (Darkthrone), Chris Reifert (Autopsy), etc. etc. Writing with a bunch of cool people, but you tend to drift apart. There have been some changes of course, but I still think it's somewhat the same. A lot of people are doing magazines and such. A new thing is all the underground labels which are a good chance for underground bands to get known. It's very hard for me to tell how everything is because I'm not in it myself anymore. I hate to see that the music is put together with politics. Like the black metal movement. Some bands are cool, but some of them are more into politics than the music, but use their music to reach people. I think that's wrong! Music is





for entertainment.

**You're having your own label: Power records. Tell us something about your releases and your future releases.**

Actually it's no label, but a music store. Well, I help out a label of which I know the president. I introduce him to good bands and he sometimes signs them. I have been planning to start releasing good CDs but that's hard and very expensive. I have a couple of good Danish bands in sight and I am trying to get them signed (and they even don't know that themselves)

**When do you think a band has quality, I mean, when are you willing to sign a band?**

I think as soon as a band sounds as if they know exactly what they're doing musicwise, it's about time to check them out. The look at the picture; do they know how to make a good approach? Do they look like Anthrax back in '86? Etc. etc. It also depends on what kind of music we're talking about. I introduced LORDBANE to Nordic Metal. They look good, play awesome music in the progressive vein and are from the USA. It can't be better.

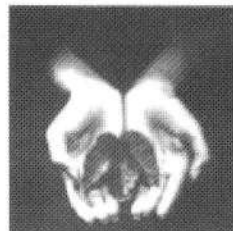
**What, do you think, is the best newcomer in the underground?**

It's hard to say, but I have been into bands like demonacy, Human Remains, Lotshow etc. for a long time. I'd like to see on of these bands get signed. Also Ripping Corpse is a band I'd love to see signed again + Syndrome and Auditory Imagery.

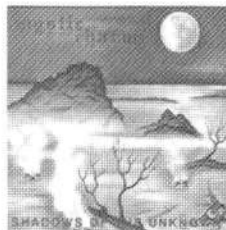
**Thanks a lot. Is there anything you want to add to this interview?**

Thanks for the time pal. I hope that everyone who reads this will check out "Weave The Apocalypse" when they see it. Perhaps you'd like it. Keep an eye out for a new release from Invocator

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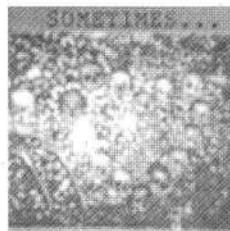
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happily sad feeling, but I'm already drunk just before I listen to the other track. And something within me warns not to turn it out too pseudo-intellectual. So, just try it... **Ei Enää, 29570 Söörmarkku, Finland.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Faces of Death (Austr)**  
"Erase" (Nuclear Blast)

Is this the Faces of death soundtrack? No, it's an Australian death grind act. Not like Mortification, more like the older Pungent Stench. Flexible and original aggression. The leads on this album are great, aggressive but melodic as well. It sounds sometimes a bit like Necrony, only on this CD they guys can play all the instruments their selves without using several session member. Only the samples suck. **Eocentric, P.O.Box 572, 56002 Koblenz, Germany.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Gorefest**  
"Erase" (Nuclear Blast)

I was very surprised by this one for two reasons: first I recieved an original version more than a month before it's official release and secondly the musical change from Dutch biggest metal act; Gorefest. The music change ain't that extreme that you can't hear it's Gorefest anymore, but the change is more positive. Musically seen Gorefest has become much better; they improved the technical level by having the songs more varied, using more brakes and making the solos intenser. In fact the only thing which isn't changed is the Gorefest brutality. Though Jan-Chris has changed the vocal part a little bit it's easy to hear we're dealing with Gorefest. Songs like Peace Of Paper must have been written just after the release of their False album as that song is more in the vein of the songs on the False album. Conclusion: 42 minutes of variety which differs from grind to catchy metal all showing full advantage due to the good production of Pete Coleman (Paradise Lost - Icon). I think that Erase will be a success just like False was and with this one they'll gain even more fans who have been claiming that Gorefest didn't have proper musicians... Definitely check this one out at your local record store or check them out at their upcoming world tour!!  
Wicked Wolly

**Havohej (USA)**  
"Dethrone the son of god" (Candlelight)

Well, I've to dip my pencil in vitriol and to vent my bile on this release. If this release belongs to the so called black metal genre I've been overrating that style all the time then. Here you can see that the division of good and bad is rather thin. The used riffs are common to most black metal ones, but are arranged in such a silly way. The only emotion I can notice is idiotism, that's all. I think all such pathetic releases will harm the black metal cult more than ever. If every idiot can make a CD with a boring one man act I will fight that till I drop. It's really a shame this release appeared on Candlelight records, it must be a mistake!  
Harold Dekkers

**Hazael**  
"Thor" ('94)

New album of these Polish deathers... Wow, this is what I call progress! Comparing this one o their previous release "Clairvoyance" we still see the very obvious Entombed influences (especially the vocal part) and we still see eight death metal tracks (of which two were already presented on the "Clairvoyance" demo), but the progress is especially in the structural side of their music. Well written, straight forward and aggressive death metal which is played good and produced the same way. Though the originality still isn't very high this release must be in the possession of each freak who adores bands like the old Entombed. This won't disappoint you. Available through: **Loud Out Records, ul. Zielna 45/30, 00108 Warszawa, Poland**  
Wicked Wolly

**Headhunter D.C. (Bra)**  
"Punishment at dawn" (Cogumelo Records)

Aaahhh, finally a band that used the remarkable cover 'The Nightmare' of Henry Fuseli. Yes, a good cover is always something positive for the band. The music of the second album of Headhunter D.C. is welcome too. The production is a bit like a faster and earlier Benediction, but on this album there are much more soli, like on their debut. So, on the other hand I can compare Headhunter D.C. to a band like Incubus. You see in what direction their music is, a bit like the pioneers of the modern death metal. This one is also needful to get a nice complete collection! For band contact: **P.O.Box 191, Belo Horizonte, MG, CEP: 30161-970, Brasil.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Heavens Gate (Ger)**

**"Live for Sale!" (Steamhammer)**

A lot of you will know this band, they are operating quite a while. Heavens Gate is very popular in Japan, where this CD is recorded. Sometimes I can understand their popularity there, but mostly not. There are some nice riffs on this album, especially in the fast tracks. The slower tracks often have more normal riffs in the way of Judas Priest, Iron Maiden and Helloween. The songs have rather catchy melodies, and why should we regret that. My very critical point is the sing along refrains in a lot of tracks. People who are deeply in the heavy metal of five years ago, should give this band a change.

**History of things to come**

**"Underground compilation"** (Growing Deaf Entertainment)  
Finally there is someone who really dares to take the responsibility to take care with the destiny of the underground bands that were great in the past. The sound of this compilation is a bit the same. Maybe that's because 80% from the bands comes from the USA and are rather old ones. So there isn't any overproduced bass drum or guitar sound, only the true underground quality of 1990. Only Expulsion and Numskull seems to survived the tremendous wave of new death metal bands, but this release makes you aware of what happened only a few years ago. The compilation opens with a short intro of Shockwerks. Then we have a track of the best band on this compilation. The great Dr. Shrinker. I guess they could have been as great as Death at the moment, their track is really original: a kind of old fashioned horror movie metal as the bandname implicates. Bloodless is present with two tracks of old and fast playing American pre-death metal. Even the sound quality gives the feeling of that time while the tracks are recorded late '93.

Expulsion with the track 'Let the ravens fly', still connected with the feelings from their roots and with more rock 'n roll. Keep an eye on them, they are going on with producing brilliant new songs. Num Skull performs with two tracks, a bit different than their former style. 'Future: our terror?' is a mid-tempo deathrash song with a monotonous rhythm, really apart. 'Spill your guts' is more a traditional doomy death metal track. Then we have Phantasm, the great and fantastic band from the states, still without any deal, incredible! They show what they are worth with an 8 minutes long composition in their own style, very varying death metal. Now I give the pencil to Wolly. The following two tracks are from the godly Matricide starting with an intro which probably is stolen from the CIA. Orchestral, bombastic touch in both songs, bit messy, but really good. Especially "Warrior of the 7th Domain". Then Prime Evil hits the road with two tracks typically U.S.A. speed thrash in the vein of old Slayer; screaming solos and, well you know... pretty good! Mortal Dread's "Cadaver A La Carte" is deathrash with a rather fat production with is completed with Mortal Dread's deadly gargels (what the f\*ck is that?). Besides the intro Shockwerks is featured with two other tracks. Can be labeled as industrial

**"Hirnekstar"**

To be honest, the title of this cd makes me sick, also the cover of this is not that great. In my heart I always thought this was a kind of an intelligent death metal band. Maybe Incubator has the same power (yes this cd has a lot of power), but it is definitely not death metal. Sometimes (just sometimes) this band reminds me of Mekong Delta, but the riffs on this cd are not as sharp and rugged. To give you an idea of what I mean is to remember the guitar sound on the split cd of Emperor and Enslaved. Forget these to bands, because further there is no comparison between the mentioned bands. Hirnekstar sounds much more hardcore. If you want honest, not trendy, original brutal music with a lot of guitars and drums with a sort of grunt (not a deep one), you should take a listen to this music, because this band is not bad at all.  
Cor Snijder

**Infamous Siphony (USA)**

**Hell is round lp cassette '93** (Chainsaw records)  
This is what I call thrash metal in the most purest way. Heavy fat metal riffs with a fantastic drummer. The vocalist has a nice raw thrash voice, which suits the music very well. You can compare I.S. with Slayer and Infernal Majesty, only the evil spheres are not on this tape. This tape is based on aggression. This band shows more spirit and aggression than hundreds of "should be death metal"-bands. "Technical Advancement" starts with magnificent drumming, this is a well built up thrash song. "Deformation" has great heavy aggressive riffs, especially in the beginning. There are more excellent tunes on this tape. Remarkable are the skills of the drummer, for example his double bass is amazing. It is not strange that this band plays very tight, even in the fast parts, 10 songs of damned good thrash metal. Order this tape with an excellent dirty power production at once for only \$10 at: **Chainsaw records, 13465 Community rd. #104, Poway CA, 92064 USA.**  
Cor Snijder

**Internal Void**

**"Standing On the Sun"** (Nuclear Blast america)  
Alright... the doom returns, again a re-release of the Hellhound Records. It's easily interpreted as being a black sabbath equivalent. Well, they are common to bands like Pentagram and Count Raven, but differences can be found too, even they are reduced to a minimum. Internal Void controls the hypnosizing doom with a heavy and cold voice. Bass lines are structured in a more mobile set-up. So they also keep this typical genre in tact to make it impressive enough.  
Harold Dekkers

**Invocator**

**"Weave The Apocalypse"** (Black Mark)  
New release from Danish kings of thrash. Eleven crushing



songs, played fast and tight. Obviously this again hasn't been the breakthrough of Invocator while they really deserve it. Clear production, normal vocals with pretty much in dubs. Technically seen good songs with some very catchy moments and melodic solos. All good musicians of which only the basist was replaced lately. Read the interview and check out this release when you're into some decent trash metal  
Wicked Wolly

**Iron Fist (NL)**  
"Motor Sexle Mania" (Foundation

in the vein of Will. Well done! And in the end this album is completed with a track of Iron Warrior which into has the Winter feeling, and the... ah good old metal; simply and raw and above all old (1988) a worthy end! I hope you'll understand this release is a must. For people who'd like to re-live the early days and for people who are willing to hear what the scene was like back in the eighties. Get this one before there are no copies left of what probably is one of 1994's best releases.  
Harold & Wicked

**Illdisposed**

**"Four Depressive Seasons"** (Progress/Nuclear Blast)  
Danish brutality. Rather old, but worth mentioning I think. For people who do not already know Illdisposed: Brutal deathrash. This album contains ten good, catchy songs which sometimes even feature melody. Heavy production, good timing and played tight. Could be a it more original... Obviously Illdisposed is into making fun regarding their weird in- and outros. I only wonder why they made that parody on Konkha's "People Die In Their Sleep"... When you've not already checked this one out, you should seriously think about it.  
Wicked Wolly

**Incubator (Ger)**

**2000)**

"Wind in my hair, I don't care"... as simple as it is, this CD gives you the right Harley Davidson feeling, you wanted or not. Just music for brave man with tattoos, a very down tuned style of heavy rock/metal with nice old solos and even Carl Orff samples. Is there anything more banal in the world like this? It's simply so brilliant, there will be even some people who won't understand it.  
Harold Dekkers

**Isengard**

**"Vinterskugge"** (Deaf '94)  
Isengard, a solo project of the drummer from Darkthrone; Ferniz. Devided in three chapters which are three separate recordings made by Ferniz. "Vandreren" (1993) with seven tracks of emotional, atmospheric, dark and sometimes even catchy black metal. Filled with normal sounding vocals, which sometimes are bit false (Naglfar). It seems that Ferniz is preferring the Norwegian language because the most of the songs from "Vandreren" are Norwegian titled and sung in the same language. This one definitely has the best production from all chapters. "Spectrum Over Gorgoth" (demo 1989) five chaotic black death metal tunes with a more raw grunting vocal part. This proves that at least Ferniz was into Black Metal before Dark Throne made the switch after the release of their debut "Soulside Journey"... Also the third chapter





## INTERVIEW WITH INQUISITOR

Extreme thrash is the sort of metal Erik (guitar) of Inquisitor loves most and indeed Inquisitor plays extreme thrash. Nowadays it is hard to find a good band here in Holland worth to interview. Some years ago there were enough bands to interview, still there are a lot of brutal bands here in Holland, but I can not say these bands are original or refreshing. Here I have interviewed a band which is refreshing. In the sea of "the introducing keyboards, violins, female vocals, cello's etc. in death metal" I found Inquisitor which plays very "into your face" metal to say it popular. In February Inquisitor released the four song tape "Your pain will be exquisite" (comments, see review), on which they translate extremely into pure energy and aggression. Inquisitor is very popular and well known in their neighbourhood, not only under the youngsters, no even the oldies know Inquisitor. And why?... read it in this interview.

# INQUISITOR

### Can you tell me about the first history of Inquisitor? (Line up etc...)

Eric: Well, there were plans to form a new band in the last few months of the existence of the old Desultory. After the last gig in that old line-up, Alex Bakker decided to leave Desultory to form a new band (which is now INQUISITOR). Alex B. played lead-guitar in Desultory but he wanted to play his favourite instrument again (bass) in Inquisitor. Alex Westdijk who played temporary bass in Desultory also left Desultory immediately after Alex Bakker. Those two asked me (Erik Sprooten) to join their new band on guitar. We knew that he also wanted more than Desultory so he left Desultory too, to join us. The line-up is: Alex Westdijk (Vocals), Erik Sprooten (Guitars), Alex Bakker (Bass) and Wim VanderValk (Drums).

### First some of you played in the dutch Desultory (a thrash band), why did you leave that band?

Eric: I didn't play in Desultory, but the other members of Inquisitor did. They left Desultory 'cause there was no progress in the music of Desultory. Johan, the singer/guitarplayer of Desultory couldn't play guitar that well, so with him on guitar it was hardly possible to make progress. The other members wanted to make better music. Johan only sings nowadays.

### How is it with Desultory nowadays?

Eric: At the moment it seems that not very much is happening with Desultory. They should have recorded a demo in 1993, which didn't happen. Johan sings in Pleuresy at the moment. Everyone who likes extreme thrash should definitely check out Desultory.

### Have there been line up changes?

Eric: There haven't been line-up changes.

### Why has it been so stable, is there a formula for it?

Eric: There is no formula for it. We have been friends for a long time, so we know each other very good.

### What do you think you can add to the scene with the band Inquisitor?

Eric: Difficult question! Our vocals add something to the scene I think. Also the structure of our songs and maybe our thrash-influences too. We play something which is not

a trend. Trends don't add anything to the scene. Bands should be more creative instead of copying other bands. We definitely don't copy other bands but you will find some riffs which could sound familiar. Every band has its influences, so do we.

### Death and Black metal in particular is rather trendy (ugly word). That is why a lot of people in the underground play this sort of music, in stead of being creative and so on, especially a few years ago. Why do you play the style you have chosen for... and how would you describe it in details?

Eric: We play this style in the first place 'cause we like it. We all like the style of the old Desultory and we wanted to do something like that but much better. We also wanted to play it with more different influences, like black metal, heavy metal influences etc. We wanted to play more extreme as Desultory. I think it is rather difficult to describe what we play. I normally say it's extreme thrash. Most of our riffs are thrash-orientated I think. We play them with a lot of hyperspeed-drumparts. We use different paces. The structure of our songs is not very usual because we create the songs the way we like it and there are no rules for it. We don't limit us in that way. We try to make the songs very aggressive and extreme. The sound of Inquisitor reminds a bit of death metal I would say. Inquisitor sounds and plays more extreme than a lot of so-called brutal black and death metal bands and our vocals are very sick!!

### Sometimes I can find some Holy Terror (speed/thrash from the mid eighty's) riffs on your demo's, even sometimes your solo sound reminds of the one of Holy Terror. Can you tell more about your influences.

Eric: Holy Terror is a cool band!!! It is really a coincidence that my solos may sound like Holy Terror. I don't have the same style of playing solos like Holy Terror, but maybe the sound is a bit like Holy Terror. Holy Terror had definitely some influence on me and on the band. Our influences are in fact all the bands we like. Most influences are from death and thrash metal bands. There are also some older influences in our music. You can sometimes hear riffs which remind of old Celtic Frost. Old hardrock and heavy metal have also influences on us but not

that much. Some bands who definitely influenced us are: Sadus, Slayer, Suffocation, Celtic Frost, Merciless and more.

### In your mid-tempo's (which is still fast) you sound most powerful. Isn't it wise/better to avoid the hyperspeedparts in which you can not put so much energy?

Eric: No we don't avoid the hyperspeedparts at all 'cause they sound also powerful!! Our drummer puts a lot of energy in those hyperspeed-parts. It is a big part of our style and those parts are very extreme. The riffs we create must fit to certain pace to sound most powerful and sometimes it is not hyperspeed.

### Some people call the screeches and screams of Johan "love it or hate it" vocals, can you understand what they mean by this and what do you do with this kind of information referring to the success of Inquisitor in the near future?

Eric: I understand what they mean and they're right, because we haven't got an ordinary singer. Our singer hasn't got the ordinary death-grunt (he sometimes grunts!), but more a voice which you can compare to the singers of Sadus, Sabbat, Merciless. His voice would also fit in a black metal band. The voice of Inquisitor is very extreme and sick, maybe for some people it sounds too extreme. It is love his voice or hate his voice!! We do nothing with such information!

### Something different about the vocals is that there are freaks who call the screech/grunt combination of Alex and Wim a copy of early Carcass. Have you heard this before and what do you think of this comment?

Eric: I heard this comment only a few times. I can understand it but we are not a copy of the early Carcass and this idea wasn't inspired on the fact that Carcass also used such kind of combination. Jeff of Carcass doesn't sound like Alex. For us it's something to add to the music of Inquisitor. Nowadays Alex Bakker is going to do the vocal-parts of Wim. Wim can't put enough power to his vocal-parts while drumming very fast and energetic at the same time.

### Don't you want to ask a second guitarist to join Inquisitor to fill the power holes when you are playing solo's (live)? Especially, you

told me you want to pay more attention to play solo's. Seeing that Inquisitor is extremely riff-orientated this could deliver a nice progression of the whole. What do you think??

Eric: No, we have no plans to ask a second guitarist! My solos are rather short so I don't think it is necessary to ask a second guitarist for those few seconds. By the way we have a good bass-player who fills those holes. I want to pay more attention to the quality of my solos and not to play more solos. I want to do some old heavy metal solo-parts in Inquisitor. When we would have a second guitarist, than there are some things you can do more than with one guitarist but it also means that a band can sound less tight. It's harder to play tight with more members, especially live. We are riff-orientated but I don't think that a second guitarist adds that much to our riffs. Our bass-player already adds something to the riffs but unfortunately you can't hear that very good on both of our demos.

**Lets talk about the demo's "Blasphemous accusation" (1st) and "Your pain will be exquisite" (2nd). Explain the title "Your pain will be exquisite" and tell why you have chosen for this title? Please tell also about the differences between these demo's?**

Eric: Alex Bakker heard someone say: "Your pain will be exquisite", on tv. It sounds rather brutal and we thought that it would be a good title for the second demo. The differences between both demos are songs and the production. The production on the second demo is much better compared to the first one. The structure of the songs on the second demo is more complex. The second demo is played a bit faster too.

**The second demo is recorded in May '93. It was dropped in my mail-box somewhere in February. Why this enormous delay?**

Eric: We had no hurry at that time because the first demo was released not that long ago. We didn't hurry to get a demo cover etc. Well when we finally decided that the second demo must be ready in December, some delay occurred with the printing of the demo covers. It was ready in February 1994.

**Although the cover of your second demo is a very good and complete one it was not the beautiful full-colour cover of the first demo. Why did you choose for this approach?**

Eric: We had enough money to do a full-colour demo cover again. Black & white suits good to us so we decided to do it the best possible in black & white with a red logo. The artwork for the second demo is more brutal than on the first demo.

**In one of your letters you wrote me you were not totally satisfied with the sound of your first demo. Han Swagerman of Beaufort studio, the producer of your demo's, had only ears to the death metal sound and couldn't handle with the thrashy Inquisitor. Why did you choose for the same location and producer again for your 2nd demo?**

Eric: We are not satisfied enough with that studio. I can't say that Han Swagerman has only ears to death metal. He is good and he has a good studio but it doesn't work out good enough for us. Maybe he doesn't understand what we really want. We went there again because it is a good studio and we know what we can expect. We felt that there were some things which we could do better over there. Some things could have been done better by us, but some things could also be better done by Han. One fact is that whenever you have more time and money you can get a better result. Next time we will record somewhere else. I think it's quite difficult to record our style.

**The second demo is recorded rather fast after your first demo. Is that maybe a reason that "Your pain.." is a too logical follow up of "Blasphemous...?"**

Eric: What's wrong with a logical follow up?

Do we have to sound to please more people? A lot of bands wimped out! People who like us, know what they can expect from us. It's a matter of recognition in our case. The second demo is not "Blasphemous ..." part 2!!! Don't forget that the second demo is recorded in the same studio. I think that a lot of my favourite bands changed too much and I don't like that at all. Inquisitor is Inquisitor and stays Inquisitor. We do progress but not in a wrong direction.

**You almost have to tell your third demo will be totally different and that there will be much progression. Something I miss a little on second demo. Can you already tell me something about the new tracks?**

Eric: The new songs will be what you can expect from Inquisitor. They will be fast, aggressive with a lot of variation and different paces. I think they will be even more extreme than the old songs. One song is called "Damnation for the holy" and we played it already live a few times. In the new songs will also be a bit more melody sometimes. I don't agree with you that we don't progress. We try to make better songs. We will add some new things to our songs but we won't wimp out like many have done before us. We also do some cover songs live (black magic of Slayer and a track of the first Merciless album, cs)

**You are pretty famous in your neighbourhood. Tell our readers, in particular the black metal freaks, all about it?**

Eric: Four churches tried to forbid our performance in our hometown. They heard about us and especially about our anti-Christian lyrics. They wrote a letter to the organization of the local festival in which they asked to cancel our performance. The organization didn't cancel our gig!!! There were seven bands and only the headliners got more audience than us. We played as second band in the afternoon. About 500 people were coming to see us (fans and interested ordinary people). So you could say that we are rather famous in our area, especially Christians know about us. There was also a publication of us in a local newspaper about the four churches!!

**Your lyrics are very anti-religion and especially anti-Christianity. Why do you choose for these kind of topics... are they serious?**

Eric: In this area is still too much influence from Christianity. We must write those lyrics and they fit very well to the extreme music of Inquisitor. There are other topics to sing about but we don't use them, maybe in future but I won't like that. Our lyrics are serious and some lyrics like "Consuming Christ", "Cry of the Christians" and "Condemned saints" are very brutal and actually an expression of extreme hate to Christianity. Some lyrics are about the inquisition. All lyrics are negative (not strange, cs) towards Christianity.

**Here and there you have played some gigs. With which bands and how do people react?**

Eric: We played about 16 gigs now. We played with different kinds of metal bands. Some of them are: Phlebotomized, Ancient Rites, God Dethroned, Mystic Charm, Excision, Pleurisy, Tiamat etc. We played three times in Belgium and one time in Germany with our good friends of Bethlehem. Most people react very positive when we have played. Others think we are too extreme. I think we are a good live band. When we play live, our music sounds much more aggressive than on demo! We are wild when we play live so you can expect a good stage-performance.

**You seem to have a good bond with Occult. Can you tell something about it? and .... is Sephiroth (vox, Occult) really Satanist?**

Eric: We are just good friends. They like us and we like them. We support each other well. Our drummer played a few gigs with them. He did the whole tour with Marduk and Immortal (ex-amputation, death metal! cs) when Occult

supported them. The drummer of Occult couldn't play then, so they asked Wim. I think Sephiroth is a Satanist. Can someone organize a few gigs with Occult and Inquisitor?? Buy the Occult CD!

**Eric is well informed about the brutal-underground scene. What do you think about nowadays underground, can you give differences about the scene a few years ago and the nowadays scene and do you know some explicit new talent, Erik?**

In nowadays underground there are not that many bands which I like very much. Nowadays underground is bigger than before and also less intense. There are some healthy scenes in Turkey and Israel. There are also too much rip-offs and that really sucks. The difference between the underground then and now is the intensity. A few years ago there were less bands and less 'zines. I think the bands were better a few years ago. I don't like a lot of bands from nowadays underground due to the fact that I don't like industrial, avantgarde, gothic combined sometimes with keyboards and female vocals. Sphere seems to be more important than aggression now. Some new bands which I like are: Brainwashing, Pentacle (need improvement but very promising), Disgusting form Norway. I also like two older unsigned bands very much and those bands are Hellwitch and Sathanas (signed at Hellfire (swe) cs). As a real underground fan I would also like to recommend some other 'zines and these are: Master of Brutality, Fear of Life, Cerberus and Anatomia. Of course there are more good 'zines but these four are very good.

**Now something totally different, something should concern us all. A few months ago there was a report on television about the dutch political party CD (with very extreme ideas about illegals and immigrants, call them racists, fascists). The music on the background was from the band Impaled Nazarene. This combination irritates me heavily, because many people will relate racism with extreme metal and that will hurt our already bad image. Are you glad with this kind of "promotion" of metal on television and do you think it will hurt our image?**

I don't give a fuck about it. Metal should have a bad image. Of course people will maybe draw conclusions that metal-fans are fascists. Let those stupid people who draw such conclusions prove that we are fascists. They can't prove. Maybe a few people will avoid extreme metal but who cares. If you like extreme metal than you shouldn't care what other people think of extreme metal. I don't understand why the music of Impaled Nazarene is used for a report about the CD. Impaled Nazarene is one of my favourite bands. I think it is stupid to judge someone as a fascist just because of his taste of music, I know better. Politics suck and I am no fascist!

**Do you have anything to say to mortician or mortician readers? Merchandise!**

Eric: I have said enough! I only like to mention the merchandise of us:

Demo 1 "Blasphemous Accusations" HFL 10/DM 10/Bfr 200/\$6

Demo 2 "Your pain will be...." prices idem  
Comp. CD "Sometimes death is better" HFL 25/DM 25/Bfr 500/\$15

T-shirt is temporary sold-out but there will be new ones again (same price as CD)

Thanks for this cool interview. Hails to you Cor!

**Also hail to you Eric, you are an honest guy with a clear opinion. Write this "write-waterfall" at Inquisitor, Mandenmakerstraat 79, 3841 VD Harderwijk, The Netherlands.** Latest news is that Shiver Records (Bel) has sent a deal to Inquisitor for full-length-cd. Nothing is signed yet, so we wait in curiosity for the next release of Inquisitor.



301.20 will be a new kind of column which will appear in every next issue. As I discovered a lot of you are interested in serial killers (probably due to the work of Macabre) I thought it would be nice to take one killer each time and try to find as much information on him as possible. With all those information I'll fill this column and... well, read on and you'll find out!! The inspiration for this I mainly got from the book "Whoever Fights Monsters" from Robert K. Ressler (I mentioned that book in the fourth issue of Numskull 'zine under the name "The Hunt For The Serial-killer" this was the translation of the Dutch title of the book...). And before I start writing about the Monster I've chosen I'd like to use this opportunity to ask everyone to send me any kind of material about serial killers (book titles, pieces from news papers etc...) so I'm able to give as much details, information each time. It's also possible to send in your requests for the next 301.20; which serial killer you'd like to read about... I know it's a bit incomplete, but time was short. Too short to make a longer story. Please see this as an introduction; next time the story will be longer and more complete. That will be about... well, that's up to you!

Name: John Wayne Gacy  
 Born: 1942 from Danish and Polish parents  
 Job: Contractor

**Record:**

- 1968: sexual abuse of a boy in Iowa (sentence: 10 years)
- 1972: Molestation of a gay
- 1978: 33 murders on boys in the age of 15 - 20 (dead-penalty)



Gacy claims to be abused on the age of 5 by a female teenager and on the age of 8 by a man. After his father came home from work he often went to the basement and started drinking. When it was dinner time, he came up, was pissed and started beating up his wife and children. (that probably was the reason why he buried his victims in the basement) Gacy worked several years for his uncle in a Fried Chicken Restaurant where he took advantage of his position and had sex with several employees. He sometimes offered them sex with his first wife after having oral sex with Gacy.

After he was sent to jail for ten years in 1968 he was released in 1970 on good behaviour. He moved to Chicago and claims to committed his first murder in 1972 when he picked up a boy, had sex with him and (as Gacy claims) the next morning the boy tried to attack him with a knife. He got hold of the knife, killed the boy and buried him under his garage. When the smell became too bad he covered the body with concrete. The second murder was somewhere between 1972 and 1975 when he worgened a boy and also buried him in his basement. After he was divorced of his second wife in 1976 the lust for murdering became more intense and killed almost every month. He took them home and filled with alcoholics and drugs. After that he started to watch movies with 'em and then offered to show 'em his handcuff trick. After he had handcuffed them he often worgened them. After he had kidnapped and killed more the tortures became more serious and intense: He sometimes almost drowned 'em and then had sex with

# 301.20 presents:

## Special guest appereance:

### -> John Wayne Gacy <-

'em or he put a plastic bag over their head so they almost stiched. When his handcuff trick had succeeded he said he had another trick: the rope trick. He did the rope around the victim's neck and putted a stick between it and slowly turned it that long that the victims stiched. Gacy used to kidnap kids who didn't have a definite place to stay so they weren't missed for a long time, but when he wasn't even suspected from murdering them he became more brutal and picked them from the street in his neighbourhood where everybody could see it. That was his worst mistake. On December 11th 1978 he kidnapped Robert Piest after he has had a application conversation with him in front of the drugs store. The kid's mother became worried when he didn't return and called the police. Gacy's house was searched, but they could find any real evidence

(Robert's body was hidden on the garret!!) Later Gacy told about the young man who attacked him and whom he had killed and pointed the place where he had buried him. Then they also found a trapdoor to the basement where they found three other bodies which were decaying... Later they had found 29 bodies and parts of it under his house and Gacy confessed he had thrown 4 other people in the Des Plains river. Gacy confessed the murders and said he wanted to liberate the world from young pain in the asses and faggots. Later on he told that there were other people who had a key of his front door and that they also murdered some of the bodies... Until today that hasn't been proved



Gacy's pornographic collection



The Bulgarian scene has risen!

Just like we see in ex-communistic countries, their scenes become alive! Maybe it's not due to the communistic reign in the 80's that there were no skilled bands, it's because they only couldn't get enough the chance to pick up other influences from the west. There always have been potentially quality in those countries, now it's time to prove they can build something with an own identity. I've some hope, just look to equal countries like Czechia, Poland and Lithuania.

The biggest promoter for a good and professional demonstration is Riva Sound Records, not a real label, but a company that took care of some bands. The better underground operator is No Rip-Off records (hi Mariusz) and here I like to pay attention to the tapes he sent to me.

#### **Past Redemption (Bul)**

##### **Decomposed**

##### **Riva Sound**

Past Redemption sounds like a death band which practises the basic principles of grindcore in the way of Terrorizer and other US grind bands. Although their demo isn't megablasting but got a good sound quality. And due to that it shows a skilled musicianship of five professional members. Their industrial track 'Burning' gives me an indication what kind of progression this band can make. But, indeed, all other 14 tracks are heard before for so many times. But that doesn't say this band is unprofessional. Not at all! \$5.- to **Georgy Gagov, ul. Suhodalska 69, Bl. 13, ap. 60, Krasna Polana 1330, Sofia, Bulgaria.**

Harold Dekkers

#### **Nice Side of Pathology (Bul)**

##### **Pathological Lyrics**

##### **Riva Sound**

This is a bit more spontaneous than Past Redemption. Beside their heavy bass drums, their real grind is more demented with mutilated vocals. The guitar crunch grind along even with electronic bleeps and other strange noises. Straight from the hart, recorded in a professional way. \$5.- to **Valery Milev, Manishora, bl.40, AP. 55, 1233 Sofia, Bulgaria.**

Harold Dekkers

#### **Nihilist (Bul)**

##### **She's such a scream**

##### **Rive Sound**

There are less explicitly original passages on this demo, but you've to listen clearly to challenge something more. The vocals are very barking but mixed with some varieties. For the rest the rhythms are really straight, maybe too much! If there was a better production (this one is really good, but not strong enough) they would be the Bulgarian Babylon Sad maybe. The strong rhythms show almost the same breaks of this Swiss band and now and than there are acoustic or other atmospherical interruptions. Nihilist has the strongest proof that products from the east can have a very, very great production! In some parts the drum patterns are original, it's like the band is

interested in the rhythms only and in some amazing base lines. It are just the less aggressive songs (the parts without the vocals) that are really interesting. I think this tape is only a freak-out for them, nothing too serious, just an exercise. I think it really is, their lyrics are only improved as they say. And when it is, I'm sure this Bulgarian Nihilist are able to create something great if they really want to. Keep an eye on this band! \$5.- to **Nihilist, Aleksandrovska str.no 70. 7000 Rousse, Bulgaria.**

Harold Dekkers

#### **Morbid Revelations (Bul)**

##### **Sampler tape**

This tape contains the lp of Scapegoat and the ep's of Powerdrive and Incarnation. All bands are civilized, coming out of a genre of melodic metal and doom, now mixed with death metal. When it comes to pure musicianship these bands are the best of Bulgaria. And I think those equal sounding bands are really into making rhythmic thrash/death of high quality with acoustic parts. Scapegoat and Incarnation are like the early and gloomy Sepultura meets King Diamond. Powerdrive is more technical. Great bass lines and other experimental things. \$6.- to **No Rip-Off, Maldost 2 bl.213, ap 151, 1799 Sofia, Bulgaria.**

Harold Dekkers

#### **D.E.A.D. 'zine (Bul)**

##### **issue 2**

Surely it's the most professional magazine of Bulgaria, it contains a coloured cover and coloured posters on A5 format. The one of Afflicted is a nice version of the photo on their debut CD. Most featured bands aren't from the underground, but this magazine has a educative function to the Bulgarian metal scene, that's why it's partly written in Bulgarian with English translations. I only like too see longer interviews with more useful questions. But at least, D.E.A.D is the best 'zine from Bulgaria I know. (Supuration, Vital Remains, My Dying Bride, Carcass, The Lemming Project etc.) \$3.- to **Yordan Kolev, 205 makedonia Blvd A-3, 7500 Silistra, Bulgaria.**

Harold Dekkers

# The Bulgarian scene. A brief view by Harold



## reviews **ALBUM** reviews

"Horizons" (early 1991) is more like the tunes on the demo; black death this time with some more weird parts. A rather good black metal release as far as I'm concerned.  
Wicked Wolly

### **Konkhra**

"Sexual Affective Disorder" (Progress/Nuclear Blast)  
As known, Konkhra is one of my Danish faves. With their third release they finally present their debut full length. "Sexual Affective Disorder" shows us a different sound as on their "Malgrowth" and "Stranded" release; much clearer and sharper! This time ten catchy deathrash tunes which are played pretty tight. Some raw screaming vocals are added and the whole is complete; some decent deathrash. As far as I'm concerned this is Konkhra's best release so far and when they keep improving like this I wonder how their next release will be. But, that's future, now we have to be satisfied with "Sexual Affective Disorder" which I really am. Check out this album and discover what Progress is trying to tell us a couple of years now: there really is something going on in Denmark!  
Wicked Wolly

### **Lawnmower Death (UK)**

#### "Billy" (Earache)

Former funheads Lawnmower Death are back. I think the humour part has been dropped partly and they've tried a more serious approach. And I'm glad they did, the fun images suck usually! Billy is one great punk rock CD. No grind, black, doom or death metal, but happy and well performed punkcore! I really love this one. Every song has it's own super lead, very catchy solos, somewhere comparable to the ultimate leads on Paradise Lost's Gothic album, but then in a punky way, very good! The CD also contains the Kim Wilde 'Kids in America' cover. Nice done, less satisfying and pretty irritating and stupid is the final track of Lawnmower's version of Hendrix' 'Purple Haze', why didn't they drop that one? For the rest, it's a really great album.  
Roel van Reijmersdal

### **Meatshits (USA)**

#### "Ecstasy of death" (Moribund recs)

US pornographic death grind. Over 60 minutes of perverse grind with death metal influences. The lyrics and cover are very bizarre, mainly sexual orientated, full of porno crap. Musically wise not really interesting in my eyes. It's similar to A.C. or Brutal Truth; better and more metal than A.C. and as brutal and heavy as Brutal Truth. Write to Moribund for their excellent mailorder list! **Moribund Records, P.O.Box 77314, Seattle, WA 98177-0314, USA.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

### **Medicine Death (Bra)**

#### "Genetic Radioactive Experiments" (Hellion Records)

It's a pity the production is a bit poor, surely concerning the drums. But don't become disinterested in this band. Medicine Death plays a mixture for straight and original deathrash which shows some nice guitar loops. This record is able to hit some atmospheres like aggression and depression and not by the use of keyboards only. The sound quality is a bit confusing and it will do some good to add a fourth member to the band to get more guitars in the music. At least it's worth to buy to complete your collection. Band contact: **Rua Rogério C. de Oliveira, 89 - Bancários, Joao Pessoa - PB, CEP 58.051 - 630, Brasil.**  
Harold Dekkers

### **Meshuggah**

#### "None" (Nuclear Blast)

Their new five track miniCD has now been released on Nuclear Blast. Meshuggah proves that they are original and refreshing. Music which combines core and deathrash in a great way: bombastic, aggressive, industrial and sometimes even emotional. "Ritual"; a song that proves that all those popular *grunge* bands nowadays have a lot to learn when they thought they were brutal. Conclusion: "None" is a very weird, aggressive and powerful album which is definitely worth your attention. And be sure you've got a strong heart when you forget to remove your headphone when you think "Aztec Two-Step" has ended!  
Wicked Wolly

### **Misanthrope (Fra)**

#### "Miracles: Totem Taboo" (Holy Records)

I can imagine their guitar player Charles-Henry Moreaux wants to put his inspiration in another band, called Krakkbrain. Misanthrope's composer Philippe is a schizophrenic, I don't see the reason to put only five new songs on an album, together with former (un)released material, no I'm not that keen on that old tracks. Maybe it's because the psychological damage they did to me: I was expecting a new full length album instead a pretentious overgrown mini album with too many bad produced tracks. But let's speak about the five new tracks only. The first one, 'Standing at the Galaxy' is a bit overloaded with breaks, stops, tempo changes and other tracks. But the other four tracks, using old riffs from the 'Variation on inductive theories' album is a crying french emotion from and avantgardish depth. Maybe it's a french inoffensiveness to use classic music in a mix with their own music, but the guitar riffs around it forms a chemical formula for the poison that is spited in your eyes by this band. Loaded with upwelling tears this product is hard enough to separate their style from the direct death metal. That's simply the 'erotic Courtois'.  
Harold Dekkers

### **Morbius (USA)**

### **"The Shades Below" (Last World Recs)**

This is the Morbius '92 demo on CD. Still the cool Europe orientated death metal from the US. Maybe a brutal version of Unleashed without ripping them off: Morbius are signed by the dutch Cyber Music and their debut album will be released at the end of '94. Till then, check out this CD: **Last World Recs, P.O.Box 626, Cumberland MD 21501-0626, USA.** or write to **Redstream Records.**

### **Mortification**

#### "Break The Curse: 1990" (Nuclear Blast)

A new release from the Christian deathrashers. Obviously Mortification made this recordings back in 1990. I wonder why they released this because it isn't like the "Scrolls..." album which was rather good. These songs have a sharper production and the songs are not as good technically seen. A lyric like "The Majestic Infiltration Of Order" really is pathetic (and not because it's Christian). As I said before this better can be forgotten when you liked the "Scrolls..." album, this probably only will disappoint you. "Butchered Mutation" is the only song which comes close, but that one was recorded in 1993 and that explains a lot.  
Wicked Wolly

### **Mystic Charm**

#### "Shadows Of The unknown" (Shiver)

Another Dutch band with their debut CD. This time it's a Dutch doom band... After a nice intro they start with the song "Mystic Charms" which gave me a wrong first impression: Cliché. That because this song is built up with too less variation one of the few riffs they use in this song is about the same as the intro riff Afflicted uses on their "Tidings From The Blue Sphere" tune... Anyway, after "Mystic Charm" there are seven other songs which gave me a better impression: proper doom which is varied with some faster catchy and melodic parts with some key samples now and then. Not bad... Shiver obviously preferred a raw production which logically reminds me of the early Celtic Frost sound. They also made good use of the fact that they have a female lead singer (don't get me wrong: she normally grunts); some spoken parts are included too and then a female voice has something more special than a male voice... Not bad at all for a debut release. Worth checking out for doom maniacs and don't be scared by the cover!!  
Wicked Wolly

### **Necrophagia (USA)**

#### "Death is Fun" (Redstream)

Not like the album 'Seasons of the death', but this compilation of the two Necrophagia demos is a real collectors item. Get your chance to throw your old cassette tapes away. Their 'traded' quality is nothing compared to the chaotic prime death metal of Necrophagia. Sure, their first demo 'Power Through Darkness' rules. Also some very chaotic unreleased ep recordings are included. This is cul't from the roots!!! \$17.- (?) to **Redstream, P.O.Box 342, Camp Hill, PA 17001-0342, USA.**  
Harold Dekkers

### **Nightfall (Gre)**

#### "Macabre Sunsets" (Holy Records)

Change of style often brings also a change in the group of followers. Nightfall turned out in a 'black metal' kind of orchestral and epic music. Morbid of Necromantia produced this album, but I'm not really satisfied. The album exposes a holocaustic style of the greek death metal, but the vocals are that growling as those of Behrith. Their music is technical build in a perfect way, but the dominating vocals and also the production makes the music of Nightfall to a strange and somewhat chaotic mixture of symphonic doom and violent death.  
Harold Dekkers

### **Nocturnus (USA)**

#### "The last release" (Moribund rec.)

Still I don't understand the USA scene. Tons of clichés still showing up on several standard ep's, while great bands that are above those standards, like Revenant, Immolation and Incubus are dying. Also did Nocturnus, I've enjoyed that band during the two remarkable albums they did, but now this history is closed with a simple ep. The sound is like the demos, not the classic Morrissound (it was also this band that made that studio known) but a more spontaneous production in the Adio Lab studio. It's for sure this is the last we will hear from Nocturnus, rest in peace! **Moribund Recs, P.O.Box 77314, Seattle, WA 98177-0314, USA.**  
Harold Dekkers

### **Oblivion (Can)**

#### "Nemesis" CD'93

Three years ago the Quebec based Oblivion released a nice album called 'From this day forward'. It was a remarkable release that came at the end of the bay-area thrash storm and at the beginning of the death metal class. With releases like those of Hellbastard and Lord Crucifer this release was soon forgotten by many. But straight from that classic thrash period Oblivion released a crystal piece of tight, fast and well structured thrash. The unique sound hasn't changed since their first album and their magistral straight leads can be compared to Sindrome. This thrash band, crowned with death metal-like raw vocals is one of the few top thrash metal bands. It was a surprisingly beginning of 1994! This album, distributed by Cargo in Canada is for sale for sending \$US14.- to: **Stéphane Bélanger, P.O.Box 100, Succ.S, Montréal, Québec, Canada H2L-4J7.**  
Harold Dekkers

### **Occult (NL)**

### **"Prepare to meet thy doom" (Foundation 2000)**

No doubt at all, this is the main black metal band from Holland. It eliminates any Norwegian influence that is popular among all other European bands. It's wise to search for an own sound and they found it. I only remark this Occult is influenced by the earlier German death/black metal bands, but that genre is still really dead. The only worse are the vocals, sometimes it's only like a whispering layer on the music. That has it's own charm, but I don't think it was meant in this way. The rest of the music combines a dark mood with an old Slayerish feeling and not with the grotesque aggression that pleases us too much. It's really an album of 'hate' but more considerately in their rather enjoyable music.  
Harold Dekkers

### **Oxiplegatz**

#### "Selatryria" (Dolores Records)

When I received this CD I first had to face an extremely messy cover; hand written and just a complete mass. I, again, didn't get what I expected. But, this time it was rather positive! Oxiplegatz can be seen as a solo project from ex At The Gates guitarist Alf Svensson. This album contains some thrilling tunes. "Selatryria" (read this backwards) contains some very good doom, sympho, classical, thrash metal. An extreme great variety in each song! Good composed again and again. Made use of 4 (!) vocalists, violins and of course the normal metal instruments. This album definitely is unique; some would say it's too poppy, but I think that can be translated in too atmospheric. Songs like "Fairytale" sends a shiver down my spine: well done and actually has nothing to do with metal... Good clear and sharp production. People into the sympho, doom, classical, rock metal must get hold of this release.  
Wicked Wolly

### **Paramaecium (Austr)**

#### "Exhumed of the Earth"

This unlabelled and remarkable release I got in a private way, but I wanna spot a light on it. In Australia there seems to be a huge Christian death metal following (well, huge? a member of Mortification is playing here, so all different bands exist of the same members?) It opens with a great female voice, very great vocals, followed by heavy tuned guitars. Different instruments like violins are put in here. But 66 minutes for 7 songs is maybe a bit too much. The opening track is great, but the rest of this album turns out in one big cliché, created to make the music more 'doom'. Even the most boring riffs of the first Cathedral are more varying than the ten minutes lasting songs. It's a pity that even Christian metal bands can give a total satisfaction (Mortification isn't that special too). But after all, die hard doom fans have to buy this release. Write the band at: **Paramaecium, P.O.Box 46, Forest Hills, Vic 3131, Australia.** Or order it for \$25.- at **Dark Occans rec, Justin, 10 Daniher Cl/ Berwick, Vic 3806, Australia.** (Last news, Witchhunt has taken over this release!)  
Harold Dekkers

### **Pentagram (UK)**

#### "Day of Reckoning" (Peaceville)

A noble deed of Peaceville to bring up the interest in a dated bands. Day of Reckoning is from '87, not that old, but this band belongs to the doom cult like Count Raven and Saint Vitus. This release reminds me to the CD pressing of Nemises, the pre-Candlemass. As always, there is a strong Black Sabbath orientation. I'm not a very big fan of the real hits Black Sabbath had. The old unchallenged songs are better, but according to this release, it's unique to see this on silver again. Again, the band completed for the long awaited release "Show 'em How".  
Harold Dekkers

### **Phased Out**

#### "Compilation" (Blackboone Music)

I think I should be ashamed 'cause again like the saucy compilation I didn't know this label and only one band featured on this compilation. But, nothing wrong with that because I'm always interested in being confronted with new bands. Featured are: Sex Sex Sex (I knew that one), Psycho Holiday, Gerhim, Comatose, Mr: Hangpike and Adams Leaf, Mourning Sign, Lucifer, Caerion, Novgore and Chatman. This compilation is a kind of split compilation: a bit core, punk, rock songs from: Psycho Holiday, Mr: Hangpike, Sex Sex Sex Comatose and Chatman and the others present some rather nice death, grind with doomy influences. The whole CD features bands which are not very original, but are all pretty good musicians. I think the best example for that is a song from Chatman: Race Wars. Which sounds an awful lot like Race Against The Machine, but still is a nice catchy track... I'm not familiar with the price, but I'm sure Blackboone music is able to give it to you. Contact: **Blackboone Music, Box 969, S-114 79, Stockholm, Sweden.**  
Wicked Wolly

### **Pungent Stench**

#### "Club Mondo Bizarre (For Members Only)" (Nuclear Blast)

An excellent new release from this sick three piece! These guys continued where Carcass had stopped. Their, sometimes unlogical, raw, funky and catchy tunes are a pleasure for your ears. A song like "Hydrocephalus" proves that Pungent Stench is able to make you instantly slam through your room. The CD has, besides the ten tunes which also are on the tape version, four karaoke tracks which allows you to join these sicko's and even win great prizes when you're the sickest and the weirdest. This proves that Pungent Stench is, besides a great band, funny and original. As this album can be seen as a

At the beginning of the hype of the Norwegian metal (everybody is getting a deal, only the strong will survive!) I met In The Woods... due to a simple rehearsal tape. Their debut demo was a bit remarkable: no compromise, but not a blind die hard kind of metal. Living in the most southern of Norway, but dreaming of the most northern lands, I introduce you one of the first paganistic metal bands that entered our scene: Overlord Svjitjord of In The Woods...

In fact In The Woods isn't a well known band at the moment and I don't know much about the band, expect you, Overlord Svjitjord, is playing in that band. Please, introduce In The Woods. Human curiosity takes control... seems like all kinds of people crave a visionary appearance from creators of all art. This is not good. The whole idea of In The Woods... artists always let the music speaking for itself... so it is.



# IN THE WOODS

**Is In The Woods... your band?** I'm not sure if I'm able to weigh the value of your question here, Harold, but am I wrong when I tell you that In The Woods is involved by individuals? All of us give a part of ourselves, concerning creations of our ancient shapes. I'm indeed also involved in another 'project': Nærvær. Music inspired by older Norwegian folk-tones and so the same goes for the vocal-lines. If something happens with this one at all, it will be performed with no electric instruments.

**But, please, describe the basic ideas of the image of In The Woods...** If you may state the ideas behind the lyrics as an image, we bath in older Nordic ways of living, personal self-overcoming as well as honourable strength and powers. Considering mighty mother nature as our strongest source of inspiration, musically an lyrically. It's not interesting that humanity consider this as a 'lie' or not, as long as we do know it's our reality. Along with this, we never force this image.

**So, your lyrics, your style of your music, everything is focused on your 'Kingdom', the nature of Norway. Is the nature so impressive over there?** It really depends on which 'angle' you watch to it. Last summer I did my first real journey to become more known with this land that I love so much. This, however, made me realise that tourism destroys some of the most intelligent parts, made by mother nature. As you told me in one of your letters, Harold: the fat Americans etc. are only visiting the easiest reachable places and most likely also the most commercial. Anyway, if you wander through the 'untouched' territories, your experience will appeal to you as far stronger than the first 'alternative' mentioned.

**Mmmm... but touching the untouched makes it touched! About an other emotion: You told me once, it's dark at three o'clock during the middle of the winter. Don't you think it will disturb your bio-rhythm when there are such a big changes of periods of light and dark?** I told you that around the days of winter solstice, it is starting to become dark about three o'clock in the afternoon. Sure it disturbs the bio-rhythm. The whole thing is quite physical indeed and at least it makes me more tired during the winter months. I surely don't know how it is with the other northern countries, but here we have this pathetic change in time: 'summer time'. It means that we put the time backwards in the autumn and when the spring comes we put it to the European time again. This is of course confusing and I can tell you it's for sure one of the elements that makes it so dark during the winter solstice.

**Can you see the midnight sun in Kristiansand?** Unfortunately not.

**Have you ever seen the Northern light?** By now I have seen it on a photo only, but when I did go to the military office to check if I was able to serve my military career, a couple of years ago, they asked me where I wanted to go to serve it. The answer was of course as high north as

possible. Later this officer told me that there were only a few people who wanted it in this way.

**I can imagine, but I share your thoughts. By the way, couldn't you find some other interesting pictures for your demo cover? I know the Norwegian landscapes has more to offer. A few trees only we also have in Holland over here.** Those who are aware of the demo know that it's name is 'Isle of Men'. This is what this particular picture immortalizes. The Isle of Men is half an island, situated deep in the woods, about an hour

walking from my place (which lies in the outcast of this vast forest). Here we gather up for some meetings whenever we feel like it to drink some beer, listen to some music, discuss different topics and feel like one with Prima Mater. By the word 'we' I mean all individuals involved in In The Woods... and a few more really dedicated men! Consider the last one as our blood brothers and the mightiest friends ever to live...

About the amount of trees, I shall tell you that it's in reality not this that's important. It are the feelings and the purity of the woods which enchants us. Not the trees themselves. Of course we could have impressed a lot of beings by including a picture with one thousand trees, but then the whole idea is gone for our sakes. This picture was never meant to look 'evil'. It was meant to reflect this pureness I stated earlier. Our purity combined with the forces of mighty nature. The picture is taken only for personal reasons and satisfactions, not to satisfy the 'evil fourteen years old ones'.

**Yes, what do you think about everybody sees Norway as the main country of black metal? Isn't that black metal is coming from all over the world, but the right pagan feeling is often born out of Norwegian blood only?** In general, I just don't care about black metal and at least not the Norwegian ones except for maybe Carpathian Forest and Emperor. The whole thing can simply be stated as pathetic. Speaking of this 'pagan feeling' that you mentioned, I really need to tell you that when more than two years ago when we started to express our feelings for the heathen past of proud mother Norway, some of the black metal acts, which are claiming to be 'pagan' now, laughed to us in that time. This certainly speaks for itself and needs no further discussion. Maybe the Norwegian ones in the mentioned genre are able to create good music, but when it comes to purity, 95% are fakes. I guess you can say it's right to claim Norway as the main country for black metal, but this is surely because of the success and publicity of bands like Darkthrone, Burzum and Mayhem. After the appearance of this 'count' in the Norwegian papers, black metal became the new beloved style of the kids into death metal and thrash.

**Yes, I can mention many examples. And it's strange that 70% of the new black/pagan metal is coming from the civilised Oslo Fjord.**

**In this days the Scandinavian death metal is also changing style. Especially the Swedish are specialised in making atmospherical and orchestral metal that has lyrically more to do with nature than with evilness. But this flight to the 'old metal' makes also contact with your genre that is also moving to the heathen feeling of the past. Your music becomes connected to the melodic metal like Dark Tranquillity etc. in this way, but are the ancient 'feelings' really the same? (See also In Flames interview!) A good question! (Well, In Flames didn't understand it -HD) I must say I like it that more and more**



beings find some values in the older cultures and ways of living of the Northern lands. People really need to be guided through the history books to unveil what once was for real and should be taken seriously even today. To live in peace with nature is the most important element of mankind to build upon. No, I don't think the feelings remain the same when 'evil' death metal, which earlier growled that Satan was their master and suddenly their master becomes the Nature or even Odin himself. It's really no problem to see through those people. They are following trends (or make them), instead of striving for the real knowledge within.

**Okay, but not all the bands! Maybe it all has to do with the great Quorton (you all have to make some glam rock now, he, he). But I think bands like Dark Tranquillity and Amorphis did their style with no trendy influences, so they rule! What do you think of the use of ancient instruments in your music? You have still plans to do so?** The greatest problem is in reality to gather up suitable people who are both into their particular instruments and into feelings for the music itself. We won't try to use ancient instruments just for the sake of it though. The reason is to create the same old Nordic feeling in the symphonies themselves as well as in the lyrics and poems. Yes, we still have such plans, but I really don't think that the music of In The Woods... is ready for this. We'll know when the time is right and by then we hope to have gathered up a few interesting people to appear as session musicians.

**What else will be the future plans of**



## The ways of living in the Northern lands

**In The Woods...?** First of all to gain even more personal satisfaction, but also to create more spacious and symphonic as like some of the parts we already did. The next step is to finish the beginning of the co-operation between In The Woods... and a most professional label which will handle at least the first proper release of ours. With a worldwide distribution we will maybe manage to enchant more beings with our creations.

**Will you ever perform live. Surely!**

**Well, this is the last question. I still haven't asked to your fave bands. Just line up a few, will you?**

**Say good bye!** There are so many bands out there and it is really hard for me to just line up a few. I could give you a hint by telling you which albums I care most for though: 'Wish you were here' - Pink Floyd, 'In the court of the crimson king' - King Crimson, 'Natt' - Thule, 'Gothic' - Paradise Lost, 'Into the depths of sorrow' - Solitude Aeternus, 'Peer Gynt' - Edvard Grieg (maybe wrong to state as an album, but anyway...), 'Into Glory Ride' - Manowar and a few others. Heathenish regards to you, Harold for you precious time and support concerning both In The Woods... and this mighty interview! Let the wise rule the strong....

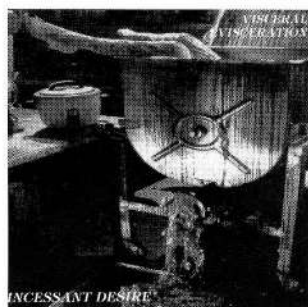
**In The Woods..., P.O.Box 7093, Vestheiene, 4628 Kristiansand, Norway.**

Harold Dekkers

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The most outstanding acts in today's metal underground scene is definitely Mortiiis. Although it isn't metal at all. Mortiiis is brilliant. Mortiiis isn't a band actually, it's just the Viking Mortiiis, former bass player and poet of Emperor. The music he performs is very depressive and dark, without using any guitars, bass or drums. It's one of the darkest symphonies ever. Not only the music is excellent, also the whole way of dressing and war paint reigns supreme. Mortiiis is an overall artist! It's Mr. Mortiiis himself who speaks.

# MORTIIIS

**Why did you leave Emperor? Are you still in touch with the guys?** Yes, I'm still in contact with Samoth and Ishahn... sometimes. I left because I wanted things done my way and in nobody else.

**How do you look back to the Emperor mini-LP?** Lyrically and musically it was good, even though I couldn't care less for it today... Some of us developed and some not! A week after it's recording I was called up and very nicely asked if I shouldn't be nice to leave the band. I'm saying this as I recently read Samoth saying I was kicked out! This is bullshit! He was even the one who said "Never will it be said that you were kicked out, because you weren't." I can't stand even false statements... Then again, I never took those words for granted.

It's one of the better albums from Norway, although Mayhem 'De Mysteriis...' is far superior as they say, I've got nothing to do with Emperor anymore, except that Candlelight still owes me royalties for the MLP. What a fuckin' joke that label is. They'll get a Wild Rags rumour soon I'll wage.

**Where did you get the name Mortiiis from? I thought it was written with one 'i', like the latin word for death.** I've been called Mortiiis for a few years now so I cannot remember. I got the name just after Emperor was formed. I think I got it from a book or something. I enjoy the name though I'm not sure it means anything in my earthly language. But it certainly means a lot to me.

**What's the concept behind the project, the Viking/Valhalla stuff?** No, I'm not dealing with the Norwegian myths in my music. I'm proud at being an heir to the old (and dead for long) true Vikings of the northern fields. But my concept is far beyond this. I believe one's spirit may choose its own reality and create it. Read my info booklet for more info, It would take far too long to explain my concept. Mortiiis is based upon the fate of my essence.

**Will you publish more written parts based on the saga of Mortiiis, a book or short story or so?** Good question. I've for a long time been thinking about releasing a book with additional volumes to follow. I've created much for it, much knowledge about my world that lies beyond the essence of man... An many ideas are yet to be written. Misanthropy records for UK have expressed to me their interest in publishing this, but nothing is for sure yet.

**You really got a fabulous piece of war paint/clothing, where did you get all those things from?** The war paint reflect the face of the monarch in warrior shape. The armoury I bought at different places. Some I bought by mail order and other things from a shop I accidentally walk in. The knife (possible not visible on the photo, still I don't remember which one you got) I got from my female companion who bought it in a north-African country and supposedly it had belonged to an old and brave warrior from the ancient. But I suppose even kitchen ware belonged to such men when African merchants sell them!

**You played the keyboard containing all the instruments which are used on the promo, what kind of instruments and other sounds did you use?** I have used instruments like, English Horn, Piano, Timpani, Brass, Trumpet, French Horn and so on... All sounds have been 'twisted' into my own use.

**Mortiiis has nothing to do with metal at all. Are you bored of playing metal or is it just to create different moods?** I'm not bored with metal. I constantly listen to all sorts of metal with quality within their music. I hate clones. I'm into old heavy metal and old and new black metal, classical quality death metal (as old Nunslaughter, Sathanas etc.) and other stuff. I'm very deeply involved in atmospheric music. Yes, I wanted to create new moods and unfold my concept to the unexpected world. Anything like this has never been done before.

**How will Mortiiis develop in the future?** Impossible to say. Probably mightier, more atmospheric. It depends on which concept I'm creating. Listen to the LP/CD and you will hear a clear development since the demo. My second album is in production now.

**Have you formed a new band or are you playing in a metal band right now?** Probably I will enjoy a metal band called Dragon Fear as soon as we can arrange a rehearsal place here. So look out for any release from that band.

**Can you tell me something about the forthcoming release on Malicious?** It's the very introduction to the wide world of Mortiiis. And should be released this summer as LP/CD. Nothing more to add. Get in touch with Malicious Records about that and other merchandise.

**You also have a side project called 'Vond'. What's that like? Also synthesize music?** My side project Vond, yes, this is in its own special



way also synth music. I'm a misanthrope (He, Philippe, here is another one -ed)... but my hate dislike and disrespect towards humanity cannot be expressed through my Mortiiis medium in a very good way, as it really doesn't represent or have anything to do with mankind, earth or microcosm in any form. This is the main reason for the creation of Vond (Which is by the way a very universal word for a painful kind of evilness, bad taste or smell and it can be used as a name on a very vicious person, etc...) As such a project would be the perfect medium through which to express my feelings. Another main reason is the musical difference. Vond is experimental, I can do anything I want under that moniker. It's dark progressive music. Mortiiis is ancient music, with deep eerie flows of sounds reflecting the spirit and essence of my world.

**Are you a nazi? You're using their symbols, are you really into that stuff or just for image? I really hate, I totally hate it!** If I'd use nazi-symbols as an image then I'd be the greatest fuckhead ever. Some people might do, I don't! I look upon nazism as something so hideous to some that it's a pain in itself. That's where I came in, it fuels my soul to read and hear about and realize the pain and sorrow and the power the nazis possessed during the war. As for your opinion, that's yours to keep. I respect free thinking individuals that doesn't follow any dogmas or ignore the fact that he's a spirit within prison walls.

I possess a nazi flag, because this is what it represents to me. In that case it's got nothing to do with racism... But the pain inflicted upon mankind.

**Why did you move out of Norway? Did the circle or what is left of it threaten you to death?** Why should the circle ever want to threaten me? I've done them no harm.. I'm still in contact with a few, though everybody is been scattered like ants after Euronymous' death. I moved to Sweden because of mail trouble in Norway. And also because I'd get an own apartment here and my chosen one (female) lives here, which was the biggest reason. She's also helping out a lot of the Mortiiis artwork and logos and such. Soon or later we'll move back to Norway though.

**How's life in Sweden comparing to Norway? I thought they couldn't stand each other?** As far as I'm concerned there's no disharmony between Norway and Sweden. I suppose you might mean the conflicts between the clown Grishanckh and Therion? Well, those sorts of Swedish bands I hate... Fuckin' hypocrites!! But there's a lot of excellent bands here like Nästrond, Dissection, Swordmaster, Marduk and so on.

**Are you in touch with some Swedish bands already?** Yes, among others I'm in touch with Nästrond and Swordmaster.

**Thanks for the answers and good luck.** For those who are interested, I've got a bit of merchandise. See the flyer I've enclosed to the editor who will hopefully print it either or will repeat the information on it after this. General information costs 1 IRC. Eternal war! **H.Ellefsen, c/o Anghel, Skulpturplatsen 1D, 302 71 Halmstad, Sweden.**

**Malicious Records, Kirchstr. 9, 72149 Neustetten 3, Germany.** Also available for \$2.- is the great 14 page info booklet about the Saga of Mortiiis.

Roel van Reijmersdal



For many, many years Russia was famous for great music traditions. All people know or heard names like Stravinsky, Musorgsky or Tchaikovsky. In the world Russian operas, operettas, symphonies and ballets are very popular. Russia is the country of some great singers like Shalagin. Our Russian musical roots were very strong. But in the world of 'modern' music the majority failed to build something great. The end of the 70's and the beginning of the 80's, the period of communism and cold war, in the USSR music like The Beatles was forbidden. Heavy metal was forbidden too! By the soviet press this style was named 'The stupid influence of the west'. It was accused with all sins of capitalism (satanism, war, nazism, fascism, evilness, sexism, drugs and so on). But the best publicity is anti-publicity! Peoples were very interested in this music and around 1985 the first Russian underground was born with the foundation of the first thrashbands. But in this period musicians were under observation and many people were arrested and replaced at mad houses. It were the morals of the communists who brought trouble to the underground. At that time the underground was malicious and hungry! They fought and survived! But what do we see now? They all turned out into rockstars, posers and liars. They only want more money. They follow the fashion and if today they play death metal, tomorrow it will be black metal. The first russian underground zine was born in 1988. The blossoming of the Russian underground started in '91-'92. I hope that wasn't only in the past, but in this days we have many rip-offs too! If you see the flyers of Necros 'zine, S.O.I-zine, Gloom-zine, Braindeath-zine, Megacrash-zine, Megamoshcorp & Megamosh Artwox-zine, Chaotic Disintegration compilation tapes, say them to 'fuck off'. This kind of people spreading the entrust in the Russian underground. About all real bands and zines I give the journey through Russia.

**Murmansk.** I start with my own area. Murmansk, a big city in the far north. Some months ago we had some bands like **Hellaxer** or **DCD**, but by now only one band remained. **Horror** is a very young and interesting techno thrash band. In the beginning they played not that professional, but by now they realised a good demo. Music they play is very professional, technical and original thrash with Russian influences. Write to: **Neborak Nickolay, P.O.Box 5693, Murmansk-52, 183052 Russia.**

**Archangelsk** is a very old harbour, also in the north. It's a beautiful place with ancient buildings. Here are also some bands, but I can stop at one only. **Krazer**, they play brutal and straightforward grindcore. Very dynamical music. Sorry, but this band doesn't have a contact address by now.

**Sankt Petersburg.** Do you know Peter I? Besides the historical values in Sankt Petersburg there is a big movement of avant garde painters and musicians. The death metal scene is this big town in the baltic zone isn't very big, but I'll give a few.

**Great Sorrow**, a professional and original band which I think ti's the Russian equivalent of the british My Dying Bride. They have two demos: 'Condemned Cells' and 'What's the matter with my brain'. This demos contain good death/doom metal. By know they play progressive doom metal and just signed a contract with Final Holocaust Records. Their debut is named 'Maze of Doom', it will contain four songs with classical intro and outro.

**Oneiros** is a technical version of death metal between Morbid Angel and Deiced. They have more original ideas without copying the Florida death metal. Write to **Sergey Utkin, ul. Doynikov, 5/7-16, Sankt-Petersburg, 198147 Russia.**

**Bestial Deform**, a band with a clear and technical death sound. In '93 they recorded their demo 'Malebranche'. After that they recorded a new one. For info and demo write to their manager: **Igor Tchernomor, Jackovlevsky 3-44, Sankt Petersburg, 196105 Russia.**

**Maggots-'zine**. some months ago this magazine published their first issue. It's written in Russian and contains info about underground acts only. c/o **Dimitry Popov, Petrovsky 4-108, Sankt Petersburg, Lomonosow, 189510 Russia.**

**Moscow**, capital of our country, Here are always many events and it's the capital of politics, music and culture.

**Final Holocaust** is the first label in Russia, which started to work with Russian underground bands in death, doom, grind, hardcore and industrial styles. This young label released in the year they exist 6 items. It were the licensed works of Autopsy, Pungent Stench and Benediction and two 7"ep's of the Russian acts Necroki.l.l.dozer and Corpse. The next release is the licensed My Dying Bride and a split lp 'Dark, Deep and slowly' will contain

three symphonic and melodic doom acts like Gods Tower, Gothic Castle and Dreaming Soul. Future plans are lp's of Great Sorrow, Goresleeps and a split lp of Lazaret and Crunch. Contact: **P.O.Box 69, Moscow, 121059 Russia.**

**Necroki.l.l.dozer.** A band who's music is a reflection of life. Their music is as brutal as their life impulses and life views. This is a grind-rock band. In the period of their first demo 'Outpouring of Reasons Sterility' they were influenced by Blasphemy, but by now they have more individual parts. Their 7"ep 'Misunderstood' is in the way of the original Russian grindcore style. Write to this band: **Leonid Bulantcev, Ketcherskaya 2-4-10, Moscow, 111402 Russia.**



**Corpse.** they have also an 7"ep out, named 'Remembrance of Cold Embodiments'. Earlier this band was influenced by and was a fan of Carcass. But by now this influences are reduced and they are a really technical necroculinare machine of grinding death metal, mixed with piano and good solos. Contact: **Dimitry Studitsky, Smuryakova 17-116, Ivanteevka, Moscow region, 141250 Russia.**

**Goresleeps.** they deliberately realised two rehearsal tapes, which showed how they play live. Recently they are having the roots of their music from heavy metal, mixed with influences from death, doom metal. They have signed a contract with Final Holocaust Rec, so soon their first lp will be released. c/o **S. Novickov, Tsentralny 14-73, Moscow region, Ivanteevka, 141250 Russia.**

**Ens Cogitans** is a techno thrash act on a symphonic base. They play under influences of Russian composers like Musorgsky and Stravinsky. It's a new music style with a national character and influences, they call it Eclectic Polyphony. Their demo 'She... the oldest one' is out now. Write to **O.V. Alimov, Tolmacheva 11-82, Ivanteevka, Moscow Region, 141250 Russia.**

**Crunch**, an industrial metal band with an international sound and many effects. Their demo 'unreality' drifts around int the world of mechanic utopias. It has a fantastic atmosphere. Stuff for the split LP on Final Holocaust is really good with even some more strange effects. Write to: **Alex Lapshin, Medicov 1/1-209, Moscow, 115304 Russia.**

Then on our way through the 'golden ring' of Russia we come to the cities Yaroslavl and Kostroma.

**Extinction** comes from Kostroma. It's not a bad band. Some months ago they debuted with demo 'Life inside the tomb' and contains six

tracks of deatcore with very fast and heavy thrash influences. **Alex Kukin, Borovaya 10A-4, Kostroma, 156003 Russia.**

**Mortifier.** Lately they realised the first lp on Death City records, called 'Euthanasia'. The band plays intensive and aggressive thrash metal with many brutal influences, very original. Thrash isn't dead! **Anatoly Chebotar, Skvortsova 20A-41, Kostroma, 156029 Russia.**

**Crrombid Traxorm**, the best techno death band from Russia. Their first demo 'Stogoff family's death' is very original. The guitar work is very cool. Again, this band also contains the Russian influences like from Russian Romance very technical and melodic russian national acoustic songs). Sorry, I haven't any addresses of them.

Not far from Moscow there is a big town **Tula**, which became famous by the cakes and samovars (kind of a tea-urn)

**Sieged Mind.** On their debut demo 'Life in Evidence' there are some influences of death metal. It's played with nice solos. **Evgeny Samoshin, Gorelskaya 42, Tula, 300901 Russia.**

In the town **Saratov** there exists a kind of music mafia (pop mafia, really!).

**Yamaraja** is band that hasn't anything to do with those music criminals. Before they were called **Cemetery** and they released two demos under this name. They have some influences from English bands. By now they play death metal again, but with more non-traditional instruments. **Sergey Korotkov, Vavilova 20-1, Saratov, 634039 Russia.**

**Repent Mag** from **Kazan**. It was one of the first zines in Russia (started in '89). It's a very professional magazine (for the Russian outfit yes, I know this paper, it's great for Russians - HD). In this magazine there are many infos about death/grind/doom only. It's all written in Russian. **Blod Sosedkin, Yamasheva 48-73, Kazan, 420103 Russia.**

*Here I interrupt Roman's writings. We can go on in the south-west direction to the republics Ukraine and Belorussia, but that would make this scene report too long, so watch out for a Ukrain scene report in our next issue. There are great bands like **Bowels, Suppuration, Lazaret, Euphoria** etc.*



I only like to highlight Leonid Savin of Shism 'zine and Brainstorm. He's in contact with a Czechian label to release a 7" ep of Brainstorm. Hi Leonid. **Leonid Savin, Naberizhnaya, R. Strelki 38-8, Sumi, 244024 Ukraine.**  
 In Belarus we find the great band **Gods Tower**, one of the individual and original bands of our country. Their style is doom, but they called it gothic pagan metal. This is a combination of ancient national Belorussian folklore and pagan culture. A very individual styled band with a great atmospheric sound. In the music are many melodies. Lately they released a great demo 'The Eerie', soon Final Holocaust will publish a split LP 'Dark, Deep and Slowly' with two tracks of this band. **Victor Lapitski, Lazurnaya 14-29, Homel, 246012 Belorussia.**

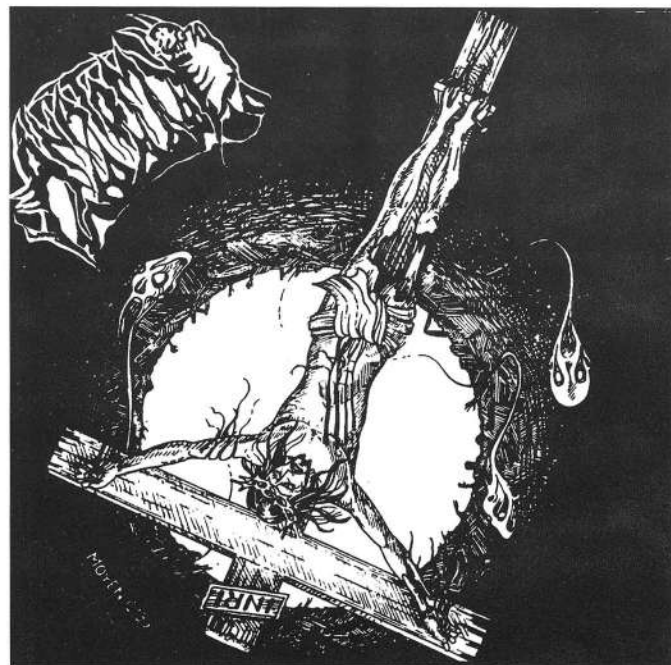
Okay, back to Russia, welcome to the republic Bashkortostan with the capital city Ufa. **G.O.D.'zine**, Gore Of Death 'zine the only 'zine in English from Russia. The second issue will be printed soon! c/o **Valery Sidorov, Parkovaya 18A-44, Ufa-83, 450083 Russia.**  
**Crucifator**, this band plays a combination of death and industrial. 'Three days in Hell' demo is out now. **Valery, Sharanskaya 58, Ufa, 450103 Russia.**

**Ural**. Here we have not so many bands. There are two big towns, Chelyabinsk and Ekaterinburg. The Ural is a mountain area that desolated the bands from the outer world, ha!  
**Dispensary** is one of the oldest bands in Russia. In '89 they realised the first death metal demo in Russia. It's fast and professional death metal. They sing in Russian only. Some months ago they released a new killer demo. **Valery Poselsky, Dzershinskogo 107-14, Chelyabinsk, 454078 Russia.**  
**Russian Winter**, a great name! This band also prefers to sign in Russian too. The music of this band is heavy death/doom/frost metal. By now they released a new demo 'In the captivity of

winter'. Write to: **Andrey Maltzev, Kuybysheva 86/2-76, Ekaterinburg, 620100 Russia.**  
**Siberia**. A great area with mythic forests and heavy frost during the winters. Even here we have some bands.  
**Lethal Promotion**, they released two compilation tapes and by now they prepare the first edition of **Infernal** mag. c/o **Evgeny Michailov, P.O.Box 195, Krasnoyarsk, 660084 Russia.**  
**Ungod Decay Promotions**. They also released a compilation tape with Russian underground bands only (with promo booklet). Also write to Vladimir for a first demo of Dark Paradise. **Vladimir Danilov, P.O.Box 165, Krasnoyarsk, 660084 Russia.**

**Dark Paradise**, a very experimental band with experimental styles. They play death metal with some more influences like grind, doom, psycho and rap. The last demo is not bad. On 'Doomsday' there are many interesting moments and this tape has also a non-traditional sound. c/o **Pavel Shalalbanov, Soyetskaya 20-15, Krasnoyarsk 26, 660039 Russia.**

Further on the territory of Russia there remains a dead silence. Only the end point in the far east has something interesting. But then you better can write to Arcady Gladchenko of **Grave Disgrace 'zine**. It's the best underground 'zine in Russia. **680000 Habarovsk, Glavpoststampt, Do Vostrebvaniya, A.V. Gladchenko.**



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continuation of the "Been caught Buttering" CD. Club Mondo Bizarre isn't as refreshing as Been Caught was when it was released, but it's really worth checking out.  
Wicked Wolly

**Pyogenesis (Ger)**

"Waves of Erotasia" (Nuclear Blast)  
For me Pyogenesis is the leading German 'death' metal band and definitely not the super crap like Morgoth as the German press implicated. This MCD is brilliant. Four tracks among the excellent 'Lost in Revery' is totally acoustic with normal vocals. It shreds by emotions, it's really great. The three other tracks are well performed death/doom with sometimes some slight experimental parts. I heard that the following release will be totally 'ohne gegrünze': with no grunts. Expected soon on Nuclear Blast.  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Quorthon (Swe)**

"Album" (Black Mark)  
The awaited album for Bathory frontman Quorthon is out and it's a big disappointment, but a logical evolution. After his last albums of Bathory the great Quorthon needed to express himself in another way. I'm still a fan of the raw pagan metal from Scandinavia, so there is no place for a 'country and western hardrock' album. A brainless Katonia worshipper would have liked the new and great, but old elementary direction of the viking black metal, but titles like 'Oh no no', 'Boy In The Bubble' and 'Major Snooze' represents a glam rock style which won't catch any die hard fans, only the ones who are still blind by the black light of Bathory.  
Harold Dekkers

**Renaissance**

"The Death Of Art" (Shiver)  
As Mentioned in Numskull 'zine #4 I'll spend some more words on this release. Subtitle of this album is "Music For Empty Rooms" and indeed: you've got to spend some time to discover this one. The Death Of Art is a 40 minutes (!) lasting song. Which, besides listening in the whole, needs to be listened for several times before you can give your opinion about it. And that's why I'm making this re-review. The dDeath Of Art can be seen as a symphony: one tune which includes many different styles and emotions which is well composed because it's that varied that it's no problem to listen to it for the whole 40 minutes. Melodic, bombastic, aggressive, gothic and emotional music underlined by a very interesting poem. Come on guys; spend some time and discover this one: it's really worth it and for the people who adore their demo: those tracks are included too! So over 70 minutes from the best, at least as far as I'm concerned, Belgian band (or should I say project?) nowadays!  
Wicked Wolly

**Sadistic Intent (USA)**

"Resurrection" (Gothic Records)  
The second coming of Sadistic Intent, finally something from the start of the real death metal trend. It's a marvellous release. The opening and ending of this MCD are great instrumental death metal tracks, but the rest in between reminds me to the old good days of the beginning of Morbid Angel and Nihilist. The double bass is amazing, but not as the later productions in Morrissound the most bands got. The solos are wild, with less structure, leading riffs primitive, but on the whole it's a real complex work. Sadistic Intent is a revival from the past like bands as Order of Chaos, but far more professional. It's truly a dedication to the beginning of the straight and brutal death metal. Now and then this fading music shows up in some cultish releases. \$10.- (USA)/ \$12.- (Overseas): Gothic Records, P.O.Box 265 Downey, CA 90241-9998 USA.  
Harold Dekkers

**Sarcasm**

"Breath, Shit, Excist..." (Dolores Records)  
A four track MCD from Sarcasm: "Pure Hate", "Covered Again", "My Inner Rots" and "Breath, Shit, Excist...". Tight deathrash, very catchy ("Covered Again") with a heavy production. Sarcasm obviously influenced by a lot of bands. One of them must be Metallica with their Garage Days Re-revisited 'cause this release has its cheerfulness. Powerful, aggressive vocal part a bit in the vein of old Sepultura... And last but not least a slight dose of originality. No, this is not death metal, but it's worth checking out.  
Wicked Wolly

**Saucy**

"Compilation" (Purge)  
I was rather surprised by this CD. First; I'd never hear of anything like Purge Records and secondly; I'd never heard of any of the sixteen (!!) bands featured on this compilation CD. All showing some alternative heavy metal rock on a rather good level. And do you know bands like: Bitchual Circus, Chemikill, Lash, Sludge, Zen, Festive Road, Flat Cactus, Skulduggery, Hallucination Noise Sensation, His Boy Elroy, Manuscript, Primary, The Watercolours, Inchala, Badgeman and Bleak? Descriptions of some are: Circus rock (Bitchual Circus), crossover between psychedelic rock, metal and hardpop (Lash), in yer face raw roots rock (Skulduggery) and a new apocalyptic cyber generation (Hallucination Noise Sensation). This CD shows some AOR which is worth checking out. Available for U.K.£ 6.- at: Purge Records, 38 Changery Lane, Nuneaton, Warks CV100PD, U.K.  
Wicked Wolly

**Septic Flesh (Gre)**  
"Mystic Places of Dawn" (Holy Records)  
Septic Flesh can be compared to Nightfalls 'Macabre Sunsets', although the vocals aren't that growling and their music is more like the old metal style. So, to label it also as a atmospheric doom/death band won't be wrong. Septic Flesh uses double bass, introduced keyboards, piano and classic guitars, all mixed with a mystical feeling, speeded up to an aggressive and epic thrash tempo, away from the Greek style, into an own one. It's a mix of the symphonic and black metal trend. I heard their long awaited mini album on a small and hidden greek label is coming out finally.  
Harold Dekkers.

**Sickening Gore (Swi)**

"Destructive Reality" CD'93 (Massacre)  
Hopefully a lot of underground followers will remember the total godz Reactor from Switzerland. They split up after the super 'Tribunal from Above' demo, somewhere in January '91. Too Sad!! Follow up of Reactor is the definitely less stronger Sickening Gore (original name lads) why the hell did Nadic (or what was his name) the vocalist leave the band? That guy had The Death Grunt, I still worship that vocal god! After his sessions in Babylon Sad he disappeared... (please, get in touch, pal! -Roel) Music-wise they are also less original than the godly Reactor. More into the brutal grinding death direction of... you know, the famous ..ions and ...corpses! The drummer is as tight as hell and he's pleasant listening to, that guy is good! What a pathetic logo by the way. Eight tracks of brutal metal without much originality.  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**6L6 (USA)**

"Not even warm mcd '93"  
Strange name and a strange title... and is almost impossible that this is "into your face" metal. Gina, Ted and George play punk/metal according the bio. I can agree with that, but I would emphasise punk and ad groovy and tight to it. 6L6 can be a bit compared with Nuclear Assault, only 6L6 is far not as aggressive and is much more melodic. On this release are nine tracks played in 25 minutes, but all tracks are well worked out. The vocals of Jon are 60% of the time raw and than he reminds me of a cross between Lemmy (Mot...) and John Connelly (Nuclear A.). Gina now is replaced by Jon, but the toy plays some nice riffs and some cool melodic solo's. The music on this release is not refreshing, original or renewing, but sounds very enthusiastic and that makes "Not even warm" enjoyable. Cool Stuff. \$9 (shipping) to: Summit records, P.O. Box 995, Boston, MA 02123, USA.  
Cor Snijder

**Smell & Quim (UK)**



**TEKTON**

**Redstream records**

Again a bizarre product of Pat. he put the band Smell & Quim on a 7" ep to upset me personally. Well, I got used to this. The first track is a steady beat with cutting demented trumpet sounds and a growling voice. Maybe a techno/ambient version of John Zorn. 'Adipocere' on the back side is a total disharmonic delayed train crash, mixed with the sound of a radio-transmitter noise, brilliant! P.O.Box 342, Camp Hill PA 17001-0342, USA.  
Harold Dekkers

**Sodom (Ger)**

"Aber bitte mit Sahne!" MCD  
"Get what you deserve" CD (Steamhammer)  
A while ago I heard some Sodom material, not impressive at all, but on these two releases Sodom has gone to the roots. That means they play very simple, but rather effective thrash. See it as a kind of a Motorhead in the thrash metal. Vocals are especially in the fast tracks kind of screamy and that sounds well. On both releases are featured some commercial shitty tracks, no one is waiting for. To mention a few, Aber bitte mit Sahne (from MCD) and Die stumme Ursel (from CD). Give this stuff a listen to- when you are in the recordshop, because both releases are rather brutal.  
Cor Snijder

**Soulgrind (Swe)**

"La matanza, El himno pagano" (MMI records)  
This is the one man project from Tenebrae's Jussi. It's brutal

grindy death metal with sometimes a chaotic approach. It's very interesting because it's so bizarre: chaotic parts, interrupted by black metal parts, acoustic stuff etc. All in a very brutal way. All instruments are well played by one and only member Jussi. Write to MMI records for th CD or to Jussi for Soulgrind, Tenebrae and Dark Shivers 'zine (busy guy). J. Heikkinen, Kytosuantie 8C 35, 00300 Helsinki, Finland.  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Strike Force (USA)**

"Life Threatening Ipcassette '93"  
This band goes back to the mid-eighties as regards the music. Speedy power metal, which can be described as a kind of "brutal" Iron Maiden/Judas Priest mixture. Here and there I can find some bay-area influences. This band can be placed easily between bands like Abattoir, Agent Steel, Savage Grace or Metal Church. Only these bands were better able to convince me of their qualities. Strike Force can not enthrall me all the time, because they have not introduced enough new ideas in their music. The vocals remind me also of the mid-eighty; in general raw vocals with many high draw outs. Just remember John Cyrris of Agent Steel and you know what I mean by the draw outs. I believe the singer has a lot possibilities with his voice, only he doesn't know how to use them. Still he is not doing a bad job. This counts for the whole band, but it is far from original. In these-death and black metal-times it sounds fresh, especially when you are not familiar with the so called mid-eighty metal. My compliment to the many fanatic and enthusiastic solo's on this tape, great. A decent tape. Send \$6 (USA), 9\$ (rest) to: Chainsaw records, 13465 Community Rd. # 104, Poway CA 92064, USA.  
Cor Snijder

**Soul Cages**

**Massacre**  
What's the result when you translate pop music into metal? I guess it will be Soul Cages! Melodic, clean vocals and metal guitar parts: I must confirm it's refreshing. Not really heavy at all but enough metal to satisfy. Pretty techno sometimes as well! When you're into Dream Theater don't hesitate! Great art! Future music probably.  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Tekton Motor Corp.**

"Human Race Ignition" (Dreamtime '94)  
After receiving and listening the "Dreamtime Sampler" somewhere back in '93 I constantly looked forward to the release of the debut CD of Tekton (I think it ain't a secret that I'm a fan of industrial). And yes, some days ago I found a packet in my mailbox including this release. Listening to this gives me a mental orgasm and it was hard to remove this one out of the CD-player for a long time. This kind of industrial does not sound like the famous industrial bands as Ministry and Nine Inch Nails. I'll try to give it a clear review... "Human Race Ignition" lasts about 45 minutes and contains three tracks which are divided in 3,4 and 5 parts. Track I, which is simply called TEK I, contains the re-mix of the excellent part "The Horizon" which was previously released on the "Dreamtime Sampler". Musically seen it contains much returning parts and has, besides the great amount of Formula 1 racing car samples, pretty aggressive parts. TEK II (second song) almost doesn't have vocal parts and can be seen as an "ambient" tune (I hope you're familiar with this term), pretty relaxing, but on the other hand mind confusing. TEK III also has almost no vocal part, but is much more aggressive as TEK II due to the distorted guitars. A bit monotonous and, of course, filled with FI samples. I hope this will give you a proper view on Tekton's debut. People who are into industrial and a bit of house are obliged to check this one out. I think Tekton will agree with the proposal dedicating this magnificent piece to Ayrton Senna.  
Wicked Wolly

**The Gathering (NL)**

"Almost a Dance" (Foundation 2000)  
Well, everyone has heard that grunter Bart was replaced by a normal vocalist, Niels, pretty short before the recording of 'Almost a Dance' Probably that happened far too quickly, the vocals sounds too much like they are recorded in a rush and the lines don't really fit to the music. Well, I can use this fact in a negative way and The Gathering did realize this problem their selves as well. They kicked out Niels and I'm glad they did. As I said only the vocals are not really devastating. But an album consist of far more elements than vocals only. The other six musician did a hell of an excellent job. This album is brilliant. The songs are probably a bit catchier than on 'Always...', maybe a bit happier as well. All tracks still got that marvellous atmosphere that always filled the album with. Besides Niels, also their female vocalist is kicked out and they're searching for a vocalist with a raw and heavy voice, somewhere similar to vocal god Peter Stede. Also the new songs will be in the 'Always...' vein. Some sort of back to the roots? Keep your dead eyes open for a The Gathering members project called 'Fuel'!  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**The Mobile Mob Freakshow**

# MORTEM

At first, I want to have some questions about the scene and the country in which the guitarist and vocalist Fernan is playing before I will deepen the subject Mortem. You are in the scene for a long time. Though, I know it will always give some delay till the newest releases are available in your country. Fernan, can you tell me how the Peruvian scene started, which bands from out and inside Peru were important for the general metal scene. I believe it all started back in 1983, when a few of us Peruvians started

to listen to bands like Venom, Slayer, Mercyful Fate, which we used to call black metal (the term thrash metal wasn't well known here in those days) and this music was totally shocking for us, very brutal and it was totally new at that time. The group of listeners was rather reduced, so there wasn't a real scene around. On the other side there were guys who just listened to heavy metal bands, some of them very already commercial. There were also some peruvian bands who played this type of 'audible' heavy metal.

In 1986 the black metal scene took form with bands like Hastur, Hadez, Mortem and a few more. Also the first 'zines like Deathbanger and Deathcross started to appear. In the years '87-'88 the first gigs were done and since then many bands and 'zines had appeared. But even now it is very hard to find a good equipment to play live, everything is too expensive here.

**By now, as far as I know, there are two bands from Peru with an album out. There is one Iron Maiden styled band (I can't remember their name) and there is Hadez. Can you tell me some other good bands?** Hadez is the only peruvian band that has a CD out now. I'm not sure of what heavy metal band you're revering to, cause no band apart from Hadez has released any CD. Maybe you're talking about Sentencia, but they only released an album cassette. (Yes, it was that band -HD). It is very difficult to find good bands here in Peru, because most of the bands take it as a trend and non of them last for more than two years or so. They certainly don't mean to carry on with their music and they are meaningless for the scene too. On the other hand, all the labels show no interest in the underground music, because they are only interested in the sales, they only sign commercial bands. Brutal records is the one and only exception.

**I heard there are two or three gigs each month in Lima. How much does Mortem play and can you earn some money with it.** Well, that really depends on our time capability. Some of us study at the university and that keeps us very busy all the time, so we play most gigs when we are on vacation. Usually we play in one show each month. In most of these gigs we play for free, but sometimes we ask for a minimum amount of money to play (for the bus and to get some drinks)

An imported CD in Peru costs \$24.- That's pretty much, surely for a country like Peru. Is it hard to buy those CD's or are they available in an easy way. It's not that easy to get a metal CD in any store, but there are some special places where you can buy these CDs, and you will find underground music of course, I mean it's not impossible to get, but it isn't that popular either,

and yes, it is surely expensive.

**I never had that much troubles with business and posting money to your country. But I've to say I sent much with express post or in a registered letter. Someone told me not to send packages around Christmas, there are too much robberies for Christmas packets then. Tell me, how big is the damage that the corruption is making to the scene.** Here in my country it is forbidden to send any cash, so it has to be very well hidden, otherwise it will get

In an unknown part of the world, in a big city at the Pacific coast there was formed a Mortem, long before the historical Mortem with their 'Slow Death' ep which is hardly remembered by our black metal kids of today. And like rediscovering an ancient culture I found the true Mortem when I was searching for unknown bands in South America. Yes, everywhere in the world there are people listening to metal, but not every country has a scene history like Mortem. And maybe it's because of the hard contact with Peru that there is still one of the true ancient bands that didn't change their style. Their 'Evil Dead' demo from '89 was a great piece of black/thrash/death in the old vein. The 'Vomit of the Earth' tape was more or less trendy, in the style of Obituary, but recently I got the 'Unearth the buried Evil' and really, the years of Possessed lives again! Although... Fernan seems not to be satisfied!

lost. Yeah, many people in the world won't order South American or Peruvian stuff because they are afraid to get ripped off. The damage to the scene is big, but still we do get many letters from outside South America, but then again you have to be sure of whom you write to. I guess it's easier for European or US bands to get more contacts, promotion and deals because the scene over there is much more well-known and reliable. But in some South American countries the possibilities of success are really small because there is a lack of communication with the rest of the world. If a band wants to get the recognition they deserve, they have to do it by their own as they don't receive almost any local or international support.

**Are there some other places in Peru where man can speak of a scene than Lima only?** Of course, there are many places here aside from the capital city where people listen to this kind of music, for example Arequipa, Tacna, Cuzco, Piura and many other cities. But the scenes are even smaller.

**Are there bands playing from outside of Peru in Lima?** Not very often, you can count the foreign metal bands that have played here in Peru (in Lima only) with your fingers, most of them have been Chilean bands like Torturer, Sadism, also Masacre (Col) and finally Sarcophago, which came here to play at a south American festival on July '93, organized by Brutal records. A great gig!

**I heard, Peru might be still one of the most violent countries in the world. But on the other hand, I heard of your great president Fujimori (a japanese business man) managed to stabilize your country. Tell me, how violent is Peru or Lima in fact?** Yes, there are still plenty of violent situations in my country, you know, here we have extremists who kill a lot of people for their ideology and they usually throw bombs at places, on the other side the army also kills innocent people too, some people disappear and never get to be seen alive again. Anyway, this seems to cease a little bit in the last years. Now, here in my country we don't see our president as a great

one. Our situation is for sure not the best and our country isn't stabilized or anything like that. What he is trying to do is just to lower the inflation index, no matter how many people starve to death in this attempt.

**By the way, I heard that the first Inca in Peru was (by an old myth) a Japanese voyager who stranded in Peru. Can you tell me more about that?** I appreciate your interest in my country's culture but what you've been told is wrong. We have many myths explaining the origin of our civilisation (long before the Incas), but none of them relates our origin to a Japanese voyager. As far as I know, there are scientific theories or hypothesis that try to explain that the first men who arrived to America came from Asia, but that's all. As I told you on the previous answer, we don't see our president, because of this, as a messiah or anything like that, many people hate him and our situation is still critical with this president.

**To start with the history of Mortem, you released a great demo, Evil Dead, in '89. A second demo, 'Superstition' isn't available because**

**of a bad sound. But are you satisfied with 'Vomit of the Earth' demo?** Well, I think this demo 'Vomit of the Earth' has a better sound than the others so far, we made a big economical effort to release it, but I couldn't say we are totally satisfied with it. We don't see it as our masterpiece. There are certain things we don't like, some songs aren't technically perfect and we know that. But at least I think it shows that we know how to play our instruments and we haven't moderated our music. I also like our old demo 'Evil Dead' and I hope I could still make such great riffs without sounding so simple and primitive like any other band. I have to compose complex riffs, so that they won't sound the same as before. It's very hard nowadays to play simple music which won't sound repetitive.

**Before I start questioning about the musical development, tell me your fave bands.** We like bands such as Possessed, Slayer (pre-'South of Heaven'), Infernal Majesty, Mercyful Fate, old Sacrifice, old Death and a few more. We also like new bands which sound brutal like Seance, Sinister, Deicide, Monstrosity, etc.

**The new tracks you recently recorded, are they different. Is there any musical development?** Yes, we recorded 4 or 5 songs after our '92 demo and they have a similar sound as the 'Vomit...' demo. I don't know if our music has developed, because the songs we are talking about were recorded on July '93. Just 8 months after we did the demo, so if it has changed we can't notice it yet, but I'm not satisfied with the new stuff. See, I'm a little bit narrow minded. Personally I think that a band should not change his style, should not change their sound and should never have some compromises. If they do so, they should change their band name. I think nowadays there are too many bands doing the most impossible things to make original music, they are forcing their music to sound new and strange and they forget about their true style. I don't think we will create a new style or anything like that, because after all these years I know the music style I want for my band.



Well, you've the right to become discovered with the style you want to play. But changes of the signed bands makes the music much more interesting I think. But, indeed, sometimes it's over the top. Now a negative question: I like your last demo, but the leading parts are too boring and your vocals aren't that special. Defend yourself against this statement! Well, thanks for being sincere, we don't expect all the people to like all of our music. On the other hand, we don't make catchy, commercial music for the masses either.

*of captured conquistadors, to quench their ravenous greed." -Candiru*

Many bands are using their own ancient culture in the visual part of their music like Vikings. Do you like the same idea for the old Indian culture? Of course we do! We had some old songs which had these kinds of ideas for our music, but we only took the 'dark' and horrifying myths for our lyrics, for that's what our music is all about. We have two songs which deals about Andean horror Kechua legends like the 'uma' (the rolling head of the

and satanic' lyrics. We know what we are doing, we aren't kids anymore, we've been out since 1986. We don't need paint to hide our faces and not be recognized. We keep doing the same lyrics as we did in the beginning and unlike many of these black metal kids nowadays we are adults, so you can be sure we won't change in the future, because we know what we are doing: non trendy satanism. I just would like to say that.

## **We are a third world under- underground band which plays brutal music and doesn't expect anybody to like it or love it...**

Anyway, I accept that the vocals aren't that original, but I think we have many rhythm changes. We don't repeat our riffs as much as other black metal bands, like for example Burzum, do! We don't have riffs that last for more than 10 seconds. But then again, maybe some other bands have catchier riffs than us of course. But at least you can't say we repeat our rhythm parts constantly, right?

**Well, right, maybe it's due to the style, this is of a very usual level, but the solos are great, there is surely talent. But do you like high tech metal?** As I said before, we have been playing our instruments for a few years, so at least we know how to play them. We are definitely not into high-techno metal. I'm totally convinced that you have to be a little bit anti-melodic to make brutal music. And we are. Only a few dark melodies are accepted, but if you want to be extremely technical, you have to be it all the way. **Nice to hear such a die-hard, they are still there. Well, this concept made the newest tape the best I've ever heard of Mortem!**

*"Aztecs poured molten gold down the throats*

*witch) and Unguy Maman (the mother of all deceases). But I must admit that in my country our ancient culture isn't that appreciated. Some are even ashamed of their past, which is totally shitty. Personally, I think we got to revalue our ancient 'pagan' culture, which was repressed and partially destroyed by the Spanish usurpers who invaded this land in 1532.*

**Is it possible to get a deal on the peruvian Brutal Records?** I haven't talked to the producer about that, but it's a little bit hard, cause here in my country all the wimpy people don't support this label or this band. So he's not sure if he will release any other band. He had worked with us before (he produced our 'Superstition' demo), but then he just decided to sing Hadez instead of us and maybe that will be the label's last signing. Only time will tell.

**Well, maybe you will get a deal on an European label by this interview. I give you space to promote yourself here.** Well, we are a third world under-underground band which plays brutal music and doesn't expect anybody to like it or love it, just pretending to play the music we like, which has a horrifying feeling and something like the usually called 'dark, evil

**Mortem  
c/o Fernan Cerron  
P.O.Box 210035  
Lima 21  
Peru.**

Harold Dekkers



**"Horror Freakshow"** (Primitive art records)

When you'll see a picture of the two MMF guys you'll expect some glam rock like Motley Crew. But thank God it isn't. It's more a kind of dark punk rock metal with vocals of Sisters of mercy. Their first release appeared on 7" ep 'Specimen Sex Friend' and without any change of style they released this album. The production of this album is great and so are the vocals, sung in the way of other dark gothic bands. The CD contains 12 tracks. **Primitive Art c/o Staver, Stolgtan 40, 302 51 Halmstad, Sweden.**  
The Netherlands

**The Reincarnation of the Sun (NOR)**  
**"Compilation album"** (Dunkel Productions)

A cross section of the real underground of the Oslo scene, luckily no black metal again, but really great bands this time. The only metal comes from Valhall, the everlasting hippy doom. Also Red Harvest and Piledriver have close connections to this magazines music style. But the ambient/house assaults like Anstalt, Dunkelheit and Remy are new. Of course, GGFH and Candiru aren't the only band making this kind of music and I'm glad this style is slipped into our magazine again. More of that wanted please! Humid with the track 'Zool' ends this album in a strange way. Their 'guitar rock' is weird, monotonous, but great. The best bands are the mentioned electronic noise outfits, in some track they aren't less aggressive than metal, they only sample the violence. This is a very, very essential release for the Norwegian cult! \$20.- to **Dunkel Productions, c/o Erik Sontum, Mariboegate 9, 0183 Oslo, Norway.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Time Machine (It)**  
**"Project: Time Scanning"** (Limited Records)

Again a very promising band from Italy, again it is progressive stuff, but definitely not in the vein of the excellent Eldritch. This is sympho-progressive rock based on metallish riffs. The biography of this band tells me it can be easily placed in the sector of bands like Queensryche, Rush, Marillion, IQ, Pallas etc. You have to believe the biography, because I only know Queensryche very well. One thing is clear to me that these guys can compose excellent songs with inventive melodies and drum patterns. The lead vocals sometimes reminds me of Fish, but in general the guy has a rather original voice. This is no commercial shit with sweet, slimy melody's, so why shouldn't you check this new talent (because of the lack of brutality?????) You will forget that when you hear this music!. Send your money (only DM 25 (Eur), DM 30 (Overseas) to: **L.M.P., Postfach 60 25 04, 22235 Hamburg, Germany.**  
Cor Snijder

**Trance (Ger)**  
**"Boulevard of Broke dreams"** (W.O.T.)

Trance, ultra satanic, blasphemistic pagan black metal? No, definitely not. Just normal hard rock. The usual boring party rock like other MTV exposed bands. Happy vocals, far too smoothly. Remarkable that some riffs are good. They paid more attention to the guitar parts than their fellow bands... 'Hey-ho-ready to go, welcome people to our show, hey ho, gimme your hands, get into the world of trance', a really sad lyric of the song 'World in Trance'. It sounds sometimes like a heavy version of Queen. The guitars are okay, that's all! **W.O.T, Postfach 211, 67477 Edenkoben, Germany.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Trom (Swi)**  
**Balmore**

One of the most bizarre experimental avantgarde CD's is without doubt the debut of Trom. And besides it's very original, it's great as well. Not only their music is bizarre, so are their lets! It's a very strange band and so it's very hard, almost incredible, to describe their style. It's some dark rock, maybe in the vein of the second Carbonized album, a piece of semi-metal all mixed together with a huge dose of originality. Just try this one out! The vocals are great as well, dark as hell without the use of grunts or screams. **Trom, CP 1126, 2000 Neuchatel, Switzerland.** The guys are searching for gigs in Europe, so promoters get in touch!  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Truth against tradition (Ger)**

**"You're nobody's slave but your own"** (Common Cause)

I like the most releases coming out on Common Cause. Their hardcore, or genres close connected to that style, aren't such a wild Don Quichottes like most 'against the system' bands. I don't say Truth Against Tradition isn't aggressive, it's surely something for punk purists. But at least this band shows a bit more brains in their set up music. **Common Cause, Konrad-Adenauer-Str. 58, 73529 Bettringen, Germany.**  
Harold Dekkers

**The Organization (USA)**

**adv. CD, (Metal Blade)**  
This band is the follow up to the bay area act Death Angel, only without vocalist Mark. Guitarist Rob is doing all the lead vocals right now. The vocals sound rather wimpy sometimes with those harmonic back ground vocals. I'm afraid it's all a bit less than Death Angel used to be. Although they've got their own style and most songs are pretty original. It doesn't interest me.  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Unholy (Fin)**

**"The Second Ring of Power"** (Avant Garde records)  
The second album of Unholy sounds huge, and Lethal records lost a colossal band with this. On 'The second ring of power' Unholy sounds more orchestral due to the use of keyboards. Due to this, they changed the obscurity of 'From the Shadows' to a theatrical sound that give their interstellar voyages much more power. But certainly, there is not a real change of music. The female vocals are different, still different than any other, but the bass still ticks like a clock and some eastern sounding tracks are still ending in a more aggressive speed. I don't know how long the Italian will wait with this Finnish release, but it's worth waiting for the perfected doom in a special style, played by Unholy only.  
Harold Dekkers



**Wicked Marya (USA)**

**"Cycles cd'94"** (Mausoleum)  
Wicked Marya was formed in 1984 and current line-up was completed in 1988. Earlier they called themselves Mystic. Cycles is the debut album of W.M. Their time of existence maybe explains the quality of this album, excellent worked out structures, well thought out melody's. That W.M. is quality music should be clear by now, but about what kind of metal are we speaking. This is power metal, most power metal bands concentrate themselves on technique, complex riffstructures and use a rather clean guitarsound. Wicked Marya has a different approach, they

**Visceral Evisceration (Aust)**

**"Incessant Desire of Palatable flesh"** (Napalm Records)  
Where Paradise lost stopped experimenting on their Gothic album, Visceral Evisceration picked up the new developed style by recording a demo. That demo wasn't such a great experiment as Paradise Lost tried in some tracks, but this work is build up as an opera, the standard for the gothic doom/death metal. What Visceral Evisceration did was really special, but all is arranged in such a way that it's almost naturally. And so does the two new tracks that are added to the demo to put it on this album: A very varying composing with duets, solo parts, just a classic release. It's as classic as Vienna always has been. Even the growling vocals are coming close to an opera singer, compare Master's Hammer orchestral voices with it! But still I ask why they use such a gory lyrics that makes Carcass to a very subtle lullaby. It's really a paradox to the music.  
Harold Dekkers

**Vociferous and Machiavelian Hate**

**"Compilation CD"** (Evil Omen)  
A marvellous compilation with four bands only: Mythos (Fin), Expulsion (Swe), Unexpected (NL) and Mystical (Spa). Each are present with three or more tracks which are separated by midtros, made by Ludo Lejeune himself. The more known bands are Mythos and Expulsion. Mythos opens his five tracks with a destructive sound in the vein of Impaled Nazarene and Belial. In fact this band is a continuation of Belial. Expulsion is there again with the doom death rock like the famous 'Soul Upheaval' track. Unexpected is one of the less known bands, but I don't think people are waiting for a new over speeded death metal band that presents their genre in an excited way. Mystical is much better. One of the more varying Spanish bands that try to make nice compositions of atmospheric and brutal metal. That's why this band suits to this compilation together with Mythos and Expulsion. Distributed by Osmose, or send \$20.- to **Ludo 'evil' Lejeune, 40 Rés, Les Bécots, 62152 Hardehot, France.**  
Harold Dekkers

**Varathron (Gre)**

**"His Majesty at the Swamp"** (Cyber Music)  
In a few words: this album is brilliant. Fur sure the best on Cyber and probably the best from Greece as well! Far more better then 'The Mighty Contract'. The production is pretty clean, so you can clearly hear what's going on. Excellent riffs, very, very atmospheric. The opus is one big moody metal, a real satisfier of lust! Their satanic attitude sucks major cock (Stupid La Vey satanists, very bad corpse paint, amateurish as hell. -Hi, you're not true Roel! -ed). Especially the track 'Lustful Father and Flowers of my youth' totally kill! One of the few brilliant high lights in the scene of today. Excellent. **Cyber, P.O.Box 2, 7050 AA Varsseveld, Holland.**  
Roel van Reijmersdal

**Viogression (USA)**

**"Advance 2nd album '94"** (Tombstone Records)  
The first album of this band from Milwaukee was a great one already. Since that the scene developed in different styles, but this band still beliefs in the metal of the **Obituary** days. Between the Tardy vocals there are a few nice experimental tunes, for the rest their slow doom/death metal shows a perfect grinding-machine that pulverizes in slow motion. Perfect!  
**Tombstone Records, 95 Hexham Ave, Hebburn, Tyne + Wear, NE 31 DC, UK.**  
Harold Dekkers

concentrate themselves on heavy riffs, steady drums and very mystic spheres and melody's. This makes the music rather catchy. Lou Falco (vox) has not a high voice, but sings in the regions of David Wayne (ex Metal Church) and Eric Adams (Manowar), sounds good huh! This album is a must for power metal freaks, but deathers and blackers should check this stuff out too!  
Cor Snijder

**Wombbath (Swe)**

**"Lavatory"** (Napalm records)  
Wombbath has released a brilliant mini-album on Napalm records. Don't expect the old Swedish death metal any more, the guys realized that wouldn't work out any more. Their change of music style also perfect their musicianship and weren't not that stupid to try to get more attention to use a keyboard in their music. No, Wombbath changed into a cross-over band, in a real cross-over. Thrash metal with hardcore, death metal and some funk. There are different vocals from a quest: Dalle Samuelsson. Their music contains the straight thrash riffs, but everything around that is really original melodic and aggressive. I never expected that from this young dudes. It's okay that they recently changed their name into Mother of Perils so the die-hard fans of the old and raw death metal genre are satisfied. They won't see a death metal name on Napalm Records, releasing their debut full-length soon.  
Harold Dekkers



# ~ OCCULT ~

The black metal wave is already over? When I'm writing this maybe not, but at least there are coming much more bands who want to stay inventive with the use of the old sound saying the aren't that true any more. One of the few is coming from Holland, **Occult**. Once I was amazed to see an ex-member of **Bestial Summoning** doing such a well played show. At least it isn't an other penguin-paint band, although Sephiroth, the interviewed one and leader in the war is still speaking from behind the mask of black metal!

**To start at the begin, your real first action in a band was in Bestial Summoning, a black metal band that was based on improvisation only. Due to the hype of black metal it succeed to release it on vinyl. I still see it as an incident of no value. But how sure was Bestial Summoning for you?** At the beginning, we had no plans to bring out vinyl with **Bestial Summoning** but our rehearsal demo was a good success though the production was worthless shit, people wanted to hear us after a studio release, so we had plans to make a dark studio demo, but No Fashion started their label and the owner said he would pay the studio costs and the rest... Finally it was a good opportunity for us to release something on vinyl without having a risk of paying the studio while the recordings are shit! I am happy with the LP, but I am glad I am doing better things in the future!



**I won't label ourselves as pure black metal...**

**Why did you search for some other people to form a good band? You was hungry for some good musicians to make some more original and better accepted music than the eternal evilness of standard black metal?** I didn't search at all, Leon,

our guitar player is a good friend of mine since five or six years, we always played together when I handled the sticks, he knew a drummer in our area into this music and so on. We just started to practise in the end of 1991. I really wanted to become as no other band is and that's difficult of course. But I won't label ourselves as pure black metal!! We just try to bring back the old memories of **Possessed, Destruction, Slayer, Sodom, Kreator, old Exodus** etc.

**The other guys (Leon -Guitar, Sjors -Bass and Erik -Drums) are just normal guys who seem to have no needs to come up with the black metal attitude. That makes the out-fit of the band stronger and professional. Are you the King Diamond of Holland in some way?** I don't compare myself with the King, but in some way, on stage you can see it as some **Mercyful Fate**, yezzz... they just play and concentrate on their music while I am doing the show!

**Till now I've never seen any black metal bands in Holland besides Occult. The rest is worthless to mention isn't?** Well, I am really disappointed in Holland what's concerning black metal, I have heard bands such as **Inverted Pentagram, Funeral Winds, Engraved, Hordes, Hordes of Lust** and more of that, maybe I like some of the members like Orlok from **ex-Fallen Temple**, he's a great guy, but his project bands are shit! The meaning and ideas behind all this is okay, but the music really sounds like rubbish, but I don't care what they do...

**By the way, you don't label Occult as black metal, but would you give an other description then?** It's more black metal with death influences, it's hard to tell and I think everybody should label us as they want us to label!

**The only time I saw you live was in the Baroeg. You almost only played covers by that time, some were brilliant, like the cover of Acheron. Will you still play the covers live?** Yes I think, but now we have about five new songs, but besides playing the nine songs of ours, we also play covers of **Mayhem, old Slayer, Acheron** (yes, that was a nice one! -HD), **Sathanas, Samael**, it just depends one the crowd and how long we play live!

**Last year it was also for the media a big hype to follow the morbidity of several bands. In Holland several monthly magazines published articles about the phenomenon death metal. The New Revu published an article about some dutch bands, especially with you. I've got the idea they were searching for some pure sensation. But what about you, were your answers taken that serious?** The New Revu was pure shit and commercial, they knew I was involved with an organisation that was connected with the Black Circle in Norway (yes, we too, I used to write letters with them too, he, he -HD They were just heading for sensation indeed, my answers were taken seriously, yes. But

I just told things about my private live and the shithead printed it in the magazine, some of the things are even made up by him to make it more interesting.

**You released your album on Foundation 2000, why not on Decapitated?** First of all... people give Foundation 2000 threatening phone calls, because people think that it's stupid that a label as Foundation 2000 is now dealing with a black metal band, maybe because of its previous releases. I think it's childish because many black metal bands release their albums on black metal labels, but is it really necessary? It's absolutely bull shit, I think people who want to give threatening phone calls also have to phone all those so called 'black metal fanzines' or even new black metal labels, because some new black metal labels now deal with this kind of music because it's a trend, so the smell money. I don't think Foundation 2000 is thinking this way, because they aren't that keen on black metal, but they signed us because of our originality in sound, the rhythms and some riffs. It sounds like old Slayer. The main point is that we signed to them is that they offered us studio costs and they have a wild and very good promotion. Decapitated records offered us some CD's and LP's and we had to pay the studio for our own. So we never should earn our studio costs back with some CD's. I don't like Foundation 2000's previous releases myself, but do I have to choose another label because of that? Maybe a label that's not into good paying or promotion?

**How many albums will you release through Foundation 2000?** We signed for two albums!!

**'Leader in War' has a great intro, maybe it's one of the most original I've ever heard. Where did you take it from?** It's not original to pick an intro from a classical movie, ore something known, our guest keyboard player on our CD made the intro for us!!! He also did the outro and stuff around!

**You know the Norwegian band Perdition Hearse. Their music style is a bit comparable to yours. The drums are a bit the same and also your soft sounding vocals. They are original and fits well to the music. But on the demo they sound a bit heavier. Where the vocals on the album recorded in the way you wanted to?** Absolutely NOT! I had an extreme throat infection for about 4 or 5 weeks, that was when the recordings started, after I was a bit healed I went to the studio to sing, but it took 3 days to record it, my throat and nose where full of slime and stuff and that sound was horrible. When we did the mixing, Mark of Foundation joined us, because the CD had to be finished that week, so I had leave the vocals as it was, fucking terrible, also the vocalist are too soft and low, but for the second album I will take more time for vocals and beside that we have a new female vocalist in Occult who does the growling parts! **Well, I heard a different opinion by your label boss. He's right saying the vocals aren't disconnected to the music, maybe a bit too soft, yes. On the other hand, I also see an connection to Samael. Not because Occult is sounding like Samael, not at all, but it's an original band any way. What do you think of their most recent album?** It's fucking great, I like their guitar riffs, sound, drums, everything is perfect, Great!

**What then do you think of:**

**Destruction?** I have no words for this great band, especially 'Infernal overkill' and 'Sentenced of death'.

**Iron Angel?** I hear about, but never heard their music.

**Gorefest?** Not my favourite band.

**Impaled Nazarene** Extreme, aggressive and wild!

**You are also singing in Deinonychus, for what reason?** I sing in Deinonychus because I should do a band with the owner of Deinonychus because I knew him from Malefic Oath (I once started it with them), but because he did a one-man-band, I thought it was an original and great idea if we did both part of the vocals and it worked out great! Our CD will be out soon, the music is like Emperor, Darkthrone and Abruptum!

**Yes, I heard they have a deal. Can you tell me more about that? Will it be recorded with the same circumstances as Bestial Summoning?** No, Bestial Summoning was improvised, this is not improvised!

**Okay, besides your long thank list on your album you get the chance to thank people again by now and to say good bye!** I thank you Harold for doing this interview and Hail to your great magazine!!!!  
**Sephiroth, Antoniusstraat 109, 5912 C.J Venlo, Holland.**

Harold Dekkers

# POLLUTED INHERITANCE

Well, to start this interview here's probably the most boring but indispensable question: **What does the band history look like?** Well, to start off with answering the so called "most boring but indispensable question of all": Polluted Inheritance was formed in August 1989. Erwin Westdorp (guitar) and I, Ronald (vocals/guitar) played in a band called Pollution and Menno de Fouw (bass) and Friso van Wijck (drums) played in a band called Sacrament. These two bands broke up in about the same period. We knew each other, so we decided to try working together (At that time there was also a singer called Jean-Paul Hoorman). We liked what we were doing, named the and Polluted Inheritance, made some rehearsals and after some time we recorded our first demo called 'After Life', which contained six tracks. People responded very good on the demo and after only a few months we were asked to record an album for West Virginia Records. Jean-Paul left the band shortly before recording the album, so we decided that I would take over the vocal parts. We recorded the album in 10 days; the 'Ecocide' was born! After that we did some shows in Holland and Belgium. At this moment we have recorded a new demo which contains three tracks. This is our band history as short as possible!

**It was very quiet around Polluted Inheritance in the last couple of years. Aren't you afraid that some ignorant fools might accuse you of being just another death metal band and nonsense like that? And what about those fuckers of West Virginia Records (r.i.p) who fucked up a possible break-through for Polluted Inheritance?** It was indeed very quiet around Polluted Inheritance. The main reason for that was West Virginia Records!! After we finished the album, WVR broke up. There was no promotion done by this record company, so nobody knew about 'Ecocide'. We had to do all our promotion by ourselves and by the time people knew us, there was almost no place where we could perform because everything was already booked. The second reason is, that we have spend a lot of time in making new songs. So i hope these ignorant fools stop being ignorant fools, 'cause all we are waiting of is a second chance with an other record company. And I hope this new demo will help!

**The repertory you have written since the very first recording is multi-varied qua speed/pace. It's peculiar that Friso (drums) never integrated Andy grind/blast speed passages in the fast parts of the material. How come?** This is because we just don't think it fits in our style of music. I think that, as soon as you play such riffs (even if it's only one riff) they put you in this little corner and call you a grind band or something, which we are certainly not! We like to listen to this kind of music, but we just don't like to play it. Friso makes our music interesting enough with all the crazy things he fills the songs with, especially the new songs. I think Friso is one of the best drummers in Holland in our style of music -if I may say so myself. (You can, he's just awesome! -sr) He is actually the one who makes the songs so complicated and we are

very pleased with that!

**How do you want the people describe your music?** As I said before, it's difficult not to be placed in a little corner when you play music (it doesn't matter what kind of music). If people ask me what kind of music we make I always tell them it's a kind of technical death/thrash. But I think people all listen to music in a different way. So if people say we make Thrash or only Death Metal, then that's their opinion. As long as they like it, it's fine with me.

**You don't think that lyrics are of vital importance. Now I respect that considering the difficult guitar parts you have to play while singing (growling). But don't you think that in-depth, poetical lyrics could call forth a new dimension in Polluted Inheritance's music like it does in, for example Revenant's, Dark Millennium's or Thought Industry's case?** You're maybe right there, but I am not a very good poet! If I could I would probably use more poetical lyrics. But I'm trying to do my best on the lyrics more and more. Our first lyrics were mainly about blood, guts and people dying of horrible diseases (lovely -sr). Pretty immature. Now, I try to focus my lyrics on more daily, but unfathomable happenings in life. Like for example 'My Voice' (from the new demo) It's about someone who is psychotic. He can't see the difference between reality and fantasy. I try to place myself in this person (what he thinks and sees). The same goes for 'Indulge In the Bastard Nature'. This song is about a child rapist-murderer. I try to imagine what someone incites to do this kind of stuff. So the lyrics are more very poetic but I'm trying my best to make something out of it.

**Have you ever considered leaving the lyrics completely our on future releases?** We have discussed it sometimes; to make an instrumental track, but we never took it really seriously. I think it's, again, not our way of making music. I'm not saying we will never make an instrumental song, maybe in the future. It's also very difficult to make an instrumental song (more difficult than a 'normal' song). you can't make them too short, and you must make a lot of different riffs to keep the song interesting. This takes a lot of time and we haven't taken the effort to make an instrumental song yet! **Ah, I guess you have missed the point of my question... Anyway, no big deal. The solo's on your new demo are generally chaotic and even tend to deafen the rhythm section. The solo's on your older works however were, on the whole, more melodically structured. In my view they were more of a completion to the rhythm section and I like them better.** Some things grow in the studio (weeds? -SR) while you practice them. These things are worked out and become 'real' solos. Other things just happen in the studio and become improvised solos, these things just happen.

**Bar/rhythm-wise I would say the new songs are a most uncommon and innovate kinda thing!** Thank you!!

**You're welcome. Are you guys able to reproduce the new songs in a live situation and do you think it'll work well on the**

The honesty and pure resoluteness, with which this band uphold the ideals they once sworn themselves to, is of monstrous value. No wonder that it's striking in these times of god damn' periodical trend systems. I mean, just who has still the grit to describe their music as for instance 'technical death/thrash' like Ronald Camonier of Polluted Inheritance does it somewhere in this interview nowadays? This is precisely the most easy formulation of what this band's sound is about. Today, words such as unique and original should be appropriate again when combos like Polluted Inheritance succeed in achieving such a powerful sonic dynamism. This as professional musicians instead of being some fucking craven babies who nervously crave for some stupid 'evil or whatever-identity all the time. It lacks in other countries and it lacks in The Netherlands... Now that for example Pèstilânce departed with utmost idiocy maybe an authentic whirlwind of Polluted air would do good... now is the time!

**audience?** Well; we've played about six new songs (including the three demo tracks) on stage a few weeks back, and the reactions we received from the audience were very positive. The main reaction was that it was very technical but still very powerful and brutal. I agree that it's pretty hard to understand the songs when you hear them for the first time, especially live. So, here's a good reason to buy our new demo!

**Why is it that you want to write and perform technical stuff in particular?** It's not really done on purpose. We all want to expand in the way we play our instruments. The only way to do that, in my opinion, is to make it hard on yourself and play difficult riffs and difficult beats. Then it gets technical all by itself. And of course we make such music because we like it. That's the most important thing in making music: "make music that you like, not what others like!"

**Polluted Inheritance's current musical style is strongly connected to complex, brutal, spherish, morbid and technically weird conceptualisations. You have been playing this certain style for more than six years by now. Does the urge to make more emotional and/or different music occur to you much?**

We don't think about that too much. As I said before, it just happens. We don't make songs in the way of: "our next song is going to be more emotional or more like this or that". Most of the time Erwin or I come up with riffs and Friso fills them with crazy drumparts. So we don't know how the songs are going to be in advance.

**What can we expect from the forthcoming album when you will get the chance to realize it. Will there also something on it like the bass solo/outro you had on the 'Ecocide' CD?** At the moment we have about nine new songs (including the three demo-tracks). So, if we'll get the chance we will have enough to record. The songs are all from a different kind. So you won't be listening to the same sort of songs all the time. We haven't thought about stuff as intro's or outro's yet; so this is going to be a surprise for you and me. There is also no title for the album or a drawing for a cover, so we all have to wait and see what the future brings.

**In which way do you look back upon the growth of the band since you started out in '89?** If you listen to the rehearsals we had in former days -and to the newest songs we recorded. you can hear the progression we've made throughout the years (as it should be!) We've grown more mature and the songs are more complete now. We are very happy the way we are composing now and we will keep on growing.

**In which way and to what proportions do you want Polluted Inheritance's music to expand in the future? Maybe an even more technical approach?** We always will play the music we want to play and we will certainly keep on growing in the future. Our music will most probably get more technical, but it will always stay really heavy music. We hope people will enjoy the music we play now and in the future!





**Time's up and I haven't got any inspiration left for this last question.** Okay, to put this interview to an end we like to show our gratitude to all those who know what our band stands for and who supported us through the years of our existence. Also thanks for featuring us in your magazine. This is all we have to say... for now!

**I can't remain silent. Their stuff is essential so write these guys. They're really nice and free from any bullshit 'Rockstar Attitudes'.**

Merchandise: T-shirt = Fl 30.-/\$16.- (Front: full colour 'Ecocide'-motive, back: logo in red, black shirt, XL/L). Longsleeve = Fl 40.-/\$20.- (same motive as T-shirt + sleeveprints, black shirt, XL/L). Demo = Fl 12.50/\$6.-

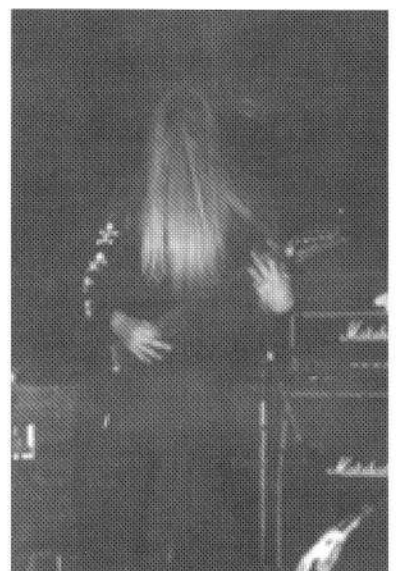
Note: prices include P&P. The T-shirts and longsleeve can only be obtained at Menno's address.

Polluted Inheritance:

c/o Ronald Camonier, Schubertstraat 6, 4536 AS Terneuzen, The Netherlands.

c/o Menno de Fouw, Dokweg 51, 4537 RR Terneuzen, The Netherlands.

Sascha Roth



## reviews **SHORTS** reviews

*At this very moment you're on top of our new creation which, more or less, was forced to be created. Normally the stream of demos already was hard to work up, but after this co-operation it became a prayer without ending. We're not proud of this, but we had to... What you'll see is a selection of releases which hadn't much quality or were too old, uninteresting to give a complete review. This selection was made to save space and keep the reviews interesting for our readers. We hope that a couple of heart words and a mark will give you a descend impression of the things reviewed. The next step will be the not publishing of a couple of releases. We hope it will never come that far, but 400 reviews in one issue aren't interesting anymore...*

Wicked Wolly

**Absurdus (Fin), Under the neversetting sun.** A black paganistic version of Chorus of Ruin. This is really musical poetry in the vein of Rotting Christ. **9. HD Ville Similä, Juulensuuntie 3 As 1, 02880 Veikkola, Finland.**

**A.C. (USA), Everybody should be killed, Earache.** 58 tracks of splattering grind, even more chaotic than Earache's Napalm Death's Scum B-side. **RvR**

**Acheron Gates (Isr), Forests of Dark Mayhem.** Multi-vocalized, atmospheric, holocaustic metal in the vein of the official debut of Beherit. Simple, but very effective. **7.5 HD. P.O.Box 3702, 31037 Haifa, Israel.**

**Alchemist, Promo '94.** This is only an announcement of their coming second CD on an Australian label. Still the weird and freaky death metal with super original parts. Not for sale, for contact: Adam Agvis, P.O.Box 1037, Dickson A.C.T. 2602, Camberra, Australia. **RvR**

**Ancient Slumber (Swe), Abandon your voltaire garden.** At first I expected the Gothenburg style of music, but it's a well produced thrash metal demo. \$5.- to Tarbjörn Hallgren, Juteskärg 64, 421 59 VÄ, Sweden. **RvR**

**Apophis, Gateway...** (Nuclear Blast?). Fast technical deaththrash with heavy grunts, melodic lines and clear production. Nice done **7 W.W.**

**Apostasy (USA), Accuser of Brethren.** Death metal with an apocalyptic in a the way of Benediction and Viogression. A bit faster and more aggressive. **7. HD No Adres on the tape!**

**At the Gates (Swe), With Fear I kiss the dark, Peaceville.** Now they contain a powerless sunlight production, what happened with the great band from the past? **RvR**

**Ater (Fin), Ors.** The Finnish Katatonia? More straight, less effects, more Bolthrower, more basses. Acousite parts mixed with grotesque doom metal. A nice cover artwork a la McKean. **7.5 HD Marko Hautamäki, Kiertotie 5, 61100 Peräseinäjoki, Finland.**

**Banished (USA) Deliver me unot pain, Deaf.** Twelve tracks of body builder death metal, all with the smae concept, released in peaceville's thrashcan. Rather inspireless. **4 HD.**

**Berith (Ger), Ja ado en I.** The situation concerning black metal in Holland is bad, but in Germany it's worse. **2. HD. Berith, Kay Assel, Kopernikusstr. 7, 17358 Torgelow, Germany.**

**Betrayer (Isr), Power of Hate.** A pre-thrash release with a eastern Europe pre-

communistic production. Not very interesting, there are better bands from the holy land. **5. HD c/o Yishai Swearts, 10 Kazan St. Raanana 43612, Israel.**

**Beyond Redemption (Ita), demo.** Atmospheric, but it doesn't hurt! **6. HD. Gabriele Santamaria, Via Gen Pergolesi 21, 60125 Ancona, Italy.**

**Carcass (UK) The Heartwork ep, Earache.** Just like the album, still godly! **9 HD.**

**Casket (Can), Mutilated.** A mixture of heavy death metal of Cannible Corpse and the Swedish style. I can't find any address. **RvR**

**Chickadeedikcheez (Swe), demo '94.** A Dan Swanö product, promoted by their local poulterer and Napalm records. It's funk metal, a thousand of times better than The Red Hot Chili Peppers. **7.5 HD Jonas Vincent, ö a. Thulegatan 29, 733 33 Sala, Sweden.**

**Clotted Symmetry Sexual Organ (Jap), demo.** Chaotic grind soap, inspired by O.L.D and Pungent Stench. **Junji Tahemi, 1122-1, Hamano-cho, chuo-ku, chiba city, chiba 260 Japan. HD**

**Congestion (Fin), Bed of the ancient river.** Enochian avantgarde doom metal. Choir and orchestra from ancinet times with a bad drum sound. **7. HD Jani Koskela, Leppäsenojantie, 12100 Oitti, Finland.**

**Corporate Death, Compilation, Relpase.** This is the proof that the Relpase releases reigns above those of Nuclear Blast. **8. HD**

**Count Raven, Destruction of the Void re-release, Relpase Recs.** Real doom from the deep underground like an everlasting Saint-Vitus syndrome! **8.5 HD**

**Crash (Kor), Endless supply of pain.** Colin Richardson made the Korean Sepultura! They are aggressive anyway. It's impossible to print an address, try the import channels! **8 HD.**

**Cremation (Can), demo.** Very underground sounding death metal. Just like a mutilated Morbid Angel 7"ep. **6. HD P.O.Box 983, M.P.O T5J-2L8, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.**

**Cruciamentum (Nor), demo.** Not a Norwegian war metal project, but a noise-industrial experience. **6. HD. J.T. Wessel, Anemonevn 34, 3268 Larvik, Norway.**

**Dead Flesh, Spanish death metal compilation, Fonomic.** Contains Avulsed, Antropomorfia, Sacrophobia, Spontaneous Combustion and Fermento. All bands are equal to the US and Scandinavian brutal death metal style, all very promising. \$20.- to **Fonomic, Garzia de Paredes 12, 28010**

Madrid, Spain. **RvR**

**Demoniac (NZ), The Birth of Diabolic Blood.** Very atmospheric, inventive fast black metal with a continous use of keyboards as an own instrument! Really great! **8.5 HD, \$5.- to P.O.Box 17389, Wellington 5, New Zealand.**

**Disbelief (Ger) Unbound.** Insane and hysterical vocals, screamed over an aggressive, but monotonous guitar sound. The sinister sounding keyboards and some solos save this band from a bad release. For Suffocation and Asphyx fans! (The coloured cover is beautiful!) **7.5 HD c/o Karsten Jaeger, Finkenweg 4, 64823 Gross-Umstadt, Germany.**

**Discomposure (Den) demo.** A strong, powerful Danish thrashcore band but far too monotonous. **6. HD c/o Stephan Larsen, Niels Bohrsvej 3, 6430 Nordborg, Denmark.**

**Disrupt (USA), Deprived, Relpase** Violent emotions of wild and aggressive hardcore against international social injustice. **8. H.D.**

**Exempt (Swe), Ill heath.** A demo from '92, but with it's Unisound or Sunlight production still very enjoyable without any typical standard. The production is a bit comparable with those of Eucharist. **Idtjörngatan 73, 424 50 Angered, Sweden. RvR**

**Exit-13 (USA) Don't spare the green love, Relpase underground release.** Old demos of the only grindcore band that isn't red of bloodspats, but green! **8. HD**

**Fallen Christ (?), Infernal Majesty.** Choatic pre-Blasphemy death metal from the obscure satanic die-hard genre. Laurent Merle still have to proof they are really good, if so Listable records will have a new Morbid Angel. Await the debut album (spread through Osmose). **? HD.**

**Fetish 69, Antibody, Nuclear Blast.** Another sort of industrial music, what's up with the good old metal scene? **RvR**

**Godcurcifier (Ita), Jerusalem.** Four tracks, each recorded in a different month. Sounds like a rehearsal. **RvR Lorenzo Betelli, L.go Ungaretti 3/58, 20020 Arese (MI), Italy.**

**Golgotha (Spa), Caves of Mind.** Interesting doom metal -ordinary parts turned into a great kind of doom with Katatonia as one of the examples. Thrashy riffs connected to well structured song lines... with two of the three Garciole brothers (ex-Enerthal Mass). **Vicente Paya Galindo, P.O.Box 1782, 07080 Palma de Mallorca, Baleares, Espanea.**

**Goreaphobia (USA), Oman of Masochism, Relpase.** From the undergrond series, yes,

but only Conqueror of Thorns isn't taken from the former 7"ep. **7. HD**

**Gorefest (NL), The Eindhoven Insanity, Nuclear Blast** Very poppy, I've seen this alive with my own eyes. **8. HD**

**Harassed (Swe), Blessed by Suffering.** Local thrash/death with a satisfying quality. Some nice ideas on the B-side of this 7 track tape. **7. HD Daniel Hedblom, Hara 2240, 84043 Hackås, Sweden.**

**Hazael (Pol), Clairvoyance.** Thrashy death metal without own identity, typical Polish. **Metal Storm Records, Buczka 3, 74-400 Debno Lub, Poland.**

**Havoc Mass, Killing the Future, Massacre.** A fast Spanish with ex-Nasty Savage members, so it's the victorious '87 thrash metal.

**Hellbound (Spa), Forgotten the past demo.** A fast Spanish Obituary with eerily effects... a Drowned release of course. **7.5 HD**

**mmured (Ger) Torturemaster.** Ultra low, but somewhat thrashy death metal with a sick cover. Not really remarkable. **5. HD David Johack, Walpersdorferstr. 13, 8540 Rednitzhembach, Germany.**

**Imprecation (USA), Sigil of Baphomet, Drowned.** The reviewer describes this as a blasphemish death metal band with ultra low growls and don't think it will still excite people. Maybe he's right. \$5.- to **Drowned, Gran Via 69, 28013 Madrid, Spain. RvR/HD**

**Incarnated (Port) Death blessed by a god, promo track.** One track is too short to manifest the upcoming scene of Portugal. Not that interesting, but nice enough. **6.5 HD. c/o Vitor Machado, Pract. Francisco N°3 1.esq. Bons-Dias, 2675 Odivelas, Portugal.**

**Infester (USA), Darkness Unveiled, Moribund.** I don't see why there are so many people complaining there are too less death bands not following the pure style any more. Try this one! **6.5 HD Moribund Recs, P.O.Box 77314, Seattle, WA 98177-0314, USA.**

**Juiceman, Meta Luna, Massacre.** Grunge orientated rock with raw R.E.M. vocals.

**Kataklysm (Can), The mystical gate of reincarnation, Nuclear Blast.** A rather cheap investment for Nuclear Blast: three demo tracks completed with one new recording. Still mega brutal. **8. HD.**

**Kawir (Gre) Promo'93.** A nice, short symphonic project a la Rotting Christ. **7. HD Aetopetras 35, Nea Ilosia 131 22, Athens, Greece.**

# ULVER

One of the best new coming bands from Norge is, without doubt, Ulver. Hell, yes, they're brilliant. One of the few who succeeded in bringing something original from the pagan/black metal area. Unfortunately their 'Vargnatt' promo isn't available any longer, but soon you can expect some new Ulver tracks, probably on Head Not Found. This band deserves it's place in the monumental halls of Valhalla. Ulver, hail to thee! And remember: 'You will remain nothing until the day our

are nothing'. It was metal brother Garm who answered.

**Can you tell me something about the history of Ulver?** Firstly I'd like to make a point out of this history/biography thing... I'm not sure when we started out, and it really doesn't matter either! In those days I found it totally unessential and I still do... Guess it was in 1992. A band always starts out without any definite name, lack of musicians who fit each other etc. Just a few guys presenting a couple of riffs and ideas, using some time getting to know each other and all the other things you know? In fact I've been struggling with line-up problems until quite recently, but that seems to go alright now... Three definitive names are myself (vocals and probably some piano/synth), E. Lancelot (ex Valhall, Burzum) on drums and H. Joergensen (ex-Satyricon) on guitar. We also have also got a fresh bassist named H. Mingay. I need to feel alliance both spiritually and musically with my members and I can tell you that it is one hell of a job finding such persons. It wouldn't work out with me and the others if we didn't have an emotional affiliation with each other... Our releases have so far only been the 'Vargnatt' promo that we honestly don't look back at it with pride today, but I guess it's still is okay to be our debut. When you hear our 'Bergtatt' material you'll see what I mean! I think that I'll stop selling 'Vargnatt' now (after 200 sold)... There really is no reason of printing another 100 copies of the tape when we don't share any enthusiasm for it anymore. Especially not using any further money! Better get in through tapetrading, okay? Well, as you see, we've got no exceptional story, but feel that we during this short period of time have progressed a lot further than your average 'band'. We defiantly have a stonger approach than all those bloody false idiots around Speaking of my personal mental stat... I will certainly develop myself and eventually I will end up as a majestic guy of great wisdom and knowledge... I'm still pretty young (17), so you haven't seen nothing yet. In 'zines and stuff we'll concentrate on exposing Ulver's music in the future. I don't really feel like prostituting myself and my should to the massive blind breed... Await the sounds of the true Norse trollforest... Moerketid!

**In Norway there are a lot of new black metal bands and they all claim to be true. When is a band true and when not?** yes, unfortunately there are a lot of 'black' metal bands in Norway. Though many of my Norse brothers are (to use the most misunderstood word ever) true. Here up in the north we are also infested with a lot of false bastards who does not have any firm ideologies at all, just following the statements of the evident Norse elite... This is highly destructive for what we are esteemed to be and the worst part is that I've not even heard about half of them!!! You might say 'don't drag everyone under the same comb', but it would have been 'nice' to have a little control of all the bands. I get so bloody pissed off when I hear that a band from my own country that I never even heard of are releasing an album on some foreign label who obviously thinks that Norwegian vikings are 'true' and 'original'... ethically is right. If we should stand a chance in

We hereby request all those bands to contact us so we can have a little conversation regarding ideologies and thoughts on different things. If they seem dedicated enough to what they do, they stand a big chance in getting our approval and that is really a lot better than having all these intern battles within the 'community'. Ulver is interested in a brotherhood based on reciprocity and respect for each other and our individual thoughts. If you're dedicated to what you do with your soul and heart you are true and if not you are false... This has nothing to do with being evil or not, simply true in the original sense of the word. I'll be careful mentioning any names...

**Don't you think that the so called circle has fucked up a lot of things by spreading too many nonsense and doing some bizarre**

gaining back what originally was ours, we must convince all that it is a veracious mistake living the 'christian' way many Norwegians do today and we mustn't let our government give their permission to build religious houses and other foreign religious places that doesn't belong Norway nor it's true people at all! It seems like Norwegians always likes to brag about their viking background and spirits in international connections (as in de Lillehammer olympics '94). So why not take the final step with a resignation from their idiotic membership in the established church? This is an encouragement to all true Norwegians with some selfrespect left.

**Can you tell me more about your lyrical concept?** My lyrical concept is a very comprehensive one indeed and there is a possibility that I'll try transferring it into an info booklet with Ulver's overwhelming saga world in written form in the near future. Revealing you to the imaginations you'll get through listening to Ulver's supremely beautiful fantasies into the promised lands (excluding 'Vargnatt') I really don't have the time, nor can I find the right words here... It's something seen within the depths of your mental faculty. Norwegian culture and folk tales are elements of major importance.

**How much do you believe in the spirit and attitude of the old Vikings then? I think the Vikings are sometimes a bit over glorified, they were just normal people, some with ideas about conquering, but overall common people for their time. But I must confess I like a lot myself, it's something mysterious and heroic, right?** You are right, so right... The vikings are very over-glorified by some fools who don't know what they want, or which step they eventually are going to take! I'm aware of the fact that most of our ancestors actually were nothing more than ordinary people for their rime, but the sagas based upon their kings and ideals are of great importance to us. My ancestors and I also have our religious ideals in common. They were heroic int the true sense of that word and this has influenced us considerably much. Anyway, our ancestors lived in such an appealing environment... Such a community of similar disposed individuals. I guess this is the ultimate time and place that I'm yearning so much for, but now for sure it is an impossibility during this life. Far away from this civilization that we in Ulver detest so strongly! I'm born in the wrong century, and Ulver will be my camouffage till then.

**Why the change in the line up? The departure of the two old guitar players and the new one entering Ulver? What's the difference now?** More or less I made that clear in your first question, but didn't expand enough. I felt that my 'old' members didn't come up to my own level neither intellectually nor religiously. Without my motive power (a radical wing of the movement) they stood very weak in attaining any results and there is no question about me needing members who can contribute with something more than just a couple of riffs here and there. Only H. Joergensen and myself





are left of the 'original' line-up now, but this hasn't had a negative effect on Ulver's music at all if you think so... Rather the opposite! The differences now are that everything is going fuckin' great in contrary to the earlier days. With this line-up we cannot fail.

**You're pretty experimental with you voice, which is refreshing I must say. Where do you get your influences from? Especially concerning the normal vocals. For the screams I guess Franta Storm and Quorton, right?** My vocals are basically drawn from my general impression of those 'abstract' splendour sources: distant mountain horizons, rocks, strewn slopes, impenetrable dark forests, glorious viking dogmas, pagan carvings and any kind of self living nature mechanism etc. The superior hill, folk and forest goblins carries me far away with their enchanting mode of living and their consideration for those overbearing and soulful nature prides mentioned above. These obviously have a strong spiritual position in my emotional life. To be honest, I really believe to be emotionally involved with them after spending so much time in the woods. As a last supplement I could also mention that I do not draw any inspiration from the works of other vocalists or any other concrete sources either. How I do my vocals in a personal thing and it should be like this for those other vocalists too, agree? Both Franta Strom and Quorton have great voices, but there is a basic difference between us. Could you please give grounds for this comparison?

**How will you develop your voice? More acoustic, in a normal way?** My voice has developed quite a bit in it's way of performance and is still in growth. In the future I will engage

myself further deep into those foregoing things I've mentioned and that also means there will be more harmony in my normal vocals.

**You'll maybe release an album though Head Not Found, already signed a deal? And are there more labels interested?** To start with what we will release the 'Bergtatt' MCD/lp. This one will probably be available sometime during the 10th or 11th month this year on Head Not Found/Voices of Wonder. There after an expansion with our full length album will be unavoidable! This one unfold a lot of musical and lyrical advancement. It will be found to be on a quite different stage of development I believe. Presenting other ideas and plans! A very longingly piece of art deeply engraved in our strong feelings for Norwegian nature and the beauty of it's scenery. Also Ulver's intimate understanding of it's almighty elemental force have a big effect on it's totality (music wise) As I've said 'Head not Found' will release 'Bergtatt', but we shall see for the second one! In fact we are going out to Mr. 'leksaksgubbe' (alias Metalion) this weekend (14th - 16th) to work out a written deal together. That way the deal will be more congenial for both parts and from that point of departure nothing can go wrong.

**Your promo tape contained a lot of acoustic guitar parts and even a complete acoustic song, will Ulver write those kind of tracks more in the future? I truly hope so, they're great!** Those ways of performing simply reflects some very genuine and adventurous emotions and they revive some sort of a musical landscape in the mind of those with the capability to experience and live through this world of the old country with it's myths and

epic poetry... Those who does not get these feelings when listening to such sensitively played songs could just as well be placed in the pillory. I guess this was my way of expressing a confident Yes to your question.

**Why no eye/war paint for Ulver? Besides that I must say the looks are great with the leather and stuff... pure metal!** Thank your for the compliment! We should manage spellbinding our listeners as we are. Why should we use make-up? We aren't even a black metal band and we would definitely not reinforce all those tragic and false people with their cheap way of getting off when things are coming to a head! (Note, this is in the most often situations, not in all!) This is nothing but lousy reiterations. And that is where Ulver stand out among the others. Bands who deserve their faces aren't many, but with people like Darkthrone doing it directly from their hearts one cannot complain, just so that is said! In fact it couldn't be better than that! What I mean is that if one wants to be orientated of something with the right insight into it's true totality, one must also learn to reject those pathetic trends! This goes for a personal thought pattern as well. In that way you're free from all responsibility and you can basically follow your own independent way and not be unwillingly influenced of others personal opinions on different things.

**Thanks to the answers Kris and good luck!** Thank you Roel... The forest is my sanctuary, await a tremulous piece of art.

**For contact write to: Garm, Solfjellshögda 5, N-0677 Oslo, Norway.**

Roel van Reijmersdal

## reviews SHORTS reviews

**Last Warning (Ita), Bloody Dream.** Metal rock like earlier Queensryche and Crimson Glory, really great for people who appeal to those bands. \$15.- to **Concrete distro, P.O.Box 1421, D-77845 Achen, Germany.** Band contact: **Stefano Venato, Via Del Guado 2, 33033 Codroipo, Italy.** HD

**Lavatory, To Protect and to Serve, Massacre.** Raw hardcore with some thrash metal influences, again a boring vocalist. RvR.

**Misery (Austr) Astern Diabolus.** Slow, grinding colossal death metal with an immense production, looks a bit like Carcass. With very sharp solos! **7. HD P.O.Box 520 Sunnybank 4109, Australia.**

**Moonburn (USA), Promo/reh.'94.** Brilliant atmospheric metal in the vein of Varathron or Dissection. \$3.- to **Mike Ryan, 34 Oxford St. Bridgeport, CT 06606 USA.** RvR

**Morta Skuld (USA), As Humanity Fades, Deaf Records.** This second album isn't that outstanding due to the missing of some catchy or original riffs, but exciting.

**Mortician (USA), Mortal Massacre, Relapse.** Incredible heavy demented primitive death metal for fans of Nunslaughter. CD \$13.-, CS \$8.- **7. HD Relapse Recs, P.O.Box 251, Millersville, PA 17551 USA.**

**Morthra (NL) Birth of Damnation.** A profession cover of a tape that contains very straight death metal like Sinister, Incantation, Hypocrisy etc. **7.5 HD. John Kerstens, Buisersdstr. 16, 5451 XX Mill, The Netherlands.**

**Mystik, Perpetual Being, Massacre.** Performs Metal Church with vocals like Eric A.K. of Flotsam and Jetsam.

**Mythic (USA), Mourning in the Winter Solstice, Relapse.** Metal similar to, for example Corpus Rottus. Nothing that special, still the ordinary US metal from around 1990. **6.5 HD**

**Necrok.i.LLdozer (Rus), Misunderstood, Final Holocaust.** A mixture between O.L.D., Xysma, Old Carcass and some hardcore/grind. Very inventive to fill 9 tracks with it. \$5.- will do good: **Final Holocaust, P.O.Box 69, 121059, Russia, Moscow.**

**Nuclear Blast 100 CD.** Well, congratulations from the Numskull/Mortician crew ED.

**Pitch Shifter, Desensitized, Earache.** All songs are a bit the same, but it's industrial, the industrial band. RvR

**Psoriasis (Bel), Advance reh.** Brutal fast metal is hard to find in Belgium, here you have one. It's a pity it's too unclear to get a good opinion. **7. HD. Benoit Timmermans, 24 A, Ave Abbé Huyberechts, 1340 Ottignies, Belgium.**

**Psychosis, Squirm, Massacre.** Hardcore/thrash with the usual and boring vocals and standard riffs. RvR

**Rottrevore (USA), Iniquitous, Drowned.** The masters of heaviness, all is tuned down, also both singers!

**Shadow Dancers (Nor) Promo.** A project for Cultoculus, the Perdition Hearse frontman. Macabre, monotoneous wave keyboards and a track with depressing voices in the way of Mordor. **P.O.Box 489, 1701 Sarpsborg, Norway.**

**Skum (Ger), Limbic Etwas anderer Hardrock, Natürlich, aber es bleibt grosses doom aus den siebsigen Jahren.** **7.5 HD \$6.-/\$8.- to Lars Bregenstroth, Fritz-Ebert-Ring 50, 45527 Hattingen, Germany.**

**Reincarnated (NL) As Time Flies By livetape.** Wait for a better recording or a studio demo of this doom/death band. **c/o Maarten, Binnendamweg 5, 3381 GA Giessenburg, The Netherlands.**

**Spasmophilus (Fra).** Strange rock 'n roll crunchy thrash? with awful vocals! Ask for a better production and they are enjoyable. **6. HD c/o Laurent Boquel, 8/23 Rue de l'Alma, 59800 Lille, France.**

**Tha-Norr (Ger), Assault on Aerie.** Witching black metal in a German vein. **6. HD Hendrik Poppe, Hasselerstrasse 30, 29308, Winxen-Alter, Germany.**

**The Malignant Growth (Can), Hard to Swallow.** Finally something great and brutal from Canada: pretty technical deathrash from Alberta. 8 tracks with a professional cover. **TMG, 11322-40 Ave, Edmonton, AB, T6J OR2, Canada.** RvR

**The Path (Ita) Ethereality.** Would-be-doom/atmospherical metal which sounds really too simple! **4. HD Borghi Davide, Via Val D'Asta 19/1, 42030 Asta (Re) Italy.**

**Thundersteel (Ger), Promo CD, Black Mark.** A nice heavy metal CD, but you better can play an lp of Judas Priest from your record collection. **6.5 HD.**

**Thy Serpent (Fin) Frozen Memory.** Norwegian one-man black metal projects like Ancient are really much better. **4.5 HD Thy Serpent, Ruorimiehenkatu 1C30, 02320 Espoo, Finland.**

**Undercroft (Chi) Promo.** One of the better Chilean bands. More brutal than Sadism. **8. HD P.O.Box 11, Correo 59, Santiago, Chile.**

**Under Belly (UK), demo.** Riff emphasized Euro hardcore/metal with a modern twist. **7.5 HD, Equation records, 9 Cavell Road, Oxford OX4 4AS, UK.**

**Vomiting Corpses (Ger), Cold Blood.** Worthless death metal with a weak production. Try something else. **4. HD \$6.- to Michael Dormann, Wilhelm-Leuschnerstr. 4, 26725 Emden, Germany.**

**Wargasm, Fireball, Massacre.** A cover of Deep Purple. The five other tracks are live, and sound powerful. See the review of their debut elsewhere. RvR

**Wargasm (USA), Ugly, Massacre.** Aggressive thrashmetal with slight hardcore influences. RvR

**Wisdom (Spa), World into a dream.** The heaviest grind/death band from Spain so far. This demo contains 11 heavy tracks of death/grind a la Sickness (Ger) with a good production. **c/o Bano 29, 15620 Mugardos, La Coruna, Spain.** RvR.

**Xenomorph (USA) Subspicies.** Ultra down tuned, growling, semi-technical grind/death from some gore lunatics. I rather prefer the earlier Xysma-grind. **4. HD P.O.Box 31851, Omalia, Ne 68131-0851, USA.**

AND NOT THOSE THINGS YOU WEAR WHEN IT'S HOT OUTSIDE...

# The Winebago Warriors

## or: Smallest clubs of Europe tour

In April of this year three still relatively unknown bands toured Europe: DEAD HEAD/INCANTATION/SINISTER. Since a lot of people (including Wolly) have asked me (Robbie Woning-guitar Dead Head) about this tour and I'm already doing some journalism for Aardschok anyway, here's my attempt to describe what this tour was like.

Talking about the tour in general, I have to explain that at first it was supposed to be over 30 dates-long. But soon we found out that it was a tour with surprises. For example a whole country would no longer be on the tourschedule and some clubs turned out to be in another town than announced, usually a small suburb. Whereas the initial planning... Spain and Italy, we never got any further south than Paris. Anyway, this is how the story goes:



I don't know why we weren't on a highway, sure it had something to do with money but also with bad planning. Instead, all three bands travelled by camper. Like winebago warriors pillaging from town to town. We drove almost 9000 km's in 20 days which means an average of more than 400 km's a day. At first we tried driving together, but since we had to stop to wait for each other all the time, we soon went on our own.

Because of the relative underground status of most bands, it was a total underground tour. As far as Incantation was concerned, I think they liked being in Europe more for being able to buy some real underground stuff then to actually perform. They bought so much shirts, EP's and CD's...basically to amaze their friends in the States.

Our first gig was in the "Knaackclub" in Berlin, we came in quite late and had been driving for 10 hours in a row, so we played like shit. Incantation turned out to be very cool guys and played a lot better, Sinister we already knew of course and their gig went really good. I could tell the Berlin crowd was used to seeing

loads of bands. They were somewhat reserved to all bands but still very open minded. The next gig, the "Stettenerkeller" in Stetten, was a very long drive away, close to Austria actually. Stetten is a small town near the bigger Heidenheim. It went pretty cool for a Sunday-night, all bands actually got better reactions than last night. Also Markus Staiger of Nuclear Blast came by in his Porche, but like we expected he didn't give us any world-wide deal or just money. Luckily Sinister didn't get any either.

On Monday we played in Itzehoe, so we had to drive all the way up again. Actually this town is the hometown of our (Dead Head) label and therefore we felt really bad that maybe only 40 people showed up in "In Town". I mean, we played the Paradiso in Amsterdam twice, last time with Gorefest it was a sold out show. And now when we play in a hole like that, they come to check us out. But since Malevolent Creation and other

bands played... we did a good gig anyway. Funny thing was that a local guy was announcing the bands and when it was Sinister's turn he went: Here's Axl Rose, Slash. Mike of course hated him for that but we thought it was pretty cool... The drinks in this place were very badly arranged so all the money we made on the shirts would go to the bar directly, but I guess that's life...

Then we played Köln. Only 1 KM away from the "Rose Club", was the sold-out Morbid Angel/Unleashed/tour, so we were lucky to still have around 40 people. A lot of them were Morbid Angel haters, others were just disappointed with not having tickets for the Morbid Angel gig. I think we missed a lot of the necessary press-exposure because the regular (RockHard-)press-crew was attending the big concert. Dead Head played the best gig so far, because we were pissed with the whole situation of bad planning. Because there wasn't any dressingroom in this place, we started to discover that a camper is actually a perfect dressingroom, I mean we did have that shower, we only had to take the guitars out. The good

a bigger club, this time we played in the smaller "Schreinerei". This was the first day that we started to divide the food and beers as soon as we arrived, because a certain band had been taking a lot more than 1/3 of it for a few days. Beerwatcher number became Incantation's soundguy Brian. After hanging around in town for a few hours, the concert went pretty cool, our second best so far maybe. Sinister did some encores as well.

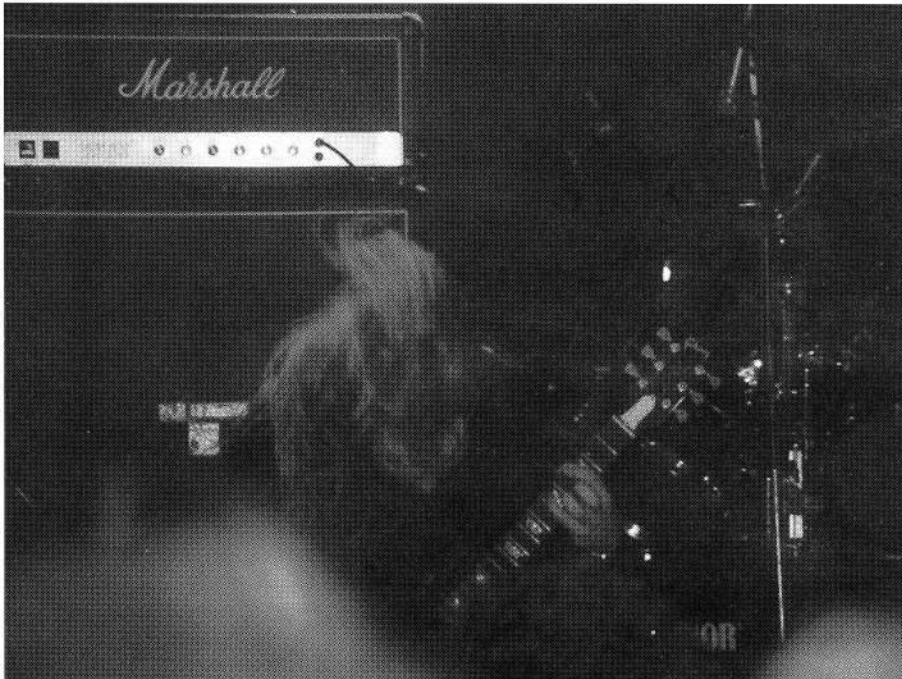
From the previous time we played Frankfurt I remembered the hectic redlight district, but unfortunately this time we didn't go there, even though some Incantation-roadie was very eager to go. For us and Sinister it was the second time we played this cool place "Negative". I think many fans of extreme music in Frankfurt, because there was maybe 150 people on a weekday night, we sold a lot of merchandise and the crowd was quite aggressive. The great thing about Negative is that there's a pooltable next to the stage, and that the dressingroom is in the cellar, really far away from the stage. In that cellar we tracked down some mysterious beers that somebody must have hidden there.

Well, maybe he should have hidden them better...

Thanks whoever you are.

The loading and unloading of the equipment is very shitty, it's taking place on the corner of a very busy street in the middle of town. It's really a wonder that none of our guitars was driven over. By the way, during the afternoon, Incantation's camper was towed away by the police with a certain bandmember still inside. When they drove by in the street he was waving at us.

Far away in what used to be Eastern Germany, close to the Tjech-border, lies the small town Fraureuth. In the main and only street we discovered a huge hotel called "Radskeller". The entire street-level floor of



thing about Köln is that there's some great guitar stores like Uli's Music Store. Also the town is pretty cool, did you know that you can get beer at McDonalds in Germany?

Last time we played in Schweinfurt we played

this hotel is one big dance-hall with a real dance floor and great stage. When you closed your eyes you could easily imagine the communist-party holding big orgies in this place, but tonight there was a different party. I don't know



whether there was any guests in the hotel, but the lärm certainly will have kept them awake for a while. Although there was room for a lot more, we still were amazed that around 200 people showed up. Unfortunately a lot of them stayed in the back. By the way, this was the first day in a while that we could actually take a shower, the hotel had especially reserved a whole room for this purpose. The food was pretty cool too, as we sat down in the dining lounge and were actually served at out table, we felt a little bit less underground.

Even though we had to drive like 600 km's, we got to **Freiburg** early, so we held a thorough inspection of the town. Freiburg is the capital of neo-Punks, basically these turned out to

be drunks with yellow hair that ask you for money. I don't know why they think I would give them some, but we didn't have much money anyway. I think the Cräsh is one of the best clubs in Germany, especially the big hall, which is a dark cellar with a lot of atmosphere. Last time with Massacra we played there. But now there was a dance party in there so we played the café instead. At least it was totally filled with people and three pinballmachines. The dance party afterwards was actually pretty cool too. They played a lot of Ministry and and other strange techno/metal mixes.

After the gig in Freiburg we were supposed to go to Austria, but that night we found out that **Wels** was cancelled and Dead Head couldn't attend the gig in **Vienna**, because there they could only handle two bands. So we planned to take some days off, first considered staying at Lake Geneva for a while, but actually the camper needed a lot of repair, for example two of the six beds were malfunctioning majorly, so there was in fact only three good sleeping places left. At home these could be fixed easily. We decided to skip a third date (**Bad Wörishofen**) too, since we had played there before with Massacra and it sucked, this turned out to be a good decision, because later we found out that there had only been 18 people. So I'm glad we didn't go, although it's a shame we missed the fight between some drunk Sinister bandmembers. Thumb's up Mike!!!! So then after a few days of relative rest at home, cleaning the camper and glueing things back where they belonged our next gig was the **"Reactor"** in **Hamburg**, probably the smallest place we had ever played until then. Good thing however was that it was next to the Reeperbahn, so at least we had something on our hands(?). Friendly neighbourhood by the way, with a cosy arcade and one of Germany's best guitarshops. Still the prostitution-thing would draw the most attention: while one band played, all the other guys stood outside the building, looking at the girls and their customers, casual accidentally passing-by businessmen. Although the Reactor-club had rented only a small PA and no-one to operate it, Mega-Brian got us a good sound. It was getting better anyway, now that he did both the sound for Dead Head and Incantation. Other cool things about this day were the o.k. food and the nice balcony above the stage. So during Sinister's gig the whole of Dead Head and Incantation stood upstairs shouting rock-clichés to them, without them finding out who it was. Mike and André hated us and especially John(Incantation) who wasn't able to stop, it

turned out to be his favorite act for the rest of the evening. And then it went off to Denmark. At the border we tried to pass with showing only two passports, but the guy from the customs certainly didn't go for that, so we had to wake everybody up.

It was the fourth time Dead Head played the **"AktivitetsHuset"** in **Esbjerg** and the fifth time I was there. We met a lot of old friends like Jacob and Perle from Invocator (where's my shirt guys?) plus their ex-member and current metalhipper Schultz. This was also the time that certain people started walking around with one-minute-ago filled condoms, as a prove of a current act of pleasure. Anyway, during our gig there was a lot of crowd in front, but then suddenly the PA fell totally dead, and first started working again after 10 minutes. By then everybody somewhat had lost their temper. As a result of the technical difficulties Incantation was getting on late, so by the time Sinister got to the stage, a lot of people already had left. It was Thursday, so I guess a lot of people had to work the next day.

That night we had to drive from the middle of the westcoast of Jutland to the south of Holland. I don't know about the first 300 km, but I woke up at 7.30 in the morning to actually keep the second driver company and still it was a fucking long drive. But we arrived first at the next gig. First this was supposed to be Utrecht, but since this gig was organized by two 15 year-olds and the club didn't even know we were coming, the venue quickly had been moved to the **"Canix"** in **Lottum**, which is a very small town (of course) near Venlo. Although the "Canix" is a only a local youth-centre, also bigger bands like Pestilence have played there in the past. The Dead Head concert started somewhat late, but it went pretty smooth. I don't know about the rest of the concert since I left straight after our gig. I had another job to fulfil, Beyond Belief where supposed to play in Hoorn in the north of Holland. So after driving with our manager for 200 km's we found out that the schedule in Hoorn was really fucked and Beyond Belief were only able to play 25 minutes. It still went o.k., although most of the people in the audience were musicians.

The next day I hooked up with the tour in **Rotterdam**. It's really cool that the underground stops almost right in front of the **"Blokhut"**. This club is actually like the best club in Holland, considering it's dressingrooms, food and coffee facilities and also the strict managing. Too bad the crowd in Rotterdam is not always that supportive, so during Incantation and our sets they stayed a bit cool. To both our and their amazement Sinister were welcomed as heroes. It's cool that they finally started getting recognition for what they do in their hometown. After the show our driver started beating up the tourmanager, who was defended himself with a very solid drumstand. Although things got cooled down again, I

skipped the scene for a while to see Cumshots and Kiss-video's at Thanatos-legend Stephan Gebedy's house. Thanatos rules, you know. We didn't want to play the **"Dynamo"** in **Eindhoven**, but hey we figured we had already been home too long on this tour. The crowd was better than last time we played the cellar, mainly because there were some more blackmetal oriented people hanging around. Also the sound was really o.k. here thanks to Brian and local PA dude Raymond. After the gig Tom decided to sleep at his girlfriends place, he would travel to the next gig by train. Because there wasn't going to be a shower in the next three days the Dead Head we decided to drive to Germany before going to Belgium. So we slept somewhere in Germany and got to **Maasmechelen** in time. When we arrived we found out that Tom's bass wasn't in the trailer and that the club **"Pavlog's Dog"** was even smaller than the Reactor Club in Hamburg. Almost immediately Tom called that he had been on the wrong train and stranded in Antwerpen. So we had to drive another 200 km to get him, well, at least the concert was sold out with maybe 50 people. Did we feel underground...still it was pretty o.k. Tom didn't play bassguitar, so for us it was a bit like the old days. After our gig we went back to Eindhoven to pick up Tom's bass, but it wasn't in the Dynamo anymore. So we slept in Eindhoven and went to the policestation to report it stolen.

After that we drove to Antwerpen for the second time in 24 hours. The next gig was taking place in **Burcht** which is(of course) a suburb of the city of Antwerpen. Although the **"Barst"** club is by far the most dirty club we have ever played, we liked it a lot: two pinballmachines, and a big stage with plenty of space to put the full equipment on. Because the place was already a mess, we thought it was the perfect moment to flush the chemical toilets. I finally figured out how to float ours so we got the whole load from maybe two weeks out. The result was that while the sun was really shining and we were playing our carradio's loud, the whole square in front of the club started to fill with some green fluid that smelled like urine and more. The "Barst"-gig was very cool to everyone. There was a lot of supportive people and all the bands played o.k.,

Although Sinister-drummer Aad was really ill they played almost a regular set. Incantation had to play a short set though, because we were behind on schedule. Dead Head's Tom decided to play Bart(Sinister)'s bassguitar for one night

and put out a huge reward for the return of his beloved axe, while adding an extra bonus if he would get the address from the guy that took it. Although this resulted in applause, the bass still remained

gone. We got it back two weeks after the tour, when somebody discovered it a some addicts house in Eindhoven. Anyway, afterwards on a huge skateboard-ramp outside the club, all kinds of bandmembers started running up and falling in, until we discovered the multiple usability of flightcases. This afterparty first ended when two plastic gardenchairs that had been travelling with us from the evening before died a horrible death on the very skateboard ramp.

By then the fact had become clear Spain was definitely off and that Paris was going to be the





last gig. I personally had counted on something like this, but the other 2 bands had booked their motorhomes for one whole more week. Too bad guys...

After driving the Route du Sud for several hours we got to **Paris** really in time. "**Gibus**" turned out to be a really legendary place, since Motorhead and Deep Purple had performed there in their early years. This resulted in some bandmembers getting melancholic. While Ronnie(Dead Head) played Deep Purple tunes, Mike(Sinister) was DJ-ing inside the club and others (especially Incantation) went for either Jim Morrisons grave or the Eiffeltower. Paris was maybe the best concert of the whole tour with totally crazy people in front that were making all kinds of animal noises(growls etc...) and pretty heavy diving. This was also the time to fuck up eachothers gig so when Dead Head started there was a filled condom at Toms mic-stand, during the whole gig there was a lot of smoke and we had this big reverb the PA that made us sound like Possessed-live...pretty cool. Incantation and Sinister's gigs went well too. Actually Aad(Sinister-drums) had already

recovered and they played really well. Sinister suffered from severe smoke alert too.

After the gig, we found out that all the bands had gotten fat parking-tickets. Sinister the biggest, haha...headliner, right? Meanwhile, outside a crazy African guy was trying to stop driving-by taxicabs. Instead of preventing the poor guy from getting hurt, everybody at the scene (like average Beavis and ButtHeads)just stood and watched this rather cool event, loudly applauding when another car didn't stop and the guy was launched a couple of meters again. Incantation even videotaped it, until a wise friend of the African came to get him.

Well, this was the end of the tour so we shook a lot of hands with Incantation and none with Sinister because we just forgot. Sorry guys, but we'll soon enough see eachother again and again. While everybody after the tour was almost dead, as far as I know everybody has already recovered: Dead Head wrote a lot of new material since the tour. Sinister played 49 gigs in the USA with Cannibal Corpse and Cynic and Incantation's new CD will be out in

August.

I'd like to thank our driver Dinant Duenk for excellent driving and Lilian de Jong for taking care of the merchandise and us in general. One day we will be rich and maybe able to pay you back...or was that in my dreams?

greetings Robbie W.

Here's the top-10 playlist of the stuff Dead Head listened to during those insane long drives across Germany:

**Trouble-same**  
**Manfred Mann's Earth Band-Solar Fire**  
**AC/DC-If You Want Blood**  
**Slayer-Seasons In The Abyss**  
**Winger-Pull**  
**Pestilence-Spheres**  
**Ancient Rites-debut-album**  
**Van Halen-Fair Warning**

# VIBRION

Vibrion started back in 1989. after two years they recorded their first demo called "Erradicated Life" containing five songs of grind, hardcore and death metal. The demo was recorded in a 24 track studio and sold about 1100 copies. In spring 1993 Witchhunt Records released this demo on 7" which is still available. Vibrion will also be featured with two songs on a Nuclear Blast grindcore compilation. Besides being featured on some other compilations Vibrion is featured with two new songs on a compilation CD which was released through Advance Records in Nov. 1993. Advance records also released their Eradicated Life demo on CD and besides the tracks from the demo there are four live tracks featured.

Vibrion has done many gigs in Buenos Aires. They also played in Uruguay and in Jan. 1994 in Bolivia where they were the first foreign band who played there. Their biggest gig so far they did in April of that year as support act of Kreator in front of 2500 people audience. After that gig Vibrion went on European tour in which they'll play gigs in: Belgium, France, Spain, Germany, Holland, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Czech Republic and Switzerland.

Vibrion has one of the fastest drummers in the metal scene and his style is baptised "Cautrijera" (this will be explained in the interview).

*Okay; a little introduction is needed before I start with this interview. I went to see Vibrion playing live on May fourteenth 1994. I had no intention interviewing this band though I consider them as one of the better grind acts nowadays... Anyway, I had a little chat with Vibrion's front man Luis and he asked me whether I was interested in giving them some attention in my next issue. We agreed to do an interview for the fifth issue though I was not prepared to do the interview. I'm telling this because this interview might look a bit messy, nevertheless I think it ain't that bad. Well... read it your self and come to your own conclusion...*

FOUR PAR OF SCISSORS FROM ARGENTINA





**Okay Luis here we go; why do guys play grindcore instead of, for example, doom or death; what's the interesting thing about making grindcore?**

In fact we also like to play doom or death metal. We prefer playing grindcore because we are open minded; we like to play extreme music and grind core is one of the extremest kind of music. When we want to hear normal music, but when we want to hear extreme music there are not that much bands so we try to be one of those bands.

**When you play that kind of music you have to be fast and good musicians, when, for example, I look at your drummer he is awful fast. I guess he had to practise a lot just like all of you, but you're still having the same line-up as the beginning; was that luck or what?**

Yes, it took a lot of practise for us to play those rythms and that fast, but we liked this kind of music from the beginning and we wanted to play it; that's a good motivation. Look, a lot of people see our music as a lot of noise, but that just ain't true. It's not easy to play and we definitely aren't just another noise band.

**So what you're trying to say is that you've thought about your songs; you do not just hit your instruments...**

Yes, that's true. But when we're composing we do not think: we'll do a bit of this and a bit of that, but we play what's in our mind.

**At the moment you're touring through Europe for three months. Most of the time your traveling. Is that a good opportunity to write any new songs?**

Yes, we travel by train and we indeed have to travel a lot. We try to compose new songs in the train.

**Could you give a description of how that goes because I think it's a bit hard to imagine for us...**

Well, in fact we just take our guitars and find something to hit on for our drummer (table or something like that) and we start playing...

**Oh? What are the reactions of the other travelers when you're playing?**

They don't like it!! We've had a lot of shouting because of that and a lot of arguments...

**Talking about arguments; the drummer is your brother. Doesn't that result in a lot of argument? I mean we all know the fights we normally have with your brothers and sisters...**

No, that definitely isn't the case... In fact we're all brothers; we can be happy and playing football together, but we also can be fighting together and shouting to each other. When we're in the train people think we're Italians because we are shouting and making that much noise haha. No when we're together as a band we feel it that way; it isn't only something between me and my brother. In fact it helps us. When we get up we can make music together because we're brothers and life in the same house.

**One thing I heard about your new songs is that you have some more doomy parts. Will that be the most important aspect in Vibrion's new songs or will the grind part maintain to be the most important aspect?**

In fact we're willing to develop our doom capacities and also develop our grind capacities. Our new songs will be the perfect mixture of doom and grind, but grind will be the most important aspect of our songs.

**Something about the lyrical part of your songs: what are they dealing about?**

Most of the time about the misery of infectious sickness. For example: Vibrion means; the bacteria of cholera. That is a disease of which many people in South America are suffering from. The life over there isn't very clean, there are very bad conditions. The bacteria can get in the water you drink, and in everything you eat. When you suffer of cholera you'll lose all you bodily fluids and then you'll die.

**You told me that in Argentina you learn more in the streets than in the school. Isn't that also a reason why you play grind core: to losen all the frustration and anger you get in the streets which are, concerning your previous answer, a mess?**

Yes, maybe you're right. We're in a band because going to school in Argentina is a waste of time. The only schools which aren't a waste of time are the private schools which are too expensive for the biggest part of the population. We aren't going to school anymore (the age of the members differ from 19 till 21 - W.W.) the only unversity we followed is the university of the street. That's where you learn more than on all those louzy schools. The people living in Argentina are kind of ignorant; we are too ha.

**When I hear you talking about Argentina I would think there are a lot of bands, but the underground scene is very small. How do you explain that?**

Well, in Argentina there isn't a underground scene. The biggest problem is that the most people can't speak English. When you can't speak English you aren't able to communicate with people from other countries and than it's impossible to form a good underground scene. Besides that there are a lot of rip-offs over here. The posting office over here have a kind of detector to find out whether there are dollars enclosed or not. When there are they open the mail and steal the money. When that happens it's impossible to form a good underground scene. We had to take a P.O.Box to be sure our mail won't be stolen by the delivers what happens most of the time. And also the posting rates are very high: to mail a demo tape to Europe costs us about US\$4.50 so that also is a major problem. We're trying hard... After we had recorded the demo and released it we recieved a lot of mail from abroad so I had to learn English.

**You're the only one from the members who's able to speak English. Have you been to a special school for that? because over here in Holland you have to study English...**

Yes, I went four months, six days a week, two hours a day to a special school. I only could do that because I got money from my grand mother. The other members didn't have the money for that.

**Okay, back to the tour. Where have you played until now.**

We did a gig in Spain, Brussels (Belgium), Lille (France) and Stadskanaal (Holland).

**And you're going to?**

We now are going to Finland. After that we'll go to Germany for three gigs and between those gigs we'll do two more in France then probably back to Scandinavia and probably to Switzerland and Czech Republic.

**How are the reactions of the public until now?**

Great, I see that the people over here spend more attention to our music and that they understand it. In South America they are narrow minded and often do not appreciate what we do.

**And is there any difference between the audience for example from France and Holland?**

I think we've done too less gig's to really compare, but what we've experienced is that the audience in Holland does see a gig more as a party; it's obvious that they enjoy it. In for example Spain it is taken more serious I don't know how exactly to describe it... I think that the best example is that they asked for a drumsolo in Holland; that's something they won't do in for example Spain.

**He liked that didn't he?**

Yes, he liked it a lot. I always tell him to prepare for something like that, but he's kinda lazy haha, but I think after this has happened he will prepare...

**About the drumming; in your bio you write that you call his style "Cautrijera" could you**

**explain that term?**

Well, when we first saw someone drumming he made the moves of a pair of scissors with his arms. When we saw someone doing a fast beat we called it double scissors, but what he does is twice as fast so we call it four scissor and that's the translation of Cautrijera...

**The bio also tell that Advance Rees did release a MCD of Vibrion and featured two new Vibrion tracks on his compilation. Are they going to release a full length of Vibrion?**

Yes, well... probably. We're in a very bad situation with contracts... Hopefully they'll release it, but death metal does not sell very good so it's doubtful whether they'll release it or not...

**Didn't you contact any other labels?** Yes we did, but we're still waiting for answers. Mail from for example Nuclear Blast takes about three months to arrive and we sended out our new promos about two months ago. But on this tour we try to visit labels at their offices and try to work something out...

**Which labels have you visited by now?**

We only went to the office of Roadrunner, but at the moment they are kicking out some good bands like Immolation so we guess they are not interested in us.

**What about the future, besides the full length?**

I really don't know. Now we will enjoy being here because it's our first time in Europe. After that I don't know maybe we will end up under the ground or maybe we will become popular... Time will tell.

**Do you have anything you're willing to add to this interview?**

Come and visit one of our gigs in Europe because it could be the last time we're here. Interested people could write to us we answer all letters. Maybe you're interested in purchasing our 7" EP (for info look at the bottom of this interview - Wolly) Thanks to all the people who visited one of our gigs we hope you liked it!

**Okay, Luis; thanks a lot for this interview and take care**

Thanks and take care too Wolly!

People who are interested in Vibrion could write for band info to:

Vibrion  
P.O.Box 5598  
1000 C. Central  
Buenos Aires  
Argentina

and people who are willing to purchase the Erradicated Life 7" EP have to send US\$ 5.- (Europe) or US\$ 6.- (rest) to:

Witchhunt Records  
P.O.Box 658  
8029 Zurich  
Switzerland

oh Luis, lets forget about this World Championship, better for both of us - Wolly



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