



# NEWS&NEWS&NEWS&NEWS&NEWS

*Ave! Welcome to Valkyrjens Fugler! No need for an editorial on the first page, is there? It would bore the hell out of you anyway, so I'll just skip it, and go directly for the news, OK? Good reading...*

*As you might have noticed it has taken me some time to get this 'zine finished. To make that up I've chosen to include a couple of pages packed with info about the latest and best releases. So now you have no excuse for not knowing all the new releases of quality there are...*

From the Netherlands and the hardworking underground label Necromantic Gallery Prod. the future will have a lot to bring. They have just released EINHERRJERS totally brilliant '7" "Leve Vikingånden", and August will see the release of GEHENNAS 1st fulllength on vinyl, strictly limited to 1000 copies (the first 250 on bloodred vinyl-buy or fucking DIE!!!). The CD version should be out on Cacophonous Rec. at about the same time. Further on from the same label we will be able to let the sweet (ch...) music of THE ANCIENTS REBIRTH (Swe) penetrate our ears sometime around September, the band is currently in studio mixing. For orders or more info (remember IRC) write to Necromantic Gallery Prod., Plutolaan 81, 6043 BR Roermond, The Netherlands.

For those that prefer the more chaotic BM I guess Embassy Prod. might have a release you'll want to check out. It is the split CD with VLAD TEPES /BELKETRE entitled "March to the Black Holocaust". This is also a limited release, a 1000 pieces only, and this will actually not be promoted in any way, so you do have pretty exclusive news here (not...). Well, orders go to Embassy Prod, Philippe Galliano, 29 bd Albert Premier, 94130 Nogent Sur Marne, France.

Black Sun Rec. is among the young labels (a sub-division of Dolores Rec.), but they have still managed to release one of my faves of the year: "Satanic Slaughter". Loads of the best bands in Metal of today doing coverversions of good, old Slayer tracks MERCILES "Cryonics", DISSECTION/

"Antichrist", ENSLAVED/"Jesus Saves", CEMETARY/"South of Heaven" etc. Order this or you'll be the victim of mandatory suicide...This same label have also released At the Gates' first mini-LP on CD, a classic worth checking out. Black Sun Rec., Box 129, 401 22 Göteborg, Sweden.

THUS DEFILED (UK) are just about to release their long awaited CD on Dark Trinity Rec. This is the label's first release, but it will for sure not be the last. I myself must admit the fact that I still haven't heard the band (OK, OK Alan, shame on me...) but from what I've heard from other people this CD is supposed to be one of the best releases of '95. Time shall tell, eh? Orders (\$ 20) goes to Dark Trinity Prod., 193 Timberleys, Littlehampton, West Sussex BN17 6QD, England.

And under the sign of the Black Mark we actually do find a couple of new signings: GOMORRAH (UK), LAKE OF TEARS (Swe), HEADS OR TALES (Swe), EXOTO (Bel), RESPECT (Fra) and last, but not least we have DIVINE SIN (Swe). New releases are set for August, when both GOMORRAH and LAKE OF TEARS will release their albums. GOMORRAH's album is of course not a new one, but the worldwide release of their debut album "Reflections of Inanimate Matter" which was released on Megapulse Rec. last year. Further on I guess you all know the new BATHORY release "Octagon", and the next release from the Master himself will be "Quorthon II", out in October. The same month we will also have the opportunity of hearing the

new EDGE OF SANITY album, a release which I must say I will look forward to hearing...

Aaaaaarrggghh...The "Death to false record labels" Primitive Art Rec. is sticking it's neck out again. This time it's neither the Goth sounds of SONS OF NEVERLAND, nor some undescribable notes from THE MOBILE MOB FREAKSHOW, nope, this is the true oldschool Heavy Metal sounds of GEHENNAH (Swe), see review for more info. And just to have said it, do not confuse this band with the Norwegian Gehenna which is mentioned earlier on...Anyway, this piece of leatherclad music will see the darkness of night in August, after being delayed for god knows how long...Order it when it's out from Primitive Art Rec., P.O. Box 4049, S-300 04 Halmstad, Sweden.

Heading over to Germany we find a label that has been concentrating a lot on following the happenings in the Norwegian scene, and I guess they've managed that pretty well. The latest releases are the ZYKLON B (that's Samoth of EMPEROR's hellraising DM band, you moron...) MCD/MLP "Blood must be Shed" and the CD version of VOND's "Selvmord". Both are absolutely not to be missed, although I would recommend to get the LP version of "Selvmord" instead of the CD, as the artwork is killer. Well, the new DØDHEIMSGARD (Consisting of Fenriz of ehh...loads of bands, Vicotnik of VED BUENS ENDE and Draug A. Dencker) album "Kronet til Konge" will be released sometime during August, and do by all means not hesitate for as much as a second before ordering that. From the same label we will also soon have the opportunity of hearing GORGOROTH's new album simply entitled "Død" ("Death") and also the debut album from Norway's up and coming band STRID. Ship your letters to Malicious Rec., c/o Gerrit Welher, PO Box 21 04 08, 72027 Tübingen 21, Germany.

Crossing the big lake and over to the territories of the beach bum state of Florida we find Full Moon Prod., a hard working label indeed. Having so far only released HADES's godly debut album, and the "not godly, but still great" album from ALGAION, we'll take a look ahead and be surprised to find truckloads of small delicatessen. First out is the debut MCD "Wraths of time" from Sweden's SWORD-MASTER. That is brutal stuff, you have been warned...The same warning might go for their next release too, fellow Swedes ABRUPTUM. You don't really need anything more than Abruption's music to torture yourself to death. But that's how we like it, right?! Anyway, FMP have more to offer. Norwegian MYSTICUM should be a well known name to a lot of you, having released two demos and the split 7" with ULVER. Well, now it finally seems as they've gotten things sorted after the DSP "passed away" and their debut album "Where the Raven Flies" is as far as I know recorded and even mixed as I write this, which means that the release shouldn't be that far away. Write Thorn of FMP a letter if you want to know more, and make sure to ask for his huge distrolist. And it should be unnecessary to mention, but do enclose \$1 or 1IRC. Most people around aren't millionaires. Full Moon Prod., 948 Callahan Court, Lakeland, Florida 33801, USA.

One of the true spirits of the underground must for sure be Tomasz Krajewski and therefore it is with the greatest pleasure that I write down some news from his label Pagan Rec. To be released sometime in October is the fulllength debut album from the merchants of real Death Metal,

namely DAMNATION. This Polish trio will for sure crush your brainsurgery!! Further on Pagan Records have just signed FORGOTTEN WOODS and will release their 30min. long EP "Sjel av Natten" sometime in the immediate future. I won't delve deeper into that band, read my review later on in this issue of VF and you'll understand.

IN FLAMES have just released their second offering, a MCD entitled "Subterranean" on the relatively new, but upcoming Swedish label Wrong Again Rec. In addition to In Flames this label will also release EXCERTION's "Voice of Harmony" album, this one being released in September. Later on this autumn we find the debut release from NAGLFAR, another promising Swedish act signed to a just as promising label. That's right, WAR did also release a bombastic comp. CD some months ago, the WAR COMP., well worth checking out if you find the Swedish scene interesting (I know I do!) Wrong Again Rec., P.O. Box 10075, S-22010 Lund, Sweden.

Adipocere has moved and gotten a new address: Adipocere, BP 18, 01540 Vonnas, France. From this label we can look forward to a very exiting autumn...First up we have the AKHENATON album which is a killer! This is the continuation of DAEMONIUM, only this time around it's 100 times better than last time...October sees the release of EVOKEN, a BM band from the states...A bit too average music for me, but still a good deal of great BM to be found on that on...MELEK-THA will also be released in October and is said to be Ritual/Ambient/Industrial a'la In Slaughter Natives...Need I say more... SACRAMENTUM is due out in November with another Dan Swanö produced album. The last news we have from this excellent French label is that they'll release demos printed in MCD format lim. 1000 copies of demobands to help them getting to a bigger audience. Praiseworthy ideas! The first band up is FOREST OF SOULS, a French BM/DM band. This will probably be out when you read this; in October...

Holy Record are still going strong, and they've just released NIGHTFALL's somewhat average CD "Athenian Echoes", but taking a look forward one can find a release that I do await the arrival of, namely GOSEND and "In The Electric Mist". This will be a gorgeous piece of Doom for sure! Should be released on the 1st of October...Next release will be MISANTHROPE with a strangely entitled album: "1666...Theatre Bizarre"...Well, we'll just have to wait and see what it turns out like, it will be out November 1st. Holy Records can be reached on the following address: 4BD Gutenberg, 93190 Livry-Gargan, France.

Our own Norwegian label, Head Not Found have just issued the EMPEROR demo "Wrath of the Tyrant" as a MLP, and this excellent piece of Metal (and layout) is only available in a limited edition of 1000, 666 of them being limited- handnumbered with poster... Buy!! I guess the new signings on HNF, among others ABYSSIC HATE and RAGNAROK will be released in a not too distant future, so be forewarned...! HNF do also have a lot of cool stuff on the distrolist, among other items the new CD from KARI RUESLÄTTEN (ex of The 3rd and the Mortal) which is said to be extremely good. I do not doubt that...Contact HNF at Box 447, 1701 Sarpsborg, Norway.

*Well, I'd like to direct all my thanks to the labels that have supported me, I've done my best to return the favour...I hope the cooperation can continue, underground should be underground...*



**Einherjer...I guess that name provokes a few angry faces around the world after their grande rip-off rumours... Well, well, read this interview, maybe you'll get some answers on why...Further on, Einherjer must be said to be one of the promising acts from our shores, maybe a bit more original than most other bands around. Their demo '94 has, as far as I know, not received one single bad review, and that's pretty good...There has been a lot of trouble going on in the Einherjer camp over the last year but it seems to me that the band is back in shape now, as it should be...Questions were answered by Grimar, one of the true HM addicts from the town of Haugesund...**



Well Grimar, let's start this view out very mainstream: Bandstory in short explicit...

Einherjer was formed in January 1993 as a 4-piece band. The lineup was me (Grimar)-guitar, Ulvar-drums, Thonar-Bass/synth & Nidhogg-vocals. In December 1993 we entered the studio and recorded our debut demo "Aurora Borealis".

Ten months later we entered the studio again and recorded the 7" "Leve Vikinganden", which actually were no progress at all as the tracks included were made during the same period as the "Aurora..." tracks were made. Anyway, in December 1994 some minor difficulties turned up and Nidhogg left the band...because we told him to. A couple of vocalists later we met a divine creature named Dan J. Eide, whose voice is amazing. He is doing vocals now, and will be doing it for quite some time, we hope.

I must say I can really feel the Viking mood and the drops of ancient blood boiling in my veins when I'm listening to your music (the same feeling as when listening to "Hammerheart" actually...wonder why...). Is this what you want to attain, the good old Viking feeling? I think that is an accurate and honest description of our kind of metal, Viking Metal that is. I am glad you've understood us right. I just hope that your drops of ancient blood is boiling even more when you hear our new material. Even though it is not that "noisy", the feeling is much stronger, the musical beauty is purer and the vocals are longing even more. (I can't wait!! -Ed)

How come you chose to use the Latin word for The Northern Light (eller Nordlyset) when the rest of the demo has lyrics in English and Norwegian? Do you believe it's important to use Norwegian lyrics in order to fulfill the Norse atmosphere, or...

We just thought that "Aurora Borealis" is more a title than The Northern Light or Nordlyset. The importance of Norwegian lyrics is to us no longer valid as our future lyrics will be in English. English lyrics fit us better.

Your new 7" contains two tracks, "Når Hammeren Heves" and "Når Aften solen Rinner". How are these songs compared to the ones of the "Aurora Borealis" demo?

As I've mentioned before, the "Leve..." tracks are very similar to the "Aurora..." tracks in both structure and sound. There is actually no progress at all, due to the fact that both the 7" and the demo was written during the same period of time.

So, what's Einherjer up to at the moment? Have you signed the deal with Necropolis? And how about live shows, may we have the chance of seeing you live sometime during the year 1995?

Next up is a CD release of the "Aurora Borealis" demo. It will be released by Necropolis Rec. in a not so distant future. Apart from that we are rehearsing with our above mentioned new vocalist Dan J. Eide & our new bassist Bjørn Klubben (as for information Thonar World is now our second guitarist). As you understand we are absolutely not ready for any live-performances yet, but a tour with Paradigma will hopefully be brought up in bright daylight during the winter season.

..And where does the improvement and development in Einherjer go from here?

We will try to develop in any ways possible...

Imagine a week without being able to hear anything...How would Grimar be spending his sparetime?

I suppose you mean listening to music....ÆÆÆÆHHH, I would probably be reading books and drinking beers.



Do you believe it has been an advantage to be a part of the Norwegian BM scene, or could you just as well have been stranger to it all...?

If you mean the Norwegian BM scene I am sure we could just as well have been a stranger to it all. The underground scene do not inspire or excite me at all. It did, I'll admit that, but I think that if we were not familiar to it at all,

we would not start out as a band with the typical underground sound and growling/screaming vocals. We would have started to play the kind of metal we know and enjoy the most, Heavy Metal. Of course, a lot of the "elder" BM stuff still pounds through my loudspeakers, but there is too much crap going on nowadays. I don't want to be a part of it.

I seem to get the feeling that Einherjer is being labled as the biggest rip-off band next to Carpathian Forest at the moment...Defend yourself!!

WHAT!?! Next to Carpathian Forest!?! I thought we were the biggest!! Now you really offended me... Seriously, those of you that have sent us money will receive your goods. Things are only going "a bit" slow. Me and Ulvar who are doing the mail, we have just had some problems with the military service, which is over now, thank God, who the Hell that is. Don't worry, you'll receive your goods. But all those stupid "zine editors that are screaming rip-off just because they didn't get their demo or whatever for free they can just shoot themselves.

If you ever met a person that didn't know one single bit about Norse Mythology, how would you explain the main gods and their powers to that person?

If I ever met a moosehead that didn't have a clue, I wouldn't bother to even try to explain him. (A good example of a smart way to row away from questions...-Ed)

How do you see the future for the BM scene and Einherjer...Bright or dark Einherjer will be bigger and the BM scene will be worse.

Er det en krigers stolthet å ha langt hår??!  
Kommer an på hvor du har langt hår (Det har du jaggu rett i...hø, hø...plaga av det, eller??!)

Closing comments?

Thank you, Gro!!



Blasphemy...

No VF without a bit of healthy blasphemy...

Wie einer ist, so ist sein Gott,  
Darum ward Gott so oft zu Spott

- Goethe

A superstition is not entirely dead before people have gotten the courage to laugh at it. That is why superstitions fear laughter most of all.

-Chapman Cohen

One knows how bad a conscience a religion has by looking at how hard the punishment is for mocking it.

-Schopenhauer

Was Jesus' mother beautiful? Was that why God had sex with her?

-Celus

This God, that lets God die to please God...

-La Hontan

In the beginning it was the fears that made the

gods...  
-Petronius

Have God sent Christ to other planets too?

-Sigurd Obstfelder

There is always a need for people that know how to create original music and to make a special concept out of it. In my opinion is Mortils one of the few that have succeeded, both from lyrical and musical aspects. I guess you all know his music, so this view is more or less a journey through Mortils' world of opinions and thoughts. Read on...

When did you first start to play around with the idea of "jumping of the bandwagon" and create pure Synth-music instead of Black Metal?

- Hell, when could that've been... Three years ago maybe. I was still in Emperor, and had some ideas...

How was other people's reactions when they heard that you were composing the kind of music you do?

- I don't know, really. It seemed like people thought the first demo was cool. Nobody have stated the contrary. People were a bit inactive in the beginning. But at least I got rid of a good amount of demos.

Yeah, maybe that had something to do with a certain past in Emperor?

- Yes, I believe that factor played its part. I suppose there were a good deal of people that believed it was metal, even if the flyer said that it wasn't. Some people are stupid. I mean, some people ordered it because they thought Emperor had changed their name. After all, the first flyer said "ex. Emperor".

Your theory of über- and untermensch?

- What shall I say...I don't give a fuck...People will have to prove for themselves whether they are worthy enough or not. An übermensch would have to be proud of him/herself, be able to think a bit independently. People that by the meaning of the word are übermensch. That was a bad answer, but... Untermensch should be the straight counterpart.

"Født til å Herske" ("Born to rule")-übermensch?

- "Født til å Herske" is more based on my own my own world. It has got nothing to do with the übermensch at all. But I can see why you draw the parallels.

Why print all the lyrics in Norwegian ("Selvmord" and "Født til å Herske")? I mean, shouldn't your saga and concept be readable to everyone?

-Actually, all my lyrics are in both English and Norwegian. I write them down on one language, and translate them later on.

Would you've been a complete person if you didn't have the opportunity to make music?

-No, I believe I would've been a half, or something. It wouldn't have worked out that well. I would've felt kind of as an outsider. I wouldn't have anything to do. I guess I would've been a criminal or something. I don't know.

How do you believe you would've killed the time if you lived in Norway around the 10th century?

-It depends on where I'd lived. If I'd lived on the inland I would probably've been a fuckin' farmer. If I'd lived by the coast I'd probably've been a viking. It all depends...

I don't really know that much about it. I guess if I'd lived by the coast I would've sailed a bit around. We (Emperor) were actually teased by the guys in Enslaved because we are from Telemark, which was a peasant district in the old times, and they are from Hordaland, which was more of a viking district.

Do you believe you would've been a different person from the rest of the herd, maybe had "your own world" back then too?

-That's impossible for me to know. It might be. I would probably have believed in Odin and Tor with the Hammer. The good old ones.. I would anyway not have been a christian...

Who is Håvard Vond in difference to Mortils?

-Håvard Vond is the earthly version. Mortils do not have anything to do with the earth at all; not this world. I just want to get away. When I created Håvard Vond I were thinking of absurd things that people don't want to think about here in our earthly existence, 'selvmord' (suicide) and things like that. It's more of an absurd way of thinking. It's a bit hard to explain. There was a single named "Håvard Vond", about...what was it?... loneliness. It was recorded so long ago that I can't even remember...

Some people claim that it is weak to dream away from life's realities. What's your opinion?

-It all depends on in which way you dream away. You can dream away to your own world with your own visions, and I believe that is pretty interesting. If it's by the reason that you are afraid of being here, if you can't handle your own world, well, then I believe it's weak.

Your lyrics are showing clearly that a great deal of your thoughts are circling around the themes depression-suicide-death. Have you ever been thinking the thought of ending your own life?

-Yes, that thought have actually been swirling around in my head for years. At least now isn't the right time to do it, because I'm having a great time at the moment. I'm satisfied with my life. I guess everybody have the times when they are depressed and are thinking of committing suicide. But it's no reasonable solution.

But why do you use exactly those factors (depression, suicide, death)?

-I believe it's great fun to irritate other (normal) people with it. Suicide and depressions are more or less absurd things that most people want to avoid. That's why I bring these things into my music and use those as a concept.

...Those are pretty "worn out" themes, if I may say so...

-Yes, I know. There are loads of Death metal bands using them. But I believe I have the ability of using them in a special way. A new way, that might open some doors so that people can understand what this really is about.

Your apprehension of J.R.R. Tolkien? Any interest for/in roleplaying?

I've actually never played roleplaying games till quite recently, but it had strangely enough nothing to do with Tolkien. There's one thing I'd like to get off my back: I started writing my lyrics before I'd read

Tolkien!! I'm becoming so irritated on all the people that are hinting about me ripping off Tolkien.

That was not what I was hinting to, but you have both in a way created your own worlds...

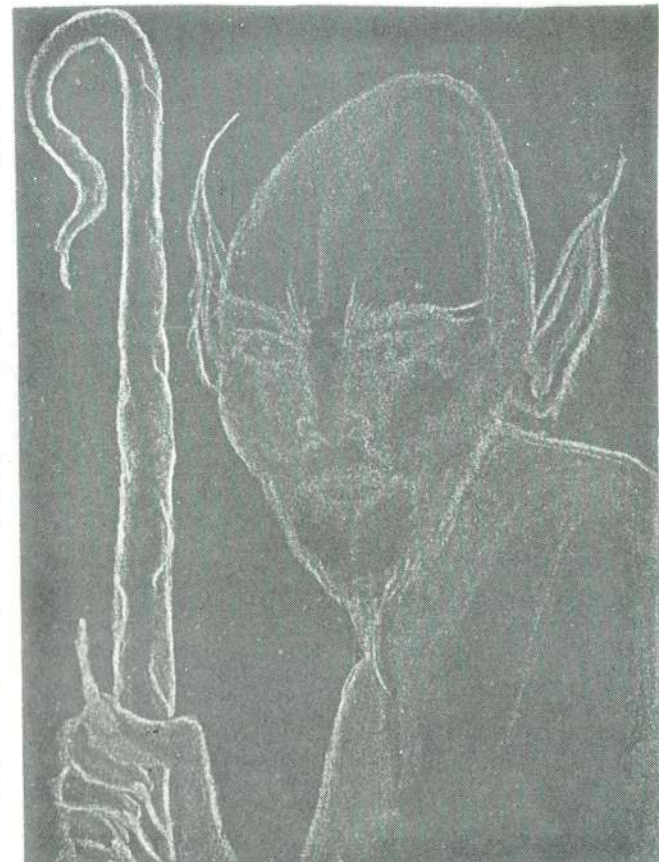
There are always parallels. You can find that in everything. It's hard to avoid. But anyway the fundamental principles in my world were created before I read Tolkien. The tower...well, there was a tower in "Lord of the Rings" too, Barad-Dur, and that sounds very alike my own little tower...That was something I discovered later on.

For how long have you been building up this world of your own?

-Sometime during summertime '92. I got this small "revelation" and had suddenly loads of inspiration. Within two weeks I had written it all down. They were going to be on the Emperor Lp, but...

How much do the fact that you are Norwegian mean to you?

-A lot. If I hadn't been a Norwegian, well, then I had not been as satisfied with my own way of life, my own music as I am today. I've learned incredibly much by just living in Norway over the last couple of years. First of all I've learned to think individual. That's something the rest of the world absolutely not is capable of doing, so...Most Norwegians are thinking in a great way. I realize that when I am here in Sweden. People are thinking like footballs...



That was a bad comparison, but you understand what I mean. (Yes I -Ed)

**Do you believe there are differences in the nationality, or is it just because Norway has developed incredibly within the musical way of life?**

-It hasn't got that much to do with the nationality, but I'm feeling pretty proud of being from Scandinavia. Nationalitywise, I do for instance not see that big difference between Norway and Sweden.

**What if this huge Black Metal trend had appeared in, say England, instead of Norway, do you believe you would've been just as proud of being English as you are of being Norwegian?**

-I do not find any reason for why I should've been, really. Although I'll admit that the old culture in England is very interesting.

**Do you let other synth-music inspire you? Schulze? Tangerine Dream?**

-I would've had nothing against being inspired by them. I'm always trying out if I can manage to attain the same sound as Schulze. It would've been great to manage it, and maybe record an LP just to honor him. Tangerine Dream too maybe, but that's something else... Schulze is meditation music of the highest class. I'm not trying to 'steal' anything, though. It would just've been quite fun to have a sound as if the music were from the 70's.

**How do you make your music?**

-I arrange the Mortis music by making certain riffs and melodies which 'slides' into each other. I'm very accurately when rehearsing. I do not think you can hear that when listening to "Født til å Herske", but I believe you can hear it better on my second and third (which I'm working on at the moment) album. I'm very satisfied with those. And that is arranged music, in my opinion.

**What is behind the name "Stargazer"?**

-It's symbolic for my concept which is based on the stars. The stars give strenght, they are power. They are everywhere, they have always been and will always be.

A 'stargazer' is one who looks, gazes at the stars. Some people have misprinted this as an astronaut...Haha...

**Are there any symbolic meanings behind the flyers/albumcover of "Født til å Herske"?**

-Nah, not really. I especially like one of the pictures, it means a lot to me. That's the one where I point my finger. There is this kind of power over those pictures, a kind of atmosphere...Some kind of personality. Some meaning maybe, but it's hard to explain.

**How do you manage to put together the impressive "clothing" to make the kind of atmosphere you want to have?**

I just use what I have. The chain mail used on the picture, actually a Persian one, is starting to fall apart now so I'm just keeping it as "finery".

**What do you think of the metal from Norway at the moment?**

-Most music sounds great. I mean the bands that have some importance. Einherjer, Enslaved, Manes and Mysticum are among the better ones.

**How about the viking trend?**

-In my opinion did all the viking image stuff start out with Varg having this image, and all those people wandering at his heels did of course follow him.

**Enslaved's "Yggdrasil" demo?**

-Yeah, that's true, I forgot...I believe it was with "Yggdrasil" and Emperors "Wrath of the Tyrant" this whole new Black Metal trend started during summerlime '92, and has since developed a lot...

**Did you have anything to do with the Emperor song "Inno A Sathana"? I know there are a lot of people out there that are wondering about that, as that song is one of the most melodic and most impressing on the "new" album...**

-I don't know, but it's possible, yes. You see, we made a whole bunch of tunes before I quit and before we recorded the MLP, that were supposed to be on future albums. That never happened. I don't know if those songs were thrown away, or if some parts are still in use. We did make a song, "In October Frost", that should've been on the MLP. I do not know if that one has appeared with another title and text... However, "My Empires of Doom" from the demo, is on the new release with other lyrics. It seemed everyone wanted to erase the old Emperor when I quit. We were all kind of bitter on each other at that time. I believe that has calmed down now.

**Sales?**

-I do not know exactly, because that fucking Malicious guy is so hard to get things out of. But I believe the two first pressings of "Født til å Herske" are sold out, which means about 2000 copies. The estimated sales are at approx. 4000. That's pretty good as I'm not exactly making trend music either...

**Future projects?**

-I had recorded Mortis 2, but something went wrong with the recording, so I'll have to do it once more. I do also have a concept ready for a double LP or two albums with Vond. I do not have any music ready yet, but I'll start working on that as soon as I'm finished with Mortis 2.

I do also have a lot of music arranged for another project which goes by the name "Fata Morgana", about hallucinations. Some of the music sounds a bit like Vond, but they fit the "Fata Morgana" concept better. There are a couple of songs I would describe as real trance. I guess they won't appear on the same album. That would've made too much contrasts

**OK, what would "Stargazer" like to have as inscription on his tombstone?**

I don't want any tombstone. I just want to disappear, be gone forever...

**Any closing comments?**

Buy my records! Eh... I don't really have that much to say...

Orders: Dark Dungeon Music  
H. Ellefsen  
A-Ringen 52  
S-302 55 Halmstad

# L A B L E S

I've chosen to present two upcoming labels here; IMPURE CREATIONS REC., and SOLISTISIUM REC. Instead of reading the same old Osmose, Massacre, Peaceville etc. interviews once more, you might have some more interest in reading about the real underground labels, the ones that might sometime in the future be the new Osmose but by now are operating on a lower level. I would advise everybody to at least contact the labels for their distro lists, as they are both amazing... I have made this a paralell interview, which means that both the labels have gotten the same questions, on purpose.



I'd like to dedicate some space here to my French brother Estassy Laurent I'm sure he must be one of the busiest men on earth. All you guys out there that are complaining about all the mail; take a look at what this man is doing: Impure Creations Records (distro/label), Divine Blackness mag., Undivina Gloria radio show, Castle of Solitude comp. tapes and newsletters. I believe I'll let Laurent speak for himself....

**It seems like you've dedicated your entire lives to the underground of Death/Black metal. Any particular reason?**

Well, I had a really empty life and I'm really bored by life here. I haven't got any activities besides the radio show, 'zine, distro, label... I do it simply because I don't have anything else to do in my life except for that.

**How did you start to build up this huge empire of bandsupport?**

At the debut I was just a simple listener of metal music, but after a certain time I was very bored and angry with seeing all those childish guys here in my town with their stupid T-shirts and attitude. Some years ago there was a radio show in my town, and the three guys who did it did one of the best shit I've ever heard, believe me. Very angry by this situation I decided to start my own radio show (under a stupid moniker at the debut) in a big city near my home, in Lyon which is the second biggest town here in France. My other projects are done just because I want to do more for the scene.

**You're helping loads of bands to gain recognition, but do you have your own band or any musical projects?**

It's my dream to play an instrument, but sadly I'm not a very patient guy, and well no, I haven't got any musical projects. My brother Bruno has his own project, maybe he will release something, I hope?

**What do you think of the French scene? Any small bands you believe can "make it big" within the coming year?**

Here in France we have a lot of good bands, but they are drowned in a sea of shitty ones. Our scene is full of trendies, posers and childish, unoriginal bands. The very good ones are GORGON, VLAD, OSCULUM INFAME, PROPHECY, MUTILATION, MATANBOUNKOUS (new stuff), ASMOROD...I have heard good things about VLAD TEPES, but they never write me back. If someone wants the addresses, write to me or Gro from this so great 'zine and support our scene.

**What projects are you currently using most time and money on?**

Without doubt our label/distro IMPURE CREATIONS REC; We have to invest all our money on it, and soon we'll release a CD, which costs us lots of money.

**OK, here's your chance to do some promotion for your stuff...**

Well, soon the first CD on our label will be out and we hope to make our distro list as big as possible. It now contains more than 100 items; CD's, demos, EP's, 'zines... For now only 4 comp. tapes are available + a re-release of the T.O.V. demo (see 'view...-Ed) and we are working on the second issue of our 'zine featuring 'views with MOLESTED, DEINONYCHUS, ABYSSIC HATE, COUNTESS, SLEEPING GODS.... Upcoming CD releases are:

Zephyrous- "Entrance and Wandering..."  
Blut Aus Nord- "Ultima Thulee"  
Necromicon- "Realm of Silence"

Dimmu Borgir T-shirts are also on the way.

All people interested in what we do should write. (an IRC is welcome to help us with the fucking postage rates, but if you can't I'll understand) Address: Estassy Laurent,  
6 Allee Minerve,  
26 000 Valence,  
France.

**Closing comments?**

Gro, receive all my admiration for doing this interview possible and thanks a lot for all the support over those last months, you are the true spirit of the underground. (...and so are you Laurent...-Ed)

**Second man out is of course Carsten Molitor (or "monitor" as most people up here in the North have nicknamed him....) Having signed up several bands of quality from by now Finland and Norway I also believe his label Solistitium Rec. is a label with a bright future. Especially the new Nattvindens Gråt CD seems to have possibilities of going big within the coming months. Well, I'll once again let the man answer for himself...**

**It seems like you've dedicated your entire lives to the underground of Death/Black Metal. Any particular reason?**

There seems to be no particular reason to spend my time on the Metal scene. It is very simple: I like to listen to music and I try to support the bands that I like. It is also a fine thing to have friends all over the world.

**How did you start this huge empire of bandsupport?**

Solistitium started back in July '94. It began very small, but I had always spent my money on music. This way Solistitium gained some recognition and it has grown a little bit.

**You're helping loads of bands to gain recognition, but do you have your own band or any musical projects?**

I do not have any band or musical projects of my own. I dislike it very much that every kid starts his own band. There is also no use of all these project bands Only the best and most original bands will survive the trend.

**What do you think of the German scene? Any small bands you believe will "make it big" within the coming year?**

Personally I hate the German scene. It is one of the worst within the world. The best Black Metal bands are hailing from Norway. If somebody wants to check out a German band, then buy the Tumulus demo (See article elsewhere in this 'zine...-Ed). Their music is not Black Metal, but it's atmospheric and original.

**What projects are you currently using most time and money on?**

Each band on Solistitium has the same importance. Maybe I'm working a littlebit harder on Helheim as they will have a bright future. This will be the first album release so it is important at that point of time.

**And here's your chance to do some promotion for your stuff:**

Solistitium will always release original and worthy bands.

So far I've released: Nattvindens Gråt-"Där Svanar Flyger" Cass. EP  
Isvind-7"

Future releases will be at any case:

Helheim- "Jormundgard" CD (Lim. LP later on)  
Nattvindens Gråt-"A Bard's Tale" CD (out in December)  
Darkwoods My Betrothed-Second album (out in April '96)

There might be other releases but I will keep it a secret since nothing is signed. Needless to say, every band on my label will have original aspects.

**Closing comments?**

Thank you very much for your support (the same goes to you, that's for sure...-Ed) Those who have supported me from the beginning are the most praised. Hail to my friends within the countries of frost and darkness. Destroy the trend and support originality

Carsten Molitor  
Unterende 6  
26802 Moorerland  
Germany



**Abyssic Hate is an unusual good Australian band playing Black Metal more in the vein of DarkThrone. I chose to include this band because I believe it's a band that has a future, and also because Shane Raut is a man that can answer for himself with intelligence, in comparison to many others. Read and get wise!**

**A. H. is a one-man project. How did the idea of this project come to your mind? Were there too few serious people into B.M. around you, or did you want to do this all by yourself?**

I had been playing the drums in various bands for a few years and basically got really sick of having to compromise and put up with other peoples shit and ideas. I knew a one-man band was possible because the best Black Metal band ever (Bathory) had only one member. It was all a matter of learning a few instruments, writing some material and recording it, which I now have done. I might add some more people in the line up soon, but it will always be my band and no one will have any say in A.H. The members should be clear with this if they should join the band.

**As far as I know, your demo "Cleansing of an Ancient Race" was released in October, and was strictly limited to 100 copies. Why this limit?**

It was limited to 100 copies as I thought it would be better to keep it as a real underground item. However, I have received incredible responses from the demo, and a few companies have wished to press it up on CD. I'm not sure on who I'll chose to print up the disc, but hopefully those who haven't heard A.H. will get a chance to.

**Australia is not a well known country when it comes to B.M. Do you believe that's an advantage or disadvantage?**

I guess it's an advantage. We have here only two B.M. bands, namely Gospel of the Horns and A.H. Bestial Warlust are great and play over the top, Satanic War Metal. I think people take a little more interest in non-Scandinavian bands because too many bands came out in a too short time over there in Sweden and Norway.

I still think the quality of bands coming from your country is the highest in the world, and I think a lot of bands like Treldom, Demonic and Vinterland get a little overlooked 'cause there are just so many bands. It's a pity really, but I'm sure they will shine through when all the shit bands realize that they are just that!

**Any demobands from your homecountry you'd like our European readers to know about?**

Just Gospel of the Horns. The greatest old style Frost inspired metal in the world. Hail Shane Transvaal D. I

**You are also doing a zine, namely Eternal Damnation. Can you tell the readers a bit about the concept behind it, and if we may expect a No. 3 someday?**

Eternal Damnation was created to keep the great B.M. spirit alive and strong by supporting some of the greater undiscovered B.M. bands. Unfortunately, some bands I helped backstabbed me, others ripped me off, others never replied and in the end I got fed up with the whole idea of helping anyone out. Most bands don't care about the philosophies behind B.M. but only care about the fame. I'm afraid Eternal Damnation #3 looks non-existent at this stage, but the interviews I do have for it will be used in other zines. (Update: #3 is out now, \$5 to Shane's addr....Not much metal this time around...-Ed)

**What does the word "religion" mean to you?**

My religion means everything to me. I am a Satanist and can identify closely with feelings of despair and hatred. This is what my religion entails. The christian religion, well, I need not say what I think of it 'cause you've probably read the same thing I would say about 10 times already.



**You are, as you put it yourself, into Satanic philosophies and destruction of the human race. Explain....**

Every country is made up of about 10 % (maximum) of decent people and the other 90 % are complete shit. These people should be exterminated because they really do nothing but operate without a brain. Faggots, homeless, spastics all have no place on Earth. With these people gone, life would maybe be not so bad, who knows! I do know though, that these scum are here, and their death is what I base my entire thought on. Satanic philosophies and the death of the human race are two concepts which are almost identical in my eyes.

**You are probably going to sign to Evil Omen (Everybody should know that French label by now...)/Osmose for a full length. How is the deal? Are you satisfied?**

I can't say too much about it until everything is 100 % because we all know what record labels can be like sometimes. Hopefully I shall have information on an LP deal in the next few weeks.

**Have any other labels showed interest?**

Yes, quite a few, but again I really cannot say anything. I don't want to tell a whole bunch of shit that may not happen so I can't really say anything, sorry!

**What does lyrics in B.M. mean to you? Do you think that bands nowadays should concentrate more on the lyrics, or maybe less?**

I think lyrics are very important in B.M. but also the musical elements plays 50 % in the final outcome. If you have extremely great lyrics, but cannot play a note, the outcome of your music will be unlistenable shit! Music is for musicians, lyricists should write a book of their beliefs instead of trying to do what a thousand people are already trying to do!

**Is there any special meaning behind the bandname "Abyssic Hate"?**

No, not really. I chose the name 'cause it reflects the mood and origin of my music pretty accurately. Admittedly, it was another band that first made me aware of this name, but I'll leave it up to you to find out who it was....

**What bands are you currently listening to, and what type of music has influenced you over the years?**

I have listened to many types of music over the years and still do. I like Death metal like Autopsy, Pan Thy Monium, Impetigo, Industrial, Pink Floyd (gods), but mainly I listen to B.M. and dark, depressive ambience like Brighter Death, Now, Thomas Koner, Lustmord, Archon Satani etc. I also listen to oi, soundtracks and some Japanese noise. If one was to listen solely to B.M., all day everyday, you would become totally insane.

**How do you look upon the future of B.M.?**

I think it's as big as it's going to get now. The recent trend has got a lot of more people interested in Satanism, which is a good thing. I think most of those who listened to B.M. for the wrong reasons, have become sick of this music and are moving on to something else. The future is looking a little brighter (or darker) but still there are too many shit bands. Time will eliminate them!

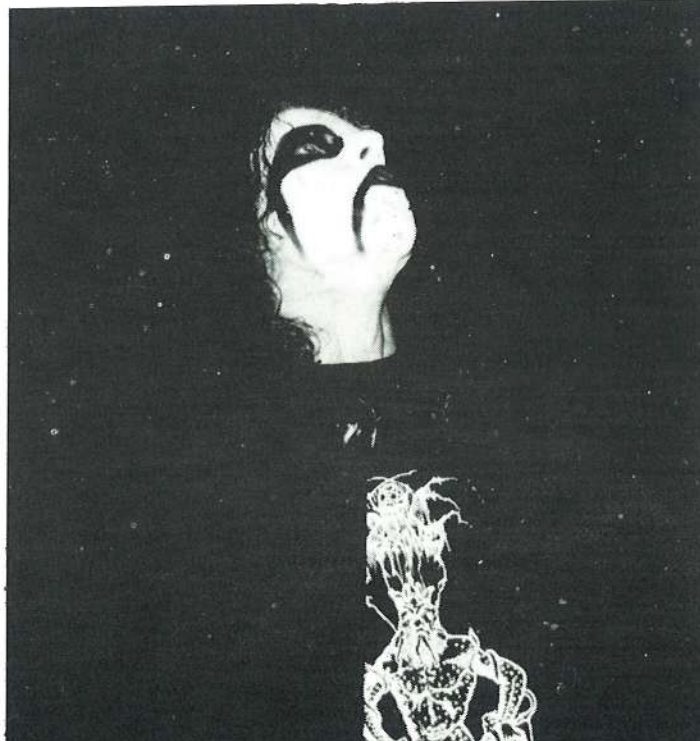
**Sooner or later we're all going to die. What do you want the inscription on your tombstone to be?**

I don't want to be buried. I would rather be something of use when I'm dead: wormfood.

**The last words are yours....**

Kill life, kill yourself! Look out for upcoming releases (if it ever arrives). Thanks eternally for the interview!

Abyssic Hate  
G. P. O. Box 118A  
Melbourne, Victoria  
Australia, 3001  
AUSTRALIA  
(AH is now officialy signed to HNF)



# A MILLENIUM...

Yes right, a millenium of what?! For those of you living on the other side of the borders of Norway, this is the first essential thing to catch in this writing, and the reason for the free Norsemen's rage this year 1995; the Norwegian Statechurch is celebrating it's 1000 year's anniversary for the christening of Norway. What do they have to celebrate is my question no. 1. The bishop answers as follows: "A 1000 years of prayers, hymns and a faithful fellowship". Fair enough, that might be true, if one will continue painting everything rosy... What the church is doing this very year is to celebrate this anniversary with joy and happiness and pretend that the Christianity of today is just what it has been ever since the tiny beginning in order to catch even more weak preys. That would've been OK by me if it was a question of enlisting grown-ups that are old enough to make up their own decisions. If they chose Christianity, well, then I'll leave them with their choice. I won't preach to show that I at least is above their level at that point... No, what my rage is directed against is the way of celebrating in kindergardens and at schools. We all know that kids are easy to persuade, and that's what the church has been gaining ground on here in Norway over such a long time. From my standpoint I would say that that way is the most oily way to kidnap young souls; a trademark of the Christian church. On the contrary, I'm not saying that Christianity should not be a part of our educational system. It might be on an equal footing with the rest of today's religions. And- the education should be based on the roots of the religion, not the "religion light" that we have today. If we'd done that, half of Norway would've been Buddhists today. Why? Among many reasons because that's the most humanetic religion of today- the religion where a human being is able to think by him/herself. Further on, the other half would've been the part that didn't need any rules for how to live, what to do and who to follow. Some people need religion, that's for sure, and here in Norway we have the church that grabs the kids before they even learn how to think by themselves, and we end up with a Christian society.

What I'm going to do here is to put down a few facts that are proving Christianity wrong. These are not some thoughts coming from my mind, these are facts proved by historical sources and facts that the Lutheran society wants to forget or hide as far away as possible... And to the English readers: I hope I'm excused for not having the correct biblical translations...The explicit's featured here are translated from Norwegian.

-Around the year 0, better known as being in the middle of the Hellenistic period, a huge religious confusion was making people desperate. They needed something to believe in, and thousands of small Messiases were popping up everywhere. The "new" thing in this period was to mix the Semittic (today known through the Old Testament and Judaism) and Indo-European (Buddhism and Hinduism) ways of thinking. The Bible unites these two ways perfect...

-The gospels are not written by eyewitnesses, the earliest (the Gospel of St. Johannes) was written around the year 120. It was accepted as a part of the New Testament in 190. The first time the written gospel was used in a Christian divine service is in 150. The final New Testament, like we know it today, was finished around the year 380. A little NB; we all know the story of how one feather became five fowls, don't we?

-The first certain Christian source is Paulus' letters from ca. 51-59. They tell almost nothing about Jesus (who was killed 30-33), only a couple of sentences about his crucifixion and resurrection.

-One gospel (The Tomas gospel) has been discovered later on (during the 19th century), and does probably date back to the year 50. No Christian society ever mention this writing...Is it because it's "just as true" as the other gospels, only stating something totally different from the Gospels we already know far too well??

-Jesus was a Jew and his disciples were of the Jewish society. Jesus' mission was to reform the Jewism, not to create a new religion...

-Jesus was spreading his words for only between two and five years.

-You all know so-called miracle when Jesus "opened" the sea and let the "good guys" pass, then made the sea come back and drown all the "bad guys"? Well, it's a proved fact that it might've been a tidal wave at that exact moment...

-Jesus was highly educated when it came to knowing the political underground in Judea at the time. That is a good way of gaining power (Hitler, Khommeini, Stalin...)

-Paulus (that single person is the reason for why Christianity is existing today) was not one of Jesus' apostles. He was a "freelance preacher" that unfortunately lived long enough to spread "the Good Word" a bit too far...

-Christianity is the religion that have changed the most through the years. The Bible is written in such a way that this is possible (Contrary: The Koran) If the gap between the Church and its user had become too big, the church would've disappeared, not the other part. Just read: 2 Mos 21,12 says that you shall kill the person that have killed a human being, 2 Mos 21,15 says that the ones that beats his father/mother will pay with his life, and 2 Mos 21,17 stated that the one that condemns one of his parents will die, 2 Mos 21,22 says that you shall not let a sorceress live. Where is this today, I wonder...(Hey, I'm still alive...)

-Christianity do not allow people to doubt. According to Matt. 4 are one not supposed to put the words of God on "conditional remove". Matt. 16.1: "It's the evil and unfaithful lineage that demands signs" Matt. 10,14 & 11,16: it's sinful and unethical to go against the words of God. Well, those might be the best ways to keep people downset...

-We hear abot Jesus when he's born, at the age of 12 and around his 30's. Where was the guy the years inbetween?

-During the Middle ages the Norwegian church killed more people pr.1000 citizens pr. year than murders pr. 1000 of the year 1994.

-Does anybody really know what the Christian ethics are? I bet you would answer with the following sentence: "you shall not do to others what you don't want others to do to you" ("Das Christum treibt") Well, that sentence, among surprisingly many others, are not the words of Jesus. This example was first said by King Tang, a Japanese emperor 1700 yrs. BC!!

-Jesus' resurrection:  
>No immediate joy.  
>The first reactions were fear and scepticism  
>The disciples had lost their interest, and were probably returning to their old jobs.

>Women were the first to witness the empty tomb. According to the law of the Jews a woman's testification is only worth the half of a man's.

-Christianity wouldn't have existed today without the creation called Hell.

-The Church have stopped 1700 years of evolution within both medicine and natural science - imagine being Darwin 100 years before his age...

- Luc 6,27 Matt 5,44: "Love your enemies!". Need I say more...  
-In one of Johannes letters he says that Jesus is a myth. Can anybody answer me why that letter isn't included in the Bible?

...And I could go on like this forever... What I want to put to paper is that instead of going around saying that you hate Christianity, that you're antichristian etc., why don't you sit down with the Bible for a couple of hours and find all possible ways to prove this weak religion wrong. It's not hard, so why not do it and you'll have something to show off with the next time you're participating in a religious discussion. The war against Christianity should be no championship in burning down churches (a childish act anyway), but a war of words - to show just who the intelligent, independent young people are...

**"WILL THE REAL JESUS PLEASE RAISE ?!"**



"The job of the priest is despicable, because what can be more despicable than systematically to poison human's fantasy with preposterous plays that for a long time ago have been rejected by science?"

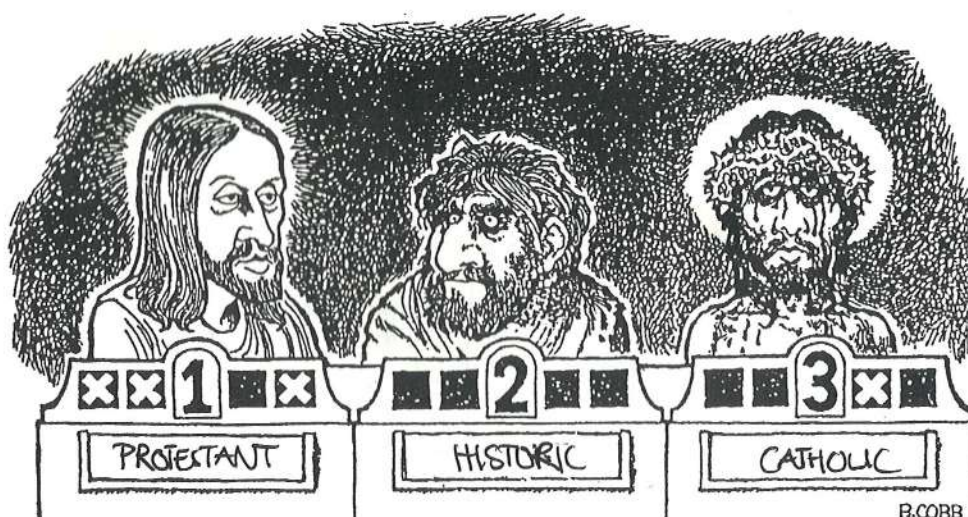
-Knut Wicksell

"It is not the parts of the bible that I don't understand that bugs me; it is the parts I do understand..."

-Mark Twain

"Even if there do exist things that are beyond the scope of our understanding is there no reason to believe in nonsense?"

-Diderot



R.COBB



**Zephyrous is a three-piece from Greece which I must admit finding very interesting musically. I would say they sound more like a Scandinavian band than a Greece one, but that doesn't hurt, does it? Melodic, but yet aggressive. Answers done by Dreamlord and Serpent King.**

**You are a relatively unknown band to most of the readers in the northern part of Europe: tell us a bit about the history of the band!**

Zephyrous was formed in the frozen winter of the beginning of 1994 by three followers of the left hand path. Serpent King (Guitar, bass, synths), Dreamlord (Screams) and Emperor of the Mourning Moon (Drums). After a lot of rehearsals we went to record our debut demo.



**Your demo "Entrance and wandering on the Seven Zones" contains eleven tracks. You actually could have released two demos instead of one. Why did you choose to make only one?** When we were going to record our demo we really had a lot of songs. We chose the best and decided to release them in only one demo 'cause from these 11 tracks you can see the whole Zephyrous in that period of time. It's something multiform and completed for us. And

as the time passes we prepare new and better songs. Why should we release a second demo with old songs? Besides, the only reason for releasing our tracks in two demos would be to earn the double money. But we don't intend to that. We do everything for ourselves and for the true Black Metal Horde that may but something that worths their money, and has quality and quantity too. (A truly great answer! -Ed.)

**It seems like Greece and Norway are the two leading countries when it comes to Black Metal, even if they are total opposites to each other. What do you think is the reason? Can it be the ancient mythologies?**

Of course Greek and Norwegian are the two leading Black Metal scenes. It's too difficult to find the reason. Maybe it's people's way of life, which is somehow influenced by history and mythologies. Many bands sing about their ancestors way of life. It's also strange that except music, mythologies are in a way opposites to each other too. But I don't agree with bands which are fanatic with their mythology and get against to the opposite mythology's bands. I can notice it between a lot of Greek and Norwegian bands.

Personally, our music style has nothing to do with Greek mythology. But there are lyrics in some upcoming tracks influenced from both Greek (Rites of Elêusis) and Norwegian (Ragnarok) mythologies.

**Your music is what I would call something like atmospheric metal. How much do atmosphere and mood in music matter to you?** I don't think that we are so atmospheric... We have enough melody, but that's combined with aggressiveness which have the same importance. Although mood and atmosphere are the most important for us...

**What does the lyrics mean to you? Can you explain what you mean by "Sign from the Northern Darkness"?**

Serpent King: My lyrics deal with a lot of things. In some songs they are satanic, in other about occultism, in the song "The inner battalion of Dagon" inspired by H.P. Lovecraft, in the "Gifted Empire of the Marvelous Tartarus" inspired by ancient Greek Mythology, in other tracks they talk about something personal occult

experiences and feelings but in other tracks they try to get the reader in a higher situation and enlarge human fantasy. My new lyrics deal with some more things except these, but they will always be too obscure to haunt your souls... 2 "Sign from the Northern Darkness" is about something like a vision in a cold, northern landscape of my inner dreamland... First an invocation to the wind, to carry to this abyss of darkness and after a raving chant and a human sacrifice... It ends with my farewell to this pure northern beauty... All described in a way that tries to take you there... And it's easy... Just leave your mind free...



**Have you been contacted by any labels? What has the response on your demo been like?**

Of course we have contacted with some labels, but nothing is sure yet. Maybe we'll release an 7" EP or an LP in summer. About the response on our demo, we must admit that we didn't expect it to be so good. We have sold over 180 copies in only two months and wait for orders of another 130!

**You use both corpsepaint and pseudonyms in the demo cover. What do that mean to you, and are there any special experiences behind those names?**

We think that corpsepaint and this kind of clothing express the feelings that we want to pass on within our music. Corpsepaint is also a preparation of war.. Against christianity... About our pseudonyms; we think that they reflect our real characters much better than our christian names. But in our days all Black Metal bands use these just for the trend... May they rot...

**I know that Serpent King is working on a side-project called "Serpent King's Forgotten Kingdom". Can you tell a bit about this project, and when we can expect to hear the music?**

Serpent King. In this project I am free to express my feelings beyond Black Metal... There are four songs -not totally completed-with piano, violin, flutes, bells, trumpets and lots of other unusual and ancient instruments and sounds... It's very melancholic, epic, obscure... It tries to take you in my world... But it's only to satisfy me and no-one

else... There's a possibility to release something in summer 'cause it must show to all those who create projects for fun or to earn money which the real music is...

**What types of music would you list up as your influences, and what bands are you currently listening to?**

We are influenced by Black Metal and Dark Wave but no particular bands. These are the bands we most like listening to: Dreamlord: Ancient, Emperor, Impaled Nazarene, Samael, Bathory, DarkThrone, Necromantia, Zemial, Agatus, Hades, Absu. Serpent King: Agatus (Gods I), Erevos, Dead Can Dance, Isvind, The Black, Horrified, Grand Belial's Key, Master's Hammer, Behemoth, Gorgoroth, Baxaxaxa (R.I.P.), Emperor, Beherit, Hades, Nergal, Burzum.

**What thoughts are the first on your mind when reading the following words:**

Nature: We must very soon return to her pure embracement.

Freedom of Speech: Important

U.S. Black Metal: Very few true Black Metal bands. A country of fakes...

(You said it! Maybe we shouldn't lump them all together, but still...-Ed)

**What are your personal opinions on religion? Do religion/mythology play an important role in your life?**

Serpent King: Unholyness will forever rule my evil soul, but mythology plays a very important role in my life. I try to take more as example of the ancient way of life rather than the one they try to make me live now...

**How is life in general in Greece? Do you have any trouble with police/other authorities?**

Life here is pretty good. We have two underground stores in my town and some good clubs. But I'd prefer to live closer to the nature... About police; there is a branch of it that chases off satanists! (they came here this year from the U.S.!) They abuse their authority all the time.

**What do you think about females in Black Metal?**

We'll be glad to see female bands in the Black Metal scene. But only if they are true... (Of course, of course...-Ed med røde knestrømper...)

**Sometime within the near future we're all going to die. What do you want the inscription on your tombstone to be?**

"His body died, but his soul will remain immortal through the aeons..."

**Any closing words?**

If you are interested in our demo it costs \$5. Live on the dark side of your mind and if you are a true one write to:

Serpent King	Dreamlord
Patroclou 1	Amohostou 2
163 46 Ilioupolis	163 46 Ilioupolis
Athens	Athens
Greece	Greece

Here we have one of the most promising Norwegian acts



# Theatre of Tragedy



I must really say I envy your ability of writing lyrics in the "Shakespearean" vein.

**Theatre of Tragedy. I must admit being very astonished by the quality of their music, and their ability of writing songs which combine strong melodylines and at the same time has this cunning, sweeping brutality. The band was formed winter -92 with only three members still remaining in today's line-up. Going through different stages of musical directions, the band ended up with making the music which today is the trademark of Theatre of Tragedy.**  
**Raymond, who's responsible for the answers here stated that after having written a gorgeous humorous interview to Einherjum Mag, Hein Frode (dr.) complained so much about his bad sense of humour so that this interview became as serious as ever possible...Fuck...Oh well, it's at least informative...**

**Like the ordinary run of melodic doom/death bands, you too started out as an uninteresting "blod og tårner" band, but has moved more and more away from that kind of image. Do you believe that this is a period you'll have to go through, or do you think you could've started to make Theatre of Tragedy music anno -95 a couple of years ago under the name of Suffering Grief?**  
 In my opinion, "no", we could not have made the music you mentioned at that early stage simply because of the fact that at the time when we still were Suffering Grief we did not have the same members as we do now (Liv, Lorentz, Hein Frode and Eirik became members later on...) and we listened to other kinds of music, which then was of course straight death metal. As you asked this is probably a period most of "metalists" have to go through, and that goes for black metal people to !! I do not know why, but people always mature.

**Tell the readers a bit about the nearest future of Theatre of Tragedy. I guess you're headed for some really interesting times... Can we expect to experience you live some day?**  
 Well, I believe the nearest future will consist of working on new material, going to practises (whenever we feel like doing it...) and of course to play live sometimes, though there are different views on playing live; I for instance, do not want to play live anymore if the venue does not have permit for selling beer due to the fact that I am so fuckin' shy, but when I drink that feeling disappears, so...But anyway there is a guy here that is trying to arrange a gig with Theatre of Tragedy and Vampire State Building here in Stavanger, and we were also supposed to play with Enslaved but sadly nobody dared to have them, yet after they have come home from the tour with Marduk we'll try to find a place where we can play. There is one gig we are completely sure of; our release party on May 27th where we hopefully will play with the mighty gothic-rockers The Moredoes. If the sales of our debut goes well, I am pretty sure that Massacre will bring us out on tour as supporters to the German death metal band Crematory. That's all I know about this subject.

**As producer for your new album you chose Dan Swanö. You were not afraid of ending up with a sound similar to Godsønd, Katatonia, Edge of Sanity or any of the other bands he has produced? Not that the above mentioned bands have any similarities in the sound, but...**  
 No, we were not afraid of him giving us any similar sound because we knew that Dan makes different sounds to each and every band he works with, and he has worked with bands ranging from soft pop/rock to black metal. Yet there was one similarity between our and the new Edge of Sanity's sounds; the vocals were mixed too low, but who am I to complain; I was there on the mix. By the way, Dan was not our producer- he was the engineer (You wrote to me that he was the producer...Who cares anyway?!...-Ed.) There is difference in these two things- a producer produces the music, which means that he/she makes the music better by telling the band to change a riff here, and a vocal part there etc., while an engineer only records the music.

**Could you please tell us a bit about your new album in general? How is it compared to the -94 demo?**  
 The album consists of nine songs: "Cheerful Dirge", "A Hamlet for a Slothful Vassal", "To these Words I beheld no Tongue", "Hollow-Hearted, Heart-Departed", "...a Distance there is...", "Sweet art Thou", "Mire", "Dying- I only feel Apathy" and "Monotoné". The total playing time is approx. 45:30 min. It does not differ too much from the demo, though it is less "death metallish". The demo was more "brutal" while the album has been characterized as too "kind/friendly/commercial (???)" music! Perhaps it is because we have a song "...a Distance there is" that consists exclusively of Liv's vocals, piano and cello. By the way, Massacre is promoting us as a mix between Tiamat and Dead Can Dance, which I think is a big compliment seeing that Dead Can Dance is simply great!

**Are the lyrics something you work hard with? How big importance do you believe the lyrics have in the final outcome of a band?**  
 Thanks for the compliment! Well, I do not work hard with the lyrics...to put it this way; I hardly work with the lyrics...when I have inspiration to write one. When I'm not inspired at all, that is at the times when I am under pressure to finish a lyric because the other members want to hear the music with vocals, I strive like hell and I more or less only write some bullshit. But who cares, nearly nobody understands at all what I am writing. Sadly the lyrics does not have such a great importance for the buyers, considering the fact that "nobody" takes the time to read them. But at least the lyrics have on a band an impact imagewise; look for instance at Enslaved.

**Atmospheric doom/death metal is a genre that has grown strongly over the last couple of years. What do you believe is the reason? Are people tired of listening to A4 death and black metal?**  
 First and foremost let me point out that we are not a doom/death band!! We play Theatric Gothic Metal exclusively!!! (...I should have written it in question no. 1) We do not want to be compared to or categorized as a death metal band, and we have made this clear to Massacre too so therefore they are promoting us as a mix between Tiamat and Dead Can Dance (In my opinion is the doom/death genre consisting of bands like My Dying Bride, Cemetary, Anathema and so on and I would say that those bands are maybe the ones most "comparable" to you in order to give readers that haven't heard your music yet a clue about what you sound like...-Ed.) Anyhow, you have already pointed out the answer to your question: A4 death and black metal is booooooring!...Except for the old classics.

**Your demo has been getting excellent reviews all over. Are the bandmembers themselves 100% satisfied with the demo, and had you expected such a great response? How many copies are/were sold?**



I believe that we were 99% satisfied with the tape when it was new, and we are still very satisfied with it, but I think that all of us agree on the point that "A Song by the Hearth?!" did not belong on the demo. Apart from that there are of course some minor mistakes, but who cares?! Even if we thought/think that the demo is good we never expected such a good response; I get tons of letters and approximately 99% of the people that have heard our music are totally enthused by it (...I am not exaggerating!!!...) By the way, we have already been "bootlegged" in Italy!! Accordingly, I really do not know how many demos we have sold, but somewhere near 450 should be a rather accurate number. We could have sold more, but we do not have any left and we will not print more either.

**How much does melody and atmosphere in music matter to you?**  
 If you listen to our demo you will find out that it is of outmost importance for us!! I would believe that "everybody" holds in opinion that music without melody and atmosphere is nothing to listen to, but of course I am wrong; people still listen to grind, noise, death etc. Evolution has passed them by!

**You are seven members in the band. This must be a huge inconvenience during the process of making music and rehearsing. How do you deal with it? Is there only one person making all the music, or do the whole band contribute?**  
 There are really not too many problems with rehearsing etc. with the mentioned crowd, though sometimes somebody is not able of coming to rehearsals which is really bad if it is Lorentz (...the synthist...) Hein (...the drummer...) or one of the guitarplayers due to the fact that we simply got to call it a day because they are "vital" when rehearsing. Yet usually only five members practise regularly; Liv and me do not have to go each and every time because we put on all the vocal lines at home and do not make music...and apart from that the vocal lines are so easy to remember. The music is made mostly by Pål and Lorentz and of course Tommy does a great deal of contributions too- but everybody helps arranging the riffs and ideas.


**OK, now you have the chance to predict the future...Try to find the year 1997. Where do you think Theatre of Tragedy will be? What will have happened in the scene generally?**  
 I really do not know- we are either "big rockstars" or bums sleeping in the street. It all depends on how the public receives our music. The scene?! It is getting more and more dead day by day but it will prevail- and to use the very clichéd phrase: "Only the good bands shall last".

**Any life philosophies/opinions you'd like to share with the readers?**  
 Simply: "Do what thou wilt", and: "Stay egoist!"

**What influences Theatre of Tragedy to write their music? What is the motive power behind the band?**  
 In my opinion the influence, the reason, we write music is that.....huh?????.....I have no opinion on this one. It just happens so!!

**Someday, we are all going to die. What do you want the inscription on your tombstone to be?**  
 "Obliit- Requiescat In Pace"

**Closing comments?**  
 Well, Gro, thanks for the interview! To people who want to hear our music: Send a blank tape & IRC(s) on which I can record the demo and two advance tracks. Apart from that I encourage all Gothic rock bands to write me. Buy our album and keep on rockin' in the free world!  
 Contact: Raymond I. Rohonyi  
 Prestøyvn. 24  
 4052 Røyneberg  
 NORWAY




## NAGLFAR

Sweden is up and coming, and on the wave we do among others find an extremely promising band; Naglfar. Their demo '94 caught my interest at first listen, and I have still not grown tired of it. Naglfar plays a kind of HM inspired DM/BM; bombastic guitarlines, sweeping melodies and even on their demo the drums were impressing, even though being made by a drumprogrammer!! The keyboards added makes the music get somewhat of an epic touch, and the only minus with this demo I can think of must be the vocals, that are a bit too BM for the rest of the music in my opinion. Not much to complain about, but one hears the small drawbacks better when the music is almost perfect!

Naglfar was formed in Umeå in the North of Sweden late '92 by Kristoffer Olivius and Jens Rydén, and after a couple of weeks guitarist Morgan Hansson joined their forces. Another guitarist joined the band for some while, but was shortly after replaced by Andreas Nilsson of Ancient Wisdom. During April '94 Naglfar recorded their promo-song "Sunless Dawn", which the band was quite satisfied with but they did still not want to release it. But they *did* release their next recording, which of course was the most brilliant demo entitled "Stellae Trajecto", which did include the re-recording of "Sunless Dawn" as well as two new songs; "The Eclipse of Empire Storms" and "Enslave the Astral Fortress". A couple of weeks after having recorded the demo Mattias Holmgren of Embracing Shadows joined the lines, and Naglfar had then reached the final lineup of which they also have today. In November the same year, Naglfar got in contact with Swedish Wrong Again Rec., and they were signed for 2 albums, the first one which is just recorded in Studio Abyss, and is scheduled for a release in October...The title is "Vittra", and I do not think I'm exaggerating when saying that this album might be one of the best of this year.

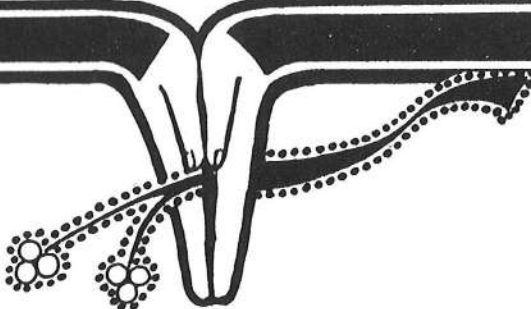
The Promo '95, recorded in April shows a ever stronger band than that of "Stellae Trajecto", and the songs are better in all perspectives, except for maybe having lost a bit of the HM touch (damn it!!). I guess the three songs on this "We are Naglfar-Fuck you!" promo is going to be on the album in better recorded versions, and I must say I'm looking forward to listening to especially the song "Emerging from her Weepings"...It will make me go insane, I can say that in advance... The demo is still available from the band (\$5 Eur./\$6 Else) as well as T-shirts (100 SEK i Skandnavia/\$16 Eur./\$18 Else)

LEFT TO RIGHT:  
JENS  
KRISTOFFER  
ANDREAS



**CONTACT:**  
**NAGLFAR**  
**P.O. BOX 3523**  
**S-903 10 UMEÅ**  
**SWEDEN**

With creatures.



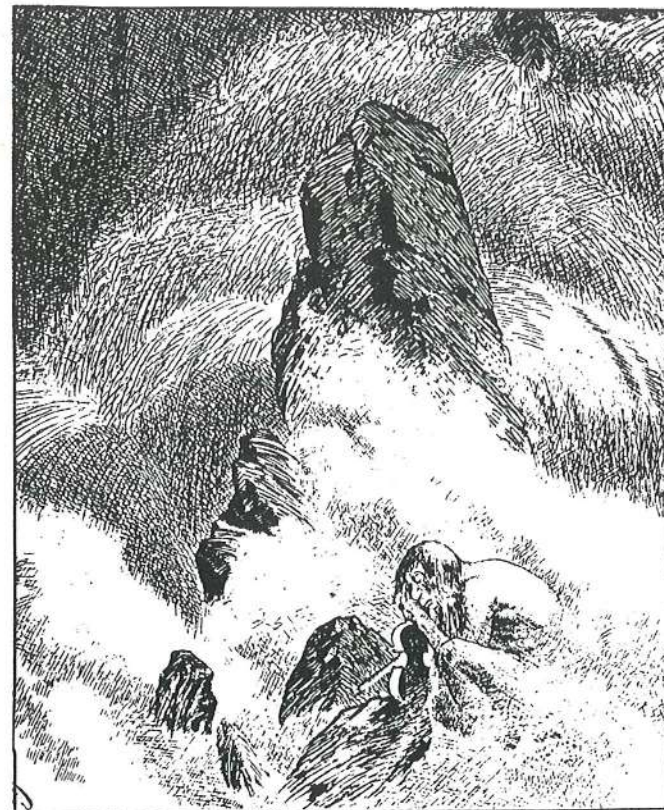
# THE SOUND OF NORWAY

...and believe me, there's more to the sound of Norway than Black Metal...There's Grieg...

Edvard Grieg (1843-1907) was Norway's most influential musicians, and I believe he still is. It's a long time ago since he became immortalized through such masterpieces from the romantic era as his piano concerto in A minor and his Peer Gynt orchestral suite. On a more modest scale, Grieg's lyrical piano pieces have become known to millions of amateur musicians, because these short compositions can be played and enjoyed without a virtuoso's mastery of techniques. Although the style of these melodies belongs to the romantic era of the 19th century, Grieg's impact on the more latter day composers/musicians have been overwhelming. Most grown-ups would probably not find much Grieg inspired parts in In the Woods "Mourning the Death of Aase", but for us with both the metal and the classical ear the lines from Grieg can very easily be drawn.

Grieg's genius lay in more than his ability to compose catching melodies and dress them in novel harmonies and rhythms. It is as if he had an innate capacity to register the quintessence of everything Norwegian: tender June nights when the air is rife with the fragrance of jasmine and apple blossoms; the rhythms and sounds of frolicking trolls; ethereal milk maid's tunes, cascading waterfalls and the call of the monumental mountains.

Grieg not only gave musical expression to Norwegian identity, but he also participated in forming and forging this unique Norwegian flavour, different from our neighbors Sweden, Denmark and Finland. Listening to "Dovregubbens Hall" (In the Hall of the Mountain King) from Grieg's Peer Gynt suite, for instance, one gains an intuitive understanding of the trolls- those menacing beings from the deepest of the Norwegian wilderness, whose behaviour can vary from fairly innocent pranks to downright evil. Grieg's music is music for the inner ear; the music of Norway.



Edvard Grieg was born in 1843, into a Bergen family active in the city's esteemed musical society. One of the Griegs' frequent house-guests was the virtuoso Norwegian violinist Ole Bull who, upon hearing the precocious Edvard's early compositions, encouraged the young man to pursue music as a career.

At 15, Grieg left home to study piano and composition at the conservatory in Leipzig (which most of us combine with something completely different, right??). Four years later, he went to Copenhagen to work under the tutelage of the Danish composer Niels Gade. There he encountered a pivotal figure in his development; the intensely idealistic Rikard Nordraak (composer of the Norwegian Nationalanthem). Before

Nordraak's untimely death at 24 of tuberculosis, he imparted to Grieg his vision of a new mode of music that would reflect the unique character of their homeland. This Nationalistic spirit soon became evident in Grieg's work like the piano pieces (opus 6), which he composed while still in Copenhagen.

Grieg returned to Norway in 1866 and settled in Christiania (now Oslo), where he for eight years taught music and composed works for the piano, voice and violin, in addition to several orchestral pieces for the theatre. In 1867 he married his cousin Nina, a soprano who would later become an eminent interpreter of his lyrical songs. Two years later, while vacationing in Denmark, he composed his piano concerto in A minor. The following year, while on a visit to Rome Grieg showed the manuscript to the elderly Franz Liszt. The Hungarian maestro, even at a sight reading, saw how the concerto bubbled over with melodic, rhythmic and harmonic enthusiasm. It is still regarded as a milestone of the Romantic repertoire.

In 1874 Grieg moved back to the town of which he had spent his childhood; Bergen. He now turned with growing interest to the music that flourished in rural Norway, particularly the tunes played on harding fiddle (The Norwegian folk-instrument, a doublestringed fiddle, which add characteristic dissonances and originality to the music).

He particularly loved the Norwegian mountains, where he would fill his ears and mind with the enticing and sometimes haunting tunes sung by milkmaids in summer to call the cattle home from the pastures (these songs are called "lokk"). He would sometimes ask the milkmaids to repeat their songs so that he could record them for posterity, but he never used them directly as models to be embellished with accompanying harmonies and fetching rhythms. Only much later would such inspired summer weeks come to fruition, often in very different disguises, with daring dissonances and unexpected rhythms.

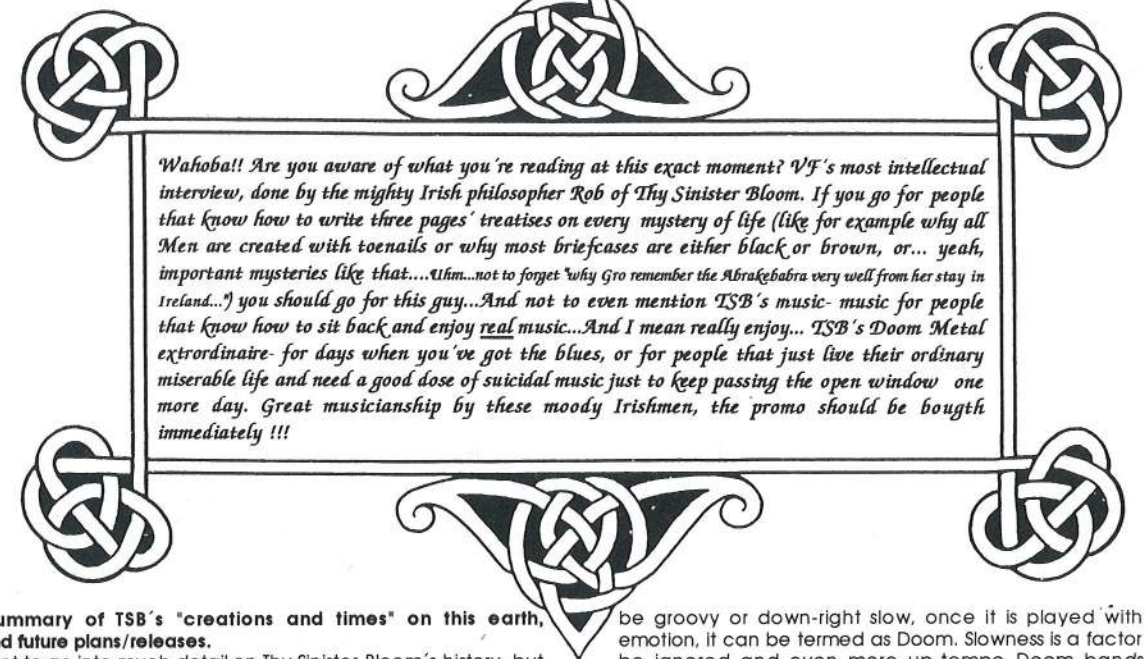
Eleven years after moving to Bergen, Edvard and Nina built their house "Troidhaugen" ("The Hill of the Trolls") on a wooden lakeside outside Bergen. (This house can still be visited if you're interested. It truly has atmosphere of the highest class...) This is where he spent the rest of his life, except for his concert tours. Although unable to maintain the prolific output of his early years, he nonetheless composed the haunting "Haugtussa" song cycle for soprano and his most innovative piano pieces; the Folkeviser and the Slåtter (folk-songs and country-dances).

That was a short brief of Grieg's history...What surprises me is that almost all of our greater artists back in 17-1800 had to go abroad in order to get famous and respected for their works. "Surprises" might not be the right word, I would rather say I find it annoying that Norway was in such a state back then, not being able to open ears for new, "modern" talents...Well, that do not destroy the ultimate Norse feeling of Grieg's works, I can go on describing those pieces forever and ever. While Nordraak and Kjerulf had two sentences did Grieg write the whole novel. Grieg is the only artist I've heard that manage to use such intrepid and succulent expressions in his music, he put such a Norwegian soul to many of his pieces that it is almost frightening...He does not also give his music a typical Norwegian sound, he did also develop into playing a style that is recognisable, you know when you hear a Grieg piece, you know how to find his works when hearing them together with other musicians' music. But even though the spirit and the distinctive stamp of Grieg might be very recognisable Norwegian, he has managed to become popular all over the world. With his new arrangements of the Norwegian folkmusic he did not only give it a personal expression, but also a tone, rhythm and ring. Grieg was a poet, soon fine and delicate, soon passionate pathetic, his impressing sense of making these small peculiar rhythms and his taste of putting dramatic starts and ends to his music is also a clear promoting fact and also a trademark of our most excellent composer through all years-Grieg.

This is the sound of Norway.

Following pieces should be a must in every home:

Sigurd Jorsalfar	1872
Peer Gynt	1874-75
Norwegian Dances	1870
Lyrical Suites	1867-1901
(Check out "March of the Trolls"...)	
Slåtter	1902



*Wahoba! Are you aware of what you're reading at this exact moment? VJ's most intellectual interview, done by the mighty Irish philosopher Rob of Thy Sinister Bloom. If you go for people that know how to write three pages' treatises on every mystery of life (like for example why all Men are created with toenails or why most briefcases are either black or brown, or... yeah, important mysteries like that....uhm...not to forget why Gro remember the Abrahambra very well from her stay in Ireland...) you should go for this guy...And not to even mention TSB's music- music for people that know how to sit back and enjoy real music...And I mean really enjoy... TSB's Doom Metal extraordinaire- for days when you've got the blues, or for people that just live their ordinary miserable life and need a good dose of suicidal music just to keep passing the open window one more day. Great musicianship by these moody Irishmen, the promo should be bought immediately !!!*

**A short summary of TSB's "creations and times" on this earth, please...and future plans/releases.**

-I don't want to go into much detail on Thy Sinister Bloom's history, but basically in mid-'93 we spawned the idea for the band and 5 minds joined with the goal of creating beautiful and sorrowful music. The line-up then was Jeff (vocals), Bren (drums), Johnno (guitar), Cory (bass) and me too on guitar. With this line-up we grasped the idea that sorrow and sadness can be embraced by beauty through melody and words. From this line of thinking we composed 4 songs: 'Thy Temperate Veil/ A Vanity Lost', 'Fragrant Suncry, A Scented Memorium', 'The Starborn Serenade Our Loss' and 'Precious Heart's Grandstone, Oh Blindness'. This same line-up recorded a promo track in Nov. '94, but Johnno left directly after this studio effort. We have since re-recorded that track ('Thy Temperate Veil/A Vanity Lost') and it will be released soon as our promo 1995. Unfortunately, we have yet to replace Johnno and we continue to seek someone who will grasp the role with the same feeling we show. Future plans are simply to get this promo out and about, then to begin thinking about a demo tape. Oh and yeah, get a new guitarist, because we need one or something.

**Has Doom metal become a trend? To me it seems like "every" ex. DM band around is either trying to be as evil as they can (ie. playing BM) or following in the footsteps of My Dying Bride, Anathema etc. Agree? Or...**

-In music, when a genre becomes popular, more artists will want to play it, hence a trend. So yes, just like Death and Black metal became popular and just about everybody started playing it. Doom has also fallen foul of this most evil plague. I don't really mind though, as long as good music is played, it doesn't matter whether bands are in it for the ride or whatever. Once the music is cool, trends are insignificant. But, when the music is uncool, yes, trends are a bad thing for any music scene.

Lots of DM bands have turned Doom. I did that myself. I left a DM band to start Thy Sinister Bloom and at that time (mid-'93) Anathema & My Dying Bride were the main reason for this change, but as soon as true Doom (Vitus, Count Raven etc...) hit my ears,

I realised that the MDB vibe wasn't what I was after. Blame that on the trend if you like, but my decisions were purely based on music.

OK, there are lots of DM bands out there suddenly slowing down because of Anathema and My Dying Bride, some call themselves Doom. They can do that if they want, but I think they're just slow DM bands influenced by MDB & Anathema and not by St. Vitus or whatever. I won't go into the BM trend, but it seems that an awful lot of DM bands became BM and lots of BM bands emerged when all the publicity started,

but that's another story (and an extremely boring one indeed...-Ed.) All in all, I don't give a damn (HEY!!! No swearing in this most intellectual interview, remember that...-Mum Ed.) about why a band is formed, as long as the music is good, that's all that matters to me anyway

**What is the essence of a real Doom band/How would you characterise a Doom band?**

I don't really agree with the idea of categorising music styles, but it seems Doom covers a wide variety of heavy rock styles. Whether it

be groovy or down-right slow, once it is played with feeling and emotion, it can be termed as Doom. Slowness is a factor that can not be ignored and even more up-tempo Doom bands incorporate elements of slowness while others go all out for snail's pace. For me, Doom is an outlet for releasing the sorrowful emotions within, so the music needs to be played with a great deal of thought and feeling.

Melody is in my mind the best way of putting sadness into music. This is a strange thing to describe, but Doom is emotion-driven music, so any band should ensure their music proves this. I don't have the right to preach, so I'll stop here.

**It seems like love in (in all forms...) is one of the biggest motive powers behind the band. Would you dare to describe that feeling with your own words?**

-For myself, I have been lucky in love and have discovered it to be the most wonderful feeling one can ever bear witness to. From experiencing it, I can tell how I would feel without love. This is probably the factor which makes my guitar riffs rather melancholic, as if they were playing on emotions I wish to avoid. Love is obviously very personal to every individual, but for me, I can reveal that I've found a certain someone special (hello Maria!!) with whom I feel all forms of security and trust whenever we share time together, and longing whenever we part company.

I don't know how this sounds to everyone, but I feel very content with this present situation and I know what I desire to experience in times to come.

**What's your opinion on the stuff that has been going on in Norway over the last couple of years- Do we have a clown scene, or are there as many excellent bands as most people are claiming?**

-Well, viewing all the happenings from my perspective (ie. Ireland), the Norwegian black metallers do seem to have taken things maybe a few steps beyond reason. (oh really... -Ed.) No matter what they believe or don't believe, murder is totally wrong and this church-burning lark is nothing short of being a terrorist offence. I honestly don't think that religion (or anti-religion) belongs in music, especially in metal. Metal music is extreme, which in turn will raise extreme action, so religion does not have any part. One thing that does annoy me is the fact that a lot of black metal people slag christians because they

claim that they force beliefs at humanity. This they say, has to be viewed with spite, but then they go and write extremely anti-christian lyrics, which is their form of forcing beliefs, is it not?

Clowns or not, Norway has created some great bands viewed on musical terms: Emperor, Mayhem, Enslaved, Burzum, Godsend to name a few.

**I must admit that your lyrics is of the most impressive ones I've ever read...**

**How big parts do they play for the band? Are they written with the intention of being used in songs, or...?**

-The lyrics are paramount to the overall feel of Thy Sinister Bloom. We have sorrowful and melodic music, so blended with soul-felt and melancholic lyrics we can put the finishing touches to our sadness (How about getting a shrink instead, he might help you...OK, OK, bad humour...I just had to lighten this whole depressing story up a bit...-Ed) With the four songs we have fully written, all the words were composed by Jeff (vocals). They describe his own personal feelings on situations he has experienced and wishes to experience. He puts





a great deal of work into them and this shows as each one is of monumental proportions.

Jeff writes alot of poetry, probably with the hope that they will form the basis of a song. Lyrics will always hold great importance with our music. If you have a vocalist, you may as well have meaningful lyrics or there is little point of him being there.

**Hey, ho, here we go! Track down the history of Death/Black/Doom metal. Would these genres have existed without the life of Elvis Presley?** -I don't want to be a spoil-sport or something, but I'm sure you don't really want a history of death/black/doom metal (No. I'm sorry, bad structured question...-Ed.) Just one point though, new bands should be aware of the roots of HM when they start. You don't have to sound like Sabbath or Priest or whoever, but don't ignore the past and start life with CannibalCorpse.

As for Elvis being an important Godfather of metal, I'm not sure. Maybe some vocalists are influenced by his dulcid tones. Perhaps all those leather-trouser clad metal folk wear them because Elvis did too. And, I'd say most glam metal bands copy his hip gyrations (although glam-posers mostly thrust)

Maybe all our love content comes from him. Who knows ?? (Maybe my mum's love contents, but I would believe mine differs 'a bit'. -Ed.) Maybe a black metal band will cover 'Are you Lonesome Tonight (in those cold winter woods)'? Silly question ???!!? (♫♪♪♪♪♪♪♪♪♪♪...-Ed)

**Here in Norway it seems like it's a trend writing lyrics in our own language. Will we ever see TSB having lyrics in Irish? What's your opinion on bands using their native tongue in lyrics?**

-I doubt that very much. This may sound very unpatriotic, but the Irish language is a very ugly sounding language. I mean, French has a certain flow, and Latin sounds very romantic, but Irish is just horrible, I can't describe it well, but pronunciation involves a lot of what sounds like a massive build-up of spit in the back of one's throat.

I think it's great for a band to use their native tongue as long as it suits the music and has some flow. All respect to those who do this. There are a lot of foreign bands who perhaps should consider this, as there is some strange English pronunciation out there like Misanthrope and Sadness.

**You choose to describe your music as "Romantic Doom". Could you try to give the readers that haven't heard your music a more thoroughly clue of what you sound like...**

-To be really basic, the term "Romantic Doom" relates to our lyrics which blend with our music to create beautiful moments of melody. We now refer to ourselves as "Ambient Doom" as recently we have developed long pieces of dreamy and trippy atmosphere. The guitar riffs are heavy and very melodic, ranging from spacey acoustic pieces to slow or mid-tempo powerful, harmonic melodies. The bass and drums create slow and pounding rhythms which flow with relentless power and emotion. The vocals cover a wide range of feelings spread within the lyrics. They are a clean and melodic tone, matching the atmosphere of the guitars. All in all, a beautiful orchestration which leads to a sorrowful and enjoyable listening experience. Check out the vibes, man !!

**In what ways do you believe TSB will develop in the future? And in what ways have you developed since the early days of the band?**

-I'll talk about the past first. We began as a fairly slow to mid-tempo doom band with death style vocals. We soon grew tired of that growling as we unearthed its emotional limitations. So we chose to use melodic vocals, and slowed things down a little. We now understand each other a lot more and we know our own musical

ideas and limitations, so we blend really tightly now. The future depends heavily on the obtaining of a new guitarist. We imagine to continue on a very melodic, heavy ambient trip and write some more epic tunes. As we grow more aware of our own ability and improve, the music can only develop into an ultimate form of emotional outburst into very cool vibes.

**Your music is very soulful; it seems somewhat "personal" if I may use that expression. Do you believe the band is your way to express your feelings/emotions/personality? How would you've expressed those if the band didn't exist, nor music?**

-Without this band I'd probably have hundreds of poems all based on human feelings, and probably a novel or two written as well. Music means everything to me-I honestly can't imagine a life without it.

I just love listening to all kinds of music, basically all the time and performing is just sheer bliss and I can't describe how proud I am to possess a slight talent for playing the guitar. I've got the ultimate musician/composer/person on Frank Zappa to thank for that. Without his music, I don't know what I'd be doing. His guitar playing inspired me to play, his amazing music inspires me to continue...

**Are people reincarnations of past life? In case; what were you in your last life?**

-I honestly don't know and I've never tried to find out. Some believe in past lives, some don't. I just don't know...Was I something in a past life ?? If I was, I hope I was something nice, but knowing my luck, it was probably a Dung-Beetle, which no offence is very productive and worthy insect but it lives in shit, come on !!!

**Any impressing new Doom acts you would recommend us to keep an eye out for?**

-Definitely watch out for The Bleeding (Croatia), Last Chapter (USA), Serenity (UK), Solstice (UK- new ??), Left Hand Solution (Swe.), Dark White (Fra) & Iron Rainbow (USA).

**What song is the last one you want hear before your life fades away?**

-Now, that's a tough question. No ones music has had as much an effect as Frank Zappa's, so it would probably be one of his. But where do you start when he has over 60 LP's out !? He has this great instrumental called "Watermelon in Easter Hay", I like that. It's very beautiful. If everyone was really sad at my funeral, I'd have Therogoth or something else really slow and depressive, "Equilibrium" by Cathedral perhaps. I don't know...I don't want to think about my funeral just yet.

**...and the inscription on your tombstone will be...**

-Depends on how big a headstone I can afford really !! It'll either be something simple and easily understood or a very cryptic message to get people thinking about its meaning. I'm not planning on dying yet. I have a great deal to live for; love, music, and health, to name a few.

**The last words are yours...**

-Many thanks Gro for this quite lengthy interview. If anyone is interested in checking out the doom choons of TSB, write to me at: Robin Bailey, 21 Tamarisk Way, Kilnamanagh, Dublin 24, Ireland. The promo's out soon (now!...-Ed) and rehearsals are also available for a blank tape+IRC or \$1. Thanks for your attention and live in peace and cool tunes !



**A**s you all probably have guessed by now is this *another* of my favourite bands playing music within the melodic Death metal genre. And this band does actually top my list, even if they've only recorded one demo ! The song "Frozen Lands" is a the one that I gladly would have defied frost and fire, death and disillutions to hear (if someone had stolen my tired "Dawn" demo, that is....). So why don't you all defy those silly \$6, and order this demo at once ? Ok, you have my permission to read the `view first... Questions answered by Terje, Lars and André.



**You are a relatively unknown band to most of our readers; could you please give us a short bandstory?** Bethzaida was formed in February -94 by drummer Terje Kråbøl and guitarist André Svee. Bassist Olav Malmin and vocalist/flutist Lars Hirsch joined in March, and in June we entered a low-budget studio to record our first demo, "Dawn". The current lineup was completed in September, when lead guitarist Brian Morsund joined the band.

**I would describe your music as "melodic rawness", still within the metal genre. Agree? Or how would you describe it?** Well, that's the best description we've heard this far, actually we found it so suiting that we decided to use it in our promotion ! Others have called it "medieval sounding doom death", but people can call our music whatever they want. We haven't put too much effort in classifying ourselves.

**I'm sure I've heard the name Terje Kråbøl in another (musical) connection. Has he played in another band?**

Terje played in Minas Tirith ( Ah, oui ! There it was ! -Ed.) until 1991, and released two demotapes with them. (They are about to release a CD now, which can be highly recommended). He has also participated on one demo with Anarchy Divine, 1992.

**The flute is a rather unusual instrument in your genre. How did the idea of using it come to your minds?**

Lars has played the flute for several years, so it seemed natural to take benefit of all the resources in the band. He also plays some keyboards on the new material.

**How do you promote your music? I've never recieved any of your flyers by post, so...**

Unfortunately, we have been a bit neglecting as far as promoting is concerned. But we have sent the demo to about 25 `zines, so hopefully that is going to give us some promotion.

**What does the name Bethzaida mean? Do you believe it describes the band?**

The name Bethzaida was suggested by the same man who painted the cover, C.B. Nord. A short explanation: According to a well known belief, the Messiah is supposed to be born in Bethlehem. Well, a just as old belief says that his opposite is to be born in a place called Bethzaida. The first suggestion was "Bethzaida

Messiah", but too many bands have Messiah in their name already, so we shortened it. We liked the concept, and we needed a name, so...

**How's the current scene in Trondheim and the areas around at the moment? Any bands you would recommend to check out?**

The scene in Trondheim is basically dominated by Hardcore bands, but here are also bands such as The 3rd and the Mortal, Godsend and Art by Machinery, which should be checked out.

**How much do melodies and atmosphere in music matter to you?**

Both melody and atmosphere are important parts of our music, but we think it's important not to overdo the melody. Just listen to Edge of Sanity's recent album, and you'll know what I mean (no offense- the album is great though). We think that the unexpressed melodies whispering from far behind in

the musical picture is at least as important as any expressed melody.

#### What are the basic ideas behind Beihzaida ?

The main ideas are to make music that we like, to be in constant change and to always be open to new influences.

#### You're going to release your second demo soon. How's the new material compared to the songs on the "Dawn" demo ?

The new material is much more mature, we have found our own style. The addition of an extra guitarist enables us to make more interesting arrangements and get a thicker sound. The contrasts are also greater, the melodic parts are more melodic and the brutal more brutal. (The new demo has just attacked my mailbox. It's entitled "Nine Worlds", and is an *excellent* piece of work! See review.... -Ed)

#### Is music your biggest source of inspiration ? In case, what kinds of music/bands ? What other elements besides music do inspire your musical approach (Art, literature, movies etc. ) ?

Musically we're inspired by a wide range of music. We try to gain influences from different kinds of Metal, but also from classical and folk music.

Lars: My biggest source of lyrical inspiration are dark and depressing events of my everyday life, and also the cold Norwegian winter landscape. I'm also inspired by literature like Lovecraft, Poe a.o. and also the great philosophers' view on life and death, good and evil.

#### Do you think the lyrics play an important role for your musical picture ? What do the lyrics deal with ?

Lyrics should be an important part of the music, and we think we have achieved this to some extent on "Dawn", but even more on the new material. The lyrics on the demo deal with life and death (The Tranquility of my Last Breath), good and evil (And Then I Turned towards Darkness), lust and disgust (The Outsider), and then you have "Frozen Wastes" which is a very personal piece. It is printed in the cover, so figure this one out for yourself...

#### What do you think of when reading the following words ?:

Silence-peace of mind, total tranquility- perhaps this is the reward in afterlife...

Trend- something that comes, stays for a while and then passes away. For weak minds who can't come up with their own opinion on anything.

Noise Mythology- a great cultural treasure and a source of inspiration. Just listen to "Nine Worlds" when our next demo is out.

#### How's the response in general been on your demo? Have any labels contacted you ?

We have sold approx. 450 copies, and we have gotten only good reviews in zines. The track "The Outsider" will appear on a triple compilation CD from Shiver Records, which is to be released later this year.

Band contact: André Svee

Dronningensgt. 52  
7012 Trondheim  
NORWAY

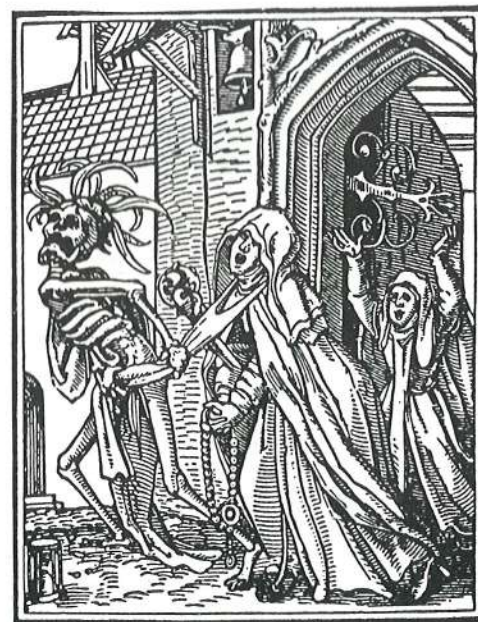


## Candle Serenade

For you out there that like to check out new talents; here's a band you really should think about writing a few words to. Their name is Candle Serenade. Hailing from Portugal, a country that most of us only combine with nice beaches and loads of tourists, but that actually know how to make real Black Metal too. We all know Moonspell, but I would say that Candle Serenade is a band that is just as interesting as them. This is by judging their only release so far, a one track demo entitled "Tales from Walpurgis". The music is very melodic, some acoustic parts, and a fabulous, moody leadguitar. There are female vocals too, added by Stregoyck, who also plays solo axe/acoustic guitars in the band. I believe it's great to see some female faces in bands, as there are far too few of us. Don't you all agree? (Everybody say "YEAH!!"...Ahem...) Anyway, this demo was released in May '94, which is beginning to be quite a long time ago. Meanwhile, the band has been arranging new songs where they will use more classical instruments like trumpet, flute, clarinet and violin and they have also developed into being far better musicians. Most lyrics are based upon the works by Bram Stoker, La Vey, Crowley, Baudelaire etc., while others are written as pure philosophical reflections or ideological beliefs. Candle Serenade are at the moment shopping for a record deal, and will record their songs as soon as they've managed to get a satisfying deal.

Well, check this band out. I enjoyed it, maybe you will too ?!

CANDLE SERENADE  
Rua da Agra, 1260  
Milheirós  
4470 Maia  
PORTUGAL



## PROGRESSIVE ROCK FOR DUMMIES !!

I do not know why, but the progressive rock is at the moment a growing genre. New bands pop up like mushrooms, and the interest in the old masters is getting bigger and bigger all the time. I was asked to write a bit about this for Valkyrjens Fugler. I will present some of the most central bands-before and now-and I will give some advices on what releases I think are the best...

KING CRIMSON was the band that started the whole thing. There were of course bands that had had progressive tendencies before, for example The Moody Blues, Soft Machine, Pink Floyd and "The Crazy World of Arthur Brown", but King Crimson put with their debut-album *In the court of the Crimson King* (1969) forth the first example of how progressive/symphonic rock was supposed to sound. This album released the rock from its afro-American roots. Gone were the sweaty, monotonous going and the impetuous rhythms. King Crimson had more in common with classical music and European Folk music tradition. Guitarist and frontman Robert Fripp picked forth delicate and at times complicated harmonies on an acoustic guitar. In addition to this he did also play an instrument that as time passed by would be the trademark on King Crimson, and also many other prog. bands; the mellotron. The mellotron is a special keyinstrument that best can be described as a mechanic sampler (I'll skip the technical details, OK?) The unique about this instrument was that it, in a very realistic way could recreate the sounds of classical instruments as flute, cello, violin, trumpet, oboe etc. Besides it had impressive choir sounds that especially Genesis' keyboardist Tony Banks fell in love with. Fripp found out that with the help of the mellotron he could orchestrate the music so that it sounded just like an entire filharmonic orchestra had been in studio. Moody Blues did also work with the mellotron-orchestrating at that time, but while this band used the instrument on simple pop-songs, did Fripp take a step further. He started to experiment with the songstructures and his own technique of composing, in an attempt to approach classical and contemporary music.

*In the court of the Crimson King* is an album with huge sound, turgid and powerful and silent, lyrical songs. Great deals of the music are instrumental, with tones instead of solos, and as in classical music does the themes get time to develop through complexed arrangements. The balance between the violent and the lyrical is perfect. King Crimson have always been master of the dynamic. The melodies are beautiful and very "European" (no blues or soul here...), and the lyrics are an epic in itself. King Crimson used the poet Pete Sinfield as their textwriter, a man that is known for his mystic and adventure-like visions. King Crimson have released a huge amount of LPs, and it's hard to pick one before the other. Through the '70's King Crimson became more and more experimental, and they did at the end move totally away from the romantic, acoustic style, and replaced that with a darker and more challenging form of music. This

development culminated with the LP *Red* in 1974, an LP that is just as generous and beautiful as it was gloomy. *Red* is by many claimed to be King Crimson's masterpiece above all, and many do also claim that this is the best piece of progressive rock ever released. Apart from that I can advice you to check out *Starless and Bible Black*, *Larks Tongues in Aspic and Discipline*. You can also buy *Thark*, King Crimson's latest, which came out in March.

GENESIS which is now best known as a boring pop-band, released their first LP in 1969, but that was not much to boast about. It was first in 1970, after the band had heard King Crimson, that they got their stuff fixed and they released their unforgettable *Trespass*. This LP had many similarities to *In the Court*, but Genesis was much more inspired by older English music- folkmusic, churchmusic and early classical music. They had an unusually expressive vocalist in Peter Gabriel, which together with the bands peculiar taste for pastorales, accordcompositions, contributed to giving Genesis a unique, and in the future a much copied sound. Genesis did after a while take another turn than King Crimson. They digged deeper into the more symphonic aspects by their music, and especially Tony Banks, with his characteristic carpet of sounds of melotrons and soft synthchords gave the band an aura of Archaic romanticism and nature-mysticism. The lyrics did also reflect this, visibly inspired by English romantics such as Blake and Wilde. Genesis were on the top of all this blessed with a guitarist (Steve Hackett) which almost formed a school for how a symphorock guitar should sound; huge 12-string chords on the bottom and thin, emotionfilled solos on the top. *Trespass* is a good place to start if one wants to get to know Genesis. It is a bit more "folky" than the rest of Genesis' releases. *Nursery Cryne* (1970) showed a more aggressive side of the band, and should appeal to Anglagård-fans. My personal favourite is *Selling England by the Pound* (1973) which had a more or less sacral shape, especially in the long instrumentals that have a nearly painted beauty. *Wind and Wuthering* from '77 is not worth to miss either.

GENTLE GIANT was a band that differed from the mass of prog rock band in the '70's. They were incredibly skilled musicians, they played together excellently, and they did also have an entirely different way of composing songs. Gentle Giants biggest source of inspiration came from medieval and renaissance music, as well as more modern jazz and rock. They created a sound based upon hardhitting polyrythmic figures put up against languishing vocal-lines and harmonies inspired by ye Olde England. It is not easy to describe the music of Gentle Giant (...imagine that Deep Purple got together with the jazzrockgroup Return to Forever and decided to record an album with a small cathedral choir..or...), it should rather be experienced. Almost all their albums are worth having. My favourite is *In a Glass House* (1973), but for beginners I think I'd rather advice you to *Octopus* (1973), which is a bit more digestible.

GRYPHON is a relatively unknown band among most people. They did also gather inspiration from the medieval times, but they had another point of departure compared to Gentle Giant, as they started out as a 100% acoustic band, without as much as a hint of rockelements. Their first album *Midnight Mushpumps* 1974 is mainly presented on renaissance-instruments (organ, flutes, horns etc. as well as a bit of bass and percussion. It consists of one long classical composition, and partly traditional musicpieces from the Renaissance. Some counts Gryphon as a folkrock band, on the same line as Fairport Convention and the Norwegian Folke, but they were a lot more advanced than that. As time passed they started to play more rockorientated music a'la Yes and Gentle Giant.

NATIONAL HEALTH is the band I think has reached far in the refinement of what makes progressive rock progressive. No other band has been able to reach this grade of perfection when it comes to composing, nor been able to play as well as these guys.

The brain behind Gentle Giant is keyboardist Dave Stewart (must not be confused with the popstar of the same name) which previous to this had played in Arzachel, Egg, Khan and Hatfield and the North. All these bands arose from what we call "the Canterbury scene", a special musicmilieu that appeared in the surroundings of the English town Canterbury at the end of the '60's. Characteristic for these bands was the elements of experimental jazz and contemporary music. National Health sums all the best sides of the Canterbury Scene: Difficult chordprogressions and change of beats put up against a rare taste for good melodies and themes. Most of National Health's music is instrumental, but on the debut *National Health* (1977) did they also use a beautiful female vocal that fans of The 3rd and the Mortal surely would like. But here stops the similarities. Because even though National Health could be both heavy and dark, is the music more of a modern type of chambermusic, mixed with a bit of jazz and rock. National Health did only release three albums. The two first ones, *National Health* and *Of queues and curses* are simply perfect, while the third one is absolutely not to be recommended.

UNIVERS ZERO was a Belgian ensemble with some of the same ideas as National Health. They had background in classical music, and used their experience to create a more modern type of chambermusic with the energy and rhythmic pulse of the rock and the classical music's harmonic vocabulary. It also belongs to the story that these were pretty grim and black dark people with a taste for the more occult and gothic. The result was the most esoteric, dark and threatening music in the history of European music. Their best LP *Hersele* (1979) makes DarkThrone sound like an enlightening experience. But it is definitively not rock.

THE PROGRESSIVE ROCK died a selfproclaimed death at the end of the '70's. It had become so bombastic and pompous that it no longer was a

renewing force within the rock. Punk and New Wave had taken over the front pages of the music mags, and the musical ideas had changed. It was no longer important to know the most chords or be best or most fast on their instruments. Now the rock was supposed to be for everybody, and in addition to this one were supposed to have a message to the people, something the progrock did not have (with a few exceptions), because it was music for music's sake, not a way to spread the message of some kind of political viewpoints. In the middle of the '80's came a small revival with bands like Marillion, Pendragon and IQ, but none of these were interesting. Today we do have quite a few progrock bands. Some go for the more "classical sound" while others try to make the progrock from new angles. At the end here I'd like to say a few words about four of these new bands, the last on being "my" band...

LANDBERK from Sweden has with their two albums *Riktig Åkta* and *One Man tells Another* mixed King Crimson inspired music with Swedish folk music. The music is atmospheric and lyric and paints pictures of deep, Swedish woods. They're not a very technical band, but they have created a very original sound with simple means, and is without doubt the best of the new Swedish bands.

ÅNGLAGÅRD are also from Sweden, and created fury with their first album *Hybris*, an impressive show of technical brilliance and knowledge of the means of progrock. The music is dramatic and dynamic to the most extreme. The weakness of this LP is its lack of originality, it contains a bit too much recycled phrases from bands like Genesis, Cathedral (not the Doom band) and Swedish Tretioåriga Kriget: The LP is a bit tiresome, because the band never manages to keep an idea or mood for more than a couple of seconds. But, as stated before, extremely impressive.

AB INTRA is a Norwegian band that by now haven't released anything, but they're working on it. What I have heard so far is atmospheric symphonic rock, mainly instrumental, and inspired by bands such as Camel and Pink Floyd. Ab Intra takes its time, the music is often dwelling, and at times a bit sombre. When this band get to release something, I'm sure I will recommend it...

WHITE WILLOW is another Norwegian band which have just released their debut-CD *Ignis Fatuus*. White Willow have adopted elements from bands like King Crimson and Gryphon, with their mix of renaissance music, folk and symphonic rock. The music is often

delicate and brittle, with instruments like violin, flute, acoustic guitar and mellotron, but it can also move in the direction of the more gothic. White Willow emphasizes the vocalside and use among others two incredibly efficient female vocalists, and the melody is always in focus. The band is strongly inspired by classical music in the structure of the songs.

*Hvis du ønsker å holde deg informert om hva som foregår i progrock-verdenen gjør du lurt i å kjøpe bladet Hybris, som er et norsk nyhetsskriv for progressiv og annen "smal" musikk. Du får det i ditt plateforretninger, eller fra følgende adresse:*

Hybris  
Boks 3970  
Ullevål Hageby  
0806 Oslo

THANKS GOES TO JACOB OF WHITE WILLOW FOR TAKING TIME OUT TO WRITE THIS RATHER INTERESTING ARTICLE. (AND FOR GETTING US REHEARSAL ROOM !!! ETERNAL THANKS!!) PEOPLE TEND TO THINK THAT PROG ROCK IS SOME EXTREMELY BORING "FIDDELY WIDDELY" MUSIC, BUT MAYBE YOU'VE GOTTEN ANOTHER VIEW UPON IT NOW? WELL, DO CHECK OUT THE WHITE WILLOW ALBUM- IT'S GORGEOUS!!



This is not a new band, but it might still be unknown to a lot of you. The music is well structured death metal with something which in my ears sounds like black metal influences. Their last demo "Through the Black Mist" is superior to most demos of today, so if you find Bahtyr's answers interesting then there should be no excuses not to contact the band...Yep, that's right...Bahtyr's famous for making very good Karsk (a Norwegian get-drunk-and-go-puke drink) so if you're interested in tasting some real Norwegian drinks-get writing...

**Bandstory, please... (A fucking boring question, but it is actually necessary...)**

Perished was formed in 1991 by me (Bahtyr), Brutor and an ass-licker called Tyr. For a year we played with different drummers until we found Jehmod in '92. Soon after Jehmod's arrival Perished played a gig in Stjørdal together with the pagans Nephrite.

The first Perished demo "In Hoc Signo Vincas" was recorded in the easter 1993 during fullmoon. A couple of months later Ymon joined the band, and we changed our "style". We had still not released "In Hoc Signo Vincas", because it wasn't us, but anyway it was released in December '93.

In the dark and cold February 1994 Perished recorded the second demo "Through the Black Mist" at our rehearsal-place with an 8-tracker, and that demo became our "Breakthrough".

In May '94 we headlined a gig in Mo I Rana, which was a shitty concert.

Some months later we departed the unter-mensch Tyr, and only the worthy members are left.

That became reality soon after. We were not sure if we should release "IHSV", but we decided to do it so we could get some money to the recording of "Through the Black Mist". A rehearsal-recording was also put on "IHSV". This was to compensate the music, and to let people get a taste of what they could expect from Perished.

**You do not label yourselves as Black Metal. Why? Your music is, after all, what most people would characterise as B.M.**

Black Metal is satanic. You can't judge if it's Black Metal from how the guitars sound or anything like that. It what lies behind (I do only partly agree with you on that...-Ed.)

Anyway, we are not satanists, but Heathens. Therefore we call our music Pagan Metal.

**Do you have contact with other bands from the Hommelvik area? Any of them you'd recommend the readers to check out?**

Perished is the only brutal band from Hommelvik. In Vikhammer, which is in our rural district (Malvik), there are some life metal bands (Frost, Oblivion, Delusion). We have to stop these bands.

We are the kings of Trøndelag, and we shall cleanse our district first. We have good contact with Nephrite from Stjørdal, which is 10 km. from Hommelvik.

**What lies behind the name Perished?**

We took the name Perished in '91, and nothing special lies behind it. If we should have named the band now, it would have been a different name, probably a Norwegian name. But at that time we just had to get a name, and so it was Perished.

**Whose grave would you like to dance on?**

I can always dance on Johan Nygaardsvold's (a Norwegian politician -Ed) grave, which is here in Hommelvik, but it's a bit difficult with the big statue on his grave.

No, I don't know...Do you have any suggestions?

(Nah, not really...-Ed) We can dance on the graves one night (Hey, that's how it should sound...! -Ed)

**How much does the fact that you are NORSK matter to you?**

It means a lot. I am very proud of being Norsk. And as I am a Nationalist, there are no need for further explanations. NORGE FOR NORDMENN!!

**How do you look upon your own music?**

The music of Perished is brutal, symphonic, atmospheric and melancholic. We mix sad moods with chaos and majestic symphonies.

**Can you tell me what your lyrics deal with? Are they important for the concept of Perished? Or are they just made to fill the "empty" parts in your music?**

Perished has no special concept.

Anyway, our newest lyrics are written in Norwegian, and they deal with NORSE things. We take influences from the times when NORGE was really NORSK.

We praise ancient NORSE battles and NORSE nature, and that can be reflected in our lyrics. (That is what I would call a concept, but...-Ed)

**I know Perished have been featured on a couple of comp. tapes. What is your opinion on them, and comp. tapes in general?**

Yes, you mean "Norway-Land of Frost" and "Northern Wastelands". "Norway-Land of Frost" contains a lot of Norwegian quality music, and "Northern Wastelands" should also do that, but I haven't heard it yet.

Perished will also feature in a comp. tape which is released on the German "Solistitium Rec." (Support that label!! -Ed) by the time this magazine is out, and a couple of other comp. tapes.



**Your pseudonyms are a kind of special, what do they mean? Do the names reflect the person using them?**

The names does not mean anything special. Each individual has chosen a name, which kind of reflects him.

I must say there are many ridiculous artist-names around. Names in the vein of "Unholy desecrator of light and lord of four black winds and seven black hearts of black storms" are stupid.

**Are you still satisfied with your first demo "In Hoc Signo Vincas"? I would say it's rather different compared to your current one....**

STILL satisfied? We were never satisfied with "IHSV". We locked ourselves in that style, and we wanted to go other ways musically.

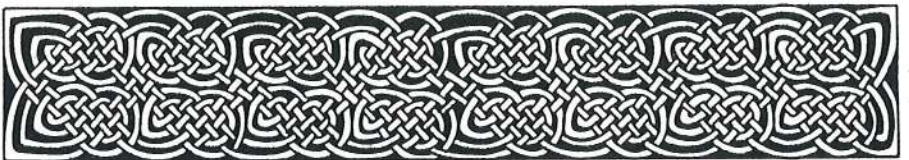


# Thee Vampire Guild

Phill White. 82, Rip Croft, Portland, Dorset

DT5 2EE

Thee Vampire Guild is essentially a society for people with an interest in vampirism- whatever that interest might be. They publish a magazine called *Crimson* which caters for all the members' requirements, and this currently goes out to fourteen countries. Last year, one of the members suggested that Thee Vampire Guild should release a record featuring many of the Gothic songs about vampires reviewed in the magazine. Hence, Vampire Guild Records was born, and so came the "What Sweet Music They Make" series. All the tracks are Gothic or Industrial in style, and they have the common theme that they are all about vampires. Volume 1 is the only one I've heard so far as my money haven't allowed me to buy #2 yet (because of the printing costs of this fucking mag!!!!) Well, my personal favourites on this compilation will have to be the two tracks of the British band Incubus Succubus. The band is pretty experienced, having released three excellent albums-check 'em. Incubus Succubus manages to mix folk music with punk/goth in an excellent way, and their image might not be totally alike the others on this comp. CD-they're more into the Wiccan beliefs..Interesting... Well, France's Corpus Delecti are also strong contributors with their two tracks of more industrial based Goth. Corpus Delecti are one of the more famous underground Goth bands in Europe at the moment, and it shouldn't surprise me if these vampyric souls will strike with yet another bombastic release in addition to the two previous ones...Nosferatu with their "Keeper's Call" from the last offering "The Prophecy", their best to date- and with their "new" vocalist (well, not new anymore...) they're even stronger than they've been on their two previous releases. Apart from this we do of course find Depeche Mode's masterpiece "One Caress", which should need no further introduction... Well, this is an absolute must for those souls that are into the Gothic Rock of today, and that wants to know a bit of the music that is up and coming in these times. Apart from mentioned acts you do also find: The Dark Theatre, Two Witches, Umbra Et Imago, Sopor Aeternus & the Ensemble of Shadows and Dream Disciples. Varying quality of the songs, but a potential in all of them. The music should be a bit for every taste, so even though you might not be a dedicated fan of the more standard Goth, you might actually like this one! I'm absolutely certain that Phill White has gathered up a gorgeous #2, and from the tracklist I've seen I can say no more than that this is stuff you ought to have in your collection. Among the bands on this second volume you will find the most excellent band The Marionettes, as well as House of Usher, Witching Hour, Astro Vamps, London After Midnight etc. etc. Do support a bit of the underground of Goth...



A band can get much promotion through comp. tapes, but I think it maybe has come too much of them lately. It seems like everybody is releasing comp. tapes.

#### How has the response on Perished been from labels, zines etc.?

All of the response we have recieved have been good. When this zine is out, there will be several other zines with Perished reviews/articles and interviews. I like the Norwegian zines best: Slayer Mag., Nordic Vision, Ornament Mag., Nordic Arian Elite and several others are very good. I think "Valkyrjens Fugler" will be killer, too, with a good concept. (Thanks! Det skulle da nå også bare mangle-Ed) We have got some offers about CD-releases from different labels, but none of them includes vinyl. We decided a long time ago that we will not sign any contract which do not include vinyl. I think we will sign to a label soon, and that contract will include vinyl!!

Så over til vårt eget morsmål. Fortell nå leserene om noe spennende som har skjedd i Hommelvik i det siste...  
Ingenting skjer i Hommelvik (eller Twin Peaks om du vil) ihvertfall ikke noe spennende. Vi bor mellom bakkar og berg utmed havet (Trondheimsfjorden).



### A RATHER USEFUL WORDLIST...

It is incredible how much interesting one can get hands on by reading books...This little wordlist is one of the things I really have appreciated reading, a real rage against Christianity... It was written by the French author and atheist Paul Thiry D'Holbach in 1767 and is actually still interesting to read. Timeless, one could say...more timeless than the Bible itself, as the Bible have changed as time have passed by while these sentences will forever stand as a protest against what the Bible have claimed to portray even since its tiny start..To print this list today may not be too dangerous, but printing this in 1767 equals death-penalty. A big hail to B. T. D'Holbach for showing such a courage... I have not translated the full wordlist, but picked the words that might be the most interesting to print here...Read and get wise!!

**Altar;** God's table. He's grown tired of all the dishes one used to serve him, and now he wants the priests to dish up with his own son. The priests are eating, or they let others eat it. The sight of this delicious meal lightens the wrath of God. He's becoming best friend with everybody that is crunching his own son between their jaws.

**Devil;** the most important official in the churchsystem. God could destroy him with one single word, but refuses to do so. He needs the Devil all the time to pass him over on all the things he don't want to be blamed for himself. God lets the Devil do whatever he wants, including playing tricks on his child, his wife and himself. God won't make it without the Devil. The fear of God is usually just another way of saing the fear of the Devil.

**Doctrine;** is what every good Christian must believe if he wants to stay away from the fires- in this or the next world. The religion's dogmas are Gods unchangeable decisions. God can only change his mind every time the church does.

**Fools;** The non-believers, which are fools, see with their profane eyes only fools and foolishness in our holy religion. They find a foolish god, who was foolish enough to get crucified, foolish apostles, foolish opinions, foolish oppositions and foolish customs, as foolish people are living by and as the priests, that are on the contrary not fools, make their living bread of.

**Dunkelheits;** In the Bible one can often run into dunkelheits. Non-believers are harmed by this, believers are full of silent happiness for everything they can't understand. An understandable religion wouldn't last long- a preacher wouldn't have anything to tell us if God had put his message across too well.

**Father;** The divine family's headmaster. If it is correct that he has said everything the Scripture puts in his mouth, which is not to be doubted, he must've become a pretty old man.

**Temptation;** God does often lead us into temptations, just to get the pleasure of punishing us every time we don't pass the open window. Usually he lets this job go to the Devil, who doesn't have any other things to do on this earth except for mocking God and temptate his servants into falling from grace. This mysterious relationship bears witness of that God in his gorgeous wisdom can enjoy himself by playing a trick on himself.

**Kindness;** Godly perfection. God is perfectly kind, without as much as the slightest trace of evil. It is correct that he makes evil things happen to us people, but that is not a good proof. He is kind to his priests; that should be enough.

**God;** Metaphor to "priests" and if you please: the right hand of the theologians, chiefinspector of the clergy, the divine platoon's charge d'affaires, supplier of weapons and intendant. God's honour is the haughtiness of the priests, God's will is the will of the priests. The ones who insults the priests, insults God. To believe in God means to believe what the priests are telling about him. The expression "wrath of God" means that the priests are in a bad mood. When the theologians changes the word "priests" with "God", the theology becomes the easiest of all sciences.

From this one can conclude that there are no real atheists, because only a complete idiot can deny the existance of priests, who marks their presence thoroughly.

**Godless;** People who are not pious, or by the lack of faith laughs at things the believers and priests find serious and sacred.

**Brain;** To be a good Christian it is very important to not have any brain, or at the most a very reduced one. When it comes to kids, this is very easy to attain by a houseteacher or a monastery.

**Jonas;** a lover of quarrels and a koleric prophet. Spent three days in the stomach of a whale, which had to spit him out again. This is a good proof of how indigestion a prophet is...

**Christianity;** Since the establishment of this elevated religion the people have become more moral conduct, happier and more illuminated. From that point of time one has never had any fights, bloodbaths, debauchery or burdens. Therefore it is proved that one has to be possessed by the Devil if one fights against this religion, and crazy if one dares to doubt it.

**Consecration;** A magic formula that gives the priests in the Roman empire the power to force God into leaving his breakfasttable and change himself into bread and be eaten.

**Quaker;** Supporter of an abominable sect; a very dangerous example. They have discovered how to survive without priests, which is not of the Lord's interest at all...

**Sacrifices;** In earlier times God had a cuisine delictieux. People served him humans, children, oxes, sheep and lamb. Now he's been put on diet by his wife, and she serves him his son, and only that. God would've stranded a long time ago because of undernourishment if he hadn't recieved as many steaks from the inqutstion as he did.

To be continued...

Man kan gå til Prix og høre hva gamlingene har å si. Da får man høre mange spennende(?) ting. De siste par årene har folk hatt satanist-paranoia i Hommelvik. (Jeg lurar på hvorfor) (kanskje fordi en viss person ved navn Kim har begynt å pølle seg i nesa, hver gang han handler på Prix, og ettersom det er meget satanisk, så...-Ed)

#### The final words are yours....

Thank you very much for this intervju,Gro. We shall dance on the graves one night...(og hun danset til de sorte engler steg opp og fulgte deres ville bevegelser... Øhhhh, nei, ikke med en jævla Hommelvik, nei...Setter høyere krav enn det, skjønner'u...And besides 'I won't dance' -Ed) Perished is war-music for the warrior race, and we are strong in the life beneath the Hammer. This interview is answered on TOR's day (12) in the cold January anno 1995.

Contact: Jan Ove Hansen  
Liavn. 43  
7550 Hommelvik  
NORWAY

**Spinal Tap of Black Metal!!! This is what Ancient will have to be regarded as...Nothing wrong with that, while everybody are following in the footsteps of the trend, these two guys have made a pretty good parody on the whole thing...Thanks!!! Well, the band should be wellknown to most of you, at least now that their album is out on Listenable/Osmose. This interview was done by Goblin a little while before the CD was out, so you'll just have to excuse the old questions- I have been working on the zine for quite some time as you might start to notice...Thanx to Bailey's for keeping my eyes open, and to Goblin for interviewing Aphazel!**

#### A brief look into Ancient history....

-Ancient was born in early -92 when I started it out as a soloproject. Grimm joined early -93 in order to make a more complete devastation. We did a promo in April -93 and in August the demo 'Eerily howling winds' emerged. It sold very well, even if the sound was horrible. We entered the studio in November -93 to create our first album. In May -94 it was finished. Our first EP "Det glemte riket" was unleashed under April fullmoon -94. It got a great response and has been raping our demo so hard that the demo is now sold out after 1000 copies sold. We went to Sweden in June -94 to spread our music through big amplifiers and we shocked many. The debut album 'Svartalvheim' is released on December 24, in order to blaspheme ponderously. It is all being taken care of by Listenable/Osmose.

#### Were you satisfied with the recording of 'Svartalvheim'?

-I am satisfied with the music on the album, but the "sound" is too clean. It has a lack of reverb on the vocals wich is sad. Despite all my complaining about the production, the worst critic we heard for the advance tape has been "very good album". Being a perfectionist, I can't ever say I'm satisfied as it can always be better.

#### You use "pseudonymes"; what do they mean? Are there any special reasons why you chose exactly those names and do they have any special meaning to you?

-The name 'Aphazel' is my magical name. It's not a name you can find in any book. It's a name that fits me. I don't need to say more. Grimm uses his name 'cause he feels it describes his personality.

#### Do you think the band works good with only two members, or are you searching for paralell minded people to complete a stronger lineup?

-The band works very good with only two members. It's much easier to rehearse when there are only two people who are playing together. We only rehearse with a bassist before we do gigs.

#### Your 7" has sold quite a few copies now; do you know exactly how many?

-Yes, including the one you bought from me it has by now (16/12-94) sold 1713 copies. We still have 287 copies left, and they're not being sold to distributors anymore, so it will still be available for a few months.

#### Are you thinking of doing any gigs in support of your album?

-Yes.

#### You do also have a distro. Do you make a living out of it? Not that the point of the underground is to make money, but...

-The reason why I'm doing a distro is that I've been trading away many of our EP's for other underground stuff. And instead of keeping big quantities of various CD's, EP's etc. I prefer to sell them, that's all. I hardly ever buy anything for my distribution, that's why I've kept in "unofficial". I don't want labels or anything to send me free stuff 'cause they want me to buy big quantities of the material. I do support Norwegian bands, though. I will probably stop the distribution

within half a year as I will have gotten rid of my stock of items by

then. Alle i Norge kan få filsendt gratis liste. It could still be nice to continue the distribution, as I see it as a positive thing that people can buy CD's from me and pay 120 kr. instead of 170 kr. in the record store. I recently heard that the prices in stores will get even bigger soon, so that sounds terrible enough. I don't make any money on my distro, as there are few people who order stuff, like you (thanks for the support!).

#### Are you satisfied with your Osmose/Listenable Rec. deal? Were you contacted by any other labels?

-We have been in contact with labels like Cacophonous, No Fashion, Necropolis, Head Not Found, Adipocere, Unisound and numerous others. My days of talking shit about all the rip-offlabels in the underground are over, but I still want to tell people that are "new" in the underground that if you shall try to get a good record deal, BEWARE OF RIP OFFS !! There are more of them than you can imagine. I'm not saying that all of the labels I mentioned are rip-offs, but none of them were giving us a better deal than the one we got from Listenable which is a sub-division of Osmose. So far I'm very satisfied with the deal. The distribution and promotion is better than on any other black metal label for sure. We have even recieved royalties before the album is released. Not bad for a debut album!

#### In the process of making your own music, do other bands' music inspire you? In case; what bands, and what kind of music?

-I am inspired by other bands' music, but not directly. My real inspiration though is the fullmoon, graveyards, stormy nights, endless forests and all such nice stuff. Most important, I am inspired by myself.

#### Do you think it's important to wear only black clothes all the time to show the rest of the

#### world what kind of person you are?

-I think it's important to do what you enjoy. I like to wear black clothes because it makes me look different from other "normal" people and because I enjoy wearing it. It's what I'm used to. I think it's stupid to wear black clothes if you do it just because it's "cool" and "evil" like some kids think.

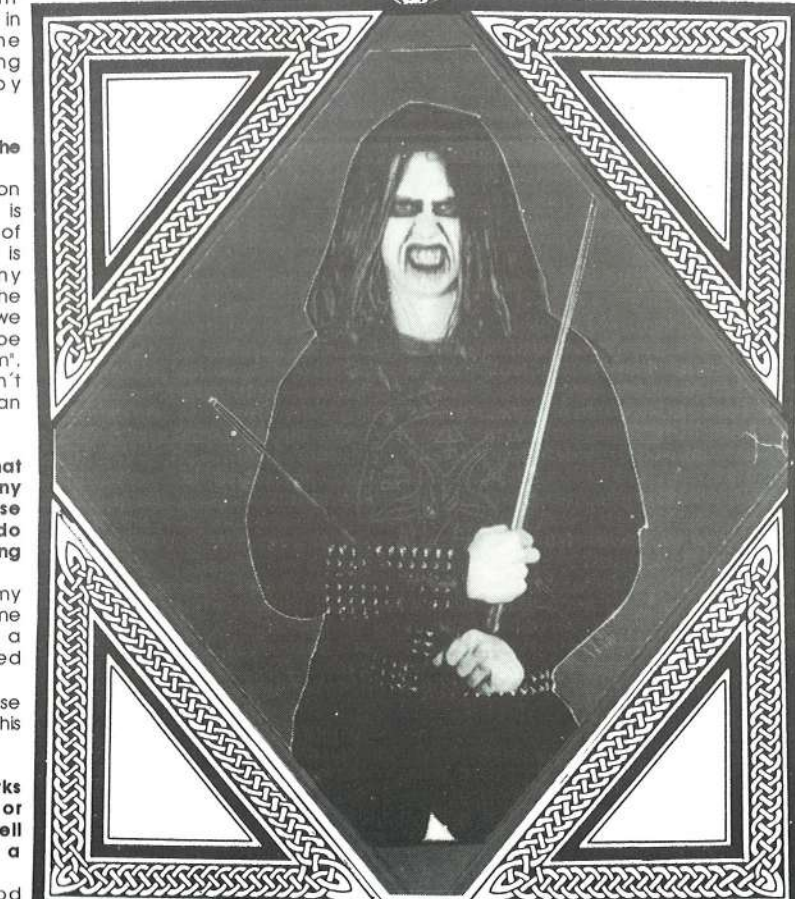
#### What do you think of when reading the following words:

REINASSANCE ART: Nice stuff (I guess?)

WINTER: Wonderful

NIETZSCHE: I like reading his works.

#### Are you a follower of any special religion? What does religion mean to you?



No, I hate religion. I believe in doing what I want. I am my own god, and nobody shall tell me what to do, or like, or anything.

Sooner or later we're all going to die. What will be the inscription on your tombstone?

-What a question! Sorry, but I've decided not to answer this as I haven't had time to think it over.

OK; this is your chance to tell the readers whatever comes to your mind...

-Hail to you, Goblin for this interview. It was one of the better I've done. Everyone can feel free to write to us at:

ANCIENT  
BOX 6  
5082 EIDSVÅGNESET  
NORWAY



#### WANDERER'S NIGHT-SONG

OVER EVERY HILL  
ALL IS STILL;  
IN NO LEAF OF ANY TREE  
CAN YOU SEE  
THE MOTION OF A BREATH;  
EVERY BIRD HAS CEASED ITS SONG.  
WAIT, AND THOU TOO, ERE LONG  
SHALL BE QUIET IN DEATH.

-GOETHE



## DEATH

There are two happenings in our lives that exceeds everything else. Our meeting with love and our meeting with death. One is bonded to the joy and the expectation of salvation. The other to sorrows, tears and suffering. One is a theme in every poet and artists life. The other is the thing that philosophers and poets are trying to make a relationship to. Love belongs to the biological continuing of life and to save a family. Death is the extermination and the end for all of us. "Man knows it will die - but we don't believe it" is a famous quotation of Heinrich Heine. He did at the same time say something about believe and knowledge, which is a problem for a lot of us. But it isn't a problem. We will only believe what we know - and know what we believe. We should stick to that, even when it comes to death. Shakespeare wrote "We all owe life a death. We will all one day exchange this change that does not accept any delay when the payment is falling due - no matter how high we wish. People say "Gods love the ones that die young", but the one that is young asks to be exempted for this love. For the youth that will have to die is death the final and unbelievable tragedy. Not dominated by the fear of dying, but of the despair of not being able to live anymore. For the one that after a rich life accepts that death is closing in, should death be looked upon as a meeting with a trustful friend which heals all torments and the pain of destruction.

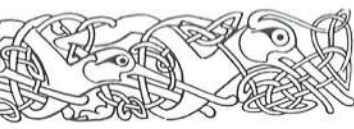
It was this thought that led behind the last words of Socrates' before the poison had fulfilled its mission: "We owe Asklepios a cook, Krton. Do not forget that". Back in many cases only a vegetative organism without contact with its surroundings. The decay continues in pain and human debasement without any connection to life and the surrounding world. Medical science and the surviving relatives seems to have misunderstood humanism, to clemency to the fact that aging is a pain that can be healed by squirts and hoses.

We will have to admit that Friedrich Nietzsche's words were true: "The natural death is the suicide of the nature". The day will set when we will have to deliver back the same nature, the same substance that we've been given for loan to our lives - and thank for that. We will just make sure to use our loan in a reasonable way.

#### ...And the rest is silence...

In Man's fight against death is the religions-and sometimes a philosopher or two - trying to create images of that there will have to be something after death, a continuation that is alike the life we'll have to give away. "It's hard to pay with one's life for one's birth" is what Peer Gynt found out at the end of his life. And for the one that still has things undone, is death something that creates despair. It is probably worst for those who don't feel that that they've lived under the suppositions of life one has become a part of - as Peer found out at the end.

But to live is the biggest miracle of the universe. A biological organism as our own "I" can walk under the stars and turn his eyes against the silent universe and sense both that and everything that surrounds with the senses we are created with. Through telescopes we can see the depths in a macrocosmos which is unbelievable with our microscale. It's just to resign in thankfulness to have experienced that as being a human in an astronomic second before everything is gone forever together with our consciousness. And the rest is silence.



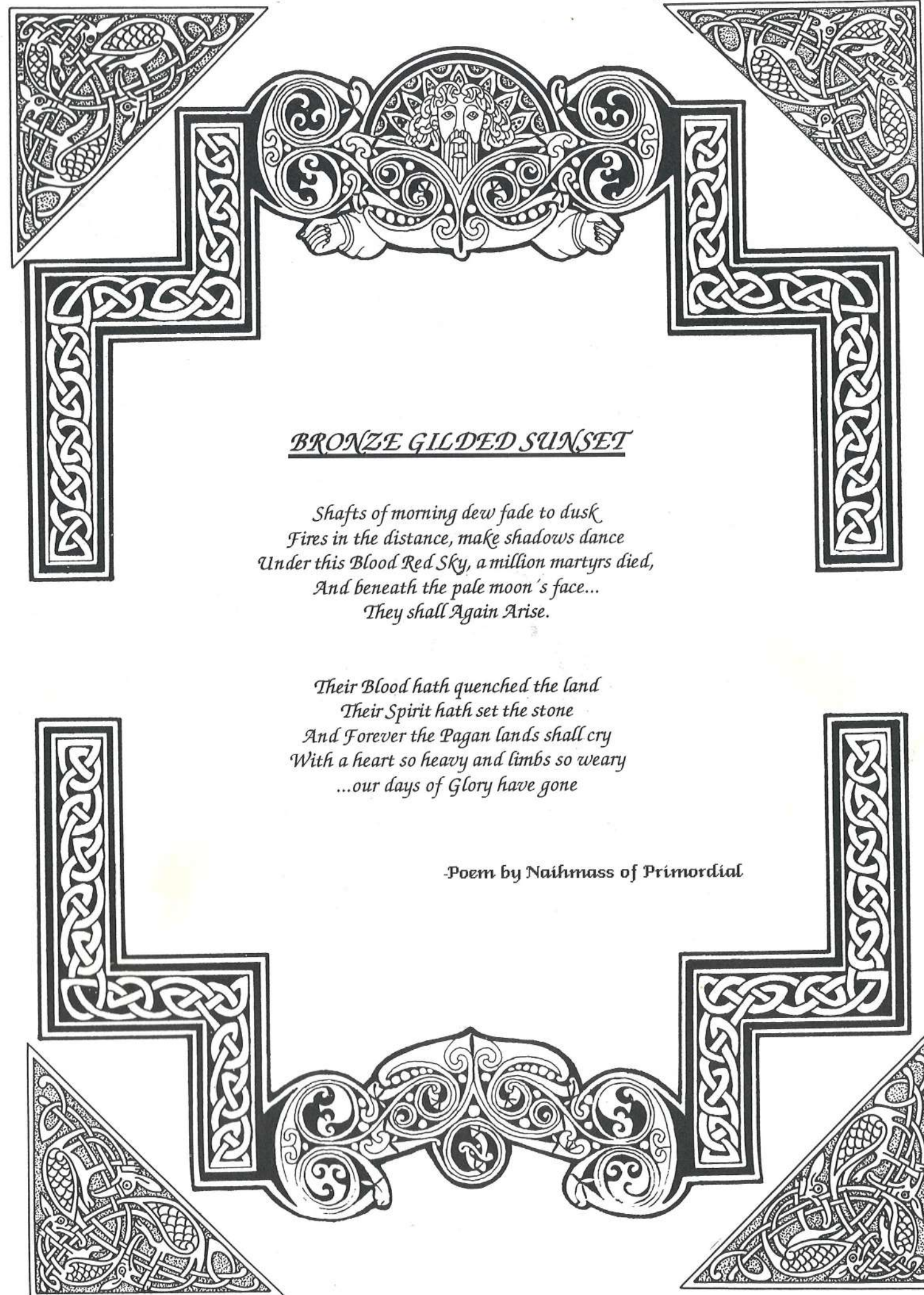
## RAGNAROK

By many labeled as fakes because being quite new in the scene, but we don't really care about that, do we? 'Cause these are just rumours, and we hate gossip-mongers!!!! Well, I can admit that Ragnarok isn't the most original band around these days, but they do even so make some bombastic music that should be owned by everybody that have the faintest liking for the BM of today. This Sarpsborg based band was formed in 1994, and did in early 1995 release a promo-tape called "Et Vinterland I Nord". Very few people got the chance to hear this promo, but we all have the opportunity of hearing the re-recording of this song on the demo "Pagan Land", which also includes four more essential BM/DM songs; Pagan Land, From the Darkest Deep, Hammerens Slag and and the selftitled Ragnarok. All of these songs were recorded in X-RAY studios, where a growing number of BM bands seem to record their stuff right now. Ragnarok's music can best be described as some kind of BM/DM with a bit of Viking feeling due to the heavy use of synth. One can hear obvious influences from bigger acts like Satyricon and Emperor, but that's a minor thing because this band really do have a sound of their own in there somewhere. I guess the band will develop more of their own sound as time passes, they do have the same problems as almost all young bands have before finding out where their quality really is. I believe it will take quite some time before we do get to hear a Ragnarok with their own style, as their vocalist Thyme will be doing his military service for a year now. The band is at least signed to HNF for a fulllength, wether that is recorded or not I do not know, but I guess it will be out in a few short months, and I'm really looking forward to that. Ragnarok is one of Norway's hopes for the future, no doubts about that...The band has by the way moved away from the Viking image they had a year ago, so what their image is now-well, you guess... Two of the members have interest in Satanism, maybe they've all moved in that direction... Who cares anyway??

The demo is still available for 40 NOK/ \$7 from the following adress:

RAGNAROK  
BOX 489  
1701 SARPSBORG  
NORWAY

Taken from "Humanist" 1/95. Written by Finn Lie.



## BRONZE GILDED SUNSET

*Shafts of morning dew fade to dusk  
Fires in the distance, make shadows dance  
Under this Blood Red Sky, a million martyrs died,  
And beneath the pale moon's face...  
They shall Again Arise.*

*Their Blood hath quenched the land  
Their Spirit hath set the stone  
And Forever the Pagan lands shall cry  
With a heart so heavy and limbs so weary  
...our days of Glory have gone*

-Poem by Naihmass of Primordial

It's pissing down outside, thunder and lightning striking once in a while...I'm sitting in my room with a large glass of Litago' sjokolademelk (Jeg er avhengig!!!) and boring you to hell with this intro totally lacking inspiration...Life sucks..Now, where were we...Ah, Solstice!! In my opinion the best Doom (ehrm, sorry...Arcane Epic Doom Metal) band around these days. The band should be familiar to most people around after their storming debut "Lamentations", and a just as impressing MCD is on the way entitled "Halcyon". This interview was exterminated by guitarists John Piras and Rich Walker, both of 'em with a lot of rather interesting points. Now read this interview and buy Solstice's albums, and then everyone should be satisfied...(Yeah, and send \$1000 in well-concealed cash to me, I need something too...)

Doom...this genre seems to be more or less dead now after a small comeback in the beginning of the 90's. Do you have the same feeling? I mean, bands like Trouble, St. Vitus, Pentagram, Solifude Aeternus aren't exactly as much on people's playlist as it was back then...Do you think this has got something to do with more and more bands mixing the Doom genre with other genres like Death Metal or more Trad. HM?

J: Well then, yes, there was a small comeback in the 90's, but that was mainly a resurgence of Doom mixed with Death. I liked the idea at first, but then as always...(the fucking parasites appeared) These people thinking "Oh, I can't play guitar that well, so I'll do three chords over and over for an hour that are really slow and easy and I can't really sing so I'll just groan and grunt like I'm shitting a melon" Hehe...The result was obviously loads of schoolkids thinking that this was true Doom, and these "new" bands spouted forth from an open wound like fuck. The only Death-Doom band I really like is Anathema; they're cool!. There are some people who remember the truer bands, but as it shall be mentioned we feel that the epic style of Solstice draws its influences from a very arcane sphere of Doom. Draw your own conclusion.

Solstice is as far as I know a fairly old band, and have by that reason been going through some drastic line-up changes, the last one resulting in half the band forming another new outfit, namely Serenity.



In what way have this affected your music? What can we expect from the "new" band compared to the "Lamentations"-Solstice?

R: In comparison, the new line-up of Solstice is a tighter, heavier and much more focused band. Both musically and ideologically. There were times when I despaired over their lack of insight and the shallowness of their personalities, but in the end fate has seen fit to cast them into the pit of mediocrity. It never affected the music since their input was virtually non-existent, the only difference is that now we can follow any path we choose without the hindrance of such worries as "it is too fast, heavy, slow etc.". On the other hand John's input has been immense musically being a more imaginative individual. The joint works have been most satisfying and present the band as a much darker, aggressive unit which works for a common goal rather than one member's egotistical trip. Being the founder (and only original member left) I can view objectively the changes and say they were for the better-aye!!

Continuing concentrating on the Doom thing...Do you have any good explanation for why almost all the most depressive Doom bands are from the British Isles ??? We have some American bands, a couple of Scandinavian ones as well, but the main stock seems to be based in England (like yourself). Please explain! Is England such a boring country that you will all have to sulk your way through life? How about the rest of the British Metalscene, any bands you appreciate, or are you just another of those blokes complaining about the state of the metalscene over there?

R: Albion is not "boring", but living in such a violent and economically depressed society has its effects. When you find it's a struggle to find

money to enjoy certain things (ales, music etc.) it can become a vicious circle and you get caught in a cycle day in and day out. Not to mention the fact that our country has been raped by a christian right-wing government for its own financial gain. The few places of natural beauty and tranquility are slowly fading, still, the forests, moors, ancient monuments and castles, classic architecture and more enlightened individuals who remain are greatly inspiring. A vast amount of factors contribute to our musically and psychological make up.

As for the UK metal scene, as with any other country, it could be better in terms of audience support at shows, CD sales, but the biased UK mainstream metal press constantly feeds the nation's youth a diet of American trends. This is not good as they will reach adulthood as consumer zombies with no real sense of valour or courage. Musically I feel that Anathema, Cathedral, Electric Wizard, Mourn, Trinity, Bal-Sagoth, Thus Defiled, Anthropomancy and Blasphemer are all creating music of value. I won't mince my words here, I personally feel that any bands I didn't mention from Albion are worthless shit. Especially the pseudo Black/Doom Metal factions- fucking media whores!!

J: Yeah, I think Rich has said mainly what I thought about this subject.

Solstice's debut "Lamentations" showed a totally different sound from what we're used to from the British Doomsters, especially on the powerful guitar side. It was all so much more, should I say, mighty, in a way...Was that what you wanted from the album, a heavier and more groovy Doom Metal, more back to the roots? Or...

J: When we got together before "Lamentations" we had a listen to all our previous demos and live recordings and we thought "fuck this, let's really put some meat into it". "Lamentations" was basically recorded live as well (apart from solo overdubs and vocals).

R: The only reason why the guitars sounds heavier is the eagerly awaited opportunity to record in a quality studio,

obviously we want the guitars to be as heavy as possible, it's a nintergral part of the Solstice sound, but sadly, not all the recordings have turned out this way. Certainly, I would agree that the "Lamentations" adheres to parts of the grand Doom Metal tradition, but "groovy" is not a term we would use to describe the music. (Hmmm...I would still, though...-Ed)

Is Doom the metal style where most feelings can be expressed? Why/why not?

J: Doom's a style where most of our feelings can be expressed. But that's only one style, I have also heard lots of feelings and expression through Classical music and Black Metal as well. Take Emperor's "In the Nightside Eclipse". A fucking masterpiece of dark expression. People will always express their feelings through different forms of art. Just Doom would bore me!

Solstice's new MCD should be out around these days; what is your goal with this album? Is this a new step in the direction of where you want to end up as a band, or is this exactly what you want an album to be? What can we expect from "Halcyon" compared to the music of the debut?

R: The "Halcyon" EP is just a taster of thing to come, we shall progress our sound further in the epic direction, and always keeping the feeling of impending Doom!! Obviously, it isn't perfect, but with "New Dark Age" (our second full-length opus) I feel we have more or less achieved the first step to what we want- epic battle metal mixed with arcane epic doom! Aye!(Epic²-battle-arcane-Doom-Metal= Solstice? Whoa, this might be cool...-Ed)

Luckily, we don't draw influences from just Doom as we believe in all true Metal. Bands such as Manowar, Candlemass, Black Sabbath, Celtic Frost+ Bathory have been regarded highly by us for a long time. (Bear in minds that our ages are 22-30, we're old enough to remember Celtic Frost, Candlemass etc. when they first appeared on the scene) so no one can ever accuse Solstice for jumping on

any trend. (I don't think anyone have accused you for such a crime, yet...-Ed) Working from just one musical sphere I feel we would have reached our zenith on "Lamentations".

Is Candlelight still your label? I know Lee has been fucking up a lot at least when it comes to his BM signings, so how have things been working out for you?

R: At the moment I cannot go too deeply into the question. We are happy with Candlelight for some of the things that have happened and severely displeased with others.

On the whole, I like Lee and see him as a good friend as he has been honest, generous and patient with us. Back to the original point though, we have had other labels offer us a deal and so only time will tell who we sign a long term contract with...but it won't be with fucking Earache!!!

It's great to finally find some people that show interest in the Viking culture the way it was, and not tries to glorify it (or the opposite) in any way...What is the background for your huge interest in these old men and women? You're also member of a re-enactment group; can you just tell a bit about how this group works, what you do and how to contact it if somebody's interested. I wasn't even aware of the existence of groups like that, and if there had been any here in Oslo I would've joined 'em at once!



JOHN ENJOYING SOME REAL METAL AT THE VIKINGCAMP IN BORRE 1995

J: Aha!! The interest in the Vikings came about 10 years ago when we were in re-enactment groups learning about the true ways of the Vikings like fighting with authentic weapons-axes, broadswords and scramasax etc. Learning also that the Vikings were a truly inspirational part of the development of dark age society. Having been to Norway on several occasions to Vikingmarkets (as Gro would know about that!) (Sure dol -Ed) and it's a very beautiful country, loads of ancient forests. I've had Norwegian, Swedish and Danish kids saying "but you're no real Viking-I am!" I've replied that the heroic Vikings that wanted to expand their civilisation came to England and settle there ever since Lindisfarne in 793AD Vikings have been around, so there are loads of blood relations etc.

Everyone knows that the Vikings did not wear horned helmets (Ragnarok doesn't...Heheh...-Ed), except maybe for ceremony. It was Victorian-oppressed Christian writers that depicted the Vikings as dumb animals. That's what the horns were for- to make them look barbaric. OK, so they did rape and pillage, but given half a chance, I'd love to sail into a strange country and burn their churches, drink all their beer and rape anything in dress. (To be honest, I would've gladly done that myself, and if I had been capable even the last fact!-Ed) You're only young once! (YEP!!-Ed). Seriously this group draws in on a very spiritual level as well. I'm afraid I can't explain too much or this 'zine would be a fucking novel, but there are groups from UK, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Iceland, Holland...All in our brotherhood. I'll include the address at the end of this interview. (Well, well, well...he forgot...if you want it, write to me and I shall see what I can dol-Ed)

Your interest in the Vikings did also show on the cover of "Lamentations"...It's quite interesting how many stories I've heard about kids here in Norway running to the record shops buying your album because they think you're the new Enslaved or something. When they in addition to the Vikingboat on the cover also see the Candlelight logo, they seem to be absolutely certain that this is the new, grand Viking Metal band...That's a clever way to sell records...hehehe...No,

seriously, why the Viking boat on the cover? I mean, the music doesn't seem to have that much to do with the Viking age, except for maybe a certain epic (doomic, metallic...?) sound...

R: The cover is not a marketing ploy- if we wanted to sell records we could very easily adorn ourselves with corpsepaint and claim to be evil incarnate. (Well, the thing about a marketing plot was a joke...When I write "hehehe" afterwards I usually don't mean the things that I've written in the previous sentence too serious...-Ed)

I personally don't like Enslaved's music and nor do they conjure up images of old Scandinavia to me as much as Einherjer (Hail Grimar!). Now, I'm not casting doubts about Enslaved's integrity here, obvious that they have their own opinions about this subject as I have mine, but it seems to me that I would be just as much in the right to ask how can any Norse band consider themselves Metal as they're not from Albion (remember-we invented true Metal!) (Høh!!! And what kind of blood runs through your veins, if I may ask????- A rather offended Ed). The point of all this elitism is crass and usually perpetrated by weak and insecure fools. And since all Northern European countries have strong cultural links our heritage is shared...(Exactly, you said it yourself now...-Ed)

And for gossip-mongers, the only reason I don't like Enslaved is because I personally find their music quite tuneless. I find music evocative when it has a strong sense of melody which can stir emotions and memories. Probably Enslaved think our music is boring-but that's their right...They do not conjure up the appropriate feelings for me because of that lack of melody, and only that. In reality, how much has Enslaved's music got to do with that age? (A good question indeed...The only way I can answer you is by saying that Enslaved's old music (that means "Yggdrasil", "Hordanes Land" and "Vikingligr Veldi") brings forth a certain atmosphere and mood from me that is only comparable to that of having a daydream back to the old ages. Only three bands can manage that: Bathory ("Twilight" and "Hammerheart"), Einherjer and Enslaved. To a certain extent also Skyclad, but in a different way. Still, I seem to be forced to utter a few words about my opinion on Enslaved in form of a question: How much do these guys really do to delve deeper into the world of the Vikings? Read Voluspá once a year, drink mead and get laid ??? Open question to members of Enslaved...-Ed)

How do you feel about the Viking trend within the BM scene? Do you think this is a way of expressing the growing Nationalistic feeling?

R: It's a marvellous thing and much more preferable to modern consumer fashion with its mundane coca-cola/Mc Donalds/Mickey Mouse bullshit. This weak and worthless shit has poisoned us far too long. The practise of the old ways (craft, religious/spiritual beliefs and battle) must be kept alive, they are our heritage and to lose that would be fatal.

What do you define as nationalism though? (a strong love and pride for one's homecountry and heritage...National Socialism (or nazism as most people choose to call it today) is anti-nationalism!!!!!! -Ed) Let's get one thing straight - national socialism stinks and all its leading practitioners have been sexual deviants (transvestites, homosexuals, paedophiles etc.) or senile power crazed morons. I for one will never take orders from no man. Supporters of this ideology take note:-

Do you honestly think that you in a fascist state would be allowed to think for yourself, have long hair and listen to Metal? Wake up and stop being manipulated by rich businessmen and politicians who are in league with the christian church!!

Nationalism as pride in your own country is fine, just remember though that a larger international network is preferable to a stagnating insular subculture with no outside contact. I am pleased to call many people from many countries as "brother" and not view them as subhumans. Let's fight for the downfall of those who despoil our lands, crush them under a mailed fist-crusade!!



I can personally not remember the last time a real Doom band played here in Norway - is Doom a musicstyle that most people prefer listening to on their own stereo, and not go to gigs? How about tours for you, are the venues open to your kind of music? And - will we ever be able to see Solstice live over on these shores?

J: I can't say much, except that if we can play a venue, we will! Most venues in England want trendy crap like Biohazard etc....

We would love to play in Norway as we have many friends there. It shall be arranged!! So mote it be!

Solstice does still seem to keep a finger in the pie when it comes to the underground... Do you feel that that's important? Most band tend to think they've done big business as soon as they have an album out - your opinion?

J: The underground must never be forgotten, its where its at, like the primordial ooze from which music is born. It shall and will not be forgotten. Also the fact that bands become more bonded against crappy money-grabbing executives. If you want to talk to a band, write to them. It's simple!

So, is true mayonnaise among the important factors in your life? Yeah - do you remember which colour the true mayonnaise tube had here in Norway?

J: True mayonnaise is cool because its good to have instead of false mayonnaise. I don't remember what colour it is. Who fucking cares anyway? (You do, because next time you get to Norway you'll run around in the supermarkets once again not knowing which tube to choose... Hehehe...)



live fast Die Young  
And True Mayonnaise

At the moment the band is rehearsing and writing new material for their forthcoming full-length "New Dark Age", and I guess I'm not mistaking when saying that this album will be a fucking masterpiece!! Now, go and buy some true mayonnaise, you'll never know when they'll stop producing it and make 4 more light spieces instead...



### ➔ WOULD YOU SUPPORT THIS BAND ?

I receive a lot of stupid and totally braindead flyers, but this one have conquered them all... WAR from Germany.. I do not know if you would have ordered this demo if you'd felt attracted to this band because of the flyer, but I would say that if you are -re-think your ways... I am neither a skinhead, a fascist and nor am I a nazi. But I'm a follower of BM. Should these ideologies have anything in common with BM? The answer is no. I presume that the guys in this band are between 10 and 13 years old, so they probably do not know the history of the musicstyle they're playing. Well, if I would've bothered writing to them I would've told 'em that they hadn't been playing what they are today if it hadn't been for the negroes that was imported to the States as slaves and brought the prime rythms of Blues with them. From Blues the melting pot of different cultures and races brought Rock to life, and from there it has just become more and more extreme and has probably hit the end of the road in BM. Not much nationalistic music anymore, eh? I'm not some fucking socialist trying to tell you what's right and wrong - I'd just like people to wake up and try to look a bit further than their nosetip - there are a lot of things to discover and to broaden horizons have as far as I know never hurt anyone... It has on the contrary led to a more open mind - and a more intelligent one.

Well, so you're fascists now, are you?! Hmmm... that's interesting. Allow me to read my dictionary and find the correct meaning of the word fascism: "An extreme right-wing political system or attitude, which favours strong central authority and does not allow freedom of speech". Yeah, and by the way: Nazi is a disparaging "nickname" on National socialism used by its enemies... A bit improper to use that word on a flyer that seemingly supports this right-wing ideology, don't you agree? I do also presume that the signs on each side of the logo is portraying two 8's... 88- Heil Hitler... I do not think Hitler would've appreciated being called a nazi... he might even have dumped you into the oven for saying that, and I guess you wouldn't like that... OK, now what... Do you really believe you would be allowed to play BM in a fascist system? Do you think NS would've appreciated "Fascist War Black Metal"? Do you believe you would've been able to spread such a stupid flyer through the underground of BM (which probably wouldn't been allowed either) in a fascist/ national socialist community? The answer is no.

Further on, what is your goal with spreading such a flyer? You will not be able to enslave new kids to the national-socialistic or fascist community, because people will look upon your flyer as a complete waste of paper. You will not be able to spread the demo to respected people with serious interest in these ideologies because they would laugh at your attempt to impress others within the same milieu. You will not be able to get respect from anybody - except for a couple of brainless kids around that you might come to an agreement with - and that might be what you're looking for? If it is so, then maybe I shouldn't have written this and left you alone, but I just want to show that the underground should not be a place where brainless people can become spokesmen. I tolerate all types of ideas/ideologies, as long as the person supporting it has good arguments for why his/her views are the right and of course also is able to speak for him/herself. That is the way the world moves forward - intelligent people that are able to communicate and spread their words. The world moves backwards with attempts like this, and many others within the underground of BM. As long as we have "freedom of speech" (well, at least almost...) I guess we will have morons like War wandering around... fair enough, at least they statuete an example on how not to be able to bring serious ideas forth. We learn by other's mistakes too, don't we...?

I would encourage all raging readers to write this band a letter and tell them your opinion on flyers like these, maybe they could learn something from this too? I myself won't even bother wasting one single stamp on them..

So, the answer is yellow! Not too hard to remember, is it? And death to false mayonnaise!! -Ed)

We're all going to die sooner or later - what will the inscription on your headstone be?

J: "Crusadicus Epicus Hardus Fuckus" (He liked his axe)  
R: "A Titan amongst Men" or "Dead and Buried"

Any last words?

J: Hail to: Oðinn (Einherjum Mag.), Morgul (True Swedish Beer Metall-Ed), in the Woods..., Einherjer, Emperor and The Order of the Evil Eye. And yourself, fine wench, for this interview. HAIL!!  
R: Thank you for the interview. Hail to our bretheren worldwide for their support - now PREPARE FOR WAR!!!

Uhuh, this was basically it... A bit of news for you though: Solstice's new vocalist will be an American guy named John Philipps (ex. of White Heaven Wept), and he will be a full-time member from December as he will then move over to grey and boring Albion. "Halcyon" should be in the shops NOW!!

# FRIEDRICH NIETZSCHE

Nietzsche is one of the history's greatest and most interesting personalities. This is a fact that you've no way of getting around either you agree with his viewpoints or not. Nietzsche has meant a lot to me, just to have put that to paper, ever since I first read a document about him in 4th grade. Not only did he share my way of parting people in the "worthy/not worthy" people, but surprisingly I found out that this man also shared most of my views upon religion - and he really did have a few better arguments against the plague called religion than I had back then... The reason why I'm writing this little piece about Friedrich Nietzsche now is because I know that a lot of people are walking in blindness out there, not knowing how much wisdom this man had, and without thinking about what this man has ment to the more common way of lifestyle for us living more on the dark side. So if you've read Nietzsches works before I will advise you to skip these pages and read another interview instead, because you probably already know what I'm going to write. But for those of you who are curious about this genius named Nietzsche - have a good time!

I will part this writing in three, based upon the three questions people are mostly asking about Nietzsche:

- The godless human being vs. the christian. Who'll win? Is the Christian God dead?
- Is the über/untermensch theory a fact we as humans are forced to live with - is it a reality? What marks the difference between these?
- Did the German Nationalsocialists during WW 2 have the full right to use Nietzsche's moral ethics?

### GOD IS DEAD

Let's start this whole thing off with one of Nietzsche's own quotations: "I don't want to be the light for today's people, I don't want them to call me a light. Therefore I will dazzle them: the light of my wisdom! Pierce their eyes." In my opinion this statement can be interpreted in two different ways. The first is probably the most obvious one: Nietzsche wanted people to think with their own brains. He didn't want to be their leader, he just wanted to help them on their way to becoming individual persons. The other might just as well be that this quotation comes from "the source of light" (alias God). If you get too near you will be blinded by his so-called wisdom, you will be a part of his puppetshow - when you're blind you need someone to lead you, and you'll fall into the "temptation of God". Both interpretations might've been Nietzsche's, because for him there was only one truth about the Christianity: an implicit NO!

Even though Nietzsche had grown up in a strongly religious home where both parents were children of priests, he still named priests as sly dwarves, a parasitic type of humans and as the lethal spiders in life. To him the church

represented everything that stood against his theories about the human pride. The church also represented a plague - the plague he wanted to find a healing cure for...

Nietzsche called himself "Antichrist" - today most common known as the name of Satan (or maybe a hellraising song by Slayer?) - but for Nietzsche just a symbol of the antichristian moral. He stated that you'll have to look upon Christianity as a weak religion - as an inferior way of thinking. Self importance was required in order to have the ability of putting oneself above the moral ethics of the Christians. If you do that, you'll at once be a stronger, prouder and more free human. The godless human. A human of independence.



"God is dead". This phrase is often found in Nietzsche's writings. It has gotten many explanations by the same man. Through Zarathustra (Nietzsche's speech-tube) we get to hear about a man that had killed God, in other words killed his belief in God within himself. He had become an atheist because of his own hideousness. Another quotation through Zarathustra goes: "If there existed gods, how could I possibly stand not being a god myself? That is why there are no gods". That was another example of having killed the image of God with one's own egoism. In "Also sprach Zarathustra", one of Nietzsches most important works, we find this little interesting conversation taking place after Zarathustra had spoken to God: "But he had to die: he saw with eyes that reached everywhere, he saw humanity's grounds and abysses, all of its hidden shame and ugliness. His sympathy was shameless; it crawled into my most filthy nooks. This far too curious, far too importunate, far too compassionate, had to die. He saw me - always: such a witness is one I either will seek revenge over - or die myself. The god that saw everything, also the human: this god had to die! Man can not tolerate that a witness like this is alive". For Nietzsches übermensch it is a pretty obvious fact that everything that might be to a hindrance for making the way to the top should be eliminated - eliminate God.

But why was God created in the first place? To support the weak and morbid people in the society.

ONLY FOR SKINHEADS, FASCIST, NAZIS.  
THE REST WILL BE RIP-OFFED!!!

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# WAR

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GERMANY

God fights against "The survival of the fittest", he takes care of the small weak ones that should never had the opportunity of growing up and not to even mention breed in this world. The animals, on the contrary, they do it the way *we* should do it: to kill or leave behind the weak ones. We humans just toss those poor creatures over to a guy named God where they surely can get a great life after death, and also have their chance to live a so-called "happy" life on earth, breed, and create even more weak individuals. The christianity will not grow our instincts for beauty, growth, successfulness or strenght. No, the Christianity adores the hate against our own spirit, pride, courage and distinction. Christianity kills the pleasures of the world of senses, the freedom and the merry world that the übermensch really is a part of. "In and by the name of God is hostility towards life nature and the will to live hereby declared. This God become a formular for each and every slanderer of this world and each and every lie about the beyond ! Nothingness is neutralized to God, the will of nothing is sanctified !"

### UBER/UNTERMENSCH

I guess we all know the classification übermensch and untermensch. Common language, so to speak, in our daily lives. Well, I guess these categories always have existed: Man has always found a reason for why "I" am so much bigger and better than everyone else. Nietzsche was the first person to go all the way; he was the first person to emphasize what factors that really marked the difference between the über- and untermensch. To say it another way: between the proud and the inferior person.

Das Übermensch is described like a man (yes, because it's always a man...I'm gonna change that!! Ahem...) that will devote himself to making his ideal real, and he will work until this ideal is gained *alone*. This ideal is made to serve the ego of the man. The übermensch looks upon his own needs as the most important. He will deny any other idol than himself. He will follow his instincts and live in accordance with nature. The virtues are the man's creations, not the creator of the man. The übermensch is a person that has found himself. "Take your own control! Follow only yourself! Put yourself above the virtue, the wisdom and the acknowledgement". "Go away and find yourselves. You will then discover the übermensch". The last two sentences are dedicated to lonely seekers, not people in a body...

Two animals are symbolised in the übermensch: The Eagle (the proudest of all animals) and the Snake (as the smartest animal). An übermensch is probably what we today would've called an egoist: "Behind your thoughts and feelings, my brother, is a mighty lord, an unknown wiseman- whose name is "the self". He lives in your body. He *is* your body".

After the death of God will, according to Nietzsche only the strong survive: the übermenschen- they will be the last human beings.

Comparisons between the über and untermensch are many. The most famous one is this one, I guess: "How do the human look at the monkey ? -smiling- or shameful. This is exactly how the übermensch will look at the human: with a painful

smile or blushing of shame". In other words, the untermenschen were modern people, good people, christians, nihilists; or described in two words: The annihilators of the Moral.

### NIETZSCHE AND THE NATIONALSOCIALISTS

Many people would probably combine Nietzsche's philosophy with Hitler and the Nazism. This has its natural explanation in the fact that Hitler often quoted Nietzsche in his speeches, and there might be a lot of parallels that could be drawn between Hitler's "superhuman" and Nietzsche's übermensch. Except for that there shouldn't be more connecting links between these two people. Nietzsche was an anti-Germanist and an anti-antisemitist, and would probably by those reasons hated Hitler if he had had the chance to live a few more years (and been sane those years...). It was Nietzsche's sister that made Hitler "finding himself" in Nietzsche's way of thinking. After the death of her brother, she changed his writings and made him (post mortem) a big supporter of both the Germanism (or the Nationalsozialism) and the antisemitism. She did this to be able to make an impression on the Hitler that was gaining more and more recognition. We do not know if the books we read by Nietzsche today are 100% his writings, but there are many reasons to believe so. A couple of quotations: "with Germans I combine bad air; I breathe heavily in the nearness of dishonesty". "Germany is to blame for all the great crimes of culture over the last 400 years!...and always of the same reason, by their sincere cowardice, which also is the cowardice for the truth, coming from the untruthfulness that has become an instinct, by "idealism"..."

About the superhuman vs. the übermensch- do correct me if I'm wrong, but Hitler was a christian, right?...Gott ist Tot...hahaha



Well, this was just a small taster of Nietzsche's philosophy and way of thinking. If you found this little writing interesting, I would advice you to check out these three books for a start: "Der Antichrist", "Ecce Homo" and "Der Wille zur Macht". I could've written hundreds and hundreds of more pages about this extremely interesting man, but heck, this isn't gonna end up as a fucking "tribute to Nietzsche" zine either !! Read and get wise- words are wisdom, and wisdom is power...

# SATYRICON

Satyricon doesn't really need an introduction, do they? Being one of the more fortunate riders of the BM storm, they have so far succeeded well with all their releases, and I see no reason why they shouldn't do so in the nearest future too. I must admit that this interview is not among the best in this zine, it was one of the first written, but it is at least somewhat informative...Yep, that's right- for those of you that still don't know; Nocturno Culto has joined Satyricon as a fulltime member. No protests on that, eh??!

Answers done by the batterist himself, Frost...

I've heard rumours of you using 60 000 NOK (€ 6000) on the recording of "The Shadowthrone". Is this correct? Were you satisfied with the sound, arrangements etc? Is there anything you wish you'd done different during the recording?

We spent almost 60 000 NOK on the whole production (the recording and the mixing) We are satisfied with the sound and of course with the music. There will always be something that could have been done better, but no reason to complain. We will hit really hard next time, though...

How did you come up with the idea of incorporating Samoth as the bassist in the band? Is he now a full-time member? (this question is of course pretty out-of-date as Samoth is a jailbird at the moment...)

Samoth was a skilled musician, which we were looking for. As his personality also fit good with us, and he liked the idea of becoming a Satyricon member, he was a natural choice.

Samoth was a full-time member until he had to go to jail. He did not write any material though, that is Satyr's domain.

You have a quite different sound now compared to the one on "DMT". I would say you sounded more epic and folkish before. Your opinion? If there is any new stuff made- how would you characterise that in comparison to your last LP offering?

I would say that "The Shadowthrone" sounds more epic and folkish than "Dark Medieval times"! (OK, if that's your opinion...-Ed) Our new material is rawer, harder and faster than our previous releases, but there are still a lot of melancholic and medieval parts. To be honest, I think the new material is unbelievably good. It definitely beats the most I have heard.

Your comments on the following, please...

Andreas Aarflåt (the Norwegian bishop): A christian, he deserves eternal torment. I know he is quite liberal. No special feelings for this particular shithead.



Black Magick: I find Black Magick to be an interesting topic, but I am not into it; I know far too little about Magick to say anything about it. It takes years and years to learn the secrets of magick, a lot of people in the BM scene seem to have misunderstood this. The thought of killing a human being with the help of Black Magick appeals a lot to me...You have to study for a really long time to get in possession of powers strong enough to kill, I guess very few persons could achieve the necessary strength and knowledge.

Rave: It sucks. Rave sucks! I can not even imagine what purpose you have for wanting my opinion on this.

(Well, I just wanted to see if there still was a few people left that hadn't been made to slaves of the rave-trend...Not that I thought you would, but Hell, I didn't think Fenriz would either before turning up with purple hair and pink satin jeans...-Ed)

What is the concept behind Satyricon- what do you want to give the

listeners?

We try to create certain moods with our music - mostly darkness, evilness, hatred grief and melancholy. The music is also packed with Norse, majestic and proud feelings. The goal is to make the listener hear this and feel the atmosphere in our music.



How much do others opinion of Satyricon matter to you?

We make our music without regards to others opinion. Naturally, we appreciate it if people like and understand our music, but this is not a necessity for us to make it, just a goal among many.

What inspires you to write the music you do?

The Norwegian nature, dark feelings and emotions, our ancient and grim history and, to a certain extent, good music.

"The Forest is my Throne"-your 1993 demo- is as far as I know just about to be released as a MCD.

Seeing that you were only a session member back then- how do you feel about the release of such "old" songs? Is the sound going to be as shitty as the demosound was, or...?

"The Forest is my Throne" is soon to be released as a MCD, yes. A wise thing to do, as there is a demand for it and the demo is very good. Actually, I think the past two demotapes beats a lot of our later material. The sound will be improved; it is going to be less sharp (Thank eh..god?...! -Ed) and bass will be added.

Any new and upcoming bands Frost has lent his ear to over the last period of time?

I think that Covenant, Dødheimgard, Old Man's Child and Dimmu Borgir will make it big sooner or later. Releases by these bands are well worth checking out.

Is the Norwegian language used in order to make your lyrics more "powerful", or is this use of our native tongue just a way of expressing the love of our country/the hate against christianity even more than what can be done though the English language?

Sometimes it sounds right writing in Norwegian, other times English fits better. The theme in the lyrics will in some cases be decisive for what language to use (Like "Vikingland" for example), but mostly it depends on what "feels right".

What concept do you believe a band must have to call themselves a Black Metal band?

The band have to be deeply into darkness and evilness, and it should be able to create this through music. The main point for every Black Metal band must be to create dark, evil, hateful and sorrowful moods. A lot of self-proclaimed BM bands does not create more blackness than that of carrots (Hmm...I wonder what Frost was eating at this exact moment...-a rather curious Ed), and are nothing but clones. They try to play Black Metal, but they can not because they have not understood the essence of BM (or they are bad musicians).

And here follows the VF-trend question: The inscription on your headstone, please?!

Hmm...I haven't thought about this.

Last psalm...

Give your soul to Satan. Torment all.



The first and only Swedish band to be featured by a 'view in "Valkyrjens Fugler" is Setherial, a Metal band of dimensions !! I'm always surprised when I find bands as good as this one among the more unknown demobands, while hundreds of shitty fakes get record deals overnight... It's a strange world...!

I do not know if the demo is still available, but if you're interested you'd better write and ask. I would actually advise you to do so if you don't already own a copy of it, 'cause it's really worth checking out! They have also released a 7" on Arte De Occulta, a killer, that's for sure...

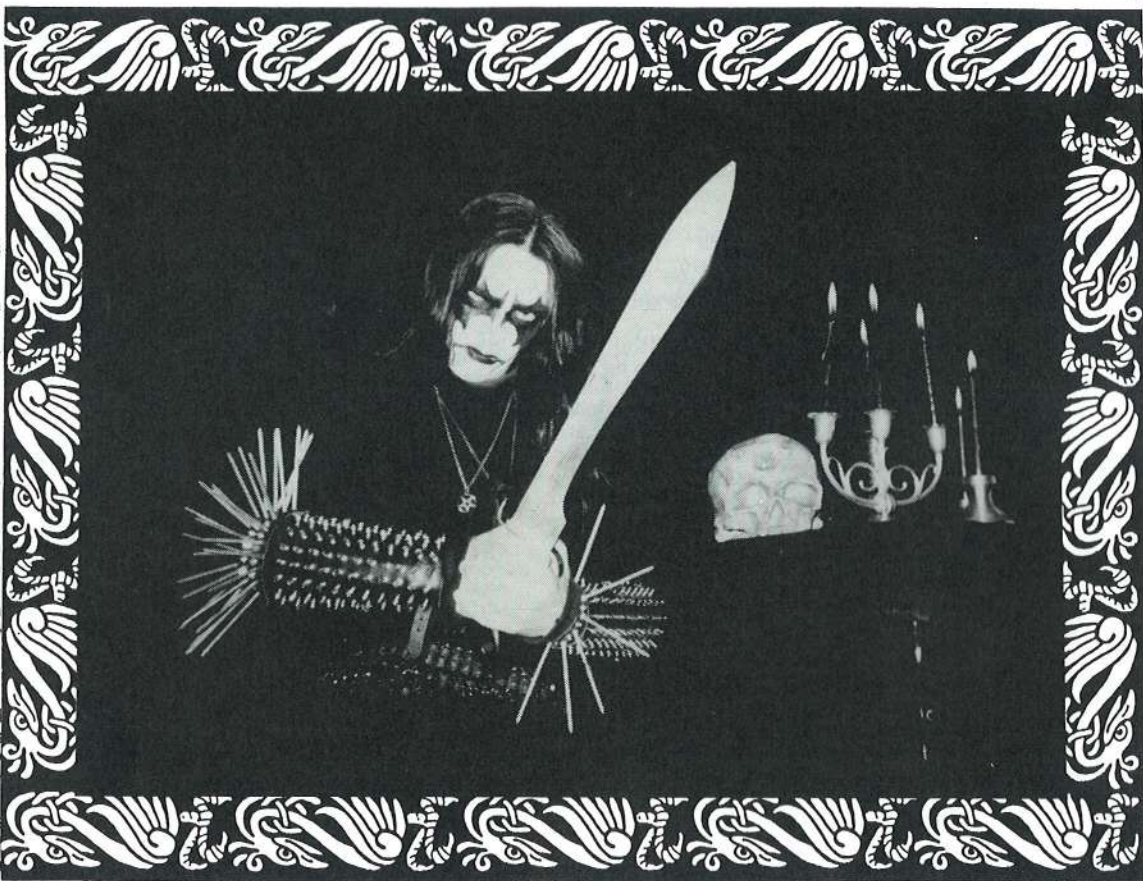
Answers done by the man who is proud of the Swedish EU membership because they got beer with 7,2 % alcohol... Ladies and gentlemen...: Thorn!!

I would say there are few bands around managing to mix brutality and melodies as well as you do. Is this a factor you concentrated much on during the process of making music, or... No, we never concentrate to do songs in a special way. It's just the way they came out during the process of writing them. Aggressive but yet beautiful I would say.

The fact that "Norway is the land of Black Metal, and "Sweden is the land of Death Metal" is a wide spread and well-known "fact". Your opinion?

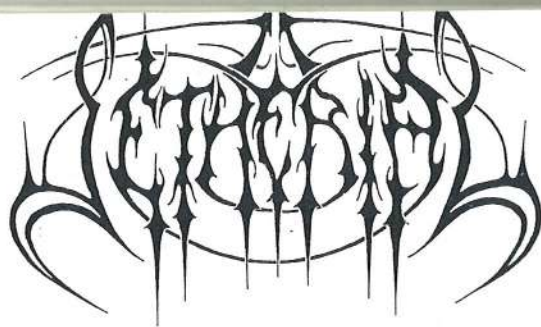
Yeah, there are for sure a big "clownscene" here in Sweden although I can't say there are so many Death Metal bands around here nowadays. I guess the majority of those bands jumped on the bandwagon back in '91/'92 when Black Metal became a trend. But yes, Norway has and have had the best Black Metal scene for a long time.

What lies behind the demotitle "A Hail to the Faceless angels"? What do your lyrics deal with? "The faceless angels" is our interpretation of Egregori- the mighty angels/gods, also mentioned in Necronomicon as "The Watchers". They emerged in to our earth to teach us, the human race, more about sexual pleasure, armory and other things that we now take for granted. The lyrics also deal with the truth and lies in religion, life and death.



What does Setherial mean, and why was exactly that name chosen for the band?

It's a very personal thing which we do not wish to talk about. The only ones that know the real meaning of Setherial is the bandmembers and we will keep it that way.



Where do you get the inspiration to write your lyrics from? Any bands you would say have had a big influence on Setherial's musical creations?

Mysteriis is the main songwriter in Setherial, but life and death in general, darkness and deceit and also the cold and gloomy climate that encircles us; all is very important factors for us all. Bathory and Mayhem have been two very important bands.

Many Norwegians look upon all Swedish B.M. bands as "fakes" (as long as their name isn't Dissection or Katatonia). Any words you'd like to express to those people?

First of all, Dissection and Katatonia aren't Black Metal (No they are not, but they're closer to B.M. than any other "genres". Uhm-maybe I should say "were"...-Ed.) Although very good bands! I have never been interested in other people's opinions, but yes there are a lot of "fakes" and scum here in Sweden, but I also know that there are a lot of them in Norway as well. (Perfectly right! About 90%, I would guess...-Ed.) These kinds of accusations are often said by individuals trying to get attention by talking shit about other bands/people. They might be right in some cases, but there's for sure a lot of bullshit going around in the scene... I'd say fuck 'em!

How would you describe your music? What part of the music is the most important for you? Any special moods/feelings combined with the music?

I don't like to categorise our music. I get sick when bands are saying that they play "evil-black-sado-hate-metal-straight out of Hell"...etc. Most of them doesn't have a fucking clue of what they are saying or doing in the first place. The overall impression is the most important thing in our music. There are a lot of melancholic, hateful and aggressive feelings when we compose and play.

You're soon going to record your second demo. How's your new material compared to the songs on your first demo? I guess the band's more "together" now, as you had only played together for about 8-9 months before releasing your debut demo.

Yes, we'll record a new demotape in the end of January ('95...-Ed). This time hopefully with a better sound and also much better songs, as well as lyrics. Some new songs are: "Their blood in me", "My veins are open", "För dem mitt blod", "Exit the seas" and "Infernal Summoning". Three of these will be featured on our next tape that hopefully will lead to some kind of record deal. Yes, the band is more "together" now. Not only tighter musically, but also

on a personal level.

What do you want to attain by Setherial?

To see the feeble white-light religions fall and never see the light of day while we stand strong-THE TRUE WARRIORS OF THE NORTHERN RACE!!

Any new and upcoming bands from your area you'd like the readers to keep an eye out for?

The so-called "local scene" here in Sundsvall is shit! Only bands like Chambre Noir and De Vaksamma are worth mentioning, but they will probably dwell totally underground so people won't notice. Up in the north of Sweden we have bands like Naglfar, Ancient Wisdom and Gates of Ishtar.

What do, in your opinion, make a band worthy enough to call themselves a Black Metal band?

The lyrics and statements must be very dark and anti-christian. You must of course believe in the message to a 100% and always uplift and support the powers of black. What's your opinion? (Ahem, it's me who ask the questions here...No, seriously, I don't think I should start to express myself here. It would take a couple of pages...-Ed.)

It seems like melodic and symphonic Death/Black metal is a "genre" (I hate that word!) that's growing fast in popularity. Do you believe people are tired of listening to fast and brutal metal, or what's your opinion?

Some bands in this genre has gained big success lately, that's why so many bands have started to play more in this vein. It's just another trend (plague) that will pass by, sooner or later. If people are tired of fast and brutal music maybe that shows that the Black Metal trend is over? Black Metal will never die as long as there are true people around that have dedicated their lives to this lifestyle and music-HAIL!

Future plans?

Record and release our next demo. Get a record deal. Play some gigs and write new material, blah, blah, blah...

We're all going to die someday. What would you like the inscription on your tombstone to be?

I'm not going to be buried the traditional way. Not on holy ground anyway, but if I were, I would like the inscription to be "Sinner".

Any last words?

Thank for this great interview! Hope that the answers will do, even if I sometimes find it hard to express myself in English. Write for more information about the new demo. When writing, include one IRC for sure reply...

SEETHERIAL  
C/O Thorn Edström  
Klippgt. 19  
S-856 32 Sundsvall  
SWEDEN

### LATEST NEWS!!

SEETHERIAL WILL, IN ALL PROBABILITY, SIGN TO NAPALM REC. EXPECT A GIGANTIC FULLENGHT...

### Blasphemy...

"What does it mean that Jesus is a "lord"? That he shouldn't go into the ladies' room- or that he is our emperor?"  
- Hans Jørgen Bakke

As if it wasn't enough that there isn't any God - have you ever tried to reach a plumber in the weekends?  
-Woody Allen

Try to imagine God without Man!  
-A. Camus

The Bible contains a lot of facts that are relevant even today, among other things that Noah used 40 days to find a parkinglot!  
-Laurence J. Peter

If you talk to God- you're praying. If he talks to you, you're schizophrenic...  
-Thomas Szasz

To have faith in God and to believe in ghosts is the same thing. "God" is just a more respected word than "ghost", but it doesn't contain any more meaning.  
-E. Haldeman-Julius

A madman remarked some days ago after a blitz and a thunderscroll that God finally had shot himself after having had a look at his creations...  
-E. S. P. Haynes

If God has spoken- why isn't the world convinced?  
-D'Holbach

There is no such father that would wish to be like our divine Father...  
-Denis Diderot

Jesus is the answer!  
-what is the question?

God is not dead. He's just somewhere else working on a less ambitious project.

Can a mouse that has drunk of the Holy Water be considered as baptized?

Easter is cancelled- they've found the body!

Jesus is alive!  
-Does that mean that we get Easter next year too?

Jesus loves you!  
Too bad for him. Most men on earth do only go to bed with women...

Religion is Man's way of trying to communicate with the weather.

## TUMULUS

Tumulus is a great new band from Germany playing something which they call Germanic Doom metal. (Heck, another new genre...) I must admit that bands from Germany usually don't attract much interest from me, but no rules without exceptions! I was a bit sceptical when I received the flyer for this band, because they seemed to be another of the Viking trendsuckers, but I am extremely glad I ordered the demo anyway. These people know what their image is, they're not just some "hey, let's play vikings 'cause all Norwegians do" people...Well, the 4 songs on this tape are extremely convincing; this is a band with potential! They will record their debut, a MCD, in the summertime, so watch out. I guess it should be out soon... In the meantime you can enjoy the great demo titled "Hymns and Dirges" which includes 33 minutes of melodic Doom metal. It's strange, but in places this demo actually bring forth a bit of the "Hammerheart" sound, but most of the demo is based around the Doom genre. Excellent melodies is what makes "Hymns and Dirges" what it is, clearly inspired by classical musicians. No Venomish BM in this lot...There are of course the normal A4 death vocals included, but in addition there is also a "normal" clean voice.



A female voice is bringing a great atmosphere, and makes this demo walk another step in front of most others. I myself is starting to get extremely tired of new Doom7death bands that are popping up everywhere, as most of them never manage to find a style and sound of their own. They tend to play melodic, but in a way the melodies are so messy that you can't hear the gentious in them. This is what Tumulus is gaining ground on, to put it short: being able to express melodies that might be short, but that are clear. I often catch myself humming on parts of Tumulus tunes, and that should show that the melodies are as they should be; simple but effective. I will have to admit that the sound isn't among the greatest, but that's a factor that has less importance for me. I don't know how you others out there look upon that, but...

The band was formed in summer 1992 in order to open the forgotten gravemounds of their ancestors and the music is dedicated to the mighty gods of Asaland. (Asgård? ) Thita's how it should be when you're able to manage that image thoroughly...

Tumulus do not do interviews in order to dwell totally underground, therefore no interview with this so excellent band. I hope they've changed their minds until next time, but if not...well, then you have at least read an article about them and hopefully bought their demo, and doesn't really need an interview...

Ok, check this promising band out on the following address:

Draug  
Gutsstrabe 9  
98617 Meiningen  
Germania

"Hymns and Dirges"-86/DM 10. Info: 1 IRC/ \$1

I, Gro Husmo of Valkyrjens Fugler, stand strong against all unfair treatment of my friends within the so-called Black Metal scene. This unfair treatment is mostly practiced by our good friends in the Norwegian police, and as you all know, they have been quite hard on us over the last three years. Of course, in most cases it would've been madness to let the guilty person get away without a jail sentence, but in some cases it seems like the police is very eager to get the tall, skinny, longhaired Satanists away from the street. And as luck would have it, the §142 of the Norwegian penal code is a rather shallow paragraph with the very fitting name the "blasphemy paragraph". To make a short translation from it it states that any scorn against any Norwegian-registered religion's creed and ethics may be punished with up to six months of jail. OK, well I'm in opposition to all religions there is and will forever be. That's fair enough, I get a couple of rather hateful looks when I walk down the streets in BM clothes (or the "poor little girl, she's surley been forced into that terrible milieu by her awful friends" looks), but I can survive that. But what I'm beginning to see around me is that innocent people in BM T-shirts get their T-shirts confiscated because they might have symbols, illustrations or backprints that are seemingly harmful to a couple of Christians...Back to the infamous paragraph, it illustrates that it is not only punishable to show one's disgust of Christianity, it is also punishable to be a blasphemer against Buddhism, Islamism and even Hare Krishna! Look up the papers from some years ago when Salmon Rushdie was sentenced to death for his "Satanic Verses", you could find blasphemy against the Sharia (the Islamic law) every fucking day. Arrest the editors...No, but according to the Norwegian law, that should be just as punishable as walking around with an inverted cross around one's neck. After all, in Oslo there are probably something like 10 % muslims and they might be extremely offended by what the newspapers wrote, don't you all agree on that?! But that seems to be OK by the police. Yeah, and JESUS IS A CUNT!!!!!! Arrest me...

Well, I'll say no more here but let the word over to my good friend from Stavanger, Karsten Hamrø, who is a good example of how the police over here is working...

#### GENOCIDE MAGAZINE

After releasing the debut issue of Genocide Mag, I suddenly got into a lot of trouble. Everything started at the end of February this year, when a local newspaper wrote about Genocide Mag. In the article which they had printed they had translated the text/lyric "A pain in the neck" into Norwegian. In their opinion (but who asked about that?), the text/lyric was racist. Another thing they stuck their noses into was the ads for various nationalistic/skinhead bands, which the newspaper meant was nazi stuff. They also found the ad for "The Terrorist's Handbook" a little bit too extreme.

Less than a week after the article was printed the police showed up at my door with a searchwarrant, and according to this I had been encouraging people to kill immigrants. When the commiepolice was finished searching my home they had confiscated 400 copies of Genocide Mag #1, along with every copy of "The Terrorist's Handbook" which I had.

This was the story until I got arrested the 25th of April and after three days was put in jail. For seven weeks I was in custody, first four weeks on isolation from other prisoners before I was released June 15th.

My trial is set for 25th of September and I'm charged for annoyance, persecution and torment against Christians.



I used to believe in the term "freedom of speech", but now I'm not sure if such a thing really exists. My experience tells me that there isn't such a thing like "freedom of speech" for people like me. This only exists for people who says what the majority of this police state wants to hear. Maybe the police here in Stavanger have got too many hemorrhoids, and therefore have to fuck of my things to get rid of them. At least they must be living in another world, because what they say isn't a part of the reality in the world that I live in. Hey Inge Bjørn Eidem and Helge Koch, wake up and (...smell the fish?...Ed) see the real world. Have you seen too many movies, or what?! Is there anything in there at all??

Back to the point. Everything is OK as long as you write or say what the majority wants to hear, but as soon as you say something against Christianity or immigration then you're an extremist that should be locked up. (They say that the reason for why we have Christianity here in Norway today is that there were no madhouses in Jerusalem at the time when a certain little kid was running around, maybe they're afraid of you turning out as a new religionfounder?! Who knows!...Ed)

Everybody should be allowed to express themselves no matter what, but in Norway you can only keep your opinions as long as you keep your mouth shut. I will never accept that just because the police, Christians and immigrants can't stand the truth. There's no place for pathetic people like them, at least not in this country.

The fucking cops say that I have no ethic or moral. If they mean the disgusting Christian ethic and moral, then I prefer being without...The cop's actions against people like me are the inquisition of the 1990's. The cops are no better than the Christians in the 16 and 17th century when they burned millions of innocent people on the fires all over Europe. Where have people's common sense gone? Has it gone on vacation??

Thanks a lot Karsten, for sharing these experiences...To the last question: Probably permanent vacation...(Hei,hei Oðinn, hva med "eternal vacation"?!? Jeg måtte bare...)

I encourage all readers of VF to comment on what's written here, and if you if you've had any intriguing experiences that might be of interest for other people in the BM scene all over the world- contact me. I will do my best to get your viewpoints and experiences printed...This is important, we must stand together against unfair treatment from police and authorities. The more, the better. More people, a stronger resistance.

**Tenebras Omnia Vincit is an Omband which have been around for quite some time, but have never seemed to get anywhere. That might have a bit to do with the bands inabilities when it comes to promoting themselves, but it's a pity for everybody that have missed this piece of brutal BM. No "dear mum" here, straight forward BM the old way... The interview was conducted one early Saturday morning (14.00 or early!) at Møllhausens Bakery in September, and it turned out to be a rather interesting chat...**

# Tenebras Omnia Vincit

(Horrible Fredrik and the ugly toothbrushes) a name which I guess most people remember even today (Yep...Ed) Well, I guess we all grew kind of tired of

the DM style, and with me being fan of old Rotting Christ demos (also 'Thy Mighty Contract') we started to play more that style, and has since then developed more and more in that same direction (BM) as well as developing more a style of our own.

**How about the line-up, are there any regular members at the time?**  
Well, TOV is me, I'm the only member who've been here from start to end, I make most of the music, and I guess it's me that keeps the band together...At the moment the band is: Tommy on drums, Even on guitar, Yngvar on bass/guitar and myself of course on vocals/guitars. But this is no strong line up, Tommy prefer doing other types of music, and playing the synth instead of drums, and he's really more of a DM/techno head than a BM person...Even is busy with his own CD release on Avantgarde, which seems to be coming through great, so he's not often here. ...As I said, no steady line-up. We shall see what happens...I have trouble finding people around that have the same ideas as myself when it comes to both music and other stuff, and that aren't like three years younger than me...I guess I should be living right in the middle of an anthill of BM people, but somehow nobody seems to fit into my ideas. I will not go for some evil dickhead, so... I will though be playing with another guy as soon as he's finished his military service, but that will not have anything to do with TOV at all, it will though be BM, but not the same type as TOV. We shall see...It has been a very bad summer when it comes to creativity, as usual I believe the dark evenings and nights of the autumn/winter will help...

**TOV is not exactly going for the "evil" or satanic image...**  
No, not at all...I mean, we could write "totally blast of hyper evil megablack metal" on our flyers, but that would be a big fucking lie (and sound totally ridiculous...) We have nothing to do with satanism at all, that's not our cup of tea. On the last tape the lyrics were dealing with violence and the more unpleasant sides of that aspect, and the same went for the "new" tape...The next one will be much more mature, with lyrics dealing with my more special emotions and feelings. The lyrics will be much more personal than the ordinary, standard BM thing. I have the feeling that most BM lyrics are about what they want to experience, not what they have experienced. I will turn that "trend" upside down. If I only would get time to write something...At the moment I'm living with my girlfriend, and it's pretty obvious that it doesn't exactly tempt me to sit up all night writing lyrics when I can do other things...

**You do also seem to distance yourself a bit from the ordinary mob of Oslo Black Metalers, just like me...So, what are the reasons?**  
Well, I do not know all the people too well, basically because of the impression I get of 'em when I'm out in town...But anyway, they are not as good as they think they are, they are not as smart as they think they are, and they're not as elite as they think they are...They don't know how to handle bad critics against their personality or their music, and their revenge is to spread bad-mouthed gossip about the person that have said something against him. Norwegian bands get record deals much too fast, they think they are the best in the world after having sold a couple of thousand copies, which is not true...They might have a Colombian boy or two that are die-hard fans, but I wouldn't say that is much background for being so stuck-up as they are...And besides, they do not know how to party! Sitting in a dark corner of a pub the whole night is not exactly what I would label as intelligent, social behaviour...Why not stay at home?! But I will admit that we have a good deal of great bands here in Norway compared to the rest of the world (make exception for Sweden and Greece), but that doesn't necessarily mean that we can behave like shitheads. Some bands are gaining ground 'cause they're so lucky being from Norway, and that's not fair. Being from Norway is not the same as being a great



**I see Impure Creations has re-released "Hostility...Violence...Imagination"...**  
Well, it's a strange story that one...The guy from Impure Creations wrote to me and asked if it would be OK by me if ICR released our rehearsal through their label. This was just before I was going on vacation, the band was totally split and everything was just a mess, so I wrote back and told him that I needed some time to think about this and get things sorted out. Well, when I got back from vacation I found a letter from ICR saying that they were happy for me answering yes and stuff...OK, I thought, I'll let them do whatever they want. It's good that someone finally gets to promoting our stuff a bit, I have been far too busy with everything else but the band over the last time. It's just that when I write a letter I don't just write a few sentences, just a "hi, and thanks for ordering our demo" letter ends up at about one page (typed), and I use far too much time on answering those letters instead of spreading the word about TOV to people who still do not know the band...Back to the ICR thing. They've written my old address on the flyers, the new one is at the end of this interview. There might've been some post that have gotten lost due to the postal service here in Norway, so if you have sent a letter to me and haven't gotten a response, I'd advice you to try to write to me again on the new address...Oh yeah, and do not send me other foreign currency than NOK and \$, even though the flyers say you can do so...(foreign currency goes to ICR...)

**Any plans when it comes to getting music officially released (LP, CD etc.)?**  
Well, no, not yet...We shall see what happens when our next demo is out, which will hopefully show a stronger side of TOV. But if we decide to go for a deal I will not sign to any big label (but if I'll have to have an OK distribution) and it will not be for a fulllength, that's for sure...I hate it when all these new bands suddenly get signed, and are going to fill a whole CD of music. Extremely few bands manage to fill about 40-50 minutes of worthy music. They usually have like three or four really good songs, and the rest are just "diddelida", just music made in a couple of seconds in order to make the CD a fulllength. I would prefer releasing an EP or a MCD at first, and if I found out later that we were capable of doing a fulllength without ending up with doing loads of boring stuff, well, maybe I'd do a fulllength. One thing is for sure though, I will not start to experiment with new musicstyles in order to make the music more interesting. I think bands are becoming too hype when it comes to mixing BM with all different types of music. Take Storm as an example. I have nothin against any of the guys (girl) in the band, but through the whole album you can hear that the musicians aren't really used to playing the folk-type of music, and that they have no creativity at all in the more folkish parts. This goes for most bands trying to play atmospheric acoustic parts too, they just do some moll-scales, think it sounds cool (sometimes it does, I'll admit that) but mostly it just turns out incredibly boring and you've probably heard the same piece a 100 times before...

**Loads of bands seem to use hundreds of effects in order to make their music more special, while TOV go for the more straight forward type of music...please explain...**  
It's more of a challenge to try to be moderate with the effects and be just as good without using "false" methods. Take the synth as an example. Nowadays it seems like a BM band can't even make one song with out a carpet of synth over it, they simply do not know how to play good melodies on the guitars, and using the synth is just a good way to get out of the trap-and people like it...The synth is cool when you don't have the heavy chords but uses 3-4 tones over and over in order to create an atmosphere, not in order to "kill the guitar"...But if I was to use loads of synth effects and other effects in my music I would rather prefer doing a totally different musicstyle, more techno orientated. But that's very expensive, so I think it will take some time before I will be able to play that type of music on as good computers as I would need...Yeah, another thing...BM band usually tend to write either aggressive or sad music, there are only a couple of bands I know that manage to bring in other feelings, TOV being one of 'em. I guess that's pretty obvious that the music will turn out like that as the bands are usually very young and they do not know how to "play" other feelings than just sadness and aggressiveness...BM bands become too one-dimensional...

**TOV have been around for quite some while...**  
Yeah, we started out as the typical gang of kids at the age of 13-14 playing Metallica covers and making short, horrible songs just for fun...We did not even have in mind making a demo out of this, because there wasn't really any big underground at that time, and we would't be accepted at all...hehe...Well, as everybody else we grew into loving DM and played a lot around at small gigs, mostly doing Delicide and Sepultura covers at that time and making "Blood, Fire, Death" rip-off songs (I do remember me banging my head off at some of those gigs back then...Times changes, eh??-Ed) Yeah, we were called Føle Fredrik og de Stygge Tannbørstene.

**musician...I do also think it's boring when bands make CD after CD after CD of the same music and never change...**  
I mean the new Marduk CD is crap, but people buy it just because it's Marduk and they think it will be good this time too...Take AC/DC-people will go on buying their albums forever, they haven't exactly developed their style of music over the last 10 years...I don't give a fuck wether music is trend or not...I listen to whatever I feel like listening to...Laibach, Sisters of Mercy, Thou Art Lord, Nine Inch Nails, Aphex Twins, Rotting Christ (of course...), Nick Cave etc. etc. Not exactly the standard BM playlist!

**When mentioning trend...what do you think of the viking/nazi trend we had going here last year?**  
The nazi people are usually just braindead kids. I have never in my entire life met a person sympathizing with Nazism that has some braincells left for other things than defending Hitler's actions...I guess the more intelligent ones keep themselves more in the background and work more underground, so I will probably never meet one of those...When it comes to the viking trend...well, I've never been really interested in that part of our history, I go for more occult things as well as the more horror style. The vikinging became a bit too stereotyped for me, I can't relate to it, at least not to the barbaric side that the Norwegian BM mob has put forth as an example of our ancestors. In my opinion there's only one LP that really catches the Vikingessence and that's Bathory's "Hammerheart" (Couldn't agree more...Ed) The rest is getting just a bit out of hand. Especially if it is mixed with occultism, medieval times, nazi etc. which many band tend to do...Few bands manage to make the Vikingimage something else than what they're reading in books...They know the name of every god and goddess in the whole Norse Mythology, but they don't seem to understand what the mythology/age was all about. When it comes to image I do not really know where TOV stand...We don't belong in any of the genres of today...we shall see in the coming months when we start writing new material where we'll end up...I don't look upon the image as an important factor...

**How about the name TOV...**  
Well, it was just a name I thought of that fitted the band well. Nobody ever understands what it means, noone can think of having a similar name, it's long and hard to spell (hehehe), and it fits our style of music...

**And onwards...**  
Well, we shall see what happens when the band gets together again and I get to write some new material. I will hopefully get some time to practise a bit on my vocals as I tend to play guitar and concentrate on that rather than make a good effort when it comes to the vocals...I'd like to vary the vocals a bit more, be able to get them to work really good together with the guitarlines...The new material will probably be recorded sometime around Xmas this year, and after that...I don't know. If people like our music we might try to get a record deal, if not...uhm, I guess we'll just go on playing...

André Lynum  
Rugvn. 34  
0679 Oslo  
Norway

Emperor is a band where no introduction should be necessary. Their last opus "In the Nightside Eclipse" is really the metaphor to the word "brilliance". And pure brilliance was what we were expecting, too. Of course there are a lot of minor things to complain about, but I will not move further into those explanations now...

I chose to make this view a split between the above mentioned and Thou Shalt Suffer, a band that by now only is known by their '92 7", but soon will become something more... We await the arrival of something special; another masterpiece from our gloomy woods...?  
**Questions answered by Ihsahn and Samoth.**

I know Thou Shalt Suffer as an average D.M. band, but I've heard rumours of a big change in musical direction. Explain...

-It is a long time since TSS was doing death metal. The recent years there have been a lot of material development, progressing all the time. What seems to be an outcome of this long time of experimenting and development is classical music used in a darker sense than ever before. It is very hard to explain this composition, you will have to wait until the "Satanae Imperio Consecratio" is released.

TSS' lyrics are in latin. What do they deal with?

- The lyrics are a symbolic reflection of personal aspects of my belief and deal with emotional- and to some degree philosophical themes that fascinates me and inspires me.

What is today's line-up?

-I, Ihsahn is the only member of TSS and that is the way it will stay.

You are at the moment building a studio. Will the new material be recorded in this studio? In case, when?

- Yes, the first thing that will happen when I am finished building the studio, is the recording of the TSS album. I am still working on marked-investigation, budgets etc., so the actual time is still uncertain, but I will hopefully have it ready this year.

Why have you chosen to continue using the name Thou Shalt Suffer when the concept has been changed so drastically?

-The old name is quite appropriate for the new concept as well as the old. Also, this name is known among an audience that I still wish to appeal to the material I have worked with since Samoth left the band.

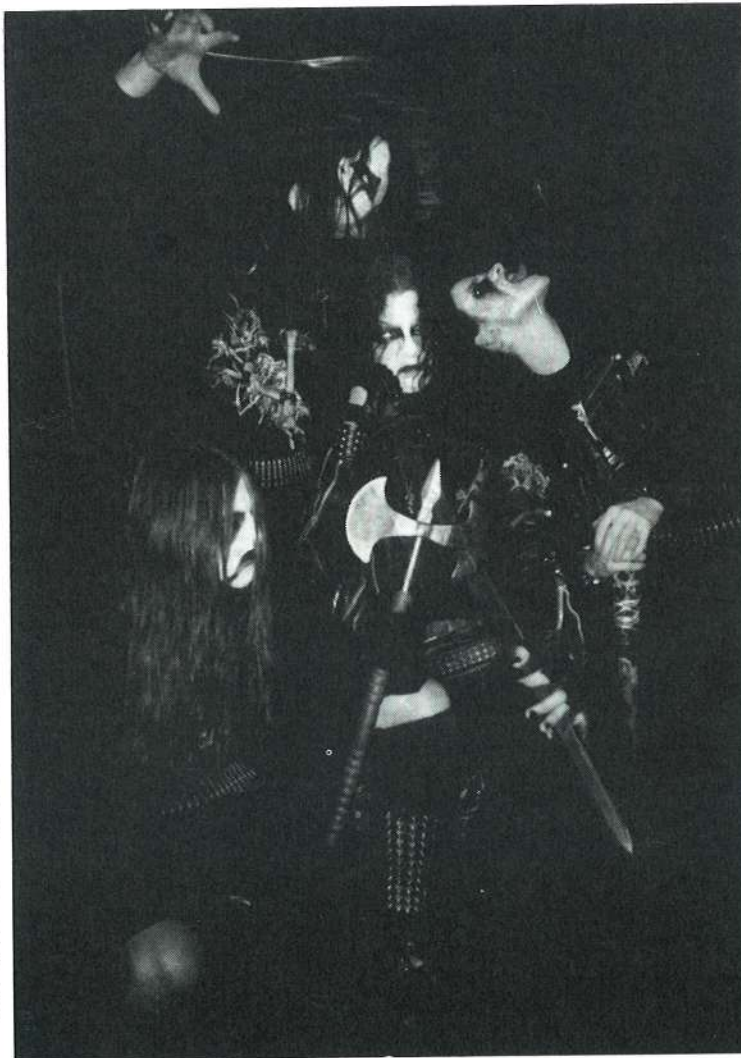


How do Emperor transfer the inspiration you get from the nature into your music?

- It is like the energy. It can not be made nor destroyed, it can only change form (Her har vi beviset på at Samoth fulgte med i naturfagstimen på ungdomsskolen !! -Ed)The energy we are consuming from our inspirational sources, we used in the compositions we make to make it as emotional appealing as art should be (...og på at han ikke fulgte med i engelsktimen...-Ed)

I've always admired your skills of making the music so "floating". How do you put together the music to attain this kind of sound?

-First, we make a basic background for a new song. Then we rehearse and develop this with the rest of the band, doing the necessary changes. The



lyrical concept is put on and later the keyboard lines. This floating sound, as you call it, is just a natural result, as this is the kind of music we make.

What do you believe are the biggest changes in your musical direction from your EP compared to "In the Nightside Eclipse"?

-The songs are more individual, detailed and generally better composed. The whole production is better, due to more experience and a more professional studio.

How's your Nocturnal Art Prod. going? Any plans for new releases?

- The Emperor 7" is sold out! There are still copies left of both the Ildjarn-Nidhogg 7" EP and the Arcturus "Constellation" MCD. Nocturnal Art's next release will be the legendary Tormentor "Anno Domini" full-length album.

There's been a joke going around that you'll delay the album 666 times... What have been the reasons for the delays?

-I could of course make a list, but shortly I will say that most of the things that could go wrong, went wrong. Anyway, this belongs to the past, as the album is out now. What remains is to increase our sales 666 times.

It's been quite a while since Euronymous was murdered... What do you believe has been the consequences of that happening, as you look at it today?

-This event resulted in a lot of disagreements and people choosing sides. Lately these things seem to have eased down. We will always remember Euronymous as a supporting and loyal friend. May he find pleasure wherever he is now.

Do you believe it's a positive thing that there are so many new and upcoming bands from Norway? I mean, at least most of them are trying to spread (almost) the same message, even if they're kids making awful music...

-I have heard quite a few good new bands from Norway lately, and that is positive. The more good bands that spring out of our beautiful country, the better. The negative side of this development with all the upcoming new bands, is all those lousy bands getting deals, giving the rest of the world a false impression of what Norwegian Black Metal really is.

Any plans for touring? In case, how will the line-up be?

-No, we have no plans for touring, as we have no complete line-up.

This might be an unnecessary question, but I've always wondered... Why the name "Emperor"?

-The royal title "Emperor" will always be associated with power,

-The royal title "Emperor" will always be associated with power, also having several options when it comes to symbolic interpretations. The name is appealing and is relevant to our concept.

What is the last song you want to hear before you die?

-Beethoven's 5th symphony or Bathory's "A fine day to die"

Any final comments?

-Trumpets bray and the stars are riven! Shatter the altar, blot the light! From the bursting hell to the fallen heaven, we are kings of the world tonight!!



## THE SWASTIKA



Over the last year-year and a half I've seen the neonazism growing strongly here in Norway. I will not make a moral speech here because I hope (and believe) that the people I see around me in the more extreme right hand side orientated milieus are aware of what they're doing. No, what I want to do here is to look a bit upon the background of the swastika symbol. It's quite interesting...

The swastika is one of the eldest and most complexed symbols we have. It's prehistoric and universal, existing everywhere except for parts of Africa. It can be met in the whole of Asia, and is used in big extent by especially the Buddhists. The symbol was often used in in the pre-columbian North- and Southamerica, on the Cyprus island and in Troja. It appeared at an early stage in Central, Western and Northern parts of Europe. The swastika didn't exist at all in Egypt until a couple of hundred years before the "birth" of a certain person, but there are great possibilities that Horus with the four faces was a paralell-symbol.

Among the Indo european people the swastika was probably a symbol of the sun, their highest god and the Ruler of the Sky; Dyasus. Other interpretations are: The sunwagon, the pole and the stars' rotation around it, the four winds, the four seasons, the wheel of life, the four phases of a human life, and I could continue like this for ages.

There are two types of swastikas; The one we know almost too well, and the inverted one. The opposite symbols are supposed to symbolise man and woman, heaven and hell, sun and moon, the rising and setting moon etc. The swastika has actually been used with the same meaning as the yin-yang symbol!

### Different religions' interpretations:

- Buddhistic: Buddha's heart, the esoteric doctrine, bringer of luck.
- Gnostic: Resignation
- Greek: Symbol of Zevs and Helios.
- Hinduistic: The word "svastika" means "everything is well". Symbol of life, motions, fortune and luck. Jars containing holy water from Ganges are often sailed with a swastika.
- Islamic: The four corners of the world; death, life, the preacher and the memorandum.
- Celtic: Luck
- Chinese: Luck, long life, blessings etc.
- Christian: Symbol of christ as the power of the world.
- Nordic and Germanic: Tor's hammer representing the power of the air, thunder and lightning.
- Semittic: Sun symbol the woman's astral power.
- Roman: Symbol of Jupiter as god of thunder and lightning.



A Buddhist monk wearing the swastika as a symbol of the wheel of life. From 800 A.D.

**You are a pretty new and unknown band. Tell a bit about the two members and what they contribute with in the band. I know the two of you are pretty different-minded when it comes to style of music, how do you solve this problem?**

Yes, we are a very new band, but we don't try to hide it. In the band Arak makes all the music- he also makes loads of rap (Arak threatens to beat Goblin...)...hahaha...OK, OK, underground rave, then... I also make some riffs and stuff. We're not trying to solve all the musical differences, they might be healthy for our music, but sometimes I see the rave is taking full control over Arak, and that really pisses me off. But I really don't have anything to say because I have a sideproject too which is called Troe... (ED: we'll take that later on...) OK. Well, Arak hates this project. But mostly things are working out great.

**I hear there has been added some new members to Isvind line-up lately. Will these new members influence Isvind's musical style, or are they more or less brought in to make a full line-up?**

It's correct that we have collected two new members. They are: Tor- guitar, vocals/screams  
Jan Erik-bass

They will have no influence on Isvind's musical style at all. The point with the new line-up is the live shows we'll do in Germany and maybe Poland next summer. They are also rehearsing with us, and it's working out great- they're learning the songs at the moment (Arak's having guitarlessons with Tor at the moment, 'Lysningen i Skogen' is his homework for tomorrow -Ed) Tor is also an ex-member of Icewind (the old Isvind -Ed), and he's participating with me in our new solo-project Troens Sl... (NO!!!! Not yet...-Ed) OK...

**Looking back at your second demo 'Nivelheimen' (which is by the way not for sale anymore...), how do you feel about that release? Do you wish you'd used more time on the recording and gotten rid of the playing-errors, or is the demo exactly as you wanted it? The demo has also recieved mixed reviews, but most people agreed on that this was a band for the future. Was this what you wanted the demo to show, a band with potential?**

I'm kind of satisfied with the release, but of course I'm very tired of it, I guess you are too? (Yeszszz!!!-Ed) No, I don't wish we'd used more time during the recording process because everything has gone well, so I guess we didn't have to spend more time on the recording. Besides, few have commented our playing errors. The demo is not exactly as we wanted it regarding sound- one couldn't hear all the ideas as we did only have a 3-tracker (or more correct, a defunct 4-tracker) It is true about the reviews- people agreed on that we were a band for the future and we're of course fond of that. Of course we wanted the demo to show that we were a band with potential, or else we wouldn't have released a demo (well, with you guys one could never know, that's one thing I've learned...-Ed)

**The promo tape that was released about half a year later showed a totally different Isvind, maybe more sure, but very varied. How was the response on the promo? I guess everybody was able to find a song of their taste on it (Grim BM, nazi-rock, folk song...) How many pieces was sold of that promo, and is it still available for the unlucky souls that don't have it already?**



The promo that we released late '94 showed a totally different side of Isvind, more up-to-date. What do you mean by more mature? (Only 66 playing errors instead of 666, better riffs, the general composition had improved etc. You know what I mean, why do you always have to be so fucking quarrelsome...-Ed) Wasn't 'Nivelheimen' mature enough for you? (no!-Ed) What was wrong? (see above answer...-Ed). We decided to use lots of different songs to show the labels what we were capable of doing. The response on the promo has been great from those who've written back (probably not so good from those who didn't -Ed). Everybody tells us that it's really experimental, especially the last track 'Slag mot de Velke', which will also be on the 7" that is out now. The idea with the promo was to show the world that we could make different music. Besides-it's not nazi-rock...it's a boot (Arak: With white lices!!!) in the face of God. I don't have any exact number on how many demos that are sold, but I guess around 38 copies

(I guess the original version is gonna be pretty valuable...humphh...Not...-Ed) Neither the promo nor the 'Nivelheimen' demo is for sale anymore.

**You're at the moment signed to Solistitium Rec. in Germany. How's that co-operation working? The 7" is just about to be released, still it is now about half a year since it was recorded...Would you have recorded other songs today, or do you think the songs on the 7" is a good representation for Isvind at the stage you were back then?**

Yes, we are signed to Solistitium Rec., and Carsten is doing a really great job- we appreciate it very much

(thanks goes from Ed. (Wood) too...Thanks!!!) He's done everything from buying us a great 7" cover/logo, hooking us up on the German tour (with Behemoth, Nattvindens Gråt, Heiheim, Darkwoods...etc.) and besides we're ranked as the best demo ever released in Ablaze Mag (Germany) thanks to him...The 7" is out now, BUY BUY BUY!!! The delay was due to everybody being lazy, including us. But especially the fucking Russian fucking printing fuck (Dear God...-Ed). We wouldn't have enough material to record a new 7" now. We have only two new songs finished + two on "stand by". The 7" is of course more reflective for how we played music back then, but now we play much more aggressive. But we will do a much better recording with better drums and drumsyncronising and we would've skipped the last song.

**As Isvind is a new band, hailing from Norway and playing BM, a lot of people look upon you as "trendsuckers" and is doing their best to spread bad words about you. Poor people, they must've had a tough childhood...Anything you'd like to express to those people? You have yourself tried to destroy a young band, spreading rumours of them being "fakes" and so on. Why?? Don't you have anything better to do. You know you're playing better music than them, so why the hell bother to play that "I'm jealous at you, that's why I wanna destroy you" game...? Tough childhood, eh?**

Tough childhood is maybe a good way of saying it, but I don't have any interest in telling those people off...If you try to destroy us-see if we care...Yes, it's true that we tried to destroy a young band from Asker, and we succeeded indeed. Of course we play better music than those shitheads. What do you mean I'm jealous at them?? (Moonlit Melkevei!!! -Ed) Of course we're not jealous at those bad musicians, and besides I had

a tough childhood too (I know, I know, Mr. T...-Ed) I was very unlucky as a little kid, slipping on ice and ruining my whole face (Well, we all think you're very cute, so you shouldn't have any worries...-Ed). I did even have to change my own diapers, and of course I always threw little tiny cars at my sister...Anyway, don't you agree that we should've destroyed that awful band? (No-they were self-destructive anyway, so why bother...-Ed) (Arak: Just for the puuuure fun of it!!) They were actually to some help for Isvind too, we could rehearse at their place, drink their beer, eat their pizzas and so on...



ARAK DRACONIZ

**There seem to be a CD release in the cards now...I guess your musical style is somewhat different from the one people got used to on the 'Nivelheimen' demo-please explain... What is your goal with that album; is there any concept being planned at the moment?**

Talking about cards (???-Ed). The CD release will be 'Royal \$ Flush'. OK, I'll explain the new musicstyle for you: Aggressive BM, we're playing a lot harder and faster than last time. You can probably tell more about it from another side of view (Ehm...The grimmest music I've ever heard. Nuff said...-Ed) The goal is to strike the people who might like us and to destroy those who don't. We haven't found any title for the album yet, but we have four songs almost ready. The album will probably be recorded around Jól (x-mas) . But now I really want to get on to the next question please, the kind of question I like regarding food and drink!!! (If you say so...-Ed)

**Beer...**

I'll put up a scale for you:  
1. Rolling Rock 2. Sol 3. Corona 4. Lysholmer Ice 5. Carlsberg 665. Ringnes (Correct! -Ed)

**OK, you have my admittance to take a walk into the world of your side-project.**

What can I say...It is me and Tor...This is just to express myself in another musical direction than the one with Isvind, just like Arak does with his rave. The music is very good I think, there will be choirs with the vocals and really good guitar arrangements. We are going to record a demo very soon and what you will hear on that demo can not be compared with what will be the finished concept because we don't have enough money to record in a big studio. This demo is just for record companies and friends. The concept behind the band is to create such music that people would not look upon it as music as we hear it today, but as a masterpiece in each song. We work very hard on each song. We haven't decided a proper name yet, it has been going under the name of 'Troens Slot', but that will not be the final name, something will come. We will not get any more members because we have still, not looked for any, but if a hell of a drummer one day walked into our room, we would hire him at once! Our musical style is very hard to describe, but I'll try. Imagine this build-up of the music: First one guitar riff, then we put a totally different riff on top of that, with a good spectre in the tones. This can be up to 6 notes at a time. Then, we put vocals to it-two/three, maybe four at the most extreme parts. Drums on top and at last the bass, which pretty much follows the lowest guitar riffs, but of course we have our artistic sculptures with the basslines too..

**The Norwegian scene seems to be a very complex one at the moment, with inbetween fights and also loads of people claiming to be better than everybody else in the world just because they're Norwegian...Your opinion...**

The last thing you mentioned is very tragic, because I don't look upon which country a band comes from, I look if there's quality or not, a Greek band can be much better than a bad, Norwegian one. I must though admit that Norway has the best bands, that is not to get away with. I don't like the way the Norwegian scene exploded with bands, but it seems to be calming down now. And I like it. If bands state that they're a very good band just because being from Norway, let them say that as much as they like to. I have no intentions of ruining bands just because I don't like them (well, with one exception...) I have no authority to tell other people what to think. I would say that the Norwegian scene is pretty fucked up at the moment because there are so very many bands that want to sit on the throne. This causes jealousy and fights among bands, and I refuse to be a part of that. This fighting between bands causes us to become weaker. There is very little union between all the BM bands. If there was a union there could be fought no war- imagine what would happen if the Serbs would start war amongst themselves!! This is what is happening. Unite and we shall conquer!!

**How do you see the future of BM?**

I see the weak scene die, I hope that we will survive long enough to show our points to the whole world. I don't have any date or year but I guess Isvind won't be anymore in the year 2000, because then everything will change. As humans we are a dying race. The bands that will continue are those who truly mean something with their music, which is among the younger bands: Covenant, Dolk and Perished.

**Is there life beyond death?**

I see there is no heaven or hell. These heavens/hells are just created for weak christians that needs to have something to threaten their own with. This is a pretty sick imaginable statement. I think that when we die, we just go to sleep. No eternal huntingfields, just nothing...Just like sleeping without dreaming. But I personally believe that sometimes they come back!!

**Roleplaying games...**

I like to play roleplaying very much, it gives me full freedom to fulfill my dreams of living in another century. You get to meet the fears and everyday lives of how it was in these times, I have just ben to two "lives", which were absolutely great!! You live for a week out in the forests and you have a mission you have to accomplish. If you say something wrong your head will be chopped off (in the play, of course). Just like in real life, exact for this being far more primitive. No regret. Nor emorse!! The two lives I've been to have both been medieval, I'd like to play some more Viking stuff...

**Do you have any intention to make Isvind your full-time occupation/ to earn enough money from the band to live a reasonable life?**

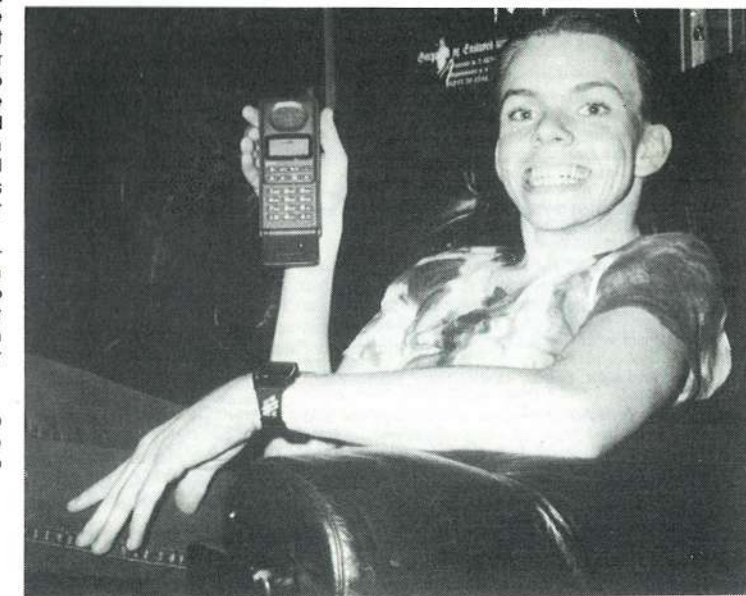
No, I don't think so as we do not make commercial music so only few people can stand listening to it and those few people can't feed our hungry stomachs every day. That's why we're studying hard to become "something". I'm studying to be a chef, if that's important, and Arak will be a sleazy capitalist in a few years. I'll probably call myself Chef de la Goblin...hehehe... "Voulez-vous a saignante homme?" (Mais oui!-Ed) Voilà!

**...And on your tombstone?**

My name  
Birth and death dates  
'The most ...(erased) man in the world...'

**Finale ord:**

Thank you very much, it was an honour to be interviewed in your mag. I hope you'll have many good nights listening to the Isvind 7"...(no, I won't ..Ed)  
Do not write to me if you do not have money to pay for my return postage (in other words; enclose IRC or 3,50 i frimerker) The demo is extremely sold out!!!! The ticket to enter Goblin's life is to buy me a bottle of Lysholmer Ice...



GOBLIN AND HIS DEAR BELOVED SATANIC MOBILPHONE...=>

GOBLIN, MUSPELLZ SON



Yep, you're right, another Irish band ... This time with a slightly different approach. Cruachan plays a mix between Irish Trad. music and Black/Death Metal. Still a quite unusual mix, but I believe we will see more and more bands in the future playing this kind of music. Anyway, we can remember Cruachan as being among the first, at least the first to release a CD.

Answers by Keith Fay.

A short history behind the band, please... We've always been, before the coming of man we walked the earth and ruled, now we shall release our debut CD onto man and rule again...or something.

Traditional Folk Metal-describe the music behind this classification...

Well, obviously it says that we mix traditional Celtic music with extreme forms of music. Black Metal is the form we favour, but you can hear many other metal styles in our music.

Why the heck does almost every Irishman slag off the Irish scene when many other "foreigners" believe you have one of the better scenes around? Not the biggest perhaps, but quality before quantity...

What? The Irish scene is bolloxxx, it's an embarrassment. Come on, I could recommend about three bands, and that's all. (I would recommend more...-Ed)

I heard som rumours of a record deal...Tell, tell...Any new stuff recorded yet?

Yes, we are signed to Nazgul's Eyrie Prod. in Germany, they are responsible for Bifrost, Downfall, Behemoth, Barathrum and now us. The new album is entitled "Tuatha na nGael", and is released on the feast of Beltaine-May 1st.

Yes, there are many new songs on it plus some old ones, it is also an hour long, so it's value for money. Also we haven't stopped writing new material either and have almost enough songs for another CD. Good, eh?

It seems like Irish Trad. Music is enjoying a new comeback here in Europe (the last one with the folkrock trend back in the late 70's early, 80's), am I right? Has this got something to do with the growing patriotic feeling?

It's true that Irish Trad. Music is making a comeback, but understand-it was never even near to dying out and never will. To be honest, I can't understand why it is making such a huge comeback. After the Eurovision Songcontest CRAP of last year, the trad-dance routine on it called "Riverdance" was no. 1 in Ireland for nearly 6 months above all the rave and grunge crap. (Heh, now it's our turn...Yeehaw...urk...-Ed)

Keeping to the trad. music...will we ever hear Cruachan bringing in more trad. instruments other than the flute into the music?

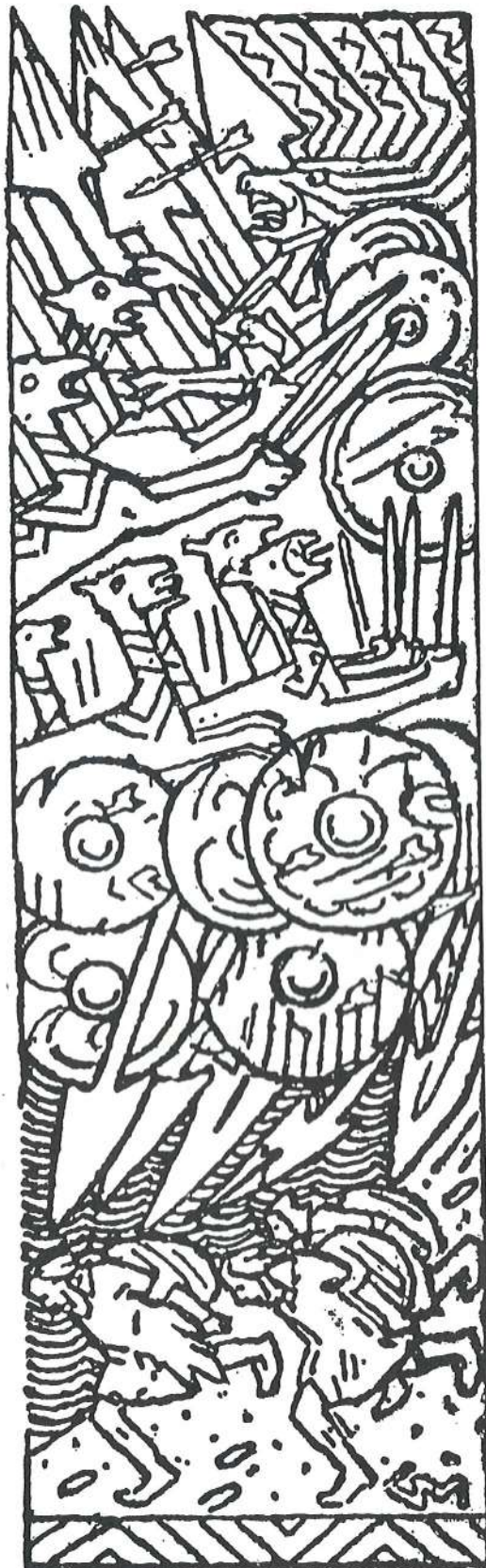
I'll list the instruments on the new album: Bozouki, acoustic guitar, mandolin, Timber flute, tin whistle, Uilleann pipes, bodhran, and we cheated by getting accordion and harp sounds off the keyboard.

Is the metal or the folk music part the most important in your music?

There must be an even balance of the two or else the music would sound ridiculous. Imagine the Dubliners with Count Grishnack on vocals, not a very good idea ( Oh yes, I think I could've sacrificed a lot to hear exactly that... hehe...-Ed)

Do you consider yourselves as a part of the BM underground? I mean, you're not exactly playing BM, still I believe most of your listeners are of that kind...

I suppose we are related to the BM underground because we are a Pagan band, but why paganism is related to BM I'll never know.



Where do Cruachan gather inspiration from, both musically and lyrically? Naihmass' parents he,he...Musically would be bands such as Clannad, Horslips, Chieftans, Skyclad, Emperor, DarkThrone etc. but I am influenced by no-one in both my lyric and songwriting.

During the latter days we've seen "hundreds" of bands using the Black Death as a subject for both lyrics and concept. Will we ever see Cruachan bringing in f. ex. the Great Famine, or other struggles Ireland

has had through the years in your lyrics? Or will you stick to the good, old mythical ones? Shit, we don't just write mythical ones, Cúchulainn existed and was a great hero of Ireland. Brian Boru who rid Ireland of the Vikings (no offence) in the Battle of Clontarf did actually do that, and was killed by a fleeing Norseman who spied his tent and killed him, although Brian was 88 at the time. We do stay away from modern history as it's not that good? (...and here's a typical example on how one miswritten word can cause the death of a whole question...If it's one thing I really know about in the Irish history is it Brian Boru and the Battle of Clontarf...and what I meant was "heroic" ...hmf...-Ed with oars)

Question 13: Are you superstitious? If yes, skip this question... OK

A bird sang in my ears here the other day that you are said to have some unbelievable live shows...Go on, make us all interested in your gigs!

Well, we don't play live that often, but when we do, we cause a storm. Even seeing the amount of people on stage (especially now that we have a 7th member on bodhran and percussion) with all the instruments gives the crowd a buzz. We create a battle atmosphere on stage and although hampered in the past, we wear Celtic battle-dress.

How much do the fact that you are Irish mean to you? Do you think you'd been the same person if growing up in for instance in Norway?

Oh! Quite a lot. I love Ireland, it's a magical place of forests and mythology. The only modern city is Dublin, followed closely by Cork and Limerick, other than that it is mountains, forests, countryside etc. Would I be the same person if I lived in Norway? Well, I'd be a lot colder for a start.

Any life philosophies/opinions you want to share with the readers? You may also say some serious words to a fuckhead or two, if that would please you...

Not really, I don't want to preach to anyone, actually I'd like to say fuck off to former Yugoslavia and the people in the Russian countries who plague me with begging letters for free demos. If they saved the money they spend on stamps maybe then they could afford stuff.

Your favourite beer drinking song ??? This may come as a shock to everyone, but I don't drink.

...and what will the inscription on your tombstone be?

...eh? (Hmm, either he didn't understand the question, or else he's a lost person with the best inscription I've ever heard...-Ed)

Closing words?

Bye.

CRUACHAN  
C/O KEITH FAY  
178 KILLINARDEN EST.  
TALLAGHT  
DUBLIN 24  
IRELAND

## HENRIK IBSEN - THE MAN AND HIS WORKS

I have found it rather surprising that people within this music milieu tend to turn over to the intellectual side, but they do not seem to even have noticed Norway's greatest writer through all times; Henrik Ibsen. Peculiar. Ibsen is one of our authors that has written the most controversial writings against the church through the whole history of Norwegian writing, and he's also a lot of nationalromantic plays, even a couple of plays taking place during the Viking age! When taking a look at these factors, I think you will have to agree with me in that it is rather strange that noone has ever thought about ripping a lyric or two, or at least quote him?? Well, well-then this will at least not be a trend article...Norway has had a lot of excellent writers, and I have big plans for making an article on each of the ones I think deserve some attention in the forthcoming issues of VF. Do write me some critical lines, or come with good ideas if you'd like to about this article/Idea!

"To live-is to be at war with the trolls in the arch of the heart and the brain.

To be a poet,- that is to keep judgement day above oneself"

Ibsen was born in the south of Norway, in a small town by the coast named Grimstad. He had to manage on his own from the age of 15, and this has marked as good as all his works; the feeling of bitterness of having been betrayed by his parents and those he thought were his friends. He moved to Christiania (Oslo) where he worked as a "theatre-poet", and he did also have short careers as a journalist, after having failed drastically with his first play *Catilina*. It was first with *The Vikings* of Helgeland and *Love's Comedy* people started to open their eyes to this young author, with his rebellious and hardhitting style of writing.

*Love's Comedys* fierce anti-romantic, idealistic satire was Ibsen's first landmark in his life-long battle against the stupidity, the weight of the majority. Having worked himself up to being a respected author all his glory fell into pieces when releasing one of my personal favourite works; *The Pretenders*. This is yet another saga-inspired drama, but the majority didn't seem to like this one much, they were shy of it's strangeness and noone wanted to print this epos until Ibsen's career was beginning to become of worldfame; with *Peer Gynt*. In *The Pretenders* we get the first glimpses of Ibsen's political principle; to give the amplest possible opportunity for the free growth of the individual, and he was naturally and inevitably disappointed by all movements of reforms in that time-liberal, radical, socialist-as conducted.

He found that they all tended in time to subordinate the individual to the state-and to Ibsen the state was his biggest enemy and that which he fought against for the rest of his days. *The Pretenders* was followed up by *Brand*, a play that gained huge international success and that also gave Ibsen a salary from the Norwegian State. He was at that time living in Italy; he did actually stay abroad for almost the rest of his life with Germany almost becoming his second home, but he did almost never write one single word of act that happened outside the borders of Norway. In fact, almost all his plays are in one way or another more or less criticism on the Norwegian race, which *Brand* and the following masterpiece *Peer Gynt* so clearly shows. *Peer Gynt* might be the ultimate picture of what Ibsen would characterise as a typical Norwegian,

on both good and bad sides, while *Brand* shows the courage and the idealism which Ibsen ment Norwegians were lacking. The maincharacters are so different as it is possible to be-The priest *Brand* is a fanatic idealist which do not realise that he's destroying people's minds, he lets his son die just to follow through what he believes in. *Peer Gynt* is the absolute contrary. He do not know what he believes in because he do not know who he is. He's brought up on adventures and dreams. He lies in order to get advantages. He is "himself enough", but "himself" he is not. He beats about the bush in the decisive second, tempted by the "bøye", a kind of ghost that appears in situations where he has to make an important choice. He is, like he puts it himself, like an onion without any nucleus, lamine

above lamine of other's thoughts and ideas. I believe Ibsen wanted the perfect Norwegian to be a kind of mix between *Brand* and *Peer Gynt*, with the fantasy and rankness of *Peer* and the the courage from *Brand*.

In these plays, as we also find in almost all other plays, the maincharacter is struggling with a taming self-control and an eruptive life, which leads to deep, unsolvable conflicts in the maincharacter's life. This might be necessary in order to bring the character's life forth, and not end up in a stagnating life of selfconsumption. The fact that Ibsen seems to always let the contrary feelings of the subconscious mind work against each other was in a way a sign in the time, Ibsen was greatly inspired by the thoughts of (in these cases) Hegel, Nietzsche, Kierkegaard. As G.B. Shaw wrote about the climax of *Peer Gynt*: it was a "crowningly unreal self-realization". That might be right, and taken straight out of the philosophies of Nietzsche and Hegel.

His next big work was *Emperor and Galilean*, an elaborate historical study of the character of Julian the Apostate, which shows Ibsen's wide reading and remarkable power of re-creating classical figures of history. Ibsen drapes the problems of old Greece into the clothes of the timegoing problems in France/Germany, and one can once again spot a bit of Hegel's dialectics in Julian the Apostate's dream of replacing two empires with a new one; "the third reich". Julian has the typical "Ibsen" way of gathering up the loose ends and create a totality out of it. These ideas were also typical for the great mystic Maximo, but his ideas were never concretised-and Julian dies before his inner war is reconciled. Ibsen's way of thinking seems to be in no particular philosophical

system, but rather a mass of thoughts inspired by the ideas of his time.

Time changes, and Ibsen started writing in a totally different form, he did now base himself on social problem plays, and the first of them being *The Pillars of Society*, a play that consists of 12 smaller plays, all of them having a social problem to solve, but where the realism is weaker and the new psychological and philosophical views are stronger. Ibsen is this time trying to trap the hypocrites within the higher society, and he continues doing so in the follow up to *The Pillars of Society-A Doll's Home*. This became an important book for the woman liberation at that time, even though Ibsen hadn't written it with the intention of being so. He only wanted a strong character and found out that a woman was more fit to the role of life he wanted to characterise in this play, rather than a man. We meet the maincharacter Nora in a seemingly perfect home- upper part of society, three children and a caring husband, but as Ibsen develops his retrospective part we soon discover that something is wrong-there is something underneath this perfect picture that is not good. Nora discovers that she becomes a helpless doll in a dollhouse which only serves her husband's progress, but not hers. A consciousness as an individual is created as soon as Nora realises these words, and she leaves the whole home in order to find out who she is as a person. She had just been playing a role in her life until now. This play is an emphatic statement of Ibsen's individualistic creed from start to end-this is a plain struggle society vs. the individual. Ibsen had his own special way of managing the

individualistic part of a person to come forth; the characters would have to make a choice, and the choice is either to continue on like before-or have the chance of selfdestruction with the intention of making the most essential parts of the person's personality come to life. Like on of the minor characters in *Peer Gynt* said: "To be yourself, is to kill yourself" (an allusion to Matt 16.25).

*A Doll's Home* created a big stir, but that didn't stop Ibsen from making another play in the same spirit, namely *Ghosts*. A modern play of tragedy of faith, a psychological masterpiece based on many of the same themes as the last play, also here posing a woman as a maincharacter. Ibsen was more than ever busy with playing around with the ideas of that time, and especially the thoughts that were



marching into Scandinavia in the 1870's. Norway become rather furious about *Ghosts*, and it would take many years before Norwegian theatres would put it on the posters. The Englishman G.T. Grein had to go to jail for playing *Ghosts* in 1890...But Ibsen got his revenge and retorted the critics by releasing *An Enemy of the People*, in which he attacks the stupid majority who prefer disease to the confession of their disgrace...Also Ibsen's next play *The Wild Duck* shows Ibsen taking revenge with its quiet charm, ironic humour and its devastating satire. It is the record of Ibsen's discovery of that it takes two people to tell the truth, one to speak and one to understand what is spoken-the last lesson learned by all prophets. *The Wild Duck* was the first of Ibsen's plays which moved in the more symbolic way-more individual problems, more longing for joy and morbid jealousy, and also a more compromising studies of the woman. For myself I can say that the plays written after *The Wild Duck* are rather dull, without much to add. Ibsen seems to have run out of fuel, and it becomes a nightmare to get through a long and boring story. *Little Eyolf* and *While we Dead Awaken* are petite delicatessen, so make exception for those. The language of these two plays is the best of Ibsen, and they have this peculiar float that can be found in no other works.

No other dramatist of so immensely creative a genius has ever been so lonely; Ibsen did not need long or continuous intercourse with society. A change word, a chance meeting, a sudden memory was enough to fertilize that powerful imagination that, every second year, gave birth to a play which brought the world an entirely new characters. Ibsen was first and last a great poet, a great mystic-one of the greatest poets and mystics who's ever devoted himself to the drama; the "lyrical Pegasus have been killed under him" as Brandes said, but his poetic inspiration burned even more fiercely because of the limits of society that was put forth to him. Ibsen's interest in his characters were always dependent on his poetic vision of life, his vision of life is never dependent, as I can find in Bjørnson and for instance Goethe's works.

Ibsen's consummate skills as a dramatist, his influence in the making of a new European type of plays must not allow us to forget that he was never of the movement which he caused, and of which he was accused to be the leader. He was always in advance and always detached.

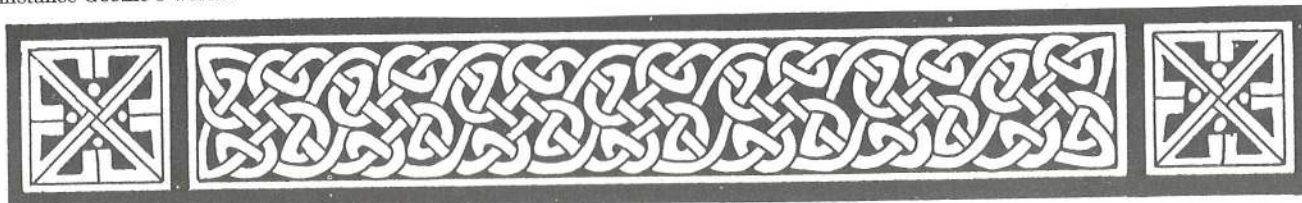
Now go and find some Ibsen in your bookshelves and read...You might have found some more inspiration than the one you get during a grey hour at college...By the way, if you want some real nationalromantic pieces from Ibsen, do find his poems, they are not too famous but incredibly good, and should be quoted far more often than they do today.

"I EN KOMPONISTS STAMBOK"  
(skrevet til E. Grieg)

Orpheus slo med toner rene  
ånd i vilddyr, ild i stene.

Stene har vårt Norge nok av;  
vilddyr har vi og en flokk av.

Spill, så stenen spruter gnister!  
Spill, så dyrehammen brister!



## VERA HENRIKSEN

Vera Henriksen is a rather unknown Norwegian author, which is rather strange as she's written 16 novels as well as 11 non-fictional books and even 4 plays!! I mean, she's not exactly unknown among those Norwegians who regard the written words as the highest art and that read several books a week, but the standard person in Norway is probably not familiar with this gorgeous Norwegian author at all. And that's a pity, because she's written loads of excellent books, most noticeable the serie of three books named "Bodvars Saga". I do actually not know if any of her novels are translated into Norwegian, but I know that at least two non-fictional books are: "Christmas in Norway-Past and Present" and "St. Olav of Norway- King, Saint & Enigma". Check 'em out, they're rather interesting.

Bodvar's saga, in my opinion Vera Henrikses's best work to date, could go under the name of a modern vikingsaga, but it do fit just as well in under the genre sagainspired novel. Where the borders between these two genres are is not easy to put to paper, so I'll just put it short and say that she has a belonging in both. "Bodvars Saga" has everything that should qualify it for being a novel, but also every trademark of a saga. Here is action and human fates at the same time as everything is situated and happening in the times of the Vikings. You will find historical persons tied into this story, most noticeably Egil Skallagrimson, which plays an important role here. Bodvar is a "fantasyperson", but people who've read "Sønnetapet" (The loss of a son") might recognise the name, as Bodvar was the name of the drowning son.

Everything that happens of larger events are true, they are traced back so that this is also a rather good way to get to learn the historical events of old Norway.

Now that the viking trend seems to be over, there might still be a few people that really mean something with the connection to the vikings, and don't just wear a Torshammer "because everybody else does" (like most people did about a year ago...) Well, back to Bodvars Saga. The saga is parted in three books: "Odins Ravner", "Spydet" and "Ravn og Due", with the first one being the absolute best. We follow the maincharacter Bodvar through his whole life, and this is not just some messy love story, this is as a matter of fact a rather interesting story- if you're into the ways of the old ones, that is... Almost everything happens on Iceland between 947-990, and as this was the end of the pagan period and the beginning of the awful 1000 years, we do get some rather interesting perspectives of the views upon both xtianity and our good, old Asatru.

Vera Henriksen writes in a very easy style, more of a saga style, but she do still manage to draw some beautiful Icelandic landscapes, and a vivid language even though using a minimum of hard words. Maybe the best thing about this book is the way Vera Henriksen has dressed Voluspå (the tale of creation in Norse Mythology) in new clothes. It is done with such a perfection that I don't have any words for how excellent it is! I think you'll have to read it yourself to see what I mean. I'm usually strongly against changing something that has ment a lot to me the original way, but this new version of Voluspå is truly magnificent, believe it or not.

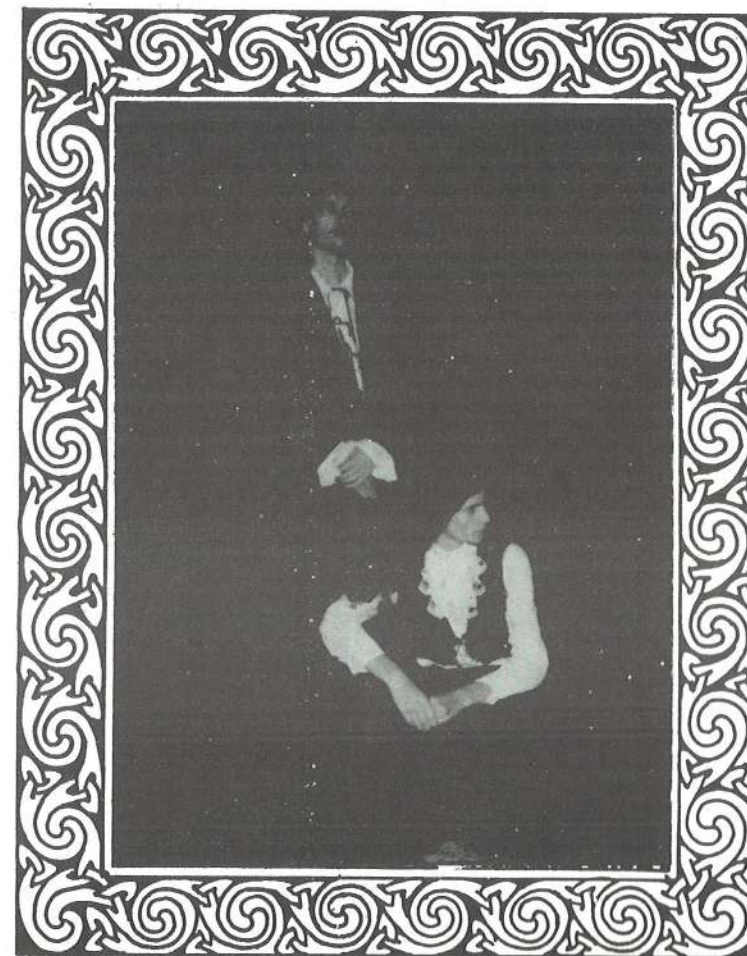
This is no pulp ficton, these are books you will have to sit down and relax while reading. Of course, do check out the other books by Vera Henriksen too, the masterpiece "Verdenstreet- mennesker og makter" is a must for everyone being interested in the Norse Mythology, so get your sorry arses down to the library and rent these books at once!

### NOVELS OF INTEREST:

SØLVHAMMEREN	1961
JÆRTEGN	1962
HELGENKONGEN	1963
GLASSBERGET	1966
TROLLSTEINEN	1970
PILEGRIMSFERD	1971
BLÅBREEN	1973
STAUPET	1975
SKJÆRSILD	1977
DRONNINGSAGAEN	1979
KONGESPEIL	1980
ODINS RAVNER	1983
SPYDET	1984
RUNEKORSET	1986
MOT EN VERDENS YTTERSTE GRENSE	1988
RAVN OG DUE	1989

### NON-FICITONAL BOOKS OF INTEREST:

CHRISTMAS IN NORWAY- PAST AND PRESENT	1970
SAGAENS KVINNER	1981
VERDENSTREET- MENNESKER OG MAKTER	1984
GISLE SURSSONS SAGA	1985
HELLIG OLAV-HISTORIEN OM VÅR NASJONALHELGEN	1985



## PENITENT

Allright, the Stavanger ensamble strikes again...From a man that runs for cover under the name of Beastus Rex one should expect some true BM of the old-school, but no...This is on the contrary some real tasty synth stuff (drums and perc. inc.), not just some typical "hey-let's-put-together-some-depressing-synth-stuff-because-it's-so-easy-and-sounds-so-fucking-dark". Penitent was formed Aug. '94 by Beastus Rex because he wanted to put music to some of his poems. Azgoth joined as a session member, and the co-operation turned out very well indeed. The debut demo was recorded in March '95, and this led to Azgoth becoming a full member of the band. Most of the lyrics are in Norwegian (lyrics are enclosed !! Wow, congratulations, long time-no see...), so I would believe you'll have to be a Scandinavian (or know the Norwegian language fairly well) to catch the essence of this demo. The lyrics, or should I say poems, are pretty good too. Maybe a bit unoriginal, but is it possible to not be today? I'm just wondering...There are two things that annoys me with this demo. The first thing is that the demo is far too short for reaching the "meditation-stadium"; I know I can't relax when listening to this demo because I'll have to turn the tape after such a short period of time...This second thing is the vocals. Maybe vocals isn't the proper word, I'd rather say the voice...There's no singing (or grunting..hehe) on the demo, only plain spoken parts without the profundity that is needed when using that kind of "vocals". (Dessuten minner vokalen meg om Per-Inge Torkelsen...og det ødelegger jo noe av stemninga...) Anyway, all in all a very good demo indeed. With better "vocals" this band might be a watch for the future. They have already been offered a CD deal, but nothing is signed yet, so stay tuned for more news. About Beastus Rex himself, you can read his rather interesting piece about his experiences with the police somewhere else in VF. The demo's 40 Nkr, \$6 (Europe) or \$7 (Elsewhere) from: Beastus Rex  
Box 675  
4001 Stavanger  
NORWAY

### LATEST NEWS!!!

PENITENT IS SIGNED TO COLD MEAT INDUSTRIES AND HAVE JUST RECORDED THEIR FIRST FULLLENGTH (SEPT.) IT IS ENTITLED "MELANCHOLY" AND SHOULD HIT THE SHOPS IN A NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE...

## The Morendoes

Yess,yess, yessss !!!! Finally a Goth band from the shores of Norway! And a good one, too ! The debut CD "There is no Salvation" is a great chunk all real Gothsters should have in their record collection, at least now after you've read about them in Valkyrjens Fugler. I didn't know about this band until quite lately when Raymond of Theatre of Tragedy (jadajada, du vant der...ikke bli overlegen!!!) recommended me to check the band out- and what an excellent surprise this band was...

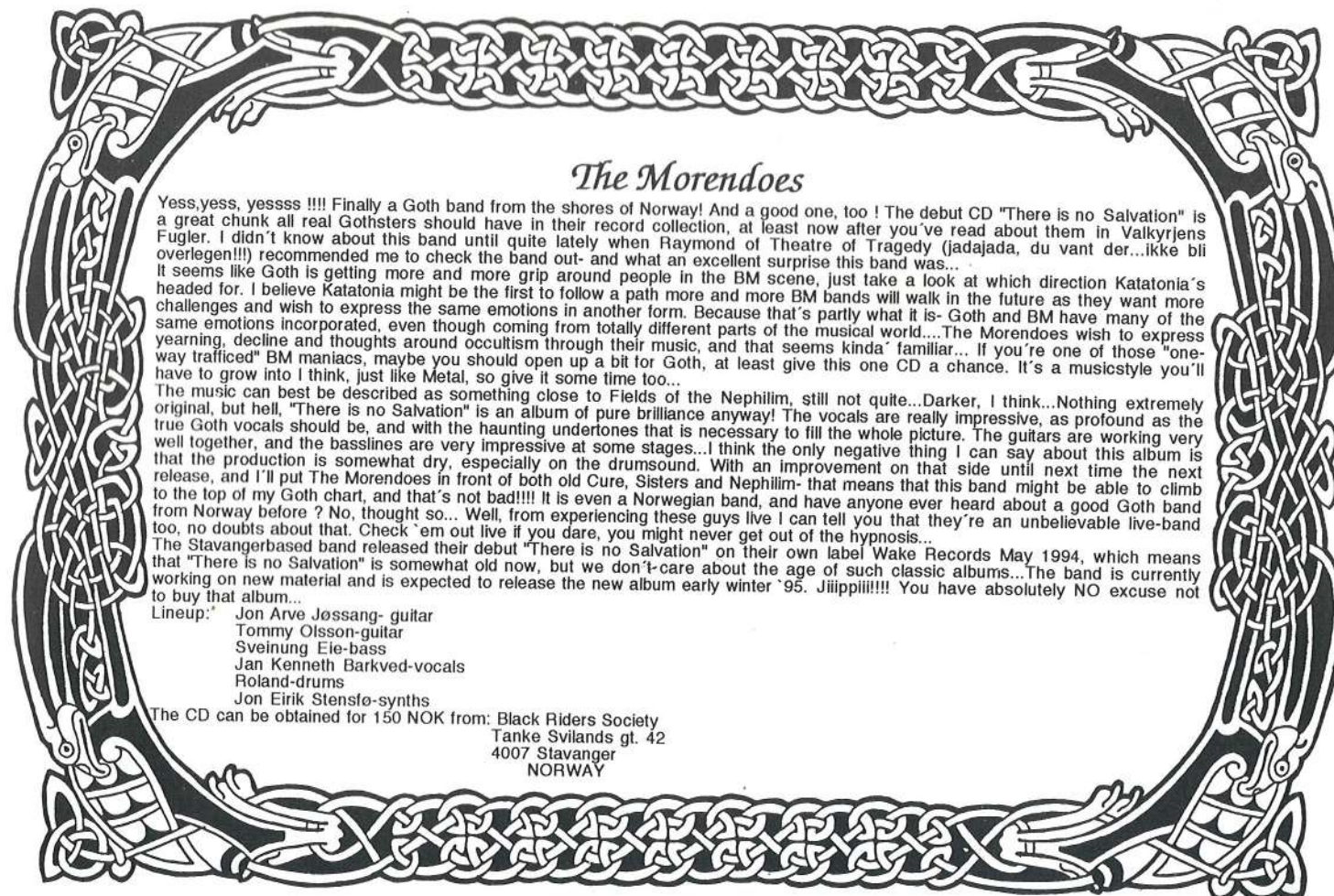
It seems like Goth is getting more and more grip around people in the BM scene, just take a look at which direction Katatonia's headed for. I believe Katatonia might be the first to follow a path more and more BM bands will walk in the future as they want more challenges and wish to express the same emotions in another form. Because that's partly what it is- Goth and BM have many of the same emotions incorporated, even though coming from totally different parts of the musical world...The Morendoes wish to express yearning, decline and thoughts around occultism through their music, and that seems kinda' familiar... If you're one of those "one-way trafficed" BM maniacs, maybe you should open up a bit for Goth, at least give this one CD a chance. It's a musicstyle you'll have to grow into I think, just like Metal, so give it some time too...

The music can best be described as something close to Fields of the Nephilim, still not quite...Darker, I think...Nothing extremely original, but hell, "There is no Salvation" is an album of pure brilliance anyway! The vocals are really impressive, as profound as the true Goth vocals should be, and with the haunting undertones that is necessary to fill the whole picture. The guitars are working very well together, and the basslines are very impressive at some stages...I think the only negative thing I can say about this album is that the production is somewhat dry, especially on the drumsound. With an improvement on that side until next time the next release, and I'll put The Morendoes in front of both old Cure, Sisters and Nephilim- that means that this band might be able to climb to the top of my Goth chart, and that's not bad!!!! It is even a Norwegian band, and have anyone ever heard about a good Goth band from Norway before ? No, thought so... Well, from experiencing these guys live I can tell you that they're an unbelievable live-band too, no doubts about that. Check 'em out live if you dare, you might never get out of the hypnosis...

The Stavangerbased band released their debut "There is no Salvation" on their own label Wake Records May 1994, which means that "There is no Salvation" is somewhat old now, but we don't-care about the age of such classic albums...The band is currently working on new material and is expected to release the new album early winter '95. Jiiippiii!!!! You have absolutely NO excuse not to buy that album...

Lineup:  
Jon Arve Jøssang- guitar  
Tommy Olsson-guitar  
Sveinung Ele-bass  
Jan Kenneth Barkved-vocals  
Roland-drums  
Jon Eirik Stensfö-synths

The CD can be obtained for 150 NOK from: Black Riders Society  
Tanke Svilands gt. 42  
4007 Stavanger  
NORWAY



**IRISH SCENE REPORT**  
**JANUARY 1995**

Greetings readers, I'm here to tell you of the latest news in the Irish underground. It's just a brief outlook, and a proper scene report with over 70 addresses can be got by sending 1 IRC to me at the **FRIENDLY SNARE DISTRO** address which is further down the page. Without further bullshit-read on!

**ABHOR**, C/O Bard Nocturnus, Rockvale Hse., Lr. Coolroe, Ballincollig, Cork. This is the only worthy band of the explosion of Black Metal bands here lately that I care to mention. Bard is also the editor of **TOTAL DARKNESS** & has been in the scene for ages, unlike most others! They've just released their 1st demo "Abyss" which has four tracks of promising Black Metal. It is available for \$4 everywhere. Soon they are going to record a better quality track to be used as a promo.

**CRUACHAN**, C/O Keith Fay, 178 Killinarden Est., Tallaght, Dublin 24. are a very popular band at the moment due to their demo "Celtica" which sees the use of traditional Irish music mixed with death & black metal. It's a great tape, and it doesn't surprise to see that they've got a CD deal with a German label, whose name I've no idea of! Anyway, the demo costs \$ 5.

**CURSED EARTH** are one of the longest surviving thrash band here, having formed in 1988! They've done 3 demos in that time and last year they released their cassette album themselves. "Symbiosis" is available for \$ 8 from Turlough Kinane, Vallemount, Co. Wicklow. T-shirts are also for sale- write for info.

**DREAMSFEAR**, c/o Cathal Rodgers, 3 Cuba Ave., Banagher, Co., Offaly, are another thrash band, but more to my liking, being influenced by old Slayer, Forbidden etc. Their debut demo is just out and costs \$ 4. Cathal is also doing the ed. of Ireland's longest running zine, High Speed Death, of which #9 will be out soon. It costs \$ 3 or buy both the demo & zine for \$ 6.

**FIFTH DOMINION** are one of our best bands, having released 2 great demos, but in 1994 they released a wimpy promo of more experimental death. Since then the 2 guitarists and bassist have been replaced and they are thankfully returning to the old direction. I'd recommend that you get both demos for \$ 9 from Paul Kearns, 3 Tymon Close, Old Bawn, Dublin 24. You can also get a great new zine from him called "Through Ireland's Eye" \$4 for 94 A5 pages.

**MORPHOSIS**, c/o Vinnie, 13 Kew Park, Lucan, Co. Dublin, are my fave Irish band due to their pumping brutal death metal. This lot is around years, Asphyxia being their old name. They've sold 500 copies of their "Modus Operandi" demo. \$ 4 each. This year a new promo will be recorded and an appearance also on the next Shiver comp. CD.

**OGRE**, c/o Brian Bannon, 5 Texas Lane, Chalfont, Malahide, Co. Dublin, are one of the best grind bands I've ever heard, as can be witnessed on their 2 demos. Just last month they released their own CD with 18 tracks of ultimate grind plus crazy intros spread over 1 hr. All this for just \$12 is the ultimate bargain! Please add \$2 outside Europe.

**PRIMORDIAL**, c/o Alan, 22 Station Road, Sutton, Dublin 13, may be well known to some of you already for their "Dark Romanticism" demo that got them signed for a CD to Cacophonous. While waiting for that get the demo for \$5 and check out his zine The Oath.

**PUTREFY**, c/o Jason, 53 Carnary Drive, Ballymoney, Co. Antrim, BT53 7HR, are another brutal death outfit from these shores. This lot are risky for a reply, but anyway they are now signed to Isolated Rec. for a split CD which just have been released and in '95 they've a full length CD coming out on the same Italian lable. The mini-CD costs \$10.

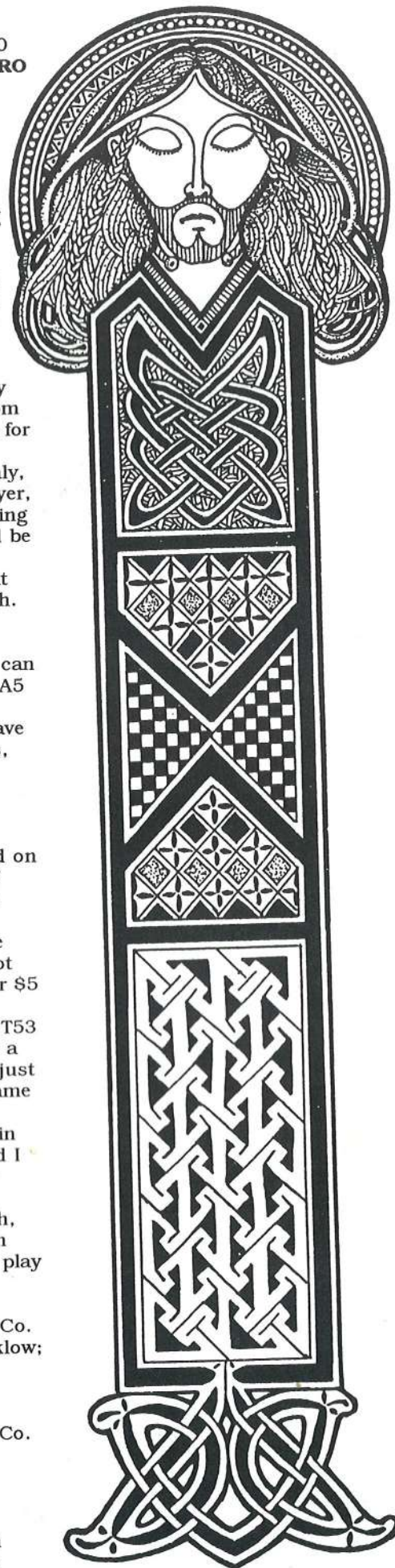
**THY SINISTER BLOOM**, c/o Jeff, 31 Glentow Road, Whitehall, Dublin 9, are one of the top Doom acts here. They've just recorded their promo, and I suggest you write for details. Jeff is also a well respected artist, so write for details if you're interested.

**UNEARTHLY**, c/o Paul Lynch, Churchtown, Curchtown, Carndonagh, Co. Donegal, haven't had much luck lately. They were due to release a 7" on Euthanasia, but after much delay it's gonna be released as a tape EP. They play technical deathmetal and are a band to watch I believe.

**ZINES: DEPRIVED**, c/o Brian Taube, St. Patricks, Mainstreet, Roundwood, Co. Wicklow (+distro); **SEVERANCE**, c/o Ian Lawless, Trinity, Ashford, Co. Wicklow; **SILENT IRELAND**, c/o Brian Quirke, Avondale, 52 Meadow Park Lawn, Ballyvolane, Cork (also **FRIENDLY SNARE DISTRO** !!!!)

**EUTHANASIA DISTRO**, c/o Paul McClure, 29 Warren Park Drive, Lisburn, Co. Antrim, BT28 1HF.

I hope someone there interests you enough to support them. Please do !! Cheers for the space Gro, and for supporting the Irish scene. All readers, please be adventurous and check out new scenes as there's a lot of hidden talent out there and they need **YOUR SUPPORT** !!!! So stop reading and get writing, lazy !!



Gehenna should start to get pretty well known now, so I guess introduction is somewhat unnecessary. I'd just say their new album is a total KILLER (see review) and should be bought immediately, there are few bands that I can predict will have such a grand future as Gehenna... The interview was done with Gehenna's drummer, the young, tall, dark and handsome (hsh...) Dirge Rep...

Hey, ho-here we go !! Another band from the town of Stavanger is to be featured...What is it with Stavanger that makes so many great bands suddenly pop up? Definitely not the smell of fish by the docks!! I don't fucking know...Just...no reason!! How should I know...Black Lodge is shit for sure, never buy any of their stuff, Theatre of Tragedy is OK, but it's not cool...I think you'd better travel up to Haugesund or Bergen to find the better bands...

Gehenna seems to have gathered up a strong force of followers during their days of existence...Will you continue on to world-domain, or will you try to retire while the going's good? To put it another way- how much popularity is necessary to keep Gehenna going, and which amount will destroy the whole image of being a BM band?

We never get enough popularity !! (read: he's still not getting enough groupies...), we do still have a lot of fuel left. Our next album due out in '96 will show this. don't think we're an underground band anymore, we have far too much popularity to be that- we're past the times of being underground. We want world domain!! We will still play BM even if we have a huge amount of followers, nothing will ruin our style of music, no matter what. I don't know what facts that can make a band fail totally...blunders maybe... If you make a blunder, you're dead...If you don't sell well, you're dead. Although you can continue on for a long time selling few records when you're an underground band...

HNF issued your debut MCD entitled "First Spell" in March of '95, an album which showed a band with potential at its fullest from my point of view. Many have agreed on this, but still there are lots of people claiming that Gehenna has locked themselves in a BM vein that might need talent, but which will be pretty self-destructive as time passes whereas only the bands which are huge today will survive... Comments? We're not alike Emperor at all!!!! Are we, Trym? (No, of course not...Trym). What do people see that is similar between us and Emperor? (The majestic feeling, the rasping guitars, the heavy synth, the melodies...etc....). I don't think we are self-destructive in any way, hell, we're getting better all the time, more and more technical that's for sure...We're one of the biggest Norwegian bands at the moment, we are ELITE!!! (ok, ok...Take it easy...) Did you read VG here the other day? We had a full page !! (Congratulations!...hsh) We have no problems at all. Everything is well...(laughter)...Have you heard the new names for Satyr & Frost??? Komtyr & Post...hahahhah...For Scandinavian readers only!

Well Dirge, you seem to be a great fan of the good, old-school Heavy Metal (-loud as it can be...). Why bother playing BM (OK, so you are not BM, but...), why don't you go for the HM sound instead ?? You have a couple of riffs on the new album and they fucking kill!!! A lot of bands claim to draw inspiration from old bands, but their music usually sounds like boring BM with two talentless riffs in the song and a couple of fast kickdrumbeats on top. Aren't people capable of making good HM today? (With an exception for your namebrothers Gehennah, still, they are a bit too Venomish...) It's not quite us to go for the traditional Heavy Metal style...I do not know what it is, but it just do not fit us...Of course we draw loads of inspiration from old HM bands, and we wouldn't exist if it wasn't for them, but still we can't just go for their image all the way with beer, tits & thies etc. (Ahem!...)OK, so we go for that part too hehe, but not when it comes to the image of the band. We will probably shoot some real Motörhead pics some day with that good old style, but that will not be a part of our image. We stick to the more mystic image which fits us much better. It is us...

The black sun seems to have an important place in Gehenna's existence...

We get energy from the sun. It's similar to the moon...In fact, it's the sun that makes the moon shine at night and I wouldn't be without the moon...It's also got a lot to do with the Luciferian beliefs... OK, Gehenna's new album is just to be released and it seem to have taken a hellolot of time to print this album... Usually, when time passes by, people tend to look differently upon things they did a long time ago, so how do you feel about the album the day today? Kris from Ulver did contribute with some enormously great guest-vocals on one track, "Vinterrike", do you think his performance will increase the sales as he's starting to get labled as a more or less "celebrity" by foreign magazines/people? I think the album is just as good as when we recorded it... "First Spell" is still a bombastic KILLER...Of course, if we had recorded them now we would've done things much more differently, but I don't regret anything, though. I guess everything would've been much more



technical if we had recorded the stuff now, but I still think what we did was enormously great...I'm still very proud of the result. When it comes to Kris' vocals on the album...well, we in Gehenna had no idea on how to manage to get majestic vocals on this song, first and foremost because it was in Norwegian...So we brought in Kris, and the recording turned out brilliant! Well, just the part with the guys from the band on backing vocals in the beginning and end makes this whole song perfect (left)! Well, if the fact that Kris did some vocals increases the sales, well, then nothing's better...I'm not so sure if it will though, because we're so big from before...haha

Jeg går ut i fra at du har fått med deg den ultra-tåredryppende nyheten at "Nå" ikke skal gis ut lenger...Hva skal vi nå gjøre ??? Jeg forlanger lang avklaring før jeg finner frem barberbladet... Hør-du vet da at jeg bare leser Se og Hør!? (jada, jada, men jeg tenkte kanskje du hadde forandra vanemønster littbitt i det siste ettersom du høres ut til å ha blitt en god dose mer seriøs ???) OK, ja, da later vi som om jeg er, eller var, en stor fan: Det e forferdelig synd (hehehe). Eg va' kjempetæn av Nå. Dybe tårar-heltkjipt, asså...

Occultism seems to play an important role for Gehenna, and I know you are deeply into it. So, Yog Sototh (hsh), unless you would like to keep your black arts as a secret, what will your studies of this phenomena lead to? How deep can one delve into it and still be able to live a tolerable life among unknowing and illiterate people? First things first; Occultism gives me intelligens (dhåjassåja...), energy and strenght, power, well-being, satisfaction... I think intelligence has a lot to do with how you're able to work together with people in a community. A breadhead would never manage to delve deeper into occultism without getting nuts. A person with intelligence would manage to delve deeper than he knows himself without getting into trouble with the rest of the world community. I will go deeper...

How about live-shows, is there a tour coming up from Cacophonous soon? I'm waiting, and I'm surely not the only one... How does Gehenna feel about playing in front of a gig where I would guess about 90% of the crowd is little kids with Green Day hair, "Enter Sandman" T-shirts and that have just bought the last Burzum album and think it kills...? Well, there are no concrete plans for a tour at the moment as our guitarist is in jail, but there might be a Marduk/Mysticum/Gehenna tour sometime during springtime '96. There will at least be a tour in Europe in '96, that's for sure. I do not know if we will be able to play in Oslo, we shall see. I do of course hope so...It will have to be under the right circumstances. There will at least be no tour as support band... Well, yes, it is dull to play in front of loads of small kids, but they do at least pay money to see us. Everything for money! Hahahahaha... As long as they don't mingle with me, I don't really care... Of course it is degrading...But I do at least hope that if we get to play live we'll play at clubs where they serve beer and we will hopefully get away with few underaged...I guess I will just have to ignore them... (So what can we do to get rid of small, unintelligent creep?) Kill 'em all!!!! Hahah Eeermh. I don't think there's much we can do, to be quite honest...People do soon enough find out that they aren't able to speak for themselves (Well, grown ups that want to put a mark on BM people think everybody is 14 yrs. old and unintelligent...). Ahh, they'll have to be able to see which persons that are serious about what they do, and who that are not...I mean, only

by the way they dress...*(My parents do not...)* No, not mine either...Fuck it, they'll have to believe whatever they want - we're the intelligent people here anyway...

OK, I guess you're just sitting there waiting to tell the world about the bloodred Gehenna vinyl and just vinyls in general...Go ahead, say whatever a real vinyljunkie would like to say...

The bloodreds one are out now-and they're completely sold out already !!!Hehehe...too late, suckers!! It turned out just like we wanted it, true bloodred colour, not some colour on the verge of pink or anything...I've always wanted to have an album out on bloodred vinyl, and now I have it (le!!) !!Vinyl rules, no matter what...Nothing's better than putting the vinyl in the player and nothing beats the feeling of listening to Bathory with the low rustling in the background...Vinyl for fine, ancient Metal and for newer Metal as well...CD is far too hypermodern for me, but you can of course buy the CD of Gehenna anyway and support us with money (høhø). It should be out in two weeks on Cacophonous Rec

## Satanrock selger godt

STAVANGER (VG) De mange kirkebrannene i Norge har gjort det norske black metal-miljøet interessant for utenlandske platekjøpere. Til sammen skal minst 200 000 CD'er med norsk satanrock være solgt i Europa, USA, Brasil og Japan.

Det hevdet Vårt Land i en større artikkel i sommer. Avisen kartla de fire siste årenes samlede salg for de 15 mest kjente norske gruppene innen genren.

— Av norske rockere kommer jeg umiddelbart bare på Bel Canto og Dance With a Stranger som nå overgår noe slikt, sa markedssjef Fred Eng hos Warner Music Norway til Vårt Land da han ble presentert for tallene i juli.



**STERK DEBUT:** Gehenna skal angivelig ha solgt 3000 eksemplarer av sin debut-CD. Nå har de fått kontrakt med et engelsk selskap.

Foto: PLATECOVER

To many foreign BM fans the fact that a band comes from the cold shores of Norway equals excellent music...Why has it become like that, and how can we prevent the shitty, small bands around here in Norway from getting deals with foreign labels and get a cult status abroad even though they're crap? To be from Norway should equal with quality, but that's not the situation at the moment...Yeah, what is the most stupid phrase a foreigner has ever tried to write to you in Norwegian?

Extreemely grrrrreat!!!! Norway's best!!!! Excellent that people praise Norway. They can praise Denmark if they want their red hot-dogs (haha Hill Danmark!! No.no.no...), praise Norway for elite music like Gehenna!!!! Hehehe...Yep, it's a rather bitter thing that the bad bands also get loads of promotion...I guess that's the drawback; that people buy everything from Norway without knowing whether it's an elite band or not...Fluety for instance...their last LP (I would hardly call it an LP, that would be to dishonor the LP...) was total crap, garbage, shit!!!! Ancient is also crap, but Fleurety is the worst... Covenant is quite good A bit Satyricon here and there and even a bit Gehenna ripping I think...But still good, though...Hm...from a foreigner...Hey, Trym, do you remember...No...I don't remember anything at the moment, but I've received a lot of horrible phrases...They just enter one ear and exits the other without making marks in my brain...

So, is it still best on the screen, or...?

Of course !!!! I've gotten myself quite a collection now...I'm still awaiting the arrival of some real animalsex...I think I have everything except for that...everything that two people can do to each other, except for homosexuals...I hate fags!!!! I have both lesbian and bisexual stuff which is really cool, but not some slicky gay thing!!!

What is beyond our horizons?

World Domination...Sex rules...haha...Sug kuk...nei, the Dark Age awaits. Await the Apocalypse...

Gluurrrph...any good advices on how to activate an overtired brain? I long for bed&blokes (and y'know what???) I'm in possession of both...heh!!), but I gotta finish this fuckin' interview first...Jæææzzz, you're the right person to ask this question: Should unfaithfulness between two people in a couple be considered morally correct? Why/why not? It all depends (-på hvor trang du er...Enslaved's humorklump Kai-Johnny slår til i bakgrunnen igjen...) on how involved you are. If you

have a bad relationship one should just jump around and have sex with whoever-that's cool...I find nothing wrong in that. But the terms must be that the male partner also is allowed to fuck around (in the exact meaning of the word) with others (of course!! Equality of status here...hehehe...) But I prefer 'us two' (Just write that so that many cute girls will write to me and think I'm a nice and romantic guy...but that's exactly what you are, you don't dare anything...) oh yes, I do...Trym is getting my whip right now...(Reformation...Incredible!!) Now I will get nasty girls writing...hehe...OK! Well, to be honest, I go for everything, except for men...I do everything for a certain amount of money!!

As we all know the Norwegian church has been celebrating their millenium this year...what has been your anti-celebration? How do you think we can solve the problem with this plague- how can we make sure that the next 1000 years really are ours?

Blow 'em up!!! Sprengjævlene!!! Flammer og maskingevær!!!! The next 1000 years are ours anyway...(Explanation, please!) (Trym: Fordi de neste tusen årene er våre, ve!!!!!!) Yes, write that: Because the next 1000 years are ours...We're on our way (One half in jail, one half being braindead cunts...) I don't want to answer anymore on this question...

As Gehenna is such a fine (hohoho...)band I would like Dirge Rep to say a few words about the band's upcoming activities!

Well, the tour thing maybe, new T-shirts are on the way, new LP in '96, and Gehenna underwear!! Høhøh...OK, the next album will also be out on Cacophonous. I believe it will be recorded in February '96, or around that time. We have a lot of material finished already, it's far more technical than the older material, and it's a hell of a lot better. It's more Black Metal, mer EKTE BLÆKK METALL!!!! It will be much more majestic. Both the synth and the guitars are extreme-unbelievably mighty. We haven't planned anything when it comes to the cover lay-out or titles or anything like that yet...We shall see...

What will the inscription on your headstone be?

I will not have any headstone...I will disappear like a Viking, in a burning funeralboat...

Your last chance to utter a couple of perverted phrases...

Allt går i tåhånd!!! T.i.f., t.i.r (dette turde dere ikke å skrive helt ut, hva???) Hva var det jeg sa...Pinger... Fjortis rules!!! Hails to: Enslaved, Marduk, Samoth, Faust, Mysticum...

← FROM NATIONAL NEWSPAPER VG  
→ SEPT. 10TH 1995.

## — Fortsatt satanister

STAVANGER (VG) — Det er flere medlemmer av bandet vårt som definerer seg som satanister. Det sier «Sanrabb». Han er frontfiguren i bandet Gehenna, som får leie billige øvingslokaler av Stavanger kommune.

— Tekstene våre blir ofte misforstått. Det er ingen tvil om at de er av mørk natur. De gjenspeiler vår oppfatning av hvordan verden er. Mørk og ond. I våre tekster prøver vi simpelthen å skildre stemninger, sier «Sanrabb».

— Forstår du at folk kan reagere på at kommunen gir dere billig øvingslokale?

— Jeg forstår at de er redde. Folk er snevre, og kan ikke akseptere musikken vår. Men så lenge de ikke vil sensurere oss, har de ingen grunn til å frykte noe. Men sensur kan vi ikke finne oss i. Artistisk frihet og ytringsfrihet er grunnleggende rettigheter.

— Kirkebranner og gravskjendinger er igjen økende fenomener. Hvilke holdninger har du til disse tingene?

— Gravskjending er rent hærverk. Det stiller jeg meg fullstendig likegyldig til. Men jeg kan godt forstå at folk kan føle seg provosert av Kirken, som ikke vil gå i verbal kamp med oss. Da forstår jeg at noen kan tenne på kirker, sier «Sanrabb» uten å ville kommentere dette nærmere.

# Funeral

Funeral is among the only Norwegian Doom bands I find interesting. Not that Norway is over populated with that type of bands, but still... The riffs in Funeral's music may not be of the most "challenging" ones, but the vocal harmonies in their music makes the over-all impression fantastic !! Slow, yes, but what a mighty sound they're able to bring forth in their slowness. A band to watch...

Answers done by Anders Eek, the man behind the drums.

Your debut album "Tragedies" is soon to be released on the fairly new label ArcticSerenades. Do you believe this label has potential enough to distribute and promote your album as widely as preferred compared to bigger labels around? Will you also be contributing on their "Tribute to Rush" album? How about Wild Rags - seeing that they re-released your "Tristesse" demo, they might have something to do with your new album too?

Arctic Serenades is an underground label, thus the distribution is at an underground level, but we have a very good distribution and a very serious label manager. Compared to labels like Peaceville, Earache etc. we have nearly just as good distro as their hands. We were asked to contribute on the "Tribute to Rush", but said no, as none of the Funeral members have been Rush fans. Wild Rags Rec. has absolutely nothing to do with "Tragedies". They were very interested in licensing it in the States, but we said no, due to their bad deal proposal.

You've claimed that the new music is even more inspired by classical music than the older material. In what ways would you say the classical influences differ your music from the A4 standard Doom? Which composers have had the biggest impact on Funeral? The harmonies, the arrangement and our talented vocalist Toril. The whole musical structure actually. My personal favourite composers are Mahler, Nordheim, Grieg, Shostakovich and Dvóřak.

Funeral have also added a female vocalist. How much does her contribution do to the final outcome of the music? Will you still go on using the throaty voice in the future, or will you try to distance yourselves more from the DM genre by not using that type of vocals?

Her contribution musically doesn't exist, as I make all the vocal harmonies. Concerning the singing, it's half the Funeral music.

I don't think throaty voice means DM. It's just a hell of an atmospheric thing. And by mixing melodic and throaty voices you get the very moody and contrast-filled thing. Yes, we have much less grunting in our newer songs, due to the fact that we have more harmonic riffs and the melodic vocals fits much better. It's also a bigger challenge making melodic vocal harmonies.

There aren't many real Doom bands in Norway today. How do you feel about that? Do you wish there were more "doomsters" around, or...? It also seems like the doomtrend is somewhat a bit more mellow here compared to the rest of the European continent...what might be the reason?

I really don't care, as Doom metal in Norway is still in the few. Our market is in foreign countries. It seems like people is more into Black Metal (Oh, really ??...-Ed) and hardcore-shit. But intelligent music for intelligent people!!

What inspires Funeral to write their music?

Our miserable lives! (ha,ha)

No really, the beauty in the art of making music we like! I must admit that seeing Funeral live was a stunning experience. Will we have the pleasure to see Funeral play more live gigs in the future? How about tours - any plans yet?

Yes, I think we'll play some gigs in relation to our CD release, no plans yet.

Are the lyrics an important part of Funeral's approach? Does poetry/novels inspire you when you write, or are the lyrics purely based on your own thoughts/experiences?

The lyrics are half the Funeral concept really and makes our art even more miserable. I am of course inspired by poetry myself as I read a lot of it. And yes once again, our lyrics are based on personal experiences and thoughts.

What feelings/moods do you want to express with/through the music?

The feeling of beauty in sadness. ("There's beauty in the purity of sadness" as Red Harvest put it...-Ed)

You do also play in the BM band "Odium" and the more standard DM band "the Flesh". Are these just hobby bands or will you try to "make a future" for them too?

Both are really hobby bands. I get the chance to develop as a musician and I'm quite fond of BM, and like to play that style too. Concerning The Flesh, I'm really just helping some friends out as drummers are impossible to find in Drammen. But even though these are hobby bands I take it quite serious, and there'll be some demo-recordings during late summer. Concerning The Flesh, Arctic Serenades is interested in releasing something during this autumn. No concrete plans yet, though.

What do you think of the music scene in Norway today? Is Norway open to a big variety of bands and musicstyles, or are we maybe more "one-way trafficed"...

I think the music scene today is great. We have quite big bands in several genres, even though there is an inflation in the Black Metal scene!

Had there been a Funeral if there hadn't been for the existence of bands such as Black Sabbath, Nemesis/Candlemass, St. Vitus etc.? How much would you say you owe these bands?

I don't think so, even though the reason for me being a musician is for the existence of KISS which I always have been a huge fan of (old Kiss). And I can thank Candlemass and Black Sabbath for giving me inspiration to form Funeral. I think all "modern" metal musicians can thank Sabbath for their revolutionary metal in the 70's. No Sabbath, no metal!!

What qualities must a band have to attract your interest?

Gifted musicians, melody, originality and it has to appeal to me.

When will we see Funeral on the front cover on Kerrang...??!!?

I really don't give a fuck.

What will the inscription on your tombstone be?

Who gives a shit?

Your last hymn:

Thank you for letting me express my miserable opinions in your splendid `zine. Thanx for your support.

May life cease in moaning...





Ho, ho, ho...guess what ?? I think I've managed to get the longest ever Demonic interview!!! Am I good, or what ?! I mean, not that this view is even 1/10 of the Thy Sinister Bloom interview, but getting more than one word per question out of Moger is a masterpiece in itself...Those who are reading this and still haven't checked out this band-do!!! Especially if you're into the more Norwegian sound, as I guess you are if you're reading this ultimate Norse zine...OK, let's go!!!

Litt oppvarming: Varg og lille Kari blir hver dag henta på skolen kl. 14.00. En dag slipper de en time tidligere hjem fra skolen. Barna begynner å gå. De møter bilen en gang på veien hjem. De var da hjemme en halvtime tidligere enn vanlig. Når møtte de bilen ?

-Hvilken bil ?  
(Ed utfordrer: Den som greier å hjelpe Moger med å løse denne oppgaven-dvs. sender inn riktig svar på et postkort til meg- blir med i trekninga av...ja...vent og se, dette er for vulgært til å skrives i et slikt intellektuelt zine...Vis intelligens, skriv inn!!!)

Some kind of summary of the band's history on this earth, please...

-Witchdemon had three songs that he wanted on tape. He lacked a guitarist, and a sked Jørn (Hades) if he could play guitar on those songs for him. Jørn answered 'yes', but when it was about-time-to-record-in-Grieg-hallen, couldn't Jørn do the guitarwork he'd promised because he had to take care of his job.

As luck would have it, I was together with Witchdemon on this trip to Bergen. We had 5 hours of practise before going into studio.... After that Demonic has consisted of us two. The official birth of Demonic took place around Sept. 14th 1994.

Why did you quit using corpsepaint, spikes etc.? (After all, you looked better with...hshshs...)

-I guess Witchdemon is still using it from time to another. I had actually never used it before -except for when I was a little kid and played Kiss (hehe), but I guess that doesn't count. I think Demonic is going to put the paint away now, and get rid of the 'covernames' in the future.

In my ears your demo "suffers" badly from the production of Pytten. Will you record your new demo/album somewhere else in order to attain a more peculiar sound, a more "Demonic" sound ?

-No, actually not. The sound we get from Pytten is perfect in our ears. And he's a great guy to work with too. He's a professional, and summing everything up, he should receive much of the honour for why Demonic sounds like we do (Right, you sound 'Pytten'. Nothing wrong about that, though...-Ed) Without Pytten there wouldn't be any Demonic. Ehh...That was maybe a bit too strong words, but he's anyway helped us a lot.

How do you think you will develop musically in the future/how have you developed since the demo was released ?

-Well, the new Demonic songs are more aggressive than the ones of the demo. They're probably going to be a lot faster without the waltzbeat (I hope). It all depends on which of us that makes the songs. Witchdemon makes the songs with loads of different beats, while I'm more of the totempo with quick riffs all the way non stop. A bit more primitive than Witchdemon. The sound will be almost the same.

There were some kind of rumours going about that you were to release a split with Abyssic Hate. What's happening ?

-Hmmm...Who the fuck knows. Abyssicman is living a couple of kilometres away (More exactly: Melbourne in Australia...-Ed). The plan was to release the split on Shane (the man behind Abyssic Hate's record label Nightsky Records, but he's been persuaded by Metalion into releasing his stuff on HNF. Demonic isn't too happy about this, so we're trying to get Shane to release everything on Necropolis Rec. (USA) instead, just to make the whole thing as international as ever possible...hehe... If Shane doesn't want that, I believe Demonic will release a MCD instead of the split. But of course, we still do hope that

Demonic and Abyssic Hate one stormful night will release a split ( Aug. '95: this will not happen...-Ed)

Your lyrics were not included in the democover. Was the reason for that that the lyrics had less importance for the music, or... (or were they too crap? Or maybe there didn't exist any ? OK, OK...) Will they be featured on upcoming releases ?

-The reason for why the lyrics weren't included in the democover was because it would've been such a strain. But on the forthcoming releases from Demonic the lyrics will always be printed on the inner sleeve (I believe)

What kind of atmosphere do you want to create with Demonic ?

-A kind of warspirit. A kind of 'helping hand' for the aggressive part of people.

It seems like you're one of the few bands around that are not trying to be as Norse as possible. Is this in your eyes a ridiculous trend ? Do you want to avoid following other bands by not having the same image ?

-What is a trend ? (probably something far too deep for you to understand...-Ed) In my eyes is everything trend.

To be Norwegian and play Black Metal has also become some sort of trend. We are not trying to avoid the Norwegian style. We make our songs as we please. If they are typical Norwegian or not-we don't give a fuck!

Are you planning to play any live shows ? in case, it must be a big disadvantage only being two members. Have you ever thought about getting more members ?

-If there should be any gigs with Demonic, I guess we would find a non-use drummer. But as times are now, Demonic have no plans for getting neither new members nor playing live.

Sideproject...

-Yes, it's called Svartgalærar. It started out as a private solo-project, but ended up with two more. Among others Calle (Ved Buens Ende) on drums.

Do you believe the BM "trend" will continue to grow, or has it reached its "highlight" and is on its way down ? Of what importance do you think this so-called trend has had for Demonic's sales and "popularity" ?

-The trend will absolutely grow more. And I guess it will grow until a sudden death. What it has done to Demonic isn't of my interest.

The inscription your headstone will be...

-Hvilken gravstein ?

Final comments, thanks, fuck-offs etc...

-Thanks for this interview, Gro. Support anti-religion !!!



DEMOCRACY??????

What doesn't kill you makes you stronger, isn't that right...Well, it's the small discoveries in my everyday life that makes me get wiser...One of those small experiences was at college here the other day. I was walking past the bulletin board, and discovered a new notice. As always, I'm very interested in what's going on around me and am therefore always reading such notes. I'm fully aware of the fact that "my" college is the one with most punks (blitzere på godt norsk) in the whole of Norway because of an excellent music course, and that the group called "SOS Racism" is huge, but...The notice was saying that no parties with racist opinions were allowed into the school on electiondebates!!! We're going to have the Osloelection on Sept. the 11th, and among the biggest parties we have one called the FRP, which has somewhat negative view on immigration, but they are not racists. Well, this party will not be allowed into the huge debate at school, while all the more left-hand orientated parties will be represented with every tiny little party around... What is democracy now ? I wish people could think a bit about what Voltaire said some 200 years ago: "I would sacrifice my own life for letting my enemy say what he wants". I would do the same, I believe one gets wiser by listening to what others have to say (not that I follow them in any way, though). But it seems like I'm the only one at college that is able to tolerate other views than the ones I have myself. I guess I'm the only one that isn't afraid of losing my viewpoints because of a fucking speaker... It must be a hard life having to defend oneself from hearing other's opinions because you know you aren't strong enough to keep your own viewpoints and you don't have enough good arguments...One word:weak...

From the mighty town of Åfjord comes the band Troll. A highly original band, and I have over the past months heard many good words about them-it's rare that so many people agree on the fact that such a special band as Troll is original. So, a bright future ? We shall see...Interview done by Karen Algaard.



How many times have you written your bandstory ...? Well, here is your chance to write it once again...

Hmmmm... I'm not sure how many times I've written it. Anyway, here are the bandstory: Troll were formed in the beginning of 1994. The members are me (guitars,vocals) and Trond Frønes (bass, drums, keyboards). In October '94 we released our first demo-tape. After that nothing special has happened.

You've just released your debut demo. How's the response been ? Have you been contacted by any labels ?  
The response has been pretty good. We have sold about 70 copies of the tape until now, and most of the people which have bought it likes it. We haven't been contacted by any labels yet.

You, Stig Rune, are doing some comp. tapes, namely "Land of Frost". Are bands positive to this kind of support ? When can we expect a #2 ?  
Yes, bands are positive to this kind of support. "Norge-Land of Frost" #2 will be out in January '95. Some of the bands that will be featured are: Helheim, Ragnarok, Treldom, Isvind, Tenebras Omnia Vincit, Demonic, Dies Irae, & Forgotten Woods.

Your song "Min Kjærlighet til Elvghetens Dronning" was included on "Land of Frost" #1 in a slightly different version and with another name than on the demo. Are you still satisfied with both versions ?  
No, I'm not satisfied with any of the versions.

Future plans / upcoming releases from Troll?

First we will record some new songs and then we'll see. Maybe a new demo-tape...

You live in a small place, pretty far from the bigger towns. Do you believe that's a convenience / inconvenience ?  
There are both positive and negative things to live in a small place like Åfjord. I don't want to mention any special things.

As many other bands, you do not label yourselves as a Black metal band. How would you describe your music, and what would you call it ?  
Well, it's a kind of atmospheric metal with different types of vocals. Our music is much inspired by old heavy metal bands & we have also many H.M riffs. I would maybe call it Atmospheric metal...

I would say your music is rather original compared to most other upcoming Black metal bands of today. Was the originality something you planned before recording the demo, or...

Yes!!! The most important thing with Troll are to be an original band. We don't want to play like every other bands.

Your opinion on "statskjerka"...!(The Norwegian state church...)

URK!!! (I definitely agree with you...-ed.)

Are you much influenced by Norwegian folktales and the Norse mythology ? What other sources of inspiration can we find in your music, except the above mentioned ?

I am not much into Norwegian folktales and the Norse mythology. But Trond, which writes all the lyrics, is into something of it. There aren't any special sources of inspirations to mention.

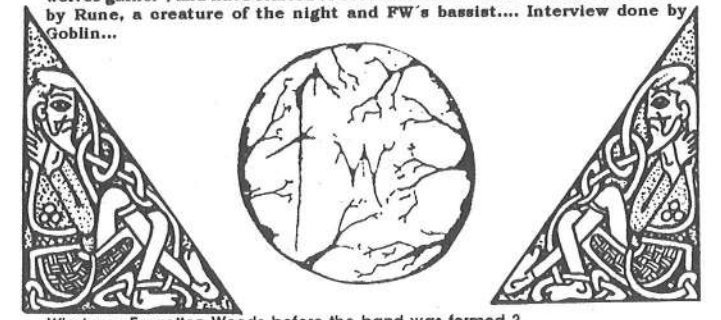


Nowadays, even bands which are not from Norway tries to imitate the Norwegian image. Do you find it irritating that being from Norway has become a trend ?  
I don't give a shit !

Closing comments...?

Good luck to you Karen, and hail to all real people. By our demo now !  
The address is as follows: Stig R. Rønnes  
7170 Åfjord  
NORWAY

These are two of the first interviews done, and I would say the quality is therefor. ZNot much to boast about, but as usual they are somewhat informative. First up is FForgotten Woods from the forests of Ølen in Norway (surprise, surprise!) They've just released their first fulllength, "As the wolves gather", and have started to record on their second. Answers are done by Rune, a creature of the night and FW's bassist.... Interview done by Goblin...



What was Forgotten Woods before the band was formed ?  
Mordor

To fit sound like you get inspiration from more than just the Norwegian nature. Tell me...  
I can only answer concerning my lyrics... My older lyrics (on our demos + partly the CD) is heavily inspired by the Norwegian nature, but has now progressed to a higher level  
MØRKET: Det ene, alt...Det som gir kraft, det som gir makt. Sinnets mørke er kilden til min lyrikk.  
My lyrics aren't satanic, nor inspired by the Viking-age in any way

You've chosen not to use pseudonyms.Why?

In fact, we used to have pseudonyms, and we used corpsepaint as well... But we were taken for being a BM band, so we wouldn't do it anymore...

What is behind the title "As the Wolves Gather"? Should life be lead like a wolf? It hasn't got anything to do with wolves, not as we know them, at all. Don't let the title confuse you. Still, what you mentioned in the question is, in a way, right, but not quite... It would take a long time to explain the lyrics, so I won't.



Was No Colours Rec. the only label that contacted you ? What was the deal like ?

They were the first label that offered us a deal we could accept. They pay all our studio expences and we get 100 CD's for every 1000 pressed. We'll also release our second fulllength on N.C.R. (during -95), but our next release will be a cassette-EP entitled "Sjel av Natten" (Soul of the night -ed.) on Pagan Rec. Most likely will our "As the..." be released on lp (vinyl forever !!) on a Dutch label, I think.

Are you against playing live ? Have you done any gigs ?

Forgotten Woods Will never play live... Not with me in the band anyway. I can't see any meaning in entertaining a bunch of worthless ones.

What do you do besides to play, do the mall, eat and sleep ?

Nothing, except listening to music and wandering in Ølens dark woods.

Do you think the underground is too open ?

It is, but I don't care anymore... I keep my contact with the underground very limited.

Whose grave would you like to dance on ?

I don't think I have to mention any names.

Standard question; any faves ?

Fave zine: Slayer Mag !  
Fave music: Forgotten Woods, Thorns, Manes, Mortis, Vond, DT, Isengard, Debut+ "Aske" of Burzum, Isvind, Helheim, Mysticum, Strid, Ved Buens Ende, I, Rune of FW; is my favourite poet.

We're all going to die someday. What will be the inscription on your tombstone ?

...A tombstone won't be necessary. I wish to end my earthly existence, and let my human shell rot into nothing in the deep dark woods surrounding Ølen, Hordaland, while I, Rune of Forgotten Woods, as a nightsoul walks into a higher level of existence. I doubt my existence on this planet will end yet, though.

Say whatever comes to mind (glemme på Norsk)

Ikke skriv...Don't write. I most likely won't answer.

T-shirts w/ cd-cover motive. White/black.

18/20 \$ from: Germanic Blood Prod.

C/O Rune Jamne

5580 Ølen

NORWAY



Det er en informasjons-side for folk som trenger et par gode begrunnelser for sine standpunkt. Målet er å spre informasjon til trengende. Det er en hel del desinformasjon ute og går. Som dere kan se under er VG en av desinformatorerne. OK, jeg skal ikke bable mer. Les alt og husk det til neste gang du er i en diskusjon!

**Innvandring.**

VG presenterte den 14 mai en slags opprøpning av argumenter mot innvandring, og prøvde så godt de kunne å bortforklare disse. Det er kanskje best at vi får høre ting fra en litt annen synsvinkel?  
**Den første påstanden de skulle bortforklare var at "alle som vil slipper inn i Norge".** VG greier da å påstå at Norge faktisk har "Innvandringsstopp". Dette blir jo da en definisjonssak: 4662 utlendinger søkte om å få komme inn til Norge i 1994. 22 kom inn som asylsøker(dette høres jo bra ut), men 2664 fikk opphold på humanitært grunnlag!! Snakk om innvandringsstopp!!! Over halvparten av de som ville slapp inn. I tillegg har vi da de ulovlig innvandrede flyktningene.

**Den andre påstanden VG skulle ro vekk var at "det er blitt så fryktelig mange av dem".** Utlendinger utgjør i dag 4,9 % (211 215) av befolkningen. Av disse er 2,3%(100 922) folk fra den tredje verden. Vi kan først ta for oss de som er i fra den "hvite" delen av verden. Jeg vil aldri påstå at disse folkene er noe bedre enn en kar fra Mogadishu, men vi har faktisk et par fordeler ved å ha dem her. Vi kan da ha en slags utveksling som gjør at Nordmenn også kan reise til de respektive land og få utdanning med mer. Dessuten gir jo tydeligvis Europeere mye bedre inn i Norge p.g.a. ganske lik kulturbakgrunn. De koster altså ikke like mye å ha de her. Når det gjelder innvandrere fra den tredje verden kan vi jo ikke akkurat si at vi tjener på en slags utveksling. Det er ikke så veldig aktuelt å ta utdanningen i Rwanda, er det? Uansett kunne jo man si at for hver Nordmann som ville til f.eks. Pakistan og få seg en utdanning, kunne da en pakistaner komme til Norge for å få seg en utdanning. Dette er utveksling og handel på et likt nivå som mer enn bare den ene av partene tjener på. Men tilbake til antall innvandrere i Norge. I mine øyne er det alle fall ikke Norge tjent med å ta inn en eneste en. 100 922 innvandrere koster penger! De skal ha skolegang(litt mer komplisert enn vår egen), sykehus, arbeid og i det hele tatt alt vi Nordmenn forventer oss. Dette må nødvendigvis gå ut over den Norske økonomien. Noen må jo betale kalaset! Dessuten, at det "bare" er 2,3 prosent innvandrere fra den tredje verden i Norge, gjenspeiler ikke akkurat situasjonen i Oslo. I Oslo er det minst 10 prosent innvandrere!! Er det rart man blir frustrert?

**Den tredje påstanden VG skulle bortforklare(uten hell) var at "Innvandrere formerer seg så raskt".** Denne påstanden greier VG selv veldig godt å underbygge. I følge VG får utenlandske kvinner over dobbelt så mange barn som Norske. Ja det var jo oppmuntrende!! Vi kan presentere noen tall på antall barn pr. hunnkjonn: Norge- 1,7, Europa - 1,86, Tredje Verden - 3,08, Pakistan, Tyrkia & Marokko - 4,36. Videre presiserer VG at "etter 7 år er fruktbarhetsnivået blant kvinner fra den tredje verden halvert". Det er vel fordi at etter 7 år har de produsert både 3, 4, og 5 unger!! Dessuten hadde de vel med seg 2 fra før! Så kommer noen tall på hvordan det vil bli framover. Statistisk Sentralbyrå fremlegger at hvis vi har en årlig innvandring på 5000 fra den tredje verden vil disse og deres etterkommere utgjøre ca 15% av befolkningen i Norge i år 2050.(Siste fra SSB er at det i år 2095 vil være en million innvandrere her!) Hvis vi sammenligner med tallene som var i 1994 er jo dette litt droyt. Men, hvis antall innvandrere blir 2000 i året(som ligger noe under tallet fra 1994) vil antallet være 11 prosent i år 2050. Det er omtrent det samme som nivået er i Oslo nå!! Gross og Gru!!

**Den fjerde påstanden er: "Har først en sluppet inn, kommer hele familien etter".** Da sies det at familier som kommer for å få politisk asyl får slippe inn hele gjengen. Det vil si far, mor og barn. Av de som kommer inn på humanitært grunnlag er det i prinsippet ingen som får ha med seg familien, men de kan søke om familie gjemforenelse!! I 1994 fikk 1250 innvandrere innvilget familiegjemforenelse. Hvis vi tar 1250 ganger 4(de resterende koner og barn) får vi 5000! Jippii!! Det virker ikke som om de kommer inn under antall innvandrere på humanitært grunnlag(2664). Det skulle vært artig å visst om VG regner koner og barn som innvandrere eller hva de egentlig gjør!!

**Den femte påstanden VG ikke vil ha noe med å gjøre er at "Nordmenn sliter og betaler skatt, mens utlendinger går og hever trygd".** Utlendinger har den samme støtten som Nordmenn. Men utlendinger får hjelp til å etablere seg med bolig, mobler og mer. Det vil si at staten skaffer ca. 2686 boliger og sofaer i året. Dette skal vel betales av noen???? Videre var 12% av utlendingene(medregnet hvite. Disse har vi for øvrig IKKE bruk for. Send dem hjem!!) over 18 år trygdeottagere. 4,9% av Nordmenn over 18 år var det samme. Den gjennomsnittlige ubetalningen pr. utlending var kr. 6300 i måneden.

**Dette er omtrent den påstanden VG prøver å avkrefte i det sjette avsnittet: "Utgiftene til flyktninger og innvandrere kunne i stedet blitt brukt på eldre og syke".** VG sier at 5-7 milliarder fra statsbudsjettet blir brukt på innvandrere. Ja dette er jo ikke så mye når man tenker på "Eldremilliarden" som staten så kjekt presenterte for et par år siden. I 1993 brukte staten 24,9 milliarder til "Omsorgstjenester", av dette tar man altså 5-7 milliarder. VG greier da å skrive: "Selv om utgiftene til flyktninger, asylsøker og innvandrere hadde vært null, er det tvilsomt om politikerne ville prioritert å bruke flyktningemidlene til eldre og syke". At politikerne er inkompetente når det gjelder flyktninger, betyr jo ikke nødvendigvis at de er kompetente på andre områder!! Var det opp til meg, så ville jeg ha brukt pengene slik at de gavnet de som hadde betalt de gjennom et langt liv! Man skal da vel være litt rettferdig!! Det er urettferdig at noen skal få komme utenfra og kaste seg over de pengene som Nordmenn har betalt for. Husk at dette gjelder også OSS når vi blir gamle!!

**Nr 7 i rekken av påstander VG ikke liker er "Det stilles nesten ikke krav til innvandrere".** Som VG sier har innvandrere de samme plikter og krav som Nordmenn. Et av de "store" kravene er at de skal lære seg Norsk(500 til 750 gratis timer)!! Ja det var jammen et grusomt krav! Når sant skal sies så mener jeg at de skal sendes rett hjem uten å lære et eneste ord!! Vi har som sagt ingenting igjen for dette. Det var det eneste VG hadde å si på dette området.

**Nr 8 i rekken av argumenter å argumentere mot er "at de tar arbeid fra Nordmenn".** Tallene VG da viser til er at bare 4,8% Nordmenn er ledige, mens i underkant av 20% fra den tredje verden ledige. Dette vil jo si at 80 prosent av innvandrene tar jobber som Nordmenn kunne ha hatt!! Dette skulle vel utgjøre et par tusener(ca 40 000) jobber! VG hevder at dette er stort sett rengjøring, renovasjon og restaurandrift. Dette er nok korrekt, men var det opp til meg skulle ikke en Nordmann fått gått arbeidsledig hvis det var aktuelt med en jobb som rengjøringshjelp!! Det vil si at de jobbene som utlendinger har kunne fint Nordmenn ha overtatt!!

**Som nr 9 kommer det store kriminalitetsspørsmålet.** I 1993 ble 0,5 % Nordmenn siktet for en forbrytelse, mens f.eks. 6,7% av Gambiere ble siktet. Dette betyr jo at de generelt sett er mer kriminelle enn Nordmenn. Nå kan dette selvsagt forklares p.g.a. at "de kommer rett fra Helvete", at det er vanskelig å være innvandrere i Norge etc. men konklusjonen må vel være at det er for vanskelig for Norge å ta ansvar for disse folkene. For å gjøre

situasjonen noe bedre kunne jo man ha sagt at "den som gjør noe kriminelt blir sendt direkte tilbake til hjemlandet", men det ser jo ut som om man mangler vilje til dette.

**Den siste påstanden er at "Asylsøkerne skremmer turister vekk fra Norge, fordi turister frykter den økte kriminaliteten"** Vi skal være enige i at dette var en teit påstand, så denne har sikkert VG diktet opp selv. De fleste turister kommer fra land som er mer kriminelt belastet enn Norge, så det skal vel noe til at de blir sjokkerte. Men det kan da vel ikke være noe poeng at de skal oppleve det samme her som i hjemlandet?? De er jo her for å se det ekte rotekte Norge, ikke for å spise Kebab!

Ja, så har vi gått igjennom VG's pretensiose liste. VG prøver så godt de kan å kaste blå i øynene våre, men som dere ser har vi gjennomskuet dem. Jeg lurer virkelig på hvilke motiv som ligger bak. Det de går inn for er jo tross alt å bruke skattepengene våre på folk vi egentlig ikke trenger å bruke dem på. Det må da vel være nok av poster å bruke midlene på i Norge? Jeg er i alle fall ikke interessert i å bruke pengene mine på folk jeg ikke kjenner!! Jeg betaler gjerne skatt, men jeg vil at den skal tilfalle oss som faktisk betaler den gjennom skoleplasser, arbeidsplasser, sykehus, og en hel del andre ting. Uansett hva VG skriver, så gagnar i alle fall ikke innvandringen situasjonen!

Vi knuser dessuten til med et par glup-ord av Jesus!

**BERGPREKENEN - Salige er de!**

Jesus spaserte rett opp på fjellet, og begynte å legge ut om hvem som er salige.:  
 "Salige er de som er fattige i seg selv, himmelriket er deres." Hvis du er fattig skal du altså ikke gjøre noe med det, for himmelriket er jo ditt likevel..  
 "Salige er de som sørget, de skal bli trostet." Greit nok, men skal man bare gå rundt å sørge? Hva med å gjøre noe konstruktivt selv for å komme ut av krisen!  
 "Salige er de som er tolmodige, de skal arve jorda." Bare vær tolmodig du, så skal du nok se at en gang blir det din tur!

"Salige er de som hunger og tørster etter rettferdighet, de skal bli mettet." Da håper jeg at jeg blir mettet, for det er jo trossalt rettferdighet jeg skrev om ovenfor!

"Salige er de miskunnsomme, de skal få miskunn." Bar vær snill du, så skal du se at alle andre her i verden også er snille med deg! Det har vi prøvd før.

"Salige er de som er rene i hjertet, de skal se Gud." Hvordan er et rent hjerte? Er det å være så lobotomert at du orker å gjøre som Jesus mener? Rent hode passer kanskje bedre.

"Salige er de som skaper fred, de skal kalles Guds barn." Ja, det var dette med fred da. Fred er jo OK, men hvis ingen skulle dø på denne jordkloden ville det bli ufattelig trangt her. Konklusjonen må bli at man trenger litt av hvert.

"Salige er de som blir forfulgte for rettferdighet, himmelriket er deres." Jesus har tenkens til å gjenta seg, men igjen er himmelriket mitt!! Jeg blir trossalt forfulgt(kanskje ikke akkurat forfulgt, men enkelte skulle nok ønske å gjøre det...) for mine rettferdige meninger.

Altså; bare du krever minst mulig går alt bra og du kommer til himmelen! En fin måte å styre folk på. Jeg burde ha blitt religiøst overhode for alle kristne, slik at jeg kunne styre dem ved hjelp av slike "visdomsord".

**...Ulydighet mod Lovene...**

"En trollikkvinne skal du ikke la leve". Dette står i bibelen(2. Mosebok 22, 18). Dette er i mot Norsk lov. Likevel får de kristne lov til å spre dette budskapet verden over.Vi "husker" alle hekseprosessene... Dette "visdomsordet" var vel direkte medskyldig i at flere millioner kvinner(og menn) ble henrettet av gode kristne. I tillegg oppfordrer bibelen til en haug med andre lovbrudd, blant annet trakassering av folk med annen tro. Dette rammes av den såkalte blasfemi-paragrafen. Politiet prøver nå å ta i bruk denne mot Black Metal miljøet. Vi siterer bibelen:(2. Mosebok 23, 24) Du skal ikke tilbe gudene deres, og ikke dyrke dem. Men du skal rive ned avgudsbildene og ødelegge stenstatuene deres." Var det noen som nevnte kirkeskjending?? Ikke nok med det, bibelen trakasserer folk med annen seksuell legning:(3. Mosebok 18, 22)"Du skal ikke ligge med en mann, som en ligger med en kvinne. Det er en styggedom."(Hva sier Anders Gåsland???) Vi siterer videre(3. Mosebok 20, 13):"Når en mann ligger med en annen mann som man ligger med en kvinne, har de begge gjort en stygg gjerning. De skal dø, det hviler blodskyld på dem." 3. Mosebok 18, 29:"For alle som gjør slike stygge gjerninger, alle som finner på slikt, skal ryddes ut av folket sitt". Gud truer med sitt eget lille private Holocaust!! Til de kristnes forsvar kan man jo si at dette står i gamle testamentet, og således trenger ikke de å ta hensyn til dette. Men; trenger *du* å ta hensyn til at noen oppfordrer deg til kriminelle handlinger? Uansett, det står skrevet at man skal drepe og skjende i bibelen, og således er dette i mot Norsk Lov. Kan man arrestere redaktører som oppfordrer til kriminelle handlinger, og beslaglegge det de har skrevet, så kan man også gjøre det samme med Bibelforlaget. De må i alle fall tvinges til å slette alt som kan oppfordre til kriminelle handlinger. Husk at svake sjeler og lett påvirkelige kan ta dette alvorlig!!

Vi moser til med litt mer bibel-snadder, nemlig:

**Treet og fruktene.(Matteus)**

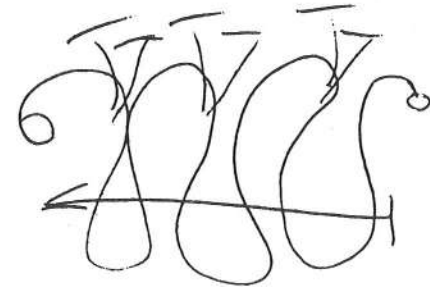
"Det sier jeg dere: hvert gagnløst ord som folk taler, skal de svare for på dommedag." Det kan se ut som om en hel del mennesker får mye å snakke om ved dommedag! Selv sier jeg ikke så mye gagnløse ord, men vet om en hel del kristne som gjør det!! Det må jo bli et dilemma!

Mimes Brunn er: Anti kristen, Anti rasistisk, Anti innvandring, Anti sosialistisk, Anti nazistisk, Pro Norsk visdomscentral. En del "onde" Black Metallere kan nok synes at jeg er for "humanistisk" eller noe i den dur, men det ignorerer jeg totalt!! Blasfemi, ondskap, rasisme o.l. gir bare kristne og sosialister vann på mølla og masse sympati fra media. Det er VI som fortjener sympati. Jeg vet at det er mange av dere som vil være enig med meg(og ganske mange har erklært sin støtte), og jeg vil at folk skal ta kontakt, og si meningen sin(også de som er uenige). Vi kjemper en felles kamp mot kristendommens håpløse idioti, og bor begynne å oppføre oss slik. Jeg håper at vi kan starte en organisasjon hvis mål er å frigjøre Nordmenn fra kristendommens åk. Tenk så fett det ville vært med *ekte* hedninger på Stortinget som konstant stemte nei til, og motarbeidet innvandring og kristne formål!! Med glimrende retorikk og kunnskap skyller vi de kristne rett ut i periferien! Politikk er tydeligvis den eneste måten å nå fram på, så vi har ikke råd til å la være. Vil du slave under de kristne's styre? Det vil ikke jeg! Etter hvert vil Mimes Brunn og Det Sorte Taarns Propagandacentre gå sammen til et "selskap" kalt "Visdom". Vi har mange store og glide planer, så følg med!! **Støtt opp om alle seriøse krefter!!** Er du interessert i mer, så send et brev og frimerke til Mimes Brunn, c/o Oölin, P.R. Egertorget 0128 Oslo. ØST - VEST, gUD ER EN PEST!

*Hva sier Jesus om overbefolkning?*

**"Viss alle skulle ha kvite hender - då vart det svolt i mange grender." -Ivar Aasen**

**This is the first techno artist to be featured in VF...and I hope not the last. Techno is, as stated during this interview, the music style that is able to develop the most forward, and I think it would be a positive thing to open our ears up to a bit of this kind of music too. Those BM heads that are eager to check out an album of cool Techno should go for Peter Paracelsus- "Satanic Techno". That one is darker than Emperor, it is ultimate! Arak is already signed to Space Echo, so we can see a big future making its approach for him...**



**Who is the person behind Yersinia Pestis ?**

Arak Draconiz of the Black Metal band Isvind. Isvind has been the main project, but as time passed Arak needed to express himself in a way that was impossible with a regular metalband. The dark, void, lonely feeling that lies in the mind of this object can only be put to vibrations in the hearing range through a computer.

**Where do your inspiration come from ?**

Where it comes from, it doesn't know. It has always been there, and one cannot find any reason for why ideas come out of the central nervous system without any stimulation what so ever. What for regular humanoids may seem like a total lack of inspiration, or the feeling of a total emptiness is what, in Arak's opinion, limits the human mind. Ad hoc, sometimes one notice music which might have been made as a result of a condition lacking inspiration. This is a use of the human brain in a way that is envolving and it is needed in the future for enabling further possibilities for a spiece named humans to enjoy music that they don't find uninterestin, and as a result of them having heard the same use of sounds and frequencies before. Conclusive; the ability of making music in a condition similar the one above is inhuman.

**What is your music ?**

As energy forces the atoms to vibrate and further on cause the making of waves. These waves are received by the eardrum and in a specific pattern, they may be recognized as music. A lifeform able to percieve a hertzwave as low as 20 and up twill registrate these waves building this pattern one, as said, on earth calls music. I believe humans sense these levels of hertz with their ears. The vibrations I force are made with the mission of enabling regular peasants to actually travel through cosmos without moving, as a result of what often is described by terrestials as a "take-off". Outer space, its loneliness, darkness, is the music, as the music is from outer space. Explanation: the object is in a state where the forces of nature found on for instance earh has ceased to exist. Ergo; the only place that fits to this state of consciousness is in outer space. But notice that humans may have different views on this matter after hearing this music or not; often affected by different prejudices. The only loser here is the one with prejudices, as the sub-human only denies its own feelings.

**Why this type of music ?**

First, and possibly foremost, the fact that the playing of this music is not performed by humans, who are not developed far enough to never make mistakes, but by a non-organic device. It creates a feeling that can be described as some sort of anti-feeling. A human is not behind it, but still it is. Secondly, this object finds the way of making music in the whole term of techno very interesting as the only limit is the brain. It is a very intelligent way of forcing the vibration of electrons.

**Black Metal vs. Techno...**

Yes...it may sound strange to the minds of the ones not introduced to either the Techno or the BM music and it is very different, but more and more people notice that I can get similar feelings from both of these genres, with only nuances separating them. With a background in (Black) Metal the monotonous beat of Techno and also the intelligent structure of the music that might occur can be found very attractive. But there is no conflict between Techno and BM as they both add elements to fulfill each other in a human mind. Techno can be dark, as BM, but it can also be happy, a feeling banned in BM music. In Techno, one get a "musical orgasm" in a much different way than in BM. But the object's goal is certainly not to combine BM and Techno! They are two separate forms of art, but it is possible to enjoy both, even for the most close-minded BM fan (if it is free of prejudices) In the making of Techno, which differ a lot from the making of BM, a great test for unnamed objects, as a Black Metallor, to make music that a technofan is capable of listening to without noticing that a "retired" metallor is the one behind the photons he recieves through for instance a stereo. It is easy to accidentally introduce unfitting elements into techno where the mentioned elements are earthly BM influenced.

**The thing that annoys me the most with the techno genre is the shitty concept/attitude...How do you feel about that, do you believe your image fits within that scene ?**

A concept of house/techno in general: Everybody is supposed to be happy (or at least when this style was erupted) As techno developed through time

morespace elements were brought into the scene. After this minor change, the technomusic became more futuristic and for me very interesting. It does not matter to me if the concept of persons making techno sucks, as I am on my own and I have my own ideas. I will develop with the music into the future. What image other techo acts may have does not bother me at all. Now that all other music styles have stagnated techno has no limits (musically), and is still expanding. I would like to see me as a future contributing part of this.

**You have stated that the name Yersinia Pestis might not exactly be the right name for the music you've developed into making...Any suggestions for new names?**

Cygnus X-3, Spaceport, Andromeda by night...Not though, that these are just suggestions and will probably never be used, but they are still the best suggestions I have come up with at the moment. These fit better to the concept and the music I make today, and not the dark deeptrance music I made before

**Instead of using the name Yersinia Pestis you've chosen to use a (handwritten)symbol, a symbol which in the Necronomicon symbolises Tiamat. Why go for a sign, not a name ? (Inspired by Prince, eh ??) And why exactly the Tiamat ? Does the Necronomicon inspire you to write the music you do in any way ?**

I see the sign of Tiamat as the Draco (a constellation). The Draco has become a symbol for me. It represents evil, wisdom, creativity and hatred towards organic lifeforms and their often stupid ideas (You should know what I mean). It is the sign of Tiamat, some of its personality has copied over on my personality. Extremely personal indeed.

**How about fame & fortune...?**

A hard thing for BM people to get used to are the differences of the two respective scenes, for myself I can say it's a process of inuring. One does not care about who is behind a tune; here, dance and forget. But this does not go for everybody, as for instance DJ 's and people who are into it mostly because of the music. Another thing is the 1000's of music making individuals that release something new all the time, so they inavoidable of "fame" is something of result of coincidences, luck and good music. But this object considers popularity as a result of a flock of sheeps worships, and if 's just a disappearingly small event in the neverending story of cosmos, and it doesn't matter when you enter the end of the beginning of a new form of existence. The same goes for the comp. CD (named Space Invaders II) I'm hooked up for.

**Will you dedicate the future to music of this type ?**

No, definitely, the only thing assensable, intelligent life form should seek in this life, is the pleasure of breaking the limits, not only its own, but the limits of the entire human race and its pitable "civilisation" (although no pity is felt from these circuits). You will perish. And when your mind is dead, no sensible person can have a hope for a continuation of life as a human; only at a certain location supposed to exist. The soul of a human is its personality-what you think, feel etc.- and it is situated (hopefully) between your ears, in the brain. This means that the soul is nothing else than the brain, actually it's less, and the beginning of a new existence will be what your atoms creates or fixes itself to. This is the eternal way of cosmos. Fuck human nature, but you can't fuck with cosmos.

**TWO WORDS:**

Spiders	Most abominable
Editor of Pagan Mass Magazine	Noxious animal!!!
At the 7th Gate	The past
Fenzil	Great support
Extermination	YEZZZZ! Perfect!
Goblin	Muspellz son
World dictator	"TheOne"

**If this sounded extremely enquiring you might send a blank 60 min. tape + porto/2 IRCs to the Ed's address. I will then tape you a little taster of the YP music. As this has nothing to do with metal, there is no need to order this tape if you're not into other music**



# the EQUINOX Of The Gods

Yes, yes and YES !! Finally another band managing to mix a pure Goth vocal with more metal music. Bands like these are few and far between, that's why it always is a great pleasure to discover new ones. Well, "new" isn't exactly the right word, as this band has been around since 1990, but it seems like the band somewhat have managed to pass both my eyes and ears, something which goes for a lot of other people I know too. But not anymore !! As mentioned before, the band was formed in 1990, and has since those days managed to release three demos:

1991	Songs from the Hill of the Heartless Giant
1993	Watch the Shadows Dance
1994	This Sombre Dreamland

The two first ones are sold out, but if you're quick I still believe you can obtain a copy of the 1994 demo.

Seeing that I only have heard the two last demos, I'll have to base my judgement upon them. As quoted from the bandmembers themselves they're not a Death Metal band even though they're more "death" than most bands within this genre. They couldn't be more correct...

The music is not exactly easy to describe, I've heard no-one like them before, but if you can imagine a bastard of slowed-down Slayer and Sisters Of Mercy, adding a slight touch of early Paradise Lost (of course...), I guess you'll find yourself somewhere in the immediate nearness of EOTG-land. The use of synth is tasteful, they don't rule the whole soundpicture, still they're clear enough to make a certain atmosphere. The use of violin and female vocals ends up doing the music as close to perfection as possible, only ruined by the sound of the drum machine. Do not misprint me, the drums are good enough, but...

As the immortal Bram Stoker so brilliantly wrote: "Listen to them, the Children of the Night, what music they make..." It's a pity he didn't live to experience the Equinox of the Gods...

Contact the band at:  
Fredrik Wallin  
Häggenås 3125  
S- 830 30 Lit  
SWEDEN

**Primordial...These guys should stand for the trademark of quality music from the Emerald Isle these days, with their most brilliant album "Imrama" out on Cacophonous Rec...I would say their music of the more emotionfilled BM there is around, not just some childish riffs with brainless lyrics on the top as BM seem to have developed into. Great musicianship from start to end, all in all excellent...Buy!!**

**Answers done by a proud descendant of the mighty Celts, Naihmass...**

**I guess almost everybody have read your bandstory before ( and I guess you have written it a couple of times too...), but give the new readers a chance to know a bit about Primordial...**

Greetings... it is chilly outside and the winds are cold, but once again I shall tell the story. Primordial is as old as the ground you walk upon and mountains that stands grim and Dark to watch over the land. The Blood that courses our veins is that our fathers before us.

Let your readers know only that we are Primordial and that we are Irish. All else is of no meaning.

**You do not label yourselves as a Black Metal band. What would you label your music as? And how would you describe it?**

I would wish only this, that I could describe our music with only one word...Primordial, and for people to understand, however for the sake of the argument, we never called ourselves Black Metal, we always felt that music is more important that categories or all the shit that goes on in the circus that is the Black Metal scene. So many bands nowadays concentrate more on their war-paint and how many spikes, bullet-belts, axes and weapons they have for their next photo-shots and yet they cannot play their instruments...Fuck that, we

never wanted or want to be a part of that as our music is passionate and amotional and we put our soul into what we create and we don't want to have anything to do or be categorised with all these meaningless bands. As we live and breathe with our songs and they are extention of us...part of us, and it would trivialise our music to be compared with all these childish bands. If you wish to label our music, then that's OK by me as it's up to other people, if you want to call us BM the OK, but it did not come from my mouth. The original ethos of Black Metal is what I stand behind. If you want words to describe our music: Irish, Ancient, Dark, Atmospheric, Passionate, Emotional, Sinister, Enchanting and of course Metal with a capital M!!

**I first heard that you were going to sign to Candlelight Rec., but now it seems like you're under the banner of Cacophonous Rec. What happened? Are you satisfied with the deal you have now?**

Well, lots of bands were "going" to sign with Candlelight, but Lee is such a lazy fucker, he doesn't give a shit about anything...so he's lost Mayhem, Burzum, Sigh, Order from Chaos, Divine Eve, Acheron, Enslaved and a few more. Oh yes, and us! We began to realise Lee's inabilities after a few months of promising to send contracts and shit, so I sent my friend Nihil at Cacophonous a live soundboard promotape of July 1994 and said simply "Do you want to sign us?". He said yes, and since that day we've recorded our LP/CD, we'll mix it soon, we've got the cover and the photos done. Nihil came over to see us in Dublin and stayed with us and our LP will be out in July or so! We're signed for 3 LP's and at the moment with the prospect of a European tour in the future

I can say without doubt that Cacophonous is an excellent label to be on. And that rumours spread by Cradle of Filth about the label are untrue...as there are two sides to every story!

# Primordial

**Does the Celtic Mythology play an important role in your life? What is your opinion on it, and mythologies in general? How about Irish Folk music- do you get any inspiration from it?**

Yes, Yes and Yes. We are proud of our Pagan past and get much influence from the ancient stories and mythologies, art forms and life codes. The Celts were a proud Cultured race and their blood still runs through our veins. We try to convey images of the Irish Pagan wilderness and landscapes in our music, and to invoke the barbarian

animalistic in the heart of every human being/warrior who listens to us. In my lyrics I use many images of the Celtic Mythology and Paganism as a whole. It pains me to see our Ancient soil being desecrated by Anti-life catholics/ christians here, they have taken all the Pagan sites and sacred days and images and used them for their own ends. There's even a church to the dog upon the Ancient hill of Yara I, the ancient seat of of the high Kings ("Ard Ri") who ruled thousands of

years ago and in this country people are blind, weak pious fools who have not a drop of Pagan blood in them. Perhaps we can kindle a fire in some people's hearts as throughout Europe Paganism is making a return. Personally I would prefer to see all christians dead, though. We all feel very in touch with Nature, and I hope this comes through in our music, as we are animals like any other and are one with the earth, and not separate from it and definitely not above it. (That is mankind's downfall). So yes, we are warriors from the past born in the wrong age... an age when men are weak and fickle and worship all that kills them.

Irish music is an influence yes, an our LP you will hear some bits of traditional instruments and melodies...it is pure and uplifting!

**Your opinion on religion...**

Broad question indeed...how can I answer, each person's individual path is right for them, and no one else...I wish death upon all anti-life religions...christians, jews, hindus, muslims, sieks, whatever, death to them. The earth needs cleansing.

with perhaps an option to print more single folded after. Oh yes, it's already recorded! Distribution should be good also, so you should be able to get it in Norway. The music? It's much darker, cold and atmospheric than the demo, more coherent I would also say. Well, it's just much better. **Your album will be out soon, probably a month or so before the release of this zine. Can you tell a bit about it in general? How is it compared to the "Dark Romanticism" demo?**

In general?...it's 50 + minutes, has breathtaking artwork, 9 tracks. It will be released on gatefold vinyl and on CD. The vinyl is a split release between Cacophonous/ Damnation Rec. and I think Necromantic Gallery have a hand in there somewhere. It will have a limited edition of 1000 I guess, with perhaps an option to print more single folded after. Oh yes, it's already recorded! Distribution should be good also, so you should be able to get it in Norway. The music? It's much darker, colder and atmospheric than the demo, more coherent I would say. Well, it's just much better isn't it? Wait and see (and buy 10 copies each!)

**The lyrics are absolutely not some words you've written down just to have something to sing. Can you tell us about them? Are they written about personal experiences, or...**

Definitely. I hate these "Winter, Goat, Woods, Forests, Satanas, Frost, Transylvania" type bands.

My lyrics are like a mirror into my soul. All my passions, lusts and emotions are entwined in them and a part of me goes into them. They are my creations. I'm inspired by what I see around me...Snowcapped Mountains, Dark Forests, Blood by Moonlight, Shadows dancing to Midnight Fires, Ruined Churches and Ancient



A RATHER PROUD NAIHMASS WITH HIS VENOM "DIE HARD" SINGLE...

Wies, Barren Wilderness, The Moon's Face in the Dark Ocean...things that make you feel like a part of the scene and that it has always been this way. I am inspired by the Darker Female Sex and sinister erotica. I am inspired by the Ancient cultures and Civilisations and the old Gods and their ways. I am inspired by my warrior ethics and Barbarian Animalistic revelings. My Depression, Sadness, Sorrow, Love; all of them, especially love. The Supremachist in me, the Elitist, the misanthropic hateful side. As I am a total 100% Elitist. Purity through cleansing. Also my Satanism and all it means for me are ever inspiring, ever I walk down my path... my world, my spheres, it is neverending, and I have neverending inspiration. If you feel something of what I feel in the lyrics while playing the music then you have touched the Naked Darkness.

**You have also been doing a 'zine, namely "The Oath". Can we expect a third issue? In case, when?**

Yes, issue 3 will appear I guess in a few months. I'm compiling articles and interviews. There will be more emphasis on Satanic, Pagan, Heretic, Faustian articles in the future. And less interviews, but longer ones. The next issue I think will be A4 rather than A5. Issue 2 is still available from me for \$ 5.

**The Irish Black Metal scene is pretty small. Do you look upon that as an advantage or disadvantage?**

The Irish Black Metal scene is non-existent, all the bands here are childish, jealous minded, bad musicianship shit. Don't bother. I look upon the fact that Primordial will be the first Irish band to release an LP/CD (Well, Cruachan beat you...Unfortunately...Ed) as a total advantage, as it is new and different and people I think will be intrigued by the fact that we are Irish as opposed to another Norwegian, Swedish, Greek or whatever band. I would never wish to be from anywhere else but Ireland. We will show the world our fighting spirit....

**And now a fucking unintelligent question, but always interesting to read...What bands are you currently listening to, and what have been the band's musical influences over the years?**

Personally I'm really into...Manowar, Judas Priest, Mercyful Fate, Bathory (Supreme!), Celtic Frost, Sodom, Witchfynde, Venom, Impaled Nazarene (Suomi Finland Perkele!), At War, Mayhem, Decoryah, Katatonia, Iron Maiden, Candlemass, Nemesis, Tiamat, Emperor, My Dying Bride etc....and also Arvo Pärt, John Tavener, Rachmaniov, Sibelius, Mussorgsky, Orff, Bach....and also Leonard Cohen, Tangerine Dream, Klaus Schulze, Dead Can Dance, Clannad, Anuna, Joy Division, some Depeche Mode etc.... usually anything atmospheric, dark or passionate or just whatever is kick ass Heavy Metal.... 1980-87 rules.

The band?, well, we are in general influenced by Dark Music as a whole, not individuals or their band. But praise to...Bathory, Venom, Celtic Frost, Candlemass and Iron Maiden over the years.

**What would you say inspires Primordial to write their music/lyrics except for music itself (Literature, art, movies, leaders etc.)?**

We are inspired by ourselves and all that goes on inside and around us. Supremely...Nature and Darkness and personal beliefs. The desire to create something timeless and immortal is our drive, and to always feel deeply part of what you are creating.

Literature.... I don't know about being inspired, but I was moved by H.P. Lovecraft, J.R.R. Tolkien, Clark Ashton Smith, Philip K. Dick, George Orwell, Robert Silverberg, Frederick Nietzsche etc. and some poetry like Kuanagh, Yeats, Byron, Shelley, Baudelaire, Swinburne etc. Art.... Celtic art is supreme, also I suppose I really like classical art or images...you know the oldies! Photography is a great Art also. In reality if you really live then everything you do should be Art. Life is Art. Movies?, I was moved by "One flew over the Cuckoo's Nest", "Brasil", "In the Name of the Father", "Dracula", "Pulp Fiction", "1984", "The Elephant Man", "In the Name of the Rose", Woody Allen films, "The Holy Grail", that kind of thing. Leaders....Me.

**Any bands from your area you would recommend the readers to check out?**

Em....Cruachan are cool...They are signed to Nazgul's Eyrie from Germany. Thy Sinister Bloom for pure doom. Ethereal (not my area but who cares) for very tasty doom. And I suppose Morphosis for being cool guys! Not much else really. Deprived is a cool 'zine also.

**How has the response been on the band? Any negative? How many pieces are sold of your demo "Dark Romanticism"?**

Fucking excellent. I haven't heard one negative comment or read one bad review...which is great. We've sold about 600 or so which is good, I suppose. The demo is still available from Cacophonous for \$5 (with a new cover) and wholesale from me. I guess we've got our niche in the scene now. People know us and respect us and it seems as sharing in the Primordial way or journey. We also go down very well live.

**How is it to be a Metal band on Ireland today? Any trouble with police/other authorities? Has the huge unemployment on your green island been to any hindrance for the band?**

It's good because no one has ever heard of a Metal band from Ireland before and I suppose they are intrigued to hear us and may go further to hear us than to another Norwegian band. So the fact that we have nobody playing like us here means that we have no competition at all. No trouble with police or authorities, but I'm sure

there will be some when the album comes out and some fool will pick up on my militant views, but fuck them. I did get into a fight onstage and off with some christian fools but that wasn't major, just some meaningful violence! Let me say that they will not confront me again. Of course I get the obligatory threats and jealous backstabbing in the scene, but that is to be expected. People are weak. People don't like us because we speak our mind.

Well, we are all in college now, but courses are invented to keep people off the unemployment list, but after we all finish, I can't see jobs waiting for us or anyone else in this country.... I don't want some shitty job, but the opportunity to make a living in what you want (for me Art or music) is impossible too. There are no jobs full stop. Money is hard to come by and that only effects the band in that our gear isn't very good and we have no money to travel to do gigs or to pay for a rehearsal room (we rehearse in someone's house when we can). Even post is difficult to do. Fuck...but we are all in Primordial because it is a love, not a labour...and our key to journey to other worlds. It is hard, but we approach it with fires in our hearts and we seem to be doing just fine really. Although new gear would be OK...ha, ha!

**How big importance do you believe atmosphere has in music?**  
Total importance. Atmosphere is paramount, without atmosphere no emotion or feelings can be portrayed, and you can tell when a band is not behind or involved deeply with their music, it just sounds typical and generic. It is all important.

**....And what will the inscription on your tombstone be?**  
Mmm....how about "All that is of the Earth Shall Return to the Earth...." Poignant and pure.

**The last words are yours...**  
Hail and Kill! Gro, thanks for the cool interview. Hail Norvegr. At present it looks like our label is organising some sort of Scandinavian tour for '95, and it looks like we will play in Norway, so fucking watch out! Watch also out for our LP/CD soon, and let the Ancient Blood Flow in your veins with Pride. Follow your will and your way. Slàn! Die Hard...

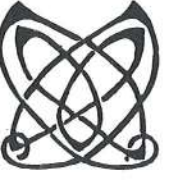
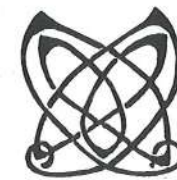
NAIHMASS  
22 Station Road  
Sutton, Dublin 13  
IRELAND  
(Enclose IRC for info)



### Gossip mongers!!!

I have lately been noticing a lot of bad-mouthed gossip sneaking around in the corners here in the so-called BM milieu. Some stuff has been said about my friends and some about people I don't even know, but all the stories have in common that they are pretty "five feathers turned into five fowls"...Why the heck do people have to spread such bad-mouthed shit?? Well, I'll admit that there are some stories that are quite funny and that do not in any way harm a person/band, those are called "good stories", but there are other types... I have the feeling that some untermenschen here in Oslo do live for the amount of gossip they get while drinking their daily beers at Elm/So what, that is what their lives are consisting of. Did anyone mention being dependent on themselves?? They are all stupid and degenerated, but the bad thing is that these rumours are spread with the wind faster than anyone could even imagine, and there often exists one unlucky soul that sits back with all the shit, often without having done anything wrong. The "victim" might just be so unlucky that one so-called "mighty" person within the BM milieu thinks he/she is stupid, and that's enough for being expelled from the world of BM unless you're strong enough to fight those rumours back. Do I sound like a socialist? Mind you, I'm not. The day you'll be a victim of this ridiculous trend you will know what I am talking about... I'm writing this piece in order to make people aware of that everything you might hear is not always right, and if you think a happening/rumour is so incredibly funny, why don't you find out yourself if it is true or not?? It might be even funnier if it turns out that the story is true, and not just gossip! I am at least strong enough to resist these childish rumours, you won't break me that easy!! Be aware, you folks know who you are... (sladrejerring...)

*Et par gode råd fra Den Høyes Tale...*  
Han synes han er klok  
som kan samle nytt  
og føre det ut blant folk;  
aldri makter  
menneskebarna  
å holde tann for tunge.  
Ordet til mannen  
som aldri tier  
står ofte på ustø grunn;  
rappmælt tunge  
som tøyte mangler  
galer seg ulykke ofte.



Well, well well, finally it's here - the mag we've all been waiting for...EINHERJUM!! It has taken quite some to finish this opus, but I guess...No, I know it has been worth waiting for! These two farmers (proof: see wonderbaum in carwindow...) have managed to put the humour I've been missing for the last couple of years, although there might be a bit too much humour here for my taste...The lay-out knocks all underground mags I've ever seen straight to hell and the fact that this mag is pro-printed doesn't exactly make it any worse...The quality of the interviews vary, but as this is a #1, I guess that side will be improved until next time...The interviews are still among the best, but just a littlebit more and Einherjum is the best, next to Valkyrjens Fugler of course. The competition between these two elite mags will increase for sure!! Still, we do support each other, so... Well, for further information I would like to say that Einherjum is as Norse as it is possible to be without writing in Norwegian, and at least from my point of view is that a positive thing, although I will of course respect those who look differently upon that... What can I say- Einherjum will in next issue move more away from the typical music mag, and become more political and thoughtprovoking. It's good to see that some mags manage to do something original, we could need that... Well, you might just as well order Einherjum at once and see for yourself the grandness of this mag. No more than 50 NOK or \$8 should ensure you a copy of this 62 page long pergamant.

Features: Fenriz of Darkthrone (34 q), Satyricon, In The Woods..., Ancient, Unpure, Fleurety, Manes, Obtained Enslavement, Behemoth, Black Funeral, Ragnarok, Isvind, Dies Irae, Nattvindens Gråt, Zephyrous, Theatre of Tragedy, Mortils, Bifrost, The Helheim Society, Ornament Mag/Distro, Arild of Sverdstorm/Skogsposten, Perished and Esoteric. Norse articles are: "The number 9", "The monk in the Nidarosdome", "Suttung's Mead", "The story about Tidrande", "Norse", "A story about a king", and "Valfater Odinn". Even more: "Irish Scenereport", "Our new king...?", Covenant, Darkwoods My Betrothed, Enthroned, Sadistic Intent, "Fenriz'interessante barndoms-opplevelse", "Murder and Violence... War!" and "In memory of...". In addition: 118 music, 'zine, book, film and concert reviews.



Odinn  
P.R. Egertorget  
N-0165 Oslo  
Norvegr

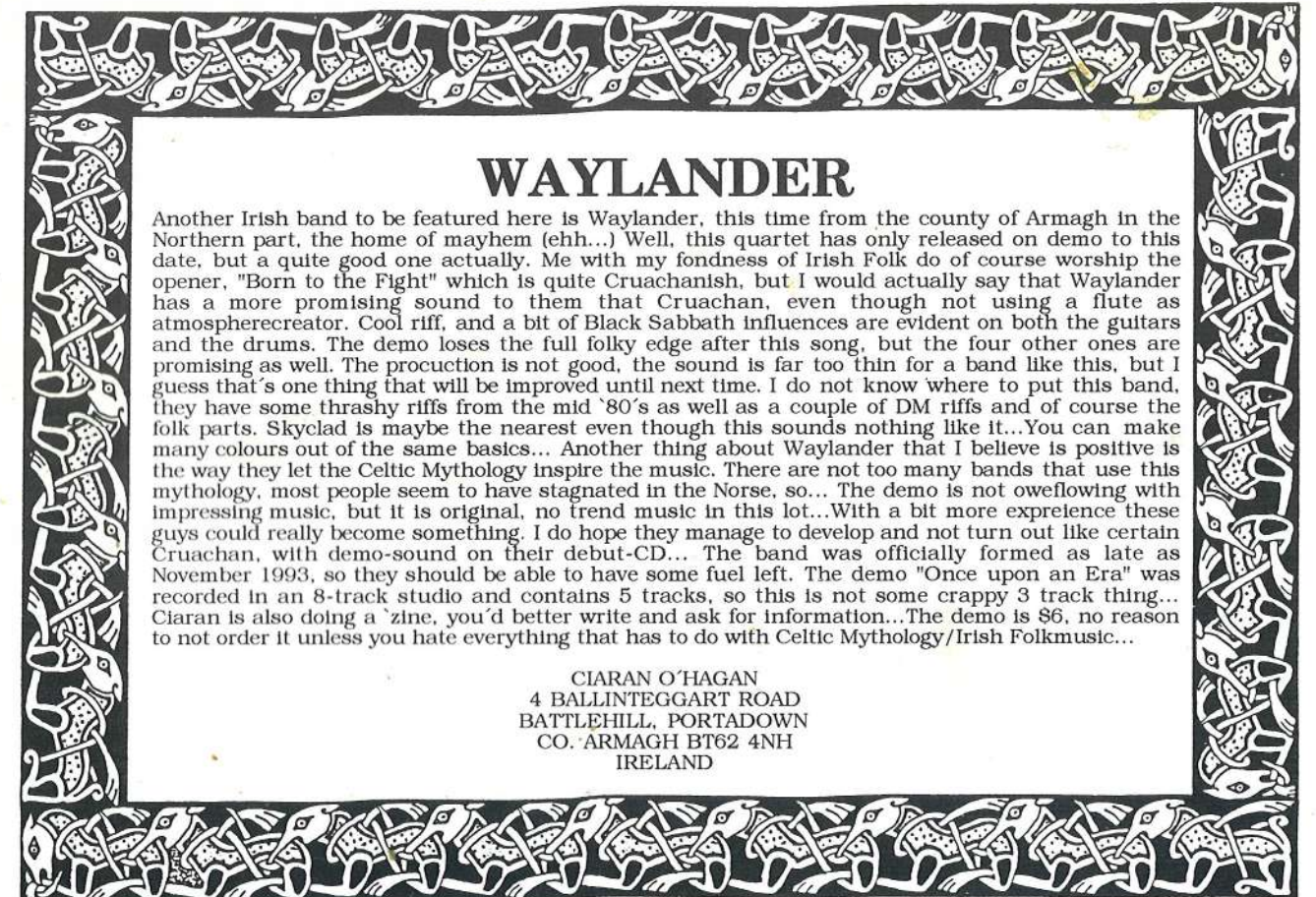
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Editors of  
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L-R: Odinn &  
Aasmund

## WAYLANDER

Another Irish band to be featured here is Waylander, this time from the county of Armagh in the Northern part, the home of mayhem (ehh...) Well, this quartet has only released on demo to this date, but a quite good one actually. Me with my fondness of Irish Folk do of course worship the opener, "Born to the Fight" which is quite Cruachanish, but I would actually say that Waylander has a more promising sound to them that Cruachan, even though not using a flute as atmospherecreator. Cool riff, and a bit of Black Sabbath influences are evident on both the guitars and the drums. The demo loses the full folk edge after this song, but the four other ones are promising as well. The production is not good, the sound is far too thin for a band like this, but I guess that's one thing that will be improved until next time. I do not know where to put this band, they have some thrashy riffs from the mid '80's as well as a couple of DM riffs and of course the folk parts. Skyklad is maybe the nearest even though this sounds nothing like it...You can make many colours out of the same basics... Another thing about Waylander that I believe is positive is the way they let the Celtic Mythology inspire the music. There are not too many bands that use this mythology, most people seem to have stagnated in the Norse, so... The demo is not overflowing with impressing music, but it is original, no trend music in this lot...With a bit more experience these guys could really become something. I do hope they manage to develop and not turn out like certain Cruachan, with demo-sound on their debut-CD... The band was officially formed as late as November 1993, so they should be able to have some fuel left. The demo "Once upon an Era" was recorded in an 8-track studio and contains 5 tracks, so this is not some crappy 3 track thing... Ciaran is also doing a 'zine, you'd better write and ask for information...The demo is \$6, no reason to not order it unless you hate everything that has to do with Celtic Mythology/Irish Folkmusic...

CIARAN O'HAGAN  
4 BALLINTEGGART ROAD  
BATTLEHILL, PORTADOWN  
CO. ARMAGH BT62 4NH  
IRELAND



**BETHZAIDA****DAWN**

This is excellent stuff. It is actually original too! I believe the base of this band lies in the Death metal genre, but don't get scared away of that reason. Even though the vocals are of the "throaty" ones, you can still hear the words. They're using a flute to add an extra touch to the melodies, and I must say that that's the element that made this demo my fave of '94. The sound is OK. Pretty good to be recorded on an eight tracker. For being a debut I can't express with words how impressed I am, and at the same time I wish to give a huge thanx to those who still keep a foot in DM land and not jump on the BM bandwagon...Back to the music- all four tracks are extremely different, you can of course hear the Bethzaida sound all over, but apart from that there aren't many similarities, which I think is good. It shows that the band might be able to continue in any way they want, at least they have the talent to do so. The drumming is one of the better ones I've heard so far from a Norwegian DM band, maybe not that strange as the drummer is a member of various bands playing other styles than DM, and as a consequence of that is able to vary a bit and not just go for blasting kickdrums, which many bands tend to do...

Contact: Terje Kråbel  
Hospitalsløkkan 14  
N-7012 Trondheim  
Norway

**SUBSPIECES****DEMO '94**

One keyword: strange...The flyer says "music for vampyric souls" and I believe that fits. The music is a peculiar mix of simple guitar riffs, weird keyboard melodies, and sound effects that could've been taken straight out of any old Bela Lugosi film. This is the kind of music you put on as background music when reading H.P. Lovecraft novels, only the music in itself is a rather chilling experience. The vocals starts out as a less good mix between Fields of the Nephilim and Rush, and ends up with a plain spoken kind of thing. I guess those of you who are into dark soundtracks and the likes should order this. Those into brutal stuff; stay away!

Write to: L.R. Loffler  
13 Thackeray Walk  
Horfield  
Bristol  
Avon BS7 0NP  
ENGLAND

**THE FLESH****ICECOLD MACABRE LUST**

As I'm sure many of you already have guessed; this is a death metal band. Melodic at times; slow and with too A4 death grunts for my taste. When I in combination with this find lyrics like "Carnally insane-finding pleasure in a carcass, morbidly in love- with the stench of rotting flesh" I begin to wonder if I've stepped over another Carcass anno-'89 band. Two of the members are playing in the most excellent Doom outfit Funeral, and I would recommend you to use money on them instead of this band. Do not misprint me, this is not bad at all, but why do something 10000 bands have done before you? I believe this band can grow up to be something a lot better, just give 'em some time....

Contact: Morten Vaeng  
Gamle Kirkev. 4  
3050 Mjølndalen  
NORWAY

**DEMONIC****NÅR MØRKET FALLER**

...surprise, surprise-another excellent, brutal BM band from Norway...We never stop surprising, do we?! Well, apart from being excellent, I believe I should say another word or two about the demo...Pytten is the producer, and it should be unnecessary to say that he's done a great job, once again. Actually I think he might've overdone his work a bit as the sound of the demo is like a rawer mix of Enslaved, and that isn't really necessary, is it? I'll admit that the music isn't what one can call original, (which bands of today can one call original anyway) what you get is three ferocious tracks both fast and mid-tempo riffs and drums. Very aggressive without losing the melodylines.

I've heard that this demo is no longer for sale so check out view for more information about newer stuff...

Contact: Mogerhagen  
Rødtvetvn. 35  
0955 Oslo  
NORWAY

**HELHEIM****NIDR OK NORDR LIGGR HELVEGR**

First of all: Do not confuse this band with the Helheim society. Hmm...I don't really know wether I should give this band thumbs up or not. They have some excellent grand piano parts, they do have a trumpet playing on one song, female vocals, acoustic guitar...those are the parts I appreciate highly. But when it comes to the real part; the metal part...well...hey, guys, how about some original riffs here and there? I'm sure most people wouldn't mind...The music is good, it's just that I seem to have heard the songs a 1000 times before, which is what most often downsets younger bands. Anyhow, this demo is value for money, all in all eight songs on this piece of Norwegian BM. Buy the demo and judge for yourselves, you most likely won't be disappointed nor overwhelmed...

Contact: Tom Korsvold  
Søråshøgda 383  
5041 Nordås  
NORWAY

**INFERNAL GATES****THE GATHERING OF TEARS**

You can read incredibly much out of a band's name and demotitle, don't you agree...?! You should be a damn juicy vegetable not to already have guessed that this is a Doom/Death band...Well, nothing

wrong about that. We are in old Paradise Lost land, having just hooked up with some strange creatures named Anathema after having run head on heels from the evil Deciders...Now, the music is quality from beginning to end, nothing to complain about. Three songs, none of them making a huge impression on me. Pro printed cover, lyrics included...that's it really. As most other bands I would say that this can be a band to watch for the future when they might have developed more a style of their own. In the meantime you can check this demo out so that you can tell all your friends in a couple of years' time that you have the old demo of the new Swedish Paradise Lost...

Contact: Stefan Sundsholm  
Huginsv. 9  
S- 665 33 Kil  
SWEDEN

**ABYSSIC HATE****CLEANSING OF AN ANCIENT RACE**

A one-man band from "Down under" !! That is rare...I can remember someone far away in my imagination stating that "Abyssic Hate is the best DarkThrone rip-off band there is", and I must say I agree. I guess you have figured out by now that what I dislike the most about bands is usually their unoriginality, but in this case. This is unoriginality with style !! For being a one-man band this is just incredible- with a capital I. Six songs on this demo, mostly high-speed, but also some mid tempo parts. This is Dark Throne all the way, so it should be unnecessary to write anything more about the music. The sound is pretty good. The demo was only released in 100 ex. so it is probably sold out a long time ago, but read view for further information. Who knows, maybe this little delicatessen will be re-printed some day ??!

Contact: Shane Rout  
G. P. O. Box 118A  
Melbourne, Victoria  
Australia, 3001  
AUSTRALIA

**SLEEPING GODS****THE DIE IS CAST**

Yeah, right. Here we have another of the numerous doom/death bands. Once again, this is great musicianship, well-structured songs, interesting melody lines, fairly good sound and recording. There's no way I can let down a band like this. It has everything a band should have to break through to the "big scene"...but we do already have a zillion (at least) bands that sound just like 'em, ye good ol' Paradise Lost copies...This is one of the better ones, no doubts, so I don't doubt a second that these guys are discovered by Adipocere or one of the other more Doom/Avant Garde orientated labels around by now...Why don't you write and ask if you're a die-hard fan of those melodic tunes. This demo was released sometime during '94, so I see no reason for why this demo shouldn't be available still.

Contact: Tim Siebrecht  
Hannoversche Str. 29A  
34266 Niestetal  
GERMANY

**ZEPHYROUS****ENTRANCE AND WANDERING ON THE SEVEN ZONES**

This is more like it!! Some real Greek stuff...Not that the sound is so extremely Greek, but we all know that Greece is a country of many talents, and Zephyrous is no exception, apart from playing more in the Nordic vein. This is once again a value for money demo, 11 songs all in all! Plain and simple music, Burzum influences are evident. Melodic and melancholic at times, blasting brutal at other times. Interesting Folkish intro and outro. Could've had a much better recording, but this is supposed to be BM, isn't it?! As long as the recording has the right atmosphere I believe the sound is of less importance. This demo is reprinted and released as a MCD on Impure Creations Rec. Order at once!

Contact: Dreamlord  
C/O Jim Georgalis  
Amohostou 2  
163 46 Ilioupolis  
Athens  
GREECE

**TROLL****DEMO '95**

Strange stuff...More trad. HM with BM/DM vocals and some interesting synth lines. The additional vocals are really weird, some sounding like moaning, others are clean, even some screams and some you'll have to experience to yourself to be able to see what I mean!! The recording sucks, it's really annoying in the beginning, but when I'd listened to the demo a couple of times and had caught the melodies, I more or less forgot the shitty sound. This is not a superb demo, but it's kind of special - it has its own charm...Two people in the band, four songs on the demo...that's it.

Contact: Stig Rune Raanes  
7170 Åfjord  
NORWAY

**EXHUMATION****DEEPEST SIDE OF FEAR**

From Greece once again, but this time around it's not BM, but DM! Pro recorded, pro printed demo. I don't really think this is such a bad demo if listened to with ears that are a bit more open to standard DM than I am at the moment. Grrrrreat mature musicians, no doubts about that. The calmed down parts are excellent, melancholic... Lyrics are printed in the cover, but nothing much to read. Luckily no rotting corpses and bulging eyes, but not far away...An instrumental finish this whole thing off, the good old acoustic guitars with an extremely melodic electric solo axe on the top...how very original. No this is not of my liking, but if you're into the more brutal DM stuff you will surely like this one...

Contact: Panagiotis Giatzoglou  
Papadimitriou 19

551 31 Kalamaria  
Thessaloniki  
GREECE

**DØDHEIMSGARD****PROMO 95**

Another starstudded band from the cove of the Oslofjord; Aldrahn (sess. Dimmu Borgir, Valgaldur 'Zine)-guit.,vocals, Vicotnik (Ved Buens Ende)-drums, back. vocals and Fenris (ehh...let's say he's universal...)-bass, vocals. Here are three songs, all of them which will appear on the upcoming album entitled "Kronet til Konge" ("Crowned to be King"). Heck, this is the metaphor to "grim", primitive as hell, some more or less melodic parts...Black Metal the good, old way maybe I could say (except for the Norwegian lyrics, of course...) The vocals are an epic in themselves, they knocks Satyr to earth, maybe even as far as Hell...They're the coldest and most freezing I think I've heard in my entire life. And that should speak for itself...Vocals are most often the field where Black Metallers fail, having the ordinary screamy or throaty voices. That is why I always appreciate bands with a bit different approach vocal-wise.

Only one problem though; imagewise they are not at all my cup of tea, and one can say that destroys fairly much of the good picture they portray musically. I don't really know where you can get this promo, but you could try this address: Draug Aldrahn Dencker

Dragonstien 14c  
1062 OSLO  
NORWAY

**DIES IRAE****DEMO 94**

No, no, no...I'm extremely sorry, but I just can't take the disappointment after the first song on this demo...It's maybe no secret that the Ed. of this 'zine is a classical music fanatic, so when I heard the first dulcet notes of this demo I thought that this really could be something-a floating pianopiece accompanied by a very medieval sounding flute. So far so good, before the next part of the song approaches...still piano, but hell, even I could've played that piano scale at the age of 5. Some storming drums added and a vocal that's pretty good, actually... The spoken parts sends shivers down my spine; the positive way. They remind me a bit of Draug's, the same icy feeling...I don't think the members of this band have discovered that if you're going to mix black and classical music, you just can't make it as easy as putting "pounding double kick-drums on top of an orchestral synth and a piano playing a simple scale. The only times when this demo really works out is when the more trad. HM guitar is added, as on the second song. When I after that get something like 10 minutes (or something like that, I didn't count) of churchbells...well...hello??!! Have you forgotten the listeners? Onward to a couple of minutes of OK synth music, and time for another 10-minute's visit to the churchgreen again.

All in all, great ideas, but they didn't really work out. Maybe next time I can assure you that I will be the first in the queue when the next demo is out.

Contact: Jan A. Wessel  
Anemonevn 34  
3268 LARVIK  
NORWAY

**FORGOTTEN WOODS****SJEL AV NATTEN**

Wanna know an interesting fact ?? If you hear this demo on high-speed it sound just like Billy Ray Cyrus on LSD! I'm not kidding...So, check it out...

Aww, I really don't want to review this one, as I know I will only talk shit about the whole thing. There's something with those out-of-tune guitars that don't appeal to me at all... Of the people I have talked with about FW, most of them share my opinion: FW's music is OK as background music, but it's really not worth listening to. "Sjel av Natten" ("Soul of the Night") is an improvement from "As the Wolves Gather", but I still wouldn't consider them being more than "fairly OK". If you liked their album, or even worse, one of their demos, you should check this one out. If not, stay as far away as possible... I believe this one is available from HNF, if not, just forget about the whole tragedy...

**VED BUENS ENDE****THOSE WHO CARESS THE PALE**

Thank god (ehh...) there is some more sophisticated music out here too...Ved Buens Ende is one of the bands I believe it's about time to know the name of by now...In my opinion this band is, together with Gehenna, one of the hopes for the future of Norwegian music. As written in the news pages this band is signed to Misanthropy Rec., and their full-length should be available as you read this. I don't know where exactly to put this band, there are obvious influences from almost every perspective of the musical world, I guess BM, Doom and Prog. Rock should be the ones most well-represented. The vocals of both Calle and Vicotnik are of the best quality, especially the clean parts by Calle-kill Peter Steele, these are the vocals that hit me a bit further down...Oh well, Skolls bassplaying is absolutely not to be forgotten. While most bassists just strike the basic tone in the chord, Skoll actually makes his own melody all the way; with great success...And last, the drums are admittedly the most progressive I've ever heard in a band that still is within the metal genre. Very experimental, unusual, still it's about time someone discovers that a drumkit contains more than kick-drums and tam-tams...

The only thing that expells this demo from being THE best is the shitty sound and recording. I believe that will be better on the LP, so buy at first sight!!!! In the meantime, you can order the demo from:

Ancient Lore Creations  
Markalleen 39  
1320 STABEKK  
NORWAY

**INCITATUS****DEMO '95**

Have you ever had the feeling of not knowing wether you should give a band top-score or to dissectate the whole tape?? Well, I have that dilemma right now. I'm in a good mood today, so I guess I'll go for the first choice. I believe Incitatus must be the most real Northern band that I know about playing Metal. They're from Bodø; get a map and find that place, a really lost place, eh?? Well, they do have a beautiful midnightsun for sure...Eh, right, back to the music.

When choosing the first alternative, this is fucking great Doom metal with some avantgarde influences (Spist for mye Seigmen i det siste...? Ikke noe galt i det, forsåvidt, men limbus-limbo, monumental-monument...Eller er det bare et tilfelle ??) The vocals are ye good ol' screechy, rasping BM thing and some standard spoken ones, I hope for an improvement there until next time. I guess this demo was recorded on a 4-tracker, or so it sounds, so do not expect the most professional recording. Still, as I've pinpointed about a 1000 times before, the recording should not matter that much as long as the music itself is quality. The demo needs a few listens to get used to, but after that it's stuck in your ear, I can assure you.

Contact: Remi Sivertsen  
Hokkåsflata 4  
8028 MØRKVED  
NORWAY

**SERENADE****LET LOOSE THE BEAUTY WITHIN**

You've already guessed it once again, am I right? Another Doom/death band, this times from the green moors of Scotland. Nothing original this time around either, pretty pro. recording (maybe a bit lame and flat) pro. cover with lyrics. No doubt that these guys know how to play their instruments and put together songstructures, but that isn't enough to get thumbs-up from me. The vocals are far too gruff for this type of music and where the hell is the second guitarist (do they play on shift???) To put it short: This demo bores the shit out of me...Sad but true...

Contact: Deviation Rec.  
49 Carfin Road  
Newarthill  
Motherwell ML1 5JZ  
SCOTLAND

**THY SINISTER BLOOM****PROMO '95**

Aaaaahhh...sit back and relax...Finally it's here, the tape I've been waiting for ages. The TSB tape, well-recorded and properly mixed. TSB is not like the zillions of other boring Doom/Death bands around, they do actually not have one single element of DM incorporated even though members of this band have been playing in DM acts before. No, this is the slowest type of Doom you can imagine (I believe these guys can compete with Therogoth when it comes to slowness, and that should say enough...), extremely melodic in all its slowness, some rather catchy bits too as well as a vocal that makes me believe the world will go under tomorrow. Poetic. It is only one song on the whole promo, but in return this song is 22.30 min. long. Some Doom bands have problems with keeping the listener's attention through their long and boring songs, but that is not the case here. If I should've guessed the length of this song when hearing it the first time I guess I would've tried something like 7 minutes, and said that it was far too short...So there you go, you who get impatient when listening to really slow bands, you should be in safe hands when it comes to checking out TSB (of course, taste can vary, I'm as always speaking from my point of view). The lyrics...no, it's rather a poem, should be read in silence late at night far away from razorblades, it have an atmosphere that would probably make the world's happiest man getting suicidal tendencies...But that's how it should be, isn't it?

Only one thing I can think of that is a small minus with this demo, and that's the drumsound. It's a bit too dry compared to the rest of the music. I believe that'll be better 'till next release from these Irishmen. Last news I heard was that Holy Rec. have shown some interest in the band...we shall see what happens, but keep your eyes and ears wide open for this band, a watch for the future for sure !!

Write to: Robin Bailey  
21 Tamarisk Way  
Kilnamanagh  
Dublin 24  
Ireland

**GEHENNAH****ADV. WINTER '95**

Paulo Staver and his Primitive Art Rec. never stops surprising when it comes to signing bands with new personalities to his label...From before we have Sons of Neverland and The Mobile Mob Freakshow, which stands on each side of the metal world (well SON isn't that much metal really...), and now comes Gehennah...Woah, ferocious as hell (Gehennah?). This is fullspeed Venom with traces of Motörhead all the way in these three tracks taken from the forthcoming fulllength album entitled "Hardrocker". Just read the songtitles and you know where you'll find these guys: "Blood Metal", "Brilliant Loud Overlords of Destruction" and "Say Hello to Mr. Fist (In your Face)". Metal anno 1985, the odour of leather is obvious, long, greasy hair should be a must and I guess you will find beer, girls and the rest of what belongs to that period too in here without needing a magnifying glass. With so many Venom-copies around I will say that Gehennah is the only band that can bring forth what Venom really was about when it came to image...Venom was no fucking evil lads all the time, they did actually have a lot of black humour incorporated as well, a factor that most BM people of today seem to have forgotten...But maybe Gehennah will bring this cool image forth again, who knows...I know that for my taste I would like to see the whole "92-1-am-very-evil-dark-and-satanic" period dead and buried (no premature burial here...). Well, I guess the "Hardrocker" album should hit the shops any day now, if not...use the Primitive Art Rec. address on the newspages..

**BETHZAIDA****NINE WORLDS**

The second demo from these Trøderfars dumped down in my postbox here the other day, and once again they impressed me greatly...In a way this is a more extensive version of their debut "Dawn", having a richer soundpicture as well as much more mature melodies and compositions. Maybe this has got something to do with the changes in the line-up, a bassist out and a bassist and another guitarist in...I don't know, but I

think the band's moved more in direction of thrash, the riffs being more marcant and the vocals maybe a teeny weeny bit more screamy. They have added another part of the track "Dawn" from the debut demo of the same name, and this track kills as an opener for sure! 100 times better than the old version...I guess this track marks the difference between these two demos to the outmost. The flute is used even more now, and that's good...I hope they'll continue that way because to make a more classical instrument as the flute is to fit so good into the music is extrordinaire... 5 songs worth of excellent metal...

Contact Andre Svee  
Dronningensgt. 52  
7012 Trondheim  
Norway

### NATTVINDENS GRÅT DAR SVANAR FLYGER

A great surprise from our neighbors in east, Finland. This demo does not go away without putting traces in my ears, that's for sure...I always mention Tiamat when talking about Nattvindens Gråt, and that is (obviously) because this band has a lot of the same moments incorporated in their music as Tiamat have too. The vocals are of course the biggest difference- they're grim as hell...I do not know if I prefer a more laid-back vocal style, a more clean one to this, I'm not sure. I guess both kind of vocals would fit just as good. 5 songs on this demo, the last one 66.5° N being a pure synth song. Although having only synth it does not turn out like one of those typical synth intro/outros. No, this one's really interesting...It creates one hell of an atmosphere...The metal music is clearly inspired by more trad. Heavy Metal, but I believe members of this band must have a background within other styles of music as the music has a very special float to it that you rarely find within Metalmusic. The melodies are very "catchy", easily remembered, but ingenious. The lyrics are impressive, it's a pity they're written in Swedish as those who can't read that language really will miss some great poetry. Oh well, there's nothing one can do about that...This demo will only be printed in 1000 ex., so I think you'd better hurry if you would like to get it. It's available from Solistitium Rec (addr. in interview). Bandcontact:

Nattvindens Gråt  
P.O. Box 30  
SF-825 01 Kitee  
Finland

### NATTVINDENS GRÅT ADV. "A BARD'S TALE"

Hoops, a cassette with adv. tracks from this CD dumped into my postbox just before deadline, and I saw my chance to review this under the old one so that you can read 'em in succession...Am I smart, or what? OK... Now, this is just fantastic!!! I can actually state that this is the best music I've heard so far this year, and that's no exaggeration...Now they do use clear vocals, more Got vocals actually, and that does fit the music better. I hear people saying that with the clear vocals they can't get that "cold" feeling they had on "Dår Svanar Flyger", but I think these three tracks are just as "cold" as the past tracks. The music has clearly matured, even though I couldn't possibly think that was practicable when listening to the last tape. I wonder what will happen on their next tape...Well, Nattvindens Gråt is even more "Wildhoney"-Tiamat now, more female vocals, a more marcant synth, English lyrics with dreaming, unclear pictures.Perfect. But, they have not lost the metal edge totally like Tiamat, and that's almost the best thing about this whole advance, the places where the real Running Wild riffs come in...I believe this album will be released sometime during October/November, do buy it this sounds like your cup of blood. Addr. see last review.

### HELHEIM ADV. "JORDMUNDGARD"

Yes, this was *much* better. Helheim has by now managed to get themselves a sound of their own, and a fairly good sound too to be honest. On one track I could spot a bit of Hades sounding riff (or rather Bathory...), but that is really a minor "factor". I do not know if they used two vocalists on the "Niðr ok Nordr..." demo, but if they did I couldn't spot 'em. Here they are very visible, and *extremely* good. The screamy vocals are even more extreme than those of Grisenakke's and the clean ones are really good too. When both are being used at the same time it's pure orgasm...I think the guitars are a bit too much in the background of the production at places, and the synth a bit too much in the foreground...But that's really another *minor* drawback. An active bassplayer, that's not bad. The hornsection works out better this time, more a la Beyond Dawn-they create a monumental sound. A sound that fits best in the background but that is indispensable. Some Venom rip-off riffs, cool...Hm...it is really all these little things that makes Helheim as a whole an excellent band. The main melodies aren't that much to boast about, but they do in a way disappear in the crowd of subtleties, and that's good. Helheim is a band many people seem to have passed without noticing until this day, but I believe you will be forced to know this band from now on. They have a bright future... Contact Solistitium Rec. for further info, addr. to the band on last review.

### GÖTTERDÄMMERUNG FUROR TEUTONICUS

Strange demo, this one...I will have to admit at once that this is *not* my style of music at all, but I'll try to do my best to give this a fair review as I'm sure many of you will like it. I'm famous for liking music that "everyone" dislikes and disliking music that "everybody" loves, so...Well, this is some kind of mix between Thrash, Death and Black Metal. They have some really weird melodylines, mostly done by the bass. They give Götterdämmerung get a sound one can easily recognise, and that's great. The guitars have a bit of the early Entombed sound, as have the vocals at places. Sometimes this demo sound like doomy DM, sometimes like speedmetal at its fullest. The only thing that remains the same through the whole demo is the extensive basswork. Great! The industrial parts of "Furor Teutonicus" are very refreshing, a new creation! There's actually a bit of Ministry sound to it. This is only the band's second demo, I will look forward to the third as I think the band might just need some time to gather up all the loose ends of musicstyles and put it together in one. This demo simply becomes too varied for me! But if you are tired of the ordinary, standard A4 Balck Metal sound you really should go for this one. It

shows that is actually *is* possible to create something new and original even in the year 1995! And that's not bad!

Nyar Linke  
Klopp 4  
55471 Fronhofen  
Germany

### TARTARUS

#### THE HERITAGE FROM THE PAST

A rather new band in the scene from the town of Tunsberg. This demo is pretty old, recorded during Sept./Oct. '94, so I believe the man behind the project, Grimlock, might've changed a bit since those days. Maybe not. Still, this demo is fairly OK. Not much to boast about, but that is mostly due to the unoriginality of this demo. The music is actually quite good, some very good riffs here and there. Seeing that this is a pure solo-project done by only one brain without any session members, the impression is soon much better...The use of synth is a bit too overpowering, it should've been more in the background. The vocals are OK, but they sound just like "everybody else"-a light version of Grevén. The melodies are very good all the way, symphonic...Grimlock do surely possess a huge talent, but as all new bands he needs a bit of time to develop a style of his own. The music on "The Heritage..." is a bit too unpersonal, a bit too much Empeor (slowed-down MLP) and Satyricon (DMT) style. Others might find Tartarus' music very appealing, so why don't you write to the guy and ask for information...

Grimlock  
Joachim Rygg  
Vestheim, Olsrød  
3150 Tunsberg  
Norway

### CARNAL RAPTURE PROMO '94

Another demo that dumped down in my mailbox one day. I would maybe've worshipped this demo if I'd recieved it in '91, but I have in a way become very tired of the Death "Human" style...This demo is just fantastic, no doubts about that, the musicians are probably better than everybody Mr. Chuckliners has ever had in Death up through the years, but that makes me just as tired... If you're into highly technical and melodic DM, very experimental, buy this one, you have my guarantee you won't regret!! Yeah, this band is Italian, but they don't sound Italian at all. They sound totally American. The first time I listened to this tape I thought it must have been a mistake somewhere, this'll have to be a promo for the new Cynic CD or something, but taking a look into the cover it did soon convince me that it was not. The production is maybe a bit dry, but nothing to complain about. The talent of the musicians cannot be doubted when having heard these two tracks, they'll have to have an academical background in music and being into a bit of jazz...It's cool that people still make music like this even though much less people would buy this one compared to for example the above reviewed, just because Tartarus is a Norwegian BM band...It's a pity, because there is a lot of great music that people miss just because they're so narrowminded. So remember, if you're into technical DM, do for "X"'s sake order this brilliant work!! It is available as a demo from:

Richard Tedeschi  
13B Norfolk Terrace  
BN1 3AD Brighton  
England (\$6)

Or as a 7" from: Cryptic Soul Prod.  
Via Fundania 31  
02100 Riet  
Italy

### PINGO'S INFERNO HUMAN SHRAPNELS

Yehaw- a demo dealing with the war in Yugoslavia, Kurt Cobain's suicide, liquor stores in Sweden etc...Not everyday stuff...Rock und Roll, tractorbass, HM anno '85, pop, all kinds of weird synthsounds and rythms, Rush-style vocals... This is a one-man project by ch.yes, that's right-Pingo, and he has Carcass ex-guitarist Mike Amott here as a session member doing some fabulour guitar work as well. This is a demo for openminded people, no doubt about that...Pingo has loads of tapes out, among others a tribute to Manowar, a re-arrangement of Jesus Christ Superstar (the musical, you know) as well as two previous Pingo's Inferno tapes and much more. Pingo's doing almost everything on these tapes together with tons of session members, and what I've heard have turned out really cool. As Pingo himself says: The music is hard to describe, but influences can be heard from among others Zappa, Manowar, Dream Theatre, Slayer, Rush etc. Great! I guess you should write for more information on this, as this demo was recorded during April '94 and that's starting to be a long time ago...But I do not doubt that there are some demos left anyway, so send \$4 or 20 SEK to: Pingo Sjöholm  
Jaktfalksvägen 19  
S-302 62 Halmstad  
Sweden

### TROLL

#### TROLLSTORM OVER NIDINGJUV

Hmm...I believe I will be slaughtered if I don't write anything good about this demo...Well...Uhum...You see...The first song cannot be compared to anything else but a Norse trend song...The production is a bit hoarser, a bit more grim, the atmosphere is rather trollish, but the song itself has nothing. I repeat *nothing* original in itself!!!! The same goes for the second song too...Quack!!!...But then, the 3rd song...ahh...that was better, some killer riffs and basically the whole song is a grimoire on how to make a perfect grim BM tune. Whoooarrrgh!! So, buy this demo, fast forward the first two tracks and enjoy the mightyness and the power of the third one!! This is by the way the solo-project by Nagash of Covenant, quite surprising how he manages to write the songs in two so different bands within one genre, praiseworthy...But still I think this demo has been a bit too overhyped, it is not as great as many people will have it to be. OK, so it's Norwegian, it's BM, it rips...but still there is a lot missing before this would turn out to be something totally of my liking. Get rid of the talentless acoustic breaks in the second song at least-they ruin the little atmosphere I've managed to build up through the first track. I think the vocals need a bit more work before ending up as ugly as this music demands. It is just not enough with the good, old screamy BM vocals on music like this...Order this demo from Likfunn Distro (see addr. elsewhere in this `zine)

### MOONSPELL "WOLFHEART" (Century Media)

Ooooooh yeah- this is music that hits just the right places in my ears - and it's this kind of melodies, rythms and atmospheres that has a hard time saying goodbye...The whole thing ends up with me going around humming on Moonspell's melodies for about a week after having heard the album. Not bad, eh ?? OK, I'll admit that this album has all the clichés of today; acoustic guitars, orchestral synths, female/clean male vocals etc. etc., but still...I know people up here in the North tend to slag this band off because it doesn't sound like the Norse BM, but hell, if they're influenced by the oriental rather than the Norse I guess that is the way it should be. I mean, Satanism doesn't actually have it's roots in Norway, does it? Of course I won't expect a band from Portugal to play cold, grim BM, but BM the way *their* roots will allow them to play... Influences here are evident from as good as everything between Gothic Rock to Folk Music to Black Metal, although this CD maybe should be classified all in all under the moniker of Heavy Metal. The opener "Wolfshade" is maybe more of a BM song, "...Of dream and Drama" starts out as a pretty true Goth tune, but develops into something at the border between metal and rock (!). Maybe we should just call everything "Moonspell". Yep, I do think so, my dear... "Oriental Masquereade"... Anyway, what you get here is 8 songs and 43.45 min. worth of melodic and well-performed music. If you liked their last effort, the MCD entitled "Under the Moonspell", I guess you should go as far as beheading a couple of people to get your hands on this one...For those of you who've been so unfortunate not to know this band...sweet tears...get this CD at once!!!!!! (cause Gro sounds so...)

### HADES

#### "...AGAIN SHALL BE" (Full Moon Prod.)

Taking over where "Twilight of the Gods" ended, this could just as well have been made by the hands of Quorthon...Now that's quite a compliment!!!! The only thing that differs this release from "Hammerheart" and "Twilight..." is that we don't get the false clean vocals, and maybe that's just as good? At least the gruff vocals give Hades a bit more sound of their own, and that's good. Hades should anyway by now be a pretty well-known band, they've had great success with both their "Alone Walking" demo and now their debutalbum "...Again Shall Be". This whole thing is produced by Pytten, and that man has done his job well once again. The recording has a pretty "old" and raw sound, and I guess that's just the way the band wanted it. And it somehow fits the music too (of course...). Now, what I really don't get is where the heck Hades is imagewise...Not that it really matters, but...Somewhere between Norse Mythology, Ancient Egyptian mythologies and some kind of New Age World ?? Ah, forget it!! Enough said about this CD. If you don't have it then you don't deserve to read this `zine, if you have it, well, then this review have probably bored the shit out of you (play "Glorious again the Northland shall Become" once more just to ensure you that this truly is a great band!!) *More than* enough said.

### ALGAION

#### "OIMAI ALGEOIU" (Full Moon Prod.)

From Norway's "granneland" (Tjena svenskar!!! Ganske fett å skrive på norsk/svensk så INGEN andre forstår det!! Tenker det er noen som løper etter ordlista akkurat nå, jeg...Stakkars krek...) Ehhh...OK, over to Algaion. Well, to be quite honest, this doesn't really attract me much. The music is BM in the true Nordic vein, drum programming inc. There are a few tracks that are fairly OK, at least above average...If this had been released 5 years ago this might've been a KILLER release, but as the calendar shows 1995, I have kinda' heard this music three zillion times before, I'm sorry. This is the kind of CD I hate reviewing 'cause it bores the hell out of me writing about something that I'm not 100% into or 100% against. But I guess that's the shitty part of the job...Oh well... To write a bit more about this release, well, full speed all the way except for a couple of mid-tempo riffs where the drums still continues doing the "speedaway" thing, and yeah, one song with female vocals and acoustic guitars.Nothing to boast about, though. The (male) vocals are the (Itchy and ??) scratchy thing, you know, the vocals every band seem to use before finding their own style. And where the hell is the bass on this recording ?? Everything is well-produced, and the guitar sound is really tasty, but still...(fuck)...unoriginal as hel(heim)...Still, there's a quality running over this release that I can't really say I find many bands that can match. Maybe next time ?? Orders should be shipped to the Full Moon Prod. address (on the newspapers).

### VARIOUS

#### "W.A.R. COMPILATION VOL. I" (Wrong Again Rec.)

Those damn Swedes...Why do they always make so incredibly much excellent (with a capital E...no, no, not *that* E, you fucking druggie...) metalmusic ?? Maybe not within the world of true Black Metal, but on all other aspects (Men vi har olja, hadde olje '94 og vant Grand Prix...hah!! Ojansn, her kom ordlista etter en gang.) Anyway, this comp. CD does really prove what Sweden is good for, having gathered their forces and showed all their dynamite on one album. The whole nightmare (in a positive light) starts out with a ferocious track from '94s biggest surprise; INFLAMES. Their debut CD "Lunar Strain" was one hell of a debut, and their upcoming MCD is extremely convincing too (see reviews).Further on we get 11 minutes from EUCHARIST, two above average tracks of atmospheric and progressive BM/DM. No doubts that these guys know how to play their instruments, and I guess their debutalbum "A Velvet Creation" proves just that, having not heard it myself. OK, then over to something I'm really into...DARK TRANQUILITY...Everybody should be familiar with this band extraordinaire by now, their CD "Skydancer" (Spinefarm Rec.) really is a *must*!! What's annoying me here is that we only get one track of Dark Tranquility, that band deserves the whole fucking comp. tape with their extremely melodic doom/death. This new song does absolutely impress me, though, so if this is the way the band's gonna continue, well, then there is NO-ONE BETTER!!!! How those guys are able to make those incredible melodylines enshrouded in dark atmosphere is a mystery to me... Still going strong we have good, old DISSECTION. And this time we even get the story about Elisabeth Bathori...yes, yes, *yes*!! This *is* actually a cover of Tormentors (RIP) infamous track, and Dissection do not ruin anything at all... It might not be better than the original, but hey! Who the hell is able to beat Tormentor ?? (Answers in a bloodsoaked envelope to my address). But we're so lucky that we get even more Dissection "Where Dead Angels Lie", a new track which sounds very promising indeed. It has this peculiar little piece of melody line that creates a strange impression of the whole tune... Impossible to describe really, you'll have to hear it to know what I mean... Continuing down the tracklist here...MISCREANT is the next band up, this is the only band I'm not really familiar with on this album, but it's good seeing

some new faces. The track they're represented with is a strange 7 min. long tune, put together by a mix of chaos parts (read: brutal BM) and some really, doomy melancholic parts, and a couple of melodic DM parts...Yep, it's really hard to define this band, I'm really into some parts while others are far too average...Above average, but something is missing... CEREMONIAL OATH are the next men on the list, showing themselves off with two fantastic tracks: "New Sun" and "The Shadowed End". Nothing new or extremely original about these two tracks, but they both glow of quality. Their second album should be out on Black Sun Rec. any day now, so you'd better watch out!! Melodic DM, the good, new (?), Swedish way (...and the way we like it, right?!!) Hm...MOURNING SIGN is up next, and...well, I guess there had to be at least one pit on a comp CD like this. Do not misprint me, this is not bad at all, but it lacks the "the" that a band will have to have to attract my interest. Pretty OK, but very average melodic DM is what we get served, but I'll rather skip that dinner and get on my way to the dessert; KATATONIA. What an excellent band this is...This time the Goth influences are getting more and more visible on both bandpictures and in the music. Both the tracks here could've been follow-ups to "Without God" of their most excellent album "Dance of December Souls" (...and the old version on "Jahve Elohim Meth"), except maybe for the pure Goth parts. Well, nothing else but Beautiful is what Katatonia's music have become now. I'm looking forward to hearing more of the new stuff which is practically lacking all kinds of metal-influences: True Goth the old way... Yezzzzzz...Anyway, Katatonia *with* metal-influences is an uncharly experience too, so do check these two tracks out!! Last band out: PURGATORUM. The name should speak for itself...No, not quite, I had expected this band to be even more brutal, but luckily they weren't...DM more the old, classical way; straight ahead, no surprises. Nothing much to add about that band, really. Tired of reading? Well then, what are you waiting for, buy this masterpiece right ahead for the ridiculous price of 100SEK/\$16/\$18 from Wrong Again Rec. (Adr. on the newspapers as usual...)

### LAKE OF TEARS "HEADSTONES" (Black Mark Prod.)

I guess we can just as well continue in the Swedish spirit...Lake of Tears' second album sees the band directed even further away from their point of departure in the DM boom than their last CD, and I believe that's just as good. This CD is really hard to write about, because I'm not able to describe this band as well as I wish I was. I guess it's the same problem one will get if reviewing Tiamat's "Wildhoney"- the music is so far away from anything you've heard before and is able to draw parallels between, so... But mind!, this album is not at all comparable to "Wildhoney", although I believe this album will appeal to those of you that are into that album. OK, review...I'll give it a try... Extremely strong melodylines all the way, especially from the vocalist side. The vocals are by the way among the best I've heard, Daniel Brennare does without doubt have his own way of singing. Very HM at times, sometimes just laidback ballad-singing. Extensive riffing all the way, with the more melodic guitar being an important piece every now and then. Synth is used almost all the way, maybe a bit comparable to Amorphis' "Tales...", but still not quite the same thing. The songs are well-made, not some crappy beginners stuff here. I do personally have a problem with the drums, they are a bit too much "rock" for my taste. Still, they do fit the music quite well, as the music on "Headstones" often can be characterized as within the rock genre. Experimental is the keyword for this work, and it was a successful experiment...Buy, buy, buy !!

### LACRIMOSA "INFERNO" (Hall of Sermon)

This is so far my absolute favourite of '95...This album sees the most successful mix of Goth, Doom and Classical music ever. It's so powerful that even Decide's debut should be licking its boots, so beautiful that Grieg should've been prohibited, and so Dark that Joy Division sounds like Take That. This is IT!!!! The album I've been waiting for all my Metal life, the album that no-one has been able to make before, and never ever will be able to make again...THE album... Lacrimosa is now consisting of the German genius Tilo Wolff and the ex-keyboardist in the Finnish Goth outfit Two Witches, Anne Nurmi. This is Lacrimosa's fourth full album, and absolutely the best... I do not find one weak point on this CD, so the following words about this masterpiece is just a short introduction for those of you who still haven't discovered "God"... Strong synths all the way, impressive "metal" drumming by former Running Wild drummer AC, guitars that don't ruin the whole soundpicture, but float in the background, Tilo's vocals are really impressive, maybe more in the Goth vein than the rest of the album, maybe even some Glam (!!!) influences. Most of this album is sung in German, a great effect, it's about time someone shows that German is a language that can be used for more than beer drinking songs...Anne Nurmi's vocals are of the more impressive female vocals I've heard, even though I had to give this CD a few listens before I discovered the genius in her voice...And then, last words...Barmbeck Symphonie Orchestra...

### DRILLER KILLER TOTALFUCKINGHATE (Distortion Rec./Dolores Rec.)

PUNK!! Dead Kennedys on speed with some Brazilian Metalhead anno 1985 on vocals and the rest of Motörhead on guitars...Frontcover in best Brujeria-style...Not much talent involved...One nice lyric... "Skåneland": "Landet i söder...där hater glöder"(Either is this some kind of parody on nationalistic Viking bands or maybe it's a fairly OK song)???. This is the kind of music you start banging your head in the wall after having heard a couple of songs (and kill your parents, the neighbor's dog and so on...) or you can invite all your punk friends over and have a huge bash...Sounds like some kind of punk-inspired Metal band from the mid-80's, so if you're into that, you'll probably not regret buying this one. Not my style, though...Can be obtained from Dolores Rec. Addr. on the newspapers.

### EXCRETION "VOICE OF HARMONY" (Wrong Again Rec.)

Hah, I'm fearing the throne of Norway in this issue of VF, *another* Swedish album to be reviewed...Well, it's good there's at least *some* average music coming out of that country, if not I fear that I've become very jealous indeed...Oh well, we were not to talk about that, but rather Excretion's music...Highly technical and melodic DM, well played and well recorded, and it works out OK on the first couple of songs, but to be honest this becomes very boring as song by song passes by without variation. OK, you can hear the difference between the riffs, it's no problem parting one song from the other, but I do not find anything but a blend of clichés here, I'm sorry... The DM vocals are still here, although it surprised me that a band as melodic as this one don't vary more on the vocals. You get an overdose of from the pits vocals, and that equals

an overdose of anaesthetics, that's a truth. Double kickdrums all the way without much inspirational beats, some acoustic guitar parts which works out good to a certain extent, but then it's more than enough...This CD works out good when the band go for the more plain brutal DM parts, but the music seems to be a bad attempt to play melodic so that more people can like it. At least these guys know how to play their instruments far better than the standard DM band, and that's a +. Maybe a MCD would've been better for this band, because hearing this band in a smaller dose would at least fit me much better...Order and info from WAR.

**IN FLAMES**  
"SUBTERRANEAN"  
(Wrong Again Rec.)

Wanna know the receipt ? Here you go:  
4 Swedish guys  
Melodic DM/HM  
Acoustic parts  
Piano intro

Uhm, did that say you anything...Swedish trend ? Yes...but I don't give a fuck if these guys are original or not, as the music is of a totally different caliber than that of the above mentioned band. In Flames have a much more distinctive sound, I don't really compare them to anybody as they're just "In Flames". And that's terrific! Anyway, even though the main features are the same on both In Flames and Excetion, this is not comparable... Some of the melodies/lines here do sound a bit like Dissection's, although being a tiny bit more HM...I believe there are some classical/folkish influences going on, at least it sound like so. The guitars sound is very tight, and the guitarists are working really well together, but the bass seems somewhat misplaced in all this. Maybe it's just the mixing, I don't know, but it has a far too "hard" sound some songs. One don't notice that at once, so this is a minor thing... I just don't seem to find anymore positive things to say...Well, yes, the vocals are still DM (with a touch of BM incorporated I guess), but they work out extremely well with the music and put the final perfection to this KILLER CD. Even though their last effort was gorgeous, this is even better. I wonder what their next release will sound like...God ?? Buy, buy, buy!!! From WAR.

**PARADIGMA**  
"MARE VERIS"  
(Head Not Found)

Ahh, that's better, finally over the borders and into Norway... At last. Paradigma...one of the more unexpected signings from Metalion, that's a fact. But, a good one, indeed. "Mare Veris" is a very varied album, all the songs have different characters and moods, and also a different approach musically. But one thing do all the songs have in common; the quality. There is not one track here that I wished wasn't on the album, and that's not bad at all...The genre of the musical world that is the most visible is of course (and again...) melodic DM. Paradigma is usually labeled as Doom, but I don't think the Doom genre is exactly where I would put 'em. They seem to draw much more influences from DM than Doom, so therefore the term "melodic DM" (or maybe Doom/DM..aghrh, fuck it!). The band uses three types of vocals; the normal DM vocals, a clean male vocal and last but not least an excellent female vocal. I believe female vocals sometimes tend to be a bit "weak" and unfitting in DM/BM, but this Zilla here does a marvellous job-great! Just take a listen to "Inner Chanting" and you will hear what I mean...The arrangements are what maybe makes this CD the excellent piece of work it really is- they're far more epic than any Black Metal band could ever dream of being, they're extremely tight musically-they seem to make the band turn out as a unit, not just a bunch of individuals. Catchy riffs and some excellent pounding rythms as well as wonderful arrangements makes this one of my Norwegian faves of '95. Yeah, a most excellent coverartwork follows this CD, so you do even get that part right. Not bad, eh ? Orders to HNF.

**BAL SAGOTH**  
"BLACK MOON BROADS OVER LEMURIA"  
(Cacophonous Rec.)

Not bad, not bad. The Englishmen strikes with something that neither sound like East 17 or a 70's Doom band !! This is (as you probably have figured out by taking a look at the name...) a true Black Metal band, which is rare from the shores of Albion. I do so far only know two acts that are worthy mentioning, and that is Thus Defiled and Cradle of Filth. I guess I can add another one to my list now... Bal-Sagoth's debut album shows a strong band, with clear ideas of how they want their music to sound. This is a good mix of the best of BM and the best of old-style DM as well as a bit of folkish parts and symphonic synth parts. In a way this is rather Norwegian sounding, but I believe Bal-Sagoth has managed to create a bit of a sound of their own within the hints of Norwegian BM... Uhm- using synths all the way is OK by me, but this time around the synths become much too overwhelming, it steals a lot of the metal feeling. The totality of the music becomes an orgy of heavy synth chords, which do not fit entirely all the way. No doubts that the synthist is of the better ones I've heard within the metal genre, but the bad thing is that Bal Sagoth would sound like a jamming drums/guitar/bass band without, and not a band that blends good together...So, a bit more moderate synth next time around ?? The album is filled with small, slow-down parts creating a dark atmosphere...the fact that you can hear the lyrics does not exactly make the atmosphere any brighter...This one should be worth every cent of your money !!

**WHITE WILLOW**  
"IGNIS FATUUS"  
(The Laser's Edge)

Ummm...Away from everything that might have any connection with BM at all- this is the debut album from a totally different band...White Willow play...ehh...how the hell am I gonna describe this...something like Prog. Classical Folk rock with Early Music influences...Yep, you're right in saying that this sounds a bit like the same influences as the 3rd and the Mortal has, and these two bands might be compared, no doubts about that...Kari Rueslåtten of The 3rd did actually sing for this band some years ago...But that's another story...This 12 track long CD clocks in at 66 (...oh...) minutes, no cheap 33 minute Decide album here, and in addition is every minute of the album worth its money.The background of these six young White Willows is in as good as every genre, from Black Metal to Classical music, which makes this album extremely interesting. For people being of the BM type, I can mention that Calle of Ved Buens Ende is doing some incredibly guest work on one of the more progressive songs. The music is filled with beautiful harmonies and surprising turns in both melodies and rythms, everything is done with perfection and with such a delicate production that this CD almost becomes too charming...I seem to miss a bit rougher parts...I do not mean any metal parts or anything, I would just like to hear a highlight... Novels without highlight aren't exactly that exciting to read...The CD seems to build up to a climax with the 11 minute long "Cryptomenysis", but then it goes on like the build-up has never existed...I guess that's the surprise then...Well, OK. Loads of interesting instruments are used; bodhran, flutes, whistles, violins, sitar, cantele and of course the well used

instrument no prog. band can survive without; the mellotron.. This is definitely a must for people that found The 3rd very interesting, and wants a CD with more relaxing music...Laid-back acoustic parts, female and calm male vocals as well as some fantastic creative work from the musician's part..Can be obtained for 165 NOK from. White Willow, Morellvn. 17, 1370 Asker. I guess you can also try their label: The Laser's Edge, PO Box 2450, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034-0199, USA

**SAMAEL**  
"REBELLION"  
(Century Media Rec.)

The Swiss supertrooper strikes again, this time with a MCD entitled "Rebellion"...Woha, this was a breath of fresh air after the extremely tight and heavy "Ceremony of the Opposites", even though this one haven't lost as much as a tiny bit of the Samael trademark. Here are two entirely new tracks, the first is the titletrack, following more in the vein of "Ceremony..." with the same raw sound and crazy riffs...The second one, "Static Journey" was something quite unexpected...Extremely strange, this one. Sounds like a horromovie soundtrack mixed with some kind of tribal rythms and a heavy horn-section synthsound. Very strange, very un-Samael...But interesting! Well, we go on with new versions of the good old "After the Sepulture" and "Into the Pentagram", both dresses in new and rather fitting clothes. The production being a much more high-fasty one, the synths clearer...excellent...And then, the definite highlight of this tasty MCD, a cover of good, old Alice Cooper's "I love the Dead"...Woha!!!! Jeeeeeezzzzz, the ants are crawling up and down my spine, this is a chilling experience (ID 18...), this is as cold as you will be able to make a song...In the beginning I didn't like this at all...I mean, after having heard the original a bit too many times everything else sounds like crap (I guess you know the feeling), but after getting used to this one... I'm in love!!!! This version makes Uncle Alice's version sound like a Bryan Adams tune, so all Samael fans out there- this is buy or die!! (Check out track no. 6-66 seconds, later...)

**GOMORRAH**  
"REFLECTIONS OF INANIMATE MATTER"  
(Black Mark)

Outch...I hate getting CD's I don't like at all for making a review of 'em. I try to give fair critics, but I guess my real opinion shines through just as much. Still, even if I found this release boring, there might be others out there that will find this CD a killer. The Kerrang readers did after all vote Gomorrah to one of their top 10 unsigned bands in 1992, so I mean, there might be a fan or two out there...As you probably know, this album was released on Megapulse Rec. early last year, but the band has signed to Black Mark in order to get their music spread on a more worldwide basis...Uhm, I don't see the use, though, this music is far too boring to become something, they use all the '92 BM clichés, and the melodies you can hear once in a while are not exactly of the most exciting I've heard over the last years. No, if someone had put this in my paws some years ago this review might've been a lot more interesting, but this does only become boring bullshit in order to feel polite and say that I actually have written some words about the band...Aaaaargh...enough fooling around...This is brutal DM with everything being standard except for a couple of guitar solos here and there...Period.

**CROWN OF THORNS**  
"THE BURNING"  
(Black Sun)

More Swedish for you. With this name I had expected another release in the vein of Lake of Tears and In Flames...But no. As the above reviewed band we're here in brutal DM land, and I find it rather unpleasing to be here. I do not feel at home together with this world that can't manage to attract my interest for more than two minutes and never meeting something new. The whole world is like my own backpockets; it's no use trying to go adventure-hunting in 'em because the only thing I will find is some old, outwashed flyers. All I find here is recycled DM without much talent incorporated. Double kickdrums and tams all the way, A4 riffs...One lyric is as original as this: "One ring to rule them all, One ring to find them, one ring to bring them all, and in the Darkness bind them"...Hm, wonder where I've heard that one before...Not in every BM lyric ever written ?? Well, we have more highly original songtitles here like "Forget the Light" and "Godless"...Ehh...there are limits for how non-new creating it is possible to be. Yeah, and by the way, Crown of Thorns, how the hell did you come to think of such a fantastic bandname as "Crown of Thorns"...? Oh well, I'll mind my own business. For further description of the music see the last two sentences of previous review.

**RELEASE**  
"END OF THE LIGHT"  
(Century Media)

I'm starting to get famous for liking loads of music people detest more than their lives, and I guess I will become quite unpopular for saying that I like this ? Well, I actually do! I don't know anything about the band at all, all I can see from the cover is a rather crappy logo, and some highly unoriginal songtitles. Well, the music is kinda' hard to describe, it touches the industrial genre at places, some really hard beats going on, some riffs sounds a bit like old Alice in Chains, some riffs are more Heavy Metal...The vocals are very Gothic at places, sometimes they are on the verge of becoming hardcore/Pantera ! It's obvious that this band does not belong on our side of things when it comes to the image, I would believe this band is of the more "fuck racists, fuck nazis, fuck everything" type, although I can't say anything for certain. I guess time will tell. In the meantime I believe this album will get a listen from me from time to another, at least the 3-4 tracks that are as industrial as I like it...10 tracks aren't much to boast about, the playing time being of the rather short one...At least the band possesses a bit of fantasy, they obviously know how to put together their influences in order to make the mix sounding like a "Release" sound and not ripping other band's sounds off.

**ARCTURUS**  
"CONSTELLATION"  
(Nocturnal Art Prod.)

The BM release of the year ? For my part definitely...It's a pity it was only printed in a limited edition of 500, as this is a masterpiece every BM head everywhere should own...If you should've been in torpor for the last year-year and a half, I will now have the pleasure of presenting you yet another Norwegian supergroup, consisting of Samoth (Emperor), Sverd, Hellhammer (Mayhem/Immortal) and Kris (Ulver). This is a MCD, and the first CD release on Samoth's own Nocturnal Art Prod. (having released two 7" before). Well, this MCD is just ingenious...I hope it will forever stand as an example of how people that usually are one-way tracked in BM can create something totally different, with success. You can of course hear a great deal of the BM background of these four musicians, but the BM part is really the minor on this CD. The music is

four musicians, but the BM part is really the minor on this CD. The music is distant-sounding, cold as hell, fast but still more of the mid-tempo main dish. Beautiful, yet ugly. The synth is ruling the soundtrack, but we all know Sverd's talents on this instrument, so...The vocals are rather excellent, no doubts about that. The guitar is mixed far too low, and the recording could use a bass (which I guess will appear on the next release), but apart from that this is gorgeous. Nothing more to add.

**COVENANT**  
"IN TIMES BEFORE THE LIGHT"  
(Black Tower)

New Norwegian band for you here...Hm...I must admit not liking their demo much, mainly due to the big rip-off factor, but this seems to be something completely different. I mean, no doubts one can still hear traces of Satyricon, Emperor and Goleanna (both synth and vocals) and eh...DarkThrone ?? Mostly mid-tempo songs, which speeds up once in a while. Great synths, not of the Emperor heavy chords stuff, but rather melodic ones that follow the guitar lines...I would say that the synth is a much more important to Covenant than the guitars, the music would've been totally talentless without this overwhelming synth. That's OK by me, but one ought to ask oneself whether this can be classified as BM or not. Not that I'm after classifying music, but I guess most people (mark: unknowing foreigners) will call this pure, grim, hellish Norwegian BM, still that should not be right. To continue in the path I started with- this is not original at all, still Troll have managed to find a niche of their own in this rather well-used musical term. Great! Melodies are mainly well-written, even though some songs might lack the final "the" to make them hit the no. 1 spot on my quality ranking. Also, the song tend to become a bit boring after having heard half the song- not too much repetition, but the same feeling and the same beats goes through the whole opus, and makes me loose my concentration. I think the same thing happens to a lot other bands as well, they just don't know how to make a song with more than one highlight...The rest becomes rather booring. Well, well. A grande debut for sure, excellent. Støtt Norge-kjøp Norsk kvalitet!

**TRISTITIA**  
"ONE WITH DARKNESS"  
(Holy Rec.)

Lay down and relax, this is more metal of the melancholic and laid-back type. Loads of acoustic breaks, of the real classical guitar type, not just some crappy E chord played six times in a row. Some Gregorian chants are included as well, a nice touch. Many bands have tried to mix the choir thing with metal before, but few have succeeded- Tristitia becomes one of the members in the successful gang. Bravo! The clean male voal is extremely profound here, fits the music perfect. Some rather Black Metallish vocals are to be found here as well, and they're not out of place either. The over-all impression of the musical aspect must be some kind of melodic Doom metal with influences from everything between trad. HM and DM, but maybe most of all classical music. Strong synths are once again ghosts, but I must say they fit Tristitia's music much better than they usually do to more brutal DM acts. A pretty long CD, but that doesn't bother me at all...Music to relax to, we need that once in a while don't we ?

**ANATHEMA**  
"PENTECOST"  
(Peaceville)

Lovely...brilliant...beautiful...This is the best I've heard from Anathema, it's just fantastic! A masterpiece of dimensions! Ambient at places, heavy as hell at times...Sad. The perfect CD to get rid of some boring loveproblems or whatever with. Put it on and you'll be gone for a long while...until you're thrown into the heavy beats of the "hidden" track-presumably called 666 ?? The ultimate song here is "We, the Gods", an epic epos that clocks in at ten minutes... Flying high...Everything's perfect here, maybe except for the production, which might need a bit more "meat"... some places it is a bit too weak for Anathema's music. The production fits the more laid-back parts very good, but the heavy metal parts become a tiny bit too weak. Compared to "Serenades", Anathema's last offering, this is an incredible improvement. I hope the band will continue this way, get rid of the total DM parts and concentrate more on the Doom parts, not to even mention the more epic sides that was developed incredibly since the last effort. I cannot express with words how much I look forward to hearing more from Anathema, and as this is the last album they've done with vocalist Darren it might be interesting to hear how a new vocalist will fit into the concept of such a special band. Excellent lyrics by the way...

**KATATONIA**  
"...FOR FUNERALS TO COME"  
(Avantgarde)

At last some new material from the Katatonia layer. And this is better than expected, if that is possible...The melodies are mere continuations of those of "Dance of ...", but I'm quite sure I can spot just a single bit of more Goth influences now. Listening to the adv. tracks of their forthcoming offering where they present pure Goth, this influence do not surprise me at all...The sound is as always the hellfreezing, bonechilling one, a real creator of atmosphere. The synth is symphonic, and not overdone as most bands tend to do today. Three songs on this album, each seems to have it's own personality, it's own musical approach even though the overall impression might be extremely melodic Doom/Heavy Metal. The fourth "song"...ehhh?? This sounds like some kind of an intro to a Colombian trend BM band-according to the cover are "music & lyrics by a forthcoming doom". OK. Well, let's not mind that one but concentrate on the three strofes of harmonic metal we get served here...My personal favourite must be the almighty titletrack of "For Funerals To Come"...Fuck, this song alone (even though being no more than 3- min.) is worth the price of the whole EP alone, as well as the HM parts of the first song; "Funeral Wedding". This I guess is the perfect funeral of Katatonia as we knew them, await a new age with different still darker music...

**INSENGARD**  
"HØSTMØRKE"  
(Moonfog)

Yesss, finally another release from the our good old mainman Fenriz...The first Insegard release seemed to come as a surprise on many, but I don't think this one will. It's more in the same vein as "Vinterskugge", with also this album being very varied indeed, maybe a slight bit more moderate than the previous. The Norwegian language and folkmusic is used through five of these seven tracks, although I believe these are weak attempts to bring our folkmusic into the metal world. Somehow I just don't hear the "folkmusic" in what he's playing, only tones that are used in the folkmusic...eh-if you got my point... Well, to be quite honest, Fenriz' vocals do not fit to the laying...It sounded awful on the Storm album, and even worse on this recording...But then again, how "clean" were

Queethon's vocals on "Blasphemous" ?? It's just that Fenriz manages to get some truly great vocals when he's singing in the normal clean voice, and not tries to do the laying. Furthermore, this album does include some songs that rips my flesh totally apart, "Thornspawn Chalice" and "Total Death", the two last songs of the album are as ugly as it is ever possible to make music !!!, "Over de eyengende øde moer" is an excellent, mid-tempo song in true "Naglfar" style, with these incredible basslines...I did not expect Fenriz to be such a bass wonderchild... "I kamp med kvitkryst" do have its charm, being very weird but still manages to have this vocal line you tend to go around whistling on for a long time after having heard it. All in all, Fenriz has another time proved that he can manage well on his own feet, and that we can always expect some music of quality from this man, even though he might throw himself into a vocal job or two he can't "handle with care".

**NIGHTFALL**  
"ATHENIAN ECHOES"  
(Holy Rec)

I must admit to not being too familiar with this band from before, but I would guess they, as most others, have started out in the brutal genre and worked themselves upwards to this more melodic and folk inspired style of DM. This is supposed to be something called "War Metal" but I can't say I can hear anything from the bestiality of war here. According to the newsflyer for Nightfall they're supposed to be "the kings of today's Metal", but that is total bullshit! The band is great, they do have potential to develop even further then where they are today, but they are not kings! Kings or not, I will admit that their album is well wort checking out, good ideas are to be found all over, and the more Subterranean-music influenced parts are quite refreshing too. Not that I'm that much of a fan of that type of music, but it is cool to see people bringing in bits and pieces of their traditional music too, and that we Norwegians don't have to be the only ones to do that ! Holy Rec. have let Nightfall get the biggest budget ever from their wallets, but that shouldn't be necessary I think. If they think Nightfall is the band from their stables that might go "bigtime" they ought to think again. From what I hear here Nightfall is of the type of band that will forever be releasing far above average stuff, but still not good enough to take the final step up the ladder. Why ? Well, it's first and foremost a musicstyle that isn't able to expand as much as I think the members of this band would want to and secondly, one should be able to create more creative music than this within their genre anyway! And if this is supposed to have roots in the DM, why don't they get rid of the extremely boring BM drumming at once ? A bit more progressive DM drumming would fit much better, and also make the atmosphere a much grander one- what we hear here become too simple. I'm sorry, but this is just not enough to make me go into a frenzy. Great music, but it fails at some places. Better next time around ? And to Holy; I would put money on stronger acts like Tristitia and Godsend...

**SACRAMENTUM**  
"FINIS MALORUM"  
(Adipocere)

After a long vacation in sunny Greece we're back in Northern territories again, and once again in Sweden...OK, this seems to be somewhat original, 'cause it's actually melodic BM and not DM!! Wow!!! How utterly surprised I am!! Produced by (you have guessed it already, oh yes you have...) Dan Swanö, and recorded at Unisound which of course means that the sound and recording is excellent, even though the sound might become far too polished for being BM at stages...I would prefer a much harder and hoarser production, but I guess it is more "soft" sound this band is going for, so OK ! The Heavy Metal influences are as usual not too well hidden, there are some killer riffs here and there, but mostly this CD seems to be come a bit too much straight forward soft version BM. Nothing incredibly original about this, but at the same time this is done with a so accurately perfection that I don't have much to complain about either. I guess this is just becoming a bit too standard. Great musicians, loads of great ideas, very tight band, some hellish drumbeats at times etc, but this is of the bands that will disappear in the masses of BM bands coming out at the moment. Sad but true! It's survival of the fittest, and this one does have an invisible scar-but that's enough to get killed here. Unfortunately. Better luck next time!

**VARIOUS**  
"SLATANIC SLAUGHTER"  
(Black Sun Rec.)

Dissection-Antichrist  
Hypocrisy-Black Magic  
Merciless-Cryonics  
At the Gates-Captor of Sin  
Invocator-Altar of Sacrifice  
Enslaved-Jesus Saves  
Edge of Sanity-Criminally Insane  
Seance-Post Mortem  
Cemetery-South of Heaven  
Crown of Thorns-Mandatory Suicide  
Crope-Spill the Blood

Need I say more ??? BUY FOR FUCK'S SAKE!!!!!!

**EVOL**  
"THE SAGA OF THE HORNED KING"  
(Adipocere)

What the heck is this ? Some kind of Italian synth based black band ? The first four songs are the kind of synth stuff I would make on my little keyboard at the age of 10 being inspired by A-HA...The fifth song starts out pretty good with a cool guitar riff, but ends up as one of the most boring songs I've ever heard- 5.15 min. sounds like 25. Well, this band consists of three members-Princess of Disease, Prince of Agony and Lord of Sorrow...Come on, this must be a joke, I just can't believe that such crap music as this exists and has a record deal...And they do at least not deserve to call themselves a BM band...The vocals are the shittiest I've ever heard- the female should learn to speak English properly (at least the sentences she's "singing" on the album), the male seems to struggle to keep the voice throaty, sounds like a 13 year old kid trying out the Sepultura voice for the first time in his life. I don't see any use in wasting more space on this crappy release. It breaks my heart to see that bands like this one get a record deal, it's a shame...

THIS REVIEW SECTION BECAME FAR TOO SHORT DUE TO THE FACT THAT I HAD FAR TOO MUCH OF OTHER INTERESTING STUFF TO FILL THESE 64 PAGES WITH...NEXT TIME I WILL TRY TO REVIEW A BIT MORE, AS REVIEWS ARE IN MY OPINION A VERY IMPORTANT SIDE OF UNDERGROUND ZINES... I DO HOPE YOU AGREE WITH ME ON THAT...

Some gig reviews for you here...Rated from 1 to 6. I should've written more, but the space didn't allow me so I just made a little "in section" of all the gigs I've been to over the past 8 months... I'll have my revenge next time...

#### CYBELE/PARADIGMA/BEYOND

##### DAWN/DUNKELHEIT

Rockefeller 28.07.95

This gig was a part of the Verdane festival, which marked the anti-celebration of the millennium of Christianity here in Norway. I was surprised finding so many interesting bands on the bill, Paradigma was a band I'd never expected on such a festival. It was a pleasant surprise to see 'em...

Cybele were the first to attack the stage. I had very high expectations to this all-female band, but I must say I was rather disappointed after having heard them. From what I've heard they claim to play some kind of Goth with more trad. rock influences, but what I heard here sounded more like Hole on even more drugs...The vocals were pretty good, and the bass was excellent, but due to bad mixing one could not hear it properly. Too bad, because the rest of the band were not capable of doing much...2.

Ahh...now over to something better... Paradigma blew Cybele far off the stage with their doomy Death Metal. Dark, melodic and beautiful. There were some minor playing-faults and the female vocals were a bit out of key at times, but the all-over impression was grand. I have the feeling that there were few people here that knew Paradigma from before, and even less that had their most excellent debut album "Mare Veris" (HNF), but they did still manage to get the crowd going in the beginning. The show did maybe become a bit too long and monotonous at the end, due to the fact that the songs don't vary too much, but what the heck-I had an excellent time! The addition of cello made the sound more interesting than on the album, something which made this show even more worth its points...4,5

Beyond Dawn. As usual they had problems with the sound, and as usual we did get another of vocalist Espen Ingjerd's most fantastic everydaylife tales ("I was out riding my bike today...looking at all the ugly buildings in Oslo...I almost cycled over a small dog belonging to an old grey lady...blah, blah, blah...")and in addition we also got a most entertaining fairytale taking place on the plains in Africa...Musicwise (when they at last got started) they were pretty average. We got songs from their debut CD, as well as a bunch of new ones, which I guess should be out on Candlelight now. I do not know what it was, but the last bit of aggression was lacking. The more eased, Gothic parts worked out good though, and all in all a good show. 3,5

Yesszzz, Dunkelheit!!! Extacy! The wall of sound that met Rockefeller tonight was without peepholes- the sound was excellent, just as industrial as these guys are supposed to be. I guess what did this exact show so great was the sceneshow which is undescrivable...A total new world order...This band is NOT to be missed live...And by the way, they're neither to be missed on CD either...It's entitled "Obey" and is in the shops now. Buy, lay down on the bed, close your eyes and be gone...6

#### IN THE WOODS/BIOHAZARD/PARADISE

##### LOST/MY DYING BRIDE

Quart festival 09.07.95

The metal part of the Quart festival did attract some great bands this year-I have wanted to see MDB for ages, but they never seemed to get on over to the shores of Norway...Well, they came at last. I do not know how big the crowd was this sunny Sunday afternoon, but I would take a wild guess at around 1000 people which is pretty good as the site is the rather small town of Kristiansand which is situated far from all big towns in Norway. Well, maybe that's just as good, if this concert'd been in Oslo I guess it would've been far too many people there. Over to the bands (I have skipped the Norwegian noisecore band Slutmachine as they're not even worth mentioning...) So, In the Woods...started the whole thing out delivering a ferocious set built on their first fulllength "Heart of the Ages"...And this was something completely different from the LP, I must tell you!! I myself didn't like the album much, it became somewhat boring after having listened to the 1st LP, but live...Woha-that was something!!!! Ovl Svithjod's vocals were thundering out of the PA as mighty as a midwinters blizzard, powerful basslines held the melody going and some rather experimental drums on the top made this gig fantastic...I hope this band will get the opportunity of doing a European tour soon, as everybody should be able to see this gorgeous band live!!! I can't give 'em anything but a 6.

Next out we had My Dying Bride. Ahhh...my fave band on album, but they did loose some of their power on stage. I don't know, it seemed like the guys in the band thought of the whole live-thing

as a job. No enthusiasm, no joy (no fun, no life etc.etc...)We got served all the best songs of their two last albums, of course most from "The Angel and the Dark River", but a couple of oldies were included as well. I understand those people who stated that this became boring. For those who don't like MDB's style songs lasting over 7 min. might become somewhat boring. Still, an enjoyable show...4,5

Biohazard...URK...Good intro on their last album, which they also played as intro on the gig, therefore 0,5

Paradise Lost...I have no number for how many times I've seen this band before, but I'm beginning to get a bit tired of 'em that's for sure...Their last effort was OK, it had a couple of great songs, a couple of good songs and the rest were OK...No big surprises. The live show was the same way. The songs most welcomed by the crowd were as usual "Eternal", "As I Die" and "Pity the Sadness", which do show that people still prefer stuff of their older releases (forget the debut...to the songs of "Icon" and "Draconian Times". That's good...So why don't PL play more of their old stuff on gigs? Oh well...Nothing extremely bad here, nothing extremely good. They did their job and that's it. Good sound. All in all OK...3,5

#### BEYOND DAWN/RED HARVEST

Rockefeller 15.09.95

Oslo's industrial/avantgarde acts hit again, this time with Red Harvest and the a bit more experienced act Red Harvest as well as the bodypaint group Mesa Pegasus. Beyond Dawn started the whole thing out with a great sound and no boring stories!! Congratulations! Well, the show was about the same as last time, only more aggressive and monumental this time. Everything worked out great, the combination of gruff and gothic vocals came through perfect, and I had the impression of watching a band that was almost born on stage. Some commented that they've become more and more posers...I'd rather say they've moved more and more over on the more Gothic side of the musicworld, both when it comes to behaviour and music. That doesn't exactly annoy me...The crowd this time was better than last time on the Verdane festival, I guess that was most due to the fact that this was an evening with two bands within one genre, and not like last time when the bands were from all kinds of genres...Well, not really much to say other than that this worked out good; good music, good crowd, relaxed band...5

Mesa Pegasus was an interesting experience, even though I think the male part of the audience got more out of this than I did. A group of 7-8 females with tribal painting and masks dancing like some wild animals to ethnic music (some Dead Can Dance as well)Cool, but it lasted a bit too long for my taste. DJ Plumbo did an OK job playing music inbetween, but a good advice until next time: Do not play two Fear Factory songs on one night, on is enough...

Red Harvest should be a bit more experienced when it comes to both doing live-shows and to make music, having been around for quite some time and having both a fulllength and a MCD out by now. Both are really worth checking out- dark, Gothic industrial metal. We got the best tasters from both albums here tonight, and with the highlight of the gods being "Sadness", a song which I put on my no. 1 spot of best Norwegian song ever together with Emperor's "Inno A Satana" (of course). The sound on the guitars was not the best, but that's about the only thing I could complain about with their show. Professional from start to end, no boring talk inbetween songs, just pure monumental music...5,5

#### THE MOREDOES

Tutankhamon 15.03.95

Wooooohaaaa!!! This was the ultimate live experience! I guess the impression was multiplied by having a few beers to much on my conscience (not that that's an unusual situation), but who the hell cares. The gig took place at a Gotham Night a monthly arrangement for the children of the Night here in Oslo, and that means that the crowd consisted of just the right people. This gig was before the main BM crowd discovered these nights, so luckily we didn't get many of the "I'm evil and I want this dark corner all by myself" types of persons here. That's different now, because the BM mob has found out that the Gotham Nights are the best nights in town because they have skulls on the tables, candlelight and everybody dresses up as Gothic as possible...Ah, what am I messing around with...I was to write a review of the Moredoes gig. OK...this gig was purely based on their most excellent debut-album "There is no Salvation" and I must say the songs worked out even better live than they did on CD. They got a rawer edge, more meat and the vocals sounded 10 times more impressing (if that is possible...) "Blindness" was today's biggest hit with the crowd, not that much of a surprise. Hmm...perfect...6

#### VALHALL

Elm Street 10.03.95

I wasn't too familiar with this band at the time when this releaseparty was, but hell, I did enjoy it anyway! I have later gotten their album and should maybe've seen them live now instead, but what is done is done, and what is eaten is eaten (som Klatremus i Hakkebakkeskogen sa...). Valhall is a very tight band, and the quartet worked out really good on stage, creating a as a matter of fact good atmosphere among the rather Black Metallish crowd. With good co-operation from the covergirl of Grunerløkka, Ringes beer (tastes like shit, but it's a cheap way to get drunk...) Valhall is for those of you that still like Doom bands of the old school, drawing influences from St. Vitus and Trouble as well as the good, old godz Black Sabbath. I actually think Valhall is a bit 100 old in their sound, the music is not exactly what I would call "something new", but still it works out good. And even better live where the riffs sounds a 100 times heavier than on CD. The drummer today was Fenriz, for once dressed in black and not pink...He managed to hide his purple hair well behind the S/M mask, so he did actually look like (uhm...the mean guy in "People under the stairs" ?) a more or less normal BM guy! Wow! Long time, no see!! Well, the set was OK, became a tiny bit too long, but I enjoyed myself, so...4,5

#### SOLSTORM

Chateau Neuf 19.05.95

No, this is not a new Norwegian BM band, it's actually a prog. rock band. From Norway, yes, but for those who deteste music with a bit of improvisation and jazz influences I guess you should skip this review and read the next one instead. Those that aren't narrowminded can read on...Chateau Neuf is the only place where you can see the smaller prog. rock bands here in Norway, and I think they're doing a great job with catching smaller acts from abroad and bringing them to Norway in order to get the Norwegian crowd a bit more interested in this rather interesting part of the musical world. I believe the crowd was at about 25 people tonight, but from what I've heard the crowd's usually much bigger. I do hope so, 'cause finally it seems like people are able to arrange a bit for themselves (come on, we should have a few BM gigs here in Norway too...shouldn't be too hard to arrange...) Over to Solstorm. This band has, as far as I know, only released one demo, which've gotten good reviews, but it has been refused by labels. I have personally not listened to the demo, but judging this band live they should have their chances of getting upwards...They played 4 songs this night, the first one lasting 50 minutes (!). A bit too much improvisation for my taste, but parts were extremely good and did also incorporate some rather intricate melodylines. The last three songs were more straight forward, and judging from my side better. Prog. is improvisation, but there are certain limits for how long you can manage to listen to a jamming band a Friday night...But after what I've been told Solstorm's demo contains the better parts of this live show, and it should have certain similarities with the more well-known band Thule (not the BM band of the same name...) Gigpoints 3

#### GLI SCAPOLI

Sentrum Scene 25.03.95

Interesting group, this one...Consists of around 30 male singers, and their repertoire varied between old folksongs, to blues, to Hildegard Von Bingen to Michael Jackson- everything done in their own special way. Hearing them on CD is nothing, this group has to be experienced live, and that's why I'm writing a review here. I do not know how many that really are interested in other genres than metal, but do write me and tell what you think about reviewing other stuff than just metal...Well, this late spring evening is something I will never forget. Sentrum Scene was packed and you could find every type of people; from BM people to old people who probably couldn't hear at all. I was "lucky" getting a seat next to a rather curious Tor Erling Staff (Mr. Grinsack's lawyer...), but that shouldn't be of any importance to you...Well, the show started with about 35 minutes of medieval chants...I was totally "gone" within a couple of minutes, the voices were just incredible!! Much more powerful than I could imagine they would be, and it didn't turn out "boring" as I hear many people like to label medieval music as. After that part we got another 20 minutes or so of Norwegian Folkmusic, re-arranged for this huge male-choir, and this was something else than Storm, I can promise you that. Fenriz and mr. Wongraven wouldn't get far in company with these guys... The last part was a more "mainstream" part, but still enjoyable. Covers of rock songs like "Papa was a Rolling Stone" made me see that song in a totally different light...I've never liked it before, but this arrangement made me get shivers! I don't know if one can get Gli Scapoli's debut CD outside Norway, but I would at least advice everyone within the Norwegian borders to buy the CD as soon as possible...It's gorgeous!! Only negative thing with the concert was that it was a bit too short, so a clear 5,5

YEZZSZZSSSSSSZZSSSSZZSSZZS.....

...I've reached the end of the road, believe it or not fellas...!!! Well, not entirely. I would still like to say a few more words... First things first: Valkyrjens Fugler Issue II will be completely different from this filthy little piece of paperwork. The interviews will be done "the real way", not just the "q-a-q-a-q-a" way. I'm hoping of getting to do more live/phone views as they are far more interesting to read than the ones going through the mail...Furthermore, I will hope to do the lay-out better (this text sound like a fucking New Year's Eve promise...oh well...) as I will get hold of a better computer 'till next time...and blah, blah, blah...To put it short: The next issue will be a BIG improvement!!!! So do not hesitate sending me a short notice about your band or project or whatever, I'm open to all kinds of music as long as it has a certain atmosphere and that it's made with feelings...I would also be extremely happy to receive some lines from you about what you thought of the 'zine as a whole, be critics! So why don't you write me a letter at once and if not- see you next time!!

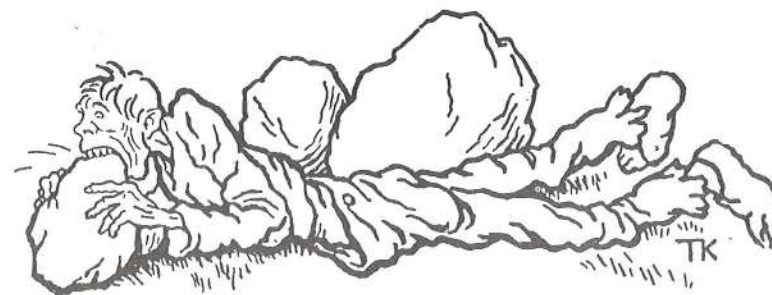
Thanxx goes out to the following:

Hårek, Ødinn (Visdommens gud sier følgende: "Det er med mulattjenter som det er med uoriginale BM band; dellig i liten dose, men så blir det for mange"), Alan (oh well...), Christian ("Det gjør så vondt!") & Tommy, Anders & Kristian ("Ja, ja, sånn kan det også gå") Amund (sytt og klag, du lissom...), Mia, Raymond (JEG er Gud...), Robin & Maria, Møyfrid Husmo (takker for Litago', uten de litrene ville jeg aldri ha overlevd...)

I will not delve deeper into all my underground friends all over the world 'cause that would've taken the whole page, you know who you are anyway (Now, that's what I call a cliché...)

That's true...Those of you who wonder what I would've written on my headstone...well: "The woman who loved Truth more than she feared Death- and hated Christianity more than she loved Death". Written once before by Robert Taylor, but I don't care...That should be the truth of the world...

O'drep med din glede og barnslige lyst...



ED. AFTER HAVING PAID HER PRINTINGCOSTS...

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