

Hammer of Damnation

- Issue 2 -
Daemonolatrea





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 * **HAMMER OF DAMNATION** magazine is an underground publication without any regular releases.

* Editor: Niko Sirkiä
 * Contributors: Jori Sjöroos, Kari Laakso, Sami Holappa.

* All artwork, lay-out and design, and typewriting screw-ups by Niko Sirkiä.

* Front cover photo by Niko Sirkiä.

* Back cover photo by Keijo Sirkiä.

* Mail address: **HAMMER OF DAMNATION**, c/o Niko Sirkiä, Nurmelaantie 6 D 3, 20780 Kaarina, Finland.

* Contributors are welcome! All kinds of reviews and the stuff like that can be sent to the mail address above, thus they'll get the possibility to be published. About making interviews for **HAMMER OF DAMNATION** magazine, please contact at first for full details.

* Also distributors, are welcome; just write and ask about wholesale prices. And trading is more than recommendable.

* Advertising in the future issues of **HAMMER OF DAMNATION**? Please contact us for full details.

* **RIP-OFFERS**: Go and hang yourself!!!

* Penguins do not have jellyfish beneath their web-feet.

THIS COPY IS

#254

THE COLUMNS OF RUBBISH

Okay, here we are, at last! Again there have been 'slight' delays, but I can say my natural laziness is not the main reason this time. First, some of the bands took a huge amount of time before answering, but I understand that. Sometimes you can be really pissed with the mountains of letters you get, and in the end it's much better than not writing back at all that some bands have done. And many of the contributors who wrote that they could help with interviews and stuff have been pretty passive. But fortunately I was helped by a few great people who are listed elsewhere, and a great hail is sent for them (thanks again).

Yes, I'm once again pretty satisfied with this issue, too, there has been pretty much development in some areas, such as the lay-out, longer interviews (look at the interview with Holocausto of **BEHERIT**!) and so on. But there is still many things to make better, and that is left for the future issues.

Well, future issues? This 'twice-a-year' period of releases seems to be the best way to run this magazine, and so I can promise that issue 3 is going to be out in July/August in the next summer 1992, and the fourth issue then again in January or so. But let's see then...

I have also planned to have another editor to run this magazine together with me, but I'm not sure about

it. It would help quite a lot, but as far as I want to realize myself in this magazine and do the lay-out and stuff by myself as I like to, I'm quite dominative I guess... So I suppose I will continue

running alone the **HAMMER OF DAMNATION** productions, including the magazine, distribution, artwork design etc.

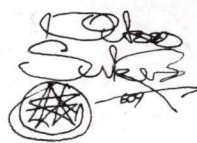
Although I suggested in issue 1 that all kinds of bands should send their material to get reviewed in this issue, only a few of them did. Well, I repeat my words; every kinds of bands can send their stuff to get reviewed in the next issue, no matter what kind of music you play, as far as it stays underground. I try to be as open-minded as I can and seek out the positive sides of every kind of music. Well, I must say by now I listen the most to Black and Doom Metal, and weird industrial stuff, but as I said I try to be open-minded.

As for future issues again, I try to keep this gloomy outlook in the zine (does this look gloomy?), but not forgetting the humorous side... And I try to go further into originality in every possible way!

What about they year gone, the year 1991? I think Death Metal won't grow anymore as there seems to be some kind of a trend to suddenly stop listening to Death Metal even more, and listen to much more commercial stuff instead. In a way I understand these guys due to the huge number of ordinary trendy Death Metal bands out there, but a die-hard deathmetaller couldn't surrender with this thing, he would forget the mainstream trend crap and look for the most original bands that avoid the trend. I guess Doom Metal shall be the next big trend, and I'm worried about it, because trends spoil everything. But let's hope the best and kill the trendy bands!

I think I should soon stop this blahblah-stuff, before everybody has fallen asleep... is there anybody still awake? I guess there is none but I still want everything to stay underground... And everybody, write to me and have fun!

Izch fhtagn,



I would like to thank all the wonderful people who have in any possible way helped and supported in running **HAMMER OF DAMNATION** Productions, but the truth is that you are too many out there. So, briefly, I hail all the bands featured in this issue and issue 1, the contributors, all zines, bands, distributors, record labels and every kinds of maniacs who have contacted me, every damned penpal of mine, my parents and all my friends and...Urgh, I could continue forever! Okay, you all know who you are...

THE BEST RELEASES OF 1991 (in no specific order)

BEHERIT : Dawn Of Satan's Millenium 7"ep (Turbo Music) (actually all stuff done by **BEHERIT**...)

ROTTING CHRIST : Passage To Arcturo mlp (Decapitated)

TIAMAT : The Astral Sleep lp (Century Media)

SENTENCED : Rotting Ways To Misery demo

DIABOLUS : Down There... demo

IMPALED NAZARENE : Taog Eht Fo Htao Eht demo

SAMAE : Worship Him lp (Osmose Productions)

CMX : Veljeskunta lp (Bad Vugum)

XYSPMA : Yeah lp (Comeback)

VARATHRON : Genesis Of Apocryphal Desire demo

PARADISE LOST : Gothic lp (Peaceville)

BATHORY : Twilight Of The Gods lp (Black Mark)

GODFLESH : Slavestate mlp (Earache)

F E E D B A C K

Please send your lists for **FIVE (5)** best bands ever to create the Reader's Poll to issue 3. Three of the answers are going to win a special prize!



NEWS AND UPDATES

Everybody knows that the second album **The Astral Sleep** of **TIAMAT** was released in last autumn through Century Media. There are also **TIAMAT** t-shirts available, ask from Century Media Rec., Balkenstr. 17-19, d-4600 Dortmund, Germany.

DEMIGOD won't make a 7"ep as was said in the interview. Instead, they are going to release a full length album through Slaughter Records (Brutal Promotions / Mortuary Mag, Germany). Some other upcoming Slaughter Recs releases should be **AUTOPSY TORMENT** 7"ep, **DEAD** (Ger) lp, **PUTRID/DESULTORY** split lp, **CEMETARY** lp or ep and **TRAUMATIC** lp. Hopefully these will come true, especially **AUTOPSY TORMENT** might be very interesting! For more details write to Brutal Promotion c/o Anti-Christian Hillenbrand, Sudtenstr. 65, 6415 Petersberg, Germany.

There has been rumours about the split-up of the Finnish **ANATHEMA**. As far as the band's total silence is concerned, it might be true.

BLASPHEMY album **Gods Of War** should be released by Wild Rags during early spring, the master tapes have been recorded already. This must be something worth to wait for!

BEHERIT lp **The Oath Of Black Blood** was released some time ago, but without the band's permission! Holocausto said the album has only previously released tracks with bad sounds, and it's not worth buying. Besides, no one should support the kind of profit-making Turbo Music is now doing! This label rips off both the band and its fans! Do not support Turbo Music!!!

CARTILAGE demo **In Godly Flesh** should have been released by Rotting Funeral Records, but as the label doesn't exist anymore (as doesn't the **Blazing Corpse** 'zine by the same people), it won't see the light of the day. But some foreign labels have been interested in releasing a couple of (hopefully new!) **CARTILAGE** tracks as a 7"ep, one possibility would be **Corpse Grinder Records**, but that's not sure yet.

The Finnish death metal legends **FUNEBORE** have split up after the release of their debut lp **Children Of The Scorn** (Spinefarm Rec.). Some of the members have put up a band in meaning to play some sort of heavy metal.

The sixth issue of

ISTEN magazine is going to be out sometime in spring, hopefully.



DISGRACE's debut album will finally be released through Virulence Records. Due to some unclear parts of the contract the release date delayed quite a much. Also a 7"ep is just released.

A Blaze In The Northern Sky, the second lp of **DARK THRONE** should be out soon through Peaceville.

The Finnish death metal band **AMORPHIS** (ex-**ABHORRENCE** members), who recorded their debut demo a year ago, is going to put

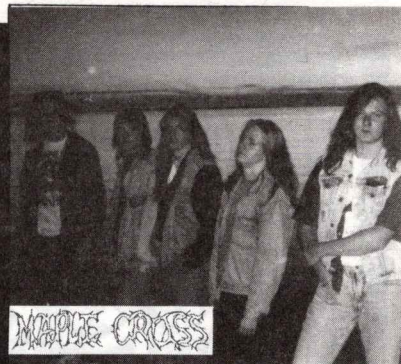
out their debut lp through Relapse Records.

The Spanish **Drowned Productions** should let out the debut lp of another Finnish band, **PURTENANCE**.

Everybody should know that also the debut album **World Without God** of **CONVULSE** has been released some time ago through Thrash Records.

MAPLE CROSS lp **The Eighth Day Of Creation** is at last released by themselves. It costs 65Fim or \$14.

The release of **MAYHEM** lp **De Mysteriis Dom Satanas** will be delayed because it is said that Euronymous is in jail for cutting someone... And we have told that the label which should release this forthcoming masterpiece, could be Tombstone Records. But be patient it must be something to wait for! within a few months hopefully. It will be recorded in Gorysound studios, and the stuff is of course better and more brutal... through Black Mark, probab-



ly!

House Of Kicks Records is soon going to release 12"ep of Swedish deathrashers **DESULTORY**.

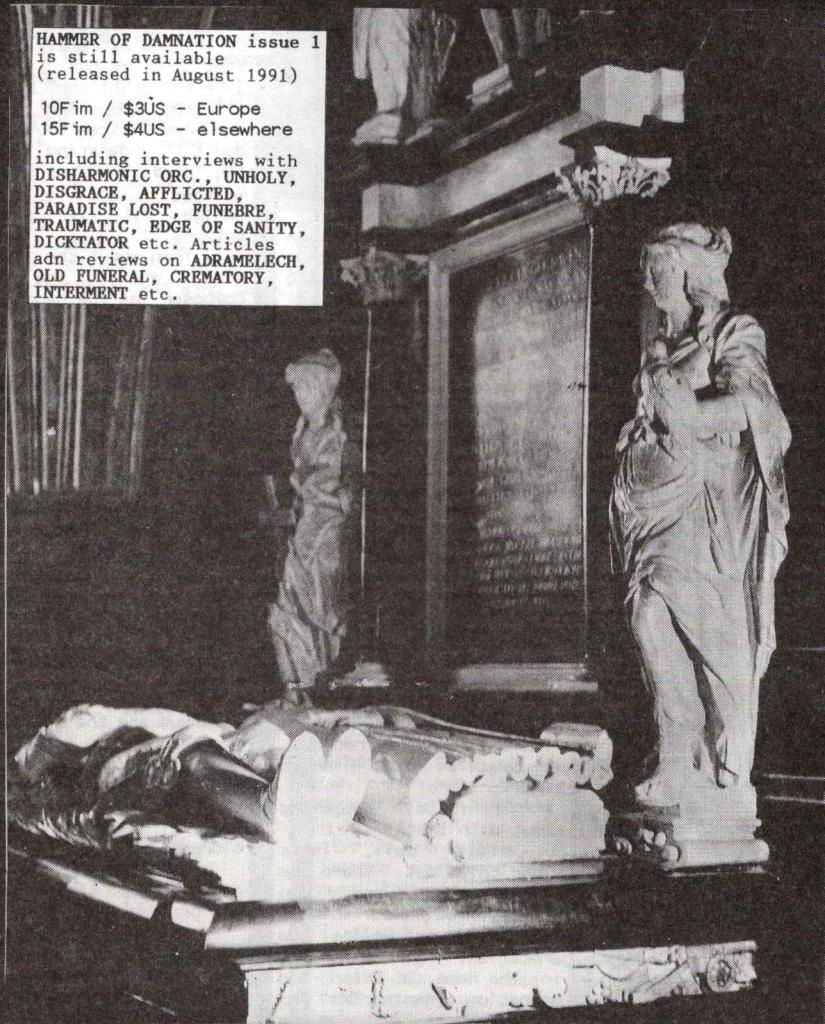
The second album of **DISHARMONIC ORC.** will be out in March, it will be titled **Not To Be Undimensional Unconscious**.

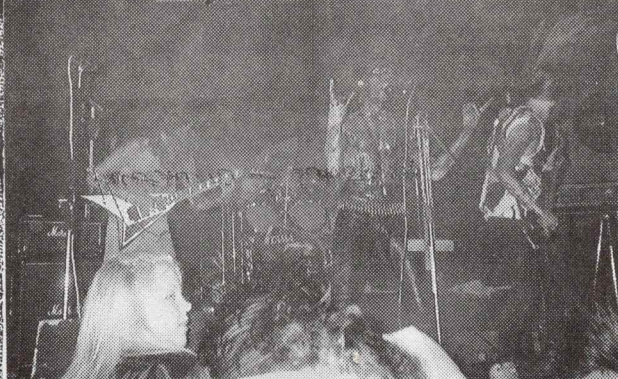
THE DOORS has splitted up due to Morrison's death and **NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK** have just become heroes for some little girls...

HAMMER OF DAMNATION issue 1 is still available (released in August 1991)

10Fim / \$3US - Europe
15Fim / \$4US - elsewhere

including interviews with **DISHARMONIC ORC.**, **UNHOLY**, **DISGRACE**, **AFFLICTED**, **PARADISE LOST**, **FUNEBORE**, **TRAUMATIC**, **EDGE OF SANITY**, **DICKTATOR** etc. Articles and reviews on **ADRAMELECH**, **OLD FUNERAL**, **CREMATORY**, **INTERMENT** etc.





You should have heard the demo entitled **Taog Eht Fo Htao Eht**, by these Finnish black metal dudes, **IMPALED NAZARENE**. In my opinion this tape is to be considered as one of the most interesting demo releases of this year with its five brilliant tracks and added occult and dark intro, outro and inner intros (?). The sound is excellent, it creates a great atmosphere of the flaming purgatory of damnation and... I don't see any clear negative points in this demo. You can get it (means you MUST get it!) by sending 20mk (Finland) or \$5 (world) to **IMPALED NAZARENE**, c/o **Mika Luttinen**, Kuruvaarantie 3, 90630 Oulu, Finland.

In the beginning of this interview I scouted if Mika had something to add..

Mika: "No, but thanks for the interview and have success with your corpsezine. Ave Abaddon!"

You're welcome! Although I don't know about any corpsezines, I tend to have success. But what about the success your demo has got? How much have you printed and sold it so far (September)?

Mika: "So far we have printed 200 copies and I just ordered 200 more. So far it has sold 174 copies and all of them in Finland

(well, some has been given as promo copies). I believe we can sell around 500 copies easily."

What about the demo in general? Are you happy with the way it turned out, and how was going your recording session?

Mika: "Taog Eht Fo Htao Eht was recorded in two days at Tico Tico studio which is probably best studio for band like we are. It contains five songs, five so called intros / inner intros and outro. What can I tell you (Tell me anything you'd like to... -Niko)? There was no problems to record the songs because we have been playing so long time together. I am pleased with the way it turned out, it doesn't sound Finnish band for sure!"

Then tell something about each track.

Mika: "Well, let's clear this out. There are five songs (yepp, you already mentioned! -Niko); **Condemned To Hell**, **The Crucified**, **Morbid Fate**, **In The Name Of Satan** and **Damnation (Raping The Angels)**. Three first one are taken from **Shemhamforash** reh.tape but we recorded them because **Shemhamforash** wasn't success at all and I like these tracks and moreover, they haven't never

been available as studio versions. **Condemned To Hell** is, what the fuck I am supposed to say, song. **The Crucified** and **Morbid Fate** are both old **MUTILATION**-tracks. **Morbid Fate** is written in '88 and **The Crucified** is from '89. In **The Name Of Satan** is the newest track and short one, lasts about 45 seconds (**The Crucified** isn't very long either. -Niko). **Damnation** was written in March '91 and in my opinion it is our best track."

FALLING TO DAMNATION

Okay, let then lead us to the unholy path of your lyrics...

Mika: "All the lyrics are by me. They are full of hate, they are blasphemous lyrics. For example, **In The Name Of Satan** is about the fifth satanic statement by Anton LaVey. **Damnation** is kind of description of ritual, not about the black mass. Black mass is different thing than satanic ritual, lyrics are extremely important for me but I don't like to print them because all the wimps and posers can read them but they don't understand them. Yes, every song has kind of message. And I stand behind my lyrics and actions!!!"

Then about the musical side. Who is the major composer in the band? And describe your songwriting process.

Mika: "Music is done 95% by Kimmo, my brother. There isn't much to tell, normally it takes about two months to make a new song ready, sometimes even four. We want to make them with time so we can be happy with them. I can tell you that we have dropped shitloads of songs, they have been made in two hours or so and after playing a couple of times they have been dropped and buried. Kimmo makes riffs, plays them to me and then we argue are the riffs good or not. Also I want to have fast songs because I can't sing slow stuff, I am very limited singer but at least I know my limitations."

What about your rehearsals then? How often do you practise?

Mika: "Our rehearsal place is old dairy house, it is quite big place but unfortunately we have 45km from our home to reh.place which limits our rehearsing because none of us owns a car. I think we normally rehearse about 2 times a month (that's not very often, or is it? -Niko).

I know it is little but we can live that. I guess we rehearsed only 4 times in June/July/August. I know there are bands who rehearse about 3-6 times a week but we don't need that."

THE OATH OF THE GOAT

You got a deal for a 7"ep. Please tell something more about it.

Mika: "Our ep, titled **Goat Perversion**, will have three tracks, one new called **Goat Perversion** (very clever) and on the b-side **In The Name Of Satan** and **Damnation (Raping The Angels)**. This ep should be out early november '91. It will be released by **Nosferatu** records (Italy) and **Nosferatu** will also print two-sided t-shirts. Don't ask me prices or shit because I don't know. T-shirts should be out at the same time as the ep will. I can't tell you anything about the cover etc. but they aren't gonna be ultramorbid brutal stuff like everybody nowadays claims, just satanic. Wait and see..."

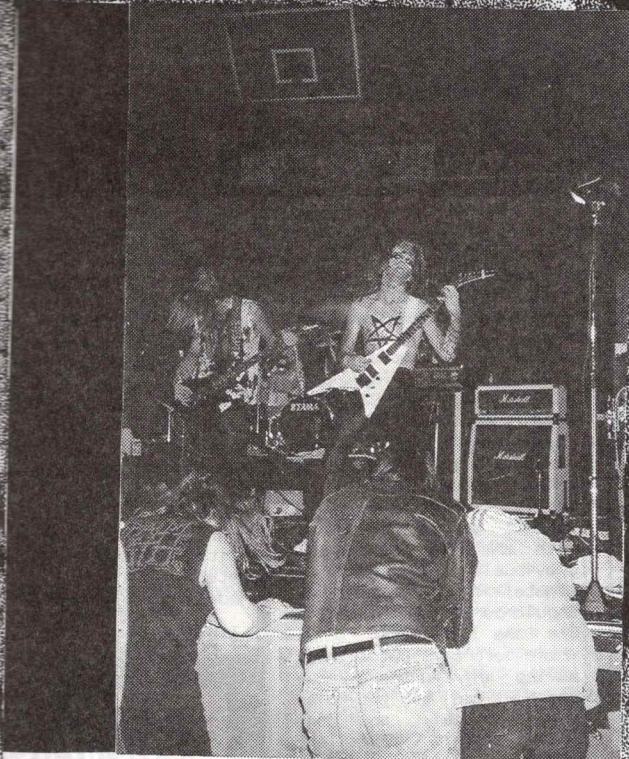
I also heard a rumour about making a contract with **Nuclear Blast**, but as I thought, it's everything but true, as far as Mika says: "I don't know anything about it."

Well, what does your gig situation look like? What songs do you play on stage, any covers?

Mika: "Only three gigs so far and not a single in sight but this is quite understandable because I don't kiss asses to get gigs like most bands seem to do. If somebody wants to have us for gig, that's no problem, just pay gas and we will come. Our set is demo tracks + two covers but in different order. We will start soon to play also **Goat Perversion** but we have to make it little bit different version for live than studio, probably we will also start to play again **SODOM's Blasphemer**. We play as cover songs **SARCOFAGO's The Black Vomit** and **DEICIDE's Crucifixion**."

What about the visual side? Describe your stage performance! (The readers could get some kind of picture when looking those live pictures...)

Mika: "We use real cows blood to cover ourselves, we have done that since the beginning and we also use masks but I call them satanic war-make-up. What can I say, we are nothing but blasphemy, that's all. Come to see us and make up your own mind are we good or not (I



would like to... -Niko)."

INFERNUS

Would you change your music to technical and commercial crap, if someone paid you a pile of money and got you a deal with a major label?

Mika: "No and why should so happen?? It is up to Kimmo what we play but I don't think that he will start wimping out and make softer / technical songs. I hate bands like WATCHTOWER, they are probably the most awful band I know. "Technodeath" sucks reeking dick!!!! IMPALED NAZARENE plays fast black metal and that's all."

Then mention three best bands you have heard!

Mika: "I don't want to answer this way because there are no best/second best etc. for me. I like old VENOM, HELLHAMMER, BEHERIT, ANGEL GOAT, BLASPHEMY, TUMULT, HADEZ, NECROMANTIA etc. They all are good."

Okay then; do you listen to anything apart from metal?

Mika: "What do you mean by metal? I listen to 99 1/2 % black metal, bands like above and ROTTING CHRIST, MASTER'S HAMMER, PROFANATICA, stuff like that. Some death metal bands are cool, if they are into subject of death, not fucking green-house effect stuff. Bands like MORGOTH makes me sick, they claim to be brutal death metal and sing about fucking society stuff. Brutal, eh??? (Yeah, REAL brutal! -Niko) Sometimes, rarely, I listen to LAIBACH of that kind of shit. I do like bands like ANAL CUNT or 7 MINUTES OF NAUSEA (I don't! I hell don't!!! -Niko) because they sound so brutal. Noise/grind is ok for me but hc/crossover, no thank you. Well, then I like AGENT STEEL first lp very much, fuck if that lp could have more brutal sound and vocalist, then it would be classified as death metal for sure. Yeah, I am poser wimp."

What about praising Finnish bands a little then, you poser wimp?

Mika: "Why should I? I don't listen to Finnish

bands except BEHERIT and BLACK CRUSIFIXION (if it must be satanic, why not UNHOLY then? -Niko) simply because Finnish "scene" sucks and to tell the truth, there is no "scene" at all. We don't sound Finnish band, nor does BEHERIT. Typical Finnish sound is FUNEBRE and then there are 2000 rip-off bands who have stolen sound from FUNEBRE. I don't like FUNEBRE but at least they have been playing for long time when comparing FUNEBRE to their clone bands. So in a way I respect FUNEBRE but I don't know what the guys themselves think about all their clone bands. There are so bloody many of them. But who cares?? We are black metal, most Finnish bands are "death" metal and as most of us knows it, black metal isn't thankfully trend in Finland."

IN THE NAME OF CROWLEY

I'm not an extremely learned man when it comes to Satanism, but as far as I know, Satanist is his own god, denies all other gods and refuse worshipping any "higher ones" ("Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the law", the left hand path...). Okay, but I have wondered what has this in common with worshipping goats, using blood and make-ups etc....?

Mika: "I see you are very ignorant about left hand path. It is bad that ENTOMBED used this as their lp title because now there are poser bands like GOD DETHRONED from Holland who have done black metal lyrics just because used ENTOMBED used left hand path. Let's put it this way; it isn't the way like ENTOMBED says that you must not worship goat or stuff (I didn't mention ENTOMBED, what has this to do with them? I meant the article "Satanism, devil worship and death metal" by Mirabilis Adversarius, read it somewhere in these pages! -Niko). And as for "Do what..." that is Crowley and has nothing to do with ENTOMBED. Satanist is his own god but there are demons/spirits whatever you want to call them who can give you knowledge, satisfaction whatever, but you must know how to get it, you must have well, knowledge of certain things. If you want to understand this deeper read The Satanic Bible by Anton LaVey (Yes, I should get to read it! -Niko). This book opened my eyes totally into different, real world of satanism."

Let's then change the subject. Make an end to the story like this: "The black clouds collided to the sky above me, and the lightning stroke as I bowed before the pentagram and..."

Mika: "...my erection was huge as I drank the blood of virgin from the chalice of hate. And the hymn of the fallen angels was oh, so high!"

Great! But now it's time to Mika to make a beginning to the end of the story:

Mika: "I, JesusChrist, realized the whole father of mine, the dead god of heaven, to be a homo-sexual..."

"...and then I began to fall, fall, fall until I felt my poor body splash into the enormous ocean of blasphemous flames...", the end was like this.

Okay, what lies there in the near future of the band, apart from the 7"ep?

Mika: "Who cares about the future? Time will tell..."

Yes, time will tell. And hopefully you will tell also this: If the music of IMPALED NAZARENE was a dinner course, what would it be?

Mika: "Angelnecroburger!!!"

That's delicious! But even more delicious can be their ep that should be out when you are reading this...

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.

*KIMMO DURING THE BLACK CANDLE MASSACRE MASS 9.9.91...



Sentenced's second studio demo "Rotting Ways To Misery" out now, including 6 songs (32 mins) of DEATH METAL.

Prices:

FINLAND: 20 Fmk
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One more new Finnish death metal band. In June 1991 it was their time to release the first rehearsal demo. It included two tracks (*Swamp Of The Holy Rot*, and *The Incursion Of Chaos*) and an instrumental intro. The music was quite normal midpaced death metal, not grindy, not doomy...with (as usually) pretty brutal vocals. Sometimes I think the vocals remind me a little of Holocausto (*BEHERIT*, interview elsewhere!). However the music doesn't.

Okay, In October they released another rehearsal demo, with a short intro and two tracks again. Their style of playing is mainly the same, but now they have included some grindy, fast parts...now it's *BOLT THROWER* (*Realm Of Chaos*) that comes to my mind, the tracks are titled *The Eternal Era* and *Ahead Of The Law*.

ANATHEMA

Finland, the land of thousand iglus! Whadda beautiful little country it is! For an example just a week ago I got carbonized in a sauna. Also, yesterday I froze to death due to my pitifully bad memory; I had forgotten my fur cap when going out for a walk. And just today my reincarnation got served as a dinner to my grandma's polarbear. And what is it this time? Hmm...Finnish ANATHEMA promise my bitter remains a better future for a while. Their demo (it is recorded with a four-tracker, though) is just right here to break this death-like silence with it's four ripping songs.

They have recorded an unofficial four-tracker tape previously in 1991, under the name *FUNERATION*. I haven't heard it and Pasi (bass / vocals) and Mika

(drums) said it isn't worth to listen to. So here's nothing more about it. Khrrmzxglmpx, back to this tape. The basic sound is good, but the guitars could have mixed louder to my opinion. And Pasi's and Tommi's vocals seem to be too loud sometimes. But you'll get used to it for sure.

Here are four tracks, *Yellow Phlegm* (Are the lyrics written under the flu??), *Perdition*, *Enigma Of Departed* and *The First Symptoms Of Rotting*. I prefer *Perdition* and *The First Symptoms Of Rotting* (however this one doesn't have very clever title...). The vocals, both of 'em are in an extremely brutal, death-grunting vein (like *FUNEIRE*, *INTERMENT*, *Bill Of Carcass* and the stuff like that), but here and there they are in a way a bit disturbing, perhaps because of a couple of not-so-good arrangements. Mainly the

Pestigore, Kielokatu 3, 04430 Järvenpää, Finland.

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.



This day was a good one, though I didn't get too much mail. Actually the only letter I received was from Osmose Productions. It was a strange letter indeed, including a tape, *MASACRE* biography and a flyer advertising the lp *Requiem* by these Colombian death metal gods *MASACRE*. Nothing more.

So I have no idea what is this tape, but I guess it is some kind of advance tape to their album, including three tracks of which I don't know any titles or anything. I haven't got very familiar with the music of *MASACRE* previously. No, wait a minute! The last track is *Sepulcros En Ruinos*, that's the one I've heard somewhere before. But without having any further knowledge, I can say they play really brutal, and good death metal. Excellent sounds!

Because I can't give you much information about the music, I still have the bio and can talk some crap about the band's history.

Briefly; *MASACRE* was formed in 1988. In July '89 they recorded their first demo named *Colombia... Imperio Del Terror*. After some line-up changes *MASACRE* returned to the studio to work on a new demo in November '90. The demo was named *Cancer De Nuestros Dias*. Again some line-up changes...and the current line-up contains of

riffs are okay, and I also like a bit the solo in *The First Symptoms Of Rotting*.

What about pigeonholing the band's music? I don't think they are breaking any bounds of death metal, but still they aren't another star to the sky of ordinary, worthless death metal bands. I guess they have in a way a personal sound that isn't the easiest one to classify, but here and there *ANATHEMA* remind me of *FUNEIRE*'s debut demo *Cranial Torment*, although this isn't that primitive.

It seems like the band is going to split up, first their drummer Mika left the band because of some musical disagreements, but they have found a new drummer Harri to replace Mika.

However, this tape is still available, send immediately a blank tape + 2 IRC's (Europe), 3 IRC's (other) or 3.50 Fmk stamp (Finland) to the following

Alex Oquendo (vocals), Juan Carlos Gomez (guitar), Alejandro Saldarriaga (guitar), Dilson Diaz (bass) and Mauricio "Bull Metal" Montoya (drums).

12"ep *Ola De Violencia* was released in May '91, although the recordings were made already in May '90.

And now *Requiem*, the latest release of *MASACRE* is for sale through Osmose Productions. Lp costs \$13 and the price for cd is \$20. And if the music goes in the same vein as in the tape I received, this album is a must for everyone into brutal death metal. It can be ordered from Osmose Prod., 21 Res.Fort-Mahon, 62990 Beaurainville, France. And to get in contact with the band, write to *MASACRE*, Bull Metal, A.A. 056642 Medellin, Colombia.

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.



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by NIKO SIRKIÄ.

TIAMAT should need no introduction. Since their times under the name TREBLINKA, they've released their debut album Sumerian Cry and a 7"ep A Winter Shadow. But time has gone, and these aren't the most fresh vinyls anymore... So, the question is evoked; what's going on with the band by now? And how's life today, Hellslaughter?

Hellslaughter: "Very good! We've just recorded the tracks for our second album pre-titled Astral Sleep, which will come out soon through Century Media Records."

So, you've left C.M.F.T. Records. What were the reasons in particular to the label change? And do you like XYSTER (they were also on C.M.F.T., weren't they?)

Hellslaughter: "Yeah, we have left C.M.F.T. and we have now signed a much better contract with Century Media Rec. I liked XYSTER's demo Black Bible but not more!"

THE KINGLY DEAD

Your line-up changed back then after Sumerian Cry. Did the name change from TREBLINKA to TIAMAT have any effect on it? And do you think that your music has changed to some noticeable direction after this line-up change?

Hellslaughter: "The name change and the line-up change are two different things. Basically it's the same band. Of course we sound a bit different now but it is the same kind of riffing, just a natural progression."

After all I still think you've slowed down abit, if A Winter Shadow is compared to Sumerian Cry... BATHORY-influence, perhaps?

Hellslaughter: "Our two latest songs are grindy so don't be too sure! We're not trying to play fast, nor slow. We are not trying to be the heaviest band, nor the most brutal. We are playing music which we like, whatever people will call it. We want the music to create a mood... It could be a brutal, spiritual or a depressive mood but it is important that the music is created by feelings and not 'trends'."

Yepp, let's then talk about trends. For example in Sweden there's an enormous scene, as everybody knows. But sometimes I think there are too many bands which tend not to be so original, they just try

to be similar to the legend NIHILIST / ENTOMBED...

Hellslaughter: "You are right! We have got too many trend bands here in Sweden that really sucks. Of course we still have original bands that kills... UNLEASHED, GROTESQUE / AT THE GATES, ABSURD, CROWLEY, DESECRATOR, MERCILESS and some more."

What do you think is the best black metal band by now?

Hellslaughter: "By now? Does it exist a black metal band today?? The latest black metal gods were GROTESQUE but they split up recently. Maybe you could call MORBID ANGEL a black metal band? They rule!"

Hm...I don't think MORBID ANGEL rule anymore, at least their latest album, in my opinion it's fulfilled with overtechnical crap!

ENTITIES

Tell something about the album and ep covers. The artist who have painted them is really great!

Hellslaughter: "They are done by Necrolord... He played guitar in GROTESQUE, but now he has got a new project called LIERS IN WAIT. Especially the ep's painting is really hitting the lyrics, to A Winter Shadow."

You should then tell something about your lyrics, too. Nowadays they seem not to reek of Hell as much as they did before, or do they?

Hellslaughter (takes a deep breath first): "They have matured but not in the way you think. The lyrics are more dark, evil and mystic than ever before. We are also singing more about Satan than ever before but in a more deep way. Look at the lyrics on Sumerian Cry...do you find anything about Satan? (Well, I don't think so... -Niko) No! What do you think about the title The Choir Sings For Satan? That song will be on our next lp. The lyrics are very important for me and they really deal with things from the back of my mind. I am not just writing a text that should be

Satanic... I have to get influences and what influence me most is my own fear for things like darkness and stuff. I do really enjoy feeling this fear... it satisfies me. An example... One night I was walking home in the middle of the night... I went over a very big cemetery all alone and I was really scared. I imagined that the shadows from the trees inside the cemetery area were the souls of the dead men, trying to get revenge on what we did to them in their human life. I believed they reached out for me and I had to run. That was just one example. I could go on for ages. At certain places at certain times I really believe in entities and other mystic things which could have something to do with Satan, the Prince Of Darkness, or such... That's what the lyrics are all about today... experiences from the back of my mind."

As a joke; why don't you write socially conscious lyrics?

Hellslaughter: "We leave that part to METALLICA."

MALICIOUS MOODS

Have you said goodbye to your make-ups, or why didn't you have them on A Winter Shadow picture?

Hellslaughter: "Maybe we'll use it...maybe not! That depends on which mood we're in. I always have my nail bracelet with me on gigs but I only use it sometimes...when I really feel for it. The latest time we have really felt for not wearing too much of the spikes, corpsepaint...

One thing that will always be there is inverted crosses, pentagrams etc. because that is NOT a cool thing...IT IS A LIFESTYLE!"

What about your stage performance, then? Do you have much effects in your show? (It's a shame I didn't get to Helsinki when you played there instead of ENTOMBED...well, I heard about it just a day before the gig!)

Hellslaughter: "We are not playing too often but we will hopefully tour in the near future. Yeah, we'll have stage-show!! Definitely!"

Then it's quite radical change of the subject. Say your opinion about EUROPE and YNGWIE MALMSTEEN!

Hellslaughter: "They did some good stuff five years ago... Today I don't like it!"

ASTRAL END

I, as everybody else, would be interested in your plans for the future...!

Hellslaughter: "I Won't tell you too much... We'll have to wait and see!"

If the music of TIAMAT was a dinner course, what would it be?

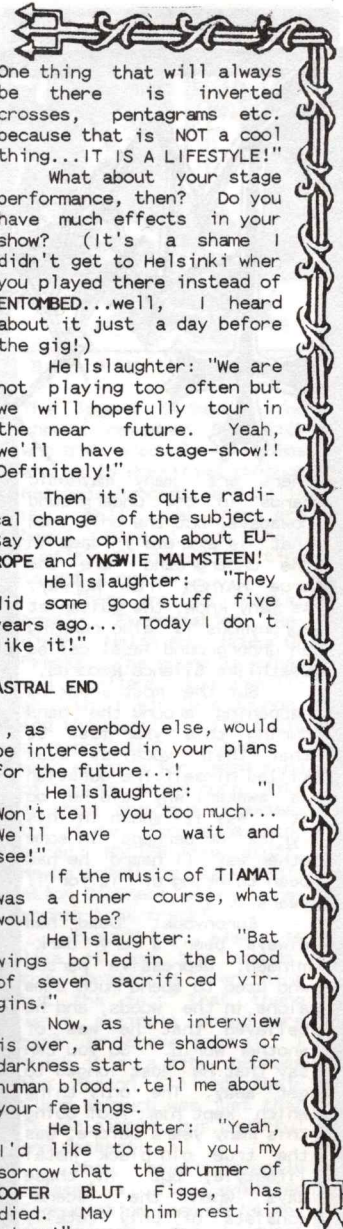
Hellslaughter: "Bat wings boiled in the blood of seven sacrificed virgins."

Now, as the interview is over, and the shadows of darkness start to hunt for human blood...tell me about your feelings.

Hellslaughter: "Yeah, I'd like to tell you my sorrow that the drummer of COOPER BLUT, Fidge, has died. May him rest in piece!"

TIAMAT
CBR Records
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by NIKO SIRKIÄ



DEMONIC CORPSE SEXUS RITUAL mag

From the ashes of S.S. zine have DEMONIC CORPSE SEXUS RITUAL zine risen! It's only for satanic/occult BLACK/death metal bands!!! No gore shit please! Send your demo + info /lyrics and if possible a photo for a big fucking review! All kinds of satanic poems lyrics/photos/ideas/books/art are welcome!

But please no trendy fuckhead bands! Just bloody satanic! Lots of occult artwork are welcome! Small ads printed for free. All you other individuals...young or old.... write! As long as the message is the same ...black, black, black...SHEMAMFORASH

Write:Tommi Korhonen, Branddammsbacken 38, 42436 Angered, SWEDEN.

666



There are many mayhem bands in the underground nowadays, but the only true that is extremely deep in the underground are the true MAYHEM from Norway. As many know, the guitarist Euronymous is also running an underground label called Deathlike Silence Records.

But the most shocking happening around the band during this year must be that their vocalist Dead killed himself. The question is: why did he do it? Was it shown in his lyrics or perhaps in some other way (I heard he had been thinking of it for 17 years...!)?

Euronymous: "Dead had always been a very dark-minded, depressive person who used to spend much time alone in the woods, and he believed that he was of another world. So you can say that he just longed to get away. The only thing which kept him from doing this many years before, was the true old black metal lifestyle, but in these days when the "scene" consists of only totally normal people in jogging suits, children with skateboards and "death" metal bands with society lyrics (Yes! that's not very clever at all... -Niko), he felt that the only thing he cared for was death, and decided to die. We all worship the ancient black metal bands with black clothes, spikes and crosses and we have declared WAR against the trend idiots! You could see some of Dead's thoughts in his lyrics, he wrote a lot of his dreams about Transylvania, dark legends, and ancient castles and so on. In his last lyrics - "Life Eternal" he's very clearly writing about himself. He wrote it a couple hours before he died!"

That might be his "testament" to black metal people... But have you found a new vocalist already? And what is your present line-up?

Euronymous: "Yes, we have a new vocalist - Occultus from THYABHORRENT

and editor of Sepulchral Noise zine. He'll play the bass too, as Necro Butcher is not in the band any more. The line-up is now me on guitar, Occultus doing vocals and the bass, and Hellhammer on drums."

THE MOON IS FREEZING...

This is certainly boring and stupid for almost everybody, but there might be some people who don't know much about the band's history. So, would you please tell some basic facts about the MAYHEM history?

Euronymous: "We started up in '84, the line-up was then me, Necro Butcher and Manheim on drums. First gig in '85 with a session vocalist called Messiah, first demo *Pure Fucking Armageddon* in '86 and in '87 we did the *Deathcrush* demo/mini lp with Maniac on vocals. Maniac and Manheim left after this and we got Dead and Hellhammer. We recorded 2 trax in studio for a Swedish compilation lp in spring '90, and in the autumn we toured in East-Germany and Turkey. That brings us up to the current events."

Okay. But why have you been so quiet all the time? And it seems MAYHEM aren't too productive, only these two demos and 2 compilation tracks in 8 years! How come? Or perhaps you have done other songs but not released them...? If you have any other tracks, please tell something about them.

Euronymous: "We refuse to make standard music like most other bands do, and each new MAYHEM song must be better than everything in our ears. This has made a lot of problems before because we have disagreed quite a lot about the musical direction, Necro Butcher wanted us to play like we did on the *Pure Fucking Armageddon* demo, Dead wanted some diffuse middle age inspired stuff which he never managed to explain how sounded like, but now it's easier because

I and Hellhammer have had the same ideas and now we can work freely on them. Still we'll use very much time to make songs in order to make each song something special. And then we have the economic aspect - We've not had any money to be able to record anything before."

So is it probably because of the lack of money that you haven't got a new press of your *Deathcrush* mini-lp? I'm sure it would still sell quite well...

Euronymous: "We have plans to do it, but we'll probably wait until after the lp. There are a lot of demands for it so it's about time. I hate limited editions."

Tell something about a mayhem song creation. What does inspire you? Who makes the music?

Euronymous: "I make the music and I'm inspired by moods. If I get inspiration, I try to turn off all lights and make dark, gruesome atmosphere and then channel this into the music. It often takes quite long time between each time I get real inspiration, and this is perhaps also one of the reasons for why we don't have so many songs."

...THE TALES TURN MORBID...

Back there in '87 (*Deathcrush*...) you had a kind of those splatter/gore-typed lyrics such as *Chainsaw Gutsfuck*. Do you think there's any MAYHEM influences nowadays, as almost every band is using the same kind of stuff in their lyrics (which to cut it out I see quite boring)? Mainly the influences come from *CARCASS*, I guess, but...

Euronymous: "I don't think so, most of the trend people today (90% of the people who listen to this music) "discovered" death metal through *MORBID ANGEL* one year ago or so, and hence they have never heard about us. Hell, many of the idiot have not even

heard about *VENOM*!!!"

I don't know about *VENOM* (except their two first albums rule!), but what about *CELTIC FROST*? Many years ago you played *CELTIC* covers. What do you think of the band today? I mean the albums *Cold Lake* (which is pure crap!) and *Vanity/Nemesis* (which I can listen to...).

Euronymous: "I hate the two last albums of *CELTIC FROST*, it's so unbelievably worthless. But why should we listen to them when we can listen to masterpieces like *Morbid Tales*?"

Yes, you're right. But I think we should talk about *MAYHEM* instead, so let's ask something like... ..this: How intensively do you practise?

Euronymous: "The current rate is about 2 times a year (Really? -Niko) ... After the tour we haven't been able to practise much because of a lot of problems, equipment fucking up etc etc. Before we played 2-3 times a week. Right now we're even too broke to rent a rehearsal place. Things are hard these days..."

Yes, they seem to be. So you don't do many gigs today, because of the rehearsal problems, or what? And when you play live, do you play any covers?

Euronymous: "We refuse to play live now, especially in Norway. The reason is that the only people who go to concerts are children in jogging suits, caps and skateboards and our music is not for them. We want our audience look like old *HELLHAMMER*, *BATHORY*, *DESTRUCTION*, *SARCOFAGO* etc., and to be evil. Spikes rule! It's possible that we'll accept an offer to tour through Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Turkey and Israel though, but this won't be for a while yet anyway. As for cover songs, before the tour we used to rehearse on *Satan's Curse* with *POSSESSED* and it's possible

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L-R: EURONYMUS, OCCULTUS.

we'll pick up this one again in addition to Hell Awaits with SLAYER which I and Hellhammer used to play."

You said that you refuse to play live especially in Norway. So in your eyes the Norwegian underground scene doesn't look too good, is it so? Could you mention the best bands there?

Euronymous: "There is no scene in Norway, just lots of trendy children and totally normal idiots. But the few bands we have here are starting to become very good, I'd really recommend the new lp of DARK THRONE (A Blaze In The Northern Sky), it's so dark and gruesome, they have a totally new style and I love it. CADAVER are getting better and better even they don't play death metal, and you should watch out for a band called THORNS, they will be better than everything. Their guitar player is a genius in making dark riffs, I've never heard anything like it before. IMMORTAL are good even if their old vocalist was much better, and you should also look for a band which is very new, and is called INFINITE DECAY."

...THE SILENCE IS DEATHLIKE

I'd also like to ask you some things considering your Deathlike Silence Records. It's been pretty quiet for a while, actually I haven't seen any new stuff after the MERCILESS album, although I've heard that you have plans with many bands to do something. Is there perhaps going to be some releases in the near future?

Euronymous: "Not in the near future as we are too broke now. We have started up our own record shop, this might help out a bit, but it will still take some time before we can spew out more releases. We have some killer albums

coming if we only had money... Especially the **TORMENTOR** (Hungary) album!"

And about a band making a deal with Deathlike Silence; of what kind should the band be to get a deal for an album or so?

Euronymous: "They should be of the ancient lifestyle, preferably with black clothes, spikes, crosses, chains and face paint. This is not totally necessary but I love such bands. And then the music should be equally gruesome of course. No standard trend bands! DSP is primarily for bands which look/sound like old **HELLHAMMER/BATHORY/SARCOFAGO**, but I'm of course very interested in bands which have managed to create something new, it's possible f.ex. that we'll make records with **ABRUPTUM** (Sweden) and **MONUMENTUM** (Italy). **MERCILESS** don't look too brutal but they are so fucking great, so that will of course be the thing which is most important. As long as the band doesn't look so trendy that I get angry when looking at them! Generally the band should have a dark approach in the spirit of the true old bands. Other bands can stick to the trend labels."

...AND MAYHEM COMES TRUE!

What about the future plans of MAYHEM? When shall your debut album *De Mysteriis Dom Satanæ* be released, and through what label? Deathlike Silence, perhaps?

Euronymous: "I don't know, it depends on money. As we don't afford to rent any rehearsal place we can't do a shit yet, but Hellhammer will possibly fix something. Then we'll practise like hell and we might get another label to release it if we don't happen to find a fortune on the street one day...just to let someone else have the economic worries for once..."

And now this special

question; if the music of MAYHEM was a dinner course, what would it be?

Euronymous: "Possible a goat head on a table without vegetables."

And is there anything you could possibly do if you weren't in a band and running a record company/shop?

Euronymous: "I'd probably study mathematics, chemistry or / and some languages, but I'd still have the same lifestyle and listen to the same music."

Well, I think that was it for now; is there anything you'd like to add or perhaps some other stuff?

Euronymous: "Yeah, we have t-shirts for sale now, they are the first official ones ever and they're black with white logo on. Sizes are M/L/XL/XXL. the price is FIM 60 in Finland (So, there's a thing to place my tiny savings, I suggest you to do the same, too!), kr. 100 in Scandinavia and else in Europe it's DEM 30/NLG 30/BFR 2000/GBP 10/IEP 10/FRF 100/ITL 22000/GRD 3300 etc. Outside Europe it's USD 18/CAD 21/SGD 36/JPY 2600. These prices include air mail postage. If anyone wants a list over the stuff we're selling in the shop, just write. Fuck all hardcore ideas, death metal was meant to be something evil which normal people fear. Be evil, not open-minded! Fuck attitudes and vegetables! Cultivate death and darkness! Only black clothes and spikes are real!"

...rgggggrrhhh...lying splattered on the wall by that outburst...Okay, write to them, but I recommend to include a couple of IRC's to your letter, because Euronymous said they are broke by now, and you know you won't get rich by sending a truckload of mail every week, I've noticed that... Their new contact address is:

MAYHEM
Schweiggaardsgt. 56
N-0656 Oslo 6
Norway

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.



REPULSION

The legend is back! You should remember **REPULSION** who did a couple of demos and an lp Horrified through Necrosis Records, and split up. Well, now they are back! Here I have their (untitled?) demo '91 waiting to get a review.

There are four tracks, namely *Excruciation*, *Rebirth*, *Helga* and *House Of Freaks*. The sound is clear and excellent, just familiar with their lp's sounds. And the music... I'm a bit dissatisfied. I guess I was waiting for some kind of raging grind core, like in their previous releases, but I can find some mid-paced **MASTER**-like stuff. Maybe something like *Radiation Sickness*, do you remember that track?

Everything else is like it was, the sounds, the vocals and everything but the fact that there isn't a single grind core part in these tracks! I think it's a pity, because the reason I liked their album so much was just that it was simple, but powerful and faasst!

They have recently relased a 7"ep entitled *Excruciation* through Relapse Records, and I guess there are these four tracks included. I don't know about the demo, but the ep is available for \$4 U.S. and \$6 elsewhere. Send to Relapse Records, P.O. Box 251, Millersville, PA 17551 U.S.A.

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.

RADIATION DEFICIENCY

Yeah, so he saved a heart to eat later, so what! What's more important is the forthcoming release of the next chapter concerning this death/ grind phenomenon; **RADIATION DEFICIENCY** shall arrive soon. We need information on underground record stores to carry our product, so please send your information to us if you have it. All else, please send your address to get on our mailing list. Copies will cost \$3 (US) so send money now to reserve a copy and be the first on your block to have one!

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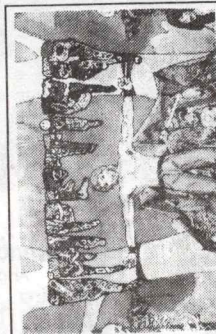
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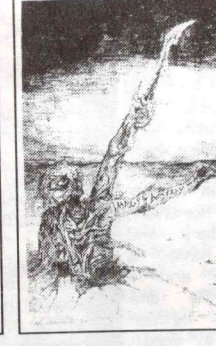
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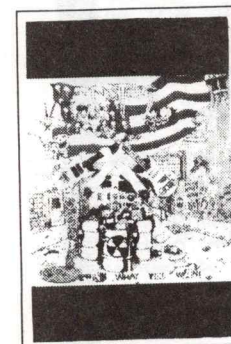
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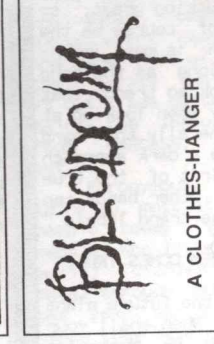
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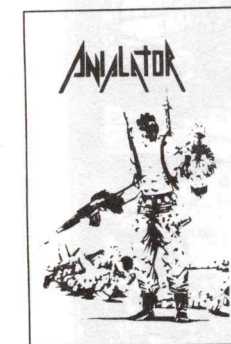


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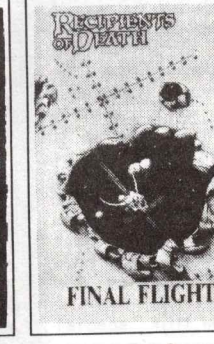
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"DEMIGOD was formed in August '90. Back then our line-up was Tero Laitinen - bass, Seppo Taatila - drums, Esa Lindén - guitar/ vocals and one unnamed guitarist! We kicked our former guitarist out 'cause his playing wasn't good enough! We were a three piece band from November '90 to the end of May '91. Then we found our new guitarist - Jussi Kiiski! We made *Unholy Domain* demo in January '91. Current line-up is Tero Laitinen - Bass, Seppo Taatila - drums, Esa Lindén - guitar/vocals and Jussi Kiiski - guitar!", explained Esa in order to tell some history of DEMIGOD. But how are you doing at the moment?

Esa: "I'm fine, thanks! I drank yesterday a bit too much but no hangover - Great!"

So, there's a new guitarist in DEMIGOD. What kind of dude he is?

Esa: "He's very cool guy and fits perfectly to DEMIGOD 'cause he's enough sick to play with us - Heh! This is first real band!"

Let's then talk about your demo *Unholy Domain*. Are you satisfied with it? How much have you sold it and what kind of response have you gotten?

Esa: "Well - I'm quite satisfied with it! Guitar-sound is cool (in my opinion) but my vocals are so weak! Yäk! Also drumsound is too thin! It's not heavy enough! I don't like our old logo and cover either! I think songs are good! We have sold 800 copies in 8 months! Amazing or what (Right, pretty amazing! -Niko)? Response was been very cool! Thanks to the supporters!"

Certainly the response has been good, 'cos you got the deal with French label, Corpse Grinder Records. Please, tell us more about this deal.

Esa: "We have got many offers to do a 7"ep! We'll

do only one for Corpse Grinder Records! I don't see any sense to do many 7"ep - one is enough for us! It'll contain four new songs! Much cooler in my opinion! Faster / heavier and with a lot deeper vocals than on the demo! The

songs are entitled Dead-soul, Eternal Grief, Darkened and Transmigration Beyond Eternities."

Do you have any idea when this ep will be out?

Esa: "I don't have any idea! Anyway we'll try to record it in September / October but I'm not sure! We don't even know what studio we'll use! We want to have a fuckin' brutal and heavy sound!"

POLITICAL SATANISM

Who does the writing in the band? How about lyrics?

Esa: "I'm doing 95% of it and Jussi does the rest! We are using more time when we are composing our songs than earlier! There must be the right feeling in the songs! Dark and heavy! Lyrics are done by me and Tero! Maybe Tero does more nowadays! He has very cool / dark ideas!"

Tell us something about your lyrics. What do you think about Satanic and political lyrics?

Esa: "Well - our lyrics are dealing with darkness, godz, souls etc! There will never be anything fun or political in our lyrics! I don't like

fun music and I don't fuckin' like fun lyrics! I can't understand death metal bands with political lyrics - Yäk! It sucks! There are some bands which are very godly musically and also vocals are good but their lyrics sucks! We don't deal with satanism! I have nothing against satanic lyrics and bands who are using such a lyrics! It's up to everyone! But remember I hate political lyrics!"

Where did you get the name DEMIGOD from?

Esa: "Our former guitarist found it from the lyric sheet of DEICIDE's album! Strange - heh!"



ETERNAL GODZ

What do you think about the gig situation here in Finland? Have you done many gigs?

Esa: "Gig situation is not so good as it should be! We need much more gigs but there aren't enough people who organizes gigs! We have played only 5 gig with XYSMA, DISGRACE, DEMILICH, SENTENCED, FUNEBRE and many others."

What do you think about other Finnish bands? Have you some names to recommend?

Esa: "Finnish scene is really cool at the moment! Best bands are DISGRACE, SENTENCED, FUNEBRE, XYSMA, DEMILICH, IMPALED NAZARENE, AMORPHIS and PHLEGETHON! I can recommend all these bands!"

What about then naming some of your fave bands in general? Do they influence your music?

Esa: "There's 3 bands which are eternal godz to me! GOREFEST, SINISTER and BOLT THROWER! I like also a lot IMMOLATION, THERION, DISGRACE, SENTENCED, old POSSESSED, old CELTIC FROST, BATHORY, old BLACK SABBATH, INCANTATION, GOREMENT, old SLAYER, SHUB-NIGGURATH and more others! Yes - I think all bands I'm listening to influence our music!"

What kind of direction do you see band like DEMIGOD taking in the future?

Esa: "Do you mean musically? Well - I think we are trying to find our own style (it won't be easy) - a very dark style that people can recognize as a DEMIGOD style! We'll be just as brutal as now! If our music starts to go to too commercial level we'll end this band immediately! There's no use to do some wimpy stuff and try to make money! Rock star attitude sucks!"

Okay, thanx for bothering yourself to answer the questions!! Is there anything you'd like to add?

Esa: "Thanks to you Sami for this cool interview! If you still want to have our demo send a blank tape and include the postage if possible - OK! Take Care!"

You can write to: Esa Lindén, Niittupellontie 22, 32200 Loimaa, Finland.

by SAMI HOLAPPA

Some news about DEMIGOD: Instead of both playing the guitar and singing, Esa has left the guitar playing to Jussi and he's now totally concentrating on the vocals...

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Sodomatic Rites

This band is to be considered as a legend when talking about Finnish black metal bands. They were the first...and now probably the best or at least most known all around the globe. No clear history is listed here, because I think it's damn boring and here should be enough reading for everyone about BEHERIT, no doubt this is the longest interview I've ever made, but I hope you don't get bored with it...

Scouting up about how is life with BEHERIT today...

Holocausto: "Yeah, now the things are running on again. Olly (Turbo Music) phoned me yesterday from Germany...we have planned to tour a little in Germany, Austria, Switzerland and maybe in Holland, too. The dates are to be placed there at the end of November and the band to share the tour with us would be FUNERAL NATION. I try to arrange some gigs with also SAMEL and BLOOD. Now we are busy practising our old and new tracks... It is autumn."

The band's line-up has changed quite directly... what is the present line-up?

Holocausto: "Necroper- versor (18) - drums, Dark Saviour (Black Jesus, 18) - bass and Holocaust, 7th Vengeance (19) - ritual guitars and vocals."

All right, then tell something about each member of the band!

Holocausto: "Necroper- versor and Dark Saviour both are ex-COFFIN members - lazy, nice and yielding to drink and smoke a lot. I and Goatgoddess are also into drinking. We have been into the underground scene a long time. I, Holocausto and Necroper- versor have jobs, and Dark

Saviour studies at the second grade of high school.. fuck, how interesting, sorry."

Sometime in last spring you were looking for a second guitarist. Did you think you were in the point where the second guitarist becomes necessary?

Holocausto: "Second guitarist is necessary on stage, and we're still looking for one to arrive."

DAWN OF SATAN'S MILLENNIUM

Your latest release, the picture 7"ep through Turbo music, came out quite a while ago. Tell us what is your opinion on it. And what about Moyer's drawing on the ep (did it come expensive?), do you like the artist?

Holocausto: "That picture ep came out already in February '91...actually it's not titled, fuck. I like the ep, however our music isn't very close to that style anymore. Moyer's drawing didn't cost us anything, just a free copy + t-shirt. In my opinion that goathead with a pentagram is one of the best drawings by C.Moyer... Now they aren't so classfull anymore, there's the feeling of fuss like Jami (Biopsy zine) said, too. 10% of them is ok...the rest is comic crap."

How much has this ep sold? And what about your Demonomancy demo in last year? ('90)

Holocausto: "In June the ep had sold 4000 copies, Demonomancy sold 400 copies in half a year."

Then let's discuss a bit about your deal with Turbo Music. Have you planned anything for any future releases (an album, perhaps?) ?

Holocausto: "The deal



Holocausto Vengeance during Morbid Rehearsals



is quite long, in other words a 'time-contract'. There have been plans for the lp for almost a year. Now Turbo Music would be willing to release Demonomancy as a remixed 12"/CD/MC-shit. I don't like the idea very much...but we can't say much to that what Turbo Music does, the parts of the contract aren't obeyed anymore which is a pity. I'm going to mix all old BEHERIT recordings the next week... Let's then look at what I have got done. The vinyl is going to be titled The Oath Of Black Blood...? Messe Des Morts-lp should come out some time in January. We aren't willing to hurry much with this fucking lp/cd-thing as are some certain trend bands. We'll do it when the moon is right."

WITCHCRAFT

What is the gig situation of BEHERIT like? How many gigs have you done? How high has been the portion of alcohol of the blood pulsating in your veins, at the time you are on stage?

Holocausto: "Well yes, 23.8.91 (The Day Of Darkness in Oulu, Finland -Niko) was the last gig with the old line-up, although the last real BEHERIT-line-up (before this new one? -Niko) was when our former bass player was in the band. That "last gig" was our twelfth. We had drunk quite much, although alcohol didn't have any influence on my actions. S.Slaughter (ex-drummer) was a wimp and now

deep in the pits. Usually we aren't drunk on stage."

Okay. Then describe your stage performance. What songs do you play on stage? Do you still play many songs from Demonomancy? And do you play any cover songs?

Holocausto: "The brutality on stage depends almost completely on the audience and the place. At the moment we aren't the most brutal band on stage even in Finland...it is IMPALED NAZARENE. However the following gigs shall be real darkness and impurity, I promise that. Blood, fire, death on stage... Ritual clothes, wine of Satan & evil sex... Now when the line-up changed, it's difficult to say what tracks are going to be included to the set. from Demonomancy we have been playing the tracks Grave Desecration, The Oath Of Black Blood, Witchcraft. The cover songs that we play today are from DIABOLUS and SARCOFAGO... why not also BLASPHEMY and BATHORY (yeah, why not? -Niko) ? Usually we have around 2-4 songs that are not released, such as At The Devil's Churns, Vengeance, Black Goats Of Dark Funeral etc."

It seems you have had pretty many tracks through the band's existence...how many exactly?

Holocausto: "It is difficult to say...I guess about 50 tracks, but not a single speed metal song, you can be sure of that."

I think so. But that many songs? It can't be very easy to pick the best

ones in your opinion, or can it?

Holocausto: "A few of them from oldest to the newest. For an example Acts of Ghoulism (our first song), Christ's Vomit, Inferno (fast and brutal), Ultimate War (the Brazilian touch!), all of the tracks on The Seventh Blasphemy, they have spirit ja total underground attempt, except the drums are shit. Grave Desecration, the new version is kind of touchy. Sodomatic Rites, Werewolf Semen And Blood... I like almost every BEHERIT-song, they aren't good, but they are brutal and they have always the certain atmosphere... listen to them at the time of the moon, blackness..... Nocturnal evil!"

WEREWOLF

Then it's time to go through your songwriting process. Are you very productive?

Holocausto: "The riffs come about one per week, and every two of them is usually dropped. A new track is complete in around 2 weeks if it has to...but usually the track is totally completed after 1-2 month after the first messy version. 95% of the whole BEHERIT material is written by me... the songwriting depends on the mental harmony and how the other things are at the time. Myself I'm quite productive at least in the light of the black candles and when the blood is dark and there's lot of it."

I think that's quite clear now, but what about the lyrics? Do write all of them, too? And please explain what is the idea behind the lyrics of Werewolf, Semen And Blood?

Holocausto: "Holocaust Vengeance is the master of the signs. Werewolf, Semen And Blood tells about how beautiful blood is, and

about the altar of darkness when the wolflord is the master of the rites. The first lines are actually completely straight from my confused mind and the darkness of my soul. It was November '90 and downstairs of our rehearsal room. I was working on the lyrics at a really dark hour and you can't get any idea of them unless you're 100% into it. The rest of the lyrics are written by Dorian Grey (Black Metal Heathens, USA). The track was finished at the end of '90 when I imagined that through blood one could get into the soul of the wolf and into that world of which only few know. Now bless thyself..."

That's interesting! But why haven't you released that track (I know it should have included to the ep, but...) and the track Paradise Of The Demonic Host? In my opinion these are two of the best tracks of BEHERIT...

Holocausto: "Werewolf, Semen And Blood is maybe going to be released in Turbo Music's Triumph Of Death compilation lp, and probably the song is going to be the cd-bonus track of the next album. Paradise (Of Thy Demonic Host) was only an idea to record something, we recorded it at the same time as the ep tracks, in September '90. Only a couple of our friends do have that track... why bother to release it, though it would have been one more tape to irritate people. It's cool you have the track, too. Yeps that's it, next question, please."

DARK EMOTIONS

I think usually you hadn't got the most clear sound on your recordings...do you have anything to comment?

Holocausto: "Money, money \$ and in the northern Finland we didn't find an

ideal studio, well... atmosphere is the most important thing. I hate trendy sounds! BATHORY sound is the number 1, Blood Fire Death -sound rules!"

Have you done many new tracks after the ep came out? What kind of things inspire you the most, when making a song?

Holocausto: "After the ep about 10 tracks. Nowadays it's difficult to make riffs 'cause that trend-shit is so irritating that I can't concentrate on anything sensible. Well, now I've learnt to recall the "old" times to my mind, I mean old times with BEHERIT, no trends, no commerciality, but real underground action... Now I've learnt also to feel and experience again certain parts of brutality. Blood Upon The Altar by BLASPHEMY and summer, SARCOFAGO's live Metal House, MAYHEM, VARATHRON, SAMAE!!! Trendy death metal will destroy you!!! So the ideas rise today from two years ago... I can get real dark feelings and emotions when I'm alone and it's over 12pm, the cemetery of darkness, a gloomy forest or you're looking up from a mountain down there. Loneliness creates emotion to darkness, I love it, I love it... I'm on the shore of an enormous ocean, I can feel that call again and again (Iä! Cthulhu fhtagn! -Niko)."

Does there exist any noticeable shade of some certain style, in which BEHERIT could concentrate more in the future?

Holocausto: "BEHERIT shall continue as a fast and wicked band, and an underground group. Back to the old material, back to the tunnel, darkness."

How frequently do you practise?

Holocausto: "Today two times a week but in the past we sometimes practised even 5 times a week."

DEMONOMANCERS

Mention a couple of your favourite bands. Are you able to name the worst black/death metal band in your opinion? Do you listen to anything else but metal?

Holocausto: "If I can mention only a couple of my faves, I name BATHORY, BLASPHEMY, ROTTING CHRIST, NECRO-SCHIZMA, RATOR. It's difficult to name the worst death metal band, because there are hundreds of really pathetic! MORBIDITY is really a fucking crappy band from Finland, DAMNATORY, ATROCITY, MORGOTH and the shit like that. Oh fuck there's so many shit bands around, you can get my list of them if you send me 5.50 stamp or \$2, hohoo. Of what I listen to, there's 80% black metal, 15% thrash (old KREATOR, SLAYER) and 5% normal death metal or something fuck blahblah... in other words only good music. My non-metal faves are COIL, GODFLESH, KIROUS, CROWLEY, LAVEY, BLACK MASSE + soundtracks like Omen."

So what is your opinion on Finnish underground (metal) scene, if compared to the foreign countries? How high would you grade BEHERIT in the Finnish underground scene (on the basis of how known/popular a band is)? And what about the underground of the whole world?

Holocausto: "Well, in my opinion the Finnish scene is really trendy, not as much as in Sweden but however. When considered in general I can see that our death metal scene is one of the best in the world. BEHERIT isn't trendy music, so it's clear that our music isn't popular here in Finland. Those XYSMA/CARCASS/OBITUARY/PARADISE LOST -bands get on better, but honestly I can say that I don't give a shit about that. I think it's nice when people love us, but also that people hate us... it's really important to me. Maybe we are well known but not very

At the Devil's churns -91
Holocausto (guitars, vocals)
Slaughter (ex-drums)



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popular here in Finland. Abroad we are a very wellknown black metal band, and some even claim to like our music, probably it's bullshit (No way! -Niko) ...We don't want to be any kind of rockstars like some bands for an example in Finland. We do music for right people, not for the whole scene."

I can see you're not completely satisfied with today's death metal scene. So there could be a lot of things that you'd like to change?

Holocausto: "Yes, there is. Those false death metal bands (former speed metal groups) should fuck off. Big record labels should stop this death metal activity, Metal Hammer, Rock Hard etc. shitmags should write only about things they know well, such as hard rock... And then for an example if some death metal band got a good review from a rock magazine, underground selling should be denied. Yeah, and in general those new fucking "death metal" bands get on my nerves. They're playing some ANTHRAX/MEGADETH-riffs with growling vocals and they think that's fucking fast and brutal death metal. I want back the old and real death metal scene."

So your opinion on these new death metal bands is that they are too trendy and ordinary...?

Holocausto: "Yes...at least 80% of today's bands are worth of nothing. I'm not able to even listen to new NAPALM DEATH, OBITUARY, DEATH kind of shit, and more and more bands try to play it. But it's their own problem, if that kind of commercialism is interesting to them, feel free to float in that trendshit...feel free to buy all death metal cd's. I don't give a penny to them. Trendy music to trendies and other kind of wimps, fell free to be so fucking death maniacs with your stupid discs and fair jeans. MORGOTH, mosh, mosh death metal godzzz n:o!? Well, we could get a lot of money with that trendy posing, but is it then true death metal underground music? Shit...the same kind of shit like speed metal, hard rock, disco etc.etc."

Let's still talk a while about this trend-thing. Many, many people praise the Swedish underground scene, but is it really worth it? I'm not quite sure of it...

Holocausto: "The scene of Sweden is fulfilled with ENTOMBED trend. 10 good bands and over 100 mega-crappy ones. My faves are for an example BATHORY, TIAMAT (TREBLINKA), AT THE GATES (GROTESQUE), CRYPT OF KERBEROS, ABRUPTUM, PAN THY MONIUM...but also AUTOPSY, TORMENT, OBSCENE etc. The

Swedish scene isn't really good...maybe almost as high as Poland scene, hohoh. For an example from Israel, Malaysia and Singapore there comes 100 times more interesting bands than from our neighbour."

What about underground zines then? What do you think are the best ones? How many interviews have you answered before this?

Holocausto: "The best zines abroad are something like Slayer, Necrotomy, Sadistic Noise (R.I.P.), Sonic Fallout etc. From Finland Fallen Pages, Rotten (R.I.P.), Biopsy and also Isten + Hammer Of Damnation (Do you really think so? I'm flattered... -Niko). This interview is absolutely the longest and quite interesting. Maybe around 150-200 interviews before this."

BREATHING FIRE

Does the band leave you any spare-time? If the answer is yes, how do you spend it?

Holocausto: "Before it didn't...but nowadays I even have a bit spare-time. With my Goatgoddess I listen to music, watch horror movies, cook some necro-food, breathe fire, move around, practise rituals, fuck and drink and that kind of stuff."

I guess it's partly because the Satanic Metal

Temple (BEHERIT contact address) doesn't exist anymore. But can you give any hint when we could get a new contact address?

Holocausto: "The red souls of malevolence, to the others only Turbo Music."

Do you have any idea of how long does BEHERIT still exist (hopefully a long, long time...)

Holocausto: "Until the eternal blackness descends on my body, and I can feel the cold existence."

Do you see any kind of connection between Lucifer and this cult of Cthulhu? Do you read H.P. Lovecraft nouvelles?

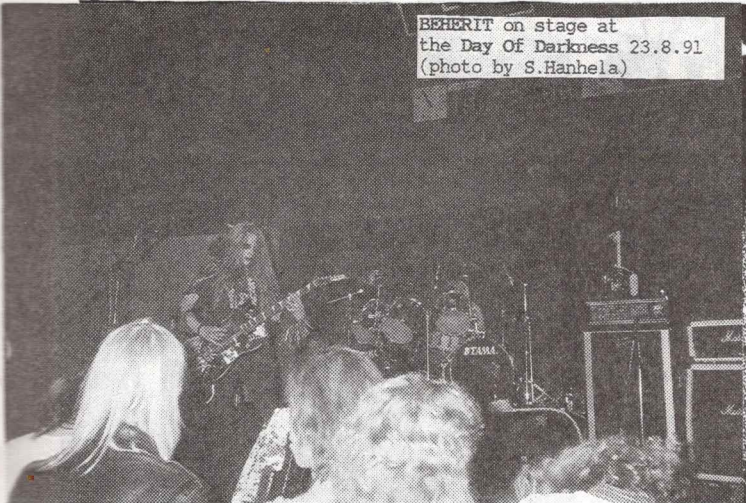
Holocausto: "Cthulhu cult by Lovecraft is half a product of imagination... and so is also the Necronomicon, but I can say that Necronomicon isn't totally of Lovecraft's imagination. There's magic...you can be

sure. Myself I can't say about the connection 'cause my examinations on the thing aren't finished yet. Occultism and horror literature, that's what it is, without any straight notes. I read also books by H.P. Lovecraft and I like them. It seems you read them, too?"

Yes, certainly, to me Lovecraft is almost a deity himself! But let's then talk a little about Satanism. As far as I know, these black metal Satanists worship Lucifer, the goatlord. But the main idea on Satanism is "do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the law", in other words Left Hand Path, isn't it? But how does it fit to satanism to bathe in blood, breathe fire, use masks and that kind of stuff that is quite usual amongst black metal bands?

Holocausto: "Good, really good question. Here we the "black metal Satanists" and "true Satanists" have a little war...maybe it has something to do with the war between Temple Of Set and Church Of Satan. Myself I think that these Temple Of Set people or at least the most of them are totally two-faced people. First they are on the side of Church Of Satan...a goat and a pentagram are then main signs, wickedness and Satanic rituals. Then one beautiful day all changes, Satan is not Satan anymore, Set-Hen instead. Set-Hen and Horus are the real masters. Satan worship, Satanism, death metal. How can some person say that "I'm a ture satanist, Satanism is it and Satanism is that...that what you're doing is wrong and childish." I admit that

BEHERIT on stage at
the Day Of Darkness 23.8.91
(photo by S.Hanhela)



there's sense in what Order Of The Left Hand Path and Temple Of Set preach...but they spoil everything with that bullshit about true Satanism. Myself I believe also in the power of Horus, but in my opinion I can be a Satanist without any two-faced organisation. When I'm weltering in blood and painting signs all over my body, I do it in the name of black metal, it's brutality, it's real black metal. The band isn't satanism to me... maybe devil worship instead. But when I practise Satanism and magic it isn't any inverted crosses, blasphemy or nothing like that. I know what I'm doing and I don't need to preach it, and write articles to zines about being "a true Satanist". "Satanic" death metal is those inverted crosses, signs of goats without any magical meaning. Many new bands tend to be Satanic and invert their crosses etc. Really they don't know anything about things, they try to be Left Hand Path-people, and really they know only the album of ENTOMBED. No one should ever judge everyone. To me black metal is blood and Satanic praise of evilness. Satanism is to me the serving and healing of my own soul, magic and connection to the spiritual world. To the end I say that I'm not the one who know that things are like I'm saying, so "Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the law."

PSUEDO CHRIST?

What would be your favorite way to die? I'm not sure if I can complete it, but someone might...

Holocausto: "I'd like to die together with my most important friends, and a higher power would come and take all of us to completely new world. I want to die when I have got my duty done and have no

plans for anything to do on the earth. I think the last night I was close to death, more close than ever... the emotion was fascinating and at the same time, frightening. Aaahhh!"

What do you think is the most stupid question you have ever been asked about?

Holocausto: "Have you demo Psuedo Christ got good response?????????" hoh hoh! Or maybe "Play you with satan?" etc."

What do you think about nazi-skinheads (I think black metal skins are okay, but...)?

Holocausto: "Myself I don't see it a good solution. But man has the right to kill or destroy also representative of other race, if it creates resentment. But I don't support nazism in general in any way."

Do you have something to say for the sake of Dead (R.I.P., ex-MAYHEM)?

Holocausto: "He did what he wanted, with due respect to Dead forever. Trends spoil everything. Original...black metal, death or the ancient god."

Okay, but why am I asking you everything? Would you perhaps like to ask me a question...?

Holocausto: "okay, a couple of questions: Why do you listen to death metal? (Actually I don't listen to ordinary death metal so much, the more I listen to black metal and doom metal. But when I'm listening to death metal, I guess I do it because of it's power and brutality. -Niko)"

Holocausto: "Do you think that death metal is meant to be delighted, funny and openable to everybody? (No, absolutely not! Death metal isn't true when it isn't underground, and before all it can't be delighting. Even the name "death metal" says it has to be brutal and cruel, but still it can be beautiful at the same time

(only true death metal!), for the people who can understand it. -Niko)"

Holocausto: "Everybody say that Satanic lyrics are a trend although most bands write those "save the world" & PARADISE LOST -lyrics. What do you think? (Satanic lyrics aren't a trend, they are so deep in the underground. But when people who know nothing about Satanism are starting to write Satanic lyrics, it can come a trend. But about the true ones, never! I'm not very delighted about these "save the world"-type lyrics, at least in no way does fit to death metal! But I find the lyrics of PARADISE LOST quite interesting. -Niko)"

Holocausto: "What should the true death metal lyrics be based upon? (As far as it's death metal it should have something to do with death. -Niko)"

Holocausto: "What are your fave bands from Finland? What do you think of these trend bands here? Name the worst ones. (My favorite Finnish metal bands are UNHOLY, DISGRACE, BEHERIT, XYSMA and IMPALED NAZARENE. I can't say in what order, they change every day. I think the newest Finnish bands aren't so interesting (there's exceptions!), they are mostly too ordinary. It's difficult to say what is the worst one, I guess someone has saved me from the very worst ones. I despise ex-speed metal bands who start to play death metal, they make it a trend! -Niko)"

Holocausto: "What realistic would you like to see happen the most? (What do you mean with "realistic"? Well, if it can be considered as realistic, I hope that I can soon finish the writing of this "brief" interview, this is the third evening I'm writing this! -Niko)"

Holocausto: "If Hammer Of Damnation magazine was a dinner course, what would it be? (Hey, this is MY question! Well, maybe an overgrilled sausage! It's blackened, and it might have been good. -Niko)"

Holocausto: "Do you think that somebody would have strength and nerves enough to read this far of this bullshit? (Well, I'm not very sure. Maybe somebody...hopefully! Hey, readers, is this boring!? I can hear no "Yes!" coming from any direction. maybe they have fallen asleep... -Niko)"

Holocausto: "Something to add, ho ho? (I don't think I'm willing to add anything, but why won't you ask one more question (joke, joke!!!) -Niko)"

Holocausto: "What do you think of..."

No, it was A JOKE! I think I still have a couple of questions to be answered. Why don't we here repeat the future plans of BEHERIT?

Holocausto: "repetition is nice, why won't we start again from the very beginning, hoh hoh? (Yeah, Why not? "Scouting about..." okay, okay, why don't you readers eat the tomatoes instead of throwing them at me? It was a joke! No sense of humour found... -Niko) The new tracks finished soon and minitour in Germany. Messe Des Morts."

If the music of BEHERIT was a dinner course, what would it be (maybe an overgrilled sausage...)?

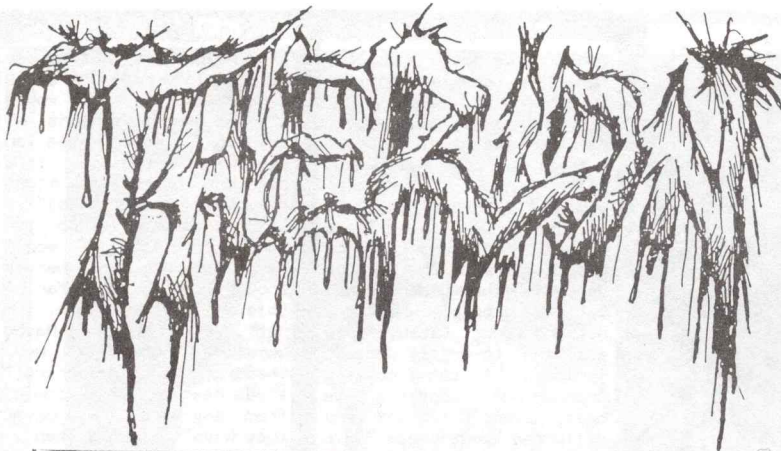
Holocausto: "Witch-burger + black milk, maybe! And thanks for this very good interview and hello to my pen friends!"

Turbo Music -BEHERIT-
Quellenweg. 37
7340 Geislingen
W.Germany

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.

old BEHERIT from left to right:
Slaughter (ex-drums)
Holocausto (guitars, vocals)





It is likely that every one into death metal has got the album *Of Darkness...* by the Swedish **THERION**. But what about the upcoming releases? Also the band's bass player has changed. Because of your curiosity it is necessary to open a little this curtain of ignorance...

So first of all, tell me what has happened to **THERION** since releasing your 1p *Of Darkness...*

Chris: "We have changed a member. Erik our previous bass player moved to USA along with his family, so we got a new guy called Kristian, who earlier played guitar in the band **GROTESQUE**."

So the current line-up is Christofer (vocals / guitar), Peter (guitar), Oskar (drums) and this new guy Kristian (bass).

You made your first 1p to Deaf Records, but obviously you are not satisfied with 'em. Is your next 1p coming out for some other label, maybe Active Records?? How the deal is different from the deal with Deaf? Anyway I suppose that Deaf Records had quite a good distribution since your records are for sale in quite commercial shops, at least here in Finland (Yes, it seems. But is it then really an underground thing? -Niko).

Chris: "Deaf Records was ok, but the circumstances made things totally shit. It was mostly not their fault. We only signed for one 1p, so they didn't have any reasons to put too much money in promotion for us. That's right, now we're signed to Active Records and this time we signed for 3 1p's."

Are you satisfied with *Of Darkness...*? What kind of response have you got? Has it been different from underground people compared to other ones?

Chris: "We're quite satisfied with *Of Darkness...*, the songs are ok, and the production is acceptable. The only thing

who we wished we had done better is the arrangements."

Tell us something about your forthcoming records, will it be somehow different apart *Of Darkness...*? Is there some radical changes or something like that?

Chris: "It will be called *Beyond The Realms Of Death* and will be released in January. After the release we'll do a european tour probably with **ATHEIST**. The new songs are more creative and original than the old ones. More complicated too. It's the same style, but we're progressed a lot."

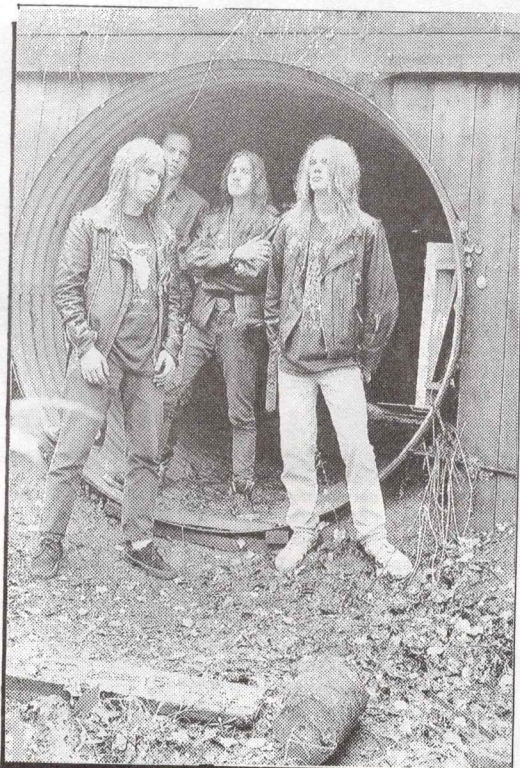
SYMPHONIES OF THE DEAD

What then does your lyrics deal about, and why?

Chris: "The lyrics to *Of Darkness...* is available on the record, so people can read them by themselves."

What about new lyrics, then?

Chris: "Enter The Depths Of Eternal Darkness: the most brutal song I've ever done. Heavy as hell! The lyrics is occult philosophy. Future Consciousness: A very variated and complicated song. It starts hysteric and fast, but ends up slow, heavy and symphonic. The lyrics is about the change of your consciousness when your body dies. Cthulhu: a brutal and psychedelic song which is very creative. The lyrics is based on H.P. Lovecraft's book. *Symphony Of The Dead* is a death metal symphony and is mostly instrumental. The lyrics is about death. *Dark Sanctiorium (Symphony O.T.D. part 2)*: This is a sort of a second part to the last song. The lyrics is about my eternal search... *Pandemonic Circle* is a very chaotic song with hysterical vocals. The lyrics is about the "circle of god" and the "break-out" from it. *Tyrants Of The Damned*: This is a song



in the vein of the *Of Darkness...* 1p. A lot of the riffs is old ones which I haven't put together in a song until now. The lyrics is about nazis, I really hate nazis! *Pretending To Live*: A kind of rock'n'roll-death metal song with extremely brutal vocals. This song is not so serious, it's more like an experiment. It's a death metal song, but with the typical tones that a rock band would use (well not all of the riffs, some riffs is normal brutal death metal). The lyrics is occult philosophy. *Beyond The Realms Of Death*: This one is also instrumental and a death metal symphony. The lyrics is occult philosophy. *Where The Paths Do A Part*: This is instrumental and is a very short song, you could call it an outro I guess."

You played second time here in Finland a few months ago. I think it was pretty fast thing for you after **ENTOMBED** canceled their gig. But I suppose everything went pretty well, or what do you think about the gig, the audience, all the arrangements, and what do you think about Spinefarm?

Chris: "Personally I think the audience was excellent, but as a band we weren't good enough, because our drummer drank too much beer before the gig and played like shit. Otherwise we were quite ok. The sound was very good. The road-guys was very good, one of the best so

far, they really helped us a lot. Spinefarm? You mean Lepakko? (He meant that small record shop/label of which I suppose was arranging that gig... -Niko) It's a very good place to play on, I really hope we'll get the change to play there again!"

Do you manage your gigs and all the arrangement by yourself or does your record company all that stuff? Are you an expensive band to get for the gig?...Do you in any circumstances go only by travelling money?

Chris: "So far we've managed all gigs by our selves. But when the tour comes, we can of course not do that. I would say we're rather cheap to get to a gig. When we're only doing one gig we only require money to pay the travelling costs, the food-money and money for hotel (or if the arranging guys is getting us somewhere to sleep is ok, too). But when there's a big tour with about 30 gigs in different countries you must take a bit more, otherwise you would loose a lot of money. When you do a tour you must take off almost 2 months from the job and by that you loose a hell of a lot of money."

What do you think of following bands; **XYSM**, **HANOI ROCKS**, **DISGRACE**, **A-HA**, **SENTENCED**?

Chris: "XYSM is one hell of a great band live, but on vinyl they are only quite good. I think it's the production who's destroying the songs on the

lp. They were godly when we played with them. I like one lp with HANOI ROCKS and that's Two Steps From The More. A-HA is the worst crap I've ever heard! I've heard DISGRACE and SENTENCED, but unfortunately I can't remember what I thought about them."

Do you read any books, if so what kind of? And who are your favourite writers?

Chris: "I read a few occult books. Carlos Castaneda is my fave writer. H.P. Lovecraft is more a fantasy writer (at least called himself that) and I enjoy him alot too."

I suppose you are going to also an ep? Is it going to be released an Active records, and will it contain that great Bells Of Doom from your first demo?

Chris: "It will be a maxi with 4 songs (if we do release it) and it will include 3 old demosongs in new versions and one new song which will be on the 3:rd lp. As extrasongs on the maxi-cd we might release two old songs which have never recorded or performed. Yes, Bells Of Doom will be on it in an extra slow heavy powerful and doomy version."

PRETENDING TO LIVE?

You also play in CARBONIZED. Does that effect in any way to THERION? How seriously do you take that band, especially now when CARBONIZED has released their debut lp? Be the way I read from Putrefaction zine that CARBONIZED interview. What did you think about things they said about you (drinking and so on...)?

Chris: "CARBONIZED does not effect THERION in any way, because THERION will always be my true band. I take CARBONIZED serious, but I will only continue with the band as long as it's not in the way of THERION. Ha, ha! Lars of CARBONIZED is always



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joking in the interviews that I should be drunk in the rehearsal place and like that! Everybody in Sweden knows that it isn't true. Speaking about Lars, did you know that he is a complete pervert and is always fucking his girlfriend in the asshole instead of fuck her in the cunt!"

By the way what is your opinion about that CARBONIZED lp? Tell us also some important or funny things about that band.

Chris: "The old guitarist was kicked out from CARBONIZED and the band were soon going to record the lp, so Lars called me and asked if I wanted to play on the lp as a stand-in guitarist. I accepted that. But then the singer fucked-up, so me and Lars took over the vocals. Then I also wrote some lyrics and riffs to the band and started to fit really great in the band, so I was asked to join as a real member. Well, all this happened in a very short time, so I had to learn 10 songs in 12 rehearsings which wasn't so good, because then I didn't play the songs as good on the lp as I would have done it if I had got a bit more time to rehearse the songs. So my opinions about the lp is that it's not tight enough and I also think the sound could have had a bit more treble."

CONSCIOUSNESS

Are you aiming to live your life with the money that THERION brings to you, and do you think that by playing death metal you can get rich?

Chris: "Ha, ha! No, no one can get rich by playing death or thrash metal. Well my aim is to be able to live on the money I get, but I must say that if I work full-time on a normally-paid job, I can earn much more money than I ever can get from the band. So if I'm gonna live on the band I'll be a really poor fellow. As it is right now, I work half-time, but the job is well-paid, so I can manage with this."

What do you think about this growing commercialism of death metal? And do you feel that this underground has lost some of it's meaning for THERION after you had got a good deal?

Chris: "It depends on what you mean. Of Course you want as good deal as possible. Yes, it is commercial to release records on bigger labels with good looking covers, but since the goal many bands have is

to spread the music, is this the best way. The bigger label you got, the better distribution you get. And the better distribution (and promotion) you get, the more records you sell, and the more records you sell, the more you spread your music... The underground with it's fanzines, compilation tapes etc. has of course the biggest meaning to new bands with demos or released on extremely small labels, but as a death metal band, you can never get too big for the underground scene. What I'm trying to say about THERION is that of course we're alot involved in the underground. 75% of all death metal fans are more or less involved with the underground (and the rest is crap that follows the "true" ones! -Niko), so no band could ever manage without it."

Do you feel bored (sometimes) answering all these interviews and all kinds of letters?

Chris: "Well a lot of zines have the same questions, so sometimes it can be very boring to answer the same question a million times. But otherwise I like answering letters. It's just that I get so extremely much letters, so it causes delays on my answers. At this moment, I'm the only one who writes THERION letters."

Do you sell any sell any stuff by mail, for example t-shirts or something? This was all, if I forgot something, please light us.

Chris: "Yes, we have 2-sided t-shirts, professionally printed, for \$12. Thanx for the interview."

Thanks to you too! By the way, readers should notice that the address on the lp is NOT used anymore. All mail should be sent to the following address:

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DIABOLUS 66

Down There... is the title of this demo '91, by the lord DIABOLUS. There's 3 tracks of pure occult malevolence and a spoken intro, and the listener must be noticed by the discharge of evilness which blows out of your loudspeakers...

The second track Nocturnal Evil seems to be my favourite, there's included a couple of slow, heavy parts in the middle of this SARCOFAGO, BLASPHEMY-influenced black metal chaotic blur.

The sound is excellent but still brutal. Those BEHERIT stylish vocals are here and there mixed deeper and even higher, and together with some occult synthesizer intros / outros great a massive atmosphere of something really dark and evil!

As you should have understood when reading this, DIABOLUS must be recommended to all malevolent beings into black metal... but there's an enormous BUT: The band doesn't have any contact address!

The lord DIABOLUS however seems to be a Finnish group...this is recorded in a Finnish studio. But this should get spread around the world through tape-traders, so examine the demo lists of your penpals, and you might get this...at least you SHOULD get this!

by NIKO SIRKIA

I must admit I'm not very familiar with the underground scene of Singapore, but here's **BEHEADED** to largen my and others knowledge. **BEHEADED** began to grow in the late of 1990. After some problems the line-up formed to contain Azman - vocals, Sham - bass, Bob - guitar / backing vocals, Azni - drums. They have released a promo demo entitled **Nasrani** (Hey, don't ask ME what it means!), which was recorded in late August '91. There's 3 doomy and heavy tracks (+ an intro) of death/black metal, which in their all simplicity are good... at least not any techno crap at all, phew! The sound isn't really the best-of'em-all, but it won't mean that the sounds were bad! It sure comes with the necessary cover, lyrics, bio and the stuff.

I suppose you won't get your wallet totally empty if you send \$4 to get this demo, it's quite cheap in my opinion.

The bassist Sham himself has his opinion about the demo...

Sham: "For me I'm not so satisfied with the demo cause I'm not that ready but Azman insisted to do it anyway. The demo recording + mixing lasted for about 10 hours in 2 fucking boring days. Right now, we are just releasing the demos to zines, radio-stations + compilation tapes, labels to spread our name around."

I gave some light upon the band's history somewhere above there, but what about today? What's happening with the band by now?

Sham: "Right now, we are having problems with the drummer + guitarist (Bob) cause he's Malaysian and could not stay in Singapore for long. But we have a standby guitarist if any problems occur. Anyway, we are still rehearsing and we have new songs for our second demo hopefully."

Well then...who makes your lyrics? What are the lyrics about, track by track, please...?

Sham: "The 3 demo tracks come from Bob's rotting brain but me and



Azman have some changes and improvise here and there. Lyrics come mainly from Bob and Adam (global chaos). If you insist on asking me about the lyrics, I think I would have a hard time with the dictionary. But I'll just summarise all in one. Our tracks are all mainly against the fucking feeble christians!! They are not supposed to exist anyway, with them forcing other to be in their fucking unholy path full os shits!! For me Jesus is a mere fucking gigolo and the nuns are all their sex slaves, and his followers are a bunch of headless goats with chains tied to one another."

Holy cow! But are there any song apart from the demo tracks? If the answer is yes, please tell something about them too.

Sham: "We are now rehearsing on some new tracks for the second demo."

DARK, DOOM, EVIL!

What do your favourite bands look like? Do you listen to anything apart from the metal stuff?

Sham: "My fave bands: **BOLT THROWER**, **DERKETA**, **ABHORRENCE**, **CARCASS**, **TERRORIZER** + old godz **SODOM**, **BATHORY**, **DEATH** and **VENOM**. Also blacks such as **MAYHEM** (true), **BLASPHEMY**, **TIAMAT**, **GOATLORD** + old **SARCOFAGO**. For me, I've only known the underground for only 2 years and have not been exposed too much but I listen to all songs that can have me headbanged all the way."

Describe your style with three words!

Sham: "In the style of myself: Sex, music, non-conform. In the style of **BEHEADED**: Dark, doom,

evil!!!"

Well, as most of death /black metal bands today, dark, doom and evil is the style of **BEHEADED** too. But do you, Sham find any clearly visible difference between **BEHEADED** and other bands like that?

Sham: "For me, I don't see any difference between **BEHEADED** and other deathbangers cause it all sound the same unless if you play black, doomy metal. That's what I'm going to do for my second demo (total doom!)."

Then what are your aims as a band?

Sham: "Our aims are to make Singapore a black/death metal scene and when you go to a gig here, make sure that black metal rules and not some skinhead fuckers holding skateboards and wearing **MAYHEM** t-shirt slam-danced all the way. They are supposed to be in school!!!"

You made even more interested on the Singapore underground scene...please tell more about it!

Sham: "For me, the word Singapore already made me sick. There are so many fuckin things that you have to do and cannot do here! For example guys have to serve the fuckin army (it's the same in Finland, and it kinda sucks! -Niko) within a time limit. Also the people here only accept commercialized works; and those with long hair. They despise us with long hair. Although some clubs let those speed music on, unless the gig is cancelled or stop halfway. This is very humiliating and degrading. After all, you don't have to worship Satan if you want to listen to **BLASPHEMY**. We have not play a single gig here cause most of them prefer hardcore; even the fuckin chicks. For them death is ugly!!!"

OPENMINDED & DIFFERENT?

Have there been any recording labels interested in signing **BEHEADED**?

Sham: "We haven't received any offers from

anybody yet, ok?"

Okay, okay. But what about the other so-called corner stones of the underground, the fanzines? What's your opinion on them generally? And mention the best underground mags in your opinion.

Sham: "I've only read The Satanic Death, Slayer, Morbid and Death Vomit zine. For me zines are a great way for those who want to know what's happening in the underground scene. But sometimes they gave backdated issues. I despise those who want to be openminded and different. They are killing the underground scene. Slayer mag's the best!!!"

Hmm...I definitely don't agree with that being openminded and different kills the underground scene. I think if everybody does the same there is no reason to get familiar into just one band or zine or whatever. If all is just the same... fuck no! But I see it happening today in the death metal scene; most of the bands are just copying each other, no originality at all. I know people that used to be deathbangers, but have now fed up with it just because everybody does the same things the other ones have done before!!!!

Oh, my blood pressure! Let's talk about something else now, okay? For an example, tell me something about each member of **BEHEADED**...

Sham: "Okay. Azman was an ex-vocalist for **PROFANCER** and he was a very capable of forming a band. He was once a cop serving in the army (surprise)! Also he was a true black/death metal breed. Among all the member, I'm the one closest to him. His voice rules!! Azizi (Bob) is a Malaysian. But he once played with **DEMISOR**. He played guitar quite well and got many ideas to a song. He also wrote the lyrics which sometimes I could not understand. I'm not so close but sometimes we met during weekends. He's also a true breed. Azni is a very good drummer and he got many styles during reh. He's now serving in the police force for 2 years! For me, he haven't got the fell for underground, but anyway we will be finding for a true drummer soon. As for me, I'm just a simple bassist who liked to headbang every song. Actually I can also play the guitar cause I've learnt classical during the past. But I find that it's easier to headbang when you

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play bass than guitar. Maybe I dare say that me and Azman are the current line-ups for BEHEADED."

REALM OF ICE

Of course I had to ask Sham about his opinion on Finnish bands...

Sham: "I prefer THERGOTHON (Great! Someone even likes it! -Niko), DIABOLUS and IMPALED NAZARENE. I've also heard ABHORRENCE. They rule."

Well, ABHORRENCE has been dead and buried for quite a long time now. Now there's AMORPHIS, there's playing some ex-ABHORRENCE members. But about BEHEADED, what are your plans for the future?

Sham: "Plans to make Singapore as true as Sweden (Despite the enormous number of bands there, I don't find it as true as it could be... -Niko) and to receive any labels interested in BEHEADED. In Singapore you don't have to dream at all. It's impossible. We're relying on overseas offers."

If the music of BEHEADED was a dinner course, what would it be?

Sham: "It's impossible for them (money-minded idiots) to have us play for a dinner course. It would mean trouble and we'll end up in the joint."

Hey, you quite misunderstood. I meant if your music was some kind of food, what could it be. But let's forget it, it anyway seems to be the real cliché-question in this rag. And as far as the clichés are concerned, it's now time for you to add something if you like...

Sham: "To all who believe in us, thanks. You've made all this possible for us. And for those fucking bastards, don't ever dream of us following your ways cause things we believe, we will

never betray. Also all those shit advice are from money hungry brains and not from your heart. Lastly, for those fuckin christians, you are just a bunch of licking dogs in the streets. Fuck Jesus, fuck all!! Anyway, I would like to thank Niko (HOD) for this interview!!! God zine!! Don't let others rule your mind!!"

You're welcome, thanks to you for answering. And I do what I want, and I don't let others rule my mind, yeah. But you, the readers, all you still need, all you still crawl for in the mud, is the contact address, which is coming...soon...just right now!!! Boom!!!!!!

BEHEADED / Sham
Blk 522, #02-15
Hougang Ave 6,
Singapore (1953)

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.

The following text is written by one of my pen friends, it considers real Satanism and gives you some basic facts about it. Hey! I'm not here to judge anybody; as far as I'm concerned you can think and believe in whatever you want. But if you're interested in Satanism, read the following text and think about it.

SATANISM, DEVIL WORSHIP AND DEATH METAL

The following article is dedicated to all those "brutal death metal" bands, whose image includes goathead, inverse pentagram and a cross hanging upside down.

It strikes me odd, that almost every new death metal band is using pentagrams in their logos and "satanic" (or so they think!) elements in their lyrics and names. Don't

get me wrong, I am not a christian fundamentalist, who's afraid of the Powers of Darkness, oh no. I am a Satanist, who's grown very very tired to all those children, who are trying to be so "evil" and "satanic", but in fact don't know nothing about the real Satanism. Their ideas about it are the horned demons torturing souls in the fires of Hell and witches doing sacrifices and drinking blood at the full moon gatherings. Those "goat-worshippers" with their faces covered in pig's blood are so far away from the reality that it makes me feel sick! It's no wonder that people look at me like I was crazy when I tell them I am a

Satanist. Because of those bands people think that Satanism, devil worship and death metal are all the same! Those bands singing about the Devil and virgins blood are made up by poor adolescents and neurotics, who are trying to shock people or escape from the cruel world into the fantasy. They may be an anti-christian, but they're still very far from the real Satanism and its philosophy.

The main idea behind the Satanism is to free the individual from the godly tyranny. One must strive towards the personal godhood and leave behind every kind of worship, including Nazarene scum and devil worship. Satanist recognizes the real "god" within and works to actualize it. He does not weakly and humbly "pray", nor bend on his kness before the images. And contrary to the media propaganda, a Satanist would NEVER kill an animal or human being as a ritual sacrifice (I just have to ask is there anybody reading bunch of paper who has killed any animals (or human beings?) as a sacrifice? -Niko). His rituals and ceremonies are satanic affirmations to evoke the powers of his own being. They're not made to please the "demons" to gain riches and success, so forget all the "pacts in blood" tales.

Who or what then is this "Satan"? The description of "the Devil" by Paul Carus states well the nature of Satan; "The Devil is the real rebel of the Cosmos, the independent in the empire of a tyrant, the opposition to uniformity, the dissonance in universal harmony, the exception to the rule, the particular in the universal, the unforeseen chance that breaks the

law; he is the individualizing tendency, the craving for originality, which bodily upsets the ordinances of God that enforce a definite kind of conduct; he overturns the monotony that would permeate the cosmic spheres if every atom in unconscious righteousness and with pious obedience slavishly followed a prescribed course."

It seems to me that to the most of the death metallers, who claim themselves to be Satanists, Satan is just the stereotyped demon, with horns, tail and pitchfork, stealing souls to be burned in Hell. Satan, to the real Satanist, is an ideal of strenght and freedom. Satanist does not believe in "Devils" or "Hell". And the concept of Satan doesn't come from the christian bible either. It has many pre-christian pagan roots and in one of them it means "adversary". Not only the adversary of christianity, but of all levelling creed which stifle human biological and cultural ascent, be they religious, moral, political or philosophical.

So now comes the final question: are YOU interested to know what the Satanism really stands for, or do you just wanna use it as a "dark and mysterious" image for your band? Do you really like to bathe in blood on the stage and yell "evil" and "Hail Satan" without the deeper knowledge? Well of course Satanism doesn't fit for all the people. It is an elitistic movement for the individuals NOT for the masses. And it's not easy to learn - so most of you - go and paint another childish mask on your face, Satanism demands STUDY, not worship!

by MIRABILIS ADVERSARIUS

Okay? I think I do understand the atheistic idealism of Satanism, but in a way I also feel a kind of understanding to those "devil worshippers" or whatever; I suppose it's because all kind of dark and strange things interest me. But I see no sense to fight about who is a "true Satanist", and mock other people for what they're doing; I think everybody has the right to do anything he / she wants unless it makes some kind of harm on me. As said Aleister Crowley: "Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the law."

N.S.

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BLASPHEMY

Gods Of War - The Satanic Skinheads



BLASPHEMY sure are one of the major black metal bands of today. Everybody familiar with death/black metal should know their already legendaric recordings, the demo entitled *Blood Upon The Altar* and their debut *lo Fallen Angel Of Doom...*

By now they are about to record their second album, which will probably be entitled *Gods Of War*. What else is there to say? Nothing more but: *Hammer Of Damnation* magazine proudly presents: BLASPHEMY, the Canadian sleezecore Satanic skinheads!!!

Awright, let's get started, finally. What's going on in the BLASPHEMY camp by now?

Black Winds: "Just getting ready to record *Gods Of War*. And we cheered out a PROCREATION gig last night."

Are you satisfied with your debut album? Why didn't you include *Nocturnal Slayer* on the album? That one was my fave along with *Weltering In Blood* on your demo...

Black Winds: "Yeah, it's a killer, but would have needed a better recording. *Nocturnal Slayer* should be on the new lp."

Is there going to be any other tracks from your *Blood Upon The Altar* demo which weren't on your debut lp?

Black Winds: "Yeah, *War Command* and *Blasphemy*, maybe also *Blasphemous Attack!*"

WELTERING IN BLOOD

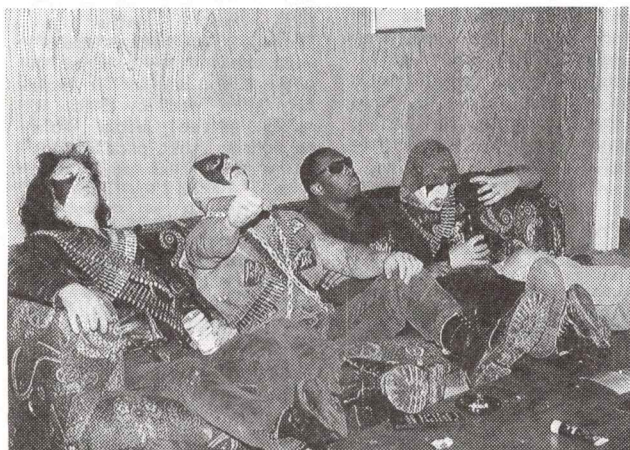
Why the Hell (damn right!) wasn't there the lyrics for all of those tracks on the album? It would have been interesting to read them.

Black Winds: "Cause they are to incriminating!"

Tell us something about the deal with Wild Rags.

Black Winds: "We get \$1 US a copy and it has sold about 40000 copies."

Have you done any new tracks apart from your demo and lp? If you have, please tell something about them! Is there any noticeable direction you've progressed



your music?

Black Winds: "Only black metal and that's what it will always be! Our new tracks: *Gods Of War*, *Nuclear Desolation*, *Emperor Of The Black Abyss* and *Necrosadist*."

Hey, I remember I've read from somewhere (meaning *Peardrop 1*, I guess...) that *Necrosadist* is an old song!

Black Winds: "Yeah, but it still rips!"

Describe your songwriting process. Do you perhaps have to sacrifice to Lucifer to get that unbelievable power into your songs?

Black Winds: "Yes, of course!"

But where's that description? Okay, let's forget it, but how would you describe your music?

Black Winds: "Nuclear, anabolic, black metal sleezecore!"

Ah no, I'm not going to ask your influences this time (the most usual one I think), but what are your favourite bands?

Black Winds: "Our fave bands are BEHERIT, DERKETA, MYSTIC, MYSTIFYER, SARCOFAGO, SAMAEAL, BLOOD, DOOM, DISCHARGE, SODOM, POSSESSED, HELLHAMMER, MORTUARY DRAPE, ROTTING CHRIST and much more..."

What is your gig situation like? What tracks do you play on stage? And describe your live show.

Black Winds: "Not the greatest, cause BLASPHEMY gigs are almost prohibited

in this city. We have tombstones on stage etc..."

DESECRATIONS

What is the death metal scene like there in Canada? Are you the only Satanic death metal band in Vancouver/Canada? Mention the best bands in your opinion.

Black Winds: "There's only PROCREATION and then just speed metal."

Hmm...I would say you have a large death metal scene in Canada. But is there a real movement of the Satanic skinheads? And what do you thing of nazi skinheads?

Black Winds: "Not a huge one, I don't think. Nazi skinheads usually live to boring of a lifestyle."

How long do you think BLASPHEMY will exist? Do you think you could keep playing such deathly stuff when you're over 30 of age?

Black Winds: "I hope BLASPHEMY will exist for many years!"

What do you think of the ones who mock a band just because they don't like the band's (Satanic) lyrics? Do you take lyrics more important than music or vice versa?

Black Winds: "I hate mockers! I usually like both the music and the lyrics."

Do you follow the world situation nowadays?

Black Winds: "No."

What's your opinion on underground zines?

Black Winds: "Very deathly!"

What do women mean to you?

Black Winds: "Vaginal desecration!"

THE DARKNESS PREVAILS

What on earth is the connection between you and XYSMA (you both thank each other on your thankslists)? Have you heard a new XYSMA album *Yeah* yet?

Black Winds: "XYSMA have the killer *Swarming Of The Maggots* demo but I have not heard their lp."

Probably you wouldn't recognize them as a same band if you compared their demo to the lp... but what about other Finnish bands? Have you heard any Finnish (Satanic?) death metal bands? What's your opinion on them?

Black Winds: "BEHERIT is one of our faves..."

When asking Black Winds if he has read H.P. Lovecraft's nouvelles, does like them and does he see there any connection between these deities (such as Cthulhu) and Lucifer he squares them just, saying simply: "No."

Let's then talk about *The Black Priest Of 7 Satanic Blood Rituals*; has he formed a new band yet? What were the reasons that he's not in BLASPHEMY anymore?

Black Winds: "He has rejoined for the new lp. *Traditional Sodmizer Of The Goddess Of Perversity* bailed for the time being."

If I didn't misunderstand, *The Black Priest* was in jail... I wonder what were the reasons for it? Nah, now we are slipping off from the band....Okay. What are your aims as a band?



Black Winds: "To desecrate every desent country like U.S.A, Canada, Brazil, Australia and the countries in Europe."

I recommend to commit a European tour soon, and at least a gig in Finland (with BEHERIT would be nice!!)

Well, this doesn't by any means mean that I'd like you more dead than alive, but what would be your favourite way to die?

Black Winds: "Overdose on heroin! The best way to go!"

If BLASPHEMY's music was a dinner course, what would it be?

Black Winds: "Goat hearts!"

Okay, that was it, I guess. So, I won't take your time anymore, but if you have anything to add, feel free to say it!

Black Winds: "Overdose!!!"



This concluding speech is just in it's right place to drop us into the abysmal darkness of confusion... BLASPHEMY t-shirts are for sale at wild rags, they cost \$15. And if willing to write to the band, I'm going to give you the contact address, but remember to send IRC's if you want a sure reply!

THE DESECRATERS
c/o Black Winds
1031 E. 59th Avenue
Vancouver, B.C. V5X 1Y8
Canada

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.

**BLACK
METAL**

HIDDEN

This one of the big surprises that knocked me in the early autumn. Deliverance demo '91 by Finnish HIDDEN delivers some really intelligent and interesting stuff done in the whole year in Finland. Their music is a bit hard to pigeon-hole, some death metal elements, some like from thrash metal, and the rest is something I'm not able to describe. Let's say this is Metal, but with a personal touch that isn't very predominant in the underground these days.

These guys, in other words Kalle:guitars&vocals, Ronnie:guitars, Frank:bass and Tepi:drums, seem to be

quite productive, too; HIDDEN was formed in December '90. It wasn't until January '91 when they started to work on their own songs, and went to studio in Ap-



From left: Frank, Tepi, Ronnie & Kalle.

ril. Five excellent & technical tracks in four months! I wonder if they can keep up this rate of songs-making without losing high productional level and their almost touchable personality.

I don't know if I can think of my favourite one of these five tracks, but I must mention Pain Under Purity for it's raging potential, and also Hidden To Be Found and Deliverance just for their great song structure...Two remaining great songs are by the way titled In All It's Brutality and Threat. As for their lyrics, they are quite complicated and I have not got a clear idea of what are they about. Draw your own conclusions!

A thing I should also mention is Kalle's voice, mainly he's snarling with pretty original (but not so brutal) and enjoyable voice, and in some parts he's really singing with a clear voice...great!

People should call you a fool if you don't now order this demo, it sales for 20Fmk/\$5 everywhere, and it

contains printed covers, lyric sheet and a bio, not forgetting the quality tape with these five long (the length of the tape is almost 30 minutes!), technical and original songs! Write to Kalle Terasto, Teekkarinkatu 13 D 64, 33720 Tampere, Finland or Ronnie Santamo, Paavo Kolin katu 9 A 26, 33720 Tampere, Finland. "Drown in fear while the shreads of life disappear - Take a look around - You're six feet deep in sower ground - Blind eyes, deaf ears - Voices so far away, so near...so near....."

by NIKO SIRKIÄ

BELIAL

BELIAL is the lord of the North. But now BELIAL is also a Finnish death metal band (the lord of the North?), containing Jarno (Anttila)-guitar, Reimaguitar, Jarno (Koskinen)-vocals, Jani-bass and Jukka-guitar. Quite a new is their debut demo entitled Gods Of The Pit.

I push the "play" button. The Invocation bursts out of the loudspeakers with a kind of power I haven't felt for some time. Their combination of riffing, vocals and the double bass drumming call my mind the names BOLT THROWER and DARK THRONE. But where this band loses a bit of originality, it is replaced with incredible power and heaviness! This band really shreds through these four tracks on the demo. The titles are, by the way, in addition to The Invocation, Voices Beyond, Dead Zone and For The Beasts. I don't know about their lyrics for sure.



The tape is recorded in Tico Tico studio, and it should tell the reader that the sounds are excellent. As far as I know, many bands have recorded their demos there, such as IMPALED NAZARENE, SENTENCED, DIABOLUS, ANTHONY (R.I.P.) and so on.

Is it about to become Finland's Morrisound or Sunlight? No, because I think the sounds differ enough in each of the demos...

If you like so-called brutal death metal, order the demo, because this is really brutal, instead of some ultratrendy shitbags that pretend to be brutal. The price is \$ 20Fim in Scandinavia and \$5US overseas. Write to BELIAL c/o Jarno Koskinen, Salotie 3, 90630 Oulu, Finland.

by NIKO SIRKIÄ



TORMENTOR

This time it's the one from The Netherlands, **TORMENTOR**. Despite their unoriginal name, their music is pretty well thrashing death metal to which you should dig into immediately!

The band was formed in April '87. There were a couple of line-up changes before the debut demo **Coming Out Of The Ice** was recorded in March '89. But it wasn't until their second demo, **The Iron Gibbet** in February '90, that they started to get into people's knowledge all over the world. The **Iron Gibbet** sold over 300 copies.

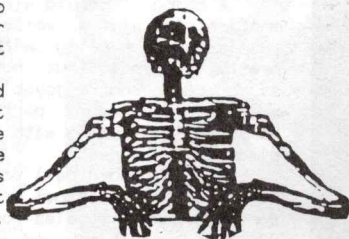
Between that second demo and **TORMENTOR**'s next release, a rehearsal tape **Thrash-passers Will Be Prosecuted!** the band's sound was changing a bit faster and more aggressive.

Their latest release, **Rise In Arms** demo (Nov. '90) is quite a must for ones who are into fast and brutal death/thrash...

They are also featured in **Weird Tales Of Madness** compilation CD by Black Death Records (3 tracks, released in March '91) among **FUNEBSRE**, **DESOLATION**, **PHLEGETHON** and many others. You can try to get it from

Black Death Records, Dresdenerstr. 30, 5400 Koblenz, Germany. I don't know the price, and it's limited in 666 copies, so I'm not sure if it's available anymore, but...

But back to the band. There were again some line-up changes just a while ago. The present line-up is now being: Danny (drums), Arjan (guitar), Michel (guitar), Pino (vocals) and Patrick (bass, also in **PHLEBOTOMIZED**).



As was written above, their latest demo **Rise In Arms** is very recommendable, and you can get it for US\$ 6 / DM 10 / Fl 10 / Bfr 200 / £ 4 from **TORMENTOR**, Postbus 1019, 3160 AE Ahoon (Z-H), The Netherlands.

by NIKO SIRKIX.



Threnody. **THRENODY?** What the heck does that name mean? Anyway, the band **THRENODY** is rising from The Netherlands, among **SINISTER**, **GOREFEST**, **ASPHYX** and zillions of others... the local scene in there looks quite large!

To cut the crap, **THRENODY** was formed at the end of 1988 by three guys who wanted to play some kind of speed metal. Along with some pretty complicated line-up changes (I'm quite confused with all that stuff!) their musical style had approached death/doom metal. It was November 1990 when the band visited a local studio and recorded five good songs that were decided to release as a demo, entitled **Ode To The Lamented**. This demo is available NOW...And

as far as I'm concerned, I like the demo quite a much, and I can't but recommend you too to order this, it sales for \$6 / F10 / 10DM, and I think it's worth it, it comes with a great cover and a booklet with bio, lyrics etc.

So you can send the money to Erik van de Belt, Lindendreef 117, 3137 CL Vlaardingen, The Netherlands. He won't rip you off!

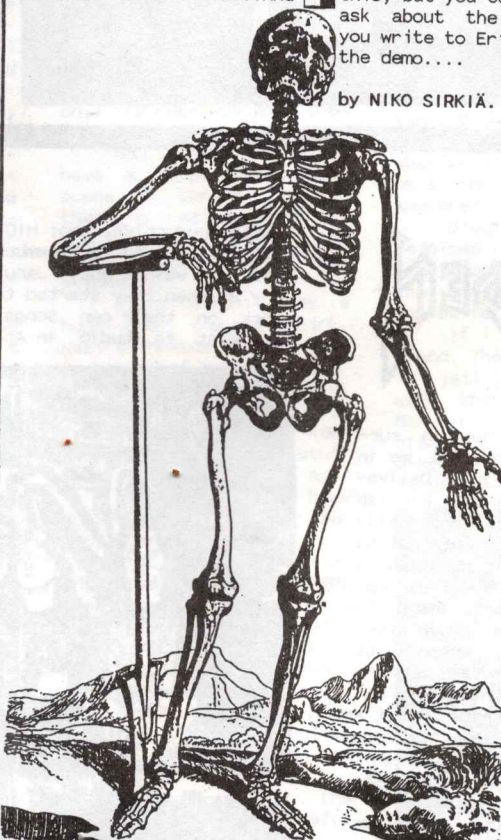
But no, no way, this story isn't over yet! I've been informed about their style of writing songs, and I'm going to bother you with that also.

In the present line-up (René Scholte - guitar and lead vocals, Erik van de Belt - guitar, Mark van Bel - drums and vocals, Henry McIlveen - bass) the situation is democratic.

"This means one of us comes up with an idea for a song and the band adjusts it in such a way it suits all. Because of this way of working many different styles are taken up into our songs which creates the **THRENODY**-style", mr. Bio tells me. Usually this means René Scholte comes up with atmospheric lyrics, for which Erik van de Belt arranges the music.

Well, as it's a year when they recorded the demo, I guess there will be new material released soon. I don't know anything about this, but you can of course ask about the thing when you write to Erik and order the demo...

by NIKO SIRKIX.



23



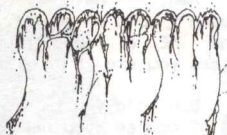
CAUTERIZER comes from the land of million death metal bands. This time a band not sounding like **ENTOMBED**, more like **GENERAL SURGERY** instead, sent me their rehearsal tape with average sounds. There are 5 tracks and an improvised outro. The last real track is some kind of hc-punk, which is not my pint of beer at all. The four others are the usual grind/death stuff.

But there is a slight surprise with the vocals. P.G.'s voice is very similar to Nick Holmes of **PARADISE LOST**! Okay, the other members are Gucka - bass, Boody - guitar and Micke - drums.

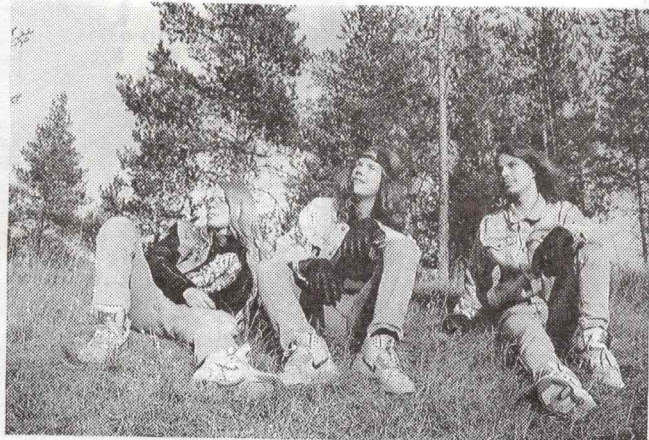
Straight to the point; there are many much more interesting bands around, but if you like to have their music, write to Andreas "Gucka" Frisk, Humlegränd 4B, S-179 60 Stenhamra, Sweden.

Gucka (A cool guy actually!) also runs a zine called **Formless Klump** and a compilation tape called **Sunfish**. Ask for more information about them! By the way, Gucka also showed his great ability to speak finnish: "Minulle on iso hirven-sauna kottona!! Hyvvä jouloa!?!?" Tack så mycket och samma på dig också!

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.



One more Finnish band is featured here. **SARCASM** from Kempele have started already in December '88. Through a couple of usual line-up changes formed the decent line-up: Teemu Hautaniemi - drums, Kimmo Korkala - guitar, Samuli



Alapuranen - lead guitar, Tuomas Tossavainen - bass and Mika Vuoto - vocals.

I've got their mixed rehearsal tape which was recorded before the beginning of December '91 when Tuomas and Samuli joined the band. It's without vocals and bass, and so it doesn't sound very colourful.

Anyway, the tape show **SARCASM**, instead of sounding like an ordinary Finnish band (doomy and grindy with deep gurgling vocals) they sound more like an ordinary Swedish band. Mid-paced stuff with a couple grinding and slower parts.. with Sunlight sounds the experience would be complete...complete **NIHILIST/ENTOMBED**-rip-off, like was the album of **CARNAGE** in my opinion, yuck!

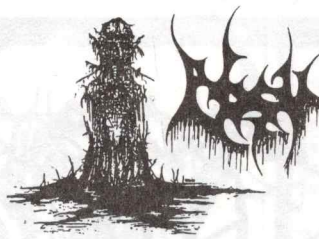
But no, there are a few differences...but certainly there is a Swedish touch! 3 tracks plus **XYS-MA**-cover **Why Am I**? I also had a bonus surprise on my tape; a track called **The Three Seasons** (today titled **With Eyes Shut**) which is recorded during rehearsals in May '91. It's faster and there also vocals by Mika. Quite normal growling...

About their song titles, they are quite good in my opinion; **With Eyes Shut** and **Crawl Through The Time** as an example. Again to the Swedish direction (or is it really?), the titles of **UNLEASHED** for example are mostly good (if **They Had Eyes** etc.)...hehe!

Probably they will soon record their debut demo, maybe in Tico-Tico studio in Oulu (**SENTENCED**, **DIABOLUS**, **IMPALED NAZARENE** etc.)...

Anyway, write to Teemu and ask for their recordings. A blank tape + IRC's would do. **SARCASM** - Teemu Hautaniemi, Konttitie 25, 90440 Kempele, Finland. PS. Teemu also said the tracks on my tape are nowadays played a bit slower and more technically...

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.



ABSU. To my Finnish ears it sounds strange and a bit funny, but some people should know it's from The **Necronomicon** and thus no funny at all...

The band, that is Mike Kelly - Lead Guitar/Vocals, Gary Lindholm - Lead Guitar, Ray Hefflin - Bass and Danny Benbow - Drums, have until now released two tapes. First a rehearsal tape '91 entitled **Return Of The Ancients**, and in November last year the studio rehearsal (with excellent sound) entitled **The Temples Of Ofal**.

I haven't heard the first reh.tape, but this latest one belongs to my tape collection. Anyway, it contains three tracks which show that the band's style is quite similar to certain US ones in general. In other words the music is quite close to bands like **SUFFOCATION** (US), **MORBID ANGEL**, **INCANTATION**, **IMMOLATION** and the stuff like that. The main difference is that this isn't recorded in Morrisound... But there is something else, too, but I just don't know what it is.

Anyhow this is the very unknown thing that makes me listen to their music more than a typical US band.

Well, more about the tracks. Namely they are **Immortal Sorcery**, **Sumerian**

Sands and Disembodied. The lyrics are about rituals and other stuff with a great influence of The **Necronomicon**... actually they are quite interesting. **Sumerian Sands** is the best title in my opinion...but the best track musically is difficult to choose.

The tracks go mostly (grinding) fast tempo, but there are also lots of breaks and slow stuff



included. The vocals are really deep, in the same vein as in **SUFFOCATION** (US), but more brutal. And there are a couple of parts where that voice is mixed even deeper!

This tape is recommendable to everyone who likes US grinding death metal bands, but as I'm not so much into US bands in general (there are exceptions!), but I like **ABSU** so I can recommend everybody to order this tape.

It costs \$4 (USA) and \$5 (Overseas) and a biography + printed covers with lyrics are included. You can write to: **ABSU**, #3245 Topaz Way, Plano, TX. 75023 U.S.A.

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.



GOLEM

From eastern Germany comes this band. **GOLEM** is their name, and they have formed the band in summer '89. The demo they sent me is recorded already a year ago (January '91), but who gives a shit if it isn't the newest one?

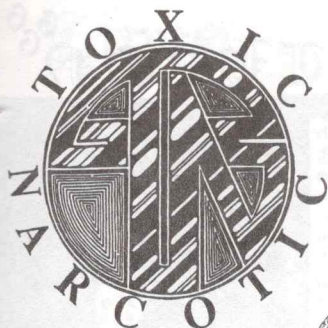
Three tracks plus an intro are included. The title **Visceral Scab** (which is also the title of the demo) doesn't fit at all to this synth intro which almost would be the intro of some black metal recording... The lyrics and titles consider the (too) much used pathological gore-stuff in an unoriginal way. Or is there any original way to write gore lyrics?

Then the music. It's fast grinding deathcore in the veins of something between the two first albums of

CAROLA HÄGGVIST, no **CARCASS** I mean. Quite ordinary and not very original or surprising, in other words. But there's a strange addition of synth effects in the last track (was it the last track?) **Embryonic Putrefaction**. It's something you could never expect to hear in a grind/ death band using gore lyrics.

When changing the lyrical subjects and developing their grinding style to some direction and not forgetting the synth effects **GOLEM** could come up with more interesting stuff... Anyway, I don't know the price of this demo or if it's for sale at all, but if you send Max a blank tape and 2 IRC's, I'm sure you'll get it. The demo also includes bio and (ugly) covers. **GOLEM** c/o Max Grützmaier, Lindenstr. 26, Buckow, 0-1276 Germany.

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.



TOXIC NARCOTIC is a 3 years old three-piece from Boston area, consisting of Will Sullivan on guitar, Kevin Barnello on drums and Bill Damon on bass and vocals.

In the summer of 1990 the band recorded their first demo. I haven't heard it but the guys say it had too poor sounds for a musical enjoyment. However it would have contained quite many tracks I guess, I was told it was a forty-minute long tape.

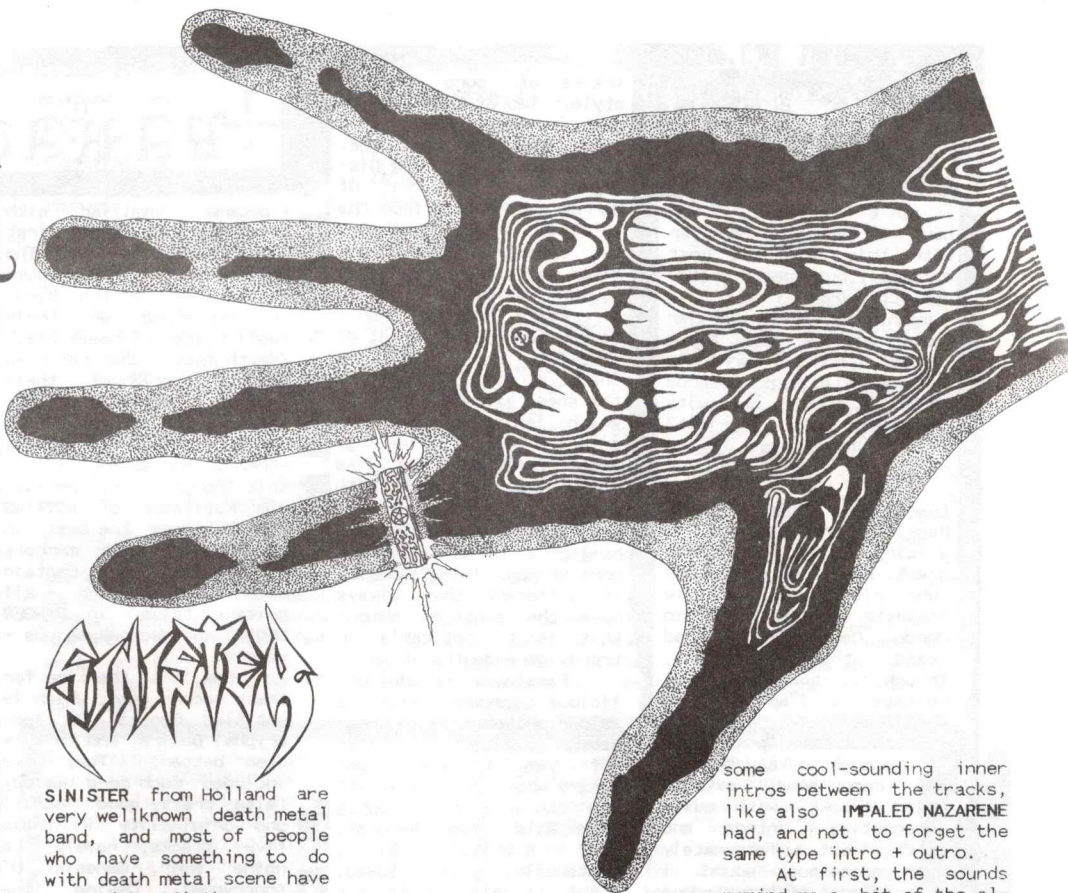
Anyway, I late spring 1991 it was time for Wunt Dunt Dunt!, their second tape release. It consists of three tracks of excellent sound quality, and these are just right in their place to give a picture of TOXIC NARCOTIC style. They seem to have quite a wide range of influences.

Ranging from hardcore, grind, death, punk and crustcore to industrial and psychedelic music, the songs still have a sensible entirety... Actually the demo has a kind of entirety, too, as it is sometimes hard to understand where a track ends and another one begins, you see there are no such things as pauses existing between the songs. But the listener is for sure going to get the idea of it after a couple of listenings.

Only one band came to my mind when listening to this, and it was CRUMBSUCKERS. And I think it's not only because the vocals are similar, the music has something in common with CRUMBSUCKERS...

TOXIC NARCOTIC are soon going to release an ep through their own small record label Rodent Popsicle Records. It is going to be released in the winter '92, and it means very soon if it isn't out yet. You can ask it (and the demo also!) from Rodent Popsicle Records, P.O.Box 335, Newton Ctr. MA 02159, U.S.A. The band contact lies in the same postbox...

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.



SINISTER from Holland are very wellknown death metal band, and most of people who have something to do with death metal scene have heard (about?) them.

Their demo Perpetual Damnation (recorded in April '90) was quite a hit; it sold over 1800 copies in 18 months! Anyway, the demo isn't available anymore, because they've made a deal with Nuclear Blast Records.

The first release for NBR is the debut lp Cross The Styx, which is going to be released in the beginning of March '92. The band recorded the master tape in November '91 in Mainstreet Studio, in Faustpach, Germany. The album is going to contain following titles: Intro, Perianial Morning, Sacramental Carnage, Doomed, Spiritual Immolation, Cross The Styx, Compulsory Resignation, Corridors To The Abyss, Putrefying Remains, Apoch of Deneil, Outro.

Also if someone didn't know that their original line-up (Ron - guitar, Aad - drums, Mika - vocals and Corzas - bass) changed in May '91. The bassist Cozas left SINISTER because of his sport (something I just can't understand, I hate sports!). Also they finally found a second guitar player. He's Andre Tolhuizen (ex-VULTURE-Fatal Games lp).

Anyway, that album should be something for brutal death metallers to wait for...

Well, here's also something about their future plans. They'll tour a little in Europe, in Holland 4 gigs with MORBID ANGEL in January, in Germany 6 gigs

with ETERNAL DIRGE in March. Then in April about 6 gigs in Portugal and Spain. It is also planned to do 2 gigs in Poland and in the way in Germany, too. Probably some time in May '92. And in addition to these, they'll of course do lots of small gigs in Holland, Belgium and Germany by themselves.

Okay, the contact address of SINISTER looks like this: Putrefying Management, Paul Haesackers, van Naeldwijklaan 69, 2651 GM Berkel, Holland.

And don't forget MONASTERY, a grind / death project including some members from SINISTER and ENTOMBED. Ask about that from the address above.

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.



CEREMONY are another band hailing from The Netherlands. They recorded their (first?) demo Victims Of Morbidity 5.10.91 with the line-up like this: Peter - guitar, Minio - bass, Johan - drums and Patrick - vocals. After the release of the demo they got a second (lead) guitarist, Mike.

Okay, This tape comes with professional glossy covers including band photo and the most important: four tracks are included. And there are also included

some cool-sounding inner intros between the tracks, like also IMPALED NAZARENE had, and not to forget the same type intro + outro.

At first, the sounds remind me a bit of the almighty BEHERIT, I mean the sharp and ripping guitar sound and the drums that are quite low on the mix (this doesn't fit the sounds were shit!). But the music and the vocals isn't in the same way. The music is quite technical but fast and aggressive death metal with a touch of MORBID ANGEL. In addition to that they also mention ATHEIST as their influences.

The vocals are quite typical growling that isn't my very favourite type, but they seem to fit in CEREMONY's music quite well anyway, and so I don't have anything to complain about it.

The lyrics aren't in my knowledge, but the titles that are Victims Of Morbidity, Drowned In Terror, Ceremonial Resurrections and The Unholy Altar can give you something from which to draw the conclusions.

This demo isn't the cheapest one, it costs \$7 or 30Fim or 15DM, but who cares? And the better you can then support the band! send to Mike Chung, Brahmstraat 35, 3281 VC Numansdorp, The Netherlands. And Mike also writes to the underground section of the leading metal magazine of The Netherlands, MELTDOWN, and is also one of the editors of the cool MORTICIAN magazine...bands can send their stuff for a review.

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.

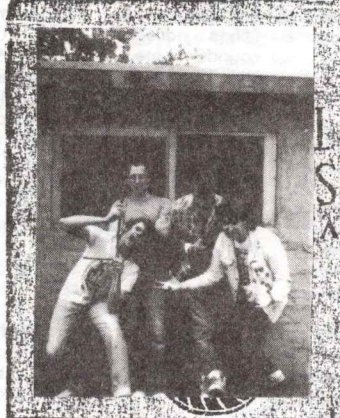


It isn't a miracle if you have already got familiar with this maybe the most extremely outrageous grind-deathcore band from U.S.A. I mean after their earlier demos and the debut album **Ultimo Mondo Cannibale** through Wild Rags Records **IMPETIGO** should be quite wellknown. Am I right? Yes, I'm always right, haha!

And big and loud thanks to Richard (Wild Rags) for whose support I'm writing here about this great band, he's the one (who else?) who sent me cassette versions of **Ultimo Mondo Cannibale** (I had heard them previously, though...) and this newer release, a 7"ep entitled **Faceless**.

About the lp I think it's enough to say that it has many good, extreme grind tracks with quite interesting intros and stuff, but unfortunately with quite poor sound. I suppose most of the readers have (heard) this album.

But then about the new one. It includes five



tracks of pure **IMPETIGO** style. Two of them are new ones, namely the title track and **Sinister Urge**. The three others are **Dis-Organized**, **Bloody Pit Of Horror** and **Mortado** from the lp **Ultimo Mondo Cannibale**, but totally redone. And after all, the sound just couldn't be better!

Every now and then I have wondered the secret of **IMPETIGO**, why I do like their stuff? It must be the sheer extreme brutality which isn't to be found anywhere else (my feelings about **BLASPHEMY** are like that, too, but added with a mystic, dark touch...). And though I usually get hell of a bored with these gore-themes, **IMPETIGO** does it different, they always have the sense of humour that isn't noticable in trendy gore-deathshit (!).

Faceless includes delicious covers with a colour photo of a man whose head is totally blown off...yam, I always get hungry when looking at it! You can get it of course from **Wild Rags Records**, 2207 W.Whittier Blvd., Montebello, CA 90640, U.S.A. it sales for \$4, but remember to add the postage (around \$2...?)! **Ultimo Mondo Cannibale** lp is available as well, it costs \$9 (cd is \$15) plus postage...

And do not forget that their next full length album **Horror Of The Zombies** is to be released in February 1992, so grap it!

And one more thing, you can write to the band at **Legions Of IMPETIGO c/o Mark Sawickis**, Lakeview Apts. #7-B, W. Jefferson St., Morton, IL 61550, U.S.A.

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.

Kuulustelu inkvisitiotuomioistuudessa.

VARATHRON⁶⁶

I became familiar with **VARATHRON** with their first demo **Procreation Of The Unaltered Evil**, which woke my interest on the band. It contained two (only two!) tracks of heavy black/death metal that reminded me a little of their landmates **ROTTING CHRIST**. Good stuff, no doubt about it, but the sounds weren't too good...listenable though... By the way, **Jim Mutilator** of **ROTTING CHRIST** plays the bass in **VARATHRON**! Other members of the band are **Captain Death** - drums, **John** - all guitars (also in **ANGER CROSS**) and **Necroabyssious** - vocals.

Now it's the time for their second demo, which is entitled **Genesis Of Apocryphal Desire**, and this is even better! They have included much more melody (also pretty good leads!) and originality in these five tracks, namely **La Reine Noir**, **Genesis Of Apocryphal Desire**, **The Tressrising Of Nyarlathotep**, **7 Endless Horizons** and **Journey Beyond** which however is only like some kind of an outro. Also the sounds are excellent this time.

The titles give a hint of possible H.P.Lovecraft influences, as you can see.

My fave tracks are **doomy The Tressrising Of Nyarlathotep** with its extremely ecstatic riffs and unbelievably fascinating synth parts, and the follower **7 Endless Horizons**, probably because of the same reasons...it's faster, though.

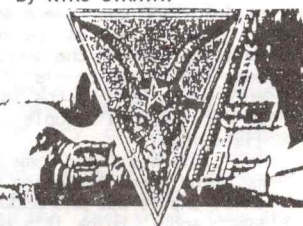


I don't know about the price of this demo, but you definitely must write to them and ask unless you want to avoid the true ecstasy!

The band has also released a 7"ep entitled **One Step Beyond Dreams** some time ago, it has two tracks, another is **Genesis Of The Apocryphal Desire**, and another one...damned, I can't remember the title! And of course my friend **Jori** just borrowed it from me, so I can't tell you the title... Anyhow, I still prefer the demo '91, because there is the track **The Tressrising Of Nyarlathotep** that one other track can match...

You can write to the band at **VARATHRON**, P.O.Box 31232, 10035 Athens, Greece.

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.



gokooma
P.O. Box 63
83501 OULUKUMPU
FINLAND

NELJÄ
LEHTÄ
307

gokooma

ÄLÄ JÄÄ AJASTASI JÄLKEEN!!!!

Puhuminen on helvetin mukavaa -kunhan vain tietäs mistä puhua.

Paskanjauhaminen aina samolista asiasta alkaa pitemmän päälle vituttaa. Miksi siis kalkkeutua ja lukea pelkastaan valtalendistoa? Sinulla on tilaisuus jo nyt toipua Uuden Suomen konkurssista ja Hesarin manipulaatiosta...

-SIIRRY PIENLEHTIIN!

Yksi mahdollisuus, eikä varmasti huonoin, olisi **GoKooma**.

GoKooma ilmestyy vuonna 1992 neljä (4!!!!) kertaa.

Ää-koossa. Sisältö tuttuun tapaan pienlehtiä, haastatteluja, sarjakuvia, novelleja...

"GoKooma puolustaa paikkaansa pienlehtien luottamukseen viikittyneena medianä/Rumba

-Perkeleen Puolueellisesti Pienlehtien Puolesta-

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Zines

HELLSPAWN issue 2

c/o Sami Hanhela
Taipaleenkylä
90840 Haukipudas
Finland

44 A5 pages

I guessed this issue 2 would be good, but this is perhaps even slightly better than I thought! The first issue wasn't bad at all, but this seems to be one of the very best zines from Finland.

Written in English, with extremely small (but still easy to read) text featuring interesting bands like TRANSGRESSOR, IMMORTAL, MASACRE, PHLEGETHON, DESECRATE and so on. Also some great artwork by J. Vuorma (also one by me!) is included and other interesting stuff. The price is low; only \$3 (or 10Fim), no matter where you live!

Now I suppose you know what you should do... right?

MORTUARY issue 2

Brutal Promotion
Sudetenstrabe 65
6415 Petersberg
Germany

34 pages in A4-size

At first, this is striped to the edge of pages, you know, and that's not the way I like the most...

Anyway, this is mostly quite funny stuff, contains interviews with EPITAPH, AUTOPSY, MORTICIAN, MORGOTH, ABSUTER CRYST, MACABRE END and others. This is quite well copied although the photos would be clearer.

This is quite an average mag, not one of the worse, but not the best either. Glp, I don't know how much this costs, but write and ask.

Issue 3 should be out very soon!

DROWNED issue 2

Drowned Prod.
P.O. Box 39048
28080 - Madrid
Spain

48 A4-pages

Well, well, well! At first, this looks great! Then the write-ups are great, articles and interviews are quite informative and sometimes funny, too! So, this IS great!

What else can I say? It cost \$5, including glossy covers and professional printing. And this issue features bands as CONVULSE, OLD FUNERAL, MORTIFICATION, DISGRACE, EMBRYONIC, ABHORER and so on.

The editor Dave Rotten sells also demos of some Spanish bands through his Drowned Production, ask also about them!

SYPHILIS issue 1

c/o Mika Järviö
Ruukuntekijäntie 8 A 1
01600 Vantaa
Finland

40 A5 pages

This is a continuation to Mika's previous zine Metal Magazine, and not bad in any case.


Written in Finnish, photocopied but well photocopied. This one has bands like DEPRESSION, LEWIATAN, MORDICUS, BELIAL, MALEDICTION, CARTILAGE and a bunch of others, and reviews etc. The write-ups are readable, not bad, but there are too much same questions in the interviews in my opinion.

Issue 2 should be also out very soon, and you can try this one while waiting the second. It costs 10Fim.

Nyt myynnissä Espanjalaista death metallia! SACROPHOBIA "Demo '91" (sis. 20min./Intro+4biisiä,brutaalia death metallia! SUFFOCATION "Demo '91" (sis. 23min./Intro+9biisiä,brutaalia ja nopeaa death metallia! OBSCURE "Demo '91" (sis. 21min./siisti intro+4biisiä death/grind! Mukana pieni kirjanen missä biisien sanat!) Kaikkien kissa demoissa siistit värikannet




bändikuvalla!!! Hinnat: 1demo=20mk+3.50postari, 2demoa=45mk, 3demoa=65mk! Tulossa joulukuun alussa UNBOUNDED TERRORin "demo '91" & Ruotsalaisen death metal bändin NECRONYN "Demo '91" Tilaa nyt osoitteesta: ARI VARONEN, RAATIMIEHENKATU 3B 253, 20750 TURKU. Kaikkiin tilauksiin nopea & varma vastaus!!!!!!

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SAMAEL

Worship Him

It was a dark night of April in 1987 Anno Satanas when SAMAEL was procreated by Vorphalack (guitar / vocals). From there until now, they have released a rehearsal demo *Into The Infernal Storm Of Evil '87*, the 7" ep '88 *Medieval Prophecy*, which sold very well and spread the name in the underground, a promo demo with two songs in 1990, and finally now in 1991 their debut full-length album entitled *Worship Him*, which was by the way recorded already in March 1990. And at the latest this should raise SAMAEL to one of the most interesting and original underground bands today.

Well, the band's lineup nowadays is Vorphalack (guitar/vocals), Xytragup-tor (drums) and Masmiseim (bass).

Vorphalack's comment on their names is: "Our pseudonym haven't any meaning (except for us) it's our Ritual names."

Okay. How are you, Vorphalack, today there at the darkest of darkness?

Vorphalack: "I feel tired and cold."

Since you seem to have there the right atmosphere for talking about the album *Worship Him*, why wouldn't we?

Vorphalack: "I don't know how many copies of it we've sold 'till now but Osmose Productions tell us it has sold very well. *Worship Him* was recorded in March '90 so it is a little bit old recording. I think the sound is OK. It was our first experience in Studio, next one will be better."

Could you ever compare it musically to your debut vinyl release *Medieval Prophecy*?

Vorphalack: "Musically of course, the songs of *Medieval Prophecy* appear on *Worship Him*. Just the sound is different (I think I have noticed that the versions differ a bit from each other; for an example *The Dark* didn't have those exciting whispers and that strange piping... - Niko the Santa Claus). *Worship Him* it's a kind of compilation of all the old

stuff."

What about the feedback you've got about the album?

Vorphalack: "In general the reaction is good, people who dislike Black Metal can't like our album."

What differences do you see when comparing SAMAEL to other (Death Metal etc.) bands? By the way, I think that your voice is very original (I think so, too!!! -Niko the idiot).

Vorphalack: "Thanx for compliment on my voice. The major difference between SAMAEL and other Death Metal bands is simple, we don't play Death Metal. We try at first to create an ambience, technic and melody aren't important for me. In fact I try to find the right atmosphere for my lyrics."

THE RITES OF CTHULHU

Now it's the right time to chat a bit about your songwriting process and the things like that. What is the procreation of a SAMAEL track like? Do you only

make a couple of riffs and then make the song or do you make the whole song only within your brains like Mozart?

Vorphalack: "We make a lot of improvisation when we play together and we take the best part. Sometimes it's different. I don't like Mozart."

Now, where do you rehearse and how many times a week? Is it expensive or don't you pay anything of it?

Vorphalack: "We practise three times a week together. We have a place to rehearse at 10km from our homes. We don't need to pay anything for it."

Who is the main song writer in the band? Your lyrics are about occultism, aren't they?

Vorphalack: "I write all the lyrics and 80% of the music. Lyrics deal with occultism, sorcery, death and all what is Evil!"

Then you should be the right person to tell why did you include a riff from some old (Russian?) song in your song *Knowledge Of The Ancient Kingdom*?

Vorphalack: "The riff come from a Russian songs, We've take it 'cause we liked it. It's not for any particulare reason."

Is there nice to live in Switzerland? Is there the army like here in Finland? Are you going to the army?

Vorphalack: "Switzerland is a nice country, maybe too nice. We want to leave this place as soon as we can, because nothing interesting happens here. Swiss army sucks like every other army."

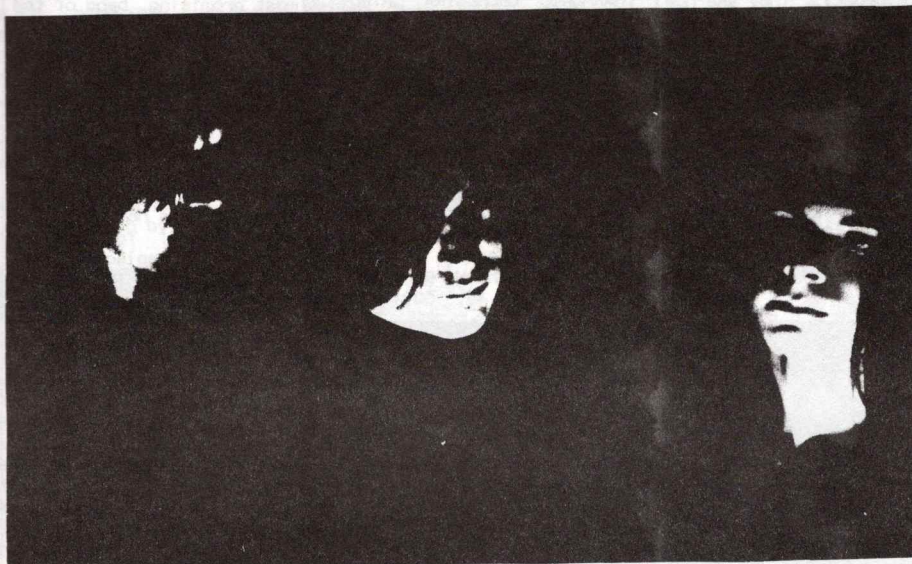
What about the gig situation there in Switzerland? Are you perhaps coming here in Finland?

Vorphalack: "Here in Switzerland we've lot of gigs but this is a small country so bands can't make



a tour here, they only play one gig, no more, and it's enough. I hope to play in Finland in the future but we haven't planned anything till now."





Entombed In Habitat is the title of the band's rehearsal demo. HABITAT was told to play fast and brutal black/ death metal, but this tape contains 10 tracks of normal, midpaced death metal with normal (not very clear, that is) rehearsal sounds. Maybe the black and Satanic part of the band is the track titles (quite moronic ones) such as *Frankenstein From Hell*, *The Dead Has Died For Satan* and *Terrorized By Ghouls*. And the members (Malestor Of The Seven Gates Of Hades - drums, Necromantia - guitar, Desecratos Of The Unborn Child - satanic voice and Black Death - bass) are saying BEHERIT has inspired them, but unfortunately that is certainly not to be seen in any direction. Sad but true, but I must admit that HABITAT is maybe the worst black metal band (or death metal band trying to play black metal) I've ever heard. Well, I don't like the "underground" band DEICIDE either, but that's different!

But something has happened; HABITAT has split up a couple of months ago. The guys are now spending all their time on their serious (?) band LEUKEMIA which performs some sort of deathrash. LEUKEMIA's demo *Innocence Is Bliss* is going to be released soon including 3-4 tracks. Jocke "Necro" Granlund promised me that it will be a good demo, so if anyone is interested, I don't complain. But if there was a Swedish death/thrash band that sounded good to me and I listened to it a lot, it should be something really original. To be honest I'm not very much into deathrash and mainly the Swedish scene looks quite trendy and boring.

Well, if there is someone who wants to have the rehearsal demo of HABITAT, can send a blank tape and I.R.C. to Jocke "Necro" Granlund, Fredsg. 8, 64032 Malmköping, Sweden.

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.

Let's then change the country, Do you know any Finnish bands? Give me a list please (Hahaha)...

Vorphalack: "Yeah! XYSMA, BEHERIT."

And what do you think about nazism? Here in Finland we have a "Tyräpää" (Okay, I need a volunteer to translate this! -Niko) called Pekka Siitoin who stands behind nazism. Is there any of these "Tyräpää"'s (Gawd!!! -Niko again...) like him?

Vorphalack: "We have some extremist movement here, but they aren't important. I'm not a Nazi."

THE LAST BENEDICTION

Let's return to Switzerland for a little while. How is the Swiss scene nowadays and what do you think about that whole underground scene here in our world?

Vorphalack: "Swiss scene sucks! MISERY are cool. Underground scene becomes bigger day after day and it's great."

What do you think about the Death Metal trend? Is there too many bands? What's your opinion?

Vorphalack: "It's not a problem with numerous bands because only the truth will stay. Half of the new Death Metal bands are pure shit."

Absolutely true! It's not so easy every time to find the true ones (like a needle in a haystack... -Niko; yepp, me again!) out of the mainstream shit. But could you tell us if you have any plans with SAMAEI in the future?

Vorphalack: "In October we'll do a mini tour in France together with MAS-SACRA and if everything going well we'll start an European tour in the end of the year."

Now! What do you think about my interview? It was my first I've ever done...

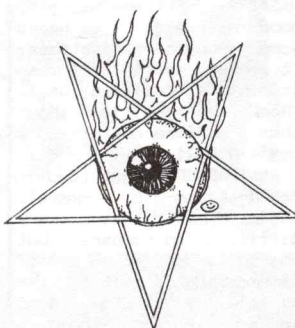
Vorphalack: "It was cool, not so boring (Damn right! -Niko)."

And now to the end your hand could write what ever it wants.....

Vorphalack: "Well, Hail to all the readers of HAMMER OF DAMNATION, Stay Evil! Praise Satan! WORSHIP HIM !!!!!"

You shouldn't have wimped out so badly that you hadn't yet caught the SAMAEI album *Worship Him*. But if the things are so crappy, you can still get a peace of mind for yourself and buy immediately the album...

Interview by JORI SJÖROOS (most of the additional crap by NIKO SIRKIÄ).



THE BLACKEST POWER



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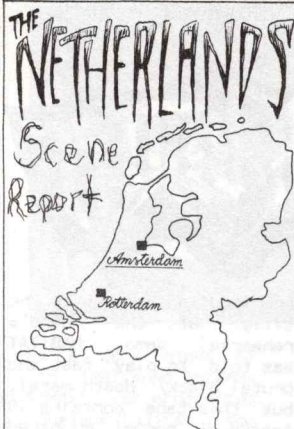
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HAMMER OF DAMNATION



Yeah right, as you may know there are other things in the Netherlands than just sabots, windmills and tulips, and here's Harold Dekkers, one of the editors of Mortician Magazine (Write to him for info on Mortician: Harold Dekkers, Boeroestraat 66, 3312 HD Dordrecht, The Netherlands), who is willing to put some light on the Dutch underground scene. One... two...three...GO!

THANATOS: Well, let's start with the first metalband in the way of death: **THANATOS** started in 1984 playing thrash. A bit in the vein of **MESSIAH**, **INFERNAL MAJESTY** and other heavy thrashbands. Their music connected with the upcoming deathmetal without any problems. In 1990, they brought out their first album **Emerging From The Netherworlds** on Shark Records. They made the way free for other upcoming bands in the Dutch scene and their second album will be released early 1992, still containing thrash-death in a original way, but heavier and a very good production. Contact: P.O. Box 5650, 3008 AR Rotterdam, Holland.



PESTILENCE: Okay I know their video's will be shown on MTV. After three good albums everybody already knows about the existence of this band.

SEMPITERNAL DEATH-REIGN: In fact the first real death metal band with an album (on Foundation 2000). And there is happy news: **SEMPITERNAL DEATH-REIGN** is arisen! The band of the famous doom-grind demo **Creepshow** has a new

bass-player (Ramon Soeterbroek). They are now looking for a new drummer to bring a second album out!

ASPHYX: Well, every undergrounder is supposed to know this band.

GOREFEST: Also a famous band. I think they are Hollands most popular band. They have an album out on Foundation 2000, **Mindloss**. Gorefest, P.O. Box 2209, 4460 ME Goes, Holland.



TORMENTOR is the Dutch **MASACRE**. Extreme vocals, good music etc. I've heard some soundboard livetrack. It sounds terrible (I mean it on a positive way!) (Read an article about them elsewhere in this mag. -Niko!)

THRENODY: Great (doom)-death-thrash-etc. -metal. Their music is very difficult to compare, but the guitarwork is terrific! Remembering a bit of the classic heavy-metal (Also an article about them is included somewhere here... -Niko). They are looking for another drummer to record a second demo in 1992. Erik v.Belt Lindendreef 112, 3137 CL Vlaardingen.

CASTLE: A very good doom metal band in the vein of **CATHEDRAL**, (**PARADISE LOST**) and **CANDLEMASS**! Order their demo **Unicorns**. It contains three long tracks (8min each!) but it's not boring! Eric, Klaverstraat 9, 5038 RB Tilburg.

BEYOND BELIEF: Doom metal band playing doom like **CASTLE**. This is a project/band with two **DEADHEAD** members. They will deliver a track for the sampler **Where is Your God Now II** with the bands **CASTLE**, **THE GATHERING** etc. A.J. Drent, P.O.Box 390, 8260 AJ Kampen.

SINISTER: Playing extreme brutal "putrifying" death metal. Their style is closed to **BOLT THROWER** (**Realm Of Chaos**) but then faster and more raucous! They did some national

tours with **ENTOMBED**, **DIS-HARMONIC ORCHESTRA**, **ATROCITY** etc. A tour with **MORGOTH** will be done in January. Mike v.Mastrikt, Obrechtstraat 88, 3122 AJ Schiedam.

ACROSTICHON: Heavy as lead with a female singer. She plays also the bass it sounds very original on their last (second) demo **Dehumanized**. Peaceville is still interested in this band! Richard Schouten, Edisonlaan 45, 5021 MA

Tilburg.

BLUUUURGH makes real sickness. The singer Jason is more extreme than Martin van Drunen (**ASPHYX**, ex-**PESTILENCE**) (I don't find Martin's voice very brutal, and at least it's not very engaging. -Niko), Aah! Strange and aggressive death metal (no it's not grind!). They will distribute their **Suffer Within** demo on vinyl (double 7"ep) with the help of Nuclear Blast. You can also order the two other demos (**Vegetables Of Doom** and **Pious Decay**) of this psycho-death metal band. **BLUUUURGH**, Hoog Kanje 138, 3708 DL Zeist.

DELERIUM: The Dutch **HELLHAMMER** / **CELTIC FROST**. It's great to hear their kind of **FROST**-music in a good way. Sad to say that they had splitted up after the release of their great album **Zzzzoouhh**.

DEADHEAD: The best thrashband over here. They have a great demo, and tomorrow is the release of their debut album **The Feast Begins At Dawn**. They play thrash in the way of **KREATOR**, **INVOCATOR** etc. **Deadheadquarters** : c/o Robbie Woning, Leeuwerikstraat 11, 8262 AH Kampen, Holland.



THE GATHERING: The most promising band of the Netherlands. They will sign for some albums on Peaceville soon! Their music goes on where **PARADISE LOST**, **XYSMIA**, **TIAMAT** and so on stopped. Six musicians are composing ultimate good death-doom metal (??) with keyboards! I warn, it's not the same as **NOCTURNUS**! You must see them as a replacement of **PARADISE LOST**. Their demo: **An Imaginary Symphony** (\$5) contains symphony where isn't found a name for yet! **THE GATHERING**, Albordastraat 51, 5344 HB Oss, Holland.

MOURNING has signed for an album on Foundation 2000! They play ownstiled death metal. On their last demo you can hear some saxafone-tunes! M.van Amelsvoort, P.O. Box 515, 2800 AM Gouda.

GOD DETHRONED: It sames that this band emigrated from Scandinavia (special from Sweden). Pity that they haven't a Skogsberg production (Yuck! Do you mean the guitar sounds? Puke I say! -Niko). One track of their **Christhant** demo will demo recorded for a Peaceville sampler. Ard de Weerd, Oramjekamaal NZ 21, 9433 TH Zwiggelt.

KORSAKOV: Thrashing/ techno death metal with a different style. Two demos out. c/o Rene, Laapersveld 46, 1213 VB Hilversum.

PYATHROSIS: Describing it with the words **PURGENT STENCH** and **CARCASS** is enough. Order their 16-track **Fields Of Unceasing Death**. Wiebe v/d Veen, Goudenregenplantsoen 5, 2404 EH Alphen a/d Rijn.

DEAD END: Original, apart but normal huh? Well wait for their second demo, they have to let you hear something! Or order their first demo **Tales...** Mischa v/d Ven, Rendierstraat 8, 5408 XK Volkel.

AWAKENING and **SWAZIFIX** are two other doom-death bands. **SWAZIFIX** is formed by ex-**ASPHYX** members, but they haven't a demo out yet.

NOSTRADAMUS: A band from Amsterdam and also a 'FROST'-band. Their guitarist is an ex-**HYDRA VEIN** member. If you like **CELTIC FROST** order their demo! Kr.Midrechtstraat 108, 1079 LD Amsterdam.

ULCERATE FESTER: Grind /death in a very absorbing way is said. I haven't heard their demo yet! Ineke vander Veen, De Eese 64, 7608 EG Almelo.

And the report goes on with **MALIGNANT**, **XANTOSSA**, **CEREMONY**, **DISSECT**, **DESECRATE**, **OBRUNCACTION**, **PHLEBOTO-**

MIZED, DESULTORY, INHUMAN, MEMBRIONIC HAMMERDEATH, STENTORIAM, CAUTEROR, DESULTORY etc.etc.etc.etc. etc. Mmm, it's growing and almost as great as Sweden or Finland ha,ha, death metal rules!

by HAROLD DEKKERS
(intro & outro by
NIKO SIRKIX)

Lahti. It's a city in Finland where comes Lahden beer from. But there comes also a band called UNBURIED. The band contains musicians such as Santtu Tiihonen (bass), Walteri Myllynen (guitar), Janne Riipinen (drums) and Isto Rytkölä (vocals), and the best description of the style they are playing might be doom/death metal. Until the spring 1991 they however played grinding death metal in the vein of CARCASS, ENTOMBED and NAPALM DEATH under the name FORBIDDEN DEATHMASS. Forbidden Clichémass would have been better, huh?

Anyway, during spring 1991 they got bored with the colossal number of ordinary death metal bands, and started to slow down their music.

They have released a rehearsal tape with three tracks that seem to resemble a bit of old PARADISE LOST. The track titles aren't in my knowledge, but I'm told they write lyrics with a Satanic touch.

Despite the bad sound I can hear some good and sometimes even quite melodic riffs. But in my opinion they sometimes play some riffs too long time, and the possibility of getting bored might grow. And another guitar might strengthen their sound.

The vocal part is growling of course, but not in the best possible way. Well, Janne (drums) told me that Isto was having a tonsillitis (Of course you know what this means, don't you?) when this tape was recorded, so we can sure forgive him, can't we?

"A new issue (No.6) of TOTAL EAR DESTRUCTION is out right now (released 1991)!! This time in A4 size, written in English, reduced types, but very readable, more diversion, good clear pictures, nice artwork etc. Interviews with: EDGE OF SANITY, HORRIFIED, THERION, ABSURD, SEPTIC FLESH, BILIAL, WILD RAGS RECORDS, HOLOCAUST 'zine, two different people and their opinions about satanism, as well as a lot



The band should release their debut studio demo VERY soon; the picture above shall be the cover of that demo. And it should be worth of listening to, I think with good sounds their music might be a delighting surprise...

You can contact the band and ask about the forthcoming demo at: UNBURIED c/o Janne Riipinen, Mustamäenkatu 60, 15610 Lahti 61, Finland.

by NIKO SIRKIX.



of other bands etc. The usually, but necessary reviews, with bands such as: AUTOPSY, TORMENT, FUNERAL PYRE, AT THE GATES, ABSURD, ENTOMBED, ASPHYX, MORBID ANGEL, THERION, MASSACRE, NAPALM DEATH, IMMORTAL, NAUSEA, DISSECTION etc. Of course there's a shitloads more... Reviews of underground magazines, like: HOLOCAUST, ISTEEN, MOULD, AXE, MORBID, NUCLEAR GORE etc. Horror/splatter film reviews of



the likes of: KILLER CLOWNS FROM OUTER SPACE, HOUSE OF DEATH, DEATH WARMED UP, SLUGS, INTRUDER, SHADOWZONE and others, new as well as old movies! Scene reports from Portugal and Greece both very, very full of information! Free stickers with: (Surprise!!!) ??? All this, as well as lot's more, might be something for you, so why not check it out,, for the price of: 20Dkr, Skr, Nkr or 10Fim (P. paid) in Scandinavia, \$4,

Zines

ABNORMAL issue 2

c/o Dan Roger Wahlstedt
N-3812 Akkerhaugen
Norway

44 A4 pages

With the exception of the cover, Abnormal mag looks terrible! The lay-out, the write-ups (with many mistakes), everything. And the storys aren't very informative...

But somehow there is something that makes me like this mag. Could it be this ugly personality stuffed with sometimes pretty funny interviews? I guess so... Features bands like TORMENTOR (Hun), ABRUPTUM, MASSACRE, PESTILENCE and the stuff like that.

I'm not sure if this is for sale any longer, but write to Dan Roger and ask, he's a cool guy and can also tell you the price of this mag, because I can't! My pathetic memory screwed up once again!

Well, things change, you know. Instead of Abnormal issue 3, there shall be Knowledge Of Darkness, which in Dan Roger's words is going to be released very soon in a very professional way! And that's what I'm really waiting for...why shouldn't you also?

150Bec, 28Frff, 50Aats, 800Grd, 5000Itl. in Europe (also P.paid). Rest of the world can obtain this fucker for \$5 or the same in own currency (P.paid). Cash or Money Order (M.O.) made out to: Ole Asserbo, Dr. Margrethasvej 113, 8200 Århus N., Denmark. Also distributed by Wild Rags Records, 2207 W.Whittier Blvd., Montebello, CA 90640-4014 U.S.A. TLF.NR. (213) 7269593."

Zines

MUTILADOR issue 8

c/o Juan Carlos Ruiz H.
Apartado Postal 19-399
C.P. 03901 México 19, D.F.

60 A4 (?) pages.

MUTILADOR is quite good magazine to start this section with. All the stuff is written in Spanish AND English, however here and there their (or his) English isn't actually the best of 'em all, but it's still understandable.

The pages are offset printed, with glossy covers. Pictures are rastered well and...and this zine contains mainly death metal, there's interviews with such bands as MORBID ANGEL, MALICIOUS INTENT, GAMMACIDE etc. and also an interview with the editor of the Greek DECAPITATED magazine. Most of the stuff is articles and demo reviews which present many, many underground bands, especially from Mexico. This is cool, but one thing that isn't cool at all is that I don't know how much you do have to pay for this. But write to Juan Carlos and ask about it!

ISTEN issue 5

c/o Mikko Mattila
Kuusamakuja 2 D 25
33840 Tampere
Finland

a huge pack of 92 A4 pages!

Yepp, this is the thing you must not slap flies unless you really like to see an animal totally splattered! These 92 packed pages of (death) metal from one side to another, deep from the underground to more known ones, is something you just can't pass without further investigation on it, this is one of the best underground zines ever made!

In a way the enormous amount of pages could become a some kind of negative point, if one considers negative the fact there's almost too much to read (is it possible?)!

I'm not sure if this hasn't sold out yet, but try sending only (!) \$4US (Europe) or \$5US (elsewhere) to the address above. And remember there's also cool artwork included!

Zines

Zines

KALLOHARPPU (1sten special issue 1)

ISTEN/Mikko Mattila
Kuusamakuja 2 D 25
33840 Tampere

48 A5-sized pages

While mumbling about the magazine Isten, I must mention Kalloharppu, which is so-called Isten-special, written in Finnish. Everything is and looks almost like in the latest Isten, except the page size and language. And it means good!

There are interviews with CARCASS, DUN-DELION, DEMIGOD, SUPURATION, PRESTIGE, HOUSE OF USHER and so on. Also many, many reviews!

This one cost 10Fim, or something around \$3 (I guess), if you want to order this somewhere else than Finland....

FEAR issue 4

Jari Eskelinen
Ollinkahä 6 F 69
92120 Raahen
Finland

32 pages of A5 size

Unfortunately to foreigners this is written in Finnish. Or is it fortunately? There are interviewed/reviewed only Finnish speed/thrash/death metal bands... no! Here's also interview and a A4-sized poster with MEZZROW, but it's another thing if it's interesting at all. Pictures are of a good quality, but the layout then isn't good at all. Also Jari should raise (or create, I should say) some kind of 'threshold of publication', this zine contains many, many nauseating questions in those interviews, I mean that at least I demand some kind of information about the band itself, not about what the interviewed person ate for breakfast! Well, that was just an example...

The most positive point in this zine is the price; in Finland you can get this for only 5mk, but to other countries \$2US should be enough...



Zines

INTESTINAL issue 3

Tuure Heikkilä
Tikkalantie 23
91500 Muhos
Finland

36 A4-pages

INTESTINAL metal mag is also written in this magical language of shamans, and this time it's sad as far as foreign readers are concerned.

This rag contains good interviews with DISEMBOWELMENT, DEMILICH, ANATHEMA, MEAT SHITS, NECROMANTIA etc. and of course informative articles, and most of the stuff is written with a good sense of humour. Sometimes these are really enjoyable stories!

The printing quality is good, but a negative point would be that the pictures aren't rastered, so they are pretty unclear in times. But in all it's a tiny thing when compared to all the positive points.

I really hope the best luck to Tuure (keep up the good quality!) and ex-editor Pete, who is maybe going to start making his very own magazine.

INTESTINAL sales for 15mk in Finland, and if anyone elsewhere wants this, it costs \$3 to Europe and \$4 overseas.

TRECHOMA issue 1

c/o Morten Nissen
Solvangen 55
6715 Esbjerg N
Denmark

40 pages of A4-size

This mag is written in English, and it's really well printed, glossy paper and quality pictures and so on. However this this doesn't look very packed at all, the text is really BIG and the pages look quite loose...

Also the interviews aren't the most catchy and interesting (...and original!), they are too typical. First an intro, then the questions and an outro. Most of them are also quite short although they are made with wellknown bands, such as PARADISE LOST, ENTOMBED, CARCASS, ATHEIST, DISMEMBER and so on. And at times not very informative...but at times they

Zines

Zines

are! And not forgetting the humorous highlights here and there...

I think the next issue might be considered good, this is only average stuff. But the price is definitely the most shocking (unfortunate) thing, it costs \$5 (Scandinavia), \$6 (Europe) and \$8 (elsewhere)...

BALANCE OF TERROR issue 2

384 Goward Rd.
Victoria, B.C.
Canada V8X-3X3.

40 pages, A4 sized

The first thing that caught my attention was that there are very few interviews, most of the stuff is articles and reviews on various bands. But it's just Trevor's style of doing his zine, so I don't complain. Interviewed are this time MASTICATOR, NECROPHOBIC, DEVISER, OBLIVION and SONIC FALLOUT zine. The rest of the stuff is packed with informative articles on bands from one range to another. Layout is average, quite messy sometimes...but it's only \$3 to send before you get this zine, there are lots of bands to read about, and I think it's quite cheap...

HOLOCAUST issue 4

c/o Tomasz Krajewski
P.O.Box 12
86-105 Swiecie 5
Poland

44 A5 pages

Now, this is probably the best A5-sized zine I've ever read, the lay-out is good and clear, printing is professional level, the stuff is written in quite good English and it's also quite interesting...today this isn't the most up-to-date, but because it's still available (\$3 or equivalent everywhere...) and the interviews (with MAYHEM, SODOM, ACHERON, DEADHEAD, PESTILENCE, BLASPHEMY etc.) and articles (every kinds of bands) are still interesting, I recommend to become familiar with this zine.

Zines

Zines

ANATHEMA issue 1

c/o B. van Gool
Flanorpad 7c k.34
2333 AS Leiden
The Netherlands

40 A5 pages

This is another A5-sized I'm pretty delighted on. Very readable text about SINISTER, VITAL REMAINS, MORTA SKULD, PHLEGETHON, DISASTER AREA and so on... and also a scene report from Finland, quite brief however.

The lay-out is quite good, lots of art, but very few photos are included.

This guy has also released two compilation tapes, Undead 1 and Undead 2. They cost \$6 / Hfl 10 each. And as for the zine, don't kill me just because I don't know the price again!

UNDERGROUND EMPIRE issue 5

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

88 A4 pages

What the heck? 88 A4 pages, and full coloured glossy covers! Everything in this magazine, not only looks good, but seems to be extremely professional! But as far as I'm concerned, quite a huge negative point is that it's all written in German, and (gasp) I don't understand it! But what the heck, you can of course, so send 5DM to the address and you'll get maybe the most professional underground zine ever made!

But when using my little brains a bit more, this isn't as deep from the underground as it could but at least the editors are really open-minded, there are stuff about bands from one side to another, including MEGORA, SYSTEM DECAY, METAL CHURCH, SERPENT, ATROCITY, OZ, RIGID DOMAIN, HAZY HILL and tons more.

Zines

Zines

MORTICIAN issue 1

c/o René Bierbooms
Ouwelandsestraat 35
3171 GK Poortugaal
The Netherlands

(or)

c/o Harold Dekkers
Boeroestraat 66
3312 HD Dordrecht
The Netherlands

44 A4-pages

Also this one looks really very good, and probably all the stories are good, too, but I can't say for sure 'cause I'm not able to read this; it's written in Dutch!

But the thing I can say for sure is that this is a must for all those undergroundrats who understand the language. Inside are interviews with POSSESSED, REPULSION, THE GATHERING, IMMORTAL, TORMENTOR, MY DYING BRIDE and so on....I don't know the price, sorry!

SHOGGOTH issue 1

Juri Joensuu
Lumikontie 15
23500 Uki
Finland

48 A5-pages

Although being A5-size and written in Finnish, this really differs from most of the Finnish A5 zines.

Of course there are things that could have been done better, such as unclear pictures, sometimes slightly messy layout and copying rate. But the stories are informative, and there are much worse stuff that costs you 10Fim. So buy this if you like to read stuff about ANTIDOTE, DISHARMONIC ORC., NECROPHOBIC, SCEPTICAL SCHIZO, KYSSMA, MAPLE CROSS etc. To foreign countries \$3/\$4 should do, but remember that it's written in Finnish!



Zines

CARNIVALE

IN GODLY ARTICLE?

A band with the name CARTILAGE sounds like they were playing some kind of grind/deathcore with slight hc-influences. In other words the kind of stuff I'm not interested at all.

But this one year old (new!) Finnish band (containing Mikki Salo:vocals, Mikko Hannuksela : guitar, Karri Suoraniemi : guitar, Harri Huhtala:bass and Kai Hahto:drums) plays death metal; quite ordinary kind of, but in my opinion a bit over average. The proof of that is their debut demo '91, entitled In Godly Flesh.

First there's an instrumental intro (namely Carnival of Souls) which is fairly boring in my opinion. But the follower, The Altar, excretes some quite good riffing, that reminds me of the Norwegian gods DARK THRONE in their debut album. Other bands that come to my mind are BOLT THROWER (mainly because of the vocals, I guess) and the Finnish DEMIGOD (read an interview elsewhere...).

The next track, To Your Scattered Bodies Go, doesn't move me to any direction, it seems to be a bit weaker than The Altar.

Then we'll turn the B-side on, and there's something more interesting to be found! Namely, the track Infernal Paradise... The Journey is suddenly far from the stuff of the side A. The best riffing is to be found here, and also the song structure is more interesting than in the earlier tracks which used to have quite a usual structure.

It's a pity the lyrics

are a desecration! Their lyrics in common are considering the trendy stupid gore stuff, and here in Infernal Paradise...The Journey are messed the divine Ancient Ones just right between stuff like dismembering a purulent cadaver...Unlike usually (in connection with trendy gore stuff) I'm not fascinated at all for mentioning the Ancient Gods (like Yog-Sothoth, Shub Niggurath (No, I don't mean that band this time, you stupid moron!), Tsathoggua and so on) or anything about any Sumerian or Lovecraftian mythos.

Anyway, musically the track is good, and like a dot onto the letter "i" there's some classical music as an outro.

Okay, for 20Fmk (Scandinavia) or \$5 (Europe) or \$6 (elsewhere) you'll get the tape with colour cover (quite a good one!), lyrics, bio and the stuff. And just for the victory of your knowledge, the demo tracks are going to be released soon as a 7"ep through some Finnish underground label...damn, I can't remember the name right now... Anyway, it should be out when you read this, and hopefully for the same prices as the demo also.

For ordering the demo or further details, get in contact with Karri Suoraniemi, Kauppapuistikko 19-21, 65100 Vaasa, Finland.

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.



Some news from UNDERGROUND EMPIRE!

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

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

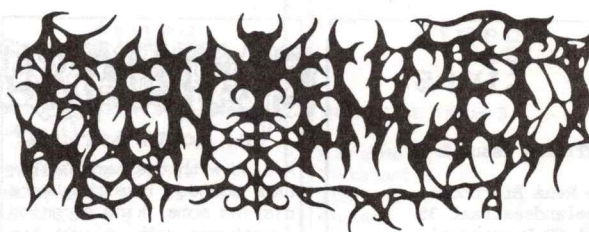
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6792 Ramstein-Miesenbach 1
Germany

SENTENCED is one of the Finnish death metal bands of whose debut album is soon to be released. In fact, it should be out when you are reading this. And if you are into heavy, dark-sounding death metal with some quite interesting melodies, you should know that you can't help buying this lp. Their two demos, **When Death Joins Us...**, which was widely spread in the underground, and the newer one, the excellent **Rotting Ways To Misery**, are a good proof for it. When speaking about their demos, I should try ask Vesa (drums) to tell also his opinion about the demos.

Vesa: "Well, **When Death Joins Us...** demo is okay in my opinion. We had been playing together just around half a year, so in that point of view the result is very good. If we could change something in it, I think the vocals could be a lot more aggressive. However, I think it's okay for our first demo. **Rotting Ways To Misery** differs musically quite a lot from the debut. The music is now a lot more, gloomy, ripping and slower, too. It's more into the type of music I like to listen to, so I like it more. Also the difference between the demos is that the kind of **DEATH** syndrome that was on our first demo, has disappeared from the second one."

Let's dig more deeply to the tracks on this new demo... like maggots crunching their way through flesh... In other words, tell me everything about each track, the lyrics, description, your opinion and so on!

Vesa: "Okay... **Rotting Ways To Misery** is the oldest one on the tape but not the worst. As a whole it's quite heavy. The lyrics are about a hell of an



original thing, life after death, where the devil reigns. **Disengagement** is quite a new one, and it's one of my faves on the demo. The lyrics are about anguish and disengagement of a soul. **Suffocated Beginning Of Life**. This is a kind of 'flying' song, and I like it very much, it's pretty new, too. The lyrics are total crap in my opinion, they are about abortion? The topic is so used that you could write a book about it (Yeah, right. -Niko). **Under The Suffer** contains quite old material, but it's still okay and pretty variable. The lyrics are about messenger of death that destroy your life. **Descending Curtain Of Death** is almost instrumental, lots of gloomy and sad melodies, heavy. Lyrics are simply about death; 'when you die, you feel relieved'. **The Truth** is a kind of rhythm-based track, relatively fast for being ours. The lyrics tell about the final destiny of the world."

SUFFOCATED BEGINNING...

The "financial" side: How many copies have you sold your demos, and what has the response been like?

Vesa: "**When Death Joins Us...** got a surprising response from the underground. In the beginning we were totally confused when the letters started to flow from every corner of the earth. Because of many (10000) flyers and advertising it

sold over 500 copies. Free copies to zines, labels etc. were given away around 100 copies. We haven't been too busy promoting **Rotting Ways To Misery**, because the lp is coming out soon. Despite the small advertising it has sold until now (31.10.91) about 400 copies which is quite good I guess. The response on it has been positive..."

Can you say who are the most active ones in composing the music in the band? And what about your lyrics?

Vesa: "Miika (guitar/vocals) and Sami (guitar) make the music. The lyrics are being written by Tane (bass) and Sami. Lyrics are about everything weird such as the dark and cold truth of life and death..."

In the demo there was still the guy Lari handling the bass; so you have changed him to this new guy you mentioned, Tane...?

Vesa: "Yeah, Lari got kicked out and replaced by Tane. I think we have now found the final line-up and won't change it again. So the present line-up looks like this: Miika - guitar/vocals (17), Vesa - drums (18), Tane - bass (17) and Sami - guitar (17)."

What kinds of bands and things inspire you musically? What is the song writing process of **SENTENCED** like?

Vesa: "Bands that inspire us are **DARK THRONE**, **PARADISE LOST**, **BOLT THROWER**, **ENTOMBED**. Things that inspire us are the pain and

anguish of life and "eternal misery". The song writing process looks pretty simple. Miika and Sami make some riffs at their homes, and play them to us in our rehearsals. We forsake bad riffs, and from good riffs we make a song. We pay quite much attention to arrange the riffs to fit them well together, we try to make as coherent tracks as possible."

Then describe your music with five words!

Vesa: "Our music is: Dark, cold, gloomy, deadly deathmetal."

THE TRUTH

Let's then talk about your deal with the French Thrash Records...

Vesa: "It's a one album deal. Our lp should be released in December, I don't know the correct date yet. Lp will include eight tracks (one bonus track on CD), the titles are: **When The Moment Of Death Arrives** (I've got this track as a "bonus"! And it's really good! -Niko), **Rot To Dead**, **Disengagement**, **Rotting Ways To Misery**, **The Truth**, **Suffocated Beginning Of Life**, **Beyond The Distant Valleys**, **Under The Suffer**, **Descending Curtain Of Death**. We recorded the master tape 10-15 October, in Tico-Tico studio, Kemi."

Do you think you should have got the deal maybe earlier, or was this just the right time for it?

Vesa: "I think it was the right time for us. In my opinion many Finnish death metal bands have got the deal too late, about a year ago a couple of bands should have got on vinyl... but better late than never. During these days many Finnish bands are about to release their debut lp's, and it's a great thing..."

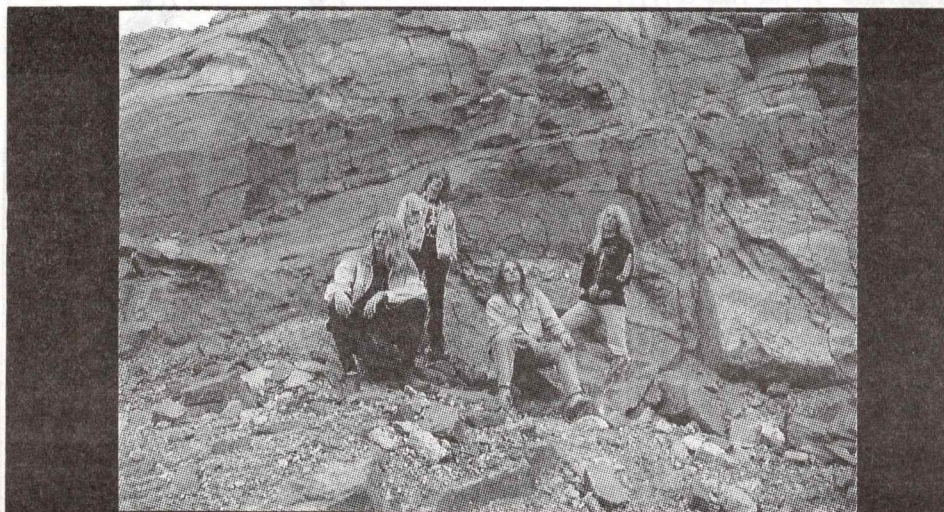
You also played in the Finnish deaththrash band **ANTHONY** (R.I.P.)...

Vesa: "Yes. **ANTHONY** splitted up almost at the same time I joined **SENTENCED**. I left **ANTHONY** because I got fed up with playing typical death/thrash, I just want to play pure death metal."

...WAYS TO MISERY

Tell something about your rehearsals. What is the place like and do you practise often?

Vesa: "We practise in our shed-like building which is like built to be a rehearsal place, about 3-5 times a week, it depends on inspiration. Our rehearsals last usually about 2-3 hours."





Then something about the gigs of yours...?

Vesa: "Our gig situation is by now pretty good, around 2-3 gigs a month. About 25 gigs have been done, we haven't kept on counting very well. Some have asked us to come playing abroad, it's possible that we'll visit Sweden in early '92. We have also asked Pat (Thrash Rec.) to arrange a couple gigs in France. But everything is uncertain yet, so I say nothing more about it."

DESCENDING CURTAIN...

How long do you think SENTENCED will be around? Do you think you could keep on playing this kind of music when your 30 of age or over?

Vesa: "Nobody knows the correct answer to this question. I guess SENTENCED will still be around for many years, time will show. I don't think we'll play this kind of music in our thirties, then I want to play extremely brutal deathcore, heh heh."

Are you developing your music to some certain style, or what? And how much are there possibilities to develop your style?

Vesa: "Hm... there could be many directions to change our music to, but we don't try to create anything too constrained or artificial. I think our music will be in the future quite same like today, but probably the tracks will contain colder and darker atmosphere, and more sad melodies..."

What else do you expect for the future?

Vesa: "We'll hope to release the lp soon, and more gigs."

What is in your opinion the most important

Morbid, Nuclear Gore, Final Holocaust, Death Vomit. There has been around 60-70 interviews with us, I haven't count them..."

Give a comment on today situation of the world!

Vesa: "The world is full of hate, darkness, and coldness, so I live a day at once..."

And the dinner course like the band SENTENCED would be of course...

Vesa: "Certainly makaroonilaatikko!"

Makaroonilaatikko is a pasta-like food...I don't know the right translation. Anyway, you can write to SENTENCED c/o Vesa Ranta, Rovastinkangas, 91500 Mu-
hos, Finland.

by NIKO SIRKIÄ



Kazjurol

The Swedish KAZJUROL may be a familiar name, do you remember their early demos and the album Dance Taran-tella? Myself I haven't heard the album, but it is said it wasn't a success at all.

Anyway, these thrash-ers have returned with a 7"ep entitled Bodyslam, including four cover tracks. The tracks are We Gotta Know (GRO-MAGS), United Forces (S.O.D.), Pay To Cum (BAD BRAINS) and Countess Bathory (VENOM). These pretty wellknown tracks sound quite good, to me the best one is the VENOM cover, maybe because the music of VENOM is the most familiar to me of these bands.

You can get this ep through Burning Heart Promotions c/o Peter Ahlqvist, Ringvägen 11, 73741 Fagers-ta, Sweden. It sales for \$5 or 30Skr. And watch out also for the future rele-ases of KAZJUROL, it is said that their new material is (of course) much better than everything they've made before.

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.



Despite those 25 gigs I haven't seen you live yet; I'd like to know what is your stage performance like? Do you belong to the Finnish standard that the guys just stand there and play, I think it's quite common here...

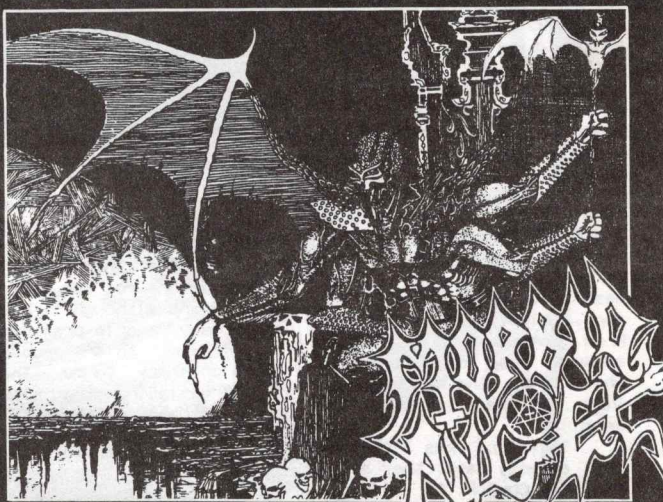
Vesa: "Well... I'm not sure if I can say we are a "live band". If the audience is active, we usually are quite wild, but if the crowd just stands there in the front of the stage just like sticks in shit, we'll also keep the low and depressive profile."

element of a death metal band; brutality, originality, or uncommerciality?

Vesa: "I think the most important things in death metal are its genuineness, and originality."

What do you think about underground 'zines? What the best ones of today in your opinion? And how much has there been inter-views of SENTENCED before this one?

Vesa: "Zines are real important to the under-ground! They help that bands spread their word. My faves are Isten, Rot, Peardrop, Drowned, Slayer,



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From Belgium comes this band of which name must be taken from DEICIDE's track title. The band was formed in 1987 under the name MORBID DEATH.

The first release was the demo called *Demoniac*. By the time the music was mostly thrashy type like KREATOR, SEPULTURA etc. In October '90 was the time to release their second demo *Diabolic Forces*, which was much more death metal.

In October '91 the band (Dan - bass&vocals, Patrick and Eddy - guitars and Fab - drums) changed its name to BLASPHEREION, and got a deal with Osmose Productions. Kindly enough Osmose Prod. sent me a three track advance tape of this lp, which is by the way titled *Rest In Peace* (the lp I mean!).

This tape has 3 songs as I already said; they are titled *Church Of Lies*, *Hells Of Pain* and *Demon's Blood*. The music is fast death metal, quite close to DEICIDE. But I prefer BLASPHEREION, they don't sound so extremely boring as DEICIDE, of whose music I have never been into. Other possible influences might be bands like INCANTATION, GOREFEST and maybe IMMOLATION.

Check out the album from Osmose Productions, 21 Res.fort-Mahon, 62990 Beaurainville, France. The band contact lies at BLASPHEREION, 21 rue Strimelle, 6040 Jumet, Belgium.



DISASTROUS MUMMUR is another band that have signed for Osmose Productions. They are quite well-known I think and have even been in Finland once!

Their first demo from 1988 is some kind of a legend; *Embryonic Uterogestation*. In 1989 a two-track ep was released through Gore Records. And in December '90 the second demo *Flesh...Is What I Need* saw the light of the day.

And finally in February '92 Osmose Prod. is going to release their debut lp *Rhapsodie In Red*. Again I have here a 3-track advance tape to listen to (thnx again!).

The tracks are titled *Disgorged*, *Bowel Movement*, *Extra Uterine Pregnancy* and *Dinner Is Served*. Not a surprise (at least to me) it's grind/death in their typical way to play it. If compared to their land mates, I think DISASTROUS

MUMMUR is closer to PUNGENT STENCH than DISHARMONIC ORCHESTRA, but not forgetting some more technical elements that are familiar to DISHARMONIC ORCHESTRA.

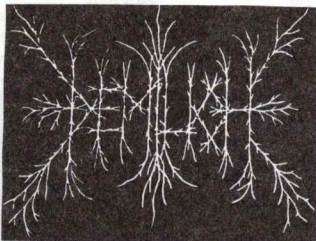
Let's give some light to some other forthcoming releases of Osmose Productions. PROFANATICA+MASACRE split lp is to be released in March. PROFANATICA come from New York and play black metal. For MASACRE's side there is the tracks of their 12"ep *Ola De Violencia*.

PAN-THY-MONIUM debut album, of which release date is some time in June or September, is something I'm really waiting for. Their *Dawn* demo was good and so should be this album, too!

And also there is going to be released PROFANATICA debut album in September/October, I haven't heard the band yet but it has been said they are one of the greatest new black metal bands.

All albums are (going to be) available as CD's, too. ask from Osmose Productions, 21 Res.fort-Mahon, 62990 Beaurainville, France.

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.



Well, this one comes from Finland. DEMILICH with their demo *The Four Instructive Tales...Of Decomposition* (which includes 4 instructive tales + instrumental intro) is one of the newer bands, and although I had heard many people praising this demo, this sounds quite ordinary to me. The tempos varying from slow to fast and ultra-brutal vocals in the vein of ANATHEMA, FUNEBRE (R.I.P.), INTERMENT etc. sound so typical to a Finnish band.

But a couple of more original riffs and guitar melodies give DEMILICH a bit of an own sound. Argh, the song titles *Embalmed Beauty Sleep*, *Two Independent Organisms*, *And The Slimy Flying Creatures Reproduce In Your Brains...*



and *The Uncontrollable Regret Of The Rotting Flesh* explain strictly of what their lyrics are about. No doubt you can find some pathological gore/splatter terms that are megastupid and trendy in my opinion, that means I don't like that stuff! Recommendable for all who like gory Finnish death metal. 20Fim or \$5 to DEMILICH c/o Antti Boman, Presidentinkatu 23, 70620 Kuopio, Finland.

by NIKO SIRKIÄ.



Hey, this band comes from Sweden! Strange, I didn't know there were any bands at all...and this one plays death metal! Even stranger!

To cut the crap UNANIMATED isn't another NIHILIST-sounding band who has recorded their demo in Sunlight studio. These guys, I'm talking about Richard Daemon: bass, Peter Starwind: Drums, Johan Bohlin: guitar and Jonas Mellberg: lead guitar, have recorded their demo entitled *Fire Storm* in Unicorn Music Studios in June '91.

And the first band that comes to my mind when listening to them is DARK THRONE, but yet this isn't as technical. But quite a good one in my opinion, and addition to the music the sounds are excellent, and above all, their song titles sound really good and interesting to me. The titles are *The Call* (intro), *Through The Gates*, *The Blackness Of The Fallen Star*, *Storms Of From The Grief* and *In The Forest Of The Dreaming Dead*. They seem to have an occult touch; I really would like to have their lyrics to read.

Of those four tracks I can't say what is my favourite; all are simply good. I must admit that there do exist better bands than UNANIMATED, but there does much much more worse ones!

To order this copy, I really don't know what the heck is the price of this one, but I guess \$5 would be okay. Write to Jonas Mellberg, Landsvägen 15A, S - 172 39 Sundbyberg, Sweden.





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 SUFFOCATION EFFIGY OF THE FORGOTTEN 69. NEW NEW NEW
 SUFFOCATION HUMAN WASTE 59. US DEATH

SWEET TOOTH SOFT WHITE UNDERBELLY 69. LIKE GODFLESH ON EARTH
 TERRORIZER WORLD DOWNFALL 69. DEATH
 THERION OF DARKNESS 69.
 THERION TIME SHALL TELL 49. LONG DELETED MINI-LP: BACK IN
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 TOXODETH MYSTERIES ABOUT LIFE & DEATH 69. TRASH ON WILLY
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 UNLEASHED WHERE NO LIFE DWELLS 69. SWEDISH DEATH VERY GOOD
 VIAGRESSION EXPOUND AND EXHORT 69. US DEATHMETAL WITH LOTS
 OF INTROS & OUTROS
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 VYSAIA YEAH 65. FINNISH GODS OF EXPERIMENTAL METAL

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 TERRORIZER WORLD DOWN FALL 99.
 THERION OF DARKNESS 99.
 TIAMAT THE ASTRAL SLEEP 99.
 VAR ART DEATH IS JUST THE BEGINNING 99. "NUCLEAR BLAST COMP.
 W.DEFECATION DISMEMBER REVENANT MASTER PUNGENT STENCH ETC.
 CD SISALTÄÄ 8 LISAKAPPALETTA!!"
 VIAGRESSION EXPOUND AND EXHORT 99.
 VULCANO RATRACE 119.

EPS & DEMOS

ABHORRENCE ABHORRENCE 35.- VERY GOOD FINNISH DEATH: TODAY = AMORPHIS
 ABSURD ABSURD 25.- DEMO(SUNLIGHT)
 AFFLICTED INGRAINED 20.- EP THRASH RECORDSILLA!!
 AGATHOCLES IF THIS IS CRUEL WHAT'S VIVISECTION THEN? 35.-
 ANGUISH GROUND ABSORBS EP 20.- FINNISH DEATH ON ITALIAN LABEL
 APPARITION ETERNALLY FORGOTTEN 30.- RELAPSE REC. US
 ASPHYX MUTILATING PROCESS 35.- MUUTAMA LÖYTYI...
 BESEBUB DISEMBOWELED 30.- DEMO: SWEDISH DEATHMETAL
 BLOOD/AGATHOCLES SPLIT EP 35.-
 BRUIERIA DEMONIACO! 30.- GRIND/DEATH
 BRUTALITY HELL ON EARTH 20.- DEATH
 CARTILAGE IN GODLY FLESH 20.- DEMO:FINNISH DEATHMETAL CARCASS
 STYLE
 CENTINEX END OF LIFE 30.- DEMO: SWEDEN & SUNLIGHT
 CONVULSE RESUSCITATION OF EVILNESS 20.- DEMO: GOOD
 COPROPHILLA DEMO 91 20.- DEMO:GOOD FINNISH DEATH
 CREMATORY WRATH FROM THE UNKNOWN 30.- DEMO:SWEDISH
 DEAD EP 20.- US DEATH ON GORE REC.
 DERKETA DERKETA 35.- ALL GIRL DEATH
 DESTROY TOTAL FUCKING CHAOS 30.- GRINDCORE
 DISGRACE INSIDE THE LABYRINTH OF DEPRESSION 15.- DEMO:DEATH
 DISGRACE DEPTH OF THE GODS EP 35.- FINNISH DEATH ON US LABEL
 DISMEMBER SKIN HER ALIVE/DEFECTIVE DECAY 35.- PICTURE DISC
 DISMEMBER REBORN IN BLASPHEMY 25.- DEMO: REALLY GOOD
 DISRUPT REFUSE PLANET 30.-
 E.C.T. NO ROOM FOR HUMANITY 20.- DEMO: FINNISH FAST DEATHTHRASH
 ENSHRINED ASSEMBLY OF THE DAMNED 30.- DEMO:SWEDEN
 EPITAPH DISORIENTATION 25.- DEMO:SWEDISH FAST THRASH
 FORMICIDE COMATOSE 30.- DEMO: SWEDEN & SUNLIGHT
 FUNCUNT COLDEACCOL 20.- DEMO:FINNISH NOISE LIKE NAKED
 CITY:VERY GOOD
 IMPALED NAZARENE TAOG EHT OF HTAO EHT 20.- DEMO:FINNISH
 SATANIC DEATHMETALAN OUTRAGEOUSLY POWERFUL GROUP:REALLY
 BRUTAL
 INTERMENT LIFE HEREAFTER 20.- FAST DEATH MORBID ANGEL TYPE
 GOOD
 KILLING ADDICTION NECROSOPHERE 35.-
 MALEDICTION SYSTEM FEAR EP 20.- THRASH RECORDS
 MASTICATION DEMO 2 1991 25.- DEMO: GOOD
 MINCH SEVEN MINCH 35.-
 MISERY CHILDREN OF WAR 25.- RELAPSE REC. US
 MORBID ANGEL BLESSED ARE THE SICK 140.- BOX W. 6 SINGLES + POSTER
 MORIBUND INTO DEPTHS OF ILLUSION 30.- DEMO:SWEDISH DEATH
 MORTICIAN BRUTALLY MUTILATED 35.-
 NAPALM DEATH MASS APPEAL MADNESS 20.-
 NECRONY SEVERE MALIGNANT PUSTULE 30.- DEMO: SWEDEN
 NECROPHOBIC UNHOLY PROPHECIES 25.- DEMO SWEDISH DEATHMETAL
 NECROPSY ANOTHER WORLD 20.- DEMO:FINNISH DEATH
 NIHILIST DROWNED 30.- TODAY = ENTOMBED
 NIHILIST DEMO 1990 25.- DEMO: THE US THRASHGROUP:NOT THE SWEDISH
 ONE
 NIRVANA 2002 DISEMBODIED SPIRITS 30.- DEMO: SWEDISH
 ORDER FROM CHAOS WILL TO POWER 20.- US DEATHTHRASH ON PUTREFAC-
 TION REC.
 PUNGENT STENCH EXTREME DEFORMITY 20.-
 PURTENANCE AVULSION DEMO 1-91 20.- DEMO: GOOD
 REPUGNANCE COVETOUS DIVINITY 25.- DEMO:SWEDISH FAST THRASH
 RIGHTEOUS PIGS TURMOIL 20.-
 SACROPHOBIA ONLY DEATH IS IRREVERSIBLE 25.- DEMO: SPANISH DEATH
 SEANCE LEVITISED SPIRIT 30.- DEMO:GOOD SWEDISH DEATH
 SHRINE SHRINE 20.- DEMO FINNISH TRASHEAVY
 SYNDROME INTO THE HALLS OF EXTERMINATION 35.- DEMO:MADE IN 87:A
 CLASSIC
 THERGOTON FHTAGN-NAGH YOG-SOTHOTH 15.- DEMO:VERY GOOD
 FINNISH DOOM
 TIAMAT A WINTER SHADOW 25.- DEMO
 TOXAEMIA TOXAEMIA 35.-
 UNANIMATED FIRE STORM 30.- DEMO: SWEDISH
 UNLEASHED ...REVENGE 40.- 2 KPL...
 VAR ART MORBID SATISFACTION 30.- DEMO: POLISH DEATH:SPARAGMOS/
 LASTWAR SPLIT
 VAR ART OPINIONATE REC SAMPLER 25.- APPENDIX: AUTHORIZE:
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 VAR ART POLKA SLAM/ CRISIS POINT 40.- BOLT THROWER: INSTIGATORS:
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15-01-92

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A D D R E S S E E



HAMMER OF DAMNATION
c/o Niko Sirkia
Nurmelantie 6 D 3
20780 Kaarina
FINLAND