

# EDGE OF TIME

Summer 1995 #8



**Orphaned Land**  
oriental doom/death metal

*Ship of Fools*

*"Trip Through The Space"*

Psychosis  
Into The Abyss  
Theatre of Tragedy  
Septic Flesh  
Nightfall  
Mortification  
T r o m  
A b s o r b e d  
P a x M o r t i s  
Dark Tranquility

**&** even more...



# DANGUS PRODUCTIONS presents



## DARK FIRE DANCING

Dangus Productions compilation tape #1 6L:55  
60 min. (color cover) compilation tape  
features 2 songs from each of the  
following bands:  
**Poccolus** - probably the best Lith pagan  
metal act  
**Nahash** - burning black metal!  
**Akys** - stunged by the pain of nature  
**Anubi** - anger & darkness from the land  
of the Pharaohs  
**Wejdas** - the cold depths of space



## MERESSIN

demo 6 L:55  
8 songs, 40 min / color cover / lyrics  
It's one of the most  
interesting bands in the  
dark Lithuania - clear,  
melodic, speedy, dark,  
hellish and evil Black  
Metal



## WEJDAS

*Saulėi Tekant*  
demo #2 6L:55  
Almost an hour of  
the real pagan/  
ambient music with  
dark and bright  
passages, soaring  
from the embrace of  
nature to the cold  
distances of space.

# L I S T

# D I S T R O

**CONSCIOUS ROT** "Congenital  
*Passivity*" demo 7L:55  
8 songs/35 min color cover/lyrics  
brain-striking grinding death metal  
**CONSCIOUS ROT** "The Soil" demo  
8 songs/35 min b/w cover/lyrics  
the brand new release of these crazy  
deathsters presents even more mature stuff -  
ask for the price  
**DEAD BEAUTY** "Cephalopoda" demo 5L:33  
20 songs/25 min promo cover  
crazy death-i-don't-care-core in the veins of  
Heavis'n/Butthead show  
**DISRUPTION** "Sleepless Dead" demo 7L:55  
4 songs/20 min b/w cover  
strong and melodic doom-death  
**DISTURB** "Life in the Rain" demo 6L:45  
9 songs/25 min color cover/lyrics  
guitar music, acoustical compositions &  
heavy attacks, some tracks are with vocals  
**EDGE OF TIME** mag. #7 4L:38  
28 A4 pages offset printed in English  
this publication is devoted to all kinds of  
metal! in this issue you can find interviews  
w/ Sieges Even, My Dying Bride, Astral  
Rising, Patnarch, Rotting Christ, Godsend, etc.  
**GHOSTORM** "The End of All Songs" demo  
7L:55  
5 songs/20 min b/w cover/lyrics  
nice techno death metal!!!  
**HORROR HIGH** mag. #2 6L:45  
32 A5 pages offset printed glossy cover in English  
w/ Grave, Mayhem, Asphyx, Samael,  
Godsend, Hybrids, Opera IX, Ruination, etc.  
**NAHASH** "Noctacula Hecate" demo 7L:55  
4 songs/40 min black cover/lyrics  
extremely angry though melodic black metal  
**OSSUARY** "Desert" demo 7L:55  
5 songs/20 min b/w cover  
death metal which will drive a knife into your  
throat

**PARRICIDE** "In Bratavia" demo 7L:55  
4 songs/20 min b/w cover  
trampling death metal/one grunge track!!  
**POCCOLUS** adv. tape 6L:55  
5 tracks/40 min b/w cover  
dark, melodic and sincere pagan metal with  
ambient touch  
**PROSECUTOR** "From Despair to Notknown"  
demo 7.5L:65  
5 songs/25 min color cover/lyrics  
thrash death w/ doom elements & atmospheric  
vocals  
**RUINATION** reh. tape 5L:35  
3 songs/20 min promo cover  
original melodic doom metal with flute &  
keyboards  
**SOYLIUS** "Found in the Dark" demo 6L:55  
5 songs/b/w cover  
gloomy electronic ambient falling like the tears  
of winter  
**TURBO REANIMACIJA** "Gimtadienis" tape  
6L:55  
11 songs/35 min b/w cover  
Lithuanian nicest HC band's turn into  
psychedelic indie fields  
**WC NEWS** demo '94 5L:45  
10 songs/35 min b/w cover  
fast and strong HC punk  
**WOUNDED** mag. #4 6L:45  
36 A4 pages offset printed glossy cover in English  
w/ Sex Sex Sex, Anathema, The Gathering,  
Whores of Babylon, Candiru, Misanthrope, etc.  
**WOUNDED** mag. #5 6L:45  
32 A5 pages offset printed glossy cover in English  
w/ Solstice, Skum, Naked Lunch, Dissonance,  
Cold Meat Industry, The State, Boyd Rice, etc.  
**LUNATIC PARADISE** "Piktofo Amzians  
Randa" demo 7.5L:55  
5 songs/25 min b/w cover  
original thrash-death metal with folk jazz  
influences

All prices include air mail postage costs.  
Please mention alternatives (if possible) when ordering.

Special note for Lithuania residents:

Pasto perlaidas siuskite Ugniaus Logos vardu.

Jei norite kasetes fanziniu gauti registruotu pasutu, nepamirskite nurodyti savo vardo pavardes.

**Dangus Productions**  
PO Box 982, 2300 Vilnius, Lithuania

# EDGE OF TIME #8

The sun rises and sets up, the moon shines and doesn't shine and "Edge of Time"... hhh... well, I have to admit that was not correct beginning... All my hopes to start bombastically were doomed to be destroyed, nevertheless the bravest part of the fanzine (titled editorial) must be continued...

So once again me and a couple of others could not sit quietly without expressing of their thoughts/minds/conclusions on various (mostly musical) things that happen around on the paper (you see - I don't use the word "white paper" - so regarding this fact it should be concluded that this editorial is written in highly intelligent way (even in more intelligent than Verbaitsis holds his bass in "Raganos & Alus" zine #8, heh heh). As always the most of material deals w/ music, well, why to hide, 100% of stuff is devoted to this kind of art, and if you would answer "Why?" I could reply "Why not?". I really don't suppose that there's a point to put dull & boring poems, stupid comix or pseudo-wisely-written stories (good ones find their place in another sort of publications). Well, actually if someone, who could write about smth. Different than music is welcome, and for example, it would be great to get in touch with someone who could be able to write movie reviews & things like that.

Back to this issue. The spectre of music becomes wider, includes not only metal stuff, but some gothic & electronic as well. I'm writing this editorial only a day before I leave my motherland (I'm going to study in Denmark for 5 months), so I have not much time, sorry. At the moment we have almost all written stuff for the zine and I made the layout of some pages. Unfortunately I won't be able to coordinate all the action regarding articles/layout/printing, so if someone isn't correct - turn your charges to Audrius ha! However I don't throw responsibility from my shoulders in any case. The layout should be made by Storas Verbaitsis, and imagine - I even don't know how the page No.3 (with this editorial) will look like! Oblomas... All in all I hope Verbaitsis made a good job (he does good things sometimes, though quite rarely). It was allowed to him to express his own opinion about his work, contents & things like that (but hey Verbaitsis, your "editorial" should be smaller than mine...!).

The fact that at the moment when you're reading this I'm sitting in Denmark doesn't mean that "Edge of Time" doesn't exist - it does and it will. Send all the mail to my address: **Giedrius Slivinskas, Justiniskiu 73-1, 2056 Vilnius, Lithuania.** (Fanzine costs 4 Lt (Lithuania) or 2 USD (the world)) or the 2nd editor: **Audrius Ozalas, Didlaukio 20-9, 2057 Vilnius, Lithuania.**

The next issue should be out somewhere in fall of '95. Take care, thanks to you all & see you soon!

-Giedrius-

hi! i'm supposed to be the one who did most of the layout for this ish of "Edge Of Time" - and i feel i've done my best because the mag is as late as possible this time, due to not only my laziness (which was also very important), but also to my PC which managed to break down a couple of times and my friends, who helped me to drink some beer and my band, which was recording a new tape and all the rest of my occupations... i'm really sorry. i also would like to say "i'm sorry" to Giedrius, who naively believed to find editorials on page no.3 - that happened to the reason mentioned above. anyway, i had some good time laying this out and i hope you'll manage to read all that small print, which is waiting for you on the next pages - we had sooo much information to spread and sooo little money to afford the space to put that information... nevertheless, now the mag is finally laid out and if you won't get it till the next year, it will be only Audrius' fault, ha ha.. though i hope he will do better than me. my speech was shorter than Giedrius' one - and it's the only his direction that i managed to obey!

-Verbaitsis-

## Reviewers' playlists

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Giedrius Slivinskas (-G-)                          | Audrius Ozalas (-A-)                               |
| 1. Incubus Succubus <i>Beladonna &amp; Acomite</i> | 1. Dream Theater <i>Awake</i>                      |
| 2. Psychotic Waltz <i>Mosquito</i>                 | 2. Decoryah <i>Wisdom Floats</i>                   |
| 3. Dream Theater <i>Awake</i>                      | 3. The 7 Chakras compilation                       |
| 4. Mysterious Encounters compilation               | 4. Dead Can Dance all                              |
| 5. Tiamat <i>Wildhoney</i>                         | 5. Incubus Succubus <i>Beladonna &amp; Acomite</i> |
| 6. Megadeth <i>Youthnastia</i>                     | 6. Mayfair <i>Behind...</i>                        |
| 7. Maggie Reilly <i>Midnight-Sm</i>                | 7. Relatives <i>Menschlein Die Ewigkeit</i>        |
| 8. Cemetery <i>Black Vanity</i>                    | 8. Tiamat <i>Wildhoney</i>                         |
| 9. Phillip Boa & The Voodooclub <i>Boaphenia</i>   | 9. Into The Abyss <i>Martyrium</i>                 |
| 10. Fates Warning <i>Inside Out</i>                | 10. Tilt! <i>The Next Generation</i>               |
| 11. Desultory <i>Bitterness</i>                    | 11. Trom <i>Baltmor</i>                            |
| 12. Killing Joe <i>Pandemonium</i>                 | 12. Mysterious Encounters compilation              |
| 13. Ship of Fools <i>Out There Somewhere</i>       | 13. Orphaned Land <i>Sahara</i>                    |
| 14. Marty Friedman <i>Scenes</i>                   | 14. Lost In Misery <i>Tragic Romance</i>           |
| 15. Voodoo Cult <i>Jesus Killing Machine</i>       | 15. Phillip Boa & The Voodooclub <i>Boaphenia</i>  |
- Sigitas Velyvis (-S-)
1. Last Crack *Burning Time*
  2. King's X *everything*
  3. Tribe After Tribe *Love Under Will*
  4. Awful Truth *Awful Truth*
  5. Mindfunk *Dropped*
  6. Naked Sun *everything*
  7. Psychotic Waltz *Mosquito*
  8. Fates Warning *Perfect Symmetry*
  9. Dream Theater *Images and Words*
  10. Freak of Nature *Freak of Nature*
  11. IQ *Ever*
  12. Mordred *The Next Room*
  13. Temple of the Dog *Temple of the Dog*
  14. Type O Negative *Bloody Kisses*
  15. Soundgarden *Superunknown*

\* Noise Records opened up a new office in Los Angeles, so according to that, this year they are slightly more towards U.S. bands than before. Some of the new releases are Los Angeles based **Lost Breed**, **Unorthodox** from Washington D.C., San Diego rockers **Zaxas**, **Kamelot** from Tampa, Florida...

\* French label Holy Records proceeds with revealing of new talents of atmospheric metal genre, at the end of 1994 it released the album of gothic/dark/symphonic metal band **Elend** titled "*Lecons de Tenebres*". Also beware of new **Serenity** album "*Then Came Silence*" (melodic doom), **Tristitia**'s "*One With Darkness*" (dark doom) and mini CD of **Nightfall** ("*Eons Aura*"). By the way, as for newcomers - Greek band **Phlebotomy** joined the label.

\* Famous Greeks **Rotting Christ** released their new album "*Von Serviam*" (which in band's opinion is "darker and more atmospheric than ever") on Unisound Records. Also "*Satanas Te Deum*" demo '89 was made as mini CD in order to avoid the bootlegs. Group leader's Sakis Tolis band **Thou Art Lord** released their new CD, which is titled "*Eosforos*". All these albums you can get from: c/o Sakis Tolis, Menememis 22, 14231 N.Ionia, Athens, Greece (prices - "*Von Serviam*" - 16 USD, "*Eosforos*" - 16 USD, "*Satanas...*" - 13 USD). By the way, about much talked band's conflict with Osmose Prod. Sakis said: "We decided to leave this label, because its attitude suck both in economical and advertising matters".

\* Earache Records are going to hit you strong this year - there are planned new releases of **Cathedral**, **Morbid Angel**, **Napalm Death**, **Massacre** and **Extreme Noise Terror**. **Cathedral** has new bass player and new drummer and their follow-up to "*The Ethereal Mirror*" should be out somewhere in spring. Expect a radical style change from **Massacre** in their new album "*Promise*" (it's also scheduled for spring release) - they promise "more gothic/skull splattering affair, with the vocals displaying a more aggro-metal style".

\* **Radio Marabú** is the radio from Germany, which covers various kind of stuff, from gothic/electronic to alternative & metal. If interested, write to: PO Box 22 03 42 -42373 Wuppertal, Germany.

\* Some news from German progressive rock band **Sieges Even**: they re-

corded a live-demo-tape just for record companies to get a new deal. Recently they made some live gigs according to the words of Oliver Holzwarth, "to improve and build up a strong unity in the band". New tracks titles are: "Reporter", "As the world moves on", "Stand aside", "Legal", "War", "Dreamer", "Cold inside the arsenal", "Quarrel", "History", "Numbers", etc.

\* As for Belgian progressive/heavy metal band **Patriarch**, a few months ago drummer Luc Seeuws left the band and he was replaced by a new talented drummer named Frank Dresselaers. Now the band is looking for a new deal, 'coz the contract with Shark is finished. **Patriarch** are working on new songs, have already done 8 tracks (some titles are "Enigma of Hate", "The End of the Day", "Parade of Fools" and some others) and are going to release a new demo this year. Also, check out the new band address: Patriarch, c/o Geert Baelus, Pas 169, 2440 Geel, Belgium.

**label addresses:**

- Century Media Records**, 1453A 14th St., Suite 324, Santa Monica, CA 90404, USA
- Earache Records**, PO Box 144, Nottingham NG3 4GE, UK
- Holy Records**, 4Bd Gutenberg, 93190 Livry-Gargan, France
- Massacre Records**, Rauheckstr. 10, D-74232 Abstatt, Germany
- Metal Blade Records**, 2345 Erringer Rd., Suite 108, Simi Valley, CA 93065, USA
- Noise Records**, 8721 Sunset Boulevard, Penthouse 6, Los Angeles, California 90069, USA
- Peaceville Records**, PO Box 17, Dwsbury, West Yorkshire, WF12 8AA, UK
- Progress Records**, Vindegade 101, DK-5000, Odense C, Denmark
- Red Light Records**, 880 Lee St, Suite 208, Des Plaines, IL 60016, USA
- Relapse Records**, PO Box 251, Millersville, PA 17551, USA
- Shiver Records**, Hans De Wyngaert, Amerstraat 112, 3200 Aarschot, Belgium
- Wild Rags Records**, 2207 W.Whittier Blvd., Montebello, CA 90640, USA



it is becoming a tradition that this section gets a respectful place in the pages of "edge of time", and here you can some lines about such releases, which were not lucky enough to get the "normal" review, here it goes...

sweden really kicked asses in '94, it not only took the 3rd place in football world cup '94, but

**The Sea Of Sounds**

gave the world such albums as **tiamat**, **desultory**, **cemetary** and a couple of others enjoyable things including **edge of sanity**'s "*purgatory afterglow*", which gives an exact kick into your sweet face w/ energetic yet melodic death metal, maybe it's not better **desultory**'s latest album "*bitterness*" (or at least than the first track of this), but in general it's pretty good (by the way, the opener song also is the best here). \*\*\* another swedish atmospheric monsters **cemetary** (which firstly were accused of **paradise lost**, then of **tiamat** influences) in their 3rd album "*black vanity*" turned to more softer way, however they surely stays under the label "atmospheric metal", and this one is for melodic metal fans. \*\*\* gothic/doom maniacs highly appreciate **decoryah**'s album "*wisdom floats*", it's almost not metal, rather avantgarde gothic made in doom metal spirit, often used female voice, keyboards & things like that, but this is one of the rare cases when we don't feel bored cliches - it's certainly unique work, it lies somewhere between so called "meditating" and "commercial" gothic, (the world "commercial" here rather means melodic & wide circle accepted gothic, in general there could be written various essays about what's commerce, what's not, what is underground, and what is false & unreal, anyway i'd just like to repeat and tease you once more that "edge of time" is open for all good music no matter the form it has). \*\*\* back to reality, another swedish band **morgana lefay** reminds of times when power metal was hot, they released "*the secret doctrine*" and it should be noted there is a certain tendency felt of regrowing popularity of such style, there are the ones who still like it, the ones who begin to like it, it's clear that one of the faves of **morgana lefay** are **metal church**, maybe the album is a bit too long, but this is not the wisest

way to criticize for it - because the longer album takes the more fans are satisfied, and from the other side - the ones who don't like it, wouldn't like it if it would be 20 minutes shorter... \*\*\* **killing joke**'s "*pandemonium*" are the album of new metal breed, the first track is from the ones which kicks ass, the band balances on the edge where **alice in chains** or **megadeth** & other american metal bands dance on, they definitely are not similar to any of above mentioned, just they are heavy, driving and w/ techno/ a bit

industrial approach. \*\*\* **lake of tears** is another band from melodic/atmospheric metal fields, but namely not any doom/death, it's more oriented to quietness & melody (new **cemetary** or new **tiamat**), though they rather remind of **tiamat**'s "*clouds*" than of their new one "*wildhoney*". \*\*\* if there was mentioned **tiamat** we could proceed w/ their "*wildhoney*", which is more experimental, not so heavy & metal oriented than their earlier works, from 10 tracks there are only 2-3 which should be called metal, at first sight there are no killing melodies, but actually it's sorrowfully kind, it doesn't bring depression, rather it brings sweet sadness, so don't be afraid of losing the belief into life after the listening to this. \*\*\* **national razor**'s "*shiver*" is a cross between gothic rock and electronic music, mostly gloomy, but not pressing thing, they don't fall into hard/meditative ambient parts, they prefer more usual songs - that's fine, (you can get it from scream records, 36 river st., rochester nh 03867, usa) \*\*\* **pyogenesis** moved in a bit unexpected direction w/ their new album "*sweet x-rated nothings*", the change roughly could be resumed as "from romanticism to vulgarity", it's something like **paradise lost** and **type o' negative**, but more jolly, it's quite a good album, though from other side such description "peasant variant of **paradise lost**" fits to it as well. \*\*\* german techno/progressive thrashers **mekong delta** continues the line drawn by the 1992 album "*kaleidoscope*", the new one "*visions fugitives*" is also more progressive than technothrasy, thought there is only 4 usual songs and one 20 min. classics orientated suite. \*\*\* **mystic charm**'s (from Netherlands) debut album "*shadows of the unknown*" firstly attracts the attention for the female singer, it would be possible to expect melodic gothic/doom or smth like that, anyway, all hopes are doomed to be destroyed - first of all we should wait nearly 4 minutes (intro, ya know, is very important thing) until we hear the voice, and the voice is... somewhere in the style of tg warrior from **celtic frost**, and in general the music is a bit trite doom metal w/ c.f. influence.

**edge of sanity** - purgatory afterglow twilight / of darkness origin / blood-colored / silent / black tears / elegy / velvet dreams / enter chaos / the sinner and the sadness / song of sirens [ ] **cemetary** - black vanity bitter seed / ebony rain / hunger of the innocent / scarecrow / black flowers of passion / lost departure, serpentine parade / sweet tragedy / pale autumn fire / out in sand / rosemary taste the sky [ ] **decoryah** - wisdom floats / astral mirage of paradise / wisdom floats / monolithos / beryllos / reaching melacholia / circle immortality / when the echoes start to fade / cosmos silence / intra-mental ecstasy / ebones / infinity awaits [ ] **morgana lefay** - the secret doctrine rooms of sleep / what am i / alley of oaks / soldiers of the holy empire / paradise lost / nowhere island / the mirror / state of intoxication / cold world / lord of the rings / last rites / dying evolution / the secret doctrine [ ] **killing joke** - pandemonium pandemonium / exorcism / millennium / communion / black moon / labyrinth / jana / whitout / pleasures of the flesh / mathematics of chaos [ ] **lake**

**of tears** - greater art under the crescent / eyes of the sky / upon the highest mountain / as daylight yields / greater art / evil inside / netherworld / tears [ ] **tiamat** - wildhoney wildhoney / whatever that hurts the ar / 25th floor / gain / visionaire / kaleidoscope / do you dream of me? / planets / pocket size sun [ ] **national razor** - shiver / no place ago / back-stabber's reunion / the virus / house on fire / bosko and admira / cold fall / potters field / unsuspecting / good friday / sabine / room 214 / farewell [ ] **pyogenesis** - sweet x-rated nothings intro / fade away / sweet x-rated nothings / it's on me / i'll search / skvixss / These roads / golden sins / masquerade / through the flames / exstasis [ ] **mekong delta** - visions fugitives them / imagination / suite for group and orchestra (introduction (the danger in dreams), precludium(lord kevin's lament), allegro (mhorams victory), dance (the corrupt), fugue (knowledge), postludium (lena's daughter) the healer / days of sorrow [ ] **mystic charm** - shadows of the unknown shadows of the unknown / mystic charms / window of reality / deadly embrace / saved soul / lost empire / beyond darkness / crushed virginity / endless sickness [ ]



By taking a closer look into America's underground culture you will notice the presence of a new breed of thrashers - bands that don't afraid of going from a classic thrash metal to a higher, more innovative level. One of such bands is Nashua, New-Hampshire based four-piece outfit **Psychosis**. They definitely leads the alternative direction of thrash metal and has nothing to do with old Bay Area type stuff. Their aggression sometimes tears out like **Pantera**, but **Psychosis** are thousand times more diverse than that new American metal heroes. **Psychosis** turns their songs into more psychedelic fields, their music isn't very straight, rather complex (w/ acoustical parts, rap singing burstouts, psychedelic grunge moments). By the way, the band started in 1990 as speed/thrash act, but "soon realized the limitations of such an approach" and "discovered the importance of broadening their musical boundaries". They refused of already tried path ("the late-eighties secondary thrash bands eventually caused the scene's demise") and turned to more alternative direction.

P s y -

## PSYCHOSIS

**"These chemically imbalanced cranks temper Voi Vod-damaged Fates Warning hushes with Biohazard-versus-Pantera steel cage matches of stomp and slam"**

chosis opened for acts like **Biohazard**, **Only Living Witness**, **GWAR** and soon (in November '92) signed to Massacre Records (German label). The band flew to Germany to record "Squirm" - their debut album.

The summer of 1994 band spent on tour in the USA and it seems that they at least succeeded to escape from the unexciting confines of the Nashua, New Hampshire area. ("Basically the local scene is dead - mainly because of the economy" - states Lowell). **Psychosis** played the Milwaukee Metal Fest in Wisconsin, after then - a peace festival in Chicago. The material for their second album is almost ready. "Most of the new songs have a slower, gothic groove feel" says their tour manager Matt Coe. For more details about these freaks, read the chat with singer Roddy Lowell.

### What is Psychosis?

Psychosis is a general term for any disorder of the mind.

Is your debut album "Squirm" 100% completed work? Does it represent Psychosis at all its best?

### infotrip

**Line-up:**  
Roddy Lowell - lead vocals  
Mario Previti - bass  
Paul (Pogo) Deviller - guitars  
Corey Audet - drums

**Track list:**  
Squirm (1993/Massacre Records)  
Vision Down Surrounding Move Alpha State Bowl Divisions Mutation Running the Mouth / Consider Life / Through the Cracks / Drifting Phase

"Squirm" is 100% completed. It basically shows **Psychosis** at its best at the time that the songs were written, but, presently we have new material that, to me, is better than "Squirm". As time goes on our material improves.

Why have you recorded "Squirm" in Germany? Why not in your home country? You like travelling by plane very much or what?

We recorded "Squirm" in Germany partially because we wanted to meet the people from Massacre Records and also because we had never been to Europe before and wanted to go. The plane flight was OK., but we got kind of bored after an hour or so, at least we didn't crash.

Tell us how the recent band style was formed? As far as I know at first you tried to play very fast metal, but later refused of that musical way...

After playing and writing for a while we basically just worked our way up to what we're playing now. We've always had very open minds towards music, and try to incorporate our different tastes in a taste-

ful manner. The new **Psychosis** style just happened. It's something we're all comfortable with.

Well, how do you think, who likes your music? You mix a lot of different things, owing a bit from **Anthrax** and **Pantera** with a certain **Alice in Chains** feel. Maybe you are trying to combine together too much things?

There are many different kinds of people at **Psychosis** shows. Metal, grunge, death metal, punk/core, and yes, even top 40 type people support us. But, then again **Pantera** is top 40 now, so, sometimes it's really hard to say who's going to like the music and who isn't. All that really matters is that we do.

What do you think about bands which mix rap and metal (Clawfinger, Rage Against The Machine)?

Rap and metal is closer now than ever before. My opinion is that the subject matter in the songs of both is very angry and sometimes depressed. It goes to show you the kind of feelings that people have towards reality and society... Downhill. As for **Rage Against The Machine** and **Clawfinger** thumbs up. I like their styles, but that doesn't mean that I want 100 more bands like that to flood the market.

Have you heard **Alice in Chains**' "Jar of Flies"? Your impressions.

I love **Alice in Chains** "Dirt". As for "Jar of Flies", it's OK. I like their mello stuff, but "Sap" was better.

What do you think about thrash metal? Is it popular style

with an intense to develop and grow or is it the past stage? Your thoughts about **Pantera**, **The Organization** and **Sacred Reich**?

I feel that there will always be a crowd for thrash metal, and as time goes on it will probably vary, but always keep its true roots. Thrash, for me, is mostly past stage, but that all depends on what the true definition of thrash is. I love brutally heavy music, but the fast stuff gets repetitious sometimes, but the bands that mix up heavy and some fast will keep my attention. **Pantera** is cool, and I used to like **Sacred Reich** a lot, but I haven't heard their new album. I used to like **Death Angel** a long time ago, but I never heard **The Organization**.



I'm sure I will eventually.

What bands could you mention as your faves? Do you collect CDs, LPs, tapes or anything else?

Some of my favorite bands are **Candlemass**, **Life of Agony**, **Entombed**, **Melvins**, **Tool**, **Infestation** (local), **Obituary**, **Soundgarden**, **Crowbar**, **Faith No More**... It could go on forever. I collect mostly CDs + some tapes.

"Strange" is too soft word to describe your music. You gave plenty of freak and psychedelic parts. It's not a secret that band's name is **Psychosis**, so maybe you guess where I am turning the speech: Have you passed any mental disorders of your mind in the childhood? Do you live so called "normal" life or maybe you practice sleeping in days and murdering of "normal" people at nights?

**Psychosis** subject matter, for the most part, reflects on my feelings (lyrics) on the personality of others and feelings inside myself. A mental disorder is hard to pin point because I could be a psychopathic lunatic and some would think I'm crazy, but that would be "normal" for me, and the "normal" people would be insane in my eyes. But I sleep nights and I feel murdering sometimes, during the day, because some people are so fucking stupid, ignorant, useless, incompetent and aggravating. I have yet to snap.

Tell please about the lyrical concept of each song from "Squirm"?

"Vision" - regret.  
"Down" - acceptance of depression.  
"Surrounding" - signs of hatred reflect-

ing from oneself to everyone else, and back, and forth. Ignorance passed down the family tree.

"Move" - alcoholism  
"Alpha State" - body and soul separation. A journey into the unknown. Returning to the body and finding new occupancy.

"Bowl" - a pot smoking procrastinator that doesn't give a shit.

"Divisions" - multiple personalities.  
"Mutation" - the change of normality. Those who are frowned upon will one day be the frowning.

"Consider Life" - anti suicide. My view on what death could be. Black... Nothing.

"Through the Cracks" - is about someone who purposely takes advantage

of someone else, because they know that the person will overlook it, because they can't lash back because of the situation involving the two. But "one day" they will be able to hold back no longer.

Some words about:

- a) NBA  
I hate basketball.
- b) Football World Cup '94 in USA  
Violence is cool.
- c) drinking  
I love ginger ale, and milk with cookies is great. Beer taste good but I don't like to be drunk so I drink alcohol in moderation.
- d) chewing gum  
is OK, but keep your mouth closed. No chomping.
- e) T-Shirts  
are about all I wear, so I guess I'm a seum.
- f) beggars  
It's sad to see so many people starving on the streets, but as for the drunks and junkies, with no home, food or money... Oh well... Pass the kats up.
- g) Fidel Castro  
Dick.
- h) IBM PCs  
Who needs people?
- i) cats  
All animals are my friends, it's the people you could do without.

Well, if you are still able to add something, say it bluntly now!

I answered these questions to the best of my ability. I hope everything's cool (definitely is! -G-). Thank you for your interest in **Psychosis**. Be strong... See you soon.

-Giedrius-



### Hey! How are the things today?

It's 3 o'clock in the morning and I still haven't found the time to go to bed, some Lithuanian magazine entitled "Edge of Time" keeps me awake with its interview questions, ha ha! A bit of cold outside, too many cigarettes, really tired...

### What are Into The Abyss doing this time?

I think the rest of the group are sleeping... But seriously, we are doing new stuff for a second CD release in the beginning of 1995. We are all very busy with booking activities and try to put together a tour with Sweet William. We will return into the studio next week to rerecord a track from the "Martyrium" album ("Banner of the Fray"), the reason is that we'll appear on a CD compilation planned by Mic Mercer who is compiling material for his second "Gothic Book" and that compilation. This is a very important initiation and we'll reach people all over the world with it!

### More than a year has passed after the release of "Martyrium". What do you think about this album now?

Still like it very much, we still play the tracks on our live shows. We are most of all a live band and keep on changing parts from the "Martyrium" songs, do more harder versions on stage. After a year, we can say we could do this and that better on the album, but all in all we are satisfied.

### What could you say about Spectre Records? Are you satisfied with the promotion & distribution of "Martyrium" album?

Spectre Records is ran by real nice people, but since it is a small label, we have some problems with their promotion. I think that the most promotion for "Martyrium" has been ran by ourselves and the German distributor SPV hasn't distribute the album very well. But the first edition of 1000 copies is sold out and Spectre will repress the album very soon. The album has done quite well in Australia, UK, France and Greece. Finally we are to 50% a Greek band.

Your band could be considered as gothic/alternative one, though there are clear metal influences in your music (in songs like "(War) Against Their Will", "Research Without Conscience"). What is metal, thrash metal for you?

I think that we are a very open-minded band. We discovered metal just before three years for ourselves and were quite surprised by listening to bands such as Cathedral or My Dying Bride. Originally I thought that everything related to metal sounds like Iron Maiden which I don't like at all! Our new drummer comes originally from the metal genre and used to play in thrash and progressive metal bands before he joined the band. I would say that doom metal has been a very big influence for us in the last two years as we discovered that we could express our emotions through this kind of music very well. Doom is not that far from gothic and we love combining both to create a more depressive sound.

### Tell about the lyrical concept of "Martyrium"? What do you call "martyrium"?

I like this question very much. First of all the word "martyrium" is related to the way people live their lives. Most of them have to live in agony and fear. It is the martyrism of life. Most people don't live really, they just survive. It is also a martyrism if you think over those things, if you think over the course of our society and the future of our planet. What could we do to stop greed and corruption? Is there anything we should do at all? Those questions lead into a psychic martyrism, torture our psyche but help also to discover our inner self and to dive into the own soul. We categorize people in martyrs, ignorants and criminals. First have to spend their lives on the run, they don't give in. But it is their OWN decision and that's why they are free.

The tracks on "Martyrium" describe the hopes and fears people have. There are songs about the above categories in almost every way. The life-martyrium can lead a person into madness and even into death ("Madman" and "Swingin' Scythe").

### Continuing on your lyrics, it inspired me to ask you, what do you think about

#### a) war & pacifism

a) I hate war because it is made by paranoids. I don't think that there is a good and a bad side in a war. People grow up with some national ideals and are lead into war to fight for plastic things. Wars are made for profits. They only give mainly western countries the opportunity to sell weapons to the poor nations.

Pacifism... It's a quite peaceful time in Germany right now. Everybody is free to labor or die, free to slave or to starve. This is not the way I imagine a peaceful world. There's an opened war in all fronts. The

problem, or the biggest question, is which side are you on! Peace is for me discovering and understanding the world without wanting to make profits, it is a way of cooperation on a fair basis.

Anarchism is for me the only way to be free. If we should build up an anarchistic society we should enter it with empty hands. (Hey, hey, aren't your ideas a bit utopic? -G-) Only those who don't own something are really free. They don't have to fight for something. But till then, we have first of all to learn respect to each other, and more than that we should learn to respect nature!

### Don't you think that your lyrics are, so to speak, a bit too "realistic" (well, maybe in some songs only) for your kind of music?

My lyrics have a quite pessimistic character because this is the way I consider the society I live in. And this fits exactly with our music. My lyrics describe my personal confrontation with modern-day society. But as you said, not most of all are realistic. You can expect some other themes on our new songs, but there will still be some lyrics in the

other songs a more eerily mood. The songs have to "breathe", if you know what I mean. You don't have to pack them with too many instruments. They sometimes sound better if they are simply arranged, just guitar, bass and drums.

I just know only a few songs of Skyklad and I like them very much. But the biggest influence that gave us the idea to use the violin have been Van Der Graaf Generator and Sex Gang Children. Both use it in a way that does not sound "folky" but somehow strange and dark. Especially on "Just Another Voice...", my flesh begins to creep each time the violin plays! Real threatening stuff!

### When will we hear your new album? Do your new songs differ from the older ones?

As I said already, we hope to have it in the beginning of this year. Oh yes, new songs differ a lot from the "Martyrium" stuff. They have a more gothic character, are more aggressive, the vocals are performed much better, they have more passion and more energy. We use the violin on two tracks and a soprano saxophone on another one. The lyrics

industry and that is what we try to promote through our publication. "Fight Amnesia!" is published quarterly and I put lots of my energy in it. It runs on a nonprofit basis and in the meanwhile it has more than 500 readers all over the world. We are doing an edition of 250 copies, but since it is a non-copyright fanzine, it is xeroxed by friends and it is distributed through many underground centres all over the world. It is our contribution on supporting activities by people who deserve a better attention, but are not promoted in the major-press because they don't seem to be "lucrative" enough.

### Some words about:

#### a) MTV

Most of all clips on MTV are sponsored by Coca-Cola or some other monopolies. They don't choose the songs after some quality-principles. If you pay, you get the emission of your video-clip. I heard that a band paid 20000 DM for one single emission!

#### b) drugs

I'm not against drugs as long as they don't control your life. Hard drugs are a bit of shit...

#### c) Sharon Stone

I prefer Madonna! If you want to act as a bitch, then choose the right way, please!

#### d) Stephen King

I like some books of him, I've read "Shining" and "Stark: The Dark Half", great stuff! But he shouldn't write always that long stories, it's a bit boring sometimes...

#### e) Erich Maria Remarque

How did you know that? He is one of my favorite literary authors. I've read "The Power of Love" and "Nothing New From the Western Front". Excellent stuff which reflects exactly my opinion on war/peace and on human relations. Brilliant!

#### f) classical music

I like classical music very much, I used to hear a lot of it at home as my parents used to put on some records. When I grew up I discovered some composers for myself and they are still among my faves: Schonberg, Berio, Stravinsky, Zappa, Boulez, Cage, Varese, but even some older stuff such as Rimsky-Korsakov, Mussorgsky, Borodin...

#### g) 2 Unlimited

The female singer looks quite good, haha! Not bad to listen to when you drive by car at night and start getting tired.

#### h) driving license

I nearly lost it before two months when I drove over a red light, but it's OK now.

#### i) cops

If you mean "cops", the answer is "FUCK THE POLICE!", if you mean "cups", I didn't enjoy the world-cup last summer because of the course of the Greek team. But it was a pleasure for my eyes seeing Germany losing the match versus Bulgaria, hehehe! But if you really mean "cops", I don't like putting any of my head!

#### j) cars

I still haven't got one, but a comfortable van for the band would be OK!

(comments: the further, the more foolish) (conclusion: time to stop)

Last words you would like to pass to this cruel world...

We had an invitation by Lithuanian goth band Siela (great stuff!) to play in your country last summer. Unfortunately it didn't work. We look forward to come next summer.

We wish all the best luck to Lithuanian people and especially to the music scene. Communicate with each other, get in touch with people from all over the world. Thank for this really cool interview, one of the best we ever did. All the best of luck for your magazine!

- Giedrius -

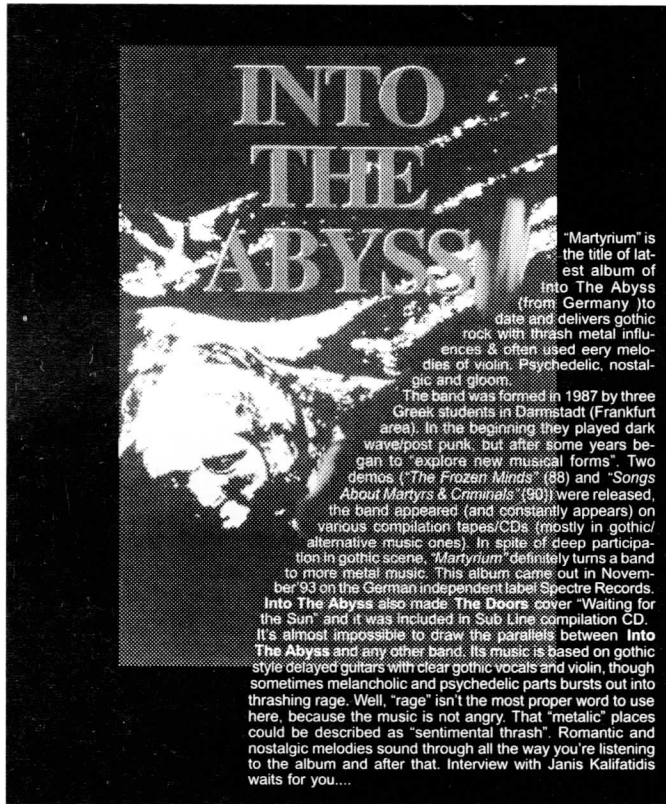
Into The Abyss,  
c/o Janis Kalifatidis,  
Alicen Str. 27,  
D-64293 Darmstadt,  
Germany

## infostrip

Line-up:  
Janis Kalifatidis - vocals, guitars, e-bow  
Kostas Tzeras - bass  
Jens Gellner - drums  
Helmet Eckstein - violin

#### Track list:

"Martyrium" (1993/Spectre Records)  
Martyrs - Banner of the Fray / Just Another Voice... (War) Against Their Will / Research Without Conscience / Dumb Crutches / Madman / Swingin' Scythe



style of "Martyrium".

In "Dumb Crutches" there are the lines "We did never try to change the conditions of our lives". But do we have to try to change them?

This is a song about people who live their lives in ignorance. THEY should try to change their lives. Each one of us is born to live his/her life in a creative way. We don't come into life just to make family, kids and to labour till the day we'll die, it's much more than that. People should start thinking about the equilibrium of the World, it's not only consuming and buying video-cameras, etc.

Let's get philosophical. What would you choose as a man: MONEY or HONOUR?

In our band we express our deepest emotional world. We are not in it for the money and wouldn't sell our characters to get neither money nor honour! For me music is not a means to an end, it's mental freedom!

Who's idea was to use a violin in your music? By the way, you don't use it in every song, are you afraid that it would get bored? Or just not every song needs a violin parts? What do you think about Skyklad?

This was the idea of the whole band. The violin first appeared on the song "Madman" to give it a more paradox and "insane" character. The melody on that song expresses exactly the emotions of a man kept against his/her will in a lunatic asylum. It is a fictive text and the melody on the refrain sounds quite strange... We don't use it in every song because we think that it doesn't fit to the rest. It is an additional instrument and gives the

on that songs are inspired by the 19th century's romantic and gothic literature (Coleridge, Poe).

What are your thoughts about techno/electronic/ambient music? Nowadays there are lots of such bands. Some of them sing in German and it fits quite good to such kind of music. Have you ever mind about singing in German in Into The Abyss?

I like ambient music in the way Brian Eno, Robert Fripp and Harold Budd did that. Also some 4AD bands in the style of Cocteau Twins. I hate techno! (well, well... -G-) But I love industrial stuff in the style of Einstürzende Neubauten or Throbbing Gristle very much. Some electronic bands are also interesting, for example KFMDM and of course Alien Sex Fiend. German is not my native language. Greek is it. I plan to sing a song in Greek some day, but not any concrete plans yet. I don't think that German would be suitable with our music, it would somehow steal the sensibility our songs have. It sounds not bad on those German electro-gothic acts, but not on Into The Abyss.

I know that you make "Fight Amnesia!" fanzine. Tell more about it.

Yes, "Fight Amnesia!" is a news-zine, which contains lots of contacts from the worldwide underground movement, mainly from the gothic alternative/metal genres. It is a way to communicate with people and bring people, that have never met each other, together through mail. There is a wide and very worthy network of labels, bands, zines, etc. which exists far from the established music-

**1. Salve! To what music are you listening now? Maybe to DREAM THEATER? Have you heard their latest CD?**

No! - first of all I would say that I do not listen to DREAM THEATER, and I am sorry to say that I have not heard their latest CD either. I do not like the prog rock because of their high-pitched vocals and all that technical playing. On the contrary I like music with dark vocals and simple playing, like for instance THE SISTERS OF MERCY is my favorite band. That is simple music!!! Yet they are the greatest!!! According to my liking T.S.O.M. I listen to mostly Gothic rock, but also a lot to 4AD, Ethereal and E(lectronic) B(ody) M(usic), and apart from that I sometimes listen to some blackmetal and doom gothicmetal but I seldom spend much time on the latter ones.

**2. Your opinion about your demo. What bad words could you say about it? How were the responses and how many copies are sold?**

I still listen to the demo, but not too much now, because we have recorded a promo now, which by the way we are not going to spread, and I listen to that whenever I want to listen to ourselves. Any bad words... huh... yes, my vocals in the beginning of "A Song by the Hearth!!!" suck big time, I sound like a goddamn faggot, I hate it!!! Apart from that there is some slackening on the beat of the drums. Yet all in all I think that it is very good when the fact that we are fresh is taken into consideration. The response has been good both from labels, "zines and private people, so all in all we have sold approximately above 300 copies, and 80-90 of them have been sold locally, which by the way is the highest amount here!!!

**3. Earlier you played mainstream Death, now turned your music to the Gothic side of music - so what will be the future - maybe you'll throw out the elements of Death just like THE GATHERING did on their "Almost A Dance"? And do you see the future for Death Metal?**

We played mainstream only for a short while and we only made three songs which of course were some standard, more or less shitty, songs in the vein of ACHERON. At that time we did not have the full lineup either: there was only Tommy, Pål, Kjetil Gudmundsen (...the drummer of OSIRIS...) who at the time helped us out, and me. After Lorentz, Hein Frode and finally Liv joined the band everything developed into more melodic, aesthetic and, yes, also somewhat Gothic stuff. We did not turn towards gothic-like music because it's trendy at the time being, but because standard Death Metal is boring and has no feeling... except hate and all that bullshit!!! I'd say that we are a band that deal with the romantic side of life. To throw out the elements of Death of our music would mean that I would have to change my manner of "singing", which I would gladly do, but I feel, that my voice sucks and I hate hearing my "normal" voice, so all in all everything depends on me. If I were in charge I would have started playing gothic rock!!! And by the way, Death Metal has no future at all, at least, not in my home! But Doom Gothic still has.

**4. Some big labels such as Adipocere rees, wanted to sign you after the release of the first demo, you had some suggestions from other labels too, but you chose Massacre rees. Why? For how many records have you signed with Massacre?**

I'd say that Massacre is a big label, and accordingly they can give us a bigger financial backing, and they also have a good distribution and there are also lots of other positive sides, yet there's one thing that is negative: since it is such a big label we do not get to be personally involved with the people due to their having a lot of other bands to take care of too. I am very sorry that we did not sign with Adipocere, Christian being a very nice guy and all, but I assume that it goes without saying that the choice fell on Massacre. We have signed for two CDs and one Mini-CD. The first album will, hopefully, be released in Feb/March - 95 and after that we will have to see when the next album or mini album will come.

**5. Now tell about your upcoming CD. Will it differ from your demo, and will there be the songs from the demo tape? Why did you choose Dan Swano as a producer?**

We are still (... at the time this is written...) making songs for the new CD, and all I can say is that, I think, that all of our songs differ from each other, yet the new material is a bit more calm than the demo without its being this ultraslow Doom stuff; it's more or less midpaced. We will take three songs from the demo, "A Song by the Hearth!!!", "A Hamlet for a Slothful Vassal" and "Dying - I only feel Apathy", to put on the album, but, if we manage to make yet another new song before it's time to enter the studio we will not use "A Song by the Hearth!!!" on our album, due to its being too Deathmetalish and accordingly the worst song of our demo. Dan was simply chosen because he is a great producer (... especially the GODSEND album...) and because he is an "old" friend of Hein Frode's. Except from that his rates are rather low, and we know that he can contribute with advice to us.

**6. Your female vocals sound more than good. Wouldn't you like to leave only female vocals for your music? Why? What - do you think - female vocals give to metal music?**

No, no, no! If we were to leave only female vocals for the music some of the "magic" would disappear. We often receive positive comments on the dialogue, and the contrast between Liv and me, and if we were to leave my vocals out I would have to find myself a new "job" and Liv would have left with me because we are boyfriend/girlfriend, so if I go, then Liv goes! I would also have taken the "Theatre of Tragedy"-name with me, so the rest would have started from scratch again in the underground. I suppose I would become fuckin' revengeful if I was kicked out of the band, because it was Pål and me who first started the band!!! Female vocals in metal?!... hmmm... I think that it gives more feeling and beauty to it, and I do not see why females should not be in a metal band, it is not reserved for men only!!!

**7. Some bands, like PYOGENESIS for example, say that to use female vocals in doom metal has become too popular nowadays, so the bands which still use them are too standard. Don't you think so?**

Of course not! Would you say that for instance THE 3RD AND THE MORTAL is a standard band?!? And... we do not

about standard etc.: they have nothing to complain about because their new album is a total rip-off of PARADISE LOST, THE CURE and TYPE O'NEGATIVE things!!!

**8. One song from your demo - "Soliloquy" - is absolutely unusual. Who created it and why did you decide to put it on your demo?**

"Soliloquy" we had to put on the demo because the other songs we had were rather bad and three songs is insufficient, though "Soliloquy" is not a "song", it is more or less an instrumental/outtro with sampling. We made it... well, Lorentz made it when we were in studio... because we liked the sampling and wanted to include it. Hein Frode saw (... and I saw it abit after him...) the "Theatre of Blood" movie featuring the great Vincent Price and since we have a Shakespearean line we thought that it would be great to have a hint of concept on the tape, so...

**9. Norway is (in)famous for its Black Metal scene all over the world, and you are like the exception. Are there many bands which play music like yours and people who are interested not in Black Metal, but in Gothic/Doom? Have you played many gigs in Norway?**

Gothic/Doom is bigger in Norway than

played three gigs as until now, yet we have had many offers but we have had to turn them down because we need to concentrate on finishing the songs for the album.

**10. Many bands nowadays are influenced by mysticism, gothic novels yet your lyrics are influenced by... Shakespeare!!!! Quite unusual! Is Shakespeare your favorite writer, why don't you put thoughts of modern writers into your music? Was the choice of Theatre of Tragedy's name influenced by Shakespeare too?**

You can add to your list that there are tons of lyrics on gore, death and all that other corny shit! Therefore I wanted to create lyrics that are nontypical. The choice fell on, as you have mentioned, Shakespeare. Yet it is not due to his being my favorite writer, he is not: Tolkien & Anne Rice are, but because his language is so beautiful and full of aphorisms, which to me makes it very special. I know that it sounds as if the "Theatre of Tragedy"-name is influenced by Shakespeare, but I ensure you that I invented the name long time before started reading, some of his works, and luckily it has resemblances to the lyrics. The modern authors cannot equal Shakespeare's grandness, and they always include some goddamn socialist criticism, which as you can see, I do not. I am totally against trying to reach the listener with some nagging on the society, as all these modern fuckin' socialist-authors do!!!

**11. Yeah, it's strange. Many bands from Norway are very proud (some even too proud) being born in Norway and find their musical inspiration only in the folklore of Norway, but I - maybe I'm wrong - can't find details from Norwegian folklore in your creation. Does the Norwegian colouring give special meaning for your music?**

It is correct that I'm born in Norway, but I'm not of Norwegian origin (... though I feel like one...), so I'm not "into" this folklore stuff! I have no national feeling, so then why should I write about this country, its beauty and its folklore?!? I leave it to Black Metal people to do!

**12. Metal is very strongly connected with religion, you can see it in the lyrics of the bigger part of metal bands - but it seems you have absolutely no interest in it. Is it true? What do you think of an organizations such like Black Metal Council and satanism?**

You are correct... on the demo there were no lyrics concerning religion, but I have written one lately "To these Words I beheld no Tongue", yet in it I do not choose which is correct and which is not. Each individual should choose himself/herself

what he/she wants to believe in. I myself do not believe in anything but myself! I'd say that the people in the band are more or less atheists, yet there are a few (... especially one...) that lean a bit towards "evil".

Shit... is this questions a punishment for our coming from Norway and not playing Black Metal?!? I always get this fuckin' question... but I will have to answer it anyway. Of course we the band do respect what their points of view are: we do not conform them for their beliefs! It is their choice, be it good or bad.

**13. In which century would you like to live? Why? I am satisfied with the century I am situated in now. Why? Because I would not stand being without my beloved stereo, TV, computer and all the other things that make life more convenient. Of course these things will be there, in a modified version, in the future too, but I feel that everything would be too mechanical then.**

**14. Stupid question: which way of death would you choose to die and why?!**

- a) to be eaten by sharks;
- b) to be eaten by aborigines;
- c) to fall from the 101st floor.

Without any time to consider this question I would choose to fall from the 101st floor. I have always dreamed of being able to fly, which I would do then, if not for long, but it would be at least a dream come true. Apart from that death would have come so quickly, that I would not have felt any pain.

**15. Last words.**

Well, Audrius, thank you for this (long) interview. It was, of course, a pleasure to answer it! Apart from that I would say that all Gothic/Death-rock bands reading this should be encouraged to write to me at the mentioned address. And if anybody has anything on THE SISTERS OF MERCY, THE FIELDS OF THE NEPHILIM, STILL PATIENT? Or any other Gothic-rock bands or Anne Rice's Vampire Chronicles then please get in touch with me!!!

# Theatre of Tragedy



This band comes from Norway. And what do you start to think now? "Oh, God - again these blackers!!!" No way! Gothic/Doom/Death at it's best is the music Theatre Of Tragedy plays. Their 4 track EP released in May 1994 is one of the two best records I've heard this year (another is Lost In Misery). Melodic, bombastic gothic music with male and female vocals. But it isn't that kind of singing when male sings and female singing takes ~20 seconds in the song - here both singers are just like... talking. Like in theatre? - you may ask. Really!!! It's the feeling the music brings to you. That's not all. Lyrics (which, by the way, are very unusual, therefore - fine) are strongly influenced by mid-english language due to Raymond's burying his nose in books by the likes of Shakespeare and Tolkien. Sometimes their music leaves metal zone and then you can feel gothic rock spirit. So, everything is all right, but one thing... I'd like to hear more gothic vocals, not so deathish ones. But everything changes and the CD which must be out in a couple of days perhaps will show more gothic side of the band.

Now some facts from the bands history. It was formed on one sombic and eerie day of winter-92 in the cold northern wastes of Norway. The first name of the group was Asmodeu, as far as I understand they played something like traditional death, the singer Raymond I. Rohonyi wrote wicked lyrics (about heartache and death) which he didn't understand and everything didn't seem to be very cool. But the group has undergone series of lineup changes, changed the name to cliched Suffering Grief and with the new steady lineup the band soon discovered that with their new musical style they need even further explorations of uncharted waters and therefore the second singer - Liv - joined the band. The style changed even more - now it's yesterday's gothic rock combined with metal of modern time. At the end band changed their name to Theatre Of Tragedy, released perfect demo, sent it to 23 different labels, signed with Massacre records (which is willing to invest DM50000 in the first TOT album) and now everything is all right. I'm talking too much, better read the interview with Raymond, who'll tell everything himself.

- Audrius -

use the female vocals like other bands do: both Liv and me are lead singers, we have equal parts and none of us is valued more than the other. I have yet to see another band in which there are two lead singers that use their singing to communicate, like for instance in a play. OK... there is one other that I have heard doing it: CATHINES CATHEDRAL, which is a gothic rock band from Sweden, yet they only do it on one song! By the way, I do not see why PYOGENESIS is nagging

Black Metal. I think... or perhaps it is equal... or the other way around. I actually do not know! Yet I know that we have GODSEND, THE 3RD AND THE MORTAL & ATROX here that play music similar to ours, and I think there are a good deal of people that like Gothic/Doom... also the Black Metal people like our music very much, so again I must confess that I have no idea. All I can say about our gigs is that if you show up on one you will die laughing, we are a horrible live band! - but that is because we have only

## infostrip

Address:  
c/o Raymond Rohonyi  
Prestoyveien 24  
4052 Roynenberg  
Norway



Hi, Sotiris. At first, tell the main facts from Septic Flesh history... By the way, what is so strange band's name related to?

We were formed in March '90 and we have released a demo entitled "Forgotten Path", a mini-LP from Black Power entitled "Temple of the Lost Race" and a full length album entitled "Mystic Places of Dawn" from Holy Rec. We have changed two drummers and now we use Kostas as session, the rest line-up remains the same: Spiros (voc./bass), Chris (guitar) and me, Sotiris (guitar). The name is a simple death metal name but we have used it.

Well, lets look at the very beginning. The first step was "Melting Brains" track which appeared in several compilations. What do you think about it? We were very excited then because we understood that we had the right "chemistry" to "build" something good. Of course, we weren't so experienced then and it is outdated now but it was the beginning. And then debut demo followed. What was the response on it ("Melting Brains" got very good reviews as I heard)? How would you value "Forgotten Path" today?

The demo was sold out (800 copies). The music was rarer then and the lyrics too, but there were also some parts full of mystery.

Yea, we're talking about all releases in turn as you can notice, "Temple of the Lost Race" suddenly saw a daylight. It was recorded rather quickly after first demo, I could say. But second or even third tape follows usually. Why was the mini-LP next? How much time did it take up 'til that vinyl was sold out? And were you completely satisfied with your release?

Maybe it seems that the period between the demo and the mini-LP was not so long but we worked so hard (one of the main reasons that Jim, our drummer then left the band) that we matured, so we released it. But we are not satisfied from Black Power. It wasn't distributed well, and many people were asking for it but couldn't find it, especially when the first cut was sold out. As I am learning, now that we released our new album, Black Power found the opportunity to cut new copies. Anyway...

OK, there were even more releases ("Morpheus (The Dream Lord)" as promo as I know) but lets go further. You are signed by Holy Records. Have there been any suggestions from other labels? Why did you choose that one namely?

We had also some other proposals from companies but Holy had the best offer. Also a big plus was that we knew the people of Holy and they gained our trust. So, some contract is already a success, I guess. Much more, Holy Rec. is rising French label and you got a deal just for 2 albums. Are you pleased with Holy? Are you going to change label after the second album?

We are pleased from Holy and I think it will rise more in the future. About the third album is too early to say what is going to happen. We'll release the second with them and after we'll see what will be best for us.

Thus, the debut LP is out now. It consists of 9 very long tracks (total timing over 55 minutes). How much time did it take to create such compositions? Who writes Septic Flesh lyrics and who creates music? What are you deriving your ideas from?

I write the lyrics and a great part of the music. Spiros and Chris also contribute to the music. I read a lot of stuff that makes me think, also there are so many feelings that I want to express, that the only thing that I do is to let them "flow". Then it's a matter of time to connect them and create a composition. Usually...

The first and therefore the best Oriental Doom Death band ORPHANED LAND was born in Israel. Wow, again Israel! It seems that our mag should have a correspondent in this country. So, ORPHANED LAND, without doubt is the best band in Israel.

Let's have a look at the past. The beginning of the group could be found in project RESURRECTION where the singer Kobi Farhi showed his talent. But it was only a project, and ORPHANED LAND foundation marks the new era of these musicians. Guys created their own concept - to play Doom/Death combined with Middle East mentality. Just like the bridge between the East and the West, the guitarist Yossi Sasi agrees with that: "Yes, we are somewhere between, since we live in an Eastern place that has a lot of the Western world." By the way, ORPHANED LAND was formed in the town called Petah-Tikva (as I know, there are lots of Russian emigrants), which is famous for its Doom/Gothic bands such as DIVINE LUST and SUBSTANCE FOR GOD, and, it seems this town became the biggest Doom centre in Israel. And nobody knows why it turned to be so ("Although Tel-Aviv is the centre of activity here of metal music, and the best bands are Dime Last, Substance for God, Betrayer, Salem and Predator", - says Yossi). But it doesn't matter, anyway Orphaned Land has got the chance when they become the support act for Cathedral & Tiamat tour in Israel, which, as the guys say, had an influence on their first years. They didn't play live too much (for 12 times) but already in April 1993 entered digital 16 track studio where the first demo "The Beloved's Cry" (which contains 40 minutes of Eastern Etnic Doom Death Metal) was released. I couldn't manage to clear up what the guys think about this demo now (they answer in the way like that: "We always feel that we can do more, but we have pride in every release. We try to achieve better on all terms in every recording we do", - and that's all, you can think what you want), anyway it had got good responses from all over the world, and "Holy Records" showed

ally it takes long time because we want everything to be perfect so we let the time pass to secure the newborn song will excite us the same some months later. The songs of the album took us a year to be completed.

Recording took place 6 weeks. Was it connected with long songs or what? Is it enough to record good album to your mind?

No, good is not enough. The reason we spent so much time in the studio was that we wanted to create our own sound, so we searched a lot and worked very hard to give our best to ourselves and our audience.

"Mystic Places of Dawn" was recorded at the Storm 24-track studio (Nightfall & Rotting Christ did their last albums here too). Is that the best studio in Greece? What could you say about Magus Wampyr Daoloth of Necromantia, your producer? We recorded in Storm for two reasons, because it was less expensive and because we wanted Daoloth to be our producer. He is good at his job, very patient and a friend that knew our music and understood how we wanted to sound.

Well, it's time to talk about your music. It was described as "Devastating Dreamy Death metal" with technical parts and depressing melodies. I could add "Emotional Death" with touch of doom, ones call it atmospheric. Oh, what's the hell, lets leave all these marks! How would you characterize band's music yourself? Pale and Heavy.

If return to your debut, it would be mentioned one is very strong. Whisper with low roaring vocals, excellent guitar solos, drums, bass with keyboards and violin, slow parts and fast riffs, and at last the whole orchestra in "Mythos" - everything is tuned very well. How did you receive such technical sounding? Will Septic Flesh experimentalize with some other effects in the future?

We are not afraid to experimentalize as long as that doesn't hurt the composition and the feelings we want to express. The orchestration of the songs is a very important element in our music, so we are trying to give the right music line to the right instrument. That makes our sound technical.

I consider, your sounding is rather original. But maybe you have some influences in your music. What's about your faves?

We like many different things like Cirith Ungol, Celtic Frost, Merciful Fate, Dead Can Dance, Fates Warning, Venom, Dany Elfman, ancient Greek music, etc.

Death metal rose several years ago. There were

an interest in this unique band from Israel. Nothing more has left but to go to the best studio in Israel

to record the first CD "Sahara" (don't know what to think - to which culture the guys are going with this name of album), which contains 8 tracks (the last one is a re-mastered song from demo) of crushing mid Eastern Doom/Death. I liked absolutely all releases of "Holy Records" and "Sahara" CD shows that the label still has the balls and knows what to do. Orphaned Land's music structure is based upon metal music (vocals - sometimes they are brutal like death metal and sometimes Kobi sings in the normal way you can also find female vocals - as it is used to be in Doom nowadays), but guitar riffs are Oriental and all the spirit of music isn't sad, but - sacred, it isn't Godsend

original acts at the very beginning. But then tons more were formed and now many of them have almost the same sound. Others understood that's important to change usual death and received original sounding. However, there're rather many doom / atmospheric / gothic bands at the current moment. What do you think about their future? Could every group create an original music? The good bands will survive. Of course, it is very important for the bands to create original music, but that's not easy. Inspiration and hard work are not the elements you can find in the most bands.

From music up to lyrics. I suppose this one is as much important as music and words must be related to music. These ones are connected in your songs as much as possible, all that makes certain mood an that's great. What's your opinion about this? How could you comment groups kinda visceral Evisceration which creates such brilliant music as Doom metal and such disgusting, vile lyrics about... genitals!?

In my opinion the lyrics must fit with the music and not destroy the feelings of the songs. You created excellent composition "Mythos" in 2 parts besides of 8 songs, melancholic and depressive, emotional and brutal ones at the same time. How did the idea of "Mythos" appear?

We wanted to create a musical journey through time without the limitation of the usual death metal instruments and without lyrics so that the audience could let their imagination free.

You came from Greece, wonderful Ancient land. Are the titles of your songs connected with the greatest realm of the past? What are those "Mystic Places of Dawn"?

It is about all that hidden knowledge that lies forgotten in the Past. Humanity lost its way to the truth following religion of deceit. Our ancestors one by one renounced their inheritance, most times even destroyed it, in exchange with false security and the ignorance of the herd. As you can see from the lyrics I love the Past. Maybe I am a romantic but I have no affection with what I see in our days.

There was rather little information about Greek metal scene still some years ago. And this time it's rising very fast. Such acts as Nightfall, Rotting Christ, Varathron, etc. (and you, of course) are well-known already. What could you tell about your underground? Is it true that most of Greek bands play black metal?

It is not, but the most famous bands play black metal. I believe that our scene has a lot to give to the underground. Just wait and see!

And several words about gigs. I got an informa-

tion that you were voted as the best metal act of Greece in the Greek metal festival even before debut album was released. How did such success come out? What's more important - work in the studio or live show? If you use special effects during concert or just play? Are you going to spend much time on tours?

That happened long time ago and it was another reason that we released a mini-LP and not a second demo. We love to play live and meet our audience, there is so much energy but, of course, the work in studio is also important even though it is boring. We would like to spend more time on tours. Also we want to use special effects but that's not possible with the money that we have now.

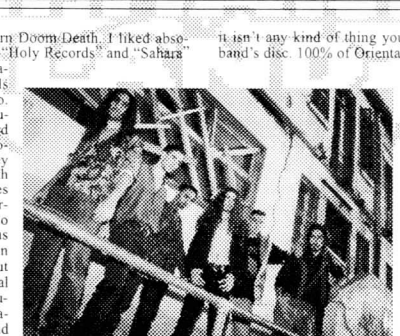
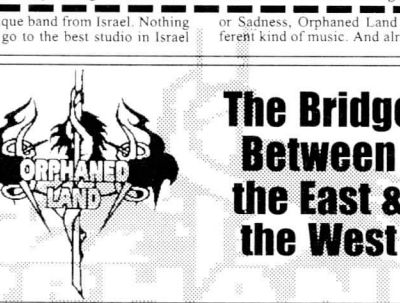
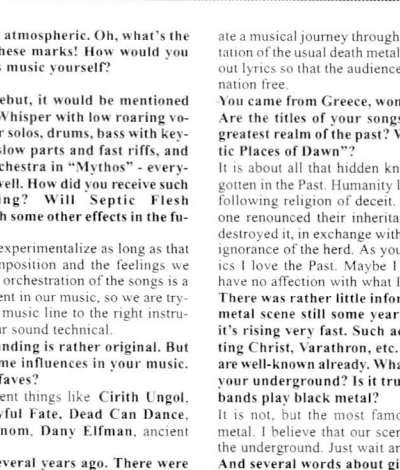
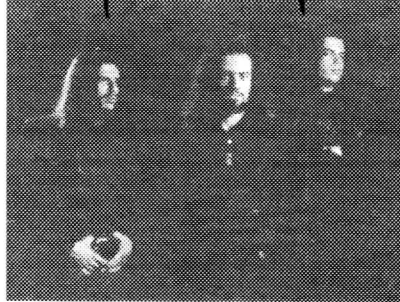
Yea, we talk about Septic Flesh as a band rather much. But there's another side of every musician's life. How do you spend your leisure? Who are your favourite writers, artists, composers? Are you interested in Ancient Greece history and mythology?

Yes, I am interested in everything that reflects the Past. Also I like books that help me travel in the realms of fantasy, some fave writers are Assimov, Robert Howard, Moorcock and of course H. P. Lovecraft. From composers I prefer Mozart and Stravinsky and from artists Giger. Usually if I don't read I spend my free time going out with friends.

One philosophical question. "Mystic Places of Dawn", "Dreamy Emotional Death", "The Dream Lord", "Mythos"... So what do you think about such things as religion, dreams, visions and death at last? Do you believe in life after death and soul's reincarnation?

I see religion as the ruler of the weak. We are the visions of Gods and they are visions of us. Life is a dream into a God's dream. Death is the end of the dream but can also be a transition to another dream. Finally reincarnation is a myth made for those who feel insecure to face the unknown beyond so they prefer to believe that they'll return in the already known reality of the flesh.

Well, I suppose you are tired because of this long interview. So the last words would be... Thanks for your support and good luck to Edge of Time. By the way it is a great name!



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first one. "The Beloved's Cry" - traditional Doom song, others don't go too far from the style's rames, but the Oriental spirit fills all the music and makes it sound not like other bands. Lyrics are interesting too. You can find God's name in each song and all lyrics are based on "Koran". Have you seen it before? But for me it's strange, when band lives in Israel and is so strongly influenced by Islam culture. Yossi explains the situation: "Well, we admire Islam as a religion and are influenced by it, but we're Jews and we believe Judaism is the strongest religion. God is mighty one in both of them, so that's the connection". Yeeees, these guys are not from Norway, no doubt! Well, what else regarding lyrics? The main themes - sadness, death, love (lost one), romanticism, poetry, religion - written by a person who knows his work. So "Sahara" - in my opinion - is the best CD ever released in Israel. By the way, the best responses the band has got from abroad, so they don't worry and are doing a new CD which probably will be released in the end of 1995. And, as the band is completely satisfied with "Sahara", there will not be too many changes in the next work, guys aren't going to cut-off death metal ("it's what we first started from!") and forget Oriental music. So listen to this music of war-generation (which lives it's life, as they say "routinely and peacefully").

**infostrip**

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Petah-Tikva, Israel

Get in the ship and start a journey "out there somewhere"... As the first album of Yorkshire based space navigators *Ship of Fools* titled "Close Your Eyes (Forget The World)" gave you a chance to close your eyes and immerse yourself into the dreamland, the second one "Out There Somewhere" (released in September '94) takes you in an hour long voyage through eternity in the diesel space ship - this cosmic ambient electronic instrumental music takes you in trance. "Out There Somewhere" is more guitar oriented in comparison with the debut album (guitarist Oko - First Guitar Lord of the Quella - joined the band). Besides usual instruments (like guitar, bass & keyboards) band uses tin whistle, flute, teental tabla. *Ship of Fools* differs from other bands of similar kind with their space sincere/lyrical approach to the music, they are a kind of opposite to all that mechanically electronic techno/ambient/euro body music acts. Interview was done with bass player Sputnik.

# "Ship of Fools" - Trip Through The Space

across uncharted seas to the unknown shores

**Ship of Fools** - quite a strange name and it seems to me that it hardly fits to your music (the reason of such opinion is that here in Lithuania punk/HC music freaks regularly organized shows titled "Ship of Fools" and mostly punk/HC bands played here - I am a bit influenced of that thing...)

The name *Ship of Fools* stems from the mythological/actual ships of fools that were depicted in the famous painting by H. Bosch. Boats loaded with so called undesirables, mental defectives/lunatics who were shipped out to distant shores and left to their fate. This analogy is very pertinent to our own experiences in a society where unconventional behaviour and unorthodox lifestyles are regarded with hostility and suspicion by the 'authorities' and 'dealt with' accordingly.

Nowadays many people get bored of death/grind metal and turned their ears to gothic, industrial, electronic, and other weird music. But how do you think, is it possible for a band like you to have a big circle of listeners? From other side your music is not drastic, heavy or rough - and it quite be acceptable to every person, don't you think so?

I believe that our music has the potential to break down many of the existing barriers and have a universal appeal, mainly because of the absence of the vocals that tend to marginalise the work of most English bands to English speaking nations. Also the fusion of different styles and genres of music gives the music more breath and colour and ultimately more depth which I find very appealing.

I wonder how to call your style. You have nothing with metal music (maybe except the label Peaceville), but such term as electronic or industrial doesn't fit to your music...

I find the preoccupation with labels/brackets/tags quite irksome, it's a business thing for the marketing/selling of product that is part of the essential but nonetheless distasteful aspect of the music industry. It is not for us to associate ourselves with any 'scene', but some of the terms used to describe our music have been 'space rock', 'ambient metal' and 'twenty-first century prog rock'.

How did you make a deal with Peaceville? Tell more details about this. In general Peaceville is (was?) a metal label, but it has Dreamtime Records and Dreamtime Records release a lot of strange and unusual bands. It's a positive thing, isn't it?

We knew Hammy, head honcho at Peaceville/Dreamtime, on a social level before the band was formed. When he heard our stuff he offered us the deal with Dreamtime, which is the more experimental side of his operation. He supports us 100%, has faith in the band and respects us as individuals. This is reciprocated and we have an excellent relationship.

Is it difficult for you to make the magical atmosphere (which exists in you recordings) playing live? What does make a bigger impression on the listeners - album or live shows?

This is very much a live band. Since Oko, the additional guitarist, was added to the line-up prior to recording the new album "Out There Somewhere", there has been a heavier, more intense feel to the music, which has resulted in greater audience participation. We have our original lighting



Drift in a tachyon stream - a vessel  
Reclaimed from a sea Kings last landfall  
Sunwind in sailwings  
And hot iron heartbeat  
Stardogs in search of  
The Forgotten Forms

engineer and DJ who come out with us so each venue is transformed and made more conducive for both us and the audience.

Mysterious and hypnotic sounds from both of your albums take the listener away from reality, into another kingdom, kingdom of... what? There are no vocals on the album, you don't need words? And I'm curious how do you live your real life? I mean do you prefer your "normal job", TV & papers to things of more emotional side - books, poetry, music, art? Or is there anything else...?

The band is obviously an extension of our personal lives. We do have other interests and they certainly include

literature, art, film, etc. and we use our influences and personal experiences as source material for creating the music. We are all deeply spiritual by nature in the sense of trying to understand the human condition and give our lives meaning in the scheme of things. This isn't something that can be discussed in brief too successfully. Needless to say none of us work any employer. We all live off our dole money. Society was orchestrated long before we arrived and as you cannot live in the

west without money for food, shelter, etc. we have no qualms about taking the money from the state to live. This too is a bigger issue of considerable complexity, but I'm sure you get the gist.

What is the idea of the cover of your new album? Tell more about your concept.

A lot of the imagery is purposely ambiguous, therefore open to interpretation. We think it's important to leave scope for the imagination of the listener. Any 'messages' are transmitted on subliminal levels and designed to stimulate thought, not direct it.

How do your new tracks from "Out There Somewhere" differ from your older stuff? Tell some words about your first release "Visions"?

I think the new album is a more coherent and representative testament to the *Ship of Fools* in mid '94...The last album was very poorly recorded in comparison which again is a long story. Suffice to say we feel much happier with the latest album, probably as a result of a bit more time in better studio. We may delete "Close Your Eyes" and possibly re-record some of the songs such as "Where is here", "In the wake of" and "L=SD2" as we feel they weren't done justice on the debut album.

"Visions" was a demo put together to establish the band and to send to promoters/venues for gigs. The recording was very basic, done live in the rehearsal room. The two ambient mixes were early 8 track demos that were done in one take, no overdubs to speak of and re-mixed on a friends 8 track.

If you have to add something - time has come - say it now...

I've tried to answer the questions without pretension and give you a little peek into our world. Its basic honesty. We're merely living our lives and trying to leave something worth that may enhance someones life, somewhere, sometime. We're not any kind of crusade. Its music. A useful distraction fro the duration of its length. Guidance is Internal.

- Giedrius -

Address: Sputnik, 4 Maxwell Avenue, Batley Carr, Batley, WF17 7LJ, England (or contact Dreamtime label).

## infostrip

**Ship of Fools noise factor:**  
Sputnik - Bass Guitar  
Iez - Keyboards  
Damian - Keyboards  
Mick Reed - Acoustic Drums  
Andy - Electric and Acoustic Guitar, Mandolin, Gliss  
Oko - Guitar

**Track lists:**  
"Close Your Eyes (Forget The World)" (1993 Dreamtime/Peaceville)  
In The Wake Of... / Where Is Here / Passage By Night / L=SD2 / S.O.L.'93 / Starjumper / Western Lands / Close Your Eyes (Forget The World)  
"Out There Somewhere" (1994 Dreamtime/Peaceville)  
Elevator / Diesel Spaceship / First Light / Guidance Is Internal / Out There Somewhere / From Time / Eternal Guidance





You could find numerous interviews with bands in every zine as usual. However, there are rather rare chances to become acquainted with authors of various underground products. There is right opportunity to hear from Shane Breyer (USA) who makes zine Until Dawn as well as the same titled compilation plus the compilation Thy Will Be Done orientated on atmospheric / doom / gothic / melancholic bands only.

**Well, Shane, lets start from the very beginning. You make Until Dawn zine as well as compilations. How did you decide to do this work? Is it a trade of your leisure or the main employment?**

I decided to create Until Dawn fanzine in the fall of 1993. I had often thought about doing a fanzine, but I never actually thought seriously about doing it. Until one night, I was speaking with a few of my friends and we started discussing the winter months yet to come and the border which was sure to follow as well. Most of our thoughts were concerning "money making" projects, but I started to think about it more and I thought hell, I could start a fanzine. So later that night I went home and thought up some titles and ideas. I dubbed my creation Darkness Eternal and set off to begin working on my first issue. However, after a few months I decided to change the title. Darkness Eternal was too generic. So I came up with Until Dawn and thus far I have released two issues and four compilation volumes under such a name. And this is only a hobby, a passion if you will. I lose a good amount of money doing it.

**There are very many zines and magazines all over the world. The good quality is rather important if you want to be popular to my mind. Are you quite satisfied with your creation? Does Until Dawn have good responses in the depths of the underground?**

The quality of a publication is, most certainly, very important. But I think there are other elements that are just as important if not more important than pure looks, if that's what you mean. I feel that a clean and clear presentation should be sought before anything, if the material is not legible then it's content and meaning are lost. However, glossy paper and special computer effects should come after many things, such as... originality. To be a force in anything you need to offer something different. One thing I think has helped me is my unseem low price for a full size 60 plus page fanzine. My first issue sold for only one dollar, now the quality was not perfect and the content was not the most original, but I did offer it so cheap that no matter what you got, it was worth the price. And with my second issue I improved it's overall quality by 10 times and added many unseen elements, as well I kept the price very affordable. \$2 for a full size pro-print fanzine with 60 pages! Even that's enough to make a difference, I think. You've also got to have respect and reputation. These are the most difficult to possess, simply because you must earn them. And if you have a quality publication with innovative elements as well as an honest, trustworthy attitude, you'll get it and as time goes by you will only become even more widely known. I am, overall, very happy with my job so far, especially my second issue, but I am not completely satisfied with it! I think I can improve things very much and I have even more new ideas that I feel will totally separate Until Dawn from any other fanzine out there. I'm hoping my third issue will be a true opus and I think with my co-workers (Raifeigh, Matt, Darren & a few others) I can supply this underground with a fresh ideology as well as feature mystical and majestic bands, unsigned as well as signed. I continue to become more widely known every day, I have a good response now, but I hope within the next year to double, if not triple it.

**Until Dawn - that's rather dreamy name. Is it connected with doom / atmospheric / gothic music you like most of all? What does the DAWN mean for you?**

Yeah, Until Dawn does have some mystical qualities to it. It's certainly more original than my first title and it truly does represent what the fanzine is about more so as well. It's an abstract title, with mostly dark overtones, not evil, but tranquil darkness, somber elements mingled with melancholy. Until Dawn it is night time and within the night darkness lies. And within darkness there are many ingredients. It's a time for new discovery, because under a blanket of darkness even the most customary sights and occurrences transform into mystical journeys of unknown and wonder. Now I can say that the name also represents the music I cover and enjoy. From black metal like Satyricon, atmospheric metal like Decoryah, doom / death like Anathema to dark metal like Sadness, if it has emotion and dream like qualities I feel it belongs in Until Dawn. From the setting of the sun... Until Dawn.

**You prepare to do one compilation, "Thy Will Be Done", including only doom / atmospheric / gothic / melancholic bands. Has it been released already? If so, what bands could be mentioned?**

Yeah, it's been released. It features Septic Flesh, Moonburn, Mangled, Thorns of the Carrion, Estuary of Calamity, Solemn, Fermento, Shadowcaster, Tristitia, Cenotaph, Damnation, Nightfall, Orphaned Land, Nihil Locis, Misantrophe, Into the Sunless Meridian and Hades. It's 90 minutes, comes with all the contact addresses and has most of the song lyrics. The cover art is done by Joe Lewis of Arizona. And since I am plugging it, it costs \$3. I'm proud of it and I hope to do another, under a different title, that will transcend this first chapter.

**Yeah, Lets talk about your faves now. You mentioned rather many bands, too many to be named there. So perhaps you could enumerate some very favourite acts. Why are you interested in such kinds of sad music (cause other ones became boring and death metal got a trend or there is another reason)? And maybe you have your own band or would like to form it?**

Some of my favourite bands are Sadness, Catatonia, Moonspell, Septic Flesh, Tiamat, Pyogenesis, Bethlehem, Paradise Lost, My Dying Bride, Phlebotomy, Satyricon, Cradle of Filth, Moonburn, Ceremonium, Crematory, Celestial Season, Carpathian Forest, The

Gathering, The 3rd And The Mortal, Ulver, Anathema, Master's Hammer, Enslaved, Emperor, Sad Whisperings, Orphaned Land and also like older bands like Candlemass, Slayer, W.A.S.P., Metallica, Bathory, Possessed and Overkill. But I am also very much in appreciation of other music like Dead Can Dance, Enya, Thorni, Nosferatu and more as well as classical music. I love the scores to movies like "The Omen", Bram Stoker's "Dracula", "Conan The Barbarian" and more. The great composers like Mozart and Beethoven make me happy as well. I guess I love many forms of music as long as it is emotional and captures me in some way, I'll love it!

**No, I don't have my own band. I wish I did, but I do not. I am looking for members, I'm low on talent, but I can "sing" and write well, I have many concepts! So write to me about this!**

**You commune with different people in USA and overseas also. Rather many say that American metal bands are really differing as well as audience if compare with European ones. What can you say about this? What differences could be noted?**

American metal and American audiences are quite different from just about any other. The reason being, we seem to be inundated with commercialism. We often only look upon what has been done and we purely emulate it, we so often don't make an attempt to transcend previous accomplishments, only equal them. I see so much more innovative ideas coming from other countries and to be honest I cannot truly say why. Perhaps the majority of us here in America have it just to easy, we can just walk through life mindless and without novelty. Of course there are those within the United States of America that are eclectic and see beyond the monotony, but they are a very small minority. You may look upon this country and see so many different cultures and individuals, but you may also fail to see that because of our mixed and diverse peoples we lose a lot of our wonder and forget to be passionate, to truly care about what we create. We are almost a generic land. America also lacks antiquity, I think this coupled with our lack of true passion has caused us to be less creative and mystical, and more to the point. We need things slammed in our faces before we get exactly what they mean and if something is not easily accessible, we tend not to search for it. That's about all I can say about that.

**Ok, few words about "live" shows. The wish to see bands on the greek depends on the mood for me personally. Sometimes I prefer listening to studio albums. But to see your fave on the stage is great in any case. What's your opinion about this? Which concert was the best one you have ever seen?**

Well, to be honest, I have only attended a hand full of live events. You see I live in a small town of only 800 full time residents and even the nearest movie theater or hospital is 90 miles away, so I never have a chance to see any bands. Montana is a very scarcely populated state as well, so no bands really tour here, at least none I care much about. But I can say that I prefer listening to studio albums, in solitude within the confines of a dark room. I feel it more that way.

**And now it's time to make the acquaintance with you more widely. A I could do this at the beginning of the interview, but it would be very usual point. So tell something**

**a b o u t**



**yourself - your trade, some other pleasures (except music), etc. Yeah, about your life in a word.**

Well... I do a fanzine, two different compilations, a distribution (small) and I tape trade with a number of people. As is obvious I enjoy music very much. Aside from this I work full time and I'm hoping to attend college this new year (1995). I like to write and read, mostly I write poetry or personal philosophy and I read mostly philosophy and religious works, but that's not all I read. I used to play basketball on a frequent basis, but now I rarely get the chance, I still love it, though. I like humor, mostly intelligent humor and I enjoy emanating it among friends. I really can't say much about myself, I'm not much for describing myself. Most certainly I could not do it in one word! I'm sorry.

**There are various interesting occurrences in the underground not talking about the variety of styles. Satanic churches and Christian ones for metalheads; Decide's Glenn Benton with his theory and those who want to remove him; tremendous number of "blackers" with their darkest ideology who can kill everybody different minded as well as burn churches and believers who like extreme music as well as play it (for example death / grind art Mortification with Christian lyrics); at last such bands as Visceral Evisceration who play doom with gore lyrics. Everything would be very well, but very often various contradictions appear between hostile**

**camp. It's because there are rather many closed-minded people around, I consider. What do you think about such odds? Can music and stage be right thing for discord?**

To be one with your belief and to hold true to it as well as admirable. However, when your belief is encompassed by arrogance, intolerance, prejudice, hate and an unwillingness to learn and understand, your belief is only doing yourself and others damage. To learn is to change and to think yourself above others is placing yourself outside of knowledge. Just look at these fools burning churches, desecrating graves and killing people, all to be true. Then they turn on each other as soon as they are suspected of doing anything. They preach power, but all they have and will accomplish is their own demise. I'm so tired of hearing their hateful and mindless cries of war. What do they hate? They hate those whom try to make a difference in the world, those whom give to the less fortunate. They live by the code of only the strong survive, yet they're too weak to stay loyal or help out another, this is their strength, I can only laugh at them. I love a good portion of the music they create, but other than that they make me angry, it's people such as themselves that cause me to dislike the majority of people of our world. I think them to be fools, they seem to enjoy proving me correct. Anyone that places himself above others, he is within a cloud of unknowing, walking to his death. To disagree is fine and expected, but to blindly hate someone because of his background, color or looks, is shameful. Judge, if you will, after you have talked with a person, avoid them and if they stand in your path with a hate for you, walk around them. If you cannot do such, stand your ground and do battle, for with your tolerance and truth, you shall conquer them. Do not go looking for wars, but if a war comes to you, win it. I'll stop now or I could go on and on. I will say if anyone wishes to rebut my comments, please write me, I am certainly not afraid of your comments, or you, if these are your beliefs.

**You did Lithuanian scene report in the #2 of your zine as I know. So what do you know about our underground (zines, bands, radio and TV programs, gigs, etc.)? Do you get many letters from our country?**

Yeah, I get a good amount of letters from over there. I really don't know much about your scene, to be honest. I know quite a few people there, mostly fanzines and fans, I don't think I write more than two bands there, I do know many Lithuanian bands, I just don't have contact with them. I'm really surprised at the size of your scene, with so many problems, it's just a surprise.

**One philosophical question. There are different religions, sects and so on. Some believe in God, others hail Satan, another ones believe in themselves at last. What's your opinion about religion at all? If you agree that any belief is necessary in our life?**

I believe we need to have a pattern to learn from, religious or philosophical. From that pattern we can branch off and become our own masters, but first we need to learn from the "wise". The ones who have been through life, the true ones. And from that we also need to find ourselves, understand what we are and if what we are is bad, we need to change it, but still keep our unique qualities without doing harm to others and ourselves. I myself try to take from all beliefs. Mostly I attempt to draw knowledge from Buddhist and Taoist thoughts, as well as other strong and moral truths. I also have my dark side, which I feed with occult and magic knowledge, but not practice!! I just feel a need to know things, I learn of them and then I know what they are, whether I accept them as my own or not. I own both a Bible and a Satanic Bible, I read both. I practice neither. I just know what each represents: You should never shelter yourself or allow yourself to be sheltered. If you possess a strong mind, you will find the true way, past all of the lies and ignorance. To me the most truth comes from ancient eastern thought, mingled with many other elements. If this question would be posed to me a year ago, my answer would have been different, because henceforth and eternally I will learn and as I learn I will be awakened, enlightened, I will change and I welcome such, as long as it is constructive. I wish to never fall back... But again, I will stop talking, I could go for pages. I hope you see my angle.

**And now lets return to reality. People have many problems in their life. How do you look at such disastrous killers as drugs and alcohol? Are these ones the only remedy from depression and despair?**

I do not drink alcohol, nor do I ever touched drugs. Alcohol, in moderation is perfectly fine and on a special occasion I may consume some. But people mostly drink to get drunk, to escape. They feed their depression with a depressant. The most foolish action in existence. People need to stay away from alcohol if they cannot control their usage, and in my opinion the same goes for other drugs. I would never recommend anyone to do any drug at any time, as well I totally am against smoking, but I cannot control what others do, only tell others what I think.

**So, our conversation is about ending. Can you say the last words and some wishes to our headbangers?**

First I must thank you for this opportunity to express my views, I truly hope I have not been too long winded!! Good luck to you, my friend, stay true. Thanks to you who read this, feel free to contact with me at: UNTIL DAWN / P. O. BOX 424 / W. YELLOWSTONE, MT. 59758 - USA. All letters are welcome and if you're a tape trader, send your list for mine, you know my favourite bands. Follow your own path, find your own way, learning and taking from example is your start, but beware falsehood: Become your own person, transcend, accomplish and grow. Never close your mind, learn truth. Good bye my friend and thank you once again!

**Thank you Shane for your interesting exhaustive answers. Good luck to you and hello to all your friends!**

- Birute -

# REVIEWS

## BLACK / DOOM / ATMOSPHERIC DEATH

**AMORPHIS**  
*Tales from the Thousand Lakes*  
 1994 Relpase/Nuclear Blast  
**Intro, Into Hiding, The Castaway, First Doom, Black Winter Day, Drowned Maid, In the Beginning, Forgotten Sunrise, To Father's Cabin, Magic and Mayhem**  
 Relpase acclaimed this as "an absolute masterpiece." Maybe it is not exactly so, however it's certainly a fine work of atmospheric metal. These Finnish musicians successfully avoided the clichés of doom death metal, cleverly use keyboards and clean vocals (kind of high ones, probably all the songs with it are the best in the album - "Into Hiding", "Black Winter Day" and "In the Beginning") parallelly with usual doom death one. A noticeable step forward in comparison with their average debut "The Karelian Isthmus". Maybe the band doesn't overtake *Tiamat* or *My Dying Bride*, but it firmly stands in doom/death elite. (-G-)

**ASTRAL RISING**  
 Promo tape  
 1994  
**Anguish Feelings, Thorny, Allow Me, ...But All The Same**  
 In "Edge of Time #7" you could find the interview with band from France *Astral Rising* which released their CD "Abeona Adeona" in 1993. In 1994 nothing very special happened except some gigs and line-up changes. A.R. also recorded promo tape, but it's still doesn't clear - will the band press it officially or release on CD. In the next issue of "Edge of Time" you'll find all details and now about promo.  
 Well, earlier I wrote A.R. was a mix of *Obituary* and *Solitude Aeturnus* but now it would a nonsense to tell such thing. Especially the 1st song has nothing with both these bands, and speaking about death metal I must say there haven't left any elements of this style, and it is the main reason why this promo sounds better than "Abeona Adeona". Earlier you could tell, beyond all manner of doubt, A.R. plays doom death, but now... Now there are even some fragments of classical hard rock, music is a bit faster and more diverse. I'm sure all zine-makers mentioned that singer's voice is more than good, and now I want to add-in this promo his voice vary even more than on "Abeona Adeona". Playing is still very good etc.etc. - in short everything is very cool and if you are interested in doom style music and still don't know about this group you can begin thinking you know not so much about this music. By the way, the latest news from the camp of A.R. - the group composed 3 new songs that probably show the new face of the band. Band address: Steph Le Saux, 25 Rue de L'Ermitage, 94100 St.Maur, France (By the way, you can get the list of distro "Abyss of Addiction" in the same address too). (-A-)

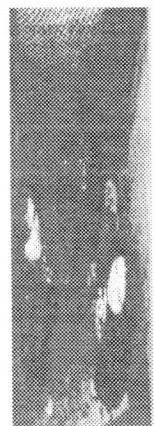
**BURZUM**  
*Hvis Lyset Tar Oss*  
 1994 Misanthropy Records  
**Det Som En Gang Var, Hvis Lyset Tar Oss, Inn I Stottet Fra Drommen, Tomhet**  
 These Norway's vikings has a good name among the blackers and it surely won't be spoiled by this album. Probably supporters of aggressive BM won't find their piece of cake (the album is rather melodic than ferocious). The atmosphere is certainly dark here, songs are long (the whole timing is 40 minutes), so it could be called gloom epic black metal. Rhythm isn't fast, rather middle-tempo and even catchy (if this fits to BM). Tracks are filled with synthesizer parts which along with senseful (don't take the ironic sense of this world here!) screaming keeps darkly sublime mood. If you like such acts as *Type O Negative*, *Rotting Christ*, *Tiamat* (don't get me wrong, I am in my mind yet - with the musical style *Burzum* has very little common features with these bands! but don't forget the feelings that music creates) and if you look to black metal through the prism of suspicion - it would be absolutely harmless for you to try this. At least the 1st and the last tracks (they made an half of the album, so it would be interesting to listen to the whole thing, isn't it?). By the way, the last cut "Tomhet" is a certain tribute to ambient musical style! (-G-)

**DARKTHRONE**  
*Transylvanian Hunger*  
 1994 Peaceville  
**Transylvanian Hunger, Over Fjell Of Gjennom Torner, Skald Av Satans Sol, Slottet I Det Fjerne, Graven Takeheimens Saler, I En Hall Med Flesk Og Mjod, As Flittermice As Satans Spys, En As I Dype Skogen**  
 Controversial thing by all respects... Lots of people are obsessed by this, another ones mix the band with the ground. The first ones praise the evil atmosphere of the album, and the rest criticize primitive play-

ing. It's the fourth album of *Darkthrone*, from death metal they turned to unholy oceans of darkness and evil (that means they begin to play black metal). Band's image and attitude played a sadful, if the unknown band with music like *Transylvanian Hunger* would reach any wider attention. The date of this release was pushed a couple of times, the interest in the band was artificially raised and... really the most of blackers are satisfied with this total & raised evil music, for the rest this album could hardly be recommended - first of all they wouldn't like similar songs (though probably the band didn't try to make them diverse...). (-G-)

**DESULTORY**  
*Bitterness*  
 1994 Metal Blade  
**Life Shatters, Left Behind, A Closing Eye, Taste of Tragedy, Bleeding, Among Mortals, Enslaved, Winter, Cold Bitterness**  
 Late't here are more & more bands which plays melodic death metal, such style is more perspective at the moment than that mid-paced-growth standard thing. *Desultory* are not newcomers and there new album "Bitterness" add the ranks of good DM albums in 1994. The most important thing is that their music catches you here. The 1st track "Life Shatters" is simply finest death metal song ever released! Unfortunately the rest of tracks don't make such impression as the opener. It's not traditional DM, anyway it has no less power than last *Entombed* in the respect of aggressiveness, from the other side, music is filled with melodically doom passages (reminding a bit of *Dark Tranquillity*). It is greatly appreciated that singer really sings and it's not hard to pick up the words - so you can scream together with him along the opening highlight "Life Shatters"... Band contact address: Desultory, 14444 Ronninge, Ormstigen 18, Sweden (-G-)

**ENCHANTMENT**  
*Dance the Marble Naked*  
 1994 Century Media  
**Kneading With Honey, My Oceans Vast, The Touch of a Crown, Carve Me in the Sand, Summer for the Dames, God Send, Of Acorns that Gather, Meadews**  
 After the second demo "A Tear for Young Eloquence" Century Media noticed these British doomers and now we have a possibility to listen to their debut album (recorded at Academy Studios in Dewsbury (family), by the way). Emotional and romantic doom metal of *Enchantment* reminds a bit another crying British doom gods *Anathema*. The singer mostly roars, though melodic riffs build quite "kind" atmosphere. The band doesn't any break any new musical depths of doom metal, but I'm sure that the maniacs of the style should like them - they are sad, melancholic... and together strong. Though they also have that damned lack of memorable songs - if the first ones are good, then up to the end of the album you are getting bored by average songs... (-G-)



**INNER THOUGHT**  
*Worldly Separated*  
 1994 Dwell Records  
**Madness, Worldly Separation, Drowning in Sorrow, In Ourselves We Trust, War, Diseased Infected Earth, Forever Distant, Disorder of Battles, Ethnic Cleansing**  
 Bobby Sadzak, formerly lead guitarist of Canada's death metal forefathers *Slaughter*, and who has been at the forefront of Canada's underground scene for nearly ten years, formed a new band titled *Inner Thought*, which delivers newer kind of material. "Worldly Separated" is their debut CD and it presents tight doom/industrial metal with rough & siern vocals, catchy guitars and drum machine. They also use female voice in a couple of songs and keyboards. One of the crazy descriptions which came to my mind is *Anathema* meets *Voodoo Cult*... Actually this album should be labeled industrial metal, but *Inner Thought* differs from bands like *Voodoo Cult*, *Skrew* or *Skatenigets* quite much, especially for their gloomy approach. In general it's a good album worth of your listen. Contact: Dwell Records, PO Box 39439 Los Angeles, CA 90039, USA. (-G-)

**MAYHEM**  
*De Mysteriis Dom Sathanas*  
 1994 Century Media  
**Funeral Fog, Freezing Moon, Cursed in Eternity, Pagan Fears, Life Eternal, From the Dark Past, Buried by Time and Dust, De Mysteriis Dom Sathanas**  
 It's a posthumous album. Band's leader Euronymous was murdered on August 10, 1993 and the Count Grishnack from *Burzum* was charged with this crime. Black metal fans probably know all the circumstances of this event, I won't spread about this (simply because I don't know). The fact that BM bands prefer carrying their "dark image" to creating music is another theme. So "De Mysteriis Dom Sathanas" (which means - "Lord Satan's Secret Rites") bring a black burstout from the grave (bravely said, isn't it?). Such type of music is considered to be "true black metal" and there's no a big need to seek for any new terms - everyone who's in the scene know what's going to be about. Fast & mysterious piece of metal with ferocious vocals, which (to tell the truth) is not very standard. (The vocal parts were done by Attila Wihan from Hungary's *Tormentor* - sometimes he tries to get more various sounds from this throat than only monotonous screaming). By the way, *Mayhem* started to play in the years when *Bathory* and *Helhammer* were the darkest ones... (-G-)

**MERCYFUL FATE**  
*The Bell Witch (EP)*  
 1994 Metal Blade  
**The Bell Witch, Is That You Melissa, Curse of the Pharoas (live), Egypt (live), Come to the Sabbath (live), Black Funeral (live)**  
 This EP brings almost nothing extra new to *King Diamond/Mercyful Fate* fans except four live versions of already well known songs. Though the whole time is 30 minutes, and I suppose that the fans should get it in any case. "The Bell Witch" and "Is That You Melissa" (probably the best *Mercyful Fate* song) are taken from '93 album "In the Shadows". The rest four tracks were recorded live in Los Angeles on October 8, 1993. The band live sounds a bit worse than in the studios, but that doesn't mean that you have not to pay attention to their live recordings. In the fall of 1994 band released new studio album "Time" and it's better than "In the Shadows". (-G-)

**PARADISE LOST**  
*As I Die*  
 1993 Metal Blade  
**As I Die, Rape of Virtue, Death Walks Behind You, Eternal**  
 This is quite old release indeed, if you're familiar with it, you can simply skip this review. "As I Die" was released before "Icon" album, the title

track of the EP (wonderful song, by the way, was taken from "Shades of God" album. "Rape of Virtue" is previously unreleased track, recorded during the "Shades of God" sessions (really far from the best in the band's creation). "Death Walks Behind You" is cover version of *Atomic Rooster* (untypical song for PL) and finally - "Eternal" is a live version of the same song from "Gothic" album. Briefly this EP presents nothing new, but probably every fan should like to have it in his/her collection. (-G-)

**QUORTHON**  
*Album*  
 1994 Black Mark  
**No More And Never Again, Oh No No, Boy, Major Snodze, Too Little Much Too Late, Crack in My Mirror, Rain, Feather, Relief, Head Over Heels**  
 I could easily bet that the most of "true blackers" would carelessly wave their hands to this release saying: "Oh, it's total commercial crap". Anyway if "true blackers" are not authorities to you, you may proceed with the reading. And in general "commerce" is very slippery word, so it would be better not to discuss about this point here. First of all, quite simple song titles prompt that probably you won't find any "gloom atmosphere" in the "Album". First two cuts sounds like... psychedelic grunge metal... Well, possibly *Quorthon* (he's the leader of *Bathory* if there are any who don't know) doesn't know what the hell grunge is, but in his new songs he mixes up various things, beginning with '70s hard rock and ending with new modern heavy music. The riffs on "Head Over Heels" are owed from *Soundgarden*. The third cut "Boy" reminds that how there could be, but *Quorthon's* band is *Bathory* and this track hints into "Twilight of the Gods" times. "No More And Never Again" with its mood gives to mind... *Motley Crue!*, only riffs are a little bit heavier and *Quorthon's* voice is not so lickspittily as Vince Neil's one (of course, now *Motley Crue* has another singer, but fortunately this review is not devoted to them so I have all the rights to end with them here, it doesn't matter neither...). Going back to the "Album", it really confuses the people with conservative taste. Only in some places *Quorthon* can't get rid of "Twilight of the Gods" feeling ("Crack in the Mirror", "Boy") and it's quite amazing, cause now we hear grunging *Bathory*. The 2nd part of the album is not so contrastical (or maybe poor listener is getting used to the new *Quorthon's* style). To conclude here we have a simple case, when the musician wants to show its abilities creative potential in another field of music. (-G-)

**RENAISSANCE**  
*The Death of Art*  
 1994 Shiver  
**The Death of Art, Archway (Industrial, Windows, Tired Blood, Vaudeville)**  
 - review in the way of Beavis & Butthead 1st experience with "The Death of Art" -  
 - introduction -  
 Beavis: What band will we listen to?  
 Butthead: It's *Renaissance*, damn ass.  
 - prologue -  
 Beavis: Wow, what's a name... Butthead, what is "the art"?  
 Butthead: Shut up Beavis. I'm trying to listen...  
 time action  
 00:05 Butthead: *Somethin' like thunder and rain, huh huh.*  
 Beavis: *Rain is cool.*  
 Butthead: *It's an intro, huh, huh.*  
 00:36 Butthead: *The piano, wow!*  
 Beavis: *The intro is cool, huh huh.*  
 01:45 (Heavy guitars begin to work...)  
 Butthead: *Yes!*  
 Beavis: *Yes!*  
 Butthead: *The guitars are not death metal-ish, rather melodic, huh huh.*  
 03:02 (the voice appears)  
 Butthead: *Beavis, why they call it gothic doom?!*  
 Beavis: *I don't know, huh huh. What is doom?*  
 Butthead: *They are more into Psychotic Waltz & Mekong Delta than into My Dying Bride...*  
 04:48 Butthead: *They play technically, because they want to show how good musicians they are.*  
 05:20 (is the game over? where are the metal-ish guitars?)  
 Butthead: *I hear the mystic sounds or something, huh huh. Come come the dark! It reminds me of Mekong Delta '90s album the very beginning and the very end...*  
 07:23 Beavis: *Is it guitar solo?*  
 Butthead: *Yeah, shut up, I'm trying to concentrate.*  
 07:30 Beavis: *This buzzing makes me sick!*  
 08:30 Beavis: *Hey Butthead, what a pretty melody, check it out!*  
 Butthead: *Settle down Beavis, I'm meditating!*  
 09:22 (guitars appear again)  
 Both: *Yes! Rock! Rock!*  
 Beavis: *I don't like his voice. These are the cross between Judas Priest and Paradise Lost... and between Alice in Chains...*  
 Butthead: *Shut up, you're speaking shit! This music is called progressive metal.*  
 11:25 - 12:06 (good place, by the way; check it out when listen)  
 12:51 Beavis: *Mekong Delta doesn't kick ass!*  
 Butthead: *Settle down Beavis, I'll kick your ass! This is not Mekong Delta!*  
 13:04 Both: *The piano!!*  
 Butthead: *The piano is cool, huh huh.*  
 - epilogue -  
 15:20 Beavis: *Change the channel.*  
 - explanation -

So that's about the end. The album takes nearly 76 minutes, but the channel was changed because:  
 1) Beavis and Butthead got bored;  
 2) the actual reason of the change was that the author of these lines was tired to proceed with composing of the dialogue of that two young bastards...  
 - usual review -  
 Highly acclaimed in the underground this Belgian band serves your attention. Though firstly it could be a surprise, "cause the album was declared as avantgarde doom gothic one, but actually it is not that. The beginning of the first suite (album contains only two tracks - "The Death of Art" (40:00) and "Archway" (30:36) which is taken from band's original demo) shows their progressive techno approach, and it hints more to the bands like *Psychotic Waltz* or *Mekong Delta* than to *MBD* (as Butthead said). From the other side, it's not usual progressive stuff, first of all because of that there are no usual songs. *Renaissance* follows the footsteps of classical music and tries to compose long suites with various themes & moods. Up to the middle of the album doom death influences appear.  
 (The 2nd tracks is wholly in doom/death veins, it reminds a bit of *The Gathering's* "Always").  
 So the final verdict would be as follows: epic progressive metal w. doom death influence. How there would be, it's a good album. Band contact: c/o Chriss Ons, Sint-Maartensdal 2/236, 3000 Leuven, Belgium (-G-)



# another piece of REVIEWS

DEATH / GRIND

## AGGRESSOR

*Symposium of Rebirth*  
1994 Black Mark  
Barabas, Rebirth, Negative Zone, Apocalyptic Prophecies, Erga Mean Salutem, Overloaded, Theology, Civilisation, Wheel of Pain, Abhuman Dreadnought, Torture, Dor Firn-I-Guinar, After World Obliteration

Aggressor is one the premier French death metal bands and recently they released the 3rd album. As earlier works, "*Symposium of Rebirth*" presents a mixture of death thrash (where the bigger part belongs to death), not very original, but quite enjoyable (maybe for fans of the style). Speaking about innovations, it's impossible to avoid the mentioning of the opener track "Barabas" which has classical influences. Nearly the best song in the album. Unfortunately the band can't claim itself for the other cuts - they give pure death metal, heard 1000 times before, mostly dull and boring. Rare melodic passages, church chorus and instrumental a bit folky part (in the middle of the album) aren't able to save the good reputation. (-G-)

## AT THE GATES

*Terminal Spirit Disease*  
1994 Peaceville

The Swarm, Terminal Spirit Disease, and the World Returned, Forever Blind, The Fevered Circle, The Beautiful Wound, All Life Ends (live), The Burning Darkness (live), Kingdom Gone (live)

"This album is the first step to death metal classics" declared Tomas Lindberg, the singer of At The Gates in one of the interviews and added that speaking about classics he had in mind such albums as Slayer's "Reign in Blood", Dark Angel's "Darkness Descends" or Possessed's "Seven Churches". Maybe "Terminal Spirit Disease" is not that classical creation, which At The Gates would like it should be, but it, as the previous album "With Fear I Kiss the Burning Darkness" has some songs, which perfectly combines aggressiveness with melody. The best examples are the opener "The Swarm" and especially the title track "Terminal...". Tomas Lindberg here also sparks with his original lyrics. In comparison with the previous album, the lyrics became more matured, get more philosophical. There are some novelties in musical respect, just take the acoustical "And the World Returned" or doom oriented "The Fevered Circle". Besides 6 brand new songs here we could find 3 live versions of older songs - "All Life Ends" and "Kingdom (Fuckin'!) Gone" from the debut "The Red in the Sky is Ours" and my favorite "The Burning Darkness" from "With Fear...". By the way, this album previously was scheduled for the release as mini CD, but later on, adding live material, it became as a normal disc. Peaceville ensured that the next At The Gates release is planned for the spring of '95. And as for death metal classics, give a chance to these Swedes. Who know, if not with this, then with the next album they could succeed. Band contact: Adrian Erlanson, Tvetatan 273, 442 33, Kungälv, Sweden. (-S-)



## BENEDICTION

*The Grotesque - Ashen Epitaph (EP)*  
1994 Relapse/Nuclear Blast  
The Grotesque, Ashen Epitaph, Violation Domain/Live, Subconscious Terror/Live, Visions in the Shroud/Live

After the "Transcend the Rubicon" album these mid-paced DM heroes released this EP which features two new songs and three live ones. It's really the most joyful thing to review (not the interesting one to read) such releases, however there are some facts which should be noted. This is the first recording with the new drummer Powl Brookes (who replaced Ian), the live show from which these 3 songs were taken, was his first live performance with the band. "It may not be the tightest set or the noisiest crowd you have ever heard, but who cares that's not what's it about. Why not to give the fans something a little special, abit more personal" - the band explains the situation. So namely it is for fans, nothing more. (-G-)

## BRUTAL TRUTH

*Need to Control*  
1994 Earache  
Collapse, Black Door Mine, Turn Face, Godplayer, I See Red, Ironlung, Bite the Hound, Ordinary Madness, Media Blitz, Judgment, Brain Trust, Choice of a New Generation, Mainliner, Displacement, Crawlspace  
It surely a work of extreme kind of metal, and it must be admitted that it is quite good one. In this case aggression is flowing over the edge, but all the thing is not dull (what is one of more important things) and really heavy vocals is far better than hopeless gruntings in new Incantation album, for example. Brutal Truth delivers mostly fast death/grind, so that speed songs could get bored a bit. The album be such brain-striking

if it would have only grinding cuts like "Black Door Mine" or "Turn Face", but these ones are diversified with slower and "psychedelic" songs as "Ordinary Madness" or rock n'rolling death/grind - "Media Blitz". And the opener track "Collapse" (middle-tempo broken rhythm song) has not less than new Entombed. (-G-)

## CADAVEROUS CONDITION

*In Melancholy*  
1994 Lethal  
Katzentanz, To Be, Beautiful, Marian, The Flower, Shine, You Remain, Depart (With Me), And I Want, May Fragments Not Dissolve, Eisbaer  
Sometimes people don't know what they do. Cadaverous Condition, for example. This group managed to play some unique tracks but recorded some absolutely shitty songs as well. The first track makes me think guys listen only to the worst kind of death metal and try to play like their "godz", but that's all they can do. But beginning from the 4th track I changed my opinion. The cover of The Sisters Of Mercy's "Marian" sounds strong. Very strong. Gothic in pure death-way. Yes, yes, yes! I can imagine what a hell is happening at their gigs when the singer begins to roar "Maria-a-a-an". But it is only a cover, and their own songs "The Flower" and "Shine" sound very good too. Especially "Shine". It's... can you imagine acoustical death metal? Of course, not. So listen to "Shine" and you'll understand it isn't utopia. Well, when I begin thinking Cadaverous Condition does everything all right, musicians again start playing that damned brutal&killing& boring&fucking etc. death. Tell me what's a pleasure to play such a style? The last song "Eisbaer", written by Grauzone sounds quite good again - in gothic veins, but I'm tired after all. (-A-)

## CIANIDE

*A Descent into Hell*  
1994 Red Lights  
Gates of Slumber, Eulogy, The Undeath March, The Luciferian Twilight, Beyond the Fallen Horizon, Darkness, Death Dealer, Mountains in Thunder  
Crunching guitars, pounding drums & roaring vocals. That's Cianide, that's death metal, that's reality. "The Dying Truth", their debut album, is known among deathsters, who liked it, probably give a listen to this one. How there would be, Cianide with "A Descent into Hell" won't jump on DM elite. The band is three-piece and in this aspect they orientate to the "best, heaviest bands that have been three pieces - Venom, Sodom & Celtic Frost". For those who don't feel affection to death metal this album will cause nothing but headache. For info & correspondence you may write to: Cianide, c/o Mike Perun, 2446 W. 54th St., Chicago, IL 60632, USA. (-G-)

## CONVULSE

*Reflections*  
1994 Relapse/Nuclear Blast  
Intro, The Rite of Sunshine, The Green is Grey, Years of Decay, Memories, The Nation Cries, Crying Back Yesterday, Lost Equilibrium, The New Arrival  
Not bad. Really not bad. This album leaves quite a good impression in comparison with their previous opus "World Without God". Only just the fact that band goes further from traditional death metal and creates something new is appreciated. To tell the truth "Reflections" has nothing common with DM but that growling vocals (and it's not everywhere) (of course, nobody asks me, but I could not type this review quietly, cause that damned growling vocals is the worst thing in this album and spoils it very much... -G-). Music could be described as hard n'heavy, jazz and rock n'roll combination. The only thing which seemed quite strange to me was that the album was recorded at the end of '92 and released only in the summer of '94. During that period Convulse could change themselves even more, anyway now we have "Reflections" and such cuts as "The Rite of Sunshine" or "Years of Decay" really gush with energy and freshness, and with "Memories" it's possible to make a corpse to dance! (-S-)

## DECEASED

*Blessed By Demons (EP)*  
1994 Wilde Welt Records  
Darkened Soul, As I Die, Eternal Devastation, The One Who Cared  
I don't know, maybe it seems cool to someone, but seeing three naked asses on the back cover of this CD and names written on them, hardly you'd find one who should have a wish to take out their creation from compact disc box. I, as the author of this review, had to do that. First three songs entirely confirmed my fears regarding the music. Boring, full of cliches, death thrash metal, decorated with hackneyed lyrics about Satan, death and life after death. The 4th song "The One Who Cared" is quite listenable, though it is strange after all that satanic roaring to hear their vocalist melodically singing "Oh baby, baby I miss you!". Maybe it's my own opinion, but when 14-15 years teenagers release CDs and good professional bands can't get contract, that is not a good thing. Contact: Gaby Reichmann, Holsteiner Str. 2 b, 23617 Stockelsdorf, Germany. (-S-)

## DISCIPLES OF POWER

*Invincible Enemy*  
1993 Mind Gash Records  
Afterbirth, Invincible Enemy, Infected by Science, Born Unto Death, Injuncticide, Lords of Creation, Return from the Gates, Before the End  
Techno death? Maybe it is possible to describe so the music of this Canadian band, but this doesn't mean that here we have a deal with such band as Atheist or Cynic. Boring melodies, somewhat weak vocals, to cut the thing shorter - monotony. It's hardly possible to pick up here any more interesting cut, and so this album is not worth your listen. Band contact: DOP, c/o Wolfgang At Box 70044, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, T5C3C0. (-S-)

## DISHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

*Pleasedome*  
1994 Steamhammer  
I Hyperact, Recommended Suicide, The Silence I Observe, Feel Like Fever Now, The Sick Deepunder, Getting Me Nowhere, Pleasedome, Stuck In Something, Fall Colours' Fall, Overwhelming Tranquility, Where Can I Park My Horse, Off the Ground, Sunday Mood  
Unbelievable!!! It's really unbelievable. The group which earlier was one of techno death's gods now threw all what is connected with this old-fashioned style. No more growling vocals and ultra-heavy sound. The style which could be near Disharmonic's playing is hardcore. But "could be" - I say, "coz, believe me, there aren't analogues. Yes, vocals remind of hardcore-type singing (shouting)", but playing is too technical for hardcore - rhythm changes, sensitive guitar solos, everything turns to call this style techno hardcore thrash. No no Disharmonic Orchestra don't try to be like Pantera or Biohazard, as other bands like to do now, they know what they do and I think this release is absolutely the best in the discography of Disharmonic Orchestra. Forget about death metal, just listen to song called "Where Can I Park My Horse" (really,

one of these global problems), and you'll understand what is fun mixed with technical playing. When I listen to this music I think - metal has a future. (-A-)

## EXIT-13

*Ethos Musick*  
1994 Relapse/Nuclear Blast  
Societally Provoked Genocidal Contemplation, Ethos Musick, Excititate the Emancipation of Your Mummified Mentality, Diet For a New America, Anthropocentric Ecocidal Conundrum, Reevaluate Life!, Legalize Hemp Now!, including A Warm Wave of Euphoria, Open Season (The Story of Hunter Slaughter), My Minds Mine!, Earth First!, Only Protest Gives a Hope of Life!, Disemboweling Party, An Electronic Fugue For the Imminent Demise of Planet Earth  
This one is really far from being pleasant to everyone... Bill Yorkiewicz' (Relapse's chief's) sick band threw out its new opus which combines a bunch of the most extreme styles. It could be grind, but it is filled with lost of pseudo-jazzy things & industrialized parts. Their influences come from eraly Napalm Death & Carcass to Steve Ray Vaughan and King Crimson. In general this weird stuff has no hooks, one of the more amazing things are the nature views on the cover & philosophical didactic/contemplative lyrics w/ maxims by various well-known people. The band stands for marijuana legalization & vegetarianism. The whole timing is about 75 minutes and the warning on the back of CD states that the last tracks could make your audio playback system failed. Be careful! And actually if you're not into extremities, don't try to get this - no goal. (-G-)

## "FUCK YOU WE'RE FROM DENMARK"

*compilation*  
1994 Progress Records  
This CD contains 15 death bands from Denmark. To tell the truth, 90% of these bands are mediocrities, so if you don't like traditional death metal better don't touch this CD. On the other hand - Progress Records made Vol.3 very good - you can find lyrics and contacts here, and CD looks pretty good. By the way, Progress decided to stop releasing only death/grind bands in the "F.Y.W.E.D." series and Vol.4 will contain only Unsigned Danish Industrial Progressive bands. Wow!!! Now about all the groups on Vol.3.

Condemned "Impaled". Well - known band in Denmark but for me the only interesting things in this song are slow parts. Maybe it's technical and professional, maybe it's interesting for someone. Angel Accelerator Death "Spontane Love". The side - project of Ildisposed - strong vocals, stupid words ("the first suck, the first fuck, it isn't who I love"), in short - death.

Infernal Torment "No Longer a Virgin". This band is popular in Denmark, they play grind/death. One my friend says it is good music. Maybe. I wouldn't say that.

Revoluting Phimosi "Reborn". Yeah, something better. Good guitar solos, interesting not only for death fans.

Coitus Interruptus "Dreaming Of The Past". Probably these guys listen only to death metal, therefore they don't know any other ways to play. They play quite good, but too traditionally.

Stone Age "Pikaso!". Interesting lyrics - not very bad but very good music - quite good vocals - slow parts, fast parts - everything like usually, I'm sure you heard this music earlier. Maybe the track is too long, but death fans will like it.

Chaosium "Victims Grave". Yes, yes - melodic death. Therefore not so boring as other bands.

Saturnus "Beware of the Atheist". Doom/death. This track would absolutely shitty, if there wouldn't be the keyboards. Now they are here, so music isn't so bad.

Autumn Leaves "Forever the Destiny". It's strange, but I really like them. This group even creates something like atmospheric feeling. Good.

Discomposure "I Smell Thirst". For pure death metal vocals are too weak, playing not so weak, maybe we even could call it professional. But not original, of course.

Mercenary "One Eyed Beast". Bad. From the beginning to the end.

Idiosyncrasy "Denied Abuse". The biggest merit of this song - it isn't very long, so you can't fall asleep listening to it. How I remember they play brutal death (or maybe not, I'm not sure).

Nugatory "Dementia". The worst on the comp. Why they are here? Catharsis "Beloved". Guys play with one guitar so their sound is weak, but they have interesting musical thoughts, this music will not make you to turn your CD-player off.

Goat "Daughter in the Slaughter". Again the "fun" project of Ildisposed. Fun grind. Listen to this track for 30 times and then you'll have to go to hospital. No more comments.

All metalheads which still are crazy for traditional death metal get this CD from Progress Records: Vindegade 101, DK - 5000 Odense, Denmark (you can get the first two editions as mid - price CD's here too). (-A-)

## GOMORRAH

*Reflections of Inanimate Matter*  
1994 Megapulse Records  
Without Trace, Deviant, Sewer-Cide, Another Bleak Horizon, Rejoice in Flames, Seasons, Human Trophies  
Finally, after the releasing of two demos ("Embryonic Stages" & "Umbilical Divorce") one of the most known English underground groups (and "one of the stronger unsigned bands", as "Kerrang!" earlier wrote) released their debut album. Maybe I will not say anything new mentioning that it's very well done death thrash album. This music is melodic and fast as "old & good" thrash, but it has haviness and brutality of death metal. I'm very happy the singer Sven Olafson doesn't try to show how much he can roar, so in his singing you can feel melody, and this melodic feeling is noticeable in all the album - i.e. keyboards on "Another Bleak Horizon" and must I speak about the man who helped to record the last song? He is... Fish from Marillion! Wow, doesn't this fact show that Gomorrah has a potential in their music? I can ensure, this album sounds very strong. One of my friends say it's old fashioned (maybe he talked about some elements of thrash), but personally for me this melodic music is better than the latest CD of Grave. So, if you want to find only total heaviness and nothing more, better listen to Suffocation. Gomorrah isn't such kind of music. I won't begin to talk about professionalism of musicians, all is clear without any words. By the way, this CD, as I know, is distributed through Sony, so we can expect high-rising of Gomorrah. These guys are going to release their new album to appear in early '95. Address: 11 Gainsborough Hill, Henley On Thames, Oxon R69 1ST, UK. (-A-)

## GRAVE

*Souless*  
1994 Century Media  
Turning Black, Souless, I Need You, Bullets are Mine, Bloodshed, Judas, Unknown, And Here I Die, Genocide, Rain, Sears  
First of all I must say that I can't write this review objectively, because I dislike traditional death metal. So here you'll not find very positive words about this group. "Souless" doesn't demonstrate anything new - the things were heard in the releases of other groups, so if it was my will, I wouldn't release this album. As for positive things, I disliked earlier Grave releases more than this one. Now here are some songs influenced





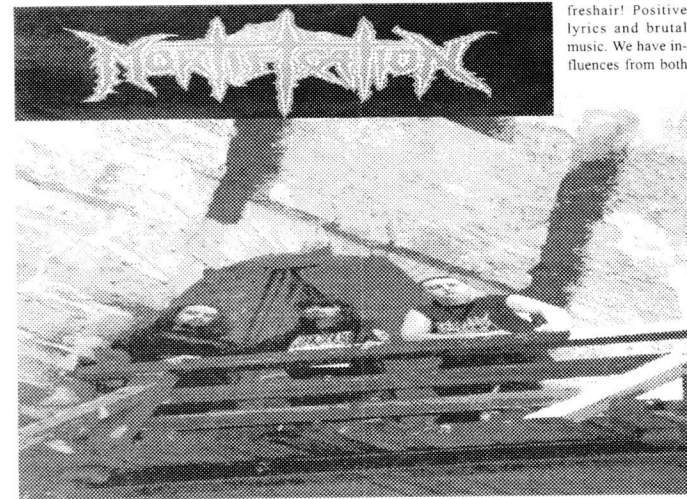
Nowadays you could find various phenomena in the depths of the underground. Large number of worshippers of dark forces preach their ideas through the gloomy music called Black metal as well as others found Christian metal would be the right space for the expression of their thoughts and feelings. However, such things aren't amazing no longer but... Would you imagine some kind of mixture like extreme music and "Godly" lyrics? Yea, that case is unusual but real.

Thus, mysterious act named **Mortification** arose from the crypt of distant Australia 4 years ago. These guys were able to find certain compromise between death/grind / thrash sounding and words like psalms in honor of God. And they did this really well.

There is no need to tell history of this band as you'll can hear the main facts from themselves. It only could be mentioned they are three-piece act from the beginning and just released 6th album titled "**Bloodworld**". This LP is really interesting, there you can find new ideas and tunes if compare with previous releases. And you can make the acquaintance with **Mortification** in one member's words right now.

**First of all, tell the history of Mortification shortly, please...**

**Mortification** evolved from the band **Lightforce** when it split up. Steve (bass + vocals) recruited a previous member of **Lightforce** and a new drummer. They re-



corded a demo tape called "**Break The Curse**" now re-released on CD by Nuclear Blast. After that, I joined, we wrote heavier material and recorded for the LA based label Frontline Intense Records, who became interested in the band by the demo. We now have 6 CD releases through that label.

**Was Lightforce your first formation? What was the reason this band split up in 1990 despite of 3 releases were out?**

1 was an album. And other 2 were demo tapes. The band was severely ripped off by the Record label that signed **Lightforce** (8000 \$) so the band got disillusioned and split up at last. They were all interested in other things.

## infostrip

### Discography:

- "Break the Curse" 1990 - licensed by Nuclear Blast
- "Mortification" 1991 - Intense Rec. release only
- "Scrolls of the Megiloth" 1992 - licensed by Nuclear Blast
- "Post Momentary Affliction" 1993 - licensed by Nuclear Blast
- "Live Planetarium" 1993 (also a live video) - Intense Rec. release only
- "Bloodworld" 1994 - licensed by Nuclear Blast

### track lists:

"Live Planetarium" (1993/Intense Records)  
 Grind Planetarium, Distarnish Priest, Brutal Warfare, Destroyer Beholds, Inflamed, Scrolls of the Megiloth, Symbiosis (new), Time Crusaders (new), Blacksnake, From the Valley of Shadows, Human Condition, The Majestic Infiltration of Order, This Momentary Affliction  
 "Blood World" (1994/Intense Records)  
 Clan of the Light, Blood World, Starlight, Your Life, Monks of the High Lord, Symbiosis, Love Song, Live by the Sword, J.G.S.H., Dark Allusions

**Well, Mortification is three-piece act. But sometimes it would be complicated to play such intensive music with one guitar, wouldn't it? All members are good musicians but maybe you're going to find one or two more?**

No, we're happy as 3 piece. Less personal conflicts to worry about and it's cheaper to travel. The only reason we've done 2 American tours + 1 German one is because it's easier to pay for 3 airfares than for 4 or 5! We don't feel too limited.

**You have 6 releases for this time already. The noticeable progress could be found since the first album. I liked "Post Momentary Affliction" most of all myself. And it would be interesting to hear your opinion about them. Which is the best one to your mind? What do you think about debut album today? When could we expect for the next record?**

"Post Momentary..." is my favourite too! Our style progressed from thrash to death / grind. Now we're doing everything. Our new album is thrash / death / grind and a lot of hardcore fans like it too. Its got wide appeal! When you are contracted to do 1 album every year, it's easier to be free to write however we feel! **Mortification was formed in Australia. Some time ago heavy music was some kind of stronghold for European and American groups. But your band became well-known abroad and stood up among the best acts. How could you explain such success?**

We were offering something many people thought of as breath of fresh air! Positive lyrics and brutal music. We have influences from both

American and European music. So it was easy for us to have a balance of influences! Also here's my philosophy: good music speaks to those who want to listen!

**Yeah, now there will be the question I consider you must answer most often to. But in different aspect. You're known like brutal band (I mean your music and don't want to use "death" category 'cause I think your music can't be put in one frame) with Christian lyrics. So there's rather interesting combination as these standards with blood and corpses or Satan and evil became boring already. But how did the idea of such kind of lyrics appear? And were there any reproaches from both sides (I mean extreme Death fans and Christians)?**

We are Christians who love brutal music. Most of the bands at the time were great, but they were wankers who tried to use satanism for the trend. So we wanted to hear a band that was brutal, and stood up for all the Christian metal fans around the world. We became one of those bands! It helped us get signed to the two Record labels because they wanted something different, and they knew people would buy it! But some fans don't want to know about Christian people, so they don't like us. The other Christians that don't like metal don't have to worry about us because our music is not for them! It's for those that do!

**But there are people (Decide's Glenn Benton for example) who are clearly against Christianity. What are your relations with them? Do you agree that music wouldn't become any sphere of various odds?**

These people are against Christianity because Christians have been against them. But the true message of Christ is to be a good example of him to the world. Jesus would not protest in front of concerts, or hate the people that hate him. It's true that you can use music for any purpose. Chuck of **Death** isn't a band that promote Satan. He avoids all the religious arguments. So that proves death metal isn't only for evil, because they were pioneers of the music! And **Napalm Death** don't need to use Satan for people to like them! They are a great band and they play brutal music!

**Mortification plays rather original music. But per-**

**Well, say few words about your band members. Are you professional musicians or do something else? What are your favourite trades in your leisure?**

We are all around 23 years old. We do work and study apart of **Nightfall**. Actually, our band has to do nothing at all with business, or future jobs of ours! This is our art, and the only thing we get is spiritual pleasure. We hate all those who try to get popular or try to make money from music or whatever. Here we don't use any other producers apart from ourselves, simply because this is our own art, our own feeling, world, ... our own soulmasturbation. Whether or not we have

a label to support us financially we'll keep on doing what we like to do for us. Fuck the trends! You were signed by Holy Rec. just after first demo. That was really successful step, I guess. But two full length albums were released already. Are you going to prolong your contract with this French label? Were you quite satisfied working on it?

Everything has gone fine so far, so why to break it up? The only thing we need as a band is somebody to give us money for the studio, arrange tours and accept what we're doing without any second thought! We don't give a shit if we ever become the best or the worst seller in the scene, nor if our label sends away 500 promos instead of 5000 ones.

**"Vanity" demo and debut album had good responses in a time. The first one caused a sign as was noted above. Did "Parade of Centuries" success determined that you were "Band of 1992" in Greek Metal Hammer?**

It was also that great show with **Paradise Lost** over here as well as since the beginning we're counting on our feelings and thoughts only and not on these words of mags or even fans.

**"Parade of Centuries" and "Macabre Sunset" are pretty excellent albums. I couldn't exclude any of them though they are rather different. If you consider one of them is better than another?**

Mother never chooses among her precious children, especially if "she" sees "her" own life and dreams in their "eyes" ... it's art.

**Your tracks have quite mystic and doomy titles as well as the name of group. And everything is just connected with music very well. If you agree that lyrics must be absolutely related to music? Who creates songs in your band?**

Poetry comes first, while music "just" follows. Our inky tears are those who mark the tunes of ours.

**You play music somebody called Atmospheric Sympho- Doom Death metal. I don't like any kind of labels 'cause they put music into frames, don't they? If you spend much time to create each track it would sound as well as possible? Are you going to use other instruments beside piano and keyboards to make necessary atmosphere?**

There's only "good" performed music and "bad" performed one; music is unlimited like our fantasies! Those who label it are the mentally poor ones as well as those who try to sell it to the above mentioned! We create in the same way like a painter creates a picture, like a writer a book, a poet a poem, etc. Right from within with not any additional thoughts or trendy arrangements. We never spend too much time for a tune. As far as you got the inspiration you also got the creation.

**Nightfall rose from the depths of greatest Ancient land with famous past. If you derive ideas for your creation from Greek history and mythology?**

I don't get ideas... I'm myself an active part of the Ancient Greek literature world! I believe that I'm one of the fewest ones who have that spirit inside. And you have to know that this is not on purpose due to either you do have it or you don't! And if you have it I can assure you that it's not always so "cool", as you think, in our todays world!

**Greek metal bands became better day by day. Nightfall, Septic Flesh, Rotting Christ,**

**happens there were some influences at the very beginning. Which bands could you mention? What kind of music are you into? What could you say to those who try only to copy others?**

Our influences come from the styles of music themselves. We don't try to copy bands. When I write a song, it's a Death, Grind song, or a Thrash song, or a Rock song with a grind beat to power it up. Not a song that sounds like other bands. We don't mean to copy. Bands that copy are just trying to be safe. They're afraid to do anything different, and they are not as "inspired musicians". As the original ones are. The bands we like are as diverse as **Sodom**, **Celtic Frost**,  **Destruction**, **Iron Maiden**, **Motorhead**, **Sabbat**, **Skyclad**, **Kiss**, **Suicidal Tendencies**, **Circle of Dust**, **Twisted Sister**,  **Gorilla Biscuits**, **Sick of it All** etc... We listen to many styles.

**Do you feel the envy of other people? What do you think about this?**

I don't know what you mean by the envy of other people. Is it that people envy us? If so, yes, many do. They don't have 6 internationally released CD's and we do! They think we don't deserve the success because we're Christians. So it's their problem.

**Well, music is the main side of real musicians life. But there is another side too. How do you spend your leisure? Could you mention the greatest suc-**

**cesses, etc. are well - known far from the boundaries of Greece. And most of acts are rather different if compare with ones from other lands. Is it so 'cause your scene began to rise just several years ago and bands have completely new ideas?**

... Who knows... Who cares... But there is another side. Some time ago Swedish death metal shook underground. And today there is tremendous number of groups, their sound is almost the same. So traditional death metal became a trend at last. New tunes in music are necessary. I suppose. What do you think about that? Could

# NIGHTFALL

the same thing happen to Greek scene when much more bands would be formed? Apart from 4-5 bands over I

here the rest of the scene (the Greek) is full of fashion victim children who cannot even copy the sound or the ideas of the rest well! I'm sure you've already known those few worthy Greek bands (yes, you do).

**Lets talk about gigs now. I read that you like to see many fans in your shows. Could you remember the best concert Nightfall has ever played? What bands would you like to play in one show with?**

The whole **Macabre** Dance Tour across Europe has been an incredible experience for all of us, as well as for the people who came to those shows, as we heard their comments and read their amazing reviews after the tour completed. The fact that from our very first ever tour we were the headliners shows how special our fans are, how also great our shows are. See ya in our next tour in '95!

**There are some musicians who create something only for money. Their sounding (I don't want to say "music") is pretty grey; without any sense and feelings. But there are many other ways to get money. What could you say for those who make business out of music? Would you play a gig without any payment?**

Yes, of course, we've played gigs so far without profits!! And we will do it again and again as far as we get some kind of special experience out of those acts (I'm talking of course about spiritual and life experience and not for stage performance experience!!!). However, to be honest, I prefer to listen to a band who makes music for living (in a pro way) only if it's members say it out - being honest - to the mags, fans, etc... I hate those who try to fool fans by speaking about feelings and underground while their aim is to become the most popular and someday a kind of "rock stars". Unfortunately, our scene is full of such creeps who consider as "success" the numbers of their albums' sales! No matter if a band plays Black or Rock, Classical or Dance music; it can be either true or false, pure or trendy, art or business.

**Metal is serious music, some kind of art as well as other styles. But always somebody will say That's lots of sounds without any sense and only for those who are sixteen - seventeen. Such people don't understand this music to my mind. What's your opinion about that?**

Those silly comments belong to the fashion victims as well as to all those closed minded people. Unfortunately, this thing doesn't happen only with "metal" music but also with all the "modern" styles of music sounds which are ultra fave to the youths around. Who fucks them... However, don't you also ever forget that there's not any metal, or funk, or rave music but just music!

**So, that's all about. Would you add something? Thank for the support. Keep on with all the true ones around.**

-Birute-

**P.S. Check out Nightfall new release, the mini album "Eons Aura" (January '95).**

**kind and the biggest disappointment in your life? My greatest success is my family! And they're my responsibility. I also like to play Zone 3, Mortal Combat, See Kiss Alive (eventually) and watch The Simpsons + Star Trek on TV. But another success is that I can convert my feelings into music, and have it to help others! The only disappointments are some unexpressed emotions, and some things that want me to compromise my relationship with my family!**

**Imagine you'd be able to clean your brain from one memory. What one would it be? What streak of man do you detest most of all?**

There may be some things, but they're too personal to mention. Otherwise everything I've done has made me what I am, and I would probably be a hypocrite to wipe them from memory. And I probably will forget why I am!

**OK, it's about ending. What could you wish to our readers and all metalheads? And the very final words would be yours...**

I hope you all lead a good life. Thanks for the interview and remember, please don't let hypocrites destroy your belief in God. They become corrupt because they forget their purpose and become greedy. Check out our music. It deserves more respect. Thanks for your support!

-Birute-

Physical Attraction was proclaimed "Sweden's new hardcore hope", and I agree it is the best "N.Y. style" group from this country. It mixes the new stuff of Pantera and the older D.R.I. but Anders Palme's singing manner reminds of S.O.D. or M.O.D. more than of Biohazard, for example. Lyrically Physical Attraction is close to the bands like Consolidated and S.O.D. Well, what's about style? To tell the truth, there aren't things which could radically change HC scene in this CD, because everything is done according to all the standards of modern HC. Is it good or bad? Dunno, but "The Fool Lead the Blind" sound is fresh. It is the thing which kicks hard, and if you are looking for compromises, better don't touch this CD - Physical Attraction is only for strong people. Besides all usual things there are some songs which sound isn't like other groups. For example listen to "Someone Else Word" - you can feel melody here and it isn't very usual thing for HC bands. So 'don't say: oh, I know, this is N.Y. HC, I've heard it million times before, they can't surprise me. Listen and you'll understand what real power is. By the way, it is the first Physical Attraction's CD, - so who knows what this band can reach in the future. Contact: c/o Martin Paltien, Vaktarevagen 2A, 291 64 Kristianstad, Sweden. (-A-)

#### SARKOMA

**Integrity**  
1994 Red Lights

Tuesdays, Tabula Rasa, Hoveldaze, George, Universal Footsteps, Blue Horizon, Mortamer, Paper, Less By One, Tung  
It's not easy to decide where does Sarkoma want to integrate themselves, however this five piece outfit is already integrated in the circle of real American metal stuff: delirious, screaming, energetic and intense groove/hardcore with funk elements. They won a respect for their non standard lyrics (the band doesn't keep on "fuck you" & "I don't give a shit" type themes). Though musically they are not very diverse and not very acceptable in "commercial respect" (more aggression than melody). Band contact: Sarkoma, PO Box 6421, Rockford, IL 61125-1421, USA. (-G-)

#### SKATENIGS

**What A Mangled Web We Leave**  
1994 Red Lights

Passion for Destruction, Regret, Texas Tattoo, Family Values, Parasites, Sign the Dotted Line, Hoosgow, Mt. Carmel Cookout, Ranch Apocalypse, Rip Off  
Here come the Skatenigs! Come from Texas and they're one more example that mother America proceeds really a big quantity of bands, that have "a fuck you" attitude. Anyway Skatenigs is not an ordinary one. "What A Mangled Web We Leave" is the follow-up to their debut "Stupid People Shouldn't Breed" and it delivers tight hardcore/industrial metal. Successful mix of Ministry and Biohazard. I only wonder why aren't they as popular as Machine Head. As mentioned above Skatenigs' music overstep the bounds of American hardcore and is done with industrial approach. That doesn't mean that they're praised for originality (actually they didn't create any new style), just their industrialized metal has hundred time more hooks than pointless heaviness in Pantera's "Far Beyond Driven" (it seems that Pantera '94s becomes the scapegoat of this review section, however that album is an example when the stick was bended). "What A Mangled Web We Leave" is one of the best releases of modern/hard heavy music lately. Fan club info: Skatenigs, PO Box 223, Austin, TX 78767-0223, USA. (-G-)

## MORE REVIEWS The Medium ALTERNATIVE/GRUNGE/ PROGRESSIVE

#### DREAM THEATER

**Awake**  
1994 Eastwest Records

6:00, Caught in a Web, Innocence Faded, Erotomania, Voices, The Silent Man, The Mirror, Lie, Lifting Shadows off a Dream, Scarred, Space-Dye Vest  
Dream Theater's previous album "Images and Words" was a proper example of the fact, that the big part of progressive metal bands turn their music into more softer way & create songs understandable to a wider circle of listeners. From the other side, it doesn't fit to D.T. exactly 'cause they were always "commercial" enough in this point. And actually, "Images and Words" helped the band to attract more new fans and together with Queensryche, D.T. now probably are the most known progressive metal acts. So it was natural to wait for even more "commercialized" thing from the band in 1994, but "Awake", how strange there would be, hits you with sharper and straighter music. Dream Theater is more hard rock edged than before, not as bright and synthetical



as in "Images and Words". Some parts even hints into the debut album "When Dream and Day Unite" (1989), but in general here dominate typical D.T. songs (like "Caught in a Web", "The Mirror", "Lie"). Some ballads as "The Silent Man", "Innocence Faded" and "Space-Dye Vest" reminds of lyrical side of the band, instrumental "Erotomania" hints into Yngwie Malmsteen kind of thing. Resuming, "Awake" is quite enjoyable for fans, but for the first acquaintance better take "Images and Words" album (and the only thing I missed in "Awake" is a song like "Pull Me Under" (from "Images"). Fan club: Dream Theater International Fan Club, Midtown Station, PO Box 1188, New York, NY 10018, USA. (-G-)

#### FATES WARNING

**Inside Out**  
1994 Metal Blade

Outside Looking In, Pale Fire, The Strand, Shelter Me, Island in the Stream, Down to the Wire, Face the Fear, Inward Bound, Monument, Afterglow

Fates Warning could be considered as one of the initiators of progressive metal style. They released the debut album in early 1984 ("Night on Broken"), and if that album and its follow-up "The Spectre Within" (1985) were not very matured (they were rather efforts to combine Iron Maiden and rising American progressive metal style), the 3rd album "Awaken the Guardian" could proudly lay on the shelf of classical releases. In that days Dream Theater only began their musical career (as we know they released the debut in 1989), and guys from Psychotic Waltz perhaps went to the school... "No Exit" (1988) continued the line drawn by its forerunner "Awaken the Guardian", and namely in that years (1988/1989) there was a wave of techno/progressive stuff. From Europe - Mekong Delta, Deathrow, Sieges Even, Midas Touch, from the States - Hades, Dream Theater, Watchtower. The first step aside from typical progressive thrash stuff was Fates Warning's 1989 year album "Perfect Symmetry". If nowadays we would take it as normal thing, then (5 years ago) people with conservative attitude even concluded that Fates Warning is no metal band anymore. Anyway looking through the 5 years prism, "Perfect Symmetry" was complicated enough for ordinary audience and only "Parallels" (1991) was the first perceptible step to commercial songs & sound. The hit single "Point of View" probably was the heaviest track on that album. The spirit of earlier stuff could be felt in "Parallels" in many aspects. "By first listening acceptable" songs with clear refrains and arrangements, less drastic vocals (singer totally changed his progressive style voice from screaming to kinder & melodic one). "More than a couple of riffs" song structures keep the band in a big distance from typical pop metal bands. Fates Warning are wiser both lyrically and musically. From the other side, there are almost no songs (maybe except "Monument" with eastern motifs), which would be resemble with the earlier work. The mood mainly is soft and calm, so the fans of band's older stuff will miss, so to speak, "psychotic" parts. Actually "Inside Out" is even softer than "Parallels", even not speaking about Queensryche's first single "I Am I" from their brand new album "Promised Land". "Pale Fire", "Shelter Me" and "Face the Fear" could be considered as the new face of recent Fates Warning (and as typical tracks of "Inside Out"). How there would be, Fates Warning were and are the masters of harmonic/poetic progressive metal. (-G-)

Hour". In general, it was the effort (and successful one) to come closer to the style, which helped Queensryche to reach the tops. So it was a quick trip through Fates Warning history and as for "Inside Out", this (already 7th full length) album is similar to "Parallels" in many aspects. "By first listening acceptable" songs with clear refrains and arrangements, less drastic vocals (singer totally changed his progressive style voice from screaming to kinder & melodic one). "More than a couple of riffs" song structures keep the band in a big distance from typical pop metal bands. Fates Warning are wiser both lyrically and musically. From the other side, there are almost no songs (maybe except "Monument" with eastern motifs), which would be resemble with the earlier work. The mood mainly is soft and calm, so the fans of band's older stuff will miss, so to speak, "psychotic" parts. Actually "Inside Out" is even softer than "Parallels", even not speaking about Queensryche's first single "I Am I" from their brand new album "Promised Land". "Pale Fire", "Shelter Me" and "Face the Fear" could be considered as the new face of recent Fates Warning (and as typical tracks of "Inside Out"). How there would be, Fates Warning were and are the masters of harmonic/poetic progressive metal. (-G-)

#### IQ

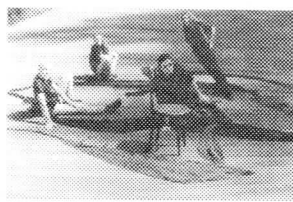
**Ever**  
1993 Giant Electric Pea

The Darkest Hour, Further Away, Fading Senses (a) After All, b) Fading Senses, Out of Nowhere, Leap of Faith, Came Down  
Unwittingly this album could be put on one shelf with Dream Theater's debut "When Dream and Day Unite". I can't say, that both discs are very similar, but something common exists between them. Because the album, which this British quintet presents us, is excellent indeed. I would describe it as early Rush meets Uriah Heep. In the first song "The Darkest Hour" is impossible to pass by Rush' music elements. In spite of that, IQ succeeded to create peculiar style. In musical aspect there's nothing to reprove for, it is felt than they are professional musicians. Someone could take Peter Nichols' vocals as an old fashioned one, but it really fits well to music. The best songs in this album are variable 15 min. "Further Away" and atmospheric & nostalgic two part cut "Fading Senses", in which especially shines keyboardist Martin Oxford. "Out of Nowhere" crawls to Uriah Heep, while "Leap of Faith" again gives a chance to all the instruments reveal themselves. Recommended to all fans of progressive metal and old hard rock. (-S-)

#### MAYFAIR

**Behind...**  
1993 Witchunt

Behind, Advanced in Years, Generation Isolated, Madame Pest, Schlaflos Mude, Ecstasy  
Well, here you'll find some lines about the best band from Austria called Mayfair. It was formed in 1989 and they needed two years for practice, after that guys released debut demo "Find My Screams, Behind This Gate". The responses musicians "we got from the press, were, kindly speaking, good. "Metal Hammer" even called this release "The Month's demo", and others compared Mayfair with legendary Warlord and Fates Warning. After some gigs with Blind Guardian, Iced Earth, Tankard, etc. the group entered the studio to record their six-trax debut mini CD, which, in my opinion, is one of the best debut albums ever released. You can't find the most suitable name for this style - 'coz it's "strange" More avantgardic than Dream Theater, though Mayfair's music reminds of this group. "Metal Hammer" noticed gothic-touch here too. Maybe, I'm not sure. But you can find all you want here - anyway progressive metal domines. Photos on CD booklet give strong associations with group's music. Naturally. All pictures are theatrical, but realistic as well. Something like illusions which found the reality. You can say the same about the music - romantic, giving the sense of loneliness, but drastic at the same time. The singer's Mario



voice is more than good - in short everything is as great as it could be. The manager of the Belgian band Patriarch Baelus said, that "Behind..." is the most interesting release he had ever heard for years - and now I can only to repeat his words. By the way, "Metal Hammer" gave 7 points (from 7) to this disc, "Rock Hard" - 7.5 (from 10), "Heavy, oder was!" - 9 (from 10). These facts show you the situation, so can you believe - it's wonderful & exciting work. The Art in music. By the way, maybe you, Giedrius, would like to add anything? ...eee... quite unexpected offering, I'm just typing this review. Though if you asked - Mayfair's "Behind..." is nicely done progressive metal album, maybe not too suitable for MTV (it prefers Dream Theater and Queensryche), but enjoyable for ordinary fans. Address: Mario Prunster, Motterstr. 66, 6820 Frastanz, Austria. (-A-)

#### MINDFUNK

**Dropped**  
1993 Roadrunner

Goddess, Closer, Drowning, In The Way Eye, Zootiehead, Wisteria, Mama, Moses and Me, 11 Ton Butterfly, Hogwallow, Billygoat, Hollow

I remember that spring of 1993 when on MTV's "Headbanger's Ball" I saw Mindfunk's song "Goddess", first time. It was a long wait before I succeeded to get this CD. To tell the truth, I didn't expect that Mindfunk plays namely such music. But it doesn't matter, because "Dropped" together with Tribe After Tribe's "Love Under Water" are one of my favorite albums, released in 1993. After some line-up changes, Mindfunk gives a hardly described music in this album. Here are heard the grunge sounds a la Soundgarden, here crawls out Led Zeppelin, here again is returned to thrash. From time to time Mindfunk with its melancholic melodies (the merit of the singer Patrick Dubar) reminds 70's, in some places they returns to their debut album (1991) and gives up some funk. It's hard to pick up all the highlights from this album. It is already mentioned "Dropped", also grunge-ish "Drowning" (my favorite), atmospheric "Wisteria", sad "11 Ton Butterfly", and...  
Check out this album! If you like melancholic metal with nice melodies, you hardly could find anything better than this masterpiece. (-S-)

#### NAKED SUN

**Wonderdrug**  
1994 Omni Records

Shriek of the Weak, Smile Mother (your baby's gonna be a failure), Recant, Creation Theme, Memory of an Expensive Festival, Fallen in Hate (Live at Chez Stadium), The Nightmare Song: Blood and Fake Blood, Thorazine Turkey Burger  
Someone perhaps knows this band's self titled debut album released in '91 by Noise Records, which delivered soft progressive rock. Much water has flowed under the bridges since then. The fate didn't indulge Naked Sun - keyboardist Frantz Libkins was found dead, electrocuted beside his Hammond orga. Shortly after this, guitarist Q-tip was abducted by a religious cult and he was never to be seen again. In spite of the wicked hand of fate, band composed 8 new songs and presented them as "Wonderdrug" album. First of all, speaking of CD cover, perhaps the foot was not the best idea to show on it, however fishes here and there on the cover look good. Music of "Wonderdrug" is heavier in comparison with the debut (which actually has very little to do with metal). Naked Sun constructed its unique style of heavy metal rock, owing a bit from classical hard rockers as Deep Purple and Uriah Heep, combing it with more progressive stuff like Rush or Jethro Tull and adding more recent metal rock n'roll & grunge elements. Though the vocals is a bit historic, it fits good to the music. Some tracks (as "Recant" or partly "Memory of an Expensive Festival") are resemble to softer and clarified progressive rock songs from the debut, while the rest are more hard rock edged. In concluding it could be added that it's a good album for non standard hard rock/heavy metal fans. Omni Records, 808 Broadway, Suite 5-G, New York, NY 10003, USA. Band contact: Naked Sun, PO Box 20605, Tompkins Square Sta. New York, NY 10009, USA. (-G-)

#### the PLEASURE ELITE

**Bad JuJu**  
1994 Red Lights

Media Feed, Jokes on You, In the Belly, Crawl, Honky Tonk Hell, Had it Comin', Loveworld, Elements of Steel, Walter, Box, Twist on This, Pinata Hunt, The Plague

"If you are stupid enough to believe the government working in your best interest, the t.v. and the newspapers are telling you the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth then (...) state that the cover this album is not for you. Speaking between us, the Pleasure Elite is another crew which screams about our f'king grey life. Regarding the concept, it's one of the most important things in their creation, and it works. Lyrical topics vary from sexuality, cannibalism and transvestite serial killers to politics and media control. The cover presents the animal of unknown origin (though I guess that it is dog), which pisses on the fence. Kind view, isn't it? As for music, it's groove rap/industrial rock n'roll, one of the more interesting points is that vocal parts mainly were done in clear, almost Ozzy Osbourne type voice (not that standard screaming one, oriented to the throats of Biohazard and Pantera). Merchandise & correspondence: Chicks with Dicks Clubroom, PO Box 61307, Seattle, WA 98121, USA. (-G-)

#### PSYCHOTIC WALTZ

**Mosquito**  
1994

Mosquito, Lovestone Blind, Haze One, Shattered Sky, Cold, All the Voices, Dancing in the Ashes, Only Time, Locked Down, Mindsong  
American San Diego based progressive techno act released its third album, which present a bit another approach to music than highly acclaimed debut "A Social Grace" and second album "Into the Everflow". First of all, there are less straightly cordial and clear ballads, nostalgia (or these things are covered with more psychedelic shield). In general it's harder than sweetness of Rush or Queensryche (well, after their new single "I Am I" I wouldn't dare to call them "sweet"), but more openly sincere than Alice in Chains. The name of the latter band isn't accidentally mentioned here. Yes, AIC has nothing common with progressive metal, but new Psychotic Waltz album is closer to recent American "media" metal than two previous works mentioned above. Track "Only Time" was a





feel of that same **Alice in Chains**. However it is only a broadening of progressive metal fields, not any turn to modern trend. The music is more energetic than in "Into the Everflow", but there are also some similarities (first of all, that "purling" double guitars sound). Structurally more songs, but not too complex, repeatable refrains, rich sound, great vocals and playing techniques, good melodies - all that makes the one entire thing titled "Mosquito". As usually, the sixth song on the album is lyrical ballad, this time it also has a great melodic line though with a bit strange eastern(?) motifs. So concluding it could be added, that there are no any technothrash here, stuff is not "hard-acceptable", from the other side **Psychotic Waltz** still (?) are much heavier than new **Fates Warning**. Band contact: Zardoz Music, Kopenhaweg 37, D-44807 Bochum, Germany (-G-)

#### TRIBE AFTER TRIBE

*Love Under Will*

1993 Roadrunner

**Hold On, Ice Below, The Spell, Dance of the Wu Li Masters, I Spit, Nikita, Congo Sky, World of Promise, Proud & Beautiful, Let's Go Outside, Delight, The Lovers (I: In the Face of the Sun / II: In the Dark (I: Babylon))**  
I haven't heard such a good music. **Tribe After Tribe** are descended from South Africa, and so their second longplayer is so contagious and alluring that it's impossible to resist its spells. 64 minutes of meditative metal with African sounds plus professional arrangements and very original lyrics. Just take the first track "Hold On", it kills! Or ritual "Ice Below" with these perfect drums (the clip was also showed on MTV's "Headbanger's Ball"). "The Spell" entirely corresponds to its title - it's magic. "I Spit" and "Nikita" hints more to psychedelia, the latter one reminded me abit of my favorite **Last Crack**. The real highlight of the album is the ballad "Congo Sky". Nothing remains but to sit on the mountain in late evening and to listen this song once more and more again. "World of Promise" is hypnotic, I'd say even electric. This pulsative rhythm is like a "blitz", which flashes before your eyes and hypnotizes you. "Let's Go Outside" is a successful turn into industrial, while trilogy "The Lovers" is indescribable by words, it's brilliant! "Love Under Will" for me without doubts is one of the best albums of 1993. But writing this review, one question gave me no rest - can **Tribe After Tribe** be popular in Lithuania? "Must have been by imagination." (-S-)

## WHAT, AGAIN REVIEWS GOTHIC / INDIE / ROCK / ELECTRONIC

#### the ALTERED STATES

*Is Anyone Out There?*

1994 Primary Recording

**Twin Obsession, Is Anyone Out There, What is Left?, Everything, Them, They Wouldn't Listen, Drowning Children, Cathy, Those Voices, Low Life, What's Matter with Lucy, Walls & Fences, Final Chapter**

The Primary recording company is a new independent and alternative rock label and distribution network. Their first release is namely the re-release of **Altered States** album "Is Anyone Out There?" (this was time it was firstly pressed on CD). The album takes nearly an hour of music and it includes some previously unreleased tracks. The band plays gothic rock, mostly fast & energetic one. All in all they strongly remind of earlier **Sisters of Mercy**, the music isn't dark (as you can imagine from the label "gothic rock"), more bright, but not as catchy as for example **Sisters** album "Vision Thing". Recommendable for old gothic rock fans, however I don't mean that **Altered States** music is out of date, it could please not small part of gothic indie people, but from the other side it needs more hooks (or simply "hit-singles" & something like that)... Primary recording company, PO Box 3213, London SW2 3QQ, U.K. The prices (CD): 11 pounds (UK), 12 - Europe, 14 - the rest of the world. (-G-)

#### INCUBUS SUCCUBUS

*Belladonna & Aconite*

1993 Pagan Fire Music/Nightbreed Records

**Beltaine, Midnight Queen, Trinity, Belladonna & Aconite, Soul Inside, Song of the Siren, Vampyres, Eternity, Incubus, All the Devil's Men, I am the One, Old Hornie, Vlad, Samhain**  
Incredible. Fantastic. If the name of this band isn't familiar to you, don't skip this review! **Incubus Succubus** distinguishes very much from thousands of another bands, this time it's a real must (all the times you see that winged words "this is a must" or "check out this", it would not be a sin if you won't pay attention to them, but in this case I really feel sorry for you if you won't). Well, if there is someone who loves **Cannibal Corpse** and **Napalm Death** and nothing more but grinding stuff, **Incubus Succubus** has nothing to offer for such listeners. But it's a big doubt is there anyone, and if so, personally I can't understand why then that one is reading the review section of gothic/alternative music. So leaving aside discussion about brutal stuff I'd like to declare to those who is reading this - find this band!!! And don't regret for your money, it will be the rare case when the product is worth of the cost.

So the time came to begin the description of "Belladonna & Aconite"'s musical side. **Incubus Succubus** delivers 14 songs of pagan rock (pagan - because of the lyrics; the most favorite topics of the band are the return of paganism and love to the vampire) with angelic voice of Candia (reminding a bit of **Maggie Reilly**). Music is very melodic and acceptable to the wide circle of public. Pagan attitude & romantic mood should attract gothic/doom music freaks, fast & danceable songs should amaze pop music fans. Tracks are not complex nor psychedelic, rather sincere and close. From the other side melodies are done in a wise way and they are not banal. Pagan Fire Music, 18 Russell Street, Saint Pauls, Cheltenham, Glos GL51 0XX, U.K.; Nightbreed Records, 13 Osborne Street, Radford, Nottingham, U.K. (-G-)

#### LOVE LIKE BLOOD

*An Irony of Fate*

1994 Relapse/Nuclear Blast

**The Everlasting Dream, Walking in Demimondes, In the Shadow of the Sun, Look Out, Kiss & Tell, Siberian Pandemonium, More than Salvation?, Noxious Secrets, Awake in Desire**  
Relapse records are engaged with gothic/alternative lately, perhaps this is in the case of trying to vary their musical fields. They rereleased 1992 album of this German band (with license from Rebel Records, division of SPV). It surely rises the label's (Relapse') prestige, 'cause the band is from the ones to check out. Nice gothic rock with sombre,

but not depressive mood, songs aren't slow and hardly meditating by, rather they are danceable & energetic. It's a tradition to pick up the highlights from the album which is more or less (this time it's "more") melodic, so in this case they are "In the Shadow of the Sun" and "Kiss & Tell". And one more thing. As one of my studies' colleague declared that there are two kind of vocals in gothic rock: the first one affirms (like **Sister of Mercy**), and another one which assents (as **The Mission**). **Love Like Blood**'s singer belongs to 2nd category. By the way, now the band has 3rd album "Odyssey" out, and according to musicians' states, it "takes very melodic and rock face of "Flags of Revolution" (debut album - ed.) and the very atmospheric, bombastic, specific case of "An Irony of Fate".... Band info service: PO Box 31, Utingen 73062, Germany. (-G-)

#### MORDOR

*1994 Shivadarshana Records*

**Les Armees de Sauron, Dark is the Future**

Again the darkest strike from Switzerland - **Mordor** released the new dose of music on a picture 7" EP. These new 15 minutes of black creation soon't surprise people who listened to **Mordor**'s "Cesjthe" 'cause the guys didn't change the playing conception (and I don't think they will ever radically change it), it's still something kinda gothic industrial doom avantgarde (hey, who could think the shorter name for **Mordor**'s style?), it's just the logical continuation of "Cesjthe" but... much better. The first track brings a little pompastic (but it's not so distinct as on **Nightfall**'s "Macabre Sunsets") and really strong sense of classical music. This classic influence even made **Mordor** to sound more melodious - and it seems **Mordor** will be influenced by the classics in the future even more (and, of course, that's only to good). The second song is very staid emotionally, and - I don't know why, it always excites presentment of disaster for me. I never felt this sense listening to **Darkthorne** and other groups of so called new wave of black metal. **Mordor** doesn't play black: 'cause they are much blacker than black metal is. On the flyer there was written this 7" EP is "barbaric blackness", but I think the word "barbaric" absolutely doesn't fit to this music - you can call it "intelligent blackness" better. Anyway if you want to stay clean don't listen to **Mordor**, others get 7" EP from Shivadarshana Rec., PO Box 3005, 3200 Da Spijkenisse, Holland.

By the way, **Mordor** put their "Odes" and "Cesjthe" on CD's for "Wild Rags" and made their only official T-shirts, so... contact'em all. **Mordor** address: Gora 1020 Renens VD 1, Switzerland. (-A-)

#### NOVA STATE CONSPIRACY

*Zeitgeist (EP)*

1994 Dion Fortune Records

**THX 1138, Dead State, Definitive Item, Life in the Basement**

Alex Novak from **Venus Fly Trap** is quite busy man and besides his main band (VFT) and magazine titled "Bizzarro" (it covers alternative/gothic/electronic scene) he also runs a project **Nova State Conspiracy** which is more studio band than VFT (which is more a live band) and in general plays another kind of music - electronic. This mini CD contains 4 tracks, the first one "THX 1138" is fine techno cut, "Dead State" and "Life in the Basement" are made more in ambient way. **Front 242** could be mentioned as one of the influences. "Definitive Item" delivers electro-techno-pop and reminds a bit of **Depeche Mode**. Dion Fortune Records, Schreinerweg 32, 22549 Hamburg, Germany. (-G-)

#### RAW NOVEMBRE

*Disturbed*

1994 Aggressive Records

**Violence, All the Animals, Adrift, The Execution, Stutter, Nothingness, Kill All Rapists, The Killing Jar, Birthday Tapes, Insanity**

In the spite of the fact that this CD was released by one of so-called "one band" small labels (Aggressive Records in this case), it seems that it is quite known among Irish Alternative/Indie rock fans & critics. "Disturbed" got good reviews and **Raw November** successfully toured in Germany. Actually the music is not very calm (as perhaps you imagine all things under label "Alternative/Indie" are), it's rather heavy and drastic (even very drastic in comparison with **Redlorry Yellowlorry** for example). Sharp and hysterical vocals bothers a bit; listening to the first tracks it seems like a mockery to mix **Sex Pistols** and **Sisters of Mercy** singers' voices, though up to the middle of the album listener gets used. "The Execution" (distorted **Therapy**) and "Stutter" probably are the best in this album. There're no any illusions that this album would attract metalheads who now turned to gothic rock, from the other side it could amaze the fans of rough and not fleshy alternative rock (not those who like **Therapy?** or **Pearl Jam**, rather those who are into **The Smiths**). Those things you'd probably should know about it, that the lyrics deal with fight against violence & fight for animal rights. Plus very poor cover of CD. Aggressive Records, 4 The Beehives, Ballinderry, Mullingar, Co., Westmeath, Ireland. (-G-)

#### REDLORRY YELLOWLORRY

*Blasting Off*

1994 Relapse/Nuclear Blast

**This is Energy, It's on Fire, Don't Think About It, Train of Hope, Talking Back, Down on Ice, In My Mind, Sea of Tears, I Can See Stars, Driving Me**

One more album by Relapse, published under license (this time from Sparkhead Productions). It's even the 5th album of British rockers **Redlorry Yellowlorry**, originally released in 1991. In spite of 3 years period, the music sounds quite freshly. Band delivers independent/alternative rock, simple, but not dull, rhythmic, melodic and not drastic. "Blasting Off" stands in opposite all the pseudo-psychedelically-pseudo-sincere "alternative" rock bands, and tries to conquer the listeners with clear sounds & melodies. Such songs could easily be played on MTV not only in "120 Minutes". In some places **Redlorry** reminds of **The Jesus and Mary Chain**, but in general they're not so diverse, their songs are not as good as hit-singles of the mentioned band, nevertheless all of the tracks are in one level, all of them are melodic/acceptable and there are no any efforts to experimentate with sounds/instruments. Band info service & merchandise: PO Box HP40, Leeds LS6 1LN, U.K. (-G-)

#### THE REINCARNATION OF THE SUN

*Compilation*

1994 Dunkel Productions

**RED HARVEST (Primal / Reveal of Truth / Resist), ANSTALT (I Don't Believe In You / Human Time / Eternal / Strich 9), VALHALL (Culture Trance Time / Doom / Relief), DUNKELHEIT (True Believers / Solitary Survival / Finding the Way / Thrive (Goblin Hume Mix)), REMYL (Golden Triangle - V2.00 / Aahhhmmmm / Dys Dop), PILEDRIIVER ( Stuck / Love Connection), HUMID ( Zool)**

Brand new label from Norway presents the compilation CD which exactly forms the view on the music this label concentrates on. The first band in it is **Red Harvest** which hits with fast & aggressive

hardcore/industrial, their 2nd track "Reveal of Truth" has some punk catchiness and it's probably the best one from them. If **Red Harvest** created their musical sounds with ordinary instruments (guitars, bass & drums), the second band **Anstalt** is more computer oriented so to speak. Their electro gothic song with female vocals "I Don't Believe In You" sounds more convincing than the rest 3 "electronic/techno/less gothic cuts".

After more than 20 minutes of more or less industrial/electronic type of music you will be quite surprised by the third band - **Valhall** - which plays strongly **Black Sabbath** influenced doom metal (such style still exists - look at **Pentagram** or **Court Raven**). It is fell a certain effort to mix the old **Black Sabbath** with recent slightly psychedelical metal, but it's very miserable one.

**Dunkelheit** turns you again to more industrialized stuff, this time more like earlier **Nine Inch Nails** type thing. Keyboards theme on "Thrive" sounds like in **Sisters of Mercy** song "Dr. Jeep" (in spite of that the music of these both bands is very different). **Dunkelheit** tries to speed the things up and to play energetic industrial metal. Well, the term "industrial" is very controversial one, but taking the popular meaning **Dunkelheit** is more industrial than **Voodoo Cult**, though less industrial than **Scorn**. **Remyll** (the next band) are less energetic and prefer slow mind-destructive hit of electronic music. In this case we don't have techno, here it is harsh and drastic electronic/industrial. The first sounds of **Piledriver**'s first song on this compilation could mistake that there would be any electro-gothic or something, no way man. Harsh industrial with strong more hardcore influence (especially in the respect of vocals). Though there are some high-flown keyboard parts. And finally, **Humid** is the last band and has only one track (which is 10 minutes long, by the way) - more meditative/ambient stuff.

And one of the more interesting points is that this album is dedicated to all good powers in the universe, so this is a kind of answer to all the dark music, which is overflowing the metal/gothic/ambient scene nowadays. To get more info about each of the band and also to receive this CD you can from Dunkel Productions, c/o Erik Sontum, Mariboes g. 9, 0183 Oslo, Norway. (-G-)

#### SALVADOS

*Blinded (EP)*

1994

**Blinded by My Beauty, Love Madness, One Two Three, Give & Take State**

Really don't know, if there was a review of this style band in "Edge Of Time", this style could be called "Neo-Folk" - nor Rock, nor Pop, the mix of both these styles with sounds of violanad akkordoon & country elements. This style is very popular in Germany (remember M. walking on the ewater or Poems for Laila), where **Salvados** is from, the same situation is in Lithuania (yeah, **Airija** and others), so, **Salvados** would become so-called "stars" in Lithuania. Anyway, this group is getting more and more popular in Germany too, and their first CD will be out in 1995, so I think only some months have left to talk about **Salvados** as an underground band. **Blinded EP** presents quiet, melodic, light music - maybe it's more pop, than rock music.

Relaxing, happy mood - nothing to do with rock, really, except some guitar riffs. Sometimes this kind of music fits to my mood and I really enjoy listening to "Love, Madness" or "Give & Take State". Fine to listen to the mix of different kinds of music (and why must it be heavy as shit?) and think about... nothing. This is that kind of stuff.

Anyway, **Salvados** is famous for their stunning gigs, where they are more loud and fast ("dance rock", or what?), so watch them on their Germany, Netherlands and Belgium tour (BTW: the band would like to tour other countries too, so people who are interested to see them live, contact'em), and their new work **Louder** (which is sold out now) is more rough and noisy, it shows the other side of songwriting. Highly recommended for FolkRock fans. Contact: Jörn Kolbe, Heimsang 91, 40883 Ratingen, Germany. (-A-)

#### TROM

*Balmor (EP)*

1993 self released

**Nigra Opera, Chemical Sky, Praha, Balmor, La Ou Naisset Les Tetes De Sang**

This group makes me think - which band is the best in Switzerland - **Trom** or **Mordor**. By the way, **Trom** for me were recommended by Gora from **Mordor**. **Trom** themselves call their style gothic-core, but I don't know why this word "core" was added; it is gothic - in places heavier, in places more gloomy, and the main feeling which the music brings is hatred. About music I can't say anything concrete - all songs differ from each other like the moon and the sun, one track is melancholic and full of occultism, another - enthusiastic and fast (like "Praha"). By the way, about the latter track, I won't talk about its lyrics' meaning, but one thing is really cool - some lines are written in Russian and for me they sound quite interesting! If I touched lyrics I must say I understood not so much of them, 'cause only two trax are written in English. But from what I understood I can tell these guys are deep into dark things and it impresses a lot. Don't know groups which play like **Trom**, this release is the best occult music thing I've heard. You know, there are tons of groups which call themselves "occult-metal", but they don't know what does this word "occult" mean, so they play atmospheric black. **Trom** didn't go this way and "originality" is the word which comes first to my mind when I'm listening to "Balmor". It is like a gothic world where you can enter, but can't go out. Well, what's more? "Balmor" CD is very (!) fine done with gloomy pictures, all lyrics are printed and so on. If you don't believe it's one of the most interesting gothic releases in 1993, then you are... Don't know who you are, but "Balmor" is really one of the most interesting gothic releases. Take it to your soul. Contact: C P 1126, 2000 Neuchatel, Switzerland. (-A-)

#### the VENUS FLY TRAP

*Shedding Another Skin*

1993 Danceteria

**Morphine, How the Mighty, Desolation Railway, Up There, Rocket USA, Cloud 9, Europa, Achilles Heel, Weep Hotel, Moscow Menagerie, Urban Sprawl**

**"Jewel" Live in Prague**

1991 Azyl

**Morphine, Tribute to Smash Heroes, Jewel Encrusted Hands, Weep Hotel, Sidewinder, Shadow Ministry, Cloud 9 Lips, Achilles Heel, Rocket USA, Shadowplay**

Northampton (UK) based act **Venus Fly Trap** delivers slightly psychedelical rock with some hints into gothic. "Shedding Another Skin" is compilation of their singles. In general their music is more convenient of fans of **Joy Division** and **The Doors** than to the ones of **Sisters of Mercy** or **Love Like Blood**. Yes, they have gothic guitars, but a bit pretentious vocals and firm-danceable rhythmic section make 'em sound original. Perhaps the best track is "Achilles Heel". "Jewel" is VFT's live album recorded in Praha three years ago and it shows how the band sounds on stage. Recently they released 4th CD "Luna Tide" on Spectre Records. Contact: VFT, PO Box 210, Northampton, NN2 6AV, UK. (-G-)

## black/doom/death

### BIRDFLESH

demo '94 or '93

The bassist of this group, Magnus, who was a session player for TEMPERANCE while touring Lithuania, gave me this tape and there were only a tape and an address. I don't know even when all this was recorded and how many songs are there. It is rather angry (and funny?) death 'n' roll, which is really great to listen when you're fucking your beautiful girlfriend (or boyfriend). When your fucking friend is already dead, of course! What to add? Maybe only address of that nasty Magnus, who is really cool and crazy. I remember how we were jumping into the lake in small Lithuanian town and eating some shitty Swedish candel. It was cool. Oh, but it is not about Swedish candel, so forget these few last lines quickly! Magnus Ros, Lunden Kråkenästrad, 355 95 Vaxjö, Sweden. (-U-)

### CATHARSIS

Into Oblivion '94

16 min. / b/w cover

Extinct is Forever, Taken Away, Innocence Lost In spite of the screams that death metal is exhausted as a style, new bands begin to play it and probably will play in future. Catharsis are one among the others trying to execute catchy DM and they don't succeed in this case. I even won't speak about the fact that it was played thousand times before. This demo itself as DM one is weak, it's impossible to write something positive when there are no any hooks through all the way. The band is somewhere in the bottom of the whole tremendous heap of DM bands. 1.50 pounds - UK/Ireland, 2.50 pounds - overseas. 130 Princes Plain, Bronvelve, Kent BR2 8LD, England. (-G-)

### "COMPILATION"

Released by Dark Records in '94

Decayed (Introduction, Moon of Wolferrian Shadow, Valley of Dreams, Filii Nigranum Infernalium - O Gelo)

Evisceration (Torments of a Dying Victim, A Human to the Monstrous - Consumed Act, Fever Hallucinations)

Som Triturador (Zooerastia, Articulo Moris, Herpetico)

This cassette of three Portuguese bands is the worst thing I heard for months. I can't imagine the guy who listens to these songs and says "that's so cool". It's so bad, so boring music, without any hopes to sound originally. Yes, Decayed is the best from all these so called musicians on this tape, they play black metal, and on the flyer there is written it is "very original". Oh...Guys maybe could say - somewhere sometime they have heard some black groups and now they try to copy them but we can't talk about originality. "One of the best Portuguese Bands" - there is written too. I really didn't think the scene in this country is so poor - I think it would sound better "one of the worst". By the way, we can find the fact that Decayed isn't the worst, coz Evisceration & Som Triturador are even worse! "This is the best (in all ways) Portuguese brutal grinding band" about Evisceration. I don't know, maybe there are bands which play brutal grind even worse, but if Evisceration is "the best" then we can say this style is dead now. I won't talk about Som Triturador 'cause I don't want to get too nervous. Anyway, I think Mortician could be the best support act at their gigs. It would be really cool gigs! So everybody who want to know how not to play get this release. Contact: Dark Records, Apartado 142, 2830 Barreiro Codex, Portugal. (-A-)

### GALLOWS

demo '93

Emblolic Cerebri, Uncoligatable, Blood, Reincarnation, Formalin, Preservation, Tresenctand, Perplexityof, Androgynus, Shanatova  
promo "The Butterfly" '93

### DEAD ZONE

Made by Future '93

Psychotic Impulse, Absolute Sterility Completed, Behond Conscience

Already the cover of this demo makes me think - listen to it or not? It is the red one (yeah, very very red - these guys are communists, without doubt), and there are some stereotyped death metal's things (goat etc.) so... But music isn't so bad - I even could say it's quite good as for demo (but it would be very bad as for CD). Style? Kinda techno death but not so technical as Atheist, of course. Nowadays it sounds quite naive when hand tries to play technical music with one guitar. And vocals aren't the best - it seems the singer can't neither roar nor sing so he shouts. There are plenty of rhythm changes (maybe too much), guitars solos, but who is interested in it now? If this demo was recorded more professionally we could think Dead Zone is a good band but now... So here goes the question - what is better: well done but traditional death metal or not so well done, but not so traditional death? If you like the 2nd variant better, buy this demo. Dead Zone really isn't the worst band in France. Management: Arc-En-Ciel 34, Rue Des Teinturiers, 31200 Toulouse, France. (-A-)

### DREAMSFEAR

Echoes '94

Mirror Mirror, Echoes of Mortality, Suicide, Sadness Dwells

Not bad as for debut demo. Heavy Skullcrunching Metal as the guys call their music, but for me it's doom metal. Maybe not the traditional one, but mixed with Bay Area's influence and N.W.O.B.H.M. sound. So, Heavy/Doom/Thrash - it would be the name for Dreamsfear's music. Musicians don't create very sad atmosphere - I can't say the atmospheric feeling is very noticeable in this demo, - because vocals, in my opinion, are too

weak, but we've got so many groups, that play atmospheric metal and it sucks in times. Lyrics do not present anything very killing too - madness, "born to die", "in this life without meaning", "today is yesterday's tomorrow", sadness, but it isn't stupid - guys really have balls. Maybe music, they create can't express all their feelings, but let's wait and give them time for practise and we'll see what are these guys worth. And now buy this demo for \$3 from Cathal Rogers, 3 Cuba Avenue, Bangor, Co Offaly, Ireland. (-A-)

### FEAR MY SOLITUDE

Dancing With Solitariness '94

46 min. / b/w cover

Solitariness, The Fallen, When The Night Falls, Outside The Blessed, The Souls of The Innocents, I Dance In Darkness, Longing For The Days Forever Lost

What is left for those musicians who recently are learning how to play & sing? Nothing but to play boring doom metal. So two Swedes titled themselves Fear My Solitude do it successfully. They got listened to such bands as Trouble, St.Vitus and some more and after 3 years of work made seven demos, which (deciding from the last three ones) are very similar to each other. The whole wouldn't be so bad if not that 7-9 minutes long cuts (the traditions of doom metal?) and buzzing guitar sound (even in Lithuania it's possible to do it better). Or maybe they wanted namely such sound? This demo and all the six it precursors are available from Mikael Jansson, Tallbacksvagen 35 B, 811 41 Sandviken, Sweden. (-S-)

### FIENDISH NYMPH

demo

Into The Abyss of eternity, The Blazing Shades of The Distant Moonlight, Katara

So, what do you expect to find here? Review? I'd like to find it too, but it's impossible. Impossible for one simple reason - this tape was stolen. Yes, and I don't know why it happened. Maybe the Post Officers like Black Metal too, and now one of them is listening to Fiendish Nymph and laughing at me. Ha, fuck you, I wish you to be eaten by aborigines! Well, all I could say about this band, are their own words: "Demo summons the Ancient spirit. It's the Return to the Apocryphal obscurity of Ancient Greek Pagan Years." Style? There's written it's Avant Garde Occult Metal. Maybe music in the veins of Misanthropes? Maybe... Dunno. Anyway, the cover of this demo doesn't look really good (kindly speaking) - it's too simple. But as I said before, I can't tell you anything about the music. So, if you're interested, try to get the tape (as I know, Fiendish Nymph released their second demo from Eospherous, Souliou 46, Agia Paraskevi 15343, Athens, Greece. (-A-)

### GALLOWS

demo '93

Emblolic Cerebri, Uncoligatable, Blood, Reincarnation, Formalin, Preservation, Tresenctand, Perplexityof, Androgynus, Shanatova  
promo "The Butterfly" '93

Here They Are Flying... Flew... Already Gone, The Butterfly, Children, Testimony of a Sanginary Generation, ...And No One Made No Sound, Ophitic End?

Israel's scene presents one more interesting band - Gallows, which started as a thrash/hard rock (hmm, interesting style) band in 1989, but in 1992 changed the style to doom death. So "Demo 1993" shows the first experiments in the latter kind of music. To tell the truth, I found more death than doom things - tempo is quite fast, vocals - traditionally heavy (not sorrowful or melancholic as it had to be for doom metal), so for me it isn't doom metal, just death metal with technical orientation and written with true feelings (not this kind of "urgh, urgh, urgh" - when you listen and don't understand to what you are listening).

But as the history shows, this demo was only a transition period, the new promo gives an example of evolution which is hard to believe in. Vocals still is from death metal style, but everything else is radically changed. So radically that I couldn't identify the old Gallows. It isn't doom metal, but you can find mysticism and atmospheric feeling. These are the elements from doom metal, but you can find things from progressive or industrial genres here as well, and the most interesting fact - all promo has specific "Israeli" sound. As there's written in the bio, Israel listeners would recognize the sound of all the songs they hear on the radio on the holocaust remembrance day. I don't know what they hear on the radio, but if this harmonic keyboards tunes - it must be really cool music. For me keyboards are the most interesting thing in this promo, they bring dramatism to music and makes music to sound more "heavy metallic". Absolutely original!!! I don't exaggerate. Listen and you'll see it's the truth. This release also has its concept: "This promo is one complete creation which deals with the subject of the holocaust and it's remembrance - for this is the motif of this band. We are the 3rd generation after the holocaust, and we grew up with fear that our generation will already forget and ignore what happened there (- which is what's happening in Germany). The saying in this promo is - we will never forget". Both these releases you can get from Unicorn Prod.: c/o Ellad Shapira, Hagdood Havri 19a, K.Hayim 26304, Israel. (-A-)

HA LELA

### debut demo '94

20 min. / b/w cover

Fear, Ode to Fire, Forgotten Way, Under the Fullmoon...

A new example of rising pagan scene in Lithuania. Formed in winter '93 this young band are definitely influenced by "Lith pagan metal pioneers" Pocoltus. The music on this demo is not aggressive (maybe except the vocals) pagan metal. Musicians keep themselves on a view that the mood/atmosphere is more important than playing techniques (usual attitude of pagan black bands), acoustical insertions diversify the songs. By the way, they use clarinet, the idea of this itself is quite good, but it sounds quite weakly. Anyway, there are all the possibilities to grow musically for clarinet player as well as for the whole band. The best songs are "Forgotten Way" and "Under the Fullmoon...". As far as I know now they have the re-recorded version of this demo so if interested, ask for it at: Ha Lela, c/o Vaidas Sadeika, Taikos 10-11, 4910 Utena, Lithuania. (-G-)

### HYBRIS

Pre:lude of Despair '94

In:spite of the... Darkness, Veil of Indifference, Mind Discharge, Oidium

The first demo of Italian death metal band. No, no, it isn't that traditional death metal, Hybris tries to give atmospheric feeling. But we must make arrangements what does the word "atmospheric" mean - it is used to say "it's atmospheric death" when the band plays standartic death metal and puts some keyboards in their songs. Maybe these keyboards' sounds were something new 3 years ago, but it's absolutely usual thing nowadays. So it is stupid to call atmospheric every band, which play keyboards. Anyway, what I'm talking about? Yeah, Hybris. So, it isn't so atmospheric as for example Celestial Season is, but all the musical structure marks that clear aim of this group is not to play more and more brutal. As I said, in moments we can feel musical atmosphere, but personally for me this growling vocals destroys all harmonic feeling. We can't say the band plays bad, but we can't say the music is extra interesting. Just another band which has a chance to become the "underground gods", if they throw out all these unnecessary brutal (boring) elements. But death fans, I'm sure, will like this music. By the way, Hybris is going to release the mini-CD "Ethereal Hopes" in February '95 on Boundless Records. Contact: c/o Yuri Bianchi, Via Battindamo 127, 40133 Bologna, Italy. (demo costs 5 USD). (-A-)

### IN THE WOODS

Isle of Men '93

42 min. / b/w cover

Darkness comes from Norway. In the Woods could not be called "old frame" band, "cause they combine mostly all kinds of doom metal, giving preference to black. An dilettante could notice Bathory (90's 91's) influence, actually it's not exactly so. In the Woods delivers faster black metal. Here is a wide variety of influences, so the things aren't boring. It's a bit unusual to hear more highly (or even crying high) voice instead of rough aggressive (or aggress-

sively "sincere") typical BM one. All in all "Isle of Men" is quite good demo for dark metallers so. Wait for CD from the band in this year. Ask for demo at: In the Woods, PO Box 7093, Vestheiene 4628 KRSand, Norway. (-G-)

### LAMENTATIONS

Lamentations '93

Forbidden Unacceptable Suicide, Lamentations, Reborn for Dying, Infamous Death

"Proud of death metal!" - there is written on the cover. Luckily for us Lamentations don't try to break all records of brutality, it is just technical middle-tempo death written moderately. Technical. Yeah, really - it is hard to believe, and guitar solos are melodic so everything is all right for death metal fans. There are even lyrical insertions, I can call this kind of creation music (really, not all death bands are worth of this name). So even if you don't like death metal don't say "fuck them". Anyway I can say 3 things: 1. You can't hear nothing totally original. 2. This kind of music for me (and I think for the biggest part of readers) becomes more and more and more boring day by day. 3. This tape won't save dying death metal scene. So even if demo is quite good for traditional death its style is old fashioned. By the way for Lithuanian respondents I can say that this demo slightly reminds of rest eternal Regredior. Contact: Yan Guilbert, Le Barthes, 82160 Caylus, France. (-A-)

### MERESSIN

Satan, Oro Te, Reo Portas Patere '95

40 min. / lyrics color cover

Way To The Darkness, God Is Blind, Legend, When The Candles Already Lighted, Halloween, Alive Antichrist, Insomnia, Hell Calls

Tape contains 8 songs professionally released as a debut demo on small Dangus Productions, with color cover, lyrics, etc and it's one of the most interesting bands in the dark Lithuania and probably the most successful debut. When I saw these three men on stage first time, I realised, that they will succeed, 'coz they're doing their own thing, not fascinated and in the most sincere way! Clear, melodic, speedy, dark, hellish and evil - Devil's rock'n'roll (!!!), did w/dave Black Metal (remember mid 80's?) that will storm you far away into the Abyss! I liked original vocals very much - Zydrus is a really good singer, not growler, nor screamer. Check out three last compositions on this tape - "Alive Antichrist", instrumental "Insom-

nia" and "Hell Calls" - even those three cuts are enough, I think, for any big label to sign Meressin. Believe me, old spirit still rules! And I think that there would be no shame for Venom or say Celtic Frost to play some covers of Meressin - yeah, that's for sure! God is blind, but you're not, so grab your bloody S&D and die satisfied! Hell calls! Available \$5.6 Lt (Lithuania) from Dangus Productions, PO Box 982, 2300 Vilnius, Lithuania. Band contact: Zydrus Augustis, P.Genio 15, 5610 Telsiai, Lithuania. (-U-)

### MORDICUS

Wrathorn

37 min. / color cover / lyrics

(released by Wild Rags)

Unholy Wrath, Exordium Demorjor, A Thorn in Holy Flesh, Upon the Throne of God, Eternia

True sons of Finland fall on the wave of dark metal. Mordicus plays black metal, fast, but not very aggressive with slight touches of grind & with a certain dose of melody (particularly in solos). It's not real black, maybe not as one-sided as some of the very true blackers, but weak production spoils that "many-sidedness". Singer grunts somewhere between typical black & grindcore voices (try to imagine how could it sound like). Guitar riffs in "Exordium Demorjor" are borrowed from Dismember. Lyrics are not very dull, but the band definitely can't refuse of such winged phrases as "Come within as Satan" or "Hail Satan, I'm drowning again". Contact: Mordicus, c/o Isto Janonen, Varpitie 30 D5, 80160 Joensuu, Finland. (-G-)

### OSSUARY

Desert '94

20 min. / color cover

Mirages of Escape, Desert, Within Your Mind, Repugnancy, Mentally Dead

After the split-up of one of the leading Lithuanian DM bands, Ossuary there was formed another band Ossuary which contains two ex-Dismember members (actually, I contained two, there were some lineup changes after the release of demo, so now there is left only one). Musically band doesn't break any new ground, it's that mid-paced death metal w/ that... (put the word himself) vocals. There are some hints into techno death and it's a reason to wait more interesting stuff in the future, 'cause according to drummer Salvis words, "Lauras (singer) will change his vocals into more Atheist-like way". Going back to this demo & taking in mind that there isn't more need to discuss about the style band plays, it only could be added that two last tracks seemed a bit better than the first ones. The demo costs 5 USD or 7 Lt (Lithuania). Contact: Salvis, Tuju 9-10, 2056 Vilnius, Lithuania. (-G-)

### PENTACLE

Winds of The Fall '93

Pay your attention to this morbid story about old way black death from the Netherlands. First of all, your eyes will be caught by the cover - Pentacle has really great and attractive design and quality of their production! Their attempts to recreate ancient feelings and atmosphere of the early death black bands are successful, 'coz Pentacle recreate those feelings in their own way they sound more dark and heavy than such grands as Venom, Celtic Frost, Infernal Majesty or Death. These Dutch musicians have less of energy, but their slowness gives the band the right heaviness. Check out the lyric, hard and grim song "My fall" - I think, it is the best in this demo. It's a pity, there are no lyrics on the cover... they should be interesting. The trio Pentacle was formed back in 1990 and this demo is their first serious release, and it is good enough and cherished well. I dunno what this band has released since 1993, but you shouldn't miss the opportunity to hear this ancient thing. Oh yes... For \$6, of course. Contact: Pentacle, c/o Wahnes Gubbels, Franse Hoef 17, 5531 PD Bladel, Holland, 04977-81427 (U-)

### UNHOLY

Trip to Depressive Autumn '92

23 min. / color cover / lyrics

(released by Lethal Recs & Wild Rags)

Stench of Infatration, Autumn, Creative Lunacy, The Trip Was Intra Green

Four depressive sould bring black/doom metal. They don't shine with musicianship/execution techniques, songs are very similar without any sparks, filled with desultory solos. After a couple of minutes of listening this depressively weak and unconvincing music get to the bones... Contact: Unholy, PL 11, 55611 Imatra, Finland. Lethal Records, PO Box 846, A-1011 Vienna, Austria. (-G-)

## thrash/hardcore

### AGGRESSOR

Self-Inflicted '93

24 min. / b/w cover / lyrics

(promoted by Urban Warfare Productions)

Meditation Point, Hyperhymniosis, Seizure, Bio-Actrophy

Aggressor comes from the States (Boston) and first of all could be blamed by unoriginal title. Flyer declares that it plays progressive thrash, but kindly speaking it's far from the truth - 2nd reason to blame. Put this (3rd from their, by the way) demo in your cassette player and you will hear typical and boring thrash metal, based on brutality & aggressiveness. They don't have much to do with Pantera or Life of Agony, rather old Bay Area type thrash is closer to the hearts of musicians. One of their influences could be Sacred Reich. Maybe only the last song is worth the attention of pure thrashers. It's possible to get this demo for 6 USD at KFDM Management, 23



Laurelwood Dr., Stoughton, MA 02072, USA. Urban Warfare Productions, c/o Matt Coe, 282 Maple Street, Winchendon, MA 01475-1308, USA. (-G-)

#### C.A.G.E.

**Pathetic**  
23 min / b/w cover  
(promoted by Urban Warfare Productions)  
**3 For 3, Glum, Copout, Quiver**  
This Boston based act was formed in summer '93 and now we have a possibility to listen to their debut demo. It's definitely American stuff - grooving modern hardcore in the veins of Biohazard and Sick of it All, though it would be unwise to not emphasize that they aren't typical kind of thing. "Glum"'s beginning was made into soul style. Singer also serves a good evaluation, cause he doesn't keep on standard HC vocals & tries to turn in more "sense" in his singing. (like **Life of Agony**). If you have a possibility to see 'em in your local club - do it, but as regards demo - only for die-hard fans of style (though as I know now there are quite a lot of them around). Speaking of lyrics (there are no them on the cover), they are "problematic" so to speak, and fits to the music, so what d'ya want else? 5 USD (USA), 6 USD (the world) to C.A.G.E., 52 Emsley Terrace, Methuen, MA 01844, USA. (-G-)

#### IN LINE

**Show No Shame '94**  
14 min / b/w cover  
(promoted by Urban Warfare Productions)  
**Overhead, Depend on Pride, Show No Shame, Green**  
Another tough Americans screaming "we're sick of this reality!" Probably yes. Formed in 1991, they released the 1st demo in 1993, and the 2nd one (namely this one) in May '94. As always dealing with such kind of stuff we can't complain for bad quality, but the music is more important, right? It's middle tempo groove/hardcore, rough & aggressive, without any digressions - as one straight line leading to the mosh pit... Perhaps live they sound catchy (if you're not bored of all American HC stuff yet). In general it seems that hardcore scene even overfilled death metal one, anyway that's reality... (where **Pantera** is on in the tapes). 5 USD (USA), 7.50 USD (overseas) to In Line, c/o Black & Blue Skates, 5 S. State Street, Concord, NH 03301, USA. (-G-)

#### THE MOTIVATOR COMPILATION VOL. 1

At the beginning I want to say this comp tape doesn't really seem to be a really serious work for me - you can find tons of compilations like this, and the biggest part of them is worth throwing out. In this one you can find 18 songs which vary from punk to thrash and other styles (?) - some bands like **Who Moved The Ground?** really can impress you, but sometimes the only wish is to turn off. Some songs are recorded quite professional, others sound is tragical - so the most suitable name for this comp tape is "chaos". Anyway, I listened to that tape for 2 times and I don't think I'll do it once again - I'll better listen to some bands from the comp, but not of all of them, 'coz part of them doesn't know how to play music, not noise. But people who like all underground movement can buy this tape for \$4.98 from: 127 Bawtry Road, Tinsley, Sheffield, S9 1UY South Yorkshire, England, BTW, you can get the latest list of Punk, HC, thrash, Oi! tapes, albums, singles, t-shirts, zines, etc by sending them \$3. (-A-)

#### TERROR SQUAD

**The Birth of the New Rage '94**  
19 min / color cover / lyrics  
**Chain of the Damned / Broken... / Wall**  
These guys prove once again that thrash metal is very popular in Japan. It's quite a young band which formed a couple of years ago and here we have their first demo. Cover & tape quality are good indeed, as regards the music, it's pure thrash metal with a certain force within. Fast driving riffs call you to the mosh pit, but from other side they could frighten the lovers of all kinds of innovations. To say the truth, **Terror Squad** is not strictly one-sided thrash band. The first and the last cuts bring to mind **Slayer**, but in general we can feel that **Terror Squad** tries to reveal more psychedelic progressive side of thrash metal - just take a second track, which has a visual influence of earlier days **Mekong Delta**. The band has a potential to grow. Contact: Kouji Udagawa, 4-11-13, Kasuya, Isetagaya-Ku, Tokyo 157, Japan. (Demo costs 6 USD). (-G-)

### heavy/power/progressive

#### DREAMCHILD

**Create A New World '94**  
26 min / color cover / lyrics  
**You Shall Lie In Hell, Eternal Flight, Reign Is Crumbling, Create A New World**  
This French band aren't newcomers in the scene. In '92 they released the first demo "First Visions". "Create A New World" is their 2nd one. Professionally recorded in 24 track studios this demo delivers melodic heavy/progressive metal. It's not based on German acts like **Helloween**, **Running Wild**, **Blind Guardian** model, actually it's not very easy to find out where **Dream Child**'s influences come from. Yes, the style isn't very new, but all songs are finely done and surely will please every melodic metal fan. There are slight touches of

progressive metal - likes to **Fates Warning** in the 1st song, though up to the middle this song turns into more American power metal in the veins of **Iced Earth**. Though in general **Dream Child**'s songs are made in softer, easy acceptable (but not dull!) way. The price is 7 USD Fan club & info: DREAM hild, PO Box 98, 74604 Seyoud Cedex, France. Business: NSR Productions, 10 Rue Du Chateau Vert, 13015 Marseille, France. (The band is going to release a CD on NSR prod.) (-G-)

#### ENDLESS TEARS

**Siren '93**  
27 min / b/w cover / lyrics  
**Feel, Lies (Part I), La Lumiere Morte, Siren (Part I), Siren (Part II), Lies (Part II)**  
This innovative French band plays progressive psychedelic speed metal crossover, which should be described as the mix of **Voi Vod** and **Suicidal Tendencies**. Music is filled with acoustical parts; funk elements as in "Siren" allow to put the band near **Mordred**, but in general it's music hints more to those two acts mentioned above. **Endless Tears** has a strong dreamy life considering lyrical concept and melodic vocals above psychedelic background based on strange & broken rhythms & riffs. Voice is particularly lyrical, bright and high enough (but not screaming) - it reminds a bit of S.T. and it is one of the good sides of **Endless Tears**, though don't get wrong that the vocals and only the vocals is the best and the last good merit about this. Complicated fast/psychedelic attacks of guitars & drums varying with acoustical passages would not

sound standard & boring even w/out singer. The price is 7 USD and the contact address is: Nicolas, 12 Bd du Marechal Leclerc, 21240 Talant, France. (-G-)

#### LOGON

**Fragments of a Future to Come '92**  
16 min / b/w cover  
**Lie to Me, Modern Slave, Euthanasia, A Passage to...**  
I don't know much about this band, the only thing I've got is this demo and 4 song promo tape by this band (it has changed the name to **Sound Poetry**). Musically these two demos distinguish one from another. The first one offers quite not bad power thrash with progressive elements. 3 tracks and outro, from which first track "Lie To Me" I liked most. The promo tape of **Sound Poetry** is more experimental and diverse in the aspect of style. But weak vocals doesn't fit to the concept of the band. Actually these two demos are quite good, so if you want something other than death or doom, you may try: Lysergide, PO Box 3113, 2745 Queluz, Portugal. (-S-)

#### LOST IN MISERY

**Tragic Romance '94**  


**I Worship The Dirt You Treat Me Like, Do I Belong, Tragic Romance, Panic (Help Me Find My Way), Tears**  
"Now we are forever yours. Let's call it Tragic Romance. Unspoken words of love, friendship, broken hearts and disappointment. Sitting in the darkness, searching for happiness, exploring some sadness. Discovering madness, loneliness, bitterness, emptiness. So lonely with the memory we remain. **Lost In Misery**". Wow, one of the best Dutch bands released its second demo (the first was called "Misery") and it is the best demo tape I've heard in 1994! With four years in their past, **Lost In Misery** now created the style, which you can't put in any frame. Heavy metal, but with strong progressive influence, heavy, but melodic (very melodic!), and the most important fact - the vocals on this tape are by original, mystic female singer Lucienne Jmewski. Now perhaps you know what can you expect from this band. "Behold the past and bear the future. Behold the past, predict the future. History on repeat. "It's all said before", the fortunate-teller tells while he is looking back upon the future. "Let me see... oh yes, reality! Sorry but I lost my glasses". And the unholy ghosts of time are haunting again in the mirror of our conscience". Influences. You can find many of them in this tape (in "Panic" I even felt the spirit of **Sonic Youth**), but no copy-

ing!!! Absolutely the best track is "Do I Belong" - slow, painful - like a real romance. Lucienne sings very emotionally (like **Incubus Succubus** singer), and the playing is cool too - especially I liked drummer's work. Just a masterpiece! Besides that I must say that demo layout is very professional and the only one question comes to my mind - why didn't this group release their CD? Aren't there any labels which would be interested in this beautiful music? I can't believe. "Let the music do the talking. "What is this talking about?" Not for the money, just for the Blues. **Lost In Metal**". Let **Lost In Misery** talk to you. The melodies which can possess. Contact: c/o Rob Vincken, van Salm Salmstraat 30, 5175 GG Looon op Zand, the Netherlands. (-A-)

#### NON FINIRE MAI

**Demo '92**  
17 min / 4 songs  
Slovenia gave some interesting bands not only in electronic/industrial fields (**Laibach**, **Tektonik Motor Corporation**, **Strelnikoff**), but in progressive metal style too. This is quite old demo, which delivers psychedelic progressive thrash metal, it reminds a bit of **Voi Vod**, but it has quite a lot unique parts, f.ex. jazzy/swing moments, funk influences & all in all it's not typical progressive metal stuff. Unfortunately the fate was not favourable to the band - the leader Tomi had an accident in his work (in June '92 he fell from 8 m. height to the ground on his head - he's coming back to life now, but he still can't speak), the drummer

went to Hare Krishna, guitarist has serious problems with his nerves. The band is in comma. c/o Tomi Vucer, Kajuhova 4, 63310 Zalec, Slovenia. (-G-)

#### RISE AND SHINE

**Demo '94**  
**I Am Sinking, Loneliness Is Me, I Have to Move On, The Oversleep, I'm Gonna Rise and Shine**  
Wow! It's good, original, melodic and light music. Doomy Hippe Metal, flowerpowermetal - call 'em metal, call 'em rock, but you must agree - it is hard to find such a group in all the underground music world. Already the first sounds of this demo show that the band is interested in **Black Sabbath**, though doesn't copy them, but gives the sense of **The Doors** and modern doom metal mixed together, and the voice of Josabeth Leidi is one of the most unexpected I've heard from underground groups. It isn't doom. Personally I don't feel sadness or something like that listening to **Rise and Shine**. But it isn't any other kind of metal too. No, I'm not going to create the name of band's style, 'coz everybody - I am sure - firm their own name for this group after the listening to their demo. The music can't be categorized as well as it couldn't be compared with any other group. So, what else? The best track from this demo is "I'm Gonna Rise and Shine", and now I don't know what could I say else - you won't understand what I'm talking about without listening to this demo. By the way, guys had to record their another demo and it had to be a bit heavier, but - as they say - "if it ain't heavy it ain't shit". The price is 3 USD. Address: c/o Leidi, Klubbacken 7, s-129, 39 Hagersten, Sweden (send them alcohol, bombs, etc. - they need it). (-A-)

#### WILL'O'WISP

**Nocturnal Whispers '94**  
**Dead World, Dance of the Gargoyle, Ethereal, Cathedrals of Doom**  
The best Italian band I've while writing stuff for "Edge Of Time". Very cool layout and amazing music. How to call this style? Guys themselves call it "Stream Of Conscience", for me it's atmospheric/psychedelic-classical metal. Maybe we could add one more word - progressive, but vocals are too weak and more in psychedelic fields for me. The main component in this music is piano and keyboards' sound, it makes the music to sound mystically and classic inserts are more than good. You know, there are plenty of bands which insert something classical and say it's atmospheric music, but usually it isn't connected with the rest of the sound, so you think - why this band does this. But **Will'o'Wisp** doesn't belong to this category. I could say even more... but maybe I wouldn't do that, 'coz I think everybody understood I really adore this demo, so why should I speak more. But I wanna say some words about the lyrics. They're very happy guys with reasonable lyrics about death and pain, ancient truth and the end of humanity ("Now I'm free and finally I fly watching the fire of the end") - not the new themes, but it's always interesting when people look at them originally making their own decisions. Maybe there were too many of good words 'bout this group, but you all can find \$5 and send them for the demo to: Paolo Puppo, Salita del boschetto 2, 9, 16305 Rapallo (Genova), Italy. (-A-)

**WORLDEED**  
**Jibberish '93**

32 min / b/w cover / lyrics  
(promoted by Urban Warfare Productions)  
**Apathy, Fuel, Outer King/Inner Sage, Reflections, Ayahuasca, Carved in Stone**  
This American five-piece outfit was formed in '92 and here it's their debut demo. According to their words, this style could be described as dreampop meets doom. It's absolutely clear that **Worldseed** are the one of old doom followers, who play strictly the same thing as **Black Sabbath** twenty years ago. Yes, there is a certain **Black Sabbath** influence, but the songs of **Worldseed** is quite modern. The music is slow, but heavy, kind and live. For example, the cut "Outer King/Inner Sage" is a mix of psychedelic **Black Sabbath** and pop (yeah, the most real pop music!). Listening to "Apathy" we can draw a parallel between **Worldseed** and **Alice In Chains** EP "Jar of Flies". So as you see, "Jibberish" demo is not far from recent American Alternative Rock/Metal scene. Their songs aren't drastic nor moshful, it's closer to things like prairies, cowboys, country, etc. Demo costs 6 USD & you can get it from **Worldseed**, c/o David Iversen, 401 Wentworth Ave., Lowell MA 01852, USA. (-G-)

### all the rest...

#### THAUMATURGE

**On the Seventh Day God Create Guitar... '94**  
20 min / b/w cover on color paper  
**The Creation of Destruction, Hell Alone: Lost in Paradise, Games, Kill your Sandman, Murder, Death, Kill, No More, I'd Anything for Love, Existence of Dying Swans**  
New Lithuanian band made an effort to record an industrial metal demo and we should take it as successful one. Forgetting not super quality (well, for demo it's quite normal, but here we get used to hear mostly CDs from such kind of bands). Catchy sampled riffs and rough vocals, strongly rhythmic, fast and driving industrial metal. Everything is filtered through slightly mockery view to other bands/musicians & in general to the world. One of the best tracks is "Hell Alone: Lost in Paradise" (perhaps their tribute to **Paradise Lost**). Prices: 5 USD / 4 Lt (Lithuania) Contact address: Vidmantas L., PO Box 2315, Vilnius arp-3, 2300 Lithuania. (-G-)



#### WEJDAS

**Saule tekant '94**  
50 min / b/w cover  
(released by Dangus Productions)  
**Sunrise in the Hole of Grass-snakes - intro, Unconsecrated Fight, Soulviever, Here Will Not Be the Sun, Naked Among the Wolves, To the Bird... In the Heart of Earth - outro**  
The second demo of this perhaps the best electronic/pagan/avantgarde instrumental band from Lithuania. Maybe I must add one more word - "cosmic", 'cause everytime I listen to this tape, I feel very clear spatial sense. I don't compare "Saulė tekant" with the western electronic music, because it has special national culture influence. The only track which, in my opinion, isn't marked by being Lithuanian is "Soulviewer", but it is the most avantgarde track in all the tape. Forest. Another element, which formed the structure of this music. The romantic, mighty worshipping of its spirit fills my room with dark sentimental sadness and I don't know to which world I belong now. Just turn your lights off and fly... Let your dreams reach the moon and bring you away from reality. Pain and joy, light and dark, life and death. What's the difference between these words? Everything is one unity now, you are only a piece of space, you return to the world, which you belong to... Really, **Wejdas** is the group which made the biggest spiritual shock for long time. Lyrics, which by the way is written in Lithuanian - very important too, if your sanity still can perceive the words, and absolutely the best tracks are "Unconsecrated Fight" and "Naked Among the Wolves". Romantic, painful - these are the words which could resume all the talks about this band. Listen to this music of dark forests and deep power of cosmos. The sun rose once again. Maybe, the last time... Tape is available for 5 USD / 6 Lt (Lithuania) from Dangus Productions, PO Box 982, 2300 Vilnius, Lithuania. Band contact: Darius Gerulaitis, Kestucio 23-6, 4430 Jurbarkas, Lithuania. (-A-)

Greetings from the land of corrida de toros! Probably you understood **Absorbed** comes from Spain. If to be true there was known very little about Spanish underground just few years ago. However, the list of groups from this region becomes longer day by day. And there you could find rather strong acts worth to be mentioned among the famous ones of the world metal scene. **Absorbed** is such act namely.

The band was formed on January '91 by Javi - bass, Os - car - vocals & guitar, Zampa - guitar and Abel - drums. After some changes in the line-up, **Absorbed** became three-piece act: Javi, Mario - guitar and Lino - drums.

The first serious release was out on September '92 as debut demo "Unreal Overflows" through Drowned Prod. Then promo "Abstract Absurdity" followed on 1993 (see review in Edge of Time 7th issue). After that few tracks appeared in several compilations and the latest release was split CD/K7 with **Dismal** and **Unnatural** (Spanish bands also) on May '94. And now an interview with Javi follows.

**At first, what has influenced that your group was formed and why band's title was Absorbed namely?**

I guess we got kinda sick of just listening to the bands we liked and wanted to do our own music. That was the main reason with no doubt at all, we just needed to prove ourselves we were able to create something great and I fancy we're on our way or, at least, I hope so! We took the band's name from a song off **Coroner**'s second LP.

**There were guitarist Zampa and drummer Abel on the original line-up. Why did the band split up? And if you keep in touch with them still?**

That's simple, Zampa was keen on the H.C. stuff mainly so we made up his mind to quit **Absorbed**. Later on, we kicked Abel out of the band because he hadn't got his own drum kit nor the will to buy it. I'm still in touch with them though, both Zampa and Abel. The later is my neighbor.

**And now there are five Absorbed's guys. What's better - four members or two guitarists and free vocals? And some words about Fran and Jose...** Currently, there are not five members anymore. We're a three-piece now!! Anyway I think it's far better to have a vocalist free from playing any instrument, it depends on many things though. Fran was a pretty good guitarist but with a kinda rock star attitude which was creating a pretty bad mood in the band. Jose got his girlfriend pregnant so he had to leave the band for many reasons known.

**Spanish Metal scene is not well-known. I heard some news about Killing Cyclone, Torekarda, Heroes Del Silencio in AOR and also about Human Waste. Besides, you mentioned Dismal, Unnatural, Unhallowed and Sepulchro. Tell a little more about your underground.**

I'm sick of this question. I've never heard of **Killing Cyclone** or **Torekarda**. I like **Heroes Del Silencio** though, but they're a major band, never to be categorized as an underground one. At a rawer level I dig **Human Waste** and **Dismal**. Of course, there are loads bands more but the ones I like the most are those on the lines above.

**Every band would like to be original as much as possible. How would you describe things that do Absorbed different from other acts?**

It'd be petty of me to say right now here what makes **Absorbed** different, as a matter of fact it's really complicated to get your own style these days but we strive on doing our best in every single riff, arrangement or detail we're working on. Our music flows spontaneously not done by purpose. It might also influence the point that it

just happens our fave bands aren't really well-known in the underground, for instance bands like **Obhivion** or **Violent Dirge** are our main influences. That kinda sounds weird but it also makes us weird!!

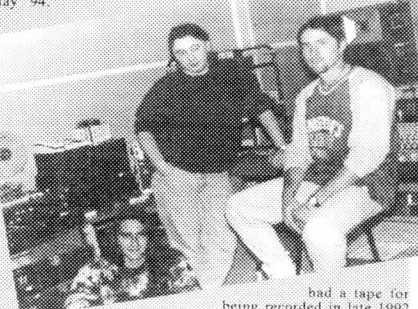
**And what's about your "live" shows?** Pretty well in most cases. We haven't performed live for a whole year though. We have been working on the tracks for the split CD.

**Many brutal bands write a total rough lyrics. What's your compositions about? Who creates music & lyrics for Absorbed's tracks?** I don't want **Absorbed** to be labeled as a "brutal band played by rough guys". I think we fall far from that stuff.

**Our lyrics deal with science fiction themes, at least, from now onwards, we're trying that. You mentioned rather many bands as your influences. But maybe there are some of them which determined your music most of all?** Sure, perhaps my 3 main influences are **Obhivion**, **Death** and **Violent Dirge**.

**Your promo "Abstract Absurdity" is rather interesting and technical. Especially guitars solo can be notable for their originality. How could you describe the direction of Absorbed music?** Personally I think it

an't so



bad a tape for being recorded in late 1992 but no longer represents us in the least. That's for sure. I'd rather call our current style as techno death: thrash but I don't really think there's a right label to categorize our sound either. We've always opened our ears from new age to grind core music. We try to do a weird blend of all this shit.

**Perhaps all of you have as little free time as other musicians. How do you spend it?**

Currently, I'm using all my spare time in getting my driving licence at last. Also I'm looking forward to buy my very first own car. I really need it since I have to cover a helluva lot of kilometers every weekend to get together with the rest of the band at the rehearsal site.

**Are you interesting in politics?** Sure enough! I know your president is Prazauskas, if I'm not mistaken!!

**How do you regard to alcohol and drugs?** Drugs are shit and alcohol also! I not even like beer!

**What do you think about Deicide's Glenn Benton and other "Satanic philosophers"?** I don't mind them! As long as they don't affect me I don't really care a fuck!! Anyway Nazi, black metal, dickheads fuck off!!

**Do you know anything about Lithuanian metal scene?** There're some great 'zines like **Edge Of Time** or **Death Industry**, many bands (I haven't heard any yet, pity!) and a pretty beautiful girl called **Laura** somewhere in Vilnius (Hi!! Laura!! Are you reading this? Cheers!!)

**Few words about self-financed split CD...** It's a 3 bands split with more than 60 minutes of music and with 4 tracks per band approx. The 3 groups enclosed are great!!

**Some last words...** SUPPRA CALIFRAGILISTICOSPINALIDOSO!! Lotsa thanks for the back up mate!! Sabonis & Kurimaitis rule!!

**- Birute -**

**you live in a place like Israel... agrees Yishai Sweets of Betrayer - the Israeli premier raw thrashcore band. To this day they released two demos and both of them represent absolutely different kinds of music.**

Let's start from the beginning. The band was formed in 1993 and found pretty standard name for themselves - **Betrayer**. I don't think it was the best choice, but the guys think just opposite - they say they betrayed their society's rules and chose to live their own way, so the word "betray" is very intimate for them. **Betrayer** managed to organize some gigs - to tell the truth they've only played six shows, but that's because there aren't too much places for gigs in Israel. Yeah, interesting fact - about audience. In Lithuania people usually go to gigs if they have money and it depends on climate in Israel - you can expect 150 people at your gig on a cold day and about 500 on a hot one...



If you are a bit familiar with death metal underground, you should know **Pax Mortis**, which is one of the best unsigned acts. They come from Auburn, the States, and come with their peculiar techno death/fusion metal. The band reached a quite high level of popularity not only because of original style, one of the other important points was their attitude to press (fanzines/mags)/radio stations. In spite of not low post rates they sent tons of the material and we see the result - in the beginning of 1994 they were the 3rd most popular unsigned band in the States (according to **Wild Rags** polled readers). Another reason of the success (in a certain meaning) is that **Pax Mortis** captivate not only DM freaks - they are acceptable to everybody who likes more or less heavy music. Interview was answered by Christopher Crites and Aaron Copelan.

**- You have to usual demos, "Fear" and "My Belief", what could you tell about your other production?**

A: We have a l s o released a 7" EP called "A World of Thieves". This record was put out by Ray Millek. He is the fanzine editor for "Metal Curse" magazine. He now has Cursed Productions distribution going. 100 records are pressed. Two unreleased songs appear on this 7" which are not on our two demos.

**- Pax Mortis plays technical death metal. What do you think about classical death (like Death for example)?**

C: I love old death metal. I was very influenced by bands like **Venom**, **Possessed**, **Sodom**, **Celtic Frost** and **Death**. However it is 10 years later, so it would be boring to play that style of death metal a decade later. Music has to progress.

**- How are you looking at other metal kinds (thrash, doom, grind, etc.)? Do you listen to classical music?**

C: I love all kinds of different music. I feel sorry for people who only listen to one style of music. There is so much good music in the world that it's stupid to be closed-minded. Yes, I love classical music, it's very powerful and dramatic.

**- What's your opinion about Florida's Tampa Bay region, unofficial death metal "realm"?**

C: I feel sorry for the new bands who live there, because it's hard to get noticed. Also - too many Florida bands sound the same.

**- What are your lyrics about? Who creates Pax Mortis tracks?**

C: Our lyrics deal with real-life issues. Animal rights, betrayal by someone you trust, dishonesty in government, drug addiction, things that everyone can understand. We all write the songs together.

**- What are you influenced by (bands or musicians concretely)? Do you like various experiments in your music?**

The first demo was released in December 1993. These first trax present you what happens when **Sodom** and **Kreator** meet **Rollins Band** and **Biohazard**. Thrashcore with very strong and good vocals. The song "Don't Light Me a Candle" presents something kinda beer party, fun thing in the veins of **Tankard**. The best track is "Power of Hate", without doubt, it's the most complex song with contrasts between rage and peace. Really big changes happened after releasing this demo. The new one - "Our Scars" presents industrial thrash. "We wanted to do something special and original, we had enough from all the death/brutal/barbaric bands, we wanted to do something more up to date and modern so we replaced our drummer with drums machine." For me the new style appears like a mix of industrial and punk. Sounds very innovative and fresh. One of the most interesting sides of the demo are lyrics - which talk about politics, individualism and atheism. It seems Yishai knows what's he doing. 'Coz he released his lyrics book called "Rage Prophet" and also he studies psychology. It also seems that it's very hard to live your own way of life in Israel, but Yishai thinks, society is sick

A: We are into all types of metal/rock music. Some other types of music included jazz. All influences create and keep inspiration up to keep us playing our instruments as well as writing new songs.

**- What's your standpoint to drugs and alcohol?**

A: Take doses in moderation. Don't let alcohol control you. Drinking and riving till you puke are not smart decisions.

C: I don't drink much, I just don't like it. I enjoy smoking pot, but I'm not into hard drugs like cocaine and heroin.

**- Are you interested in politics?**

C: I get very angry if I think about politics for a long time. I think government is a dangerous thing it abuses it's power.

**- Religion?**

C: If it works for you, fine. I'm not interested.

**- How do you spend your spare time?**

A: We will let loose and hang out once in awhile. After rehearsing usually I am busy with other things. We are in great friends, but we mainly only hang out at practice.

C: I paint, answer mail, write poetry and answer more mail.

**- The last question: what do you know about Lithuanian underground? Your words to the headbangers...**

C: I know that Lithuania has a strong death metal underground of devoted fans. We get a lot of mail from your country. Stand together and stay underground. Thank you.

A: Thanks for interview Birute. Good luck. -Birute-

Info & merchandise: c/o Christopher Crites, 190 Easy Way, Auburn, CA 95603, USA

c/o Aaron Copelan, 11484 Sherwood Way, Auburn, CA 95602, USA

### infostrip

**line-up:**  
Aaron Copelan - drums  
Christopher Crites - guitar vocals  
Mark Griffith - vocals  
Mark Burcher - guitar  
Dave Kelley - bass

**releases:**  
demo "Fear" (92) 2.3 USD, 4 songs  
demo "My Belief" (93) 3.4 USD, 6 songs  
7"EP "A World of Thieves" (94) 5.6 USD, 3 songs  
Cassette EP "Renaissance" (94) 3.4 USD, 4 live songs  
7"EP "I Suffer" (94) 5.6 USD, 4 songs  
prices are - USA world

everywhere in the world, not only in Israel. So, this demo shows very big (kindly speaking) progress compared with the previous work - you can dislike the new style, you can adore it, anyway you must mention it's original.

well, after this I was expecting to hear 100% industrial stuff, but... Guys decided to change their style once again! Yishai explains: "The new Betrayer stuff is completely strong Power Metal in the veins of **Pantera**, **Biohazard**, **Pro-Pain**, etc. Very raw and powerful music. I don't know what to think now. Maybe we'll hear death metal from Betrayer after a couple of months (I hope not). But let's wait - 'coz Betrayer is going to release their new works abroad. The first 7"EP must be released in America and it's not yet clear about debut CD. It will be called "Uronic Flats" and will contain only new Betrayer stuff. This CD may be released in new Israeli label "Unicorn productions".

And for the end I'll ask Yishai some nonmusical questions.

**- About religion** As I know you are atheists. So maybe you know how the man and earth were born. And what's the future of humanity?

**- Well** I tell you - me and a lot of doctors believe that the man is a result of monkey (Darwin). Listen, if there is God so I am curious to know where he was during World War II? Why did the nazis become so popular? Where God was? All my family was killed in this war. I can't believe there is God. About the future I can see 2 ways: or renewal (yes, yes, influenced by **Kreator**) or chaos. I hope it will be renewal and people will be open-minded. Maybe I am naive but that's what I believe in!

**- The most important question: what is more popular in Israel - vodka or beer? What do you like more?**

**- It depends, if you wanna be drunk for some hours - vodka is the way. I prefer beer. Israeli beer is very good!! That's all. Contact this band. Yishai answers all**

### infostrip

**releases:**  
• demo "Power Of Hate" '93  
1. Dying Without Feel 2. Power of Hate 3. Greedy Lord 4. Don't Light Me a Candle (in Hebrew; Live) 5. Power of Hate (Live)  
• demo "Our Scars" '94  
1. Neverending Story 2. Greedy Lord 3. Our Scars 4. Don't Light Me a Candle (in Hebrew)

address:  
c/o Yishai Sweets  
10 Kazan st  
Raananan 43612  
Israel



# dark tranquility

When the dark and the light unite, when the dawn comes to the earth, when the moon is rising and the sun is dying, when you live and when you die, when you belong to your body or when you fly in the sky, when you feel the sense of loneliness or depression, - then take **Trom's** music to your soul. Occult, mystic atmosphere of it is the one to fill the spiritual loneliness.

Here I won't talk about **Trom's** music, 'coz you can find review if you want, so only a couple of word from their history. **Trom** started to play together 2 years ago. First guys made the demo "Red Moons" that doesn't exist anymore. Then "Zariathnamik" demo came out, and it gave them the opportunity to go abroad (Czech Republic, Austria), and after this the first CD called "Balmor" appeared. Tah! all you must know about this band. Now **Trom** are creating new songs, but they have problems with one of their musicians (alcohol and drugs can be good for creativity, but not so much for playing together...). Anyway, the singer found enough time to answer my questions.

I've heard two of your works - "Zariathnamik" demo and "Balmor" CD - the mysterious mood is quite the same on both works, but as regards the music I could see some differences - it seems, that "Zariathnamik" is more united than "Balmor", whose songs are not as similar. And what do you think - what's the biggest difference between these two releases?

"Zariathnamik" on my way is more monotonous, because the voice was young - I started "singing" two years ago, and the musicians play since 10 years. "Balmor" is like a visit-card for us, that's why we've visited different kind of atmospheres, to know what we really wanted. And we like our songs to be different.

On our live album we'll record best versions of some songs of the "Zariathnamik" demo that is not as good as it could be. The biggest difference is in the work itself. The "balmor" has much more work on it and "Zariathnamik" is more naive, I think. I hope the next one will be better.

"Balmor". What is hidden under this name? Also, there are lyrics written not in English, but in other languages (i.e. in Latin) on this CD. Who writes them and what do these languages give to music? Does Latin better fit your music than English?

"Balmor" is a contraction of "Bal mort", which means "Dead dance" in french. Also, "Trom" means "Mort" (= death) in the mirror (Trom = Htaed), we like to play with the words.

I (singer) write the texts. I use french of course, Latin, English and some more languages. French is better for poetry, 'cause it's my language, usually, latin, I like it because the language is dead, so it can give an impression of "out of time". And English is better for melodies and for people who don't speak nor french neither latin. It's difficult to sing in French when you know that noone will understand a word. I like Latin for slow songs.

So, as I understand only Lithuanian, English, Russian and German - what's the main concept of "Balmor" lyrics?

"Balmor" song main concept is the absolute darkness of creation. When the life comes in from nowhere, "Nigra Opera" means "Black Opera", where the light has never been. And the last song means "Where the faces of blood are born", that means where we all come from. In the lyrics I tried to show that we have to drown wide if we want to find some light, the light we surely know, but we cannot remember. And we shall have no fear to drown.

There is a song on "Balmor" called "Praha". Why the track is about this town? How could you describe the spirit of old Praha?

We played our first concerts under the name of **Trom** in Praha, and this city has a magical - mystical atmosphere that I cannot deny. Even if money's trying to destroy this ancestral feeling, money will never buy any feeling neither atmospheres. And I will continue to go to Praha and have meditations in the castle of the street of Alchemists or in any of the hundreds of old gothic churches that keep the memory of this mysterious city.

On the seventh issue of *Edge of Time* Scorch from Mordor said there aren't many people interested in black metal in your country. He wrote for me too - Switzerland is very narrow - minded and bourgeois country. Do you agree with him and what do you think about the scene in Switzerland? I agree with my friend. Switzerland is such a materialistic country that everyone who's a bit different turns to be rejected. Artists are called junkies or crazy, stupid people by the most of the population. The scene is not so good. Or you have good friends that will make you play in places where the organizers don't care about your music, or you don't play.

Swiss audience is mainly interested in well known foreign bands. That's why we prefer to cross the frontiers for a good gig.

You describe your style as "gothic-core". Yeah - Gothic, I agree, but is your music influenced by hardcore? By the way, what are your best bands?

As a matter of fact, I don't know how to describe our music. Psychedelic - mystical - violent - wave is maybe better, since we are not influenced by any core band. I don't like these classifications, but anyway. Our favorite music are **Joy Division**, **hendrix**, **Vagtabö**, **Halotkamek**, **Liber Mud**, **Lucie Cries**, **Ministry**, **Killing Joke**, **Fields of th Nephilim**, but also reggae, gregorian chants, tribal (pure) music from all over the world, every band that we feel true and that agrees with it's own fully.

Now let's leave music and talk about other things. As I understand, you are studying occultism. Have you heard of Agni-Yoga? What's is your meaning of life?

I don't know Agni-Yoga, it is one of the four periods in the Hindi system? (...), how far from the truth you are. Agni-Yoga is the synthesis of all Yogas and the Oriental wisdom, given to people by Mahatmas through E. Rench in this century - A.). My concept of life is thisone, we all should know the truth, but we cannot remember. And if we can, for the most of us the truth (or true will) is too difficult to accept, so a human being prefers sleeping to living, forgetting to knowledge. But I want to grow and will not accept any other way than the one

to the truth, true will, illumination, God, or whatever you will call it. On my point of view, I am responsible of this, and everyday I suffer to be just a miserable shit. To be continued... What is stronger - darkness or light? Why? None is stronger nor weaker, because light and darkness are the same thing. You cannot see the light in darkness, but that doesn't mean it doesn't exist. But on a sunny day you cannot see the stars. But if you dig a big hole till darkness, than you will see that stars are only hidden by the sunlight during the day.

Maybe you know how the Earth was born? No, I still don't know if the Earth is born, if it exists, if it do exist, if you're human (as far as I remember, I am a human - A.). As I told you I'm just a shit without knowledge, the more I know the more I know my ignorance. But what I know is the more I give, the more I grow.

What is the worst and the happiest thing you could imagine? Happiest: Break all my social chains, conditioned behaviour, destroy myself, ego and be only aluminous thing. Stop the thoughts. Join the universal love. Under my true will. Worst: Get back to the life society wants me to follow, stop growing, stop moving, stop changing. If you meant your question for all humanity, I can't imagine something else than what it is. This should be perfect... even if it seems to be horrible. Maybe we ave a horrible perfection.

Do you believe in God? Is it personal or maybe there exist only some very strong powers (i.e. - Chaos, theos and Cosmos)? What is the most powerful thing that the man could create? I would say I believe in God.

- First one would be the whole one, and everyone. One in all. That should be christian god, Allah or Jehovah. The thing the hebrews cannot pronounce, because it has no name, because it is after names.

- Second would be the perfection of my true will, of what I really am. That is Buddha for the buddhists or paradise for the christian. It is a stage of life, a point of perfection. Nirvana.

- Then, forces that fly around us, like destruction, dmeons, angels and so on.

The most powerful thing man can create shall be himself. We don't have to look outside to find what we have inside. Man can create a god from himself. Do you believe in reincarnation and what a life would you like to live in your next existence? Does a death exist there (I've read - death doesn't exist, it's just like a haircut)? Nice number to talk about death! Death is transformation, so reincarnation could be every morning, or every new beginning or every new physical life. So I do believe in reincarnation and for my next life I would like to finish with this circus of circles.

What do you think about paganism? Paganism is a really interesting way, as every religious way. It interests me especially in its connection with the natural forces, visible or invisible. Respect!

Back to the music. What are your plans? Where and when will you release your next CD?

- "Evil", live CD should be released in March.  
- A new studio album should be released in May.  
- Concerts: we will visit France, Germany, Belgium, Czech Rep., Austria, Italy and Spain this year.  
So, thanx for your work. I hope we can play in your country one night: the darkest point of the night is also closest to the day! Let's drown!  
Contact this really occult band at this address: CP 1126, 2000 Neuchâtel, Switzerland.  
- Audrius -

What's new at the moment? We've just put the finishing touches to our upcoming mini-CD "Of Chaos And Eternal Night", to be released in Feb. '95 through Spine Farm records. The album will feature four songs and is meant to be a small taster of the soon-to-be-recorded second full length album.

"Skydancer" was out quite long time ago. What are your plans regarding next release? As mentioned, there are four songs - 3 brand new compositions that display a progression and development from the previous material, and there's also a remix of "Alone" from "Skydancer", now with the efforts of the new vocalist (more on that later). The actual plan for the mini-CD was to get something recent out, just to show people that we still exist. As you say, "Skydancer" is now very old and out-dated. The next "real" album probably won't be released before the autumn of '95 and that would mean two years between the first two albums, which is too much. By putting out a mini-CD now, the situation is better.

Present your new songs. What changes could you mark between them and your older cuts? There are three new songs on the mini-CD, and they differ quite much from each other. In addition to this, we have completed 9-10 other songs for the second full length album. I can say that there aren't any radical changes or departures from the "Skydancer" material. Mikael, who played guitar on the first album, is now doing the vocals, and we have a new second guitarist. People will be able to notice a slight change in the music, which is not a big surprise, but as I mentioned it's still in the same basic style - varied, atmospheric and melodic. When "Skydancer" album was released, there was quite not many bands which tried to play death metal with melodic approach (and even if there were some - they came from Sweden - At The Gates, Desultory, maybe a couple of others), mostly there was played that "mid-paced" thing a la Grave Benediction. Now the situation is completely different; the further from death metal the better. What are you comments and thoughts about this?

You're right in that the current "trend" or norm seems to be to play melodic and atmospheric; even in some black metal there are some harmonies and so on. We don't claim to be pioneers or something, but we've been doing this thing for nearly five years now, without having changed our style, and it's a bit boring that so many new bands don't have an own identity but instead seem busy following the present rules of how a band should sound. Still, there's a lot of quality out there and I don't mind some good competition.

In spite of the fact that you play fast and energetic music, you could be considered to be emotional/atmospheric metal band. Have you ever thought to slow the things (I mean songs) down, like MDB, Anathema or Tiamat do?

No, we're too addicted to speed and intensity in music to do such a thing! In my ears, some of our material cover the same atmosphere that those bands do, even if we don't play it slow and doomy. It's all a matter of tastes, and we try to play colourful, expressive and emotional music without losing the energy and power.

Let's take a look to your history. The first acquaintance with you for the most of metalheads was "Skydancer" album. What could you say about your previous EPs, "Trail of Life Decayed" and "Moonclad Reflections"? I still like them a lot for what they are, and they represent important steps in our history: "Trail..." was written in '90 and recorded in the beginning of '91, but one can still hear it's the same band as today. Back then, the music was simpler. On "Moonclad", there are more complex song structures and lots of acoustic guitars and this development showed a straight line to "Skydancer". All in all, I still think it's good material, but terribly outdated by now.

What direction is the most promising one in heavy music? Tell your opinion about the following: industrial metal (Voodoo Cult, NIN) I haven't heard that much to be honest. It has a certain atmosphere with some qualities. modern american thrash/hardcore (Pantera, Biohazard)

Not my style of music at all. Too one dimensional and monotonous for my liking. gothic/doom (Paradise Lost, Type O Negative) Gothic Doom - it's OK, some bands are very good, but some tend to be abit boring in the long run. What's about your deal with Spine Farm Records which put out "Skydancer"? How was the distribution of that album? Aren't you looking for a bigger & better label?

Spine farm are good, and they'll also be releasing the mini-CD. For the second full length album we're currently looking at several different contracts, so it's a fair bet that said album will appear on a bigger and better-known label. That said, I don't have anything negative to say about Spine Farm. What do you think about such Swedish bands as Memento Mori M Mori - I've only heard some songs, seems OK. Clawfinger Clawfinger - Nah... not my taste.

Morgana Lefay Morgana Lefay - seem interesting, but I haven't heard them yet. Skinttrade Skinttrade - haven't heard.

Do you like Tiamat's "Wildhoney"? No, Tiamat sucks as well! I hate ALL Swedish bands. No, seriously, "Wildhoney" is a very good album, and Tiamat has always been one of the best bands from here. I saw them play live with TYPE O NEGATIVE last month and they were excellent. Especially their new lead guitarist was very skilled. Your thoughts about: a) drugs haven't tried any b) vegetables good c) "swedish socialism" couldn't care less d) football (congratulations with Sweden's third place in Worl Cup '94) totally uninterested in sports e) smoking/alcohol alcohol is OK at times f) techno/dance music sound all the same g) melodramatic movies yes, why not! h) Swiss watches danish bacon i) pagan beliefs interesting, but highly trendy and polarized

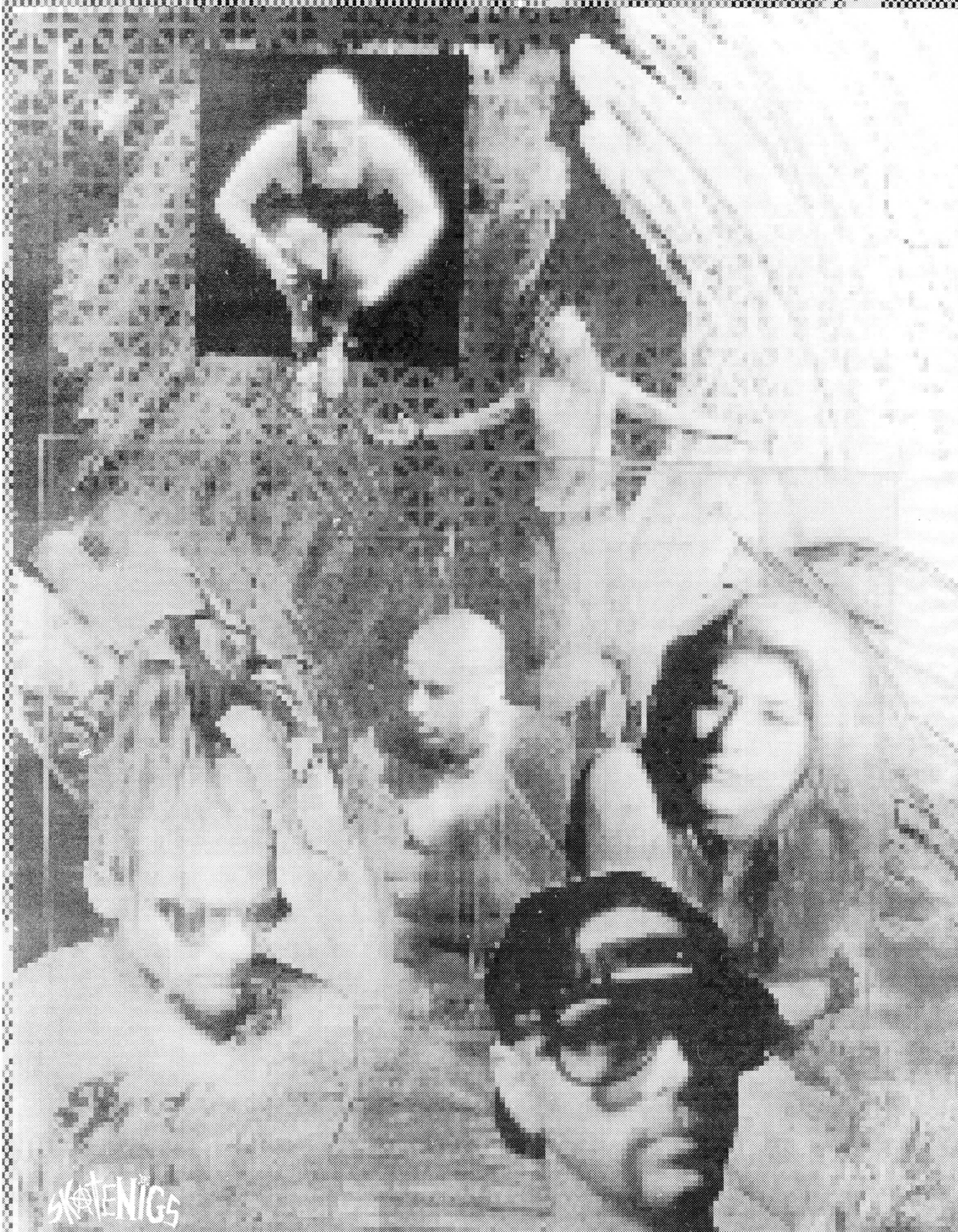
Do you prefer music to any other of kinds of art-such as literature, theater, movies? If so, why? As form of artistic expressions have their own qualities and I don't see any reason to choose between them. It's hard to compare a CD or a concert to a good piece of literature or a play or a painting. I can't say which expression I prefer, but music is obviously the one that occupies my life most.

Imagine you know that tomorrow you will be punished to death. What would you say to the world? We have high quality D. T. T-shirts available for \$15 if anyone is interested... Why not die as a rich man? Imagine you don't know anything exactly about tomorrow (or maybe there's no need to imagine it is so). What would you like to say to the readers?

Thanks for reading this! Keep your eyes and ears open for our forthcoming releases. Thanks to Giedrius for taking the time to come up with these quality questions. OK, cheers! Band address: Dark tranquility, Valebergs 123, S-427 37 Billdal, SWEDEN - Giedrius -







SKATENIGS