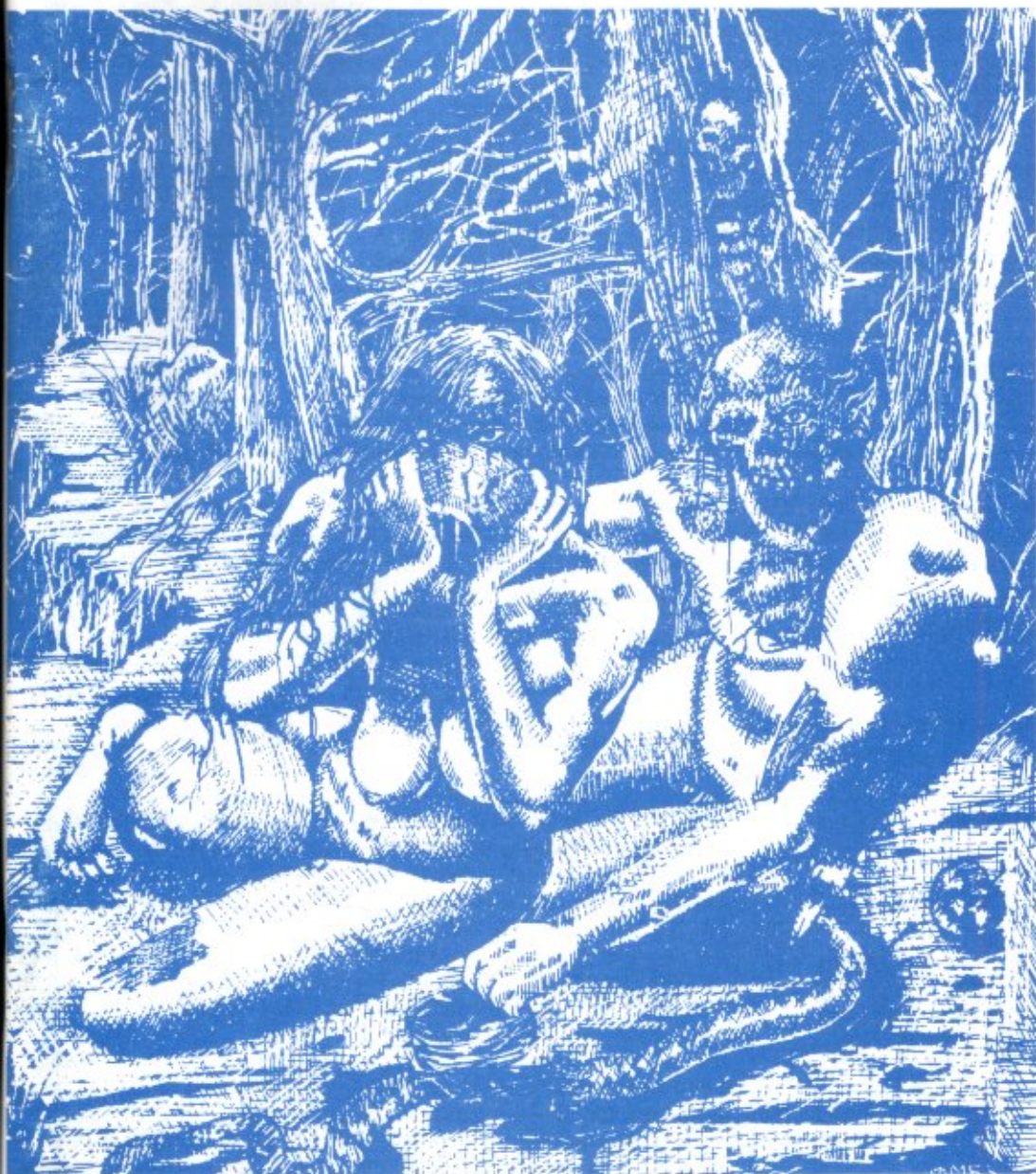


A SECOND FLOW



Interviews with:
NORM REJECTION
OPERA IX
BEYOND DAWN
CANIBAL Prod.
MORTEM
SEQUELA
OSMOSE Prod.
NECROMANTIA
CRYPT
KOITO Zine Editor
ORPHANED LAND
and 21 others

As well as 7 scene reports, some articles and
live reviews, many demo reviews and more
and more... including the RANCID SOUP
ZINE SPOON free only with the zine
and not for sale
at grocers!

OF DISEASE



Ah, it is juice again! And for those who have had a glimpse (an unfortunately not everyone who read the zine bought a copy) of the first issue of RANCID SOUP, you must for sure know that this is the section where I squeeze all those guys which I wish to thank for some reason or another into a liquidizer, and then serve the potpourri for all those who'd like to read on further.

Anyway mega-chuffs go to some friends who with their patience taught me better how to use a PC - now I really recognise the hard work it involves to get such a thing together and I once again thank Kevin, John, Victor, and Brian (are you still a baby-sitter?) for sparing so much of their precious time to help me out with this 2nd issue. Now I reckon the hard time I had given Daniel of FORSAKEN who had helped with the 1st edition!

And then my thanks to my father, which I so stupidly forgot to thank in the 1st issue for his most beneficial share in laying out the former RANCID SOUP edition and helping out in advice for this issue. As with Daniel, without you, all this would not have been possible. And for the other family members, that is my mom and my little sis, for the bit of typing they did every now and then.

Now I go to thank the many people in the underground which I feel I have to. The list is endless but every beginning has its end so let it go: John and The REIGN; Hans and The GATHERING; Alvaro and MORTEM; Dick ex-RENAISSANCE; Edwin and The AWAKENING, RELAPSE, all at PEACEVILLE, HOLY (good luck even to MISANTHROPE!), MORBID, OSMOSE, NUCLEAR BLAST, MORIBUND and NAPALM, as well as all of those labels who have - or will in the future - sustained THE RANCID SOUP RADIO SHOW; all my drunken mates of ANCIENT SLUMBER; Joel of EXEMPT but now with INVERTED, Joel of Arkham Productions; Andy and the rest of ultra-gods MY DYING BRIDE (Aaron, your lyrics are a special inspiration in my life); Dave and his label Drowned; Juan Carlo of Under Metal Mag (Peru); Pietruigi, Walter and Gianluca of My Sardinia Zine (Italy); Klaus of Breakdown Zine, Germany; Rat Infector and Blasphemous Zine/ Canibal Prod. (Costa Rica); Alma and Evil Zine (Lithuania); Seb and the rest of the crew involved in the mega-zine Koito (Italy), as well as the mega-editors of Mortician (Holland), Tsubi (Austria), and Biopsy (Finland). As well my thanks to Shizm Zine (Ukraine), Slam Hour radio show (Belgium), Breeding Fear Zine (Belgium), Numskull (Holland), Richard C and his Wild Rag!, Karl and the rest of the warriors in BOLT-TROWER and World Eaters, Masuro and DARK CEMETERY comp. tape/ CALVARY, Rmlan and his Chaotic Disintegration compilation, all of CASTLE, ORPHANED LAND, SALEM, SUFFER, and WAR HATE, as well as to the bands featured in the zine not listed here above. If I may have forgotten anyone please send your blasphemies with your next letter, but in any case I excuse myself.

By the way I would also like to share that special thank you with all those cool local friends of mine which have been true in supporting this release, and a few of them must for sure be the great loyal Dino and the rest of those involved in either CALL OF ANGELS Zine/Comp. or the band VICTIMS OF CREATION, William Caschi (check also the interview with his band COVENANT), Pierre Desira, Jonathan of DARK AGE ZINE, the dark editors of MYSTICAL SUMMONING, Malcolm (cool name, mate!), Jean-Pierre, Ray and all the other scarecrows of METAL MANIFEST, the local bands whose interviews are featured in this zine (especially suicide dancer Dione of SEQUELA - inversely proportional?), my friends Eric Montfort, Alfie Fabri, Charles Flores and Brian Micallef, Albert and the ultra FORSAKEN, Ray and VANDALS, the Goritan, Maltese, and if any, foreign followers of my radio show, Max Litrizza for his stunning review of Stephen King's works somewhere in the zine (who's next to massacre, mate?), all those who have worked so hard for illustrating the pages of this zine better (cheers to James, Ian and Andre'), Lipton Ice Tea (for keeping me cool), B- Fura ("omni!"), Conrad the Smurf (for being the best cook in doom metal), some others which have offered some cool time for me to share with them at some pub, and certainly all those good-looking females that add flavour to my life.

Last but not least, to the most significant beings in my whole life, the ones that make my life what it is, those being Marco, Joseph and Jason, the other members that together with me form the band SCEPTOCRYPT. To you I dedicate all the work involved in these pages!

Article title	Page no.
A Rancid Editorial	ii
Thanks List	1
CRYPT	2
APHIS	3
KOITO Zine	5
Swedish Scene Report	6
ABSORBED	8
DREAMBREED	9
STEPHEN KING	10
NORM REJECTION	12
OSMOSE Prod.	13
Reviews	14
RENAISSANCE	20
WAR HATE	21
Rinella Gig Live Review	22
DAWN OF WINTER	23
Austrian Scene Report	24
MORTEM	26
Some zine reviews	27
PESTILENCE	31
SEQUELA	32
MORTA SKULD	34
SALEM	34
VERMIN	35
"Flowers & Shovels"	36
SEANCE	38
Argentinian Scene Report	38
REALIDA	39
OPERA IX	40
SUBSTANCE FOR GOD	41
Spanish Scene Report	42
PHLEBOTOMIZED	44
Ukrainian Scene Report	44
COVENANT	45
Peruvian Scene Report	46
VARATHRON	48
LIERS IN WAIT	49
SKIN CHAMBER	50
Brazilian Scene Review	50
More reviews	51
CALVARY	56
CANIBAL Prod.	57
OBLIQUE VISIONS	59
NECROMANTIA	60
ORPHANED LAND	61
BEYOND DAWN	62
SKEPTICISM	63
MY DYING BRIDE	iii

It was one fine day in '93 when a certain Sebastiano from nearby land Italy mailed me a letter to enquire about my zine RANCID SOUP. I replied sending him a copy of my zine, and soon after there was I on my bed reading through the pages of the honest zine KOITO, of which he is co-editor. After some letters from one to another, I compiled him this set of questions for him to answer and what follows are his set of cool answers.

Hi Seb, co-editor of KOITO zine. How did the idea of doing a zine evolve and did it in anyway change since then?

I always have been fascinated from writing about music, so I wished, from my first times in the scene, to do a zine. However, I spent many months trying to be skilled enough to write and then, when I felt the time was right, I started. The first issue came out in late '91/ early '92 but a lot of things have changed since then. Now I'm more mature and my whole attitude changed. I'm a lot less enthusiastic than before, but if I believe in a band (or everything else in general), then I believe in it strongly, in a much stronger way than before. So I'm now giving all of myself to the people who deserve it only. Besides I've no time for bands I don't believe in (although in the past I used to support every band, shitty or not), a review is a thing I can do for everyone, but not more than a review. Another thing... now we all are much more severe in our reviews.

Usually a zine showcases the personality of its editors. So how do you see yourself in the pages of KOITO and how do you imagine the characters of the many zine editors you're in contact with?

This is true, you can imagine the character of an editor reading his zine. However, this question is pretty difficult... maybe the lay-out can be indicative. I mean, I know very bungling persons which put out very bungling zines - our lay-out is pretty plain because we all don't like any kind of confusion, but our lay-out is the one on the 2nd issue of KOITO. The one on the 3rd didn't turn out as we planned it because of the dickhead printer. Looking to your mag, I imagine you as a tidy person with a good dose of enthusiasm and wish to help the scene. I guess you care about your friends in the scene too, am I right? (In fact, but as you say... only the friends! - ed)

You trade with most of them as a matter of fact. What sort of titles may be found in your trade list?

I trade a lot and I've tons of zines so I cannot list them all. Let me see here in my drawer CHARANTAPHOS, MOULD, DECIBELS STORM, MORTICIAN, EMANZIPATION, NAGUAL, DIABOLIC NOISE, TRECHOMA, FALLOUT CEREBRAL, THANATOGRAPHY (r.i.p.), RANCID SOUP (of course), ESOTERIC SEVERANCE (newsletter), WILD

RAG (newsletter), VOICES FROM THE DARKSIDE, DEPRIVED, MUTILATION, YASARKAH, NO DECEPTION (r.i.p.), DARKNESS (r.i.p.), SOUND RIOT, BLOOD SHED, EXHUME (r.i.p.), OUT OF THE UNDERGROUND, DISPOSABLE UNDERGROUND, and some others too. I've a very big drawer, don't you think?

...and have you someday left your hometown to visit some cool foreign friends abroad? If so, how has it been, and tell us of some crazy stuff you did in the pubs (or otherwise) there?

Yes, I've done it and I know that you did it too, since you've been in Italy once. Well, in general, I like to travel, but I choose my destination independently from how much people I know there. For instance I'd like to spend part of my life in Iceland, where I know no one, or Egypt, where I've lived for a couple of years. So my trip in Sweden, in summer '92, has been planned following my big attraction for the Scandinavian countries. And I've been satisfied of the whole Sweden, not only of the people I know in the underground. Anyway, I met more than one underground guy, but I spent my time mainly with Per Karlsson (SUFFER) and Adrian Erlandsson (AT THE GATES). I still hear from Per, while I lost my contact with Adrian. We have done a lot of funny things, but when everywhere around you is different from where you live, you always find something interesting. I've been in the pub with Adrian once and I had a great time (even because I was slightly drunk). The only problem there has been that Adrian is far more nice than me, so he kept all the goodlooking women for him, leaving to me an ugly one, ha ha! (Ha, ha, ha, I'm sure you will have the same problem if you'll pay me a visit in the future! - ed.)

Which, according to you, are the best and worst things in the underground?

Best - true friends, great music, worst - too many unoriginal bands, postal rates.

So what do you think of the scummy rip-offs? And how do you feel when you're in contact with the real honest people?

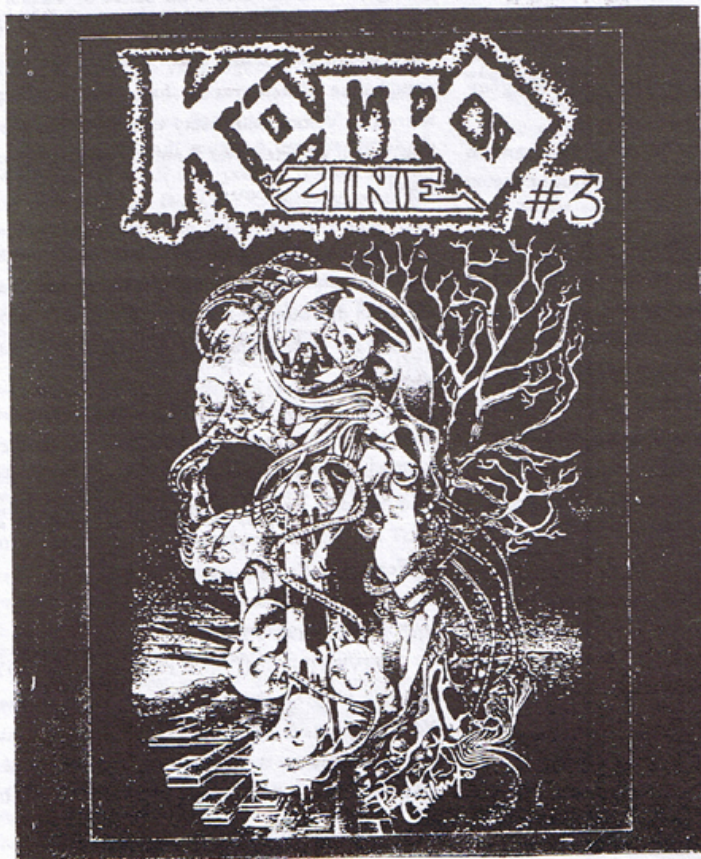
I hate rip-offs, like everyone. I hope that their cock will get leprosy soon. By the way, the scene is mainly composed by honest people, so I don't worry too much. Hence, I have not any particular feeling as that's simply the way everyone should be. But when someone is acting contrary to this, I hate him. Deeply.

Naturally I believe that you receive loads of mail everyday. So how is your relationship with the postman? ...and why not the milkman as well?

I've a good relationship with the postal employees in my town. They trust on me, so that I send everything with the rate that I say, and they only postmark it without doing any check. They tried to tell me that I didn't make things rightly a couple of times, but I've showed them that they were wrong, so now they don't talk anymore. They're scared to make bad figures. I also have to say that, in general, post employees have not enough knowledge to do that work, anyway they don't steal anything and that's enough for me. I'm allergic to milk, so if I see the milkman I scream: "Stick it up into your ass, idiot."

Let us now share musical opinions. One of your favourite bands is certainly ROTTING CHRIST. Are you intense in black metal and can you picture the city of Turin to us foreigners?

Well, you're right about ROTTING CHRIST and maybe I'm going to Athens this summer. Athens is so plenty of mystical places, ancient culture something I'm passionate of. And of course I will meet Mutilator, a great friend of mine. But since nothing is sure yet, I'll cut it here. I'm very much into black metal, although not in every black metal band. My faves are ROTTING CHRIST, SIGH (everyone should get their debut CD), MASTER'S HAMMER (unusual stuff), DARK THRONE, ANCIENT RITES, and some others too, but I will not list them, it could be boring. Just read my zine and you will discover what I like and what I don't like. There are also other kind of bands that I like, not black metal but depressive anyway. As for Turin, it is quite far from where I live, and I've been there only once, ages ago, so that I can't describe it. But everyone in Italy knows that it's the Italian capital city concerning occultism and satanism. It's not a secret that many strange things are happening there. Under a grey veil, another city lives deep



inside it.

Tell us anything I did not ask you about...

Well, you didn't ask me about my many female worshippers or what a great football player I am, but after all I'm satisfied. Malta got some kind of interesting story, so, who knows, I could come there sooner or later. (*Don't forget to get some of those female worshippers along with you then!* - ed.) I thank you very much for this great interview, I had fun doing it, you're great. To the people out there: thanks for reading this and buy RANCID SOUP. KOITO #4 will be out in spring '94, watch out for it because we're going to spread tons of flyers, so that you will not say I didn't know, bastards.

And certainly I hope that there will be loads of you readers who get in contact with this winter creature to order KOITO or else to trade loads of underground stuff from Sebastiano Leoni, Casellina A., 65025 Manoppello Scalo (PE), Italy.



One of those Swedish band names which when mentioning gains a certain respect must be the band of my mate Per of Megagrind Productions, SUFFER. Anyway let me not take up any more space myself so that we'll start to read more on their views of the underground.



First off, tell us of your early days and your rise in the underground?

SUFFER was formed by Joakim Ohman (vocals and guitars), Putte Andersson (bass) and Koppe (drums) in Jan '88, nearly 6 years ago actually. The trio released the debut demo tape "Ceretary Inhabitants" in late '89/ early '90. Then Ronny Eide joined on guitar as well as Koppe quit the band and I, Perra, joined as the new drummer. We released the band's 2nd demo "Manifestation of God" which helped us out a lot in the underground. We received a 7" deal in 1991 from French label New Wave Records, so we recorded two new tracks for an ep, which later we released in early '93 as the "On Sour Ground" 7" (a 1 & a 1/2 year delayed). In Jan '92, Ronny left the band and two weeks later we got ourselves a new guitar player in Ulf Samuelsson. We played a lot live in Sweden during 1992. And in March '93 we received a deal for a mini-CD and a full CD from Austrian label Napalm. In April we signed the deal, in June we recorded 4 tracks for our debut mini-CD "Global Warning" and in late September it was released. It is distributed by Nuclear Blast, SPV, Spinefarm, House of Kicks, etc. Anyway our line-up today is Joakim Ohman (guitars/vox), Patrik Andersson (bass), Ulf Samuelsson (guitars) and me on drums ... that's about it.



Did it help in promoting SUFFER that you are the mind behind the zine Mould, and what do the other members of the band think about Mould?

No, because SUFFER is much older than Mould Mag, and Mould is a small fanzine which is sold in nearly 200-250 copies each issue. The other members, well, I don't think they care too much actually.

Anyway it seems that you are interested in helping the scene. In fact another SUFFER member, Ulf Samuelsson is a roadie to BNTOMBDD! In what are the other members involved besides having a good time?

Hrrmm ... Putte is working on a market and getting drunk at weekends and likes GUNS 'N ROSES. Joe has just began a new job, besides that he's playing guitar and makes quality riffs.

As for you, you are also into Megagrind Productions. Is this a distro label or what?

Yeah it's a distribution firm. We got a new list out with over 120 underground items, write and ask for it. We also do a comp. tape called "Deathmill Lunatics" and the zine Mould, so all metal bands should write.

Way back in Nov '91 you recorded an adv. tape for a 7" "On Sour Ground" originally planned for release through French label New Wave Records. So on what label did this vinyl finally surface?

As I told you all before (*à l'Alta ghidlix!*), it has now been unleashed by New Wave. They are a rip-off label, they have only sent us 10 copies of the single. Where are the other 200 copies promised? None of us know!! Don't trust Alain Richard and his words. The single is distributed by Nuclear Blast, Morbid Records, etc. so I think that all of you can get it if you really want it.

Now you have a deal with Austrian label Napalm. How did the deal come together

years ago or so. Here we've got all sorts of flabbergastiny monuments, even a stunning ancient cathedral which is considered among the best and the most prestigious in Europe. I've met, cause of living in such a city, people from Holland, Mexico, USA, Chile, Argentina, Finland, Sweden, Italy, and so on. That's cool don't you think?....not from Malta though!

Anyway I believe you don't show your lyrics to them tourists. So what do they talk about?

We've improved them lots? At first we didn't worry too much about the lyrics but right now we've given them a great transcendence. They deal with a kinda science fiction shit, we do like to go deeply into some eerie subjects. I guess we're quite influenced by OBLIVEON at the time of writing lyrics, on this point for me they're gods for they've got some of the most whimsical and

Even if this zine is mainly focused on death metal bands or on bands of some similar sort, I am just the same featuring DREAMBREED, a UK

band whose vocalist and guitarist Dave Pybus has been the graphic artist for Peaceville for a couple of years, even though he lately quit this job. Though not strictly so, in my opinion DREAMBREED are some type of progressive at times depressive grunge band, but again, this in their own way as if not anything, DREAMBREED are for sure a name to watch out for waving a flag of originality in the coming future! If you are ready to lend the band a sympathetic ear, then read on. Dave answers.

DREAMBREED formed in June '91 after the split-up of the death/thrash act DARKENED. Do you recall that period as a nightmare serving as a prelude to a relaxing dream named DREAMBREED?

Most of the DARKENED shows were great and we had a good time. It was just the direction we were going in that I was unhappy with. After our 2nd demo "Alone in Darkness" was released I just felt that we would go no further, we would have just kept doing the same thing over and over. I didn't see the point in that. I went off to Europe for a break, and decided to quit DARKENED when I got back. We had already some DREAMBREED songs written as me, Gaz (drummer) and Podsey (bass) had been jamming with ideas for a few weeks before DARKENED split. Things did become more relaxed when we parted company with Mike (DARKENED Vocalist and 2nd guitarist). We once played him our new songs and he thought they were pretty good. I'm not that sure what he does now. I heard a rumour he was gonna carry on DARKENED with new members but nothing happened which I was really glad to hear.

Tell our readers about your grungy stuff?

I suppose DREAMBREED does have a grungy feel sometimes but I don't like that word at all. Our songs are a bit more less focused than a straight ahead grunge band. We mix things up a bit, which is why people find our music kind of dreamy, it kinda flows. Our new songs are really different, like PJ HARVEY but with me on vocals.

On the live front, with whom have you shared your stage to date?

Last year (1993) we did quite a lot of shows, to break in our new bassist Loz. Podsey was fired in Oct. '92. We had a show with ANATHEMA, which they invited us to play, other shows were with SHIP OF FOOLS, SOLSTICE, FUSE, THIS RITUAL, HEADPLANT, lots of different styles of bands. I like to put gigs on and have new bands play, give them a chance, cos bands did that for us in early days.

How many post do you receive every week?

Sometimes a lot, sometimes none. It usually depends on how much mail I

twisted texts I've ever seen. They rule for sure!

If you did not like these questions, puke in my zine. If on the contrary, say your last words.

Thanks for backing us up. Supercalifragilisticoespiralidosal! If there's still any sick minded freak there, write us and let's share our bleak existence. Every letter will be answered. Bands let's swap our stuff! We're absolutely keen on the latter!!!

Contact: JAVIER ZARCO
C/ BETANZOS 38
SANTIAGO DE COMP. 15703
LA CORUNA,
SPAIN.

DREAMBREED

send out. With me working at Peaceville I don't have too much time to write to people. Our demos sell, pretty well, even though they are quite old now.

Despite not being a death metal band, you treat your underground work seriously. So what is your opinion of trendy clones which infest the scene presently, and how do you classify your band in the underground pen-pal scene?

There are a lot of bands around but that's just the product of a healthy scene. Some bands split, and new bands appear, but it's up to them what style they play. If they want to copy a certain style that's up to them, but it limits your chances cos there are so many. Any serious band would strive to be original. I think DREAMBREED is just a needle in a haystack when it comes to the underground, because we don't do that much letter writing.

So to what are you listening right now as you answer these questions? I am listening to THANATOS (Holland) — do you like them?

BAD RELIGION — "Against the Grain" album. I love this band. I got to see them in Amsterdam a few weeks ago. I'm not really familiar with THANATOS, so no comment.

To what zines would you like to extend your thanks for having you some space?

There are a lot. Sebastien (Ex Spikhead zine in France) of Zoom Mag. Neil Palmer of Rotting Ways zine in UK. Rich of Eclipse zine in UK. Jure Kahler of No Name in Slovenia. This is just a few. Oh, and your zine by the way!

About what do your lyrics deal?

My lyrics are very subliminal, and cover lots of subjects but nothing in particular. Mostly dark things.

Close it the way you like!

DREAMBREED have begun writing new stuff which will probably be released in 1994. If you wish to hear DREAMBREED send an IRC with a blank tape to: 15, Brunswick Street, Heckmondshire, West Yorkshire WF16 0LT, ENGLAND.

STEPHEN KING

HAS THE BIG SCREEN TREATED HIM FAIRLY?

When it comes to reviewing Stephen King's novels adapted to the cinema or TV productions, it seems we are faced with a dilemma. As King's works have made him an instant hit in the bestseller's list not so much can be said to be the case with some of the films lately adapted from his works. Certainly there are some of you out there who have seen the occasional screening of "The Shining", "Cujo", or "The Dead Zone" on TV, some of you may even have hired them on tape, but have you ever asked yourselves whether any of King's novels have been transferred loyally on celluloid?

In fact, here we are going to take a look at some early productions which have established King also as a box-office hit. (...If only the latest productions have retained the high, if not perfect, level of the earlier ones.)

There have been lousy productions of late, such as "Children of the Corn", "The Running Man" (only a vehicle for big Arnie - it completely betrays King's gem of a short story), and "Graveyard Shift". But let's take a more detailed look at four of King's classics of which three were transferred on to the big screen and the other one as a TV production.

"CARRIE", King's first novel, sure broke the ice for this amiable-looking, 46 year old thick-spectacled guy from Portland, Maine. Both as a novel and later as a film directed by the up-and-coming Brian de Palma (who to his credit had the cult classic "Phantom of the Paradise"), "Carrie" was an instant hit. With Sissy Spacek, John Travolta, Piper Laurie and Amy Irving in the leading parts, "Carrie" remains probably one of the most loyal films compared to the original novel. Spacek's interpretation of Carrie White is simply stunning, the film is completely hers, she overshadows every other actor/actress with a most convincing and heartfelt performance. Ironically De Palma claims that his budget was so tight that he had to omit Carrie's total destruction of her village on her way back home to deal with mama the way it is so vividly described in King's novel. Nevertheless, "Carrie" remains a classic among horror films, it's almost flawless, directed with great wit by De Palma with all the actors involved

giving their best to make it a memorable movie. Most impressive scene of all remains the split-screen technique De Palma adopts during Carrie's destruction of the school hall during the Prom-Night just after she's been elected as Prom Queen and has subsequently suffered Travolta's and Allen's terrible joke of being bathed in pig-blood. I still have William Katt's (Carrie's boyfriend) silent "What the hell..." impressed in front of my eyes just as the bucket falls and knocks him to the stage. Whether reading the novel or viewing the film we must understand that evil lies not in Carrie but in her tormentors who are then dealt with Carrie's fury in one of the most stunning sequences ever seen on the big screen in horror films. God, I wish to have seen this film at the Embassy (a local theatre) but I was 12 when it was released! On video it sure loses most of the impact but it remains a must-see. Novel 1974. Film production by United Artists 1976 (97 mins).

And Stanley Kubrick's "THE SHINING" I hear you say? Ah yes, here we are. Now let me tell you that "The Shining" is one of my favourite thrillers ever made. I remember myself literally nailed to my seat way back in '81 watching the scenery rolling away over that eerie soundtrack with those film titles going upward, saying to myself that I was in for something. And in a way I was not to be disappointed. Years later, having read the novel, I however had to admit that Jack Nicholson's performance, which I quite liked at the time, almost pales to insignificance. In fact, Stephen King himself would like to buy the rights to the film to shoot a remake. What angers King most is that, apart for Kubrick's totally altered climax in relationship to his novel, Nicholson's role as Jack Torrance is presented as a madman right from the start and not as King himself says, to be exact, "Jack's gradual descent into madness". Personally I would like to see a remake of "The Shining" with Dennis Hopper as Jack Torrance and Michelle Pfeiffer as his wife Wendy. Shelly Duvall does seem a bit miscast at times. Jack Nicholson's performance is only saved first when he comes face to face with the barman Lloyd in the Colorado Lounge, and then when he snoops on his wife shuffling through his papers (on which a play is supposed to be typewritten) to the moment Shelley Duvall hits him with a baseball bat. We can glimpse flashes of brilliance here in Nicholson's performance. The photography is first-class and Danny Lloyd's Danny/Doc (the Torrances' son) is stunning and genuine.


Whereas in the novel the two slain daughters of former caretaker Delbert Grady



never appear to Danny, in the film they do, and in a most impressive way, and it is an ironic way that this remains the only appearance to be explained and that we can wholly understand. We never know why the woman in the bath in room 237 is there, for example. In the novel, Jack Torrance, while cleaning the basement comes across a scrapbook that literally got stacked in the whole colourful history of the Overlook Hotel. So every apparition and Jack's illusions from that point onwards - and previously - have their reference right in the scrapbook's discovery. But the film? You are at a loss why the woman in the bath scratched Danny's neck and how she found herself there in the first place. Ok, so barman Lloyd's appearance right out of nowhere is fuckin' masterpiece, I give you that. The grin on Jack's face as soon as Lloyd appears before him is a moment to treasure - you see, I'm not that mad all out against Nicholson's performance. Incidentally, if I had to choose the most memorable instant in the whole movie, I would have chosen this one. However, I also love the way Wendy enters the Colorado Lounge and finds Jack (naturally) all by himself and reveals to him the contrary to her previous suspicions, someone else inflicted those scratches on Danny's neck - not Jack himself! But again, that's where the film fails, where it mostly needs a lift. So much Kubrick rests on Nicholson's and Duvall's performance that there's no link among the weird events happening all around the Torrance family.

CARRIE

Carrie White was no ordinary girl.
Carrie White had a gift - the gift of telekinesis.



And when, one horrifying and endless night, she exercised that terrible gift on the town that mocked and loathed her, the result was stunning and macabre

The United Artists film CARRIE is produced by Paul Monash and directed by Brian De Palma with a screenplay by Lawrence D. Cohen. Starring Sissy Spacek, John Travolta and Piper Laurie with Sydney Lassick, Betty Buckley, Amy Irving

Even Danny's linking with the Overlook Hotel's cook Dick Halloran (himself gifted with the 'the shining') is unconvincing. The film's climax which is so much to King's distaste, totally ignores the hotel's defective boiler on which the hotel depends for its heating system. The cinematic climax, that is if you haven't read the novel, still remains one of the most riveting ever seen on the big screen, but reading the novel's climax is simply another thing. The film itself is still quite enigmatic - if you still haven't read the novel no one can blame you if you couldn't make head or tail of the proceedings. If, on the other hand, you've read the novel, well, then you start wondering had Kubrick stuck faithfully to the novel what an explosive climax we would have had. Could that probably have been why Kubrick ignored King's climax in favour of another more 'psychological' ending? Could it be that he wanted at all costs to avoid King's pyrotechnic finale? Could be, but could be also the fact that the film's general proceedings are a bit dodgy because Warner Brothers imposed on Kubrick to cut 23 minutes out of the original edition. Novel 1977. Film production by Warner Brothers 1980 (Original cut 143 mins, final screen edition 120 mins).

Another of King's works that's been treated quite good is the vampire novel "SALEM'S LOT", surely one of King's finest. Considering it was to be filmed as a TV production, Tobe "Texas Chainsaw Massacre" Hooper was surely faced with a lot of problems due to restrictions automatically imposed on such productions. But, man, was the final result



fine! I mean, does anyone of you remember "Salem's Lot" when it was shown on the local station TVM, at the time still in black and white? Just to say it was creepy would be an understatement. I remember myself simply transfixed by it! The original version ran for 210 minutes but the video tape version only runs for almost two hours.

One of the most impressive scenes is the disappearance of poor Ralphie Glick as his brother Danny simply stares in close-up at us while a sudden gale arises to signal the vampire's yet unseen presence. Most well-shot and performed is the scene where Ralphie returns to his brother as a vampire, something to chill your blood for sure. The main villain himself, Barlow, doesn't appear until almost half-way through the film but his mate Straker (James Mason) makes his presence felt much earlier.

Another impressive scene is the gravedigger finding himself captivated by Danny Glick's coffin (Danny having been killed by his vampiric brother Ralphie). To tell what follows after would spoil lots of the 'fun' this film provides. Protagonists Ben Mears (David Soul) and local boy Mark Petrie decide to storm the Marsten House (a house that really exists and is located on the Deep Cut Road in Stephen King's hometown of Durham, Maine), where Barlow and his victims have made their refuge, and it is one storm of a climax to this most thrilling film, what with all those screeches and agonising screams of the vampires trapped inside. The Marsten House itself presents one of the most convincing houses of evil ever seen on screen, second only - and not by a lot - to Norman Bates'

home in Hitchcock's "Psycho". You get the impression that the Marsten House pulses with life, with evil, corrupt life that is! What Ben Mears asks earlier in the film is emblematic: "Do you believe a thing can be inherently evil? Can it be evil in its stone foundations, its wooden beams, in the glass of its windows, the plaster of its ceilings? I think that an evil house attracts evil men." Well, that just about sums it all up. Don't miss out on this one guys! Novel 1975 (fab stuff). Filmed by CBS as a TV mini-series in 1979 and later available on Warner Home Video.

Finally we're going to take a look at another of King's finest works "THE DEAD ZONE". It's the story of John Smith (note the commonest of names), a high school teacher who suffers a terrible car crash that puts him for five years in a coma. When he regains consciousness he finds himself gifted with a most powerful ability. With a simple touch of hand he can see the future of people, even their past, in other words all of their life passes through him. This is how he comes across Greg Stillson (Martin Sheen) whom he glimpses as a future U.S. President who will provoke a nuclear holocaust. What has really wrecked John's life though is his ex-girlfriend Sarah's (here played by Brooks Adams) marriage to a canvasser of Stillson throughout the time he was in coma. As a subplot we have Smith, stunningly performed by Christopher Walken in this David Cronenberg film, managing to find the Castle Rock murderer. He is Sheriff Bannerman's last hope and

his revelation is to be most shocking. The killer is none other than one of the town's most trusted police deputies Frank Dodd who, on being discovered, commits suicide in one of what to me seems to be the most powerful scenes of the film.

One of the novel's most impressive moments is when John Smith literally goes through Professor Sam Weizak entire life! Simply stunning stuff, mates! Impressive also on the film version is his discovering one of the nurses' house is on fire. Cronenberg's able direction mounts to an exciting finale as Smith exposes Greg Stillson for what he is - an evil and corrupt bastard. The only defect one can find in the film is Sheen's performance which is a little bit over the top. Otherwise, to Cronenberg's and the actors' credit human values are given topmost importance, even the most impressive special effects come second - John Smith making love to Sarah when she goes to visit him proves the point, much as it is inevitable. Nevertheless, as usual the film can't match the novel's moving climax. John Smith's letters to his relatives are really a gem to read and you cannot but simply root for him in his final confrontation with Stillson. Anyway a fantastic novel and a very good film. Novel 1979. Film production by Paramount Pictures 1983.

To sum up all the above comments I must say that these four productions, both as a novel and as a film are a must for those of you who want to start the dark journey into Stephen King's world of



horror. Anyone who has been fortunate enough to having read one of these novels mentioned here knows what I want to say. For instance, I started out with "Cujo" after having seen the film, and since then I've never looked back. I've read all of King's novels and not one of them has disappointed me. You can call me biased but hell, try reading King yourself, immerse yourself into his dark world, drift away, away into the blackness of the soul, and just admire his wit to suck you into his stories. As the motto on the cover of his novels aptly goes, "WORDS ARE HIS POWER".

Max Litrizza.



The King himself, with reflections of a pleasant sun upon him it seems here, but definitely his mind is elsewhere, deep into the darkest appreciations for rainy gloomy weathers and new thrilling facts of life to build up his novels upon!

NORM REJECTION

Hi friends of mine and hereby please get yourself prepared for some Maltese stuff again. The band which will be featured now is certainly one of the most innovative and I am certain that if you are ready to greet a band with many various elements of musical creativity, then for you is the time to read on what the guys of NORM REJECTION (ex- IN MEMORIAM) have to say. As for my opinion, if it may serve as guidance. I sense their style as a flux of the drumming of John Bonham but playing with BEYOND DAWN, the renaissance of Jimmy Page, heavy funky bass slapping, and depressive choir-like chanting, but for making your own opinion out I suggest you read on.

First off welcome to you my mates and tell us a brief history of the band's formation and what live gigs have you played to date?

NORM REJECTION is made up of Mike Briguglio (drums), Wilfrid "Grizzly" Pace (vocals and keyboards), Sean Vukovic (guitars) and Johann "Joker" Formosa (bass). The band started as IN MEMORIAM in Oct. '92 and the first line-up consisted of Sean, Mike, Wilfrid, and Alessandro Farruggia (guitar) and Sergio Azzopardi (bass). On the 24th March '93 we participated in a huge concert at Msida 6th Form with new session bassist Ronald Grech (of our great friends VICTIMS OF CREATION - hi!). Later in summer '93 the band's line-up consisted of Mike, Sean and Wilfrid together with session bassist Dorian Dalli of SANITY. On the 13th August '93 we supported FORSAKEN at the B'bugia Sailing Club and sometime after this show the band split and Sean joined FORSAKEN. However during Oct. '93, the band reunited with Sean joining as a session guitarist. At the same time bassist Johann was recruited on a full-time basis, and we opened ourselves to even more styles than before. This new line-up made its live debut at the Fort Rinella, Kalkara concert, playing on Dec. 18 '93 alongside various other local bands, as another show (which included streams of vomit on the floor caused by too many drunk people) at St. Mary Hall, Zebbug on Dec. 22nd, in which trance duo TRANCING TRIBE also played. During Jan. '94 we changed our name to NORM

REJECTION. In the meantime drummer Mike is also into a yet unnamed blues band together with experienced local musicians. *(Hey you all, they're now called BLBCTRIC BLUB so I guess they'll be playing adult late night shows soon! - ed.)*

How has such a unique style come together and how do you think it is welcomed by your audience when you play live? Any weirder forms of sound to develop in the future, by the way!?

This unique style came out because we have various and contrasting musical tastes, and we listen to anything we find interesting, ranging from jazz to extreme underground bands. Besides that, everyone in the band is free to introduce his musical feelings and creativity. When you consider that Mike is into John Bonham, BLACK SABBATH, Vinny Appice, DEEP PURPLE, Chuck Corea, MR. BUNGLE, FAITH NO MORE, RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE, Cozy Powell, Steve Gadd, Rod Morgenstein, The BEYOND and ROBIN JONES KING SALSA, Sean into Ritchie Blackmore, Tony Iommi, Jimmy Page, Marty Friedman, Jason Becker, Yngwie Malmsteen, Vivian Campbell, Gary Moore and Rhandy Rhodes, Johann into Les Claypool and PRIMUS, Tony Choy and ATHEIST, Steve Digorgio, The BEYOND, death metal, industrial and modern jazz, and Wilfrid into SEPULTURA, SLAYER, MR. BUNGLE and KING DIAMOND, one can imagine what is produced. When we played live the

audience seemed to like our style! We heard a lot of comments on our music, and on the whole we were greatly appreciated and for that support we would like to thank the Maltese guys. Concerning new, weirder sounds and ideas, surely they will increase now that Johann (who definitely loves new weirder sounds, and is very much involved in our widening of musical horizons) has settled with the rest of the band. Right now we're experimenting on an afro-latin-industrial instrumental, and in the future we're gonna hire a mule, bring it down to the garage, stick pins in its ass and sample its cries (just kidding!).

In fact, besides being so musically gifted as individuals thus making for better songs, even your lyrics are a milestone of varied topics all the way. Who writes them and what do they talk about?

Well, everyone comes

out with some ideas about lyrics which we discuss, but the final decision is Wilfrid's. The lyrics are usually written by Wilfrid or Mike, but Wilfrid is the one who arranges the ideas to fit his vocal style. Our lyrics concern problems which may bring about points to discuss regarding everyday life, such as abortion, existence of intelligent life in other universal planets, drugs, oppression, inner reflections, etc.

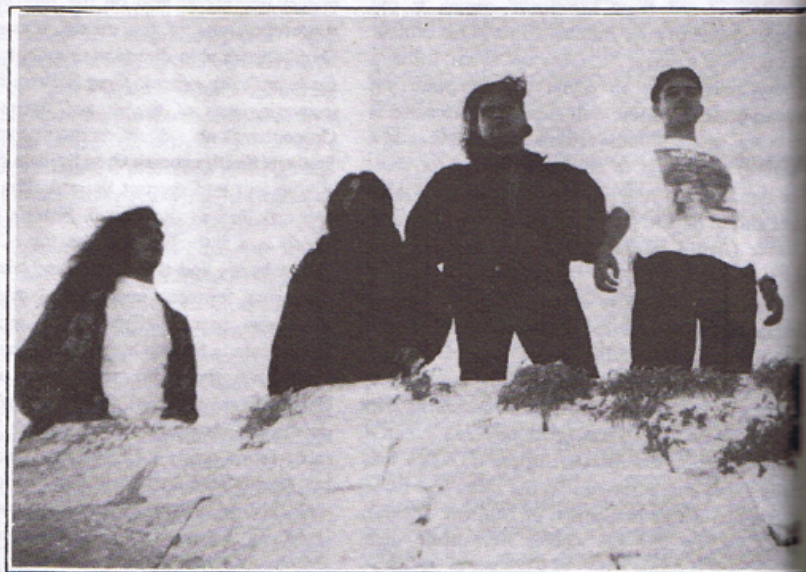
...I guess the readers would then like to get deeper into their definition, so why don't you reveal further?!

The lyrics in our songs are rarely direct with the exception of "Minute Burial" which obviously deals with abortion. Other songs such as "Heresy" and "Distorted Visions" are often incoherent in thought and expression and their ambiguity is their beauty for it is what produces the pschdelic effect we are after. Each person can give

different interpretations to the lyrics in each song according to his situation and the things he is already familiar with in life. Our lyrics treat various subjects which are both weird though common in today's society. However, we would not like to expand further on the nature of the lyrics because we believe that reading and understanding the thoughts and expression in a band is a most interesting part of enjoying an album, demo, or whatever.

Unfortunately when IN MEMORIAM had split up your guitar player Sean joined local doom band FORSAKEN, only to rejoin as a session guitarist sometime later when you came together once more. Have you ever thought of recruiting a 2nd but full-time guitarist in the case Sean is too busy with FORSAKEN?

Up till now we have no problems as regarding anyone leaving the band. We're a



very much into our product, and we love our band and give all we have to be as innovative as possible. Obviously, like all other bands, if someone leaves the band he'll have to be replaced.

Anyway you are currently working hard on your debut demo to be entitled "Subtly Mesmerized"? Who of you got out with such a tentative title and how do you plan to promote this release once it is out?

Wilfrid came out with this name. He tried to sum up the essence of our style and effectively gather it into 2 words. "Subtly Mesmerized" is the state of mind we want to achieve from our listeners. About the promotion of this

demo we shall carry out various activities including concerts, adverts on fanzines, sending tapes to companies and selling tapes to interested people. We would like to thank you Malcolm for allowing us to promote our demo and hope you'll help us for further promotion. (You can count on that mates - ed.)

So to you Grizzly since you are one of the weird elements that make up the Maltese metal scene, and I like to promote sickos in the pages of RANCID SOUP! I'm very enchanted by the style of your Gregorian vocals - how have you trained such a voice? Did you, by any chance, live with some nasty old monk in your childhood?

The closest thing to a nasty old monk is my father but still he was my main source of money! I loved mocking masses by singing with the priests and finally it seems I got the trick right! AAMEEN!

Narrate any weird adventures of your life then?

Sorry but I believe that certain 'weird' stories should not be printed on your zine (well I thought they did ed.). I would not like to show off in any way how crude or vulgar I may be. These stories should be related in good company and over a bottle of vodka to improve the night and make it jollier! (May I come if I prefer lager?)

Kidding apart, I leave the last words of this interview to you and the rest of NORM REJECTION. Stay underground!

Many thanks to you Malcolm for your interview. Cheers to all the underground bands and people who respect us and are close to us - you know who you are! Check out for our first demo, and last but not least A SPECIAL FUCK YOU from Johann to Kerrang and its critics for writing bullshit about ATHEIST's "Elements" album (I hope I'll make your day with my review then! - ed.). Correspondence may be sent to: Michael Briguglio, 20, Victoria Junction, Sliema SLM 12; Sean Vukovic, 3, Leone Street, Sliema; Johann Formosa, "Wild Thyme", 92,

Gorg Zammit Street, Qormi QRM 08; Wilfrid Pace, 47, Nazarene Street, Paola PLA 03. And as usual Malta at the end of each address.

Ok, I hope you have liked that interview with this promising act, and if you care to know more, last news is that currently they are mangling on the idea of introducing industrial warped sections into their cradle of audio variety. NORM REJECTION are definitely a band to watch out for and a card to play for record labels.

To feature these scribbblings of my French mate Herve is but a bit of the way I can thank the underground label Osmose for having been so true a label in all this cool underground family! Their lists may be found in every banger's household nowadays as despite being fast and efficient, their prices are even worth checking and their list is one of the largest... and despite this, the list grows from month to month! I am only certain that the "Fuck Christ Tour" set up by the label for some of its signed black metal bands will only serve as to get more acclaim towards the label; I only hope there will be more of them tours in the near future and that the organizers concerned remember to include Malta at least for once!



How long have Osmose Productions been together and how many people work behind this name?

Osmose run since April '91 and we are 3 to actually work at Osmose. Myriam, the girl director - management, myself for bands' relations, English contacts, mail-orders, etc., and Nicolas for packages, promo stuffs, etc.

So for how long were you a distro label before you started signing bands and pressing their records?

We started Osmose as a label and as a distribution, mail order is the right name at the same time. In France mail orders are more important than shops due to the bad distribution in our country!

Which was the first band you signed and how is your

relation with them nowadays?

SAMAEEL were the first band and the relation is still good I hope. They are now on Century Media, shit!

Among other works Osmose insist on promoting black metal to the world. With releases of BLASPHEMY, IMMORTAL, PROFANATICA, MASTER'S HAMMER, IMPALBD NAZARENE and others, as well as a European tour for BLASPHEMY, IMMORTAL and ROTTING CHRIST, do you consider yourselves to be the darkest underground label in Europe?

No it's not us who consider ourselves as the darkest label, it's you, the people who buy our stuff. The future is here with our personal etiquette not as

boring companies as Roadrunner and Century Media, & co. We do what we like and don't consider all our bands as black metal stuff. It's easy nowadays to put an etiquette as black metal bands. Anyway, maybe Osmose has its part in this return of black but actually it all comes from the underground music, and the work goes on.

So tell the unsigned bands what is it that will make it an asset for a deal with Osmose!

Few bands have got our interest like MARDUK, ORDER FROM CHAOS, and maybe BEHERIT.

Would you mention some other decent underground label in France, and how do you consider the French

scene to be regarding black metal?

In France we have Adipocere Records, Holy Records, Thrash, and Infest Records, and finally Semetery Records who produces shit! They are not into black metal, only trendy death metal shit and also not original, but relations are good with Adipocere and Holy.

Dark creature, thou shalt not be forgiven!!! Have you been into some occult practice or study as a matter of fact?

No, I never practiced anything. I don't trust in Christ and Satan, so I'm nihilist! I only follow what I like!!!

Have you ever thought of introducing videos into your ever expanding distribution list?

No. Videos are not our cup of tea.

Does Osmose earn you enough money to live, or are there other jobs you staff do as a living?

Till Oct. '92 we all worked overtime to run Osmose but now it's ok for money. But a year ago it was really hard.

Promote the label and cheers!!!

Mega thanks for your interest in Osmose and readers write us, ask for our mail-order. Keep rock alive!

**OSMOSE
PRODUCTIONS,
B. P. 57,
62990 Beaurainville,
FRANCE.**



Let us now have our first break between courses and sit down all happily to narrate some nasty jokes. Anyway, while the waiters are serving you some bread and butter, one fat nasty mate of mine who is sitting at the head of the table rotting easily away after having deteriorated his stomach with choosing the rancid soup as a starter, comes up with the jolly idea of sharing some musical opinions. And since everybody in the house is already nearly drunk, I had to comment about this myself. So here what follows are some reviews. But just one word before I start, especially to the bands which I did not review so good - "I have taken some amount of booze myself before I started this, so, if I've given away any comment which you disagree with, please ignore me and my drunken words. Hope you understand!!!"

SADIST - "Above the Light"

From the ruins of the extinct BULLDOZER come this class Italian band SADIST with their mega debut through the growing true label Nosferatu. A death metal orientated blend of different sounds and varied styles all put in on one vinyl for an app. 40 minutes of a passage ...above the light! The guitar, drums and bass playing fluctuate varied musical patterns within every SADIST song (which my only point of criteria goes towards the too much Swedish-style inspired vocals), but my highest point of merit must be certainly reserved to the excellently executed keyboard creations! Well done SADIST. Order through Nosferatu Records, Casella Postale 19, 95021 Acicastello (CT), Italy.

VARATHRON - "His Majesty at the Swamp" (Cyber Music)

From Greece comes again a set of atmospheric songs which bring to mind legends, and again they are evil legends! Maybe more similar to ROTTING CHRIST than its predecessor split LP "The Everlasting Sins" reviewed in the zine's 1st issue, but this LP has just the same certain aspects of improvement. First remarkable is a tighter sound, and then, better drum patterns, better song construction, and again better since there are more tracks. Generally in the mid-tempo vein but always atmospheric! You ought to order the CD through Cyber Music, P.O. Box 2, 7050 AA Varssveld, Holland, but I'm not sure if the price is \$15 or \$17, so why not send for the label's catalogue before? Meanwhile check VARATHRON's interview if you want to get hold of Necroabyssious' address.

VERMIN - "Scum of the Earth" (Demo 3 '93)

For the lovers of brutal acts like SUFFOCATION, here welcome VERMIN with their 3rd demo attempt from the scene of Sweden, but hey ye all, this is no cliché clone, but on the other hand, a name to watch out for as for future Swedish death metal. All the brutal seven tracks here leave you sweating and wanting for more, and what's more, they all even have a story and construction of their own. Again I must say this is original stuff compared to what's getting out of Sweden, much better than ENTOMBED's latest to say the

least! Melodic and flesh-ripping solos mixed with a powerhouse rhythm section and an extreme vocalist is what makes up VERMIN. But as usual there might be those of you to argue about this formula having been already tried out and would not offer VERMIN a place in their music collection. So to those I warn that this band surely deserves a deal as once they'll have an LP out, I suppose they'll offer strong competition to greater acts such SUFFOCATION, PYREXIA, MORTICIAN, CENOTAPH, ROTTREVORE, and the like. The demo costs \$7 and an interview with them just costs you skipping on some more pages, as there is one for you to read. To finish this review up, I'll say that even VERMIN's solid production will help this band get places. Definitely your flesh will not rest once you listen to VERMIN! ...so what are you waiting for? - get writing to M. Adamsson, Dalgatan 2A, S-570 23 Anneberg, Sweden NOW!

ATHEIST - "Elements" (MFN 150)

There is no introduction to let you know of this band as many share my opinion that they are gods. So here is "Elements" (their 3rd album release) which again shows what playing your instruments the way your soul demands is. With the addition of another guitar player (now they're 3) together with the playing experience of the mega-jazz inspired Tony Choy and Marcel Dissantoss on the rhythm section, this is an album which certainly demands stamina to play live! Certainly ATHEIST are for leaders and not for followers, so why on the fuckin' scum of earth have the shitty mag Kerrang given this LP a poor review? Why not blow the Kerrang offices down, underground pals eh?! Order through Music for Nations.

SINOATH - "Still in the Grey Dying" (Demo '93)

Again I recall a verse from issue 1 of the zine where I described SINOATH as the band which have drowned me into their music. And now here I am reviewing their latest, I believe 3rd, demo release "Still in the Grey Dying", and here I am left helpless in the abyss of the sea. All three tracks are dark and the lyrics only help to get this attitude more clear. Notable musical creativity in all tracks and in every possible corner of the demo, but especially in the instrumental "The Raising Stillness". There are the movy gloomy parts, the even desperate ones, a drummer whose style shows the changing from a riff to another as being an involvement in the song, guitar, vocal and keyboard interludes of varied styles, all in all with a decent production and suitable layout. My only neglect is that due to the concentration demanded for such a release they have not been answering to my letters for a considerable time now, but anyway there address is: Sebastiano Minniti, Via Lentini 33, 96100 Siracusa, Italy.

SWALLOWED SOUL - "Dark Side of the Soul" (Demo 1 '93)

What a demo! What a thrash band... from UK! What an ability in playing their instruments, especially the drummer! And what a demo presentation as regarding demo layout as well! Cheers mates and keep it up! What else can I say... I'm astonished, and besides that Martin Borg (guitars) was a cool buddie to have a talk with when he last visited his friends here in Malta. Hope to see you again with all of SWALLOWED SOUL soon mate, and again my cheers. Any promoters keen on setting them a gig please contact Martin Borg, 146, Badford Rd., Letchworth, Herts SG6 4EA, England.

DETEST - "Daathbreed" (Demo '93)

Here does this demo start with a very shocking intro, then some death metal soloing ala OBITUARY with James Murphy, then an average female vocal address, then the start of the first song. Then follows another astonishing intermezzo from this song to the following and again from the following to the next, but yet it is OBITUARY again, even if sometimes there are some other American influences not only OBITUARY! The playing is average but anyway check for yourselves for a different opinion at DETEST c/o John Petersen, B.N.V. 72, 6-4 2605 Brøndby, Denmark. By the way DETEST must have a CD out through Progressive Red Label at the time you read this, so after all they might have got better.

DARK CEMETERY Comp. tape (compiled by Mauro, CALVARY vocals)

A good collection of 20 tracks on this 90-minute comp. tape compiled by my cool Sardinian correspondent Mauro. The bands included are generally good even though the recordings are not at all times meeting the standards of the music itself, and some excellent names to mention must be OPERA IX, DETESTOR and INFERIA. Other cool bands (maybe not as the above however) are NECROMASS, DEFLESHED, GOD CRUCIFIER, DARKSEED, HOMICIDE, DOOMSAYER, DEFUNCTIS, BELIEF and CALVARY themselves. So check this out and you won't be disappointed! CALVARY c/o Mauro Pirino, Via Parigi 17/B, 07100 Sassari, Italy.

RENAISSANCE



One of the guys I frequently like to write to from around the globe must certainly be Dirk Vollon, bassist with avant-garde Belgian band RENAISSANCE. It might be due to the fact that we both share an ardent appreciation to acts like DEATH, ATHEIST, DEATHROW and the like, but also to considerable healthy doses of fusion and classical music (it's cool to keep an open mind!). But back to RENAISSANCE, what I like about this band is the way they fit their musically skilled adventures into a song which drags its listener to follow intoa new world! This interview, done with the same Dirk is just an introduction to a new experience --- the death of art!

Hail to you RENAISSANCE and open your space with some comments please.

Hail to you Malcolm and to the readers of Rancid Soup. Thank you for your interview, we hope that the readers might get interested in us so let's get started.

What can you tell us of the stuff you've released to date and your idea of Shiver Records?

Well we released our 3 song debut demo "Archway" (still available until the release of "The Death of Art") and 2 songs from the tape were also released on a 7" EP. The song "Windows" on the "Counterparts" EP (split with Belgian ANCIENT RITES) released by After Dark Records and the song "Tired Blood/Vaudeville" spread over both sides of the "Tired Blood" EP by Shiver Records. So, we happen to sign a 3 CD deal with Shiver the contract looks great and Hans is really interested in working with RENAISSANCE. He really supports the bands he works with and he also sees a bright future for our music.

On the flyers promoting your "Archway" demo you state that you've created "a soundscape for you to wander in". I fully agree that this is no bombastic supposition but a real image of your music, so how much has that demo sold?

All zines we sent the tape to were pretty enthusiastic about our stuff, and so we got quite a lot of demo orders but due to the fact that the band is in a situation that unables us from getting on stage, the demo sale isn't that great as it could be. I think we sold about 500 copies of the tape.

Can you say the same of the "Tired Blood" EP?

Well that EP is really a hit. It was pressed in

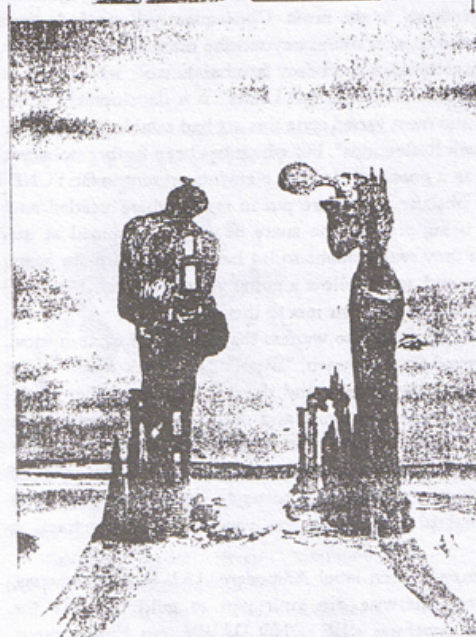
1000 copies of which Shiver sold about 600 in a month and a half. By now I think there are about 200 copies available so people interested get in touch with Shiver Records.

And what can you say of the drawings on the sleeves accompanying both of the above releases, and of that which will accompany your debut CD?

The cover of the "Tired Blood" EP is a picture by Belgian photographer Frank Peters, his stuff is really great so we decided to use one of his works. The cover of the "Counterparts" EP is a painting by the Belgian surrealist painter Rene' Magritte who lived during this century. The painting is called "Les Amants" and fitted in the concept of the song "Windows". On our flyers there's also the picture (also from Frank Peters) we intended to use for our debut CD "The Death of Art" but then we decided to do the artwork ourselves. Some weeks ago we had a photo session for the cover and the bandmembers' photos. My girlfriend Erica who is starting a career as a pro-model really was interested in figuring as a model for the artwork, it will be a surprise for all, just wait until the release of "The Death of Art".

Is RENAISSANCE together as a stable line-up now or are you yst dealing with each other's musical approaches before becoming one?

We had a stable line-up during the recording of "Archway". There was Santiago - vocals, Chris - guitar, Domingo - guitar, Dirk - 5-string bass, Veronique - keyboards and Jurgen - drums. But after that release things didn't turn out the way everyone wanted so now there's Santiago - vocals, Chriss - guitars, keyboards and programming, and me - 6-string and fretless bass and additional guitars. All music for "Archway" was written



RENAISSANCE

Chriss and I so writing new material couldn't be a problem. Now we already have stuff for the 2nd CD.

Could you guide me more into your ironical lyrics?

Well, our lyrics are quite difficult to explain. We express our feeling through kinds of stories. "Industrial" is about planet earth after the sun has died, "Windows" is about reincarnation, love and erotic thoughts, "Tired Blood" is a quite surrealistic story about something Chriss knows more about and "Vaudeville" is about growing old and diseased with cancer.

Would "The Death of Art" be followed by a renaissance in art?

"The Death of Art" will contain one song, an epic masterpiece of about 45/50 minutes. The artwork will be quite simple, black/ white/ gold print. Just wait and see whether "The Death of Art" might be followed by a renaissance in good music. But let's just wait and see what time brings along.

A question usually put at the start of an interview, so as if I forgot to ask you before, what are your fave musical feelings and by what bands do you consider yourselves to be influenced?

During the making of "Archway" we were 'influenced' by death/doom bands like PARADISE LOST, DEATH, PESTILENCE ... but we tried to give it a RENAISSANCE approach. My fave bands are ATHEIST (Absolute Gods!!!), DEATH, PARADISE LOST, THE GATHERING, DREAM THEATER, PSYCHOTIC WALTZ, VOIVOD, JOE SATRIANI, STEVE VAI, non-metal acts like SADE (divine!), STEPS AHEAD (jazz), PINK FLOYD, and many others. We listen to all kinds of music (also a lot of classical stuff) and we try to be as original as possible. OK on "Archway" you can still hear which bands influenced us but on "The Death of Art" we hope to have created our own style.

Would it be possible to trade a copy of this zine for "a headful of hybrid rhymes" ?

Yes, sure! More about our lyrics as here follows a preview of some new ones:

"Aborted fetuses hanging from earlobes punctured by the forces of fashion speak clearly about the death of art than does some artstrike wanking off in its manifestoes of arcane white.

Art died along with God but one has the power to resurrect not art.

Art's self-immolation is not our death, but it burns us in its afterglow of lushly-breathed sentiment as rank as the air, it sucks in and blows out.

Art is a whorish pipe that can't swallow nor withdraw.

Art is the make-up caked on a past-tense hooker."

The lyrics for "The Death of Art" are written by John Hymers, a Canadian friend of ours who studied here in Belgium.

As I close, I cheer you a brighter future!

Thanks a lot, Malcolm for the great interview and support. We hope things turn out great for Rancid Soup and your band SCEPTOCRYPT. Hailings from RENAISSANCE.

Dirk Vollon,
Domstraat 20,
3370 Boutersem,
BELGIUM.

Chriss,
St-Maartensdal 2/236
3000 Leuven,
BELGIUM.



**WARHATE. ACTION.
WARHATE. ATTITUDE.
WARHATE!!! And from Brazil come the following scribblings from my mate Alex, guitar player and screamer with the straight-ahead thrash band WARHATE. Cheers to you Alex and thanks for the info you provided for the Brazilian scene report elsewhere on this zine.**

So from Brazil here come WARHATE. Could you make your ancestors speak out through you in the first instance?

We live in an industrial area, many kind of people that come from many countries and from other places in Brazil! It's so many people living in a small place that today can't support everyone! Gang violence has always been a reality that made many victims. Putting together all these and more punk ideas and early death/thrash scene back in '84, some bands started doing some noise. Then in '87 WARHATE came along putting out all the hate of people who suffer!!!

As you say, WARHATE have been around since April '87 but have however suffered numerous line-up changes to date. So how does the line-up feel at the moment and what are your plans for the future?

I think that this is one of the best moments that WARHATE is passing. We have a fixed line-up

with Marco (drums), Luiz (bass), and me Alex (guitars and vox). We are as violent as never!!! We already have our next demo songs ready and we are planning to spread our word around the world and play live a lot. Live is where people want energy and noise!!!

Your latest promo offering is the '93 "Action & Attitude". Is this a word out to the underground, and how was the response you got for it from underground zines so far?

Yes!!! We have to act with attitude not to let ourselves get smashed by power's hand. That's why we've gotta have union in the underground! As for the zines, we had just a few answers cos we started doing our divulgation very recently but who answered enjoyed till now!

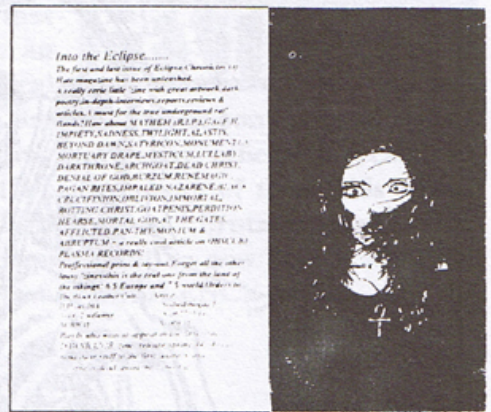
Your thrash metal rhythm in this release is even more well structured and the bass guitar is even more groovy. So how does the audience react to your show particularly when you play the old MOTORHEAD banger "Ace of Spades"?

The audience enjoys our set and most of the time we have people jumping all over the place! Cos of our line-up changes we are not playing this great song. For sure we are going to play it live again. When we used to play it the crowd used to get crazy, MOTORHEAD is pure energy!!!

Out of WARHATE, tell us something about the free time of you members!

Eclipses/Chronicles of Hate

Also dedicated to the black metal vein but this time with an air of healthy difference is this first and only issue of this now defunct zine named **ECLIPSE** all worked out by Kris of **ULVER** with some additional help by Einar, drummer of **BEYOND DAWN**. And the difference here is that despite the interviews are all based on a definition of true searching into one's own character, a definition which does not necessarily define truth and honesty as evil even if many of the bands interviewed are evil themselves, there is even space for loads of fun in the interviews and reviews alike spread over the pages of this 32 A4 page rag. For example, one can discover the pervert stories of **Trey Azaghoth's** granny, the party dudes of **BEYOND DAWN**, the sex instincts of **G.G.F.H.** and **SATYRICON** and much of the 'classic' joke-quiz in many an interview included to make up for a contrast with the gloomy and theological ideas that generally form this zine up. Anyway, on a more serious and interesting level one may find the deep opinions of bands such as **MORTUARY DRAPE**, **ALASTIS**, **MAYHEM**, **MONUMENTUM** and more. Besides all this comes with a typical eclipse-edged page layout and some real dark poetry (some of which is unfortunately only in Norwegian) to all in all make this zine a satisfactory debut. Pity it is now defunct, but if you want to get hold of one of its last copies or check out gloom folk-metal band **ULVER**, write to Kris, Solfellshøgda 5, N-0677 Oslo, Norway and send over 60\$. Otherwise, you may order this zine also from Einar of **BEYOND DAWN** and check out the upcoming zine **DAWNRAZOR**.



-MYSTICAL SUMMONING ZINE-

THE FIRST ISSUE IS FINALLY OUT. FEATURES INTERVIEWS WITH BANDS SUCH AS BURZUM, SAMAEF, THUS DEFILED, IMPALED NAZARENE, LACERATED GODS, MORTUARY DRAPE, MORNING STAR, VORPHALACK AND MANY OTHERS. ARTICLES ON: SADNESS, DEAD CHRIST, TARAMANTIA, BETHLEHEM, SORATH... ALL THIS FOR ONLY \$4(EUR)/\$5(ELSE). MISS THIS AT YOUR OWN CHOICE. BANDS SEND YOUR STUFF. TRADERS AND DISTROS-GET IN TOUCH. WRITE TO:

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The first BLACK METAL zine from MALTA!

Mystical Summoning

The first zine from the isle exclusively devoted to the dark and atmospheric bands in the scene, that being, in simple words, black metal and such sounding musical creations. In fact the staff included covers the views of bands such as **VORPHOLACK**, **MORTUARY DRAPE**, **SIGH**, **IMPALED NAZARENE**, **THUS DEFILED**, **BURZUM** and others, as well as an exclusive interview with our 40+ friend and distributor in Belgium **UNCLE UNDERGROUND**, some reviews (which to be honest deserve improvement), and some cool articles about acts like **BRISEN**, **DARKNESS ENSHROUD**, **TARAMANTIA**, **SADNESS** and **BETHLEHEM** among others. In fact both the editors prove with this zine that they are well into the musical vein of the black metal abyss and they even themselves reckon that their next edition must include more pages, which fact I hopefully share with them if they believe in improving the zine. As for layout and artwork, it is average and nothing to shock one off but only for the info. or just for a valid contact in this field of music, I would advise you to write to either one of its editors (see flyer for addresses).

Biopsy

That's why I like **BIOPSY** but in my opinion delivering your zine in good English is not an asset but a necessity, and in fact here in this 5th newsletter series of the 2nd part of issue no.4 of this Finnish rag, **Jami**, the editor, is really a joker of his grammar luxuria, so much that even if this is only a 4-page A5 booklet, the way he manages to vary the descriptions with which he reviews certain releases is definitely characteristic of his high conossieur not only of the underground (the which I can say he views very sincerely and personally) but also of the language credibility and awareness necessary to make his reviews at every point interesting and grabbing ...just like reading a good novell! Anyway, on a more average way of underground expectations, this is an intelligent repertoire of certain releases generally in the death metal field but also straying onto other musical derivatives usually not that far from the death metal deliverances. As a matter of fact, this edition comes with reviews on stuff like **PANTALGIA**, **ANAL CUNT**, **MACABRE**, **SADIST**, **OPERA IX**, **SORORICIDE**, **I.M.C.**, **XERXES**, and more (obtainable for an IRC I believe), but if you want to get hold of the intelligent serious stuff of the previous issues which had more pages, interviews, and art (well, a real zine in other words), write to the busy musical promoter and manager **Jami Lahtinen**, c/o **Hartolen Opisto**, **Kaikulantie 90**, **19600 Hartola**, Finland. You may also get hold of him at **Koivutie 6**, **21870 Riihikoshi**, Finland, but at the time of **RANCID SOUP** going for printing, he was roaming more around **Hartola** than **Riihikoshi!**

The Wild Rag!

What I will herewith review now is the hard work involved in the underground promotive quarterly newsletter **THE WILD RAG**, particularly issues #25 and #26 which themes relate among others to the fanzines and underground mags in the scene. Interviews done to the editors from **SCREAMS FROM THE GUTTER**, **STRESS RELATED**, **THRASHIKUS**, **ENTHRONED**, **NO GLAM FAGS**, **METAL CORE**, **HAMMER OF DAMNATION**, **KOITO**, and **BAPHOMET**, smaller ones done to various enthusiasts and ex-enthusiasts such as **SCAVENGER**, **CIRCLE OF THE GRIND** and **MERCILESS DEATH**, a **Milwaukee Metal Fest VII** and a **Michigan Death Fest III** review, the customary updated label catalogue, and tons of current info from various underground bands and zines around the globe. Most notable to notice in these pages is that after having been so frequently dismissed by so many as being a rip-off, it's now time for **Richard C.** to have his say on many of those statements. It is in the pages of **THE WILD RAG!** that **Rich** unveils to everyone that he is not afraid of any such claimers of his reputation as he very strongly comments about all those zines who have failed for whatever reason to keep up to the standards necessary to be included in his scene-helping pages. There is no limits to the serious accusations of **Rich** but nevertheless, on the other hand, his words are as strong when it comes to comment on the real honest and busy editors behind many a zine today, and I love it this way. Maybe its his being an American character, but I must admit that few have the guts to be so direct to their rivals and not asslicking to any other - cheers **Richard**. Anyway, this newsletter is enormously promotional in every aspect and what else it costs you only \$2 of your well-earned labour so get off your ass and subscribe at your deadliest convenience to **Wild Rag Records**, **2207 W. Whittier Blvd.**, **Montebello CA 90640, USA**

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Certainly one of those mates of mine who I would very much like to promote in this zine is Dione, who is the busy mind behind the original techno/industrial Maltese band SEQUELA. He is the first guy here who has ever attempted on this type of music, and moreover I am sure he will secure some good stuff with the release of his demo "Dream Sick". SEQUELA is original, weird and mind-blowing so watch out for the name!



First off tell the readers why is it that each time you meet up with me or some other mate of yours you tell us that you're a lunatic?

Because I'm really a lunatic ...and besides, that is a sample saved in my head. Next year the sample will be changed but at the moment my samples are "I'm a lunatic" and "Jim", but when I meet up with somebody of my other band DISINTERRED, then the sample will be "Do I, by any chance, know you anywhere?"

Is being a lunatic maybe the disease suggested in the name SBQUELA or is there a weirder side to your existence on earth?

Yes, and since it's mental trouble I don't think there could be a more weird side of my existence on this vicious earth.

Apart from this, let us concentrate on your music now. Despite it being very dependant on the computer, it just the same leads its listener to note that the various rhythm changes are only fruit of an excellent drummer who studies his instrument by theory - and who is in a way also inspired by the technical evolvement as in the jazz way of things - when he is tracking his ideas into a SBQUELA song. So tell us more of how you get your songs finalized?

As a matter of fact it is an all computer and vocals project. To get my songs finalized?? Sometimes it takes months, sometimes hours. But the latter hardly occurred to me (only once I did accomplish a song in 6 hours). Sequencing is not easy. First you have to convert and work out the notes and values before you are able to write them, and I need a lot of work to make the variations appear... I hate to hear too many repetitions. Variations are my musical policy (*good one!* - ed.) And apart of all this, the computer is a bastard, sometimes failing when you're about to save!! But that's good as being hard to get the stuff ready causes mental exhaustion.

What is the music you listen to as a matter of fact?

As long as the musical feeling matches mine, it doesn't matter what I listen to even if the bands are not always technical. But the bands I usually listen to are DOOM, AUTOPSY (sick), PHANTASM, etc. I'm also into sick underground techno but my favourite band sickest of all must for sure be GGFH. (mean experimental stuff, man!)

So how would you react if you had to meet up with GGFH. someday then?

I will ask Ghost if he's short of E's, and I'll tell Brian Joseph Walls that my sister fancies him. I'll also ask Ghost where his DJing takes place. If I see them in America? Never!

Do you find that the circumstances of your life in Malta (or with the available equipment you can purchase here) limits your river of warped ideas from flowing?

Hmmm. I have never thought of that, probably because that's my main problem, but it doesn't always work badly. Sometimes if my ideas can't be written down some other weird things happen! So as a result I look positive to my equipment ... sometimes.

So how does an industrial mind like yours feel to live among the people of a village whose majority of them limit themselves only as to bake bread or to prepare confectionery? Would you consider getting a local baker to sponsor your next release as a matter of fact?

It feels like an industrial mind living among fields, horses and furnaces. I don't like the idea of getting a sponsor from a local bastard, they will throw a couple of old stale loaves to my head if I tempt to ask one of them!

Why don't you run away to the village which according to your criteria is the most industrial here in Malta then? Which is it by the way?

If I run to an industrial zone? Well, I'll take my equipment with me of course, but in such areas electricity is continually rising and dropping with the huge welding sets, and that would damage what I've been working on for ages. As for the most industrial, I think it's Marsa or Hal-Far. (Hello Marsa; ext 238 please, hdejn Tumas. - ed.)

Kidding apart, I bet it takes hours of time and long sleepless nights to get all your stuff together as even though you are occasionally helped by Jean-Pierre of DISINTERRED on keyboards, it just the same leaves your mind restless to sustain SBQUELA, right? In fact you have foretold me you will die of a young age as an effect of this. Kindly extend on this then!

Actually I play drums in DISINTERRED, and my band mate and I have tried out a couple of musical experiments together. But Jean-Pierre is a funeral mind and we both agreed that it doesn't match the style, so at the moment the idea is out. Funeral marches are now left for DISINTERRED while my music is more focused on ecstatic stuff. At the beginning there were nights that I didn't sleep trying to understand more my program, but now it seems that I totally know the program and hence I am leaving the nights to sleep ... and dream. Yes, I will die of a young age. According to my calculations, at the age of 32 I'll be taken to a mental hospital, and then I will spend about 5 years there recognizing nobody until I die either by hanging myself, or by diving from a 4- floor building, or in my sleep.

And besides the music, you even write and sing the lyrics yourself. On what are they based and what does it take to understand them?

Suffering is the tool of understanding. If the listener is easy going with life he/she won't understand a bloody thing. Also a pair of good clean ears are required since I set the vocals' mix at a low level compared with the music. The lyrics are based or talk about life, dreams, earth, sexism, hate, etc.

On the live front, I assume it is hard at the moment due to the lack of equipment and money necessary to develop your ideas, but in any case of some future live show, how can you picture that to the readers?

I can do a live concert at any time but the response will be as low as zero for sure. But if there comes a time when the term 'industrial' is more known here, my concert will be as follows: Brian (OBLIQUE VISIONS) and you (only if you don't bite your hand) - male dancers (*mur arana, Fusi! - ed.; loovely!!! - Il-Fusa*), your sister and one of her friends - female dancers. There will also be a female vocalist and two Page 3 girls, myself in a deep ecstasy, a high power bass reflex system, no lights just candles, no policemen, etc. - in other words, my own way of a S.I.N. Party. (*U lil Patrick hallejtta barra? - ed.*)

What do you think will the response for your "Dream Sick" debut demo be, and how do you intend to follow it up?

Hope it will be good and that it will get me a deal somewhere to be able to release an album before the age of 32.

I, as a matter of fact, believe that it requires a lot of promotion to get a deal considering your style is hard to get into, so are you aware of this and what observations will you be taking for those scene-biting rip-offs?

Promotion is required, more and more in industrial. Rip-offs better don't play their stupid games with me cos be this bastard from Alaska or be it just 10 minutes away I'll skin him/her. However it's better to skin a her! (*Nittien!!! - ed.*)

All you Eskimoos then take heed! Anyway, let's leave these guys in peace and concentrate on something more near. What do you think of the scene here in Malta?

I will require the whole zine for this, will you spare it? Anyway, I'll be short. The scene is a 'who's better than who' one, and it's corrupted and with a lot of rip-offs like everywhere. The hate between bands is negatively sick. But why don't we stop here? It is boring (...but like any other scene the honest ones rule, so be them few or many,

death is the worst that would evolve positively! -
-)

Of course I have space for you Dione, my friend!
And in fact you may like to learn that yours was
the longest interview I have ever put on the pages
of RANCID SOUP...

Thank you, I've been short again.

Picture us your present state of existence once
more, and if possible any future asylum relating
to SEQUELA.

Don't have a camera. Present state o.k. (suicidal
tendencies every now and then). Future asylum
relating to SEQUELA?? I'll keep you informed, I
have a lot of stuff for the future, I'm believing in a
deal!!!

So let's say you have that deal you're talking
about soon. I guess you'd like to tell us how would
you react if you had to meet up with Hammy
(Peaceville), Digby Pearson (Barache), Monte
Connor (Roadrunner), or any other label boss?

If I had to meet up with Hammy, we would
pass from Oxford Street eating greasy stuff, sauce
spilling on our clothes, and reading the RANCID
SOUP and the CALL OF ANGELS. If I meet up
with Digby, we'll see About Monte Connor and
the rest, I don't have any slightest ideal

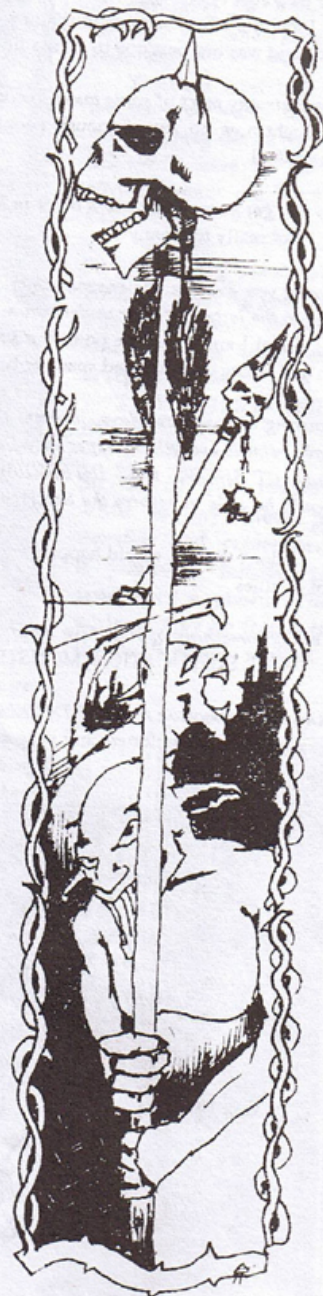
And last question from my side goes this way.
How would you celebrate your 32nd birthday with
any of the above if they happen to be near to your
whereabouts at the time?

I don't know ... all I know is that I won't
recognize them!

As for the deal, that's what you'll have my
friend as I am confident that your name will
grow and your sound will blow the many
underground mates and labels that will
check out your demo! By the way Dione is in
the meantime shopping his demo to some
labels - his policy is that once he sees a flyer
of a certain label which he likes he is so
humanly and particularly attracted that he
feels some subconscious tickles expressing
him their positive view about securing a deal
with that particular label. RANCID SOUP
is also confident about this entity and invites
all polluted ears to write to Dione Lauria,
27, 'Congre', Triq il-Harifa, Qormi QRM
04, Malta.



SEQUELA is of the opinion that his silhouette is more ecstatic than a true image of
him - check by yourselves!



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Especially those who have read this zine's 1st issue, you must for sure remember that our review section was called "Cheese and Biscuits" whereabout cheese was the rancid award for the production of a certain release and the biscuits were granted for the bands' efforts. So here in the 2nd issue is a doom metal review section compiled by a downtrodden mate of mine named Dino who is currently even preparing a zine with some mates his called "CALL OF ANGELS".

Anyone interested in contacting them may help by writing to:

Dino Mifsud Lepre,
Lepre Flats, No. 1,
Karmnu Abela Street,
Hamrun HMR 05,

Jeffrey Galea,
23,
St. Alphonse Street,
Sliema SLM 03,
MALTA.

By the way ask them also about the World Day Of Plastic Forks! Anyway, to make for an even doomier approach we have replaced the cheese and shovels and the biscuits by what is usually visible on your darling grave - flowers!

MIRROR OF DECEPTION - Demo 1 '93

I'm convinced that this is a very promising band but unfortunately the production of this debut demo is not so good, but anyway it is listenable - next time take more than 4 hrs to record! Their music is certainly influenced by BLACK SABBATH but with their dose of good ideas. However this debut is worth checking out even now that the band will be having a 2nd demo "Words Unspoken" available by the time you read this, which I am sure will be a step forward! 5 shovels and 7 flowers to Jochen Fopp, Kirchstrabe 37/1, 73066 Uhingen, Germany

ENTITY - "The" (Demo)

Very original! This band does not use any distortion on their guitars but are nevertheless certainly a

Johan Bernts v17, 311 35 Falkenberg, Sweden

CATHEDRAL - "The Ethereal Mirror" (MOSH 77)

CATHEDRAL are my gods due to "Forest". Anyway the production here has certainly improved with lyrics which circling presentation makes you sick to read, but again a great cover artwork has been done. However I still think that "Forest" was more original in style than this one, wherein CATHEDRAL have left their depressive ways to give way to a more BLACK SABBATH like- and groovy doom metal, with a change even in Lee Dorrnan's vocal style. Yet I hope that CATHEDRAL are here showing they have been forced to release the album as early as possible thus the change in style. Despite

having heard this 3 tracker and watch out for their debut "The Shadows Fall..." through Holy Records, an album one cannot stay without till he's had his last breath, and again another masterpiece. 9 shovels and 5 flowers to Gunder Audun Dragsten, Gratrostveien 10D, N-7082 Katten, Norway

ANATHEMA - "Serenades" (VILE 34)

Cry for me Argentinal! Let us all shed a sob together with this depressive band mourning their lost ones, a band which has created its own style through the demos released and is followed up very well in this debut and thus is very original. Their vocalist Darren has improved a lot, whose singing in a tearful way is only but excellent! Good production and excellent lyrics too, they

booklet with lyrics and photos so I'm sure you'll not be sorry for ordering this dark 4 tracker with many originality in itself. Besides that, on the other side of the tape there's a live recording "Live Without Audience" which features the same tracks on side A. Don't consider yourself a doomster if you don't listen to CRYPT but you'll be a more worth doomster if you'll send 6 of your rotten shovels and 9 of those dead flowers to Sven Hebbelinc, Windekinstraat 24, 1850 Grimbergaen, BELGIUM

ACRIMONY - 7" EP (Shiver Records)

Welcome to our sorrowful family ACRIMONY! Now they're not into death metal anymore but have woven their flag as hippie doom. Certainly from

on the track "Aquarian" and then started their way down on side B. Anyway the musically technical finesse of this band is worth naming and listening to! So although I was objective so far on this band I still think it's worth spending money for this 1p but again after having bought all BLACK SABBATH releases. 9 shovels but 5 flowers. Order through Earache.

SOLSTICE - Promo '93

This is one hell of a band. The production has certainly improved from the former two demos and it's a great pity lyrics are not printed even though the sleeve is pretty good. The style remains in between SOLITUDE AETURNUS and CANDLEMASS, but I think SOLSTICE have now improved with

Nuclear Blast have released this album after the scintillating acclaim it had gained with its original pressing by Future Shock. My cheers to the label as this lp is a monument in my life! And so must it be with every doomster around - depressive and atmospheric with good deep vocals! Nevertheless despite the tempo involved here usually slow in a slow (at times extremely slow) manner, WINTER have just the same saved their music from being dragging and monotonous to listen. In fact, when the music reaches the crucial point at which it may sound dragging, WINTER change to some faster but still doomy riffs. Brilliant! 7 shovels and 8 flowers and you can book your death trip through Nuclear Blast mail-order.

LORDS OF THE STONE - "The Rhythms of Bitterness" (Demo '92)

Here they come from the west of the Netherlands this is LORDS OF THE STONE with lyrics inspired by medieval ages as well as a bit by the book 'Lord of the Rings'. They play an old classic doom metal with good strange original vocals which sincerely, when I first listened to this demo, I didn't like. However, after listening to the demo for a couple of other times I learned to appreciate and then love Andre Dijkstra's melancholic voice. Pretty remarkable also are the guitarists of this band. Good riffs and excellent solos. The track I love most is "When All is Forlorn", the whole intro is sung very depressively and tearfully. Maybe a wrong note to name it BLACK SABBATH's cover of "Paranoid", and when I hear this cover version they remind me of the new VENOM, due to the fact that they played it in a speed metal/ punkish style. Anyway, it would not be a bad choice to send your next \$1 - 8 shovels and 8 flowers to Andre Dijkstra, Witte Wallestraat 17, 9411 LG Soest, Holland.

DAWN OF WINTER - "Signs of Agony"

Let's dance in despair! DAWN OF WINTER are here expressing their sad

feelings in a cool way and are trying to enjoy themselves with their set of true doom music. The track "Dance in Despair" is a clear example of this and it's the most cool track on the demo. Cool also to hear a demo on CD and that's really worth your money. You will surely won't be disappointed, and true doom lovers will embrace by listening to D.O.W.'s true form of doom music. 8 shovels and 8 flowers to the address in the interview elsewhere on this zine.

have been left! It's almost a dance. Perhaps one great thing is that the new female vocalist who has joined the band gives us the pleasure of seeing better photos! Hans Rutten, Albardestraat 15, 5344 HB Oss, Holland. 8 & 8.

CASTLE - "Castle"

Personally when I first listened to this CD I expected some more depressive acts to follow that brilliant demo "In Purple Visions", and as a matter of fact it is those three songs

SKEPTICISM release their debut demo. Including an organ player for an even more gloomy sound and marching at half a beat per two seconds, this band tends to kill all the listeners. Maybe finally, THERGOTHON have found someone to compete with in their race of the slowest moantones. The guitars in this demo are less melodic than in the EP as now its their organ player who gives them melody and atmosphere, perhaps more depressive and atmospheric than ever in fact! Also the vocals are more deep. I hope that SKEPTICISM find a decent deal as listeners really deserve depression served on CD. Finally, I would like to advice not to listen to this demo at heights as you might 'accidentally' fall! Perfect for funerals so if have just lost anyone you cared for, write. On your grave, 7 flowers and 5 shovels.

and Lee Dorrian. As for the 3rd track "House of Cards" its an excellent classic guitar instrumental but then again, in the 4th track "Sugar Clown" I thought of hearing BLACK SABBATH, due that all riffs are definitely influenced by the old yet remaining gods. Back to the vocals, particularly on the tracks of side B (which is nearly all new stuff in contrast with that of side A taken from earlier band releases), he is original but for my tastes also somewhat irritating. My friends, punish me for my criteria in your forthcoming releases by being more original especially as for the type of vocals - change or arrange them. To you Jarkko, try to follow the singing style as in your last track "Tranquility" which I liked most, and good luck! To you others who feel like writing, send your to Perttu Neponen, Mikonkatu 10 a 9, 50100 Mikkeli, Finland.

CALL ANGELS
THE UNDERGROUND MEGA ZINE

In the wall for the birth of a new zine from MELTA, any underground (Doom, Death, Grind, Black, Industrial and any other style) band and would like to promote themselves are to send 2 photographs (one and hand size) and a photo of anything available) any band sending a tape will get a guaranteed review - a track in the included compilation in the zine. We will inform you when the zine is out.

* Non Rip Off! All letters will be answered! (Please be patient)

Send all to:
DOORSTONE c/o Cine Rifondazione
Leone Piaz 71,
Arenara 4814 Str
Seregno, 20080

or Jeffrey Gaire
23 St. Nicholas Str.
Sittard, 6135
NL

The GATHERING - "Almost a Dance"

The GATHERING have really developed to their own type of metal with this one but where is my "Always" CD? In fact, they have surely improved technically into a colder act but I prefer the calmer, atmospheric melodic metal like in "Always", as that was more in the region of doom, whilst this is more like heavy metal. And has Mike Patton joined The GATHERING? - No, it is Niels Duffhues, but at times his voice reminds me of FAITH NO MORE's vocals, especially his accents. And although The GATHERING have changed to a more heavy metal style, for my tastes, I felt that Niels' voice didn't fit The GATHERING properly, or perhaps I loved Bart Smith's voice so much that I am having illusions. (All you guys will rejoice to the sounds of their 3rd album as it will be more depressive and weird, and without this sort of vocals) - stay tuned for info - MC) And while I pass through "A Passage to Desire", I still wonder about "Her Last Flight" and where my beloved The GATHERING

from their 2 demos as a brilliant new one "Alter Reality" to be the most depressive here. From "In Purple Visions" we have "The Emperor's Children" and "Exposed" and from "Chasing Unicorns" there's the title track "Castle". As for the remaining three, they are original tracks of doom/death in CASTLE's own way. However, one disappointing thing I have heard is that the deep vocal parts in the 2 tracks from "In Purple..." have changed, and that unfortunately the drums is a bit too high on the rest of the instruments including the vocals. (Nevermind, I know Eric likes his vocals that way! - MC) Nevertheless this CD is still worth your depressive \$18 from many a distro or directly from Eric, Klaversstraat 9, 5038 RB Tilburg, Holland, as well as 8 mourning petals and 7 graveyard shovels!

SKEPTICISM - "Asotha Kaor"

Totally fuckin' suicidal, totally depressing, so much that I wonder if these guys are available for funerals! After their 1st release being on vinyl.

PENTAGRAM - "Day of Reckoning"

This is pure doom metal so who loves true doom metal must not ignore this album. After PENTAGRAM were destined to be buried by the dust of time, due that the band split up for several times and reasons, we should really thank Peaceville for believing in this band and releasing both of their first albums. "Day of Reckoning", originally released way back in '87 by the Austrian Napalm, is their 2nd, and PENTAGRAM are even highly awaited (this in February) to release on Peaceville their next LP. Keep an eye on this band in the future as even rumours of a tour with CATHEDRAL have been passed around. 8 shovels and 7 flowers and a sure listen to this excellent re-released opus.

CARICATURE - "Garden" (Promo '93)

Not so bad! Yes, the music is not so bad as the guitars and drums are quite good, but personally I didn't like so much their type of vocals. Especially on the 2nd and 7th tracks "Sunrise" and "Friend River" in which the vocals tries to imitate Ozzy

THERGOTHON - "Stream from the Heavens" (Avantgarde Music AV 001)

Really slow! Above in SKEPTICISM's review I said that finally THERGOTHON have found someone to compete with in their race for the slowest moantones, but I wrote that review before I've heard this album, as here THERGOTHON prove that they're still dark, extra-slow and fuckin' depressing, or perhaps even more suicidal than the demo was. The 6 tracks of over 40 minutes forming this album make us travel on a 'stream from the heavens' and in it I personally love how THERGOTHON mix the extreme deep vocals with the angelic clear vocals, the best use of which is in the track "Who Rides the Astral Wings" wherein very depressingly THERGOTHON hail Azagthoth. Maybe the best production for an extremely slow band since now makes me hand them over 9 shovels, while I'll hand over 7 flowers to them for just making me die while hearing this release from Avantgarde Music, CP 19, 20010 Vanzago (MI), Italy.

creating an awareness that death metal exists over here too. Right now I am not adding any new items to my distribution since most of the underground bands coming out are the usual average or below average death/grind metal. Anyway, I still have got some **ROTTING CHRIST**, **NECROMANTIA**, **MONUMENTUM**, **FORSAKEN** (Malta), and others left, but I am more into corresponding right now.

To sum it all up, I bet COVENANT would like to talk on certain things I may not have asked about!

Well, right now our drummer has just quit prior to three concerts which we had to cancel. It is a great pity since he is a great drummer, but at least we are still friends. When we will find a suitable replacement or at least a session drummer, we will then concentrate on some gigs which we are really looking forward to. After that, anything may happen.



And one of those events yet to happen, an event which I highly propose you, is to write to William Cauchi, "Margaret" Flat no. 1, Karmenu Abela Street, Hamrun HMR 05, Malta.

PERU

And now I hand the keyboard to an ultra mega zine editor from Peru, the one and only editor of **Under Metal Zine** (a zine jam-packed with info on many bands of varied brutal styles), **Juan Franco Chumbiauca**, for a look into what's going on in those jungle lands! **Under Metal** - an extremely anti-rip-off zine, so help him out in getting those bastards onto their own shit and get the mentality straight that once a zine is out you either buy... or die! but never photocopy it!!!

Hail, and how are you my Maltese friends?! Here from Peru get a big greeting to everybody but especially to all honest underground bangers over there. This is Juan Franco Chumbiauca R, editor of the best Peruvian mag called **Under Metal Mag** which counts with two issues out now.

First of all I'd like to send my thanks to everybody, and especially to my friend Malcolm for giving me the chance to publish all about Peru in his pages. Then I'll begin and end just with the true bands over here.

HADEZ - This is one of the first Peruvian death metal bands. Since their existence in '88, they have made 4 demos ('88, '89, '90, and '92 their last one). So after a Peruvian management into the underground got hold of these productions, they dealt with 'em to record the 1st underground CD, which is now out on **Brutal Records** from Peru, also of the same management, it is entitled "Aquelarre" CD June '93. You can get a copy for 18\$ and it comes with 8 intensive tracks of cruelty with intros and outros elaborated by the most occult inspirations. Don't hesitate, make your orders to the label or to the band **Brutal Recs.**, Daniel Alcides Carrion 619, Magdalena Del Mar, Lima 17, Peru, or **HADEZ** c/o Edgard Umeres Noise, Jr Conquistadores 200, Urb Valdiviezo, Lima 31, Peru.

KRANIUM - Oh well, this is another important Peruvian death band as they have a long story as

HADEZ have, but actually they have been recording their debut demo tape called "Mundo Interior" only in '92. Nevertheless it counts with 8 brutal and intensive death thrash tracks, influenced by the impurity things and impulsed by ideas of cruelty in their lyrics, which show an ultra killer voice in the vein of **CORPSE MOLESTATION**. Really frantic and killer so don't hesitate to get it soon from **KRANIUM** c/o Manuel Tonito Fernandez, P.O.Box 09, 0020 Lima 9, Peru. Price \$6.

CONFRANTACION - After talking about the main death bands, I'll now comment about the only actual extreme hardcore band over here. It is really cruelty what you here from them, so if you feel the real veins of **NAUSEA** or **E.N.T.** then check out their positive work as soon as possible! **CONFRANTACION** c/o Richard, Dean Saavedra #283, Lima 32, Maranga, Peru.

SUPLICIUM - Another cruel death metal band I can mention are them and their existence dates since '90. Presently they are preparing definitive songs for a possible demo tape, which I can say about them is that they are a really death brutal band from this part of the world.

PUTREFACTO - Last time I heard them they were playing in the old **SARCOFAGO** vein, which is brutal and really sick work. So there are a real

serial work from their part to go ahead real and frequent live show's participations.

NEUROPARALYA - Their beginnings date as a grindcore noise band but after having recorded their first demo in this style, their line-up got radical trades and reformations. Their new style is death-doom with inspirations of cruelty. I can't say more, I prefer to abstain my comment and get their future, killer demo tape through **Roy Noiser Elgera**, Huamapona De Ayala 257, Lima 32, Peru.

PUTRID MORGUE - Killer death band influenced by some black veins in their two vocals use. Actually they are reforming a brutal style but their things are 100% stable. Check out their future hard work as they are 100% cool guys. Write to **Jaime Epileptico**, P.O.Box 05, 0102, Lima 5, Peru.

MORTEM - Traditional death band into the veins of **CANNIBAL CORPSE** and **DEICIDE**, and really this is a good, professional released piece. 3 intensive tracks of impurity invocations, torture and killer feelings at the lyrics. Demo comes professionally done with full colour, lyrics, photos and a free condom with each order of \$5.

FOSA COMUN - This is an insane death band from outside of Lima. They are from Arequipa and are actually working very hard to a real professional demo tape by themselves. I really don't hesitate about their work 'coz I know they are

good western. Write at P.O.Box 683, Maranga, Peru.

RITUAL - They are playing a distinctive death metal here. Insane and persistent, their 1st demo is entitled "Ceremonial Ritual" which work is by the way very brutal. They now have a new vocalist but I really Don't find any change with him but anyway their work is good, especially with the drums and the ripping guitar. Soon see some tape out.

WINE VOMIT - They make a classical grindcore with a lot of extreme comic parts, really furious and brutal.

DARKEN - Formed as ASTAROTH, a new name now comes from these comic guys. Here you'll find WARSATION and MY DYING BRIDE influences. They rally worked hard since the beginning and they will surely get a real work out very soon so check us out.

CONTUMACY - After a big moment, the vocal men from HADEZ and KRANIUM joined to form a real brutal blaspheming black metal band. They will begin in a fast form to give a real demo tape so they return with their own bands not to lose them anymore. Write to the HADEZ' or KRANIUM's address.

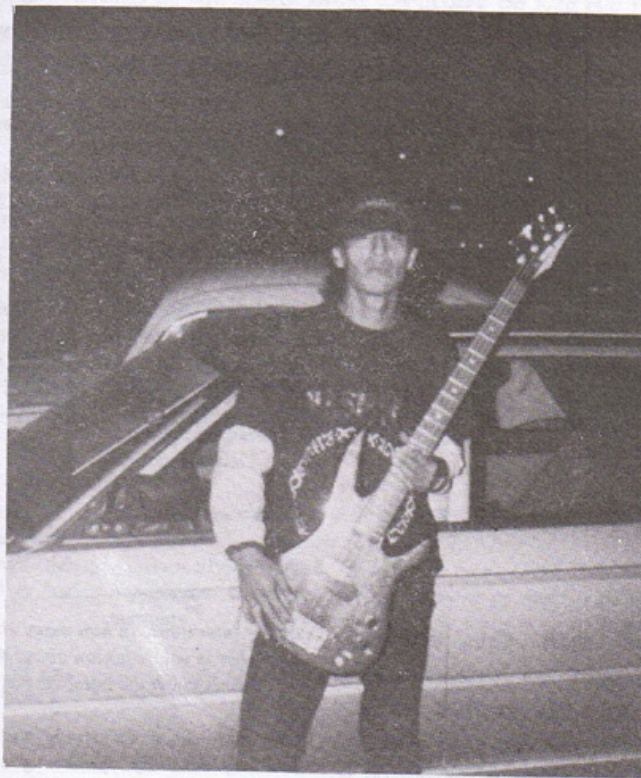
Well, I can talk about more bands from over here, but really here is a lot of them such as MICALA, FUTURO INSIERTO, GX3, and more.

About the concerts I should say that they are better nowadays in comparison with older years when the bands played for only a 100 people. Now the attendance is always 200 and when we get a foreign band, the attendance gets to over 1000 members, including me off course. The bands' structures come into more force, and potentially I like much of them, but the support to get demo recordings is very limited. Also for the reh. places.

So I should say that all the featured bands are usually invited to get live shows and travel outside of Lima. We could get live shows with MASACRE, SADISM and TORTURER (South American gods!). Actually we'll just get a foreign festival which will take 2 days, with SARCOFAGO (Brazil), MASACRE (Colombia), TOTTEN BURPS (Chile), BIBRION (Argentina) as well as Peruvian bands as HADEZ, MORTEM and more.

About magazines and fanzines, oh well or oh shit, since it is very hard to find loyal zines here. We know a lot of European people who have been ripped off by shitty rip-offs over here, but we'll mention only the loyal people, which some of them are even friends of mine. For the rest, take care.

TRINAMENT Zine - This is a real professional one which counts with its 1st issue out now. 100% quality one with full articles, full interviews, real nice photos and posters, featuring bands such as MY DYING BRIDE, EXULCERATION, HITCHHAPATH, ATOMIC AGGRESSOR,



HADEZ vocals & bass: Edgar Noise

MORIBOUND YOUTH, HADEZ, TIMEGHOUL and more. Don't hesitate in writing to Guillermo Delgado H. Pascual De Andagoya 197, Maranga, Lima 32, Peru.

UNDER METAL Mag - Oh well, what can I say about this. The 1st issue was out with a lot of killer bands as the flyers you see in your letters. My 2nd issue took some delay because I'm very busy, but it is probably out before this report will be featured. It comes with MALEVOLENCE, MALEDICTION, DAMNATORY, SAMAEAL, BLASPHEMY, CEREMONY, INFERIA, CORPSE MOLESTATION, ALLIANGE, HADEZ, KRANIUM, BESTIAL SUMMONING, PHLEBOTOMIZED, DEAD END, SEPTICEMIA, NECROMANTIA, MORTEM, MORTAL FEAR, NOCTURNAL FEAR, AGRESSOR, DARK MILLENNIUM, WINGED, SUPREMACY, PANDEMONIUM, ACRIMONY, and a lot of godly bands, over 100 in all. Full clear photos as the bands, original layout and full information everywhere. 100% professional so get your copy for only \$5 including postage. For info send an IRC. Write to me Juan Franco Chumbiauca R., Micaela Bastidas 143, Maranga, Peru.

ABERRACION - This is another 100% loyal one which I can recommend as they work very seriously and carefully. Their 1st issue is out now with BLASPHEIRON, HAMMER HEAD, DISASTROUS MURMUR, MORBID DEATH, WARHATE, CUARTO CERRADO, KONTRATODO, PUTREFACTO and many more to mention. Special Peruvian information you'll find here. Write to Jaime Delgado, Jr. Recuay 253, 101 Lima 05, Peru.

SARCASM - This is a putrid and blaspheming zine in A5 size from here. It comes with a lot of info about bands such as FOETAL MONSTROSITY, SPASM, BEHEAD, SACRED

HATE, BEYOND DESCRIPTION, EXULCERATION, SOLITUDE, PROFANATICA, CHURCH OF MISERY, LULLABY, IMMORTAL, MASACRE, etc., etc. Contact Jesus Espinoza, Jr. Asuncion 340, El Parral, Comas, Lima, Peru.

Well there are more good mags and zines I can mention as ROTTEN FLESH, INFECCION, ENJENDROS DE FURIA, CUERO NEGRO, DEATH THRASHERS and more.

So there from the Peruvian scene were the predictions of the most impure and old brains. We take our work 100% seriously. The people here would like to know if somebody has been ripped off, so if that be you, then don't hesitate to say it to me. Everybody interested in trades and infos should send me an IRC to get a soon reply. So bands I await your letters to diffuse yours. All letters are welcome. Take good care and special thanks Malcolm.

My thanks go to you my unholy mate Juan Franco for having contributed to this zine with the detailed scene report above. I hope that my readers will get in contact with you and the many true bands

and zines you have mentioned, and that the name of Peru and UNDER METAL will grow hand in hand with Malta and RANCID SOUP. As for the rip-offs, we'll have justice on you one day so if you are one of them kindly spare Juan Franco's time and don't write to him - he has no time to waste with you assholes!!! On the other hand all true maniacs are urged to get encyclopaedias of metal info for a mere \$5 from my great friend Chumba, Chumba, Chumbiauca!

Minstrel of Mourning MAGAZINE

Yezz, after many troubles & huge delay the debut issue of Minstrel of Mourning mag. finally came out to please yer deepest lusts & desires! This written absolutely in English ngl. Includes long in-depth chats with such killers as Florida's Death Force, RESURRECTION, their landmates TOXIC NARCOTIC (Punk/Death crew) & A PUBLIC HANGING. (Industrial Noise makers), Atsule Grindcore monstros BLOOD-DUSTER, Swedish Deathsters CAUTERIZER, Death metal bomb from Czechia TORTHARRY, Polish most brutalizing acts ABERRACION & MORIBD VISION, Austrian gloomers VISCERAL EVISCERATION, Finland's lethal weapon MYTHOS, English corpsefuckers MORSTICE, and two awesome Black metal hordes MOONSFELL (Portugal) & UNGOD from Germany. Here Ya have also the chance to read the last words ever written by Steve for PUPPETOO (R.I.P.), don't miss this very historical & exclusive Intel! To fulfil Yer satisfaction all this is given along with a marvelous article on Splatter/Gore & Horror movies written by that sicko Diablo of NetherWorld zine, scene-reports from New Zealand & Scotland, and as usual a couple of demo/77/album reviews, as well as some morbid artwork! Get the whole thing (56 A5 pages) for lousy \$2 (Europe) & \$5 (o'ceania) by sending well-trodden cash to:

M.O.M. mag.
c/o Pavel Palica
Malejki 22e/4
72-100 Golenów
POLAND
TRADES ARE WELCOME
(*zines only in English)

Labels, bands (of all styles), 'zineeditors - get in touch for an inclusion in the future releases!
Distributors - ask for the wholesale prices!
Note: my only official cooperater is Jacek Pomylniak, don't hesitate to answer his letters please!

STAY MOURNFULL!

When the Andrakorn Dark Forces rise, I will here have to give you readers the bio of the Greek band VARATHRON. So hail and welcome onto your hearts their genesis of apocryphal desire!

When the black time sign, the endless dark was around the Earth and the Kingdom of ASSURBANIBAL arised, antropomorpheous demons and wizards called the Great Dark Lord from the city of demons, BBLED-L-GIN. The name of him is ...VARATHRON!

'After many, many years of endless Aork Seas, the legend is arised. Born the unholy year 1989, the VARATHRON'S KINGDOM! The blasphemous members are: Captain Death - drums (ex- VOMIT and SOUND POLLUTION), Jim Mutilator - bass (also in ROTTING CHRIST), John - all guitars (also in DANGER CROSS) and Stephan Necroabyssious - voice!!!

'In October 1989 released the first demo called "PROCRATION OF THE UNALTERED EVIL". This demo tape contains two infernal songs: "NECRANASTASIS" and "DAWN OF SORDID DECAY". After that the band released some rehearsal songs and in the year 1990 the new "face" of VARATHRON are: Jim Mutilator - bass, John - guitar, Steve - guitar, Themis - drums and Stephan - vocals!!! That new line-up released, in January 1991, the second demo called "GENESIS OF APOCRYPHAL DESIRE". This occult demo tape contains five songs - "LA REINE NOIR", "GENESIS OF APOCRYPHAL DESIRE", "THE TRESSRISING OF NYARLATHOTEP", "SEVEN ENDLESS HORIZONS" and "JOURNEY BBYOND"!!!

'After one month, the BLACK VOMIT RECORDS, released the 7"ep called "A STEP BEYOND DREAMS". In the year 1992, the BLACK POWER RECORDS released the split LP of VARATHRON "THE EVERLASTING SINS" with NECROMANTIA! Now we're working for our promo tape and for the upcoming new LP!!! ETERNAL HAILS TO ANCIENT GODS!

'For any info write to VARATHRON,

*c/o Stephan Necroabyssious,
P. O. Box 1265,
45110 Ioannina,
GREECE.'*

And now to the interview with the almighty Necroabyssious himself. It seemed he was short of band photos when he sent me his replies to my questions but nevertheless he sent me the photo to the right which I believe is just the same complimentary to VARATHRON.

Hi Steve and welcome to our pages as you unveil your hand of darkness. What blasphemies would you like to start off with?

Eternal Rules to the Ancient Gods of Chaos!!!

Tell the readers of VARATHRON and if there has been a stable line-up put together yet?

Well, VARATHRON now are me - vocals, Mutilator - bass, Necroslaughter - guitars, and Wolfen - session drummer.

I see from the inlay card of your 12" split through Black Power Records that you have worked with members of ROTTING CHRIST, HORRIFIED and DANGER CROSS. What can you say of your dark relations with them?

Well we didn't work with members of R.C., D.C., and HORRIFIED. It's just the fuckin' ass hole guy of Black Power who wrote these fuckin' mistakes. Because Mutilator plays in VARATHRON (basic member) and in R. CHRIST. Also, John played in VARATHRON (but is now on obligatory army-service) and in D. CROSS (r.i.p.). Stavros played in VARATHRON and before the release of the split left the band to go to HORRIFIED with his brother. Themis was in both VARATHRON and ROTTING CHRIST but now he's belonging only to them. About my brother Morbid I don't have words. Help me now and ever and forever!!! ETERNAL BROTHERS!!! Megathanks to him!!!

Now something about your country. I have learnt from a friend of mine who was on holiday in Athens last summer that there are a couple of clubs in which death/grind/black metal music is played all night, and that occasionally some gigs even take place at same venues. What are your comments on this, and how is the scene - if any - on the islands in the Ionian and Aegean Seas? Can you mention some band names?

Yes my country is very best for holidays. Our scene is powerful!

Talking of the seas, it seems to me that their names relate to ancient mythological gods if I'm not wrong. What can you say of the folkloristic demons which ride the Greek winds, and can you compare them to those of other cultures like Czechoslovakia or even darker Norway?

Our mythology is a hymn to paganism!!! Ancient pagan warriors before the light!!! Eternal psalms to our mother-nature!!!

Back to VARATHRON in particular now. Can we expect any dark vinyl soon, or at least any other sacrilegious news?

Our new LP/CD released from Cyber Music is out and is called "His Majesty at the Swarp". It contains 7 new songs and an old one re-mixed.

As for interviews, in how many zines can you recall of having been featured, and what is your opinion about them?

I don't know the numbers but I think those zine editors support the music.

Now from the underground pages of fanzines to the underground mystic looks of cats. My opinion of cats is that they are stubborn, persistent, independent and leaders among other animals. What is your opinion and does it mean something if the cat had to be a black one?

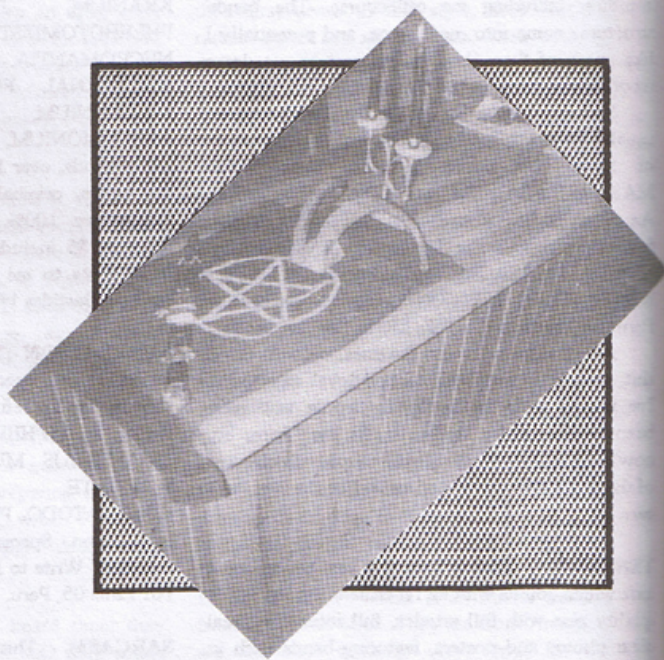
I have 8 cats in my home!!!!!!! (Noted the layout - an exclamation mark for every cat, Steve. - ed.) Cats are very mystical animals, holy animals in the Ancient Egyptian history!

I'm really curious to know whether you have seen "The Last Temptation of Christ"? If so, share your views with the readers.

Yes I saw the movie. I like Kazantzakis and Frank Copolla, my friend! But really the original book is better!!!

I hope I have not bored you with the many questions not really relating to VARATHRON but in any case, please forward your comments on this interview.

Thanks a lot, I wish the best for your mag. Eternal hails and embrace our evil music into your soul!!!





A.C. 94.

And here it comes "this job to all the people who like the things dark and occult" inspired, as they say, by the wicked ancestor evil of their grandfathers and their occult, dark country. To another unholy cannibal ritual...

EVIL NIGHTS

Welcome brothers and sisters, sons of the full moon, to this short but serious tale of terror from the exotic and mysterious land named Costa Rica.

Here we have many histories and myths about fabulous and horrific apparitions in the dark of the night. For much modern people, it is only a stupid and ridiculous form to present the most deep fears in the human mind, but for me same things and successions are unknown and inexplicable.

One of these legends talk to us of a horrific and demonic creature that lives in the north mountains. From a distant time the rustic people and the Indians believed that this creature is not a human, not even animal. They believed that he was a god and talked of having seen **The King of the Mountain Top**. But you must not go to the high of the mountain because then he comes to the town in the shadow of the full moon, driving our own horses to avoid the fearful, our cattle, pigs, mules and even domestic animals too. He will break into our fields and harvest will be lost. There is no scientific trial about the veracity of this mysterious spectre. Often the people of the urban population talk of being victims of a diabolical apparition at the edge of the midnight hour.

My grandfather (r.i.p) told me many legends and histories of fantastic ghosts, malignant spirits, gnomes, monsters, witches, etc., etc.

El Mico Malo is a malignant entity with the form of a big monkey with infernal eyes. He appears generally in homes with serious problems: rebel sons, blasphemous people, adulterers, alcoholics, sexual aberrations between parents and sons, etc. Also to the people who walk the streets in high hours of the night.

A mysterious creature with the form of a machiavlic black bird with the head of an old woman is **La Tulliveja**. This rare spectre that lives in the coffee fields and old houses is an occult species and its screams dwell the walls of the sanitarium rooms of such rustic houses. She eats human excrements, worms, insects, poison fungus, etc.

The tale tells us that **La Segua** is a beautiful girl with the head of a horse. She is a satanic monster that gives torment to the men that give all kinds of wrongs, abuses and deceptions to the women. She appears in the shadows of the night down a beauty form that deceives its victims. Who sees this monster remains insane for the rest of his life.

Gnomes or trolls are little creatures with different colours and dwell in the obscure and occult forest. They say lies, they are bad and they eat all kinds of venomous roots, weed and fungus. They offer the little children beautiful gifts and golden articles but this is only a trick so that afterwards they let the kids get lost in the most obscure depths of the forest. It is in a Costa Rican place called **El Cerro de la Morte** where the gnomes are supposed to have their kingdom.

El Cadejos is a fantastic and diabolical creature with the form of a big black dog that walks creeping a heavy chain along with him, with eyes like fire and too much a long hair. The legend tells that this creature is a keeper of the people of the night. As drunks, prostitutes, adventurers and more walk the streets, **El Cadejos**...

There are very popular legends about the witches and warlocks in this country. Here we have a place called **Escazu** where is supposed that during the Spanish conquest, the **Bruyas** there used to venerate the devil and put into practice rare and mysterious cults of witchcraft and black magic, demoniac rites of voodoo, etc., etc. Today these practices are still common.

The **Priest without Head**, or better still, **El Padre Sin Cabeza**, is a horrendous spectre that appears in the night in the form of, as the name suggests, a priest without head. He appears in lonely and obscure places as cemeteries, desert churches, schools, coffee fields, etc. It is told that this spectre is the soul in exile of a Spanish priest who is killed by the hand of his own brother, the two men fighting for the love of a beautiful woman. It all ended in a bloody and tragic kill, but the spectre yet walks in ambush.

El Copito is another stranger phantasm that appears in the chicken coops with the form of a little white dog with the head of an old man. It feeds on excrements, worms, poison fungus, etc. and lives in rusty places.

That it is all there is to the demonology page from the winds of Costa Rica. For further information write to the **Master of the Dark Arts**, c/o **Infernus Segura**, Urb. **San Roque**, Esquina Sureste de la Plaza, 25m. al sur., Casa no. 183, Barva, Heredia, Costa Rica, or **The Unholy Magazine**, P.O. Box 208-3100, Santo Domingo, Heredia, Costa Rica.



...logo, eh? Well, that's fruit of our artman James who is a very cool friend to me and many of his friends. But now let us concentrate on the works of another friend Brian (sometimes we kid around calling him Brian Joseph Walls!) who is the bass player, and along with their drummer Conrad, the founder member of doom/death sensation OBLIQUE VISIONS. These guys haven't yet played live that much but their two appearances were both astonishing to say the least, and hence I had to give them some space especially now that they are in the process of releasing their debut demo. Andre (vocals) and Stefan (guitars) took a go at answering my questions.

OB OBLIQUE VISIONS. All is right at the moment and what about telling us something about you to start with?

At the moment everything is fine. We are keyboardless but we are rehearsing for a 6-song demo which will be probably out by April '94. The formation, as since Nov '92, is me (vocals), Stefan and Jeff (guitars), Brian (bass) and Conrad (drums). However OBLIQUE VISIONS in name was conceived in Nov '91 and I am the 4th vocalist for this bunch of doom deathsters. It seems that O.V. has finally grew out of its embryonic form, and in the future...

Having been formed ever since Nov '91, it was only in Jan '93, after recruiting your 1st decent vocalist in the forms of James, that you started out on the constructive mood necessary to get things going. So what can you say of that period of time?

We found our style and music by experimenting with our instruments. Without a vocalist it's very difficult to obtain a good idea of what your music really sounds like.

In the process you also added a 2nd guitarist in the form of "Mr. Wolff" (Stefan Borg) and nine months later, you had even to change vocalist due to certain reasons. Is it these events that in your opinion have delayed your debut live show till Dec '93, that being two years after your start? Ok, you've also played 2 or 3 tracks in a fundraising marathon once, but I do not really consider that an official debut, having been in a dark pub somewhere on the isla.)

Yes, it was very difficult to get used to our songs since different people were coming in and out of the band. As well, we wanted to be at our best for our debut at Rinella.

As a matter of fact, what is your opinion of that live show in Rinella?

The crowd was great but since we were the 4th group on the set, the crowd was tired by the time we went on stage. But next time, we'll get them early.

The black cat roams everywhere, as in fact soon after your show you decided to part ways with your keyboard player. So how would you present your atmospheric doom/death live now that you have no keyboardist, and is the possibility of recruiting a violinist and a bagpipe player as yet considerable?

We have a keyboardist coming soon, so we'll be back on the road.

Anyway, from the domestic yet evil characteristics of cats to the lonely and hairy wolves. So you say, what the fuck am I talking about? Yes, it is a question I wish to direct to Stefan who hates to answer 'stupid' questions, but who has to answer this, let's say 'stupid' question, since this is my zine and it is I who decides how to put my questions. So Staf, I am really into knowing more about the descent of your nickname since I thought that "kangaroo" fits more your Australian origin than "wolf"?

Back in Oz, a DJ friend dedicated the song "Born to be Wild" by STEPPENWOLF to the Stefan Wolf you know, and that's where it all began.

Anyway let's skip on that and follow to the next question now. Stefan, besides Andre, is the member of OBLIQUE VISIONS who gets out with all those interesting mythical and arcane lyrics distinctive of the band. So could you please tell us more on them and from where do you get the inspiration to write them?

The lyrics are all in the hands of Andre now. I only wrote two songs with intelligent lyrics and



they were about Judgement Day and human rights. All others were just stories. The inspiration just came, God only knows from where.

And about musical influences, what can the band say?

Everyone in the band has different tastes. We listen to everything from SEGOVIA to SUFFOCATION so its not an easy question to answer.

I bet you have something else to say besides that you didn't like my 6th question above....

Thank you "Gulu" (ha, ha, you nasty "Wolff", you revealed my nickname! - ed.). Thanks to all doomsters. For anyone interested to write our address is Brian Sammut, "Francis House", Triq il-Parilja, Sta. Venera HMR 16, Malta.

Write to Brian soon and ask about their demo release "The Fallen". All melancholic trodders need approach this band to add an arcane flavour to their sorrowful charms.



Unholy chants and 8- string bass entwined by the backing of dark howlings and atmospheric tunes into man's unknown. The aeon is Nov. '89 and soon in Jan. '90, the name of NECROMANTIA is witness to these sounds of Darkness with their 1st promo ever, which was though not released as an official demo. May '92. This necromantical spectrum returns with its "The Black Arts" split LP with local VARATHRON through Black Power Records. In April '93 their satanic archeology is again back with a 2-track promo, and alas, now in Jan. '94 the release of their debut full-length CD "Crossing the Fiery Path". Morbid, now Magus Wampyr Daoloth (bass & vocals) will lead you into his dungeon....

Morbid. The man behind so many occult bands such as ROTTING CHRIST, MORTIFY, NECROMANTIA and now even THOU ART LORD! What can you say of this latest outfit to our morbid readers?

THOU ART LORD is a project of me, Necromayhem and some other guys. It's just pure, fast, dark evilness! Nothing more, nothing less. I also play bass in ZEMIAL, new demo out in February. Cold, traditional black metall

And you even wrote the music of "The Cult of the Dragon" for VARATHRON, as well as produced BLOOD COVERED's latest EP "Winterhawk". I believe all this work does not keep you away from constantly reading occult books. So which are the books and

authors in which you seek to extend your knowledge besides A. S. Lavey?

Black arts in theory and practice take place in the night so I have time for them! Besides Lavey and Crowley, I'm into Ashwyn, Wilson, "Medieval Grimores", "The Vampire Bible" and other texts more or less known to the practitioners of the art.

As a matter of fact you have even dedicated your side of the split 12" you released through Black Power to the ominous Lavey! So what effect does it have to appear in a zine in which is featured a certain Norwegian black metal band who claims that the Church of Satan is a bunch of loosers?!

I can only laugh! Look now where this Norwegian

is, in a pretty little jail! So who is the looser here? (I got your point but anyway I've

decided it would be better not to include any names here as after all I dropped that interview from my pages - ed.)

From dark thoughts to dark sounds. In your latest letter you told me that the future of MORTIFY is doubtful and that NECROMANTIA is your main band. Please update me on any info regarding the former, and tell me whether NECROMANTIA being your main band means you quit ROTTING CHRIST, or that musically you are more involved than ROTTING CHRIST (as it has always been after all)?

First of all

MORTIFY have just released a new demo of killer death/doom! But I don't play in them anymore as NECROMANTIA is my band. I write 50% of the music and all the lyrics and so its more my creation than ROTTING CHRIST! In ROTTING CHRIST I play the synths, do some vocals, take a look at the whole song and correct the details in it, but Necromayhem is the main composer in ROTTING CHRIST.

As for NECROMANTIA and the debut LP which must have been out in Autumn '93, this will include both the tracks on your latest '93 promo as well as four new ones. Will these be the ones previously released on the 7" with VARATHRON or some new stuff?

Our album is finally out



... on Osmose
... contain the 2 tracks
... latest demo, 4 new
... "Lord of the Abyss"
... split LP with
... It's true
... check it out!

... **THOU ART LORD**,
... releasing your
... you have already
... a split 7" with the
... dark outfit
... **ANCIENT RITES**. So how
... the talk to this release
... together and what are
... to expect soon from you
... ?

When **ANCIENT RITES** played live in here, Molon Lave offered us a deal to release a split 7" together and since we both liked the idea, we accepted it. **ANCIENT RITES** are dark brothers! Probably a full LP of **THOU ART LORD** will follow in '94.

Morbid, what is the "Shadows of the Damned" NECROMANTIA fan club all about and to what does it entitle its members more than if they had to write directly to you?

"Shadows of the Damned" does not exactly work like a fan club. It's from a guy that loves our music, Krystof, and he spreads our word around the world. May the Dark Gods assist you, Krystof!

So it be! Morbid, one of the most active musicians in today's black metal scene, surely not a trend but a lifestyle. But how long have you been into all this and how can recall yourself when younger (at school or in your neighbourhood)?

I always had the obsession to create music not just listening! I formed my first band in '86 and we were playing some kind of extreme thrash those days. I love to create dark music that's why I'm into so many bands. Tiring but rewarding!

Please seal this interview with a poem!

"When the sun will be devoured by Fenris,

When the great Tiamat will rise from the waters of Chaos,

And when Satan will crush the gates of Heaven,

Then our time will come and the Infernal Empire will emerge!

HAIL TO THE CIRCLE OF EMPERORS!"

Ok, I hope that before that time comes, you will be many to write to **NECROMANTIA**, P.O. Box 79006, 172 02 Himittos, Athens, Greece.



"The first oriental death metal band" they claim to be and indeed they are correct. ORPHANED LAND, to whom is reserved by right this label, have been formed as RESURRECTION back in '91 and before releasing their debut demo and answering the interview beneath, they have played extensive gigs around their country, the Holy Land. I bet they'll get big one day as their style offers certain distinctive original parts, the which you'll understand better by reading on to their ethnic chants here.

ORPHANED LAND, it is to you that I leave the opening words. Maybe you could describe some oriental scriptures and then translate them, what do you think?

ORPHANED LAND play oriental death metal and goes far into the roots of our traditional rhythms and phrases. Combining our death metal music with ethnic melodies, we achieve our form of material presented as "the first oriental death metal band". (Good answer, but my idea was that you answer in your native language! -ed.)

Anyway tell us about the change in style from when you changed your name RESURRECTION to the present one, and on what basis had this change developed?

We got bored of regular death and hence we started combining doom elements and ethnic melodies. We changed our name and image.

In fact your style on your debut demo "The Beloveds Cry" is a mixture of European metal such as THE GATHERING and PARADISE LOST but with a healthy dose of ethnic melodies which characterize that really oriental sense to your style. So to what musical inspirations could you feel yourselves due?

We're influenced by oriental singers from our homeland as well as on the death metal side we're influenced by AT THE GATES, they are really great!

The tape you had once sent me with your track "Seasons Unite" had some techno music and Israeli grunge on its B-side. Is this also among your inspirations, or was it a tape stolen from your sister? (< ha, ha - funny question?)

Well it was really a tape from my sister's room since I didn't have a blank tape. Anyway side B had no connections to **ORPHANED LAND**.

Editing apart, let's get serious and talk on the real scene in Israel which I believe is even a healthy one since acts like DISHARMONIC ORCHESTRA, PALM DEATH, CATHEDRAL and more have toured there. What do you think of the Israeli audience as ORPHANED LAND have even supported TIAMAT and CATHEDRAL when these bands played in Israel?

The Israeli audience is good but nevertheless I would prefer more energy at our gigs, but basically each show is a great show.

And what about the scene? Any bands, radios, zines or other underground happenings worth mentioning?

Bands that are cool here are **SUBSTANCE FOR GOD**, **SALEM**, **TEARS**, **DIVINE LUST**, etc. We also had a zine called **UNBLOVED** but they quit due to financial problems.

Again I demand you to describe any last scriptures and thoughts...

Hello to all our fans all over the world and all over this orphaned land **Ard-Mukadis** (the Holy Land in Arabic).

And cheers to you **ORPHANED LAND** for giving the underground such a jolly present in the shape of your debut demo "The Beloveds Cry". May your name grow and may your oriental inspirations cast their clouds further west. Ave al- Sahara! Ave with Holy Records!

Write to Yossi Sasi, 15B, Rotchild Street, 49340 Petah-Tikva, Israel.



As I sit down listening to one of my fave (?) albums, that being METALLICA's latest (ha, ha, HIV?!), I am opening this special pack from that special being from that special band BEYOND DAWN, speciality in all required forms (salutum Utopia!), Mr. Einar Sjurso, who despite drumming to BEYOND DAWN, doing his own zine DAWNRAZOR, drinking beer and getting females to appreciate his 'Utopia', has even found some time to make you readers have a good time answering this set of questions. Avant-garde is the style of the band and I think his answers are just as much!

Hi Einar... and I bet you would not mind if I had to start this interview with some humour! So when was the last time you played live under the monicker of METALLICA to avoid the audience from overcrowding the venue?

Last time?? WE ARE METALLICA!! My actual name is Lars Kirkfield, haven't you spotted me on our last album-cover? Oh, by the way the new TESTAMENT double album is released today and it's the most mature adult-orientated piece of shit ever done! Because, like I always said, fish is fish and we all love blåbær in the morning and tannkjøtt in the evening. Sweep my honky doodles!

Oh I thought last time would have been 1913 Anno Satanas! So how do you imagine the audience of that time would react if a sudden death strikes all you members of BEYOND DAWN and hence you find yourselves on a stage of a waltz plaza back then?

We'd surely rock the fuckin' goat! Funny you should ask 'cause we've just started playing an entirely new form of music. It's called Medieval Frisbee-metal and it's quite possibly the most extreme sort of rap-country music ever to hit the lights! (< METALLICA again? - ed.) Crunch my spaghetti mama!

But then I would be one of the many BEYOND DAWN listeners to envy the people of that age for having took away such an avant-garde death metal act from the present underground scene. (In fact I can imagine my now defunct grandfather doing you an interview for his zine back in time - this is sick!)

Well, as some critics have suggested BEYOND DAWN is so musically varied that it seems that "black, death, industrial and heavy metal blended together in one big boiling furnace" may be a considerable suggestion to pigeon-hole your style. In fact, with every release

crushing its predecessor as far as every possible aspect goes, how much do you believe that the degree of this furnace has boiled with the release of your mini-CD "Longing for Scarlet Days"?

Oh, the furnace boils at 7801° F now, you know, we had to beat BON JOVI. To be a tad more serious, for once, I think that our new mini-CD actually does wipe the floor with all our old stuff and a lot else too. And our next outing, which surely will be a full-length, will again improve on the mini. Hotter than hell!

And following your 7" EP "Up through the Linear Shades" as well as the aforementioned release through Adipocere, you will then be looking for a full-length album deal. What is it, trouble with Adipocere, or is it just that your deal would then be ended, and that hence you will be excepting all prepositions from serious labels, among them even Adipocere?

BEYOND DAWN

"UP THROUGH THE LINEAR SHADES" 7" EP

Hear the grief of saints, feel the anguish of fallen knights. Heavier than heaven and hell put together, this vinyl will reveal to you a new dimension of avant-garde Death Metal



Order this 7" Ep with color cover for \$6 at :
ADIPOCERE RECORDS
152 Rue des acacias
01700 MIRIBEL ; FRANCE
And ask also for a big distribution catalogue :

There's no trouble with Adipocere. We have only signed with them for this mini-CD and we hope that it will gain us a deal with a bigger label but still we might release more on Adipocere, nothing's sure yet.

For those who do not know, you're also a zine editor yourself besides playing in BEYOND DAWN. So what are your comments on the rising wave of underground labels such as Adipocere in France, and why do you think that on the other hand, the French bands do not so gratefully answer letters, and if so, they do take their time?

It's great with new labels but I think they should be more careful about what they sign. A lot of shit bands get deals that they really don't deserve. As for the French bands I've not been in connection with any yet, at least not through the zine. Another side of the story is that good bands don't exist in

France, so if there are any, I haven't heard them yet.

But back to the earthly ritual music of BEYOND DAWN. How is it that you get hold of such human factors unleashed upon you by mother nature in your music, and is it possible to foretell the way your soul will evolve as a band in the future?

No it is not possible to foresee what will come as if it was it wouldn't be as exciting, would it? But of course I do know a bit more than you do about what the new BEYOND DAWN stuff sounds like (anyway thanks for the promo tracks! - ed.), but you'll have to wait for our next album, hi, hi

So what about the screaming Norwegian chant characteristic of BEYOND DAWN way before the black metal boom emerging from your Viking land? To which loras is their credit, and can you share what they express with us?



is not totally catching the drift here coz we've never used any norwegian in our lyrics. (Well, what I meant was the screams so characteristic in today's norwegian black metal. - ed.) Talking about the lyrics, they mostly enigmatize the darker sides of my deeper emotions.

As we close this interview down, I would very much like to know whether you'll be glad to take over some 10 copies of my zine with you next time you'll go back home. So till next dawn....

About distributing your zine, it would surely be cool, but I don't think it would be very lucrative as it would be hard to get rid of them here. Only trendy record stores here, you know. But thanx anyway for the interview and cheers to you mate. Now I'm interested to know if you would be able to sell 10 copies of your ECLIPSE zine down there? Hasta la vital Readers, order our demo '91 from me for 5US\$. The address is The Black Leather Cult, H.H. Vei 30A, N-1412, Trondheim, Norway. By the way, this is also the contact address of DAWNRAZOR zine, so all bands who want some exposure should send their stuff. I might still have a few copies of the now defunct ECLIPSE zine, and that's 6 dollars folks. From Adipocere you can order our records; the 72 is 6\$ and the new mini-EP "Longing for Scarlet Days" is 12\$. Send your cash, IMO's or whatever to Adipocere Records, 152 Rue de Acacias, 01700 Muribel, France. T-shirts might be available when you read this, I'll keep Malcolm informed so he can inform you! So if you're longing for some scarlet, gothic, darkwave metal, check us out!

As Einar says you really ought to check this band out as they really offer a musical experience equalled by few. Their music is dark and obscure, yet also groovy and full of voodoo screaming. In other words, BEYOND DAWN is not music for the cliché wave, but music for those who find music as being a ...ritual! Anyway, even if you do not like music at all, you really ought to get in contact as these guys are a really humorous bunch which will add flavour to your soul while reading their letters.

WARNING --- Before you start reading the following interview kindly remove all knives and other dangerous pointed tools from your household as I am not sure what effect will this interview have on you! With that done you are now ready to read more on Finnish doom band SKEPTICISM.

OBSERVATION --- Nevertheless the warning above, I have decided to keep this interview as the last one on this zine to ensure that you read all the other interviews before you start on thinking to get those knives out again.

HINT --- This interview is to be read on a rainy winter's day! Anyway, let's get started with what here (organ) has to say on the heavily chilling tunes of SKEPTICISM and other forms of depression!



Thank the aeon of SKEPTICISM upon the readers to introduce your depressive tunes and their ways of emanation, if so it be! If not, ...anyway with some talk here!

If you mean I should reveal the Aeoth of Kaeor, the answer is strictly NO. I have made a vow. But it is a beginning anyway.

A question which I do not usually go ape about but let's have a break: what bands do you usually listen to and how do you consider they influence your music?

I don't write much of our music, Jani does the most, but I think we are more influenced by the things that we do than the things that we hear. For example, I don't think I'm lyrically influenced by any band. Maybe a bit by some poets, but mostly by the stuff I write myself. My lyrics are only a small part of all I write. Usually also the worst parts of it. As an organist I admire the style of some Bach's pieces but it takes time before I'm even capable to put those influences to practice. Also the guy of The Doors (whose music is nothing much as a whole) has some well played parts. The records that have spent most time in my player lately are "Hammerheart", "Under a Funeral Stone", "Forest of Equilibrium" and "Drawing down the Moon". I'm also into some of the gloomier classical stuff such as Sibelius. Anyway I don't spend all that much time listening to music nowadays. What I enjoy listening the most is silence or the sounds of the woods.

Having been formed since fall '91 and with a self-financed EP towards end of summer '92, what has been the response you received from the underground along this time? And is there any ass who ripped you off whom you wish to mention?!

When I listen to the EP now, the response we got seems maybe too positive. Both of the songs were played way too fast (x'int iddumjat, ras!) and the one hour we used for mixing simply wasn't enough. A surprise for me was that people seemed to like "Towards my End" better of the two. For me "The Castles Far Away" was always the main one. The lyrics were both unsuccessful so the response was mainly positive, but particular things people liked were varying. It was our debut and it should and seems to be taken like one. I have been extremely careful with people to avoid being ripped off. Several attempts have been made, but with weak success so far.

As for the 7" I particularly liked the cover, which shows a broken frame of a family during an era of war (or so it seems). I am so much into digging how many of those in the picture are still alive if your records can help!

The picture is probably from the war time. The father of our drummer took it when he was a kid. The only thing I know of the people in the photo is that the half-bald man in the middle of the picture couldn't speak properly and he walked like a gorilla. Actually the people in the photo are not strongly connected with the idea of the cover. This particular picture just was the best we could find for the use.

Unfortunately fall '93 will see the departure of your bass player out of the band. Explain to us further about your idea of not getting in a replacement but playing the bass lines among you others?

Well, our bassist was always a kind of an outsider as he lives out of town and has very little time for the band. That's mainly the reason why he hardly wrote any of our music. So it's not a big loss. Now, being a 4 piece band we are able to co-operate better. The only place we are going to miss the bass

(and the 2nd guitar) is on stage, but as our gigs have been rare I wouldn't call that a problem. The reason why we don't get a new bassist is simply that there are no suitable players in our area. We are not looking for a good player but for a good band member. We'll take one if we find but we won't waste time searching. Of course it takes more time in the studio with fewer players, but as we survive with just us four I'm satisfied with the situation.

Another misfortune ...but anyway it's doom after all, right? Your deep vocals will be leaving the band in spring '94 since he will have to attend military service but however you plan to release some stuff before that. Will this be another self-financed 7" or you wish some label will help you out doing an LP? Will you be using MSL - Studio once more as a matter of fact?

Our next release will be a tape that we are going to record before the end of the year '93. Our songs are too long for a 7", and as we have four of them, so a tape is the only good choice. We won't be using the MSL again because it's too expensive. We'll need at least four times more studio time for the tape than the EP. The studio we are using for now is almost three times cheaper and nearly as good as MSL. This time we are not going to the studio to learn how to work there but to make a satisfying product. No label is interested enough at the moment.

By the way, usually a band's 1st offering is a rehearsal tape or a debut demo but SKEPTICISM have preferred the self-financed 7" form instead. Is this a decision taken on the cool underground mentality of collecting 7"s, or what?

Actually this is the first time someone takes that point of view to it. I never asked anybody why he bought the EP. I'm also one of the worst salesman of the world as I rather sit somewhere alone than walk around trying to sell things. This attitude is shared within the band, so we made very few flyers. Due to this and the mass of other 7"s (and the mass of shitty 7"s) the sales were quite silent and our product wasn't considered to be anything unusual.

Now to some personal questions. What are your opinions about:

a) God;

Here you must mean the god of the Jews. I still don't understand what the fuck is the Jewish mythology book (Bible) doing in Finland. Even the idea of Christ was ripped off from an elder people that once lived where Israel is now. God and the other Jewish myths are basically a way to slave people and make them pay the church. God and christianity were brought to Finland with force and violence. I know they can't be driven away with the same methods, but as Vainamoinen says in the end of Kalevala, one day he will return and the Finns will return to their ancient faith.



b) Reincarnation;

Complete shit I think. For someone it just seems to be too hard to understand that man is just one animal race. Man just got too much knowledge and he thought it was wisdom.

c) Finland;

A decent country to live in. Far enough north from the cold winters and gloomy autumns. Plenty of glittering lakes and deep woods. Small enough population so solitude isn't hard to find. Quite expensive though and money seems to be the only thing to prevent you from doing what you want.

d) DEPRESSION — You could do an essay of 500 words here;

First of all many things that are considered to be depressing have only a positive influence on me. Summer made me inactive but now the autumn has filled me with energy. To see the leafless trees against the grey autumn sky is what I call beauty. The rains have also come ... a good pouring is the best weather to have a walk outside. Within the years I have learned to enjoy things such as solitude and depression. Depression is the fuel that makes me write and draw!

Say just one word (not more) to end this interview.

Surtur.

Any survivors? So if there are anyone of you who wants to get deeper into the pictures of Surtur, scribble your grey twilight messages to :

Eero Poyry,
Mikontie 6B,
11910 Riihimäki,
FINLAND.

Jani Kekkarainen,
Paloheimonkatu 27 AS. 5,
11100 Riihimäki,
FINLAND.

P.S.: RANCID SOUP #2 (the original copy) comes with a spoon attached. If you happen to be a rip-off, stick the spoon right up you know where! To all others, have a good breakfast ... TILL NEXT SOUP!

Prior to the zine going for pressing, I met with an old friend of mine, once my postman but now retired. It was a cool time talking to Fredu I-kangaroo as I've learnt that though now he is old he is still a sick guy with a mind full of *DISEASE*, so much that he still listens to a couple of manic stuff. And guess what? Since he had not been to visit my asylum for some time, out of his pouch came out a number of demos, CDs, etc.,... which he was so nice to give me as present! Here is my review of that stuff.

OBLIQUE VISIONS - "The Fallen" (Reh. Demo 1 '94)

First on the list must surely be the debut demo by Maltese doom/death band OBLIQUE VISIONS. Here on offer is this 6-song compilation which covers a total time of app. 40 minutes playing time. Hence tracks are generally long, but nevertheless there is not one song on the demo which tends to get boring as the atmospheric though simple musical layouts give this demo one whole cave of a glorious shape, most notable of which are tracks "Dethroned" and "A Fallen World". Lyrics tend to a personal melancholic solution in the vein of many a doom band today, especially on the track "Cathedral of Dreams". However, my only neglect is that the guys have not given the songs the merit they deserve, as they have preferred to record a rehearsal rather than enter a studio, but even though, this is a good sounding rehearsal not just one of the many. For contact, check their interview.

KONKHRA - "Sexual Affective Disorder" (CD '93 Progress Red Labels)

Hailed as to be the best Danish death metal band, KONKHRA have travelled to the Sunlight Studios for obtaining the sound such a title requires, and here it is ready for your disc player this pervert collection cutely named "Sexual Affective Disorder". In fact, this release comes decorated by a fresh produced sound, but what else is that it also presents an enjoyable-to-play death/grind with explicit lyrics about nothing but the joy of sex! What else is that even though KONKHRA is original in many forms there is just the same a taste of the recent MACABRE, the older CARCASS and XYSYMA which helps make its music a little more frenzy accompanied by all those sicko lyrics so vivid in tracks like "Visually Intact", "Blindfolded" and

"Thoughts Abandoned" among all others. In a few words, you should really order this through Progress Red or Nuclear Blast at the same price of the ILLDISPOSED stuff down here. By the way, all the guys are so good looking that I bet they have an ardent female following up there in their land, but I doubt whether it will remain this way now that they have unleashed such lyrics, and moreover such insane cover art!

ILLDISPOSED - "Four Depressive Seasons" (CD '93 Progress Red Labels)

Yes, their vocalist is really a subwoofer as the inlay card of this CD suggests, but aside from that I find nothing that much devastating about this Danish act. Ok, these guys have had an immensely acclaimed debut demo with flesh-ripping solos and twisted riffs in the form of "The Winter of our Discontent", but however this time it seems that they had not enough flow to improve on the brutal approach set on their debut. Certainly they tried definitely as there are a couple of new ideas but then again, this is as for their style not as for the generic death metal field as formulas of classic intermezzos, female choirs, animal voice samplings (there is but one IMPALED NAZARENE, guys!) and acoustic guitars have all been tried out someday! However, there is a good side to this as the vocalist really varies a lot and is even sick at times, especially when he goes "Ah, Lolita!" in the closing track "With the Lost Souls on our Side", but as for the whole it would only have avoided its average cheesy death metal style if the good ideas were used for a mini-CD. A full-length bores me, but give them a chance by yourselves by sending 30DM to Progress Red Labels, Vindegade 101, DK 5000 Odense C, Denmark or to Nuclear Blast mail-order. For band contact, write to Jan Borsing, Ryvej 6, 8210 Aarhus V, Denmark.

BROKEN EDGE - Demo 2 '94

'Tis a tripping spiral intro with good mixing effects that which opens this 2nd demo of French speed/thrash act BROKEN EDGE, and more precisely opening thrasher "When Reason Falls", which along with its following two songs make me remember a moshable metal style highly inspired by the Bay Area 80s thrash, but most of all LAZZ ROCKIT. Technique is steady and nothing to argue about with a versatile drummer and strong vocalist being its special parts. What else is that there is space for some piano parts, and that all in all the production is CD standard! However, this style is nothing new, but if you want to get back to some roots, pack in your next 25Ff to Marquez Thierry, 25290 Scey-Maisieres, France. Insomma fi kliem iehor tidher li int mill- antiki Fred!

CRYPT - Reh. 93

Not an official release and I bet this is available only to near correspondents and friends of Sven, vocalist with dark doom duo CRYPT, as this rehearsal is not actually anything professional or intended to be released. Anyway the sound is not awful at all and all programming is heard clearly for me to enjoy the drowning desolation set in "(Beyond) The Orchid Kingdom" and "The Bride of Evermore". Two tracks whereby vocals are dreary and sobbing (not dragging at all but on the other hand this is the weird style very distinctive of Sven's singing), instrumentalization is suffering yet atmospheric, and the generic feeling is dreary, sad yet innovative. In few words, CRYPT are a deep torchuring doom metal band, on which more info may be sought in their interview, but just one last news is that there is a high possibility of a CD deal! Oh, hope that will be soon!



The first comments to give start to this review must for sure be that, in the first place, I must most modestly succumb to the fact that I feel I do not deserve in any way to talk about an act which product in its final form is an icon of atmospheric creativity way superior to standard acceptances.

MY DYING BRIDE

For this reason, and moreover to share, even if with my limitations, with my mates MY DYING BRIDE a piece of that art they have created with their latest opuses "Turn Loose the Swans" and "I am the Bloody Earth", I have opted to restrain myself from giving the usual cliché comments regarding the band's musical style and direction, as nowadays MY DYING BRIDE have set their distinctive sound in the genre, and who loves it remains to discover further this grand form of romance.

while those who on the contrary continue their fall down and further down till they "never hurt like this"!

So here what follows are verses which my heart conveyed to my subconscious as I listened to this sweet, melancholic stuff by MY DYING BRIDE. So it goes in a form of art, of literature, of human emotions, ...my emotions:

'Tis the concept of a misinterpretation which dresses up as a joker of embrace, an instinct to create the poetry wherein one challenges his own self's love, wherein a pendulum swings from a side to another, with one's heart on a side and his cerebrum on the other.

Swinging and rocking just like a cradle, a cradle of natural habits such as lust and temptation, which habits' fulfilment is forced upon with the music of MY DYING BRIDE, a drag to masturbation! So is enacted an imagery cenotaph of lost brides, but is this a present to the grooms? Or is this an age when melancholy is throned as king, and in which sorrow broadens its latitudes over the masses, since all sensual adventures prove false?

As for me, the solution lies with the upraising of temptation, my soul once in its puberty but no longer left untouched, and my body now guilty of the revelation of its secretful abilities.

This I'm left to beseech as the strings of a squealing violin replace my speech, that exquisite squealer which as the rest of the sensual glory of MY DYING BRIDE, have really "poured themselves into me" as this sweet lust-glide is my (and I hope not only mine) "feeling of warm desire". I could keep flowing references to Aaron's text, but then again, who am I to comment?

WILL MY BRIDE BE DEAD? DEFINITELY NOT - MY PLEASURE IS IN SEEING HER DYING!

