

# XReviews

Newsletter #8 Jun. 2009

**ROOTS OF ROOT**

**"Hated Flesh"**

American Line Prods.

Elapsed Time: 30: 28

*"Death Metal With Perfect Ingredients"*



At these hateful days, where I've been havin' a bad time, with few activity and with certain weirdness the last thing I thought I'd do was writing reviews of some discs that I still have there as reserve. I thought that today would be a day like those, where I was going to lose my time watching movies and getting' myself comfortable with alcohol. Tryin' to get out of my routine I looked around and I started to look at the rack of CD's, I see a lot of interestin' titles, but the one that called my attention the most was just because of the name "Roots Of Rot", I knew that they could have somethin' interestin' and that's how it was. Finally I get out of the monotony and I could listen to an excellent "Basic Death Metal" like incomin' from 90's with monstrous noisy voice. Imagine that you're listenin' something similar like "Eaten Back To Life" from cannibal corpse, that powerful and simple on all aspects, I gotta' tell you that these Tamalipecos used the best ingredients and the exact cooking time for turnin' this "Death" into "Death" and just that. The riffs are nice but they set free one or two melodic virtue, the drum is basic, advanced, the bass has that antique instinct that characterized a lot of pioneer bands. On the other side we have something else that result interesting: "The simplicity and fastness of their lyrics", cause sometimes 6 or 7 lines are enough to make a musical shortcut that talks about themes like death, somethin' about paganism and even protest. Every time I listen to them I imagine a dismembered zombie that watches me from his crypt anxious for eatin' my insides. The disc's

portrait is also enough for noticing that this is so brutal, I could say that's like somethin' retro, somethin' really acceptable for the band's concept, somethin' for leaving clear the message. I'd like to invite all the new blood that is on the most modern and complex of Metal and listen to "Roots Of Rot", because they're the clearest sample of "Death Metal" without vicious, or prostitution, that's the base, maybe I could try to write on some X-Reviews editions to try to explain it would work better, you better get on practice. If you wanna' know how did some classic Metal styles started listen to this and I insist again, stop listenin' to radioactive foreign wastes 'cause in our territory we have more than enough.

**TOKMAK**

**"Tokmak"**

Kapustin Yar Records

Elapsed Time: 59: 20

*"Trance Sounds"*

I always had thought that is good to listen a little bit of everything 'cause this way your thoughts and expectative grows up. I tell ya' this 'cause I dunno' if this kind of sound can be called Metal. I already got PAZUZU rejected sayin' that wasn't part of us and those guys really made music, effects, make up, intros and even official voices.



Tokmak from the far Skoje Macedonia releases this first official material with a weir sound that they call "Experimental Doom", an apparently new and fresh Doom filled with different elements out of the conventional ones and that's how it is, I've never had listen to this before. For bein' honest they're not my "Cup of tea" but I guess I've listened enough weird stuff that this doesn't even surprises me. Tokmak is a Metal on trance state, is like a deep coma, their untimed sounds are made by distortion guitars without sense and they're the sensation of experimentin' a free fall, knockin' on the pavement and enter on that emotional totally unknown shock. There's no riff were you can get used to, there's few drum in there and the limited voices are screaming and sometimes guttural. I don't believe on an

Experimental Doom, I do believe on a gathering of slow and malicious sounds tryin' to get your brain dizzy. "It's not music", just the ones that got an extra skilled sense may understand it. I dunno' if is prudent to recommend it for someone special, but the most I listen to it, the most I think is Metal, but just not part of the ones that we know now and if ya' let me to, I could call it Trance Metal.

**TAAKE**

**"Taake"**

Karisma/ Dark Essence Records

Elapsed Time: 46: 27

*"Corrupted Priest"*

We're infested of the preview stuff and putting aside my hypocrisy, I sometimes decide to be part of this... I've been told some stuff about this Norwegians, I heard that they had an interestin' proposal and I was goin' to like them... talkin' seriously yeah I did, but I was just expectin' somethin' different, I thought it was a fast considerable smash but it wasn't that way, other way I found myself into a time chamber bein' transported like 30 years behind, on the Black Metal Trash's epoch with few influence and crispy riffs, imagine Bewitched doin' an honorable attempt by bringin' back old school, somethin' like this got this Norwegians. By other side on some tracks like "Atternatt" they release a shot Abigor style which characterized them on their first and successful works. On parallel the album got a theme named "Umenneske" (the one which, by the way, comes with a video live clip) which is well opened, it manifests with intention, but suddenly like any car it runs out of gas and starts to stop until it got lost on a boring scratching of strings and screaming which were really long and with no sense, do you consider prudent to get your guard down 'cause of that? Well, the band kinda' tries to heal their 8:15 minutes givin' a little bit of roughness but for that time the damage is already done. "Lukt Til Helvete" (smells like hell) tells me that the Norwegians are gettin' better and at the same time they're not awesome enough 'cause they come well equipped with their respective rhythm changes and skills, growin' their vocalist's feelings up that on this time achieves to be along with some crude and long guitars. At this moment I found myself at the center of the disc and the dose hasn't made any effect on me, I feel like I'm losin' the interest on it tough a half time well accomplished. "September Omsider" (Last September) comes on the ring and it tells us that is a disc that has hidden stuff but is going to make wait a little bit more. Its talent and particular style are already identified. "Velg Bort Livet" (Decide Besides Life) closes with a fierce velocity

confirming what I was tellin' ya' a couple of lines above, they have their reserves makin' justice on this view of a cloudy forest that comes attached



inside the booklet, yikes! I never thought that Taake was goin' to full step on the accelerator and risk the almost totality of this disc here, I'm at the middle of the track and they already executed three well thought rhythms, easy and dangerously addictive. Its time is like almost for 13 minutes and you ain't gonna' wish it finishes. If this album wouldn't have too many empty spaces or said other way, "if they put less cream on the cake" we would be talkin' about a new and fresh album that combines the new with the old, able to satisfy the most exigent people and able to get across your ears with no problems, but the reality is the one which you just read and under those conditions they cannot be the top of the spear.

**THE ILL OVER DEATH**  
**"Steric"**

**Wandblock Records**  
**Elapsed Time: 49: 34**

*"Simply Great, But Just Not The Best"*

For the moment on our country this album is showed as one of the best MELODIC - COMPLEX DEATH METAL for any of the next reasons: 1.- The quality of the musicians is unavoidable 2.- There's less than a bunch of bands on our territory doin' this kind of Metal 3.- The recording studio got its virtues. If we see a little bit farer from our frontiers we immediately notice that us not more than another great album melodic without no fresh stuff at all, not 'cause is a damned made in-somewhere stuff, is just that, there are bands that are doin' better stuff than this... anyway, the bones or ashes of DIES IRAE watched doin' it, they knew that they still had some discs to make and I guess that they decided wisely. They got inside the "Evolution" studio for later on realeasin' the product and send it to Estocolmo, Sweden to the "Cuttin' Room". The results are nice, 'cause this "Steric" is a kind of Melodic Death Metal with complex structures, a nice body, a flamin' drum and a double voice that on its most listens like

Black and the less Death. In general I could describe it as a disc really clean, really technical, ordered, educated and generous. I almost doesn't listen to this kind of Metal 'cause I have a dirtier and aggressive taste, several times sound a little bit snob and produces me stomachaches, so before defecating it and doing it right, I had to turn the 10 tracks into mp3, get them inside the iPod Shuffle and listen to it like 4 times more so I could evaluate it on the most correct possible way. When I bought this album, the package had a sticker that makes you some questions, I unglued it and I pasted it on the frontal plastic of the disc. The questions and my answer where the following ones:

1. - What kind of light bright on your face in the middle of darkness? My answer= I always found the light at the end of the road, I prefer an eclipse though.

2. - What kind of mind cannot explain the fear of your thoughts? My answer= A mind like mine, 'cause there's no capacity on my mind for fear, I've never had it...

"Mortal visions get close to me, but I'm blind!". "A sea of blood by my mind for my faith". "Losing my emotions, we fight for rising up our hate; our



sword arrived for punishing the lies". "We feel the hate that runs by our veins", "Come on, we must get up, we must learn to be stronger". "We are like demons at war" Calls the attention the quality of the graphic design and the paper where the booklet comes, very elegant with all and every one of those lyrics, just for you to know. The pictures, well... the photographs are from a session, but they looked like rock stars for me.

"Rocking Higher" is the track that closes this disc and it does it fine, is a track really Classic Heavy Metal styled, with some rhythms really simple like the ones that are used on this style, but that are more than enough, the choirs are nice and the voice though is noble, for me it seems that it couldn't jump the fence. Including this track was an intelligent idea, 'cause it changes on aradical way the sense of the disc, it was like drinkin' cold

beer and suddenly get a try of hot coffee. The thing that didn't seemed very intelligent to me was a little discussion of a couple where the guy finally sends her to fu.. her mother, haha! From there, everythin' is not new, Rocking Higher!!

**HYMEN OF DARKNESS**

**"Unholy Total Hate... Fuck You All!"**

**Concreto Records/ Ablaze Prods.**

**Elapsed Time: 36: 13**

*"And Then There Was Silence On Sky"*

I really had found different and interesting stuff, but they say that the one that searches founds, though they say that not everything that shines is golden, I'll tell ya' why.

HYMEN OF DARKNESS the good one:

This band from Coyoacan, Mexico spends on a really prudent way a musical style called "Ugly/ Raw Black Metal Extreme". Somethin' which I'm kinda' agree, results that the music is effective really extreme, they work with considerable velocities along with a varied style, 'cause even they got some proper moments, they cannot put their influences away like Dark Throne and Gorgoroth. Their executions are good but still innocent, they got the enough for poison the mind of some people 'cause their principal thematic is the blasphemy, the lust and more themes like black arts. The recommended tracks are: "Cold" 'cause of its simple/ Crudeness, also "As The Wine Of Lucifer" and "Necrobitch (six, sex, six)" this last ones took from the E.P. "We Cum In Thy Nails" like bonus tracks. That's so good 'cause I consider that this is the root's band.

"Because the life was coming from death, that way the Prophet said, a new temple will reborn from the ruins of the antique disgraced temple and destined to the destruction by the crimes of the bad Priests".

HYMEN OF DARKNESS the bad one:

The more ad hoc qualifying for the other face of the coin are: lack of intellectual propriety and few imagination 'cause since the portrait you can find with an almost identical logotype alike Dark Throne's, really sucks by the way, under it ya' can see Baphomet's picture according to Eliphaz Levi which has just been used a lot that on this expectative it needs a rest. The title of this album starts fine with "Unholy Total Hate..." and finishes bad with "Fuck You All!" showin' that closed philosophy. By logic and professional ethic I would never say to my readers "Fuck You All!" 'cause surely some people may feel like the coat is for them. I

seems for me like the use of pictures of naked nuns with their rosary and their crucifix put where the sun doesn't get through its somethin' like routine 'cause it doesn't impact us like the first time. Conclusion: is an album of Black Metal well elaborated, on the musical side, ya' won't have any problem on it, but at



MUSICAL SIDE OF THE COIN. JUSTICE DONE DONE

the intellectual side and visual side, they really will disappoint you. You've got a reason to buy it and a reason to not to, you decide...

[Centinelas Del Pasado - Comments, Not Reviews.](#)

## FUNERAL MOON

### "Beneath The Cursed Light Of A Spectral Moon"

Guttural Records

Elapsed Time: 01: 01: 01

*"Harvest The Ruins And When You Get Thirsty, I'll Give You The Wine Of My Anger..."*

Fortunately we still have this band on service, so that it isn't exactly a "Sentinel Of The Past", this is just for the disc's antiqueness. Honor to the one that deserves it. They honored me with their discs; I honor them with my letters..." Funeral Moon, the only band in Mexico that consecrated its own style of Black Funeral Metal, somber Music and spectral sounds are not so timed. Impure Ehiyeh was telling it to me on one of the several letters sent by SEPOMEX: We don't make music and 'cause of the moment (some years ago) we haven't introduced ourselves live 'cause reproducing this at the same time is kinda' complicated. The other being "Demogorgon", I never questioned him about this participation (on the beats) I just limited myself working on AVZHIA.

I remember that night when we were transmitting on the radio by the 102.9 f.m. and I decided that for rising up more calls we were going to defy our radio listeners giving them some records of this album just saying if they were prepared enough for the stuff that they

were going to listen to, then call, other way get away 'cause we didn't want to cause them a psychological damage.

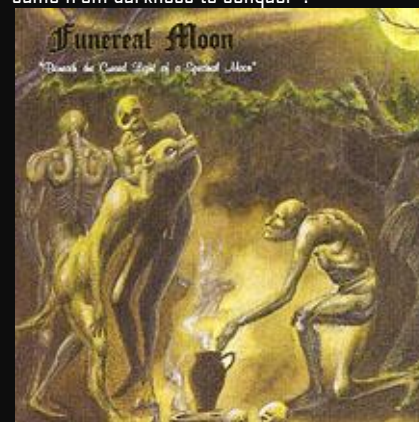
Right away the answer: A LOT OF CALLS.

Imagine being on another dimension, were the darkness rules, there's lack of oxygen, the field is sandy, there are predators everywhere and extreme temperatures, imagine that every moment you're being ambushed and of course watched as victim: track 01 "Revelation (intro)" and track 02 "Where shadows of decadence dwell".

The souls float, they walk lost and with no sense on the bottom of the hole, there's no way to know how long will they remain there, 'cause they already lost the notion of the space and time, it just possible to listen to the eco of an antique spell: "Beneath the cursed light of a spectral moon". The moment of the dark letanias has arrived and they open the path to an intent of melody, very far of it they turn on a weird distortion sound with real slowness and seriousness. "Funreal letanias from the graves".

Demogorgon, the second being that's part of this opus its manifested and it does it without warning, it takes control of the dark situation and takes us to a storm that seems that does not have end, its unstoppable energy concretes on their mortal instrument, hits once and once again till it leaves you almost unconscious, it doesn't care about your state 'cause it already took a decision of not turning around: "The howl of the black witch" (one of the few tracks which is dumb, could take musical shape). If you understand a little the English pay attention o their lyrics and that way you'll understand even more which one is the real sense of the disc and they are not talking just because they want. Previously they haven't told it, they already warned us that they were not real musicians, they were creators of spectral sounds able to explore the darkest side of the human mind and as a sample they face us with a theme really grotesque and dirty, is a no timed theme, the guitar or whatever they used to compose this was totally un-composed and out of the range, the lyrics are not so easy to comprehend and they gave the final punch creating an environment of bad feeling with too much adrenaline in front of it, even with all those defects it was a likely theme, that's why they just invited the ones that were prepared enough to listen to it "Death, War And Hate (extermination of all forms of life)". The body

pleasures get free with unmoral and masochist ritual, now the only thing that matters is the domain of the body, a romantic kiss of death to me, perdition, immortal, eternal night, sodomy, "Vrykolkas". A cutting and crude track with the only intention of establishing a throne of temptations. It possesses a technical opening and defying too with some hits really technical on the drums, like if it were anticipating you of something, later on it takes fastness and because of the sound I guess that is made just with a synthesizer and the mentioned drum, the riffs and the technique bright because of their absence: "Lucifer's Throne Of Temptations". Too many bands had tried to mix the natural sound of the prehispanic elements with the technology Black Metal style, too many had accomplished with it some others no. On this time it was able to say that it did accomplished though I'm not so fan of this kind of acts. Huitzilopochtli Lord Of War, I offer to you the hearth of my enemies... this is the phrase which the track 09 begins, the rest, you'll be able to imagine it. "I came from darkness to conquer".



The last letanie which has a little to be with music, if it's able to call it that way, is precisely this one which comes along with howls, yells and a guitar really disoriented, distortion and un-timed. This track was already introduced on their first official demos: "Werewolf Nightmare". A reflection trying to calm down the mood a little bit and give it a little bit of light to this album, is this "The sign of the end of times (outro)", executed a capela with an acoustic guitar really soft, where I think that this phrase is the most important: why can't I stop this torment?

Putting myself on the readers side I'll say that on the portrait I can see some beings with human aspects, using a special ensure for helping them to transform their selves into wolves. There couldn't exist a place better than

the forest. I know that too many will take it in other way depending on your general culture, but the one I said is just mine.

This album (recovered) is new and brings us some other bonus tracks which the last one didn't have (the one I got stolen), the tracks are: "Night cry", "I.S.A.E.B.", "Lust for a demon", which I will leave apart so I can't take you the grate of getting surprised but more than that, a different experience. If the taste born from the sight, I guess that the lecture too, so that this lyrics had awaken your interest on this disc, I'll tell you that you still can get it asking it to the company, you should, 'cause this gets out of the conventional and it turns into an article of forced acquisition.

### **NAASTRAND**

#### **"Total Holocaust (1st. Black Metal Assault)"**

**Azermedoth Records.**

**Elapsed Time: 25: 39**

*"True Underground Black Metal Bestialism, No Fucking Compromises!!"*

It seems for me like this is one of the first releases of Azermedoth and the reason 'cause I'm just readin' it's because I haven't bought it 'till now. There's no doubt that Azermedoth started their operations with the right feet...

it seems fir me that this Naastrand are not so much familiar to the melodic sound, definitely that's not their cup of tea. These guys limit their selves on an austere, aggressive, sinister, wary, intimidating and even with tints of the old Black Metal School. Their executions are with few structures and simple made but that finally works and works really well. They're not majestic or somethin' like that, but there are just a couple of things over here, some other over there and that's it.

They got a particular skill to make sound the guitar really distortion and really accord with the themes. They're just the sound that comes from the Black Metal, and that's how it has to be with no to many adorns or all that shit (Folter). No one can deny that this is a disc with too many influences 'cause when ya' listen' to it you'll know who. The drummer doesn't seem too experienced but he knows well what to do, when to hit when they ask it. The Wolfthroat's braved and guttural voice is the most common stuff, I can't find an element extra on it but anyway it accomplishes with its mission. It has a feelin' of torture and a resonated fury. This is how they say: "Bestialism without damned compromises".

This is not what someone commonly does for money. The warrior and gunner facet it is just not only 'cause of their military pants, they also have a really particular intro on hostile fields. I like their easiness and simplicity of "Black Metal Terrorism" a musical shortcut that reaches the 4: 23 min. a dirty art. "Chainsaw" keeps the same way but only on this time it doesn't make able to get away from his innocence, it reminds me a lot to those evenings where I used to go to some friend house to watch them rehearse and they created somethin' sticky so they could add it to another incomplete track and done, everythin' fixed. At the end those where just false reasons for gettin' drunked, oohh... those times, the present times ain't worse or better, they have no compare, they're just different.

"Shadows under a fullmoon light" is a Crude and Conventional Black Metal track, the choirs are really clear and easy to understand, though is a theme with good velocity I couldn't find somethin' interestin' on it nothing new in case they tried to masterize some new style. 'Till the moment I can't stop watchin' the portrait, the photos, the Black/ White environment, the title of the songs, among other stuff and is when I start to think that this result being more than I expected, on a not so far future maybe they'll prepare a second round for us, I'll be prepared for that moment to receive it and figure out



how much have they grew up or maybe got worse, one of those two thing are goinna' happen, I'm totally sure of that. "Nuclear Devastation" is basic, it has some interestin' changes, it suddenly gets accelerated and gets stopped right away I consider that this track would sounded great with a keyboard. I make a brief parenthesis on this light strings game at the 2: 39 that I always wanted and I never could

accomplish, ha! I recognize my stupidity for being musician.

"My Darkest Dream" is a little bit different but no so bad, it starts to fall down on the repetitive and it doesn't makes an intent for keepin' on the offensive, I guess that while watching the end getting' closer, simply decides to let the wind guide them. "Invertid Vuestro Crucifijo (Inverse Your Crucify)" closes the cycle of this 1er. Assault of Black Metal that already leaved me a nice impression and which I dunno' if it's only the title in Spanish or it's its own lyric, the point is that the most I listened to it I couldn't understand anythin' in Spanish, just a few stuff. The closin' is supposed to be impacting, but in this case it seems like they just wanna' finish the disc. In general they got talent and some smartness, they have the perfect quantity for makin' your ears bleed for some minutes, their austere sound gives them the exact pillar for puttin' the balance, is an act of masturbation. I don't see why you shouldn't listen to it and focus a little bit on it, I don't see the possibility after you listen to it you'll keep it forever. You well know that I don't like to mark them with numbers, but if with this you feel more confident, I'll be forced to give it a 90% of effectiveness to it.

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