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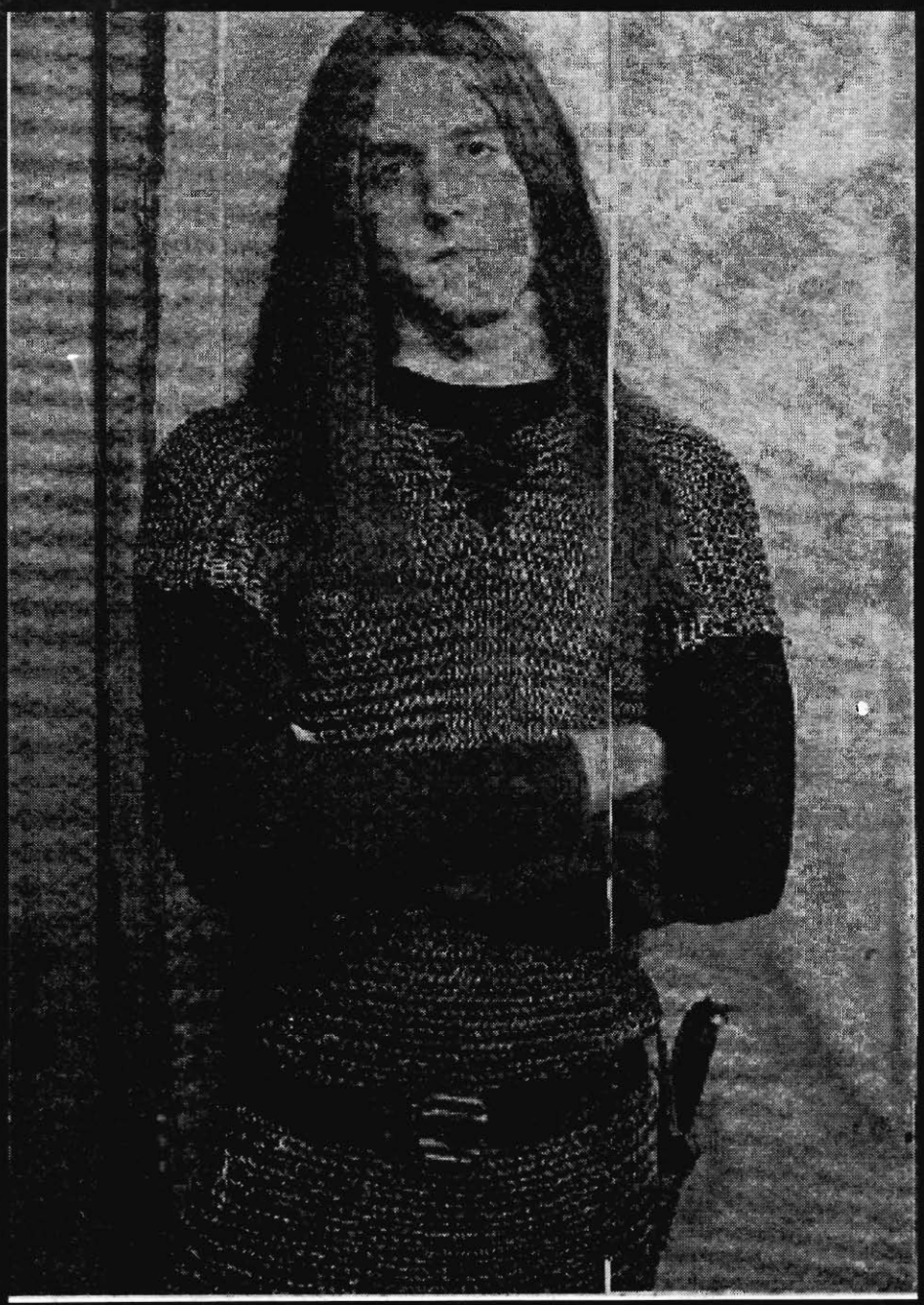

the wolf of the north.....

in this issue...

Emperor(Nor)
Accursed(Wis)
Beyond Dawn(Nor)
Solemn(U.S.A.)
In The Woods...(Nor)
Necrophobic(Swe)
Sigh(Jap)
Bestial Warlust(Aus)
Manes(Nor)
Savior(U.S.A.)
Mangled(Hol)
Nagual Mag'(Den)
Immolation(U.S.A.)
...and the mighty....
BURZUM(Nor)!!

...Also reviews,
Articles on Heathenism
in classical music,
Gorgoroth(Nor),
and Black Metal in
America...

join us.....

DESCENT MAGAZINE
c/o Stephen O'Malley
17125 Hillside Dr. NE
Seattle, WA
98155
U.S.A.

Ave, and welcome to my realm.... Descent Mag'. After several months of preparation I have finally finished what you now hold in your hands....over these months there have been several changes in the black/occult /pagan ...or heathen metal scene. It is interesting to sit back and watch the strange politics of this elite underground change.....all 12,000 miles away....In Europe and Scandinavia. All these factions have been created ...and most everyone has taken sides. I do not care...I will like and listen to whomever I please...It is too much of a hassle attempting to find out what the bands are really about when I am so far away. Well, in this issue you will find several great bands from all over the globe.....I've done all I could to make the reading and layout interesting and unique....but I can only say that the next issue will be better. Write and tell me what you think....also I would like to take the time to apologize to the bands whom I have edited from this issue (Incantation, Disembowelment, Entombed, Morbid Angel, Cathedral, and Phantasm).....which all are (or were) great bands and an important part of my listening selections at one point or another. The reason these were dropped we're for several reasons..either to old or uninteresting...and I wanted to keep things as current as possible..after a few letters about my old flyers, I also decided to take a more underground (= better) approach, maybe these interviews will appear in a future issue...or maybe not.

Thanks and hello to all my friends in the underground, thanks for sticking by me! Among others; Equitant, (Salve, my Celtic bro'), Lars, Abaddon, Diamanda, Bjarke (just milk, right?), Leon, Vlad, Richard, Plague,and especially Odin (my true comrade in darkness), Leda...without your patience this probably never would have been finished, Sky Kruse and Runhild for all your help....thanx guys!! All the guys and the bands who took the time to appear in these pages (Jocke, Rob, Jeff, Wilko, Joe, Damon (where are you?), the Immolation guys, and my northern brethren....Samoth, Olv.. Svithjod, Sargathanas, Infernus, Våer.... "Som mitt ulve-andet hyl, jeg sigerned! Den morkeste grav...ett rike av applysning..."

.....Hail all of you!

This issue is dedicated to Metalion...for creating and continuing one of the best mags' ever in the metal underground and sticking with it, keep it up, man! Varg Vikernes (keep following your inner path, my friend...walls cannot enclose your spirit), and Mirai Kawashima and Sigh....for keeping the spirit of vintage thrash alive..... I salute you.

Steve O'Malley

Gorgoroth

Alright....I think that a lot of people reading this probably are familiar with, or have ar least heard of Gorgoroth. After the release of their excellent "A Sorcery Written in Blood" demo last year, this trio from the cold Norwegian lands stirred up things and gained a lot of interest in the scene. Satanic, raw black metal is what Gorgoroth specialize in.....fierce vocals and unholy lyrics (sung in Norse) add to the uniqueness of this band. Now they have recorded an album, "Pentagram", for Embassy Prod. of France..to be released later this year (also features Samoth, of Emperor on bass)....I have heard a few promo tracks for this, and it is sure to make it's place in the dark underground! SUPPORT THIS BAND!!! Their demo is still available for $6 of 2IRC's plus a blank cassette from the band, as is a 2 song promo for "Pentagram" ($7)....also the band has excellent t-shirts for sale foe $17...it seems that Gorgoroth has turned into mainly a studio project as the members are spread across Norge...watch out!

c/o Infernus
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N M E - " Unholy Death " CD

Evoke the Spirit of what once was... and shall be again. Journey through the flames... back to an untouched and still pristine age. In 1984/85 their were only 4 true souls in the U.S.A. that dared to conjure the Ultimate in witching black/war metal. N M E have returned... and with them they bring their Hellish Vision!!!
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"We are of hell, born to sin. To us, none is sacred. We rape your mind and torture your soul. Bleed upon the altar of God. Wait not for his son. We worship the death and darkness that you fear. Kill upon thy hallowed ground, burn the cross, wicked chants, prepare for Hell. Feel the lust for death. Feast upon the infant's rotting heart. Burn in eternal hate, destroyed by Nuclear hellions. Black dawn approaches..... Reach from the grave to avenge your fallen lord! Rot before your lord christ and sin to him!! To him we pledge your lives, we, who are all that is Evil claim your soul....."

TRAVEL ON THE WINDS OF DEATH!!!

Playlist (in no particular order)

Sigh "Scorn Defeat"
Burzum all
Equimanthorn all
Tormentor '89 demo
Enslaved all
In The Woods demo '93
Infernal Majesty "None Shall Defy"
Cobra all
Abruptum all
Sadness "Ames de Marbre"
Destruction "Sentence of Death" and "Infernal Overkill"
Mystifier "Goetia"
Emperor all
Rotting Christ all
Blessed Death "Kill or be Killed"
Mayhem all
Bathory all
Varathron "His Majesty at the Swamp"
Disembowelment all

BEYOND DAWN

Beyond Dawn are one of the few non-black metal Norwegian bands.....despite this they stand firm in their own style of bizarre, melodic, and original form of metal. While the black groups may be getting all the hype lately, don't pass up on this incredible act! This interview was conducted with Einar Sjorso, drummer and lyricist.....

Hello Einar! How are you today?
Hail to you, Steve. Actually this is not "today" it's around 4 a.m. so I guess you can say "tonite" and thanks I'm feeling fine, I mostly do at these hours. I don't like the daytime, too much light .... I will sleep at dawn.

First of all ..... the standard question. Tell us a bit about the history behind Beyond Dawn and how did you get here today .... (you've had a few line-up changes, right?)
Yezz we had some line-up changes and we've also released a couple of demos that we're not that proud of today, but that's all in the past, and I don't like to dwell about this. If you want to know what Beyond Dawn is about, check out our forthcoming mini-CD on Adipocere records.

The 7" ("Up Through the Linear Shades") shows sufficient progress and growth musically from the '91 demo ("Heaven's Dark Reflection")..are you pleased with the direction B. D. is heading? And where do you see B. D. going musically, in the future?
I'm always pleased with the newer stuff, if I wasn't, I guess these would be something seriously wrong with our band. As of now, the 7" is ok, our new stuff is great and the demo sucks really bad. To predict what the future will bring is kind of boring I think, and Beyond Dawn isn't exactly a predictable band either, or what?

How has Beyond Dawn been received by the underground? Have you had a good response?
Yes, I think we've had an O.K. response. We receive letters daily and most of the people we're in touch with really dig us.

Tell me about "Longing For Scarlet Days" the new mini CD..... (Song titles, where it was recorded, etc. .) Who is putting this CD out?
The mini CD was recorded in 6 days during October '93 and the studio is called Creative. It's in my neighborhood, so it was really cool to record there. It's a great studio and I'm really happy with the result. The titles of the 4 songs we recorded are: "Cold", "Moonwomb", Chaoshero" and "Clouds Swept Away the Colors". The CD will be released by Adipocere in December '93 and T-shirts will follow.

What can you tell us about the themes behind the songs "Longing...."?
I wrote all the lyrics this time around, and they're really dark and sad. I try to express my feelings in a dramatic, romantic way, and at the same time simple and direct. I never write while I'm happy, and I don't make up things. Either it's straight from my heart, brain, dick, or whatever, or it's inspired by films, comics and other forms of literature. But what all the lyrics have in common is my way to put words to the emotions, so when one lyric is based upon a "Sandman" story it's also about me.

How does a Beyond Dawn song get written (who write most of the music, etc.)?
Usually, we put the riffs together and discuss what is good and what is not. Drum beats are added and lastly vocals. Sometimes one of us (but never me, I don't make riffs), has almost a complete song finished and all the others have to do is to approve. Petter makes most of the stuff.

Some very interesting and unique art work "Up through the Linear shades" EP...how was this composed? Do you have an interest in other art forms besides music?
The cover for the 7" was made by a friend of ours who's into drawing, painting, fucked up photos etc. The front is a tiny excerpt of a photo of the bitch in the "Misery" movie, just her eye. This bit has been blown up and airbrushed in red and green tones. The backside art is a band photo divided into three excerpts and airbrushed. It is actually our faces you see, what's a bit funny is that Petter's face isn't there, but mine is twice! You can't see a fuckin' shit anyway, it just looks cool.

Some very bizarre events have shook up the Norwegian music community last summer (Euronymous' murder, Count Grishnakh's arrest, the many other arrests, etc..). How did these events affect you and Beyond Dawn ?
To this I only have to say that Beyond Dawn does NOT play and don't want to be confused with the black metal/bar bands. We have always run our own course and will continue to do so. So you see, these events haven't affected us in anyway, at least not as a band. Personally, I think the whole Norwegian black metal hype suxx and I think it will hopefully ease down a bit now. I mean, I really like the music, but when people start killing each other and force bands to quit playing, things are getting out of hand.

Do Beyond Dawn play live often? What is the live gig scene like in Norge?
No, we don't perform live very often, maybe only 3 times so far this year, and we're not that good a live band yet. But things will hopefully change. In Norway it's hard to get a gig, at least a decent one, the best gig we played I guess was with Cadaver on a club in Oslo last spring.

Here is a list of bands....please tell your opinion of each....Mayhem, Carcass, Emperor, Bathory, Morbid Angel, Necromantia, Entombed, Rotting Christ, Beyond Dawn, Slayer.....
Mayhem is, I mean was, the best black metal band on the planet, a fuckin' shame they're R. I. P. I love the "Symphonies".... album of Carcass and the other stuff's ok too, but that was their finest moment and they'll never top it, sadly. Emperor surprised me a lot with their mini-LP as it's a 100 times better than the demo. I'm really anxious to her the new album! Bathory is one of my all-time fave, but I stopped buying the records after "Hammerheart". The 4 first albums are wonderful, but now he sings so fuckin awful.....too bad! Morbid Angel have also lost my interest. I like the first 2 albums only. Necromantia's split-LP is quite great and also the promo '90. the newest demo seems OK too, but they shouldn't try so hard to play metal, but experiment more, that's what their good at! Anyway I can't wait hear their album on Osmose ! Entombed are better than before, but I like their new style as well. Rotting Christ's latest album is very good, their best release so far!Beyond Dawn? Who is this? And lastly; SLAYER- the world's best metal band!

Where would you like to see B. D. in 5 years? As I said earlier, I don't like to make predictions cause things always turn out different then what you expect, but in 5 years time I'd like to have released some stunning albums. That's all I crave.

And the last one.....You meet someone in a bar... things move along and you mention that you are in a band. They've never heard B. D. and ask you to describe ...what would you say?
I'd flip out our latest hit single on the jukebox and let the music do the talking.....

Once again, thanks Einar! Any last comments for the masses?
Thanx to you too, Steve! It was cool... Now everybody get a copy of our new mini-CD "Longing For Scarlet Days"! If you can't find it at a local distributor or something, you can order it from: ADIPOCERE RECORDS, 152 Rue Des Acacias, 01700 Miribel, France. Prices are: $17 in U. S. A. and Canada $18, South America & Europe 16, and in Australia $19. All prices are air-mail. T-shirts with 2 color and backprint should be available for $22 U. S. A. & Canada, $23 in South America, $21 Europe and $24 in Australia. Our 7" is also still available for $7 in America and Canada, $6 Europe and $8 Australia. Demos are sold out from us, but Adipocere might have a few copies left, write first!
'zines etc., that want to get in touch with us should write to: THE BLACK LEATHER CULT, H. H. VEI 30 A, N-1412 SOFIEMYR, NORWAY. This is also the address to use if you want a copy of ECLIPSE 'zine, it's pro-printed and has interviews with bands like Mayhem, G. G. F. H., Monumentum, Mortuary Drape, Lullaby, Satyricon etc.. It's $6 in Europe and $7 in the rest of the world. Bands who wish to appear in DAWNRAZOR "zine should also send their stuff to my address. Phew! That's all for now, I'm entering the shadowzone, follow me.....

Well, I guess that he pretty much covered it.....support this original and great band!!

Necrophobic are one of the last great Swedish death metal acts who have not rocked-out their sound. What really drew me to this band was their similarity in sound to the great Slayer without sounding like a shitty clone, managing to keep their own sound. Their new album "The Nocturnal Silence" is out now on Black Mark Records.....not to be missed by any "Reign in Blood"-era Slayer fan! This interview is with drummer, Joakim Sterner.

Please tell me a bit about the history of Necrophobic?
We formed the band in 1989 and have released two demos and one EP. The first demo we sold over 500 copies, the second demo sold over 3000 copies and the EP (*on Wild Rags...still available!-ed.*)has sold 1500 copies so far. The line-up has changed a few times since the start, but besides me - drums and David - guitar who formed this band we also have Tobbe - bass and Anders - vocals and now we have an album out called "The Nocturnal Silence." It was released here in Europe in July and was out in the states now in November.

Had anyone in the band had any previous musical experience?
Tobbe played guitar and did the vocals for the band called Incursion a few years ago and Anders plays guitar and does vocals for Blackshine (Ex-Hetsheads), Tobbe also has a side project band with his girlfriend. They're called Sin.

How did the deal from Black Mark come about?
For a year ago, or something, we thought that it was time for us to start sending tapes to the bigger labels of this kind of music, and Black Mark was the only label who wanted to do a record with us. It's not a good deal, but it's ok for the first album.

Please tell me about the recording sessions of the "The Nocturnal Silence", tell me about Tomas a bit, have you achieved the production quality desired?
We recorded it in Studio Sunlight here in Stockholm during 12 days in March and we mixed it in 2 days. Of course you run into some troubles when you are in the studio, but nothing worth mentioning. Tomas is really a professional producer, but this time he was a bit burned out, y'know... tired! You can understand that. The guy has worked non-stop for 3 years. He definitely needs as few weeks off to relax. Anyway, we're quite satisfied with the production. We used our own equipment, so the sound is kind of personal.

Necrophobic seems to be a big favorite in the underground metal scene, and appear often on larger band's playlists. What has the response to Necrophobic been like?
Of course there are always people that hate everything the band is doing or playing, but without sounding like an ego I must say that I hear only good things. A lot of people are into what we do and I really appreciate that. That is nothing I can take for granted when we do something.

What are a few favorite releases at the moment?
My absolute faves of the new releases is the 2 New Fashion records; Merciless "Unbound" and Dissection "The Somberlain". Check them out.

I heard a lot of Slayer influence in your music (especially in "Father of the Creation"), what influence did Slayer have in Necrophobic's sound? Do you look forward to Slayer's next release?

Yes, Slayer is and will always be a godly band. As you said, we have a little bit of Slayer mixed in our music. Well, it's sad that Dave has quit the band coz he's a really talented drummer with lots of ideas in his playing. The new drummer is great too and I'm looking forward to hear the new Slayer album.

The death metal scene has grown at an incredible rate...especially in your country. Where do you think this is headed? Do you see an end to this?
I know the scene is getting bigger here, but if it's getting better is a better question to ask yourself. There will always be new bands popping up but who will come up with something new?

On the subject of death metal becoming more and more popular, David Vincent (and all of his incredibly huge ego) recently appeared on MTV in the U. S., what do you think of this?
I don't mind seeing death metal on MTV.

Does Necrophobic play live often? Have you had a chance to tour as of yet? What about the U. S.?
Actually, we haven't played live so much, but the gigs we've had so far has been cool. No tours yet. We'll see what happens later.

What is your complaint about the underground metal scene?
Too much shitty 'zines, bands and rip-offs.

Any last comments for the masses?
Thanx for this interview. Go out and buy our album "The Nocturnal Silence" which now is out in the states as well. Hope to tour the states soon!!!

Necrophobic
c/o Joakim Sterner
Arkadvagen 5
121 47 JOHANNESHOV
SWEDEN

THE 3RD AND THE MORTAL
"Sorrow" mcd
(H.N.F.002)

FINALLY THERE IS A NEW RELEASE ON HEAD NOT FOUND! This time we have released a mini cd with a Norwegian band called THE 3rd AND THE MORTAL. The cd is called "SORROW" and contains 4 tracks in the beatiful, progressive, Doomy Metal vein. Enchanted with delightful female vocals. Lyrics also enclosed....Price 13$! I NORGE send 50 kroner + 30 i frimerker.

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Solemn hail from the great ultra brutal death state of New Jersey home to other such notables as Incantation and Damonacy. Their sound lies basically in the Incantation realm, but still manage to keep things original with many slow, heavy sludge parts.I talked to Rob (guitar) about various things of which you will read below.....

Tell me a bit about how Solemn started.....

Solemn got started with me, Rob on guitar and Joey on bass. We were in a band called IT and due to musical differences and opinions we split apart. The guitarist and drummer went one way and me and the bassist went the another way. We kept some of the songs that were in IT because me and the bassist did the majority of the song writing, since we were going in a different musical direction we decided to change the name, that's when we came up with the name Solemn. We basically go to a barbaric and primitive type of style.....primordial, if you will. Basic and raw.

Did IT have any releases?

We never went anywhere with IT. We played locally around here.

So, how long has Solemn been around as Solemn?

I'd say like early '92 is when we became Solemn. Actually, we were first called Pigskin but that kind of has hardcore overtones.

Do you play a lot of shows?

Well, so far Solemn has only played a handful of shows mainly due to lack of a drummer. The drummer on the demo wasn't permanent, he's in another band called Deathearth. He's helping us out, we have a number of drummers helping us out also.

Have you played with any larger bands or just local, smaller shows?

Well, we played a big death metal fest with Unleashed headlining, and Suffocation, they're kind of big around here.

When is this 7" going to happen?

It should be out in November-December ('93) (*actually it is out now...write the band for more info-ed.*). That's going to be a solid foundation of Solemn. As far as what I'm not besides Solemn, I'm into reading books on different religions, early times, early man, I'm also into playing role-playing games like "Runequest" and things like that.

On the demo there's a variety of musical expression, pure death metal to grindy short pieces, which direction are you headed this time?

Well, we're really headed in any kind of different direction. Those are all expressions of ourself, you know? We're all into having death metal songs or grind songs, I don't know what you'd label it now, we just play and come up with songs (*I'd label them american style death-metal for sure!...Without the shit Suffocation clone syndrome.-ed.*). We don't really think "this is going to be more of a death metal song, this more of a grind". They're just little outlets here and there and whatever happens, happens. We never go into writing a song with anything intended, we just write and how it comes it comes.

So you mentioned the 7" is coming out, can you tell us a little about that?

Well, the 7" is going to on Avalanche Records, a new label from Kentucky. We're going to be his first release on it. We're going to have two new songs, we aren't sure of the titles yet because we're going through some member changes. Right now, we have me on guitar, Joey on bass, and a new singer, Craig. So he's really into what the whole concept of the band is about. We're going to try to push it (7") out as much as we can and see what happens, maybe even try to do a tour, if we can find a steady drummer.

What are some of the goals for Solemn?

Short-term goals; we want to put out the 7" and maybe go on tour with some of the local bands around here. Some of the bands from around here we'd like to with are Incantation, Ceremonium, even from Pennsylvania there is a godly band called Crucifier, and that's just for short-term. I mean, we'd like to come out with a full-length CD on a decent label, we don't really care if it's an independent label or a major label as long as they're cool with us. We're never going to change our style and ideas, or bend them to suit the record label, I mean, if we can make a living off of this that'd be great, but I don't know if that will happen. We're just going to keep doing what happens.

Are there very many influences on you writing style as far as other bands?

I don't know, I think that would better answered by other people. I'm influenced by stuff like Incantation, Immolation, to old Carcass, old Napalm Death with some kind of doom influences, slow stuff, with a lot of noise. I love Regurgitate, Entrails Massacre, a band called Pus. I mean, I listen to a lot of underground stuff, ranging from extreme speed to extreme slow. I guess some of it shows here and there but don't intend to intentionally copy someone's writing style. I mean I've heard people say that we sound like a cross between Incantation and Immolation, and I've heard others say we have a Cannibal Corpse-type sound (*YECH!! I am sorry you had to hear that!!-ed.*)

I don't know about Cannibal Corpse, but I could see the Incantation comparisons....

Well, me and John from Incantation have known each other a long time, and we like a lot of the same things. So I guess there is similarity here and there, but we are definitely two different bands.

Anything you'd like to tell the readers of Descent Magazine?

Support your 'zine and support the underground. Stay true to what you believe in, don't let other people dictate to you what to do, and live you life as best you can.

Rob also runs Elegy distribution. Write to him for more info and a list.

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IN THE WOODS...

In the Woods... are one of the best in this most recent wave of bands in the underground. Hailing from the northern frozen lands of Norway they are doing their part to keep their ancestors' TRUE thoughts alive! Quite refreshing in a scene flooded in unknowing pseudo-satanic bands. Heathenism and realism is what this band is all about....read on as leader Olv. Svithjod discusses the reasons for his and In the Woods... existence and support this great band!

HAIL! Let us begin... the past of In the Woods is a mystery to me. Please tell me a bit about this and the members.

Let it then remain like this mystery that you always longed for...

In the Woods is among the few bands attempting to revive the Viking spirit in the Northlands. Tell me of your beliefs and who you serve.

Among the few bands? I would definitely claim the band as for our concern the "other ones" use it as an image, besides from mortal Quorthon Hail! We do not serve anyone else but ourselves as we do believe in the divinity of wisdom for mankind. We watch upon the Norse gods as different shapes which the brave men of the north can identify themselves with. One can say: The most perfect way for us to learn and to exist.

Tell me of the meaning of the name In the Woods. Do ancient forests hold much significance for you? A source of great unbridled power and energy?

The forces of Mother Nature are just as unknown to us as for the rest of humanity. Not only is She the source of energy, but also the symbol for pure heathendom. We do see the forests as the darkest part of Nature, and therefore, In the Woods is just as well a reflection on the symphonies as it is the "carrier" for our releases.

On the In the Woods flyers I have seen a poem is written that tome speaks of a sort of enlightenment. Am I wrong to assume that you have only recently discovered your true self?

"The Wings of my Dreamland," (as on the flyer) is not about discovering your true self, but rather a new area of yourself. A rediscovering of the elder Northern instincts which were awake within us several hundred years ago.

In the vocal style of In the Woods reminds me a bit of Varg Grishnackh's, yet brought to a higher level of screaming. What do you think of the mighty Burzum and all that the Count has done? (He is dedicated to reviving Viking heathen spirit, also, you know.)

At first we need to inform you that this was never done on a purpose base, but that we were aware of it. As a vocalist within this genre, one does the screams as one has the feel for. Grishnackh and his actions we do ignore, as they indeed seem childish to us. He was never dedicated to anything for our concern. He just got a big "status" because of a decent first album and a big mouth. This mentioned status was, of course, built up by trendy followers with brains like kids.

In the Woods brings to mind a vision of a march to battle. Are you a true warrior, and are you knowledgeable about your Viking heritage?

You may call us warriors, as we fight for personal satisfaction. Knowledge concerning our proud past is far too complex to explain in full and I surely don't think you're that much interested either.

Tell us about the themes In the Woods sings of. What drives you to write these lyrics? Are they all sung in Norwegian?

Only one symphony was done in Norwegian. "Tell Ole Dade!" Which means "count the dead!" We thought the Norwegian words for it fitted the Symphony far better than the English ones. By the way, this song is the only one in the history of In the Woods which will be done in our mother tongue. I do all the lyrics as I feel the need to immortalize my thoughts and views on different happenings. Even how strange it might seem for individuals "on the other side" I'm indeed inspired by Mighty Nature to write down personal conquests. These words do speak for my concern as well as the remains of the In the Woods society." Poems do speak about values, self-overcoming, personal quests and the indeed interesting Laws of Nature.

As for the black/occult scene, a flood of bands has emerged over the past few years, yet it seems that many of the best hail from Norway. Do you think that Norwegian blood and dark visions are the key to writing the best of this style, or is it merely a trend?

For our concern, we're not too interested in this new wave. But on purpose, I have checked out quite a few Norse acts lately and it really seems that we can come to the conclusion of the fact that it's a mix of both a trend and the mood of the Norwegians in general. One could say (concerning the trend part) that a few bands started out the whole explosion back in '91. Then the second wave came and these are the bands sorting out full-length releases these days. Lately there has also been a lot of new demo-bands around. 99% of all the music these bands create all together is crap!! The remaining part (the 1%) comes from the Norwegian mood. Lately 99% of the Norwegian music into "Black/occult" can be considered as a boring trend.

Ok, the "inner circle" and its forces have now gained international notice. Your opinions on that group, and what of Euronymous' death. Is the Count doomed in prison?

This Grishnackh type will probably end a few years in jail in the future. The court of law has not been settled yet. Euronymous' death didn't affect us in any way, as he was just an ignorant "communist." A lot of bands which gained from his "popularity," though, will definitely have to grab their swords by their own hands now, but I really doubt they even have strength

enough to do this as their "fare-pal" withered away. These fake bands all know who they are. Who cares about this so-called "inner circle" anyway. If you're into it, it means that you are also into child's play!

What are the new forces that have arisen from the ashes of the old "inner circle"? Are you involved with these groups? What is the purpose behind them?

New forces? Oh, it's just this Grishnackh type again writing letters from within the concrete walls. Since all the promotion they gained about 8-9 months ago withered away, they probably need more now. So ...

Does In the Woods... wear corpse paint when performing live? What is the significance behind this? Don't you think that it's gone beyond paying homage to such greats as Celtic Frost to become a "fashion"?

Why the hell should we wear "corpse paint"? First off, it's for sure only for weak followers which suddenly become "evil" when they reckoned that there was a music style named BM. Second, all these desperate kids believe that this paint belongs to BM just because of the fact that their all other bands use it. Why shouldn't we? Attitudes. These kids never even heard of Celtic Frost! When speaking of paint, I need to mention that Cultoculus of Perdition Hearse once said that he started with it several years ago because he was highly fascinated by cannibal movies and such. This is for sure the best "excuse" I ever heard.

Are you glad that black metal is now coming back and getting more popular? Do you think it will last, or is this just a re-emergence that will happen again in several years?

It is for sure a re-emergence that will return sooner or later. When it once again returns, maybe 1 out of a 1000 bands will still exist. Maybe this Burzum will be "godz" in 10 years because "They started out 12 years ago..." It's stupid, isn't it??? Hah!!!

What do you think of death metal and other bands adopting a satanic/occult image without taking the time to discover what it is really about?

Firstly, there is nothing wrong with a band playing death metal with an occult touch!! They are indeed far more interesting that way, since they don't follow the later BM trend. A rock band adopting satanic subjects should anyway be taken much more seriously than one of these "drawn in blasphemy" kids. I have no problems with the fake bands! These will anyway be exposed by those who really believe(!!) And besides this, the particular band will not gain anything personally when they use demon names from the satanic bible without knowing what's beyond them. On the other hand, religious belief/beliefs do not have anything to do with music in general. Individuals should keep their own beliefs to themselves. What's the use of "bragging" about something which is that personal??

Okay, Quorthon and Bathory, as well as Johnny Hedlund and Unleashed, have been spreading the Viking words for several years now. Your opinions on the two bands, and do you have any contact with them?

We did an interview for our fanzine with Johnny and Unleashed. But any contact besides that have by now not taken place. Unleashed's first album kicks fuckin' ass because of its heavy and aggressive sound!!! Album 2 and 3 are okay too, but the first one is pure cult!! Bathory must indeed be taken seriously as one of the ever-mightiest metal legends. Bathory are avant-gardists because of the extreme feel on their (his) 3-4 1st albums and their (his again!!) might (!!!) on the 4-6 albums. To put it nicely, like bro Mik Kerthunen did it once: "Quorthon, your works are beyond mortal words..." We await Quorthon's solo (?) release in excitement.

Take your mind to a different setting. You are sitting in a bar when you meet someone. Things move along and you speak of In the Woods. They ask about the band and wonder what the sound is. What do you say?

I would have answered that if they had time and feel for it, they should listen carefully to our symphonies for a while. Then I would add, if you listened carefully enough and had the right interest for it (not for the music, but for the curiosity's sake), then you would have found some interesting (melodious/symphonic) parts no matter what kind of music you listen to usually. Actually, we have done this to quite a few people. The weirdest thing was that we got an old woman (about 65 years old) to listen carefully. First off, she told us to put it off. But we tried again, and after a few more tries, she said that the vocals were pretty boring, but that the music was highly inspired by classical music and its structures. We simply cannot wish for more concerning criticism!!

To what lengths will you go to reinstate the Viking ways to the North? Are there any limits?

In basic, there are no limits before one can feel that things are going out of hand. We will go as far as possible, yes...

What can you tell us of the new In the Woods material? When can we expect another release from this mighty band?

Another release depends on ourselves, our aims and, of course, the personal satisfaction. At this point, nothing is sure. The "new" material will have an even more symphonic touch. Some ignorant fools will in two years maybe say that we "wimped out." The answer to those will be something like: "We found ourselves and the atmosphere within..."

Okay, Hail, my Northern heathen brother! Thank you for answering this interview. Any final words?

Sure, thank you Stephen for the time you spent on In the Woods!!! Heathenish Regards, and greatest of luck with your fanzine further on. Our "Isle of Men" symphonies are still available for $6 everywhere. 500 copies now sold in 3-1/2 months. For your $ of the number 6, you'll receive 42 min. of Barbaric Pagan Metal in a quality recording. For those kids still believing that In the Woods is "evil," etc., stop sending your childish letters! For no matter how you put it, there is both good and evil within mankind. Tolerate that, and become one with this earth.

In the Woods...
PO box 7093, Vestheiene
4628 Kr Sand
Norway

Bjark-ing at the moon....

Nagual mag' is one of the two best "zines in Denmark (the other being Emanzipation... beer reviews..YEAH!!!)....in this interview I speak with Bjarke Ahlstrad, a great friend in the underground and the mind behind the madness of Nagual. He keeps things interesting by not just keeping the "zine in one genre, but covering the whole underground and worthy scene. Besides doing Nagual he also keeps quite busy with two bands (!!!) , namely Idiosyncrasy and Enuresis....how he finds time for all of this ,I do not know. Check out his great "zine and support his projects.....after all it's guys like Bjarke that keep our underground alive!

Hello Bjarke! How are you today?
I guess I'm pretty tired. I haven't slept much the last few days. I'm broke, I've got tons of mail to do, blah blah (*sounds familiar, everyone,eh?-ed.*)...yeah, man, life's great! Ha ha! As a matter of fact, this whole stress thing is quite cool. A lot of things are happening for me, Nagual, Enuresis and Idiosyncrasy these days...More about that later!

You have just released the second issue of Nagual! Are you pleased with the final result?
Sure, I love it! Of course there are things I regret, but all in all, I'm damned satisfied with it!

Nagual 2 has (in my opinion) shown dramatic progress when compared to issue 1. What did you find to be the most difficult aspect of starting a 'zine?
I totally agree with you. The first and second issue can't be compared at all! Issue 2 is better on every field. But don't worry, I'll keep progressing. Issue 3 will blast away EVERYTHING! When I started doing Nagual, the worst thing was getting enough contacts, I think. Nowadays I have way too many...

Do you prefer to do band interviews live or by telephone or mail?
That depends. It's easiest to interview bands by mail. Live/phone interviews usually fuck up, I mean, the tape recorder "eats" the tape, there's too much background noise, etc. Still, I think it's way funnier to do interviews live than by mail!

What made you decide to take upon the enormous task of starting a fanzine? Have you ever regretted doing so?
At the time I started Nagual, I'd been into DM for some time. I was also singing in Idiosyncrasy back then, but I felt that I wanted to get more involved in the real "international" underground, so I started Nagual. Besides, at the time I started Nagual, there were only 3-4 Danish "zines. Now there are more - most of the new ones are shit, though. But EMANZIPATION is KILLER! That one rules! Totally! Occasionally I...Well, I won't say I regret that I started doing Nagual, but you know, sometimes it's a real pain in the ass. So much work/time/money has to be spent. But don't get me wrong, I do enjoy doing Nagual!

What has been the largest obstacle in producing Nagual?
The money/time thing, no doubt! You see, I go to college, do a "zine, I am involved in two bands, etc. - al that takes A LOT of time (*no shit!! I can't believe it!-ed*)!!

How do you market Nagual? Are there many people distributing it at the moment?
I'm actually doing a lot to promote Nagual. I do flyers, I make sure it gets reviewed in other (important) "zines, I do some commercials in major Danish music magazines and so on . I've also been interviewed in the Danish Radio (6 mi. potential listeners!!) and in a major Danish newspaper as well. All that helps a lot to spread the name. Nagual 2 is distribute in most of the world. Moribund Rec. (Hail Odin!) takes care of the US, and then I've several distributors in Europe, Asia... Nagual 2 is also being sold in every Danish shop that deals with Death Metal.

Have you started issue 3 as of yet? What can we look forward to in that issue?
I've started to review some tapes and CDs. I haven't done any ints. Yet. I want them to be as up-to-date as possible. But I've plans about interviewing acts like Sentenced, My Dying Bride, Therion, Edge Of Sanity, Ill Disposed, Malevolent Creation, Frozen Sun, Belial, and others. Nagual will be totally filled with ints., reviews and a bunch of killer artwork! Make sure to check it out...

What is your one complaint about the current underground scene?
That death metal suddenly isn't "good enough" any more! Why do black metal, Industrial and doom metal bands get the best recognition at the moment? The way I see it, Death Metal still rules.

(speaking of...)**Currently we see true black metal making a reappearance in the scene. What is your opinion on this? Do you think it will last? And your views on the death of Euronymous? Did you catch the "Fuck Christ Tour '93"?**
Unlike many others nowadays, I don't care what style a band plays. It's up to them to play the genre that THEY like! I just think it's foolish that some bands/persons aren't "worthy" or true enough to play a certain genre. I don't think the Black Metal (trend) will last. Of course, the tough ones will remain. My former girlfriend knew Euronymous very well. She stayed at his place for some time. That was a few weeks ago. In fact, she lived in Helvete (=Hell) - the shop - together with Euro...and the Count. She felt quite strange when she heard that Euro...was dead - and especially when she/we found out that the Count had killed him! I didn't know Euro... but of course I DON'T think it's all right to kill a person just because you're jealous of him/her! Do, I didn't catch the "Fuck..." tour. It didn't hit Copenhagen even though it was supposed to.

Do you think that death metal has reached its peak of popularity? Or do you think it has yet to gain that point? Which of the hordes of death metal groups do you think will still be standing when the

smoke clears?
I'm not sure. I've never seen so many people at concerts as now. In fact, I think that death metal will get a little bigger the next year or so, and then... Who knows? Hopefully bands like Napalm Death, Entombed, Edge Of Sanity and Deicide won't split up in the next year. That would be a shame. Also, I wouldn't underestimate the more underground-minded bands; a lot of them do have the guts to continue!

And it seems a satanic lifestyle is also becoming the new thing in the scene. What do you think of this and Satanism in general?
I think it sounds very primitive (childish) and uninteresting when a band writes "Satanic Death Metal" on their flyer. I am not a Satanist. I think it's wrong that there's so much Satanism combined with DM; you don't have to be a Satanist to play or like death metal. I respect people's beliefs as long as they respect mine!

You are also in a few bands. Tell me a bit about both of them.
I've got two bands. Idiosyncrasy is my "real" band, and Enuresis is a project band with members from Detest (CD out!), Idiosyncrasy and Swedish Deranged (7" out!) Idiosyncrasy has been around since 1991. We haven't recorded anything yet. We've just rehearsed and played live MANY times! Enuresis has recorded a promo tape which has four songs in the Death/Grind genre. Quite catchy! Check it out. Idiosyncrasy will enter a studio April or so to record our debut demo. Watch out for that one!

Enuresis plays a different, more unique form of death metal, yet is not a full-time band. Is Enuresis really that serious?
It sure is! The two Swedish members just stayed here and rehearsed with us 3 days ago. They were here 3 days and we rehearsed like maniacs. We are very serious! We've also got plans concerning live performances.

When can we expect another release from Enuresis?
Well, we've just recorded some rehearsal stuff, which is totally fuckin' raw. It really shreds! And the sound is good too. You can get it from my address. Just send a blank tape and some $ for reply postage. The promo costs $5 in Europe and $6 elsewhere. We'll record some songs for a 7" and/or perhaps another tape around April/May. It should be out soon after.

Does Enuresis play live often? What about Idiosyncrasy?
No, Enuresis hasn't ;played live yet. But Idiosyncrasy has!! We play live all the time!! Tonight (Jan. 8) we'll play with Detest in Copenhagen at a pretty big place!! It will be soooo wild! There'll be tons of people, beer and groupies of course, he he... We're booked for the next two months. On Jan. 16 we'll play at a HUGE festival on the other side of the country. We've even got plans about going to

Finland and play with Belial and Disgrace around March!!!

How is the scene there in Denmark? Are there many good bands left or are there only a handful worth mentioning?
Actually, I think the scene around here is pretty good. We've got great bands like Frozen Sun, Dominus, Detest, Caustic, Cyanotic, Geronimo and Ill Disposed (gods!). Other bands worth checking out are acts like Beyond Serenity, Iniquity, Parricide, Disaster Area, Iconoclasm, Sacrificial, Konkhra, etc. And of course, Idiosyncrasy as well, ha ha. We've got some cool "zines like Emanzipation (Hej fede!), Trechoma and Metalized. Yeah - the Danish scene is cool!

How did Enuresis come to be (Why did you decide to start the band)?
I wanted to do something a bit different from Idio... Something more GRINDING! I totally love grind. We do grind in Idiosyncrasy, but not that often. Besides, I think it's cool to jam with members from other bands. Enuresis is different from all our "real" bands.

You meet someone in a bar, things move along and you mention that you are in a few bands. They ask what the groups sound like. What do you say?
Ha ha, good question. Now and then I say death metal, and if they just look at me as if I was (am I?) mad, I just say heavy metal or heavy rock. I say that we probably sound like noise in their ears...we mostly do.

What do you think of bands such as Entombed, Cathedral, and Carcass making significant changes in their styles and/or sounds on their current albums? Do you appreciate what they are trying to do?
That depends. You know, I love the new Entombed and Cathedral albums; they're great. I don't really like the new Carcass. It's a good thing that bands improve. But what I DON'T like is that so many bands are saying "We're turning heavy metal nowadays." Especially a band like AFFLICTED!!! They've always been extreme. Their "Ingrained" 7" from '90 is a killer, and their album was also okay, but then I got their new promo tape...SHIT!! They play Power Metal now. I mean, that is NOT AFFLICTED!!!!. If they wanna play Power Metal, they should change their name. They're confusing a lot of fans.

Your 5 favorite releases of '93?
In no particular order:
My Dying Bride "Turn Loose the Swans" CD
Edge Of Sanity "The Spectral Sorrows" CD
Ill Disposed "The Four Depressive Seasons"
Bulge "L.O.A.D." 7"
Cross Fade "Ruined" Demo

Thanks a lot Bjarke! I hope this was interesting (and not too boring) for you. Any last words?
I hope you enjoyed my answers as much as I enjoyed your questions! This interview was cool. I can't wait to see Descent 1! Thanks a lot for your support, Steve! Everybody out there into death/grind/metal should buy Nagual 2. Americans can get it from Moribund Rec. Everybody else can obtain it from my address for $4 (Europe) and $5 (elsewhere.)

Nagual
c/o
Bjarke Ahlstrand
Brandholms Alle 26F
2610 Rodovre
Denmark

Do not be fooled by the name...Savior are not a christian band...but rather a good punk/death hybrid. This band has been around since 1986 (!!!) having released six demos and appeared on a comp. CD. A four-piece that manages to put on a great show live as well.....they are currently searching for an album deal so if you are into old-school (read: early to mid 80's) punk rock check them out.....I spoke with Jeff (vox, guitar) so read on.....

Hello again, Jeff. How are you today?
Just fine, though I've been pretty busy as of late. Things are rolling along real well for our "Bleeding at the Heart" release. I'd like to say that it is now available through Relapse, Moribund, and Rainforest Records for those interested in where to get it.

Savior has been around for quite a while. Could you give us all a look into the history of the band?
Actually, Savior took form in 1986. We've been through several line-up changes over the years. Our first demo was recorded in 1987. Since then, we've recorded six demos. We've always played fast and brutal. It's funny looking back at a time where we wrote songs about Satan. It's pretty retro nowadays, I suppose. We've since moved on and now channel our energy into exploiting political and social situations. We've been lucky enough to play gigs with bands like Poison Idea, Accused, No FX, Sadus, Cryptic Slaughter, Wehrmacht and Phobia, to name a few. Currently, we are looking for a label that will support a tour.

How does it feel to be on a G.G. Allen tribute album? What do you think of his death last year?
The G.G. Allen tribute was cool to be involved with. All the bands were punk except for Savior. That release also has a very cool interview with G.G. from prison. I'm glad he's dead. He was cool to a point, but I don't listen to his music anymore. Who needs him? His show in Portland was truly the sickest performance I've ever witnessed. He's too much of a queen for me.

Savior's music has a bit of hardcore overtones. Are you a fan of that style? Have you played in any HC bands?
Very much so. I grew up in the Portland scene, going to Poison Idea, Accused shows. Portland used to have hardcore/punk gigs every weekend. Bands like Broken Bones, D.R.I., Crass and Conflict will always ring true to my ears. The only hardcore band I've played in is Dickfinger, which still exists. Recently, I've been playing in a punk band called the Hetero's, which also consists of the Savior drummer, Dustin Duvall. I've always liked both death metal and hardcore, so naturally the influence from both styles is apparent in Savior's song writing.

Also, Savior's lyrics are not the typical death-fare. Tell us a bit about what inspires you to write such socially-conscious lyrics.
The inspiration comes from all that surrounds us. The things we have to say will make people think. The lyrics might even be about them. Our lyrical content will appeal to the honest and the hard working. We attack politics, the welfare system, media, conformist's, child abusers, rapists and other criminals. We are not sympathetic, nor do we worry about being insensitive. We have definite and stern opinions.

In a time when being "politically correct" is the expected thing in our country, those who aren't are frowned upon. Are you PC and what do you think of this 'trend"?
We are not politically correct by any means. As a matter of fact, we're just the opposite. I think this trend is out of control. All these special interest groups have one common goal and that's to shape the public's opinion. In Portland you can see these hypocrites preaching things like "Don't eat animals; it's cruel." Yet they wear leather boots and jackets. They'll print 'Save the trees" literature, not knowing that trees make the paper they write and print on. Not to mention that they wipe their asses with toilet paper, which also is a tree product. I would bet they all own wood furniture and live in wood houses. Oh yeah, did you know that owls are now more important than people? Ridiculous! There's so much more to it than what you and I have time for right now.

Savior has shared the stage with such greats as the Accused and Poison Idea! Does Savior play live often and what has been your best live experience?
Savior plays live all the time. I would guess that we do about 15 shows a year. The best live experience was playing with Poison Idea to a crowd of 900 people.

Complex riffing is also abundant in Savior's material. Do you ever have a problem pulling this off, along with vocal duties, live?
No; I've been playing guitar for almost ten years. I suppose every now and then I get sloppy, but that's only if I drink beforehand. Which I normally do not do. I just concentrate on the vocals and the guitar riffs fall into place. I will not smoke pot in an attempt to play and do vocals at a gig.

You also do a "zine, Loud, Fast, Rude. How did this get started and what can you tell us of it? Next issue?
I started doing the 'zine close to a year ago and have since pressed five issues. I started it because it keeps me very, very busy, along with the band. It's one way I can support the scene, and at the same time make connections and friends. It's now done on computer and the layout and print are excellent. Issue #6 is coming along real well. So far I've got interviews with Candiru, Victims of Internal Decay, Sickness, Immortality, and Malevolent Creation. Also, a lengthy Polish scene report, as well as an article on Septic Schizo Radio show in France.

Your bio states that your current song list is at 25!!! Has Savior decided when to release a full-length album? And with who?
We have two independent labels interested in releasing a full-length. We will hold out until summer to decide what label to release it on. The interested parties being Rainforest, here in the states, and Community Three in Poland. We are soliciting our material to bigger labels in the meantime. Going with an independent makes a tour real hard, so we will weigh our options and decide this summer. Ray at Rainforest has expressed interest in releasing Savior on CD, which sounds good because at least we can trust him. At the time we'd like to take the risk of a bigger label that can help promote the band.

Do you ever think a death metal, hardcore, or black metal band will sell a million albums?
I don't really think so, unless it's very commercial. Maybe Sepultura, but they're not really death metal. If it is achieved without bending your rules as a band, I can respect that. Definitely not black metal, and maybe with commercial hardcore crap like Bio-Hazard.

Well, that's about it...last 10 words?
Feel free to write Savior and/or Loud Fast Rude "zine for more information.

Savior
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Mangled come to us from the Netherlands.....a strange place to hear such interesting doom-death. After going under several other monikers they decided on the title of Mangled and have released two demos since. "Perish" is the second of these, having been released only a few months ago, and is quite good. This band uses several atmospheric/doom techniques and ideas while not sounding like a My Dying Bride-clone....the production sounds a bit too Swedish but this band is sure to turn some heads. Also, they have just signed a 7" deal with Gutted records, so look for a new release soon!

Hello again. Please introduce and tell a bit about yourself.
Well, we're Mangled, from The Netherlands. Our line-up is: Pepijn Houwen - Vocals; Paul Dunn - Bass, Wilko Reynders - Drums, Harold Gielen - Guitars, Erwin Hermsen - Guitars. We've recently released our 2nd demo "Perish."

When did Mangled get started and what has occurred within the band since/
Back in 1989 we started a band called Abdominal Bleeding. We changed our name a few times until it became MANGLED! We've had a few line-up changes back then but we play for almost three years now with the same line-up. In March 1992, we recorded our first demo, 'Cadaverous." In September 1992, we had a deal with Cyber Music to appear on a compilation CD called "Appointment With Fear Vol. 2." In July 1993, we recorded our second demo, "Perish."

You play very melodic doom-death. Is this your favorite style? What are some of your favorite groups within the scene?
No, it's not. We listen to all kinds of (death-)metal. Our favorite bands are: Edge of Sanity, Hypocrisy, Grave, Phlebotomized, Crematory, Konkhra, Neolithic, etc.

The production on your "perish" demo reminds me a lot of the first Dismember album. Any influence there? Other influences?
I don't think so. It must be a coincidence. By the way, our producer had never recorded death-metal before, so he also couldn't have been influenced by any death-metal band. I can't name any band in particular that influenced us. Most of us grew up in the NWOBHM period and this unconsciously influences our music. Nowadays, we listen mostly to all kinds of metal and this also influences us, I suppose.

You also include some female vocals at times. Whose idea was this and what is your opinion of using non-standard instruments and effects with death and extreme metal? (Such as horns, strings, female vocals, harp)
Our vocalist came up with the idea. Although we knew that it wasn't something original. We thought it was cool to do it anyway. I think that it's cool to use non-standard instruments up to a certain limit. Some instruments lend themselves very well to use in death-metal (violin, strings), some don't (trumpet(*I disagree here!-ed.*), wood-block). You know what I mean...

What do your lyrics speak of? Any particular point trying to be made?
Our old lyrics were just splatter and gore. Nowadays, the lyrics handle the emotional life of several people. Mostly one of them is our vocalist himself. The main item, of course, remains death.

How has the new demo been received? Made any label contact as of yet?
It has been received very well. We've sold about 250 copies only by mail! A few labels have showed interest in our stuff, but we're taking some time before we take action.

What can you tell us of new Mangled material?
We have a few ideas for new songs. They will be more in the style of 'Perished Innocence," and "The Emptiness of Being." Maybe around summer '94 we'll release a 7" with an old unreleased track and some tracks from the "Perish" demo. Nothing for sure, though!

Many groups these days seem to be incorporating Satanism and/or other religious factors into their music. Something Mangled does not do. What do you think of this and why do you think those topics appear in so many bands themes?
We're not attracted to any kind of religion, so there's no use for us to mention any in our lyrics. I don't give a damn when other bands do mention it. For me it's still the music that counts. I really don't know why so many bands write their lyrics about it.

It seems that Mangled has played with some larger groups such as Pestilence, Gorefest, and God Dethroned. How did these gig(s) come about and does Mangled play a lot of shows? What's a typical Mangled performance like? (Do you still incorporate female vocals live?)
Mostly the people who organize the concerts give us a ring and then we make the necessary arrangements. It's very hard for us to describe our own gigs, but I can tell you that we don't incorporate female vocals and keyboard live. Because they have minor parts on our demo, you won't hear that they are missing live . Mostly we sell a lot of demos and shirts on our gigs.

And now the standard Descent question. You meet someone in a bar, you mention that you are in a band and they ask what you are like. What do you say?
Pure Grave Rock! Huh? (This is what we call our music.)

Well, that's about it. Any last words? Tips?
People who are interested in writing, trading, merchandise and stuff can write to:

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Sigh have been around for quite some time now, having released two demos (1989 and 1990), an EP (on Wild Rags) in 1992, and their album (on DSP/V.o.W.) which was released early 1994 after several months of delay via Euronymous' death. What can I say about Sigh's music?....Well these days it is TOTALLY influenced by early to mid '80's thrash (especially Celtic Frost) with a modern blackened touch!! Fucking great stuff!! Another element this band uses alot of is piano...not keyboards but piano (although keys are also used). I think it adds a unique element to their music. Also this is the only band in the scene that I know of that is into Asian mysticism...if there are any others out there please write!!! Like their fellow comrades, Sabbat, they are doing their part to keep the great sounds of mid-'80's black/thrash alive!!! Support these true brothers.....I inquired with Mirai (bass, chanting, and piano) about the band's future, past, and present.....

Hello again, Mirai. Tell me a bit about Sigh's beginnings? What's the current line-up?
First, Sigh was formed in April of 1989 to play songs by Venom, Whiplash, Deathrow, etc. In 1990, we recorded two demos, "Desolation" and "Tragedies," either of which we don't spread any more. In May of 1992, "Requiem for Fools" 7" ep for Wild Rags Rec. was recorded and fortunately, it brought us to sign to mighty Euronymous' DSP. We recorded our debut album "Scorn Defeat," in March of 1993, and now it's finally out on DSP. The current line-up is: Mirai (b/Vo/key/piano), Satoshi (dr), Shinichi (gu).

Sigh's sound has seemed to progress toward a black sound the longer the band has existed. A conscious change? And why?
Well, I guess our sound has gone toward early thrash metal style. The biggest reason could be the change of my way of singing. Plus, Shinichi joined us from summer of 1992. He is completely influenced by early thrash metal bands.

Sigh's newest material (comp, CD track) reminds me a lot of older "Morbid Tales" era Celtic Frost. What do you think of this and other early thrash bands? Any favorites? (Destruction kills!!!)
Celtic Frost is our eternal God. Personally, I love "Into the Pandemonium" album the best. When I first heard that album at the age of 16-17, it sure was too avant-garde. But after a few years of listening, I completely realized how innovative they were. Besides, C. Frost, I'm into Whiplash (1st LP), Destruction (1st, 2nd), Deathrow (1st, 2nd), Sacrifice (Canada, 1st), Warfare (Metal Anarchy!), Sodom (In The Sign), Kreator (Pleasure to Kill), and many others. To me, these bands are way more brutal and enjoyable than today's "death metal" with 100-semitones down-tuned guitars.

Okay, so you are more into Oriental occultism rather than Satanism. Tell me of some of the rites you practice and also of your opinions of Satanism and other forms of occultism.

Yes, Oriental Occultism is great. Especially I'm studying Dakini and Izuna, both of which were quite popular 1000 years ago. Oriental Occultism requires some tough ordeal. You have to chant Mantra hundred-thousand times, or even a million times. Now I'm trying some secret rites to obtain the supernatural power by awakening Nighthead.
As for Satanism, I guess some are great. But organizations like the Church of Satan is pure shit. I've read LaVey's "Satanic Bible," but his description about Japan's demon is totally wrong. If he knows nothing about Japanese Occultism, he should not have mentioned it! Whatever your occultism may be, hate should be the point. Hate is the power.

I'm sure it was a tragedy to you when you discovered Euronymous was murdered, and now Count Grishnackh is facing charges for that assassination. What do you have to say about Euronymous, Grishnackh and the killing?
Euronymous was a great friend of mine. I often talked with him on the phone. He sure was a talented and innovative guy. I knew Euronymous and Grishnackh hated each other vehemently. But I never expected it'd end up like that. I even talked with Euronymous just 3 days before the murder. He told me a lot of plans to make black metal bigger, and probably he had some more ideas in his mind, but he took all of them to the grave. Now I've got new Mayhem's CD and what can I say about it.... I remember Euronymous told me the new album would be great, and now I realize what he meant. Sorry, but no comment on Grishnackh.

The black metal/occult music scene seems to be exploding in Europe, yet nothing much is happening here in the states besides a few bands (hail G.B.K., Equimanthorn, D.E.!) How is the scene there in Nippon? Who are some of your favorite groups from around the globe?
The Japanese black metal scene is really poor. I only recommend Sabbat and Abigail (*both par excellence!!!-ed.*). Abigail plays quite fast, simple black metal. Their upcoming 7" ep on HSB Rec. is incredibly great. Sabbat has been around for almost 10 years now. Unfortunately, their recent stuff is more in the death metal vein, so I prefer their early 7" eps released in the 80s. Of course, there are some idiots who jumped on the black metal trend, namely Ohura-Mazdo. They used to play Dismember like death shit a few days ago and suddenly became "black." I can't figure out why they should claim to be black while playing extremely boring doom metal. One of the members is doing a 'zine called "Occult Grinder" (*which is actually a good rag...-ed.*). They don't even know what black metal IS! In my opinion, black metal is an evolution of early thrash metal against boring death/grind with growling vocals and over down-tuned guitars of today. Ohura-Mazdo down-tune their guitars by 8 semitones. Black metal is only for the chosen few, not for the trendy little kids like you, Ohura-shito!!! My favorite black bands today are Mayhem, Monumentum, Carpathian Forest, Cradle of Filth, Bal Sagoth, Ulver and so on. Also, I love some other atmospheric metal bands like Decoryah, Beyond Dawn, etc.

Japan seems to be more well known for its noise acts (Boredoms, Merzbow, etc.) Do you enjoy this style at all?
I've heard of those names, but I've never heard their music, and I won't, either.

Okay, let's talk a bit about the CD "Scorn Defeat." Are you pleased with the results and Voices of Wonder's handling of it? What could make it better?
Yes, I think the result was okay as far as music is concerned. Of course, if we record it again, we could do it better, because it's been a year since it was recorded and our musical abilities have progressed a bit. I guess "Ready for the Final War" could have been much better, but I'm completely satisfied with the results of "A Victory of Dakini" and "Taste Defeat." The worst point of the CD is the cover artwork. It was going to be done by Snorre of Mayhem, but he was arrested as an accomplice in Euronymous' murder, so I left the artwork up to V.O.W., and the result was....

Sigh uses a lot of pianos, acoustic guitars, and other more unique (at least for this genre) techniques and instruments. What is the overall effect you are trying to pass along to the listener through these methods?
I'm sure that the instruments like piano, acoustic guitars can express the sad and hopeless feeling. Lately, using synthesizers is trendy, but only a few know how to use it while most sound as if 5-year-old kids are playing. I adore bands like Decoryah; they know how to compose songs and how to play the piano.

As for Sigh's lyrics, tell me some of the themes you delve into on "Scorn Defeat" and why these lyrics are not sung in Japanese. Wouldn't that make them more authentic?
First of all, the title "Scorn Defeat" was taken from the lyrics of "Welcome to Hell," by Venom. There's no meaning behind this. I just liked this phrase, so I took it. As for my lyrics, they mainly deal with Oriental Occultism and my view on life and death. I'm always trying to write lyrics in Japanese, but it won't fit to our music because of the peculiar pronunciation. But I'm sure some of the lyrics on the second album will be in Japanese.

Does Sigh perform live often? Describe a typical Sigh show. Do you draw many fans and how are shows in Japan in general? (I hear that the clubs are very small.)
We usually play only a few times a year. We don't like to play in Japan very much, as only Earache brats will come see us. They say "I'm a grind freak, but black metal is cool, too." They don't know what they're talking about. When we play, we use a lot of blood, pyro effects and so on. You're right; Japan's clubs are usually very small. We don't play seriously in front of the trendy show. We play Venom's songs to tell them how real brutal music should be. I guess most of them can't tell Venom tracks from our original songs because they came into these scene by listening to Napalm Death.

Okay, it's been just about one year since the album was recorded. Is there another release in the works currently? What can you tell us of the newest Sigh material? Will D.S.P. release it also?
In January, we recorded "The Zombie Terror" for a Japanese comp CD planned by Sabbat, which is due out in April. This song is 10 minutes long, and we're quite satisfied with the result, while some people aren't up for it because it's too weird! Soon we'll enter the studio again to record the tracts for a split 7" ep with Kawir, a side band by Stephan of Varathron. It'll be out on Cacophonous Rec. in the UK. The songs on a split 7 ep are very short; probably you'll never expect songs like this from Sigh. Soon we'll start preparing for the second release. We haven't made up our mind which label to sign to yet.

Also on the topic of D.S.P., do you think the takeover by Voices of Wonder is just an attempt to cash in on bands such as Sigh, Abruptum, Enslaved and others?
I don't think so. Euronymous told me he trusted V.O.W. Rec. very much, so I don't think they're in it only for money. Even if they tried to cash in on Sigh, wouldn't it be great that our band could make money!

Okay, here is a different question. What is your most favorite lyric or song of all time that you wish you had written?
"Mesmerized" by Celtic Frost. I really love this song, both musically and lyrically. Real innovative vocals and extremely weird lyrics. Just brilliant! (*good choice....-ed*)

All right, infernal hails for answering this interview, Mirai! Last words...
Thanks a lot for this interview, Stephen. If you're interested in Sigh, just drop me a line. Our CD is available for $20. "Requiem 7" ep is for $6, but only a few copies left, so hurry! The split 7" ep with Kawir and the Japanese comp CD might be out when you read this interview, so just write to me and ask. Beware, our music is not for the grind assholes! Join our Dakini horde.

Sigh
c/o Marai Kawashima
1-2-8-401
Mejiro
Toshima-ku
Tokyo
171 Japan

COUNTESS

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the wolf of the north....

Ahhhh...Burzum...I have to say that this is one of my favorite bands. Burzum is the spawn of the infamous Varg Vikernes ,also known to some as Count Grishnackh....this band has remained a one-piece since it's conception in 1991, although Samoth , of the mighty Emperor, did play bass for a time during the "Aske" (the band's second release) period. It is amazing that one man can write such emotional, mystic, and powerful material.....the songs have a majestic and even royal sound in places....proud music for true heathens. "Hvis lysett tar oss", Burzum's fourth album, has just been released by the newly-formed Misanthropy Records of England. It once again shows that much more can be molded from this musical style than the critics ever thought.....an epic release, that is for sure. Hail Burzum!!

Hello again, Varg. How are you this evening?
Alive 'n thriving as yet.

Okay, let's dive right into it. You have informed me in your letters that you are an Odinist. I am curious, when you first heard about Odinism did you have an immediate attraction to it?
My heathendom is and has always been within me. Odinism is not a fixed religion; it's a way of life I have always been living, though not always conscious of it. My heathen consciousness didn't come over a short period of time. Such things develop slowly.

You are a man of pure Viking blood. Why were you misled by Satanism and occult subjects for so long? It seems Odinism would hit closer to home, wouldn't it?
I have never been misled by Satanism nor Occultism; heathendom is both. Odin is my father and he is an opponent of the Christian "God." In Hebrew, "Satan" means opponent. Thus is Odin Satan. The one-eyed Satan of the North. That makes me a Satanist as I follow my father. If you study my symbolism, you find the Kakenkreuz (swastika) and the one eye. No pentagrams nor any inverted crosses that so many believe is Satanism. Maybe it is, but not for me. I am a Northman with symbols of the North. Alas, for many those are well hidden.

When you think of such gods as Odin, Frey, and Thor, do you think of them as actual beings who exist, or do you regard them as some sort of force or energy, whether inside you or in the world around you?
They're not "gods," but aces. They're the archetypes of the Northern race. Thus within me. They're the names we gave to what once was during what once was so that our posterity should never forget. Alas, only a few of us remember, and we always will. I will never forsake my forefathers, my nature, or myself. And truly this is what heathendom is - our nature.

You have also mentioned that you do not see these same gods as "good or "evil," a more realistic way of viewing things, in my opinion. What has led you to coming to this conclusion?
I am indeed evil in the eyes of Christians. But as you say, there is no evil. When studying my own tongue, I found that we had no word for evil before the Christians came to our lands, desecrating our soil with their foul arts. We had only words for good and bad. We might be merciless, brutal or whatever, but it's not evil. For some it is bad, for others good. Evil is a Christian word, and it's as unreasonable as the religion it comes from. Still, I am evil for them. Let them degenerate with their infant stupidities. I will evolve with the laws of nature. There is always a good in anything bad.

How much does the average Norwegian know about Odinism? Is it accepted as a "religion" there, or is the common attitude that it is merely "history" (that Vikings just sailed around, conquered, etc., but it is a thing of the past) without seeing the true sense of spirit behind it all?
We all learn about the Christian interpretation of heathendom making it "mythology." More and more are waking up from the sleep of idiocy and following their nature. By showing my interpretation to the people, I light the heathen fire in their souls. It's inevitable, because it's our archetypes. Odin wins.

Are you in contact with other well known Odinists, such as Johnny Hedlund of Unleashed and Quorthon of Bathory? What do you think of what they're trying to do?
I haven't noticed them doing anything at all really. I think they're too influenced by the Christian version of heathendom. Still, they're worth supporting. No, I have no contact with them. I prefer action to words, so far I have heard only words from them. Of course, I have never taken any action either. Ha Ha!

You have been a target of many accusations of Nazism. What does the swastika mean to you? What do you have to say to these accusers?
They manifest their lack of knowledge about me and my symbolism. Also, usually the same people haven't the slightest idea of what Nazism is really all about, so how can they tell if I am a Nazi or not? I really don't care about what people say or call me. I am what I am. A true Northman. Nothing can change that. The swastika is the hammer of Thor, cleaving through all darkness of matter. The mightiest weapon. With it we shall crush the skull of the Christian "God" and his inept people. Alas, I am no Nazi. I am a Hvite Aryan Odinist!! Call me whatever you want. I shall only stand proud. I take it as a compliment when called a Nazi. For I would rather be a Nazi than a ludicrous democratic forsaker of my own race. Heil Wotan! Save the white race!

Also, a few record labels have dropped interest in Burzum because of your supposed Nazi beliefs. Seems like those labels are bowing to the great "politically correct" corporate cock, and wimping out to me. (You reaction/thoughts on this).
Political correctness seems to be very important these days, at least that's what people believe. In truth, nobody cares. The labels who "lost" interest in Burzum were afraid of being boycotted by their distributors. Today I have a splendid deal with an Anglo-Saxon label named Misanthropy Records, and we haven't noticed any boycotts thus far! The labels never wimped because they never got high enough to be able to go lower. Wimps can't wimp. Dedicated to Candlelight and Earache Records from the once proud Britain!!! Let them continue with their conservative cliched acts. The ludicrous punks live on.

Do you see and feel a real tension building up from within the Norse people, especially the young, against modern Christianized society and government? When do you think this tension will snap and what will be the results, Varg?
I know not what will happen. But indeed, there is a tension building up within us Norsemen. The fall of "God" and his effete people is at hand. The re conquest has begun. We will win or die in the

BATTLE

attempt. The war against the forsakers of Odin has begun. Scandinavia is OURS!

You speak of a reorganization of the Norse forces, in which the mighty one-eyed "Satan" (Odin) won over the Christian "Satan." Please explain this and who the new forces are today.
The police made a chaos in the scene. They scattered our army. These are months to regain order and discipline. The new forces are the same as before with some losses, but absolutely with a lot of gains. We are stronger than ever.

In our letters, you asked me why no on ever asks about the "outer" circle. Okay, who were the "outer" circle and what was their purpose? (In regard to "inner" leadership)
What I meant was that all Norwegian black metal bands get the title of "inner circle band." Obviously, they can't be! For would it then be an inner circle if over two dozen bands are a part of it? The inner circle is the trinity of kings; all the others are "outer circle" bands. The kings are the three first. Demonaz of Immortal, Fenriz of Darkthrone, and Grishnackh of Burzum!

What has become of these members since Euronymous death? Has the unity been lost, or have they split off into many factions?
Euronymous' death was nothing but timely and gain for us. The unit is both weakened and strengthened, since half a year ago. We have lost the weak and strengthened the rest. If anybody rebels against our rule, we will crush them.

It seems Euronymous' death sent out a spark which lit an inferno of new, black, pagan groups (Gorgoroth, Manes, Hades, etc.) in Norge. Where do such groups stand in your opinion?
All the bands you mentioned here started up a long

time before the death of the Red Rat. I wonder why the hell people believe Norway cares about his death? We had jokes about him as early as '91! "Funeral Fag" and such. (Perversion of the song title 'Funeral Fog" of Mayhem) He was a fucking faggot! Euronymous died in his fucking underwear trying to run away from his killer(s), screaming like a fucking hysterical woman. (Police told me. He he!) I think that was proof enough of him being a wimp! A real man would have died fighting, not running away. Survival to the fittest. Well, back to the question. I ignore all bands but those who support me. Then I support no matter when they were formed.

You are in prison now, correct? What charges have been filed against you? What do you expect the trial on April 18, 1994 to conclude about those charges?

Ay, I'm in jail (custody). I am not sure, really. I haven't talked with the police at all, thus I know very little for sure. I am charged with 1st degree murder on the homo-wimp-Euronymous. Four cases of making churches into piles of ashes. One attempt of such, theft and storage of 150 kg of dynamite, two

ZUM

grave desecrations, and 5-6 burglaries. There is also possession of illegal arms. Some more burglaries, some more grave desecration, racist utterings, blasphemous utterings and some other shit coming up as charges. I will be found guilty and theft and storage of 150 kg of dynamite, possession of illegal arms, and some burglaries, of these charges. The trial will also conclude that the police have made a big shit in their pants concerning the arson and murder rap. Time shall tell! *(Incidentally...at press time Varg has pled guilty to the murder charge!!!???)....in self defense. He still has denied the arson charges however.-ed.)*

I also hear you are a big Destruction fan. Do you still appreciate such classic black acts as Destruction, Venom, Hellhammer/Celtic Frost, and, of course, Bathory? And how much do you draw upon such acts for inspiration today?

Well, a big Destruction fan is an exaggeration. I like the "Internal Overkill" album, but none of the others. Hellhammer and Celtic Frost have some listenable music. But Venom sucks. Bathory is without any doubt the origin of Norse black metal. The king of Norse heathen bands. We - Immortal, Darkthrone and Burzum - are the second wave of heathendom. Bathory the first. My one and only inspiration to continue with Burzum is the spirit of the Vikings. The Norwegian nature. Still, I cannot deny that the subjective components of the ektopsychic functions are a part of my artistic creativity. Thus great music is an inspiration whether I want it or not.

I see a great amount of similarity at times between your music and classical music. Do you have an appreciation and interest in this style of music?

The similarity of the monotonousness which is present in Burzum and some classical music, but also the melancholy. Still, I'm not particularly into classical music. Some Grieg and Tchaikovsky, but little else. The monotonousness and melancholy of Burzum is mainly from acts as modern electronic music, like Software, When, and underground techno.

From what I understand, Burzum hasn't played live often, if not ever. Any plans to do so pending the result of your trial in April. Describe the perfect Burzum performance.

Maybe a promotion tour, but no gigs. The perfect Burzum performance is no performance. Burzum is definitely music for solitude. It is not music for crowds. Well, maybe it is? But I dislike gigs vehemently. So there won't be any, unless I change, though.

Your lyrics...what to say...a blend of poetic misery and tales mixed with insight into your thoughts. What topics do you delve into on "Hvis lyset tar oss" and "Filosofem"? How important are the lyrics in your music?

The concept on "Hvis lyset tar oss" is elucidation of a new moral unknown to the ludicrous Christians. They don't get it that their "warmth and light" is nothing but hell for me and my brethren. "If the light take us" is like a bugbear. Let it not take you - that's the concept."Filosofem" is a disparaging assertion proposed in a philosophical erudite language. A continuance of "Hvis lyset tar oss" and the other, earlier, albums. It's all about Burzum (Dunkelheit/Darkness as some view it). Burzum is the arrogant boasting spirit of the Vikings.

Your music holds a very strong sense of sadness and despair, yet at the same time gives a feeling of a warrior's song. What are some of the things that inspire you to compose this way?

I don't decide the path of musical creation. The music is a reflection of my own self. As simple as that. Or, let's say, my reflections of my own surroundings. A hypocrite Christian Norway with heathen archetypes.

Why have you kept Burzum primarily a one-man effort instead of expanding into a full band?

I'm egolistical, intolerant, individualistic, and have some bad habits. Like ending up in jail from time to time. As a one-man band, I can continue any way.

A while back, the news of the church burnings in your country began to spread throughout the scene. What do you think the purpose of doing this was? Do you really believe that this would start a war with Christianity?

Imagine the U.S. if one percent of all churches were burned. That's what happened in Norway. A dozen churches in Norway is one percent. What would happen if one thousand churches burned in the U.S.? That's about one percent, right? It might not be a state of war, but indeed it's a clear statement of what somebody doesn't like. All wars have a different scale. Our war is not as noticeable as a war between nations, still it's war. The situation in Norway is as if a thousand churches had burned in the US....DESPAIR.

On this same topic, your "Aske" mini-album had a photo of the remains of a torched church upon the cover and the release came with a metal lighter. What was the purpose and thought behind this?

The cover of "Aske" is a hymn to church burning. It shows the ruins of the first church that was burned in Norway after "the gathering of black metal." The metal lighter was a childish PR stunt by my former utterly incompetent label Voices of Wonder. I had nothing to do with it and they did it without asking me about it.

What do you think of non-Norse black acts? Any favorites? Do you see black metal becoming a "trend" just as death metal did a few years back? (Which is the whole reason the Norwegian black scene emerged, because you guys were so sick of bands playing trendy death metal and decided to go back to your roots, correct?)

Death metal was a ludicrous vegetable, peace and love trend. Black metal is a gathering of the heathen forces. Thus a very useful trend. The more going fanatic "black metal" the better. We rage war, remember? To crush the fucking skull of "God"!!! Make war not love. VON of San Francisco is incredibly great *(How true....-ed.)* (VON means "hope" in Norwegian, by the way). I'm very ignorant and don't even know half of the Norse bands. I listen to very few bands and that's enough.

You have also appeared in KERRANG Magazine (the British metal publication) several times. Why the decision to do so? To help spread the word of the Northern tribes to a larger audience? Have these appearances helped or hurt the Norse bands?

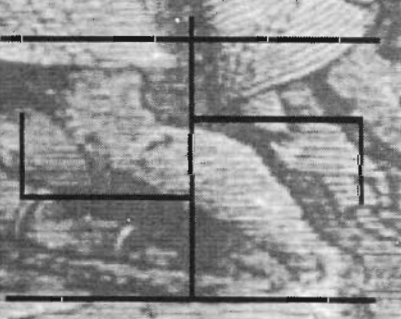
Kerrang has, in spite of their erroneous interpretation of our condition, given fuel to the heathen fires all across Europe by showing them a Norse scene. True Norse. Kerrang doesn't need my permission to print anything about me. They get pictures from the photographers and information from the journalists in Norway (or from other people if necessary).
The bad thing about it is the erroneousness of their work and the fact that most bands mentioned by Kerrang as "inner circle" bands in truth have nothing to do with us at all.

Thank you for answering this interview, my friend. Any last words to the Descent readers?

Strife is evolution. Peace is degeneration. Make war, not love.

Burzum Discography

demo, 1991
debut (self-titled) album, D.S.P., 1992
"Aske" mini-album, D.S.P., 1992
"Det som en gang var" album, Cymophane, 1993
"Hvis lyset tar oss" album, Misanthropy/Cymophane, 1994
"Filosofem" album, Misanthropy/Cymophane, early 1995



Manes are one of the newer acts to emerge from the cold wastes of Norway.....and they really have a sound of their own. A bit futuristic, very atmospheric, dark and cold black metal would probably be a good way to describe their hymns. They have released two demos so far (both described below) and have been talking to a few labels for other releases....although nothing is final as of yet. O.K.,read on to discover more about this unique band and the ways of Sargathanas.....

OK, Sargathanas, I hadn't heard or heard of Manes until only a few short months ago. Tell me a little bout the history of Manes and its members.
The story behind Manes isn't that interesting. The "band' was formed in the beginning of '93. Back then, the line-up was a bit different, but now we're just Sargathanas and Cernunnus.

Manes plays an extremely "ethereal" form of music, bringing to mind even futuristic-type thoughts. How do you describe Manes' style?
Well, eh...we don't know how to describe it. Perhaps cold, bizarre, unholy, nocturnal, obscure, blasphemic, dark "metal"??? When we compose songs, we aren't inspired by just one type of music, but rather the most dark and bizarre emotions and feelings. We want the songs to sound like our most obscure thoughts and dreams, to be really COLD and UNHOLY!!!

Norway has gained somewhat of a notorious reputation for Satanist bands and crimes. What are Manes' beliefs regarding this? Are you Satanists, Vikings, or both (or neither)?
Satanists are pussies!! We consider ourselves above the weak and feeble normal beings and humans. WE are the gods. We don't worship; we are being worshiped!!!!! The Viking lifestyle is more interesting, so we're gonna be the new Vikings, and we will conquer the world yet again, like they did 1000 years ago.

Say something about Manes' lyrics. What are the prevalent themes and topics Manes bestows upon us? Where do you draw inspiration from to write these?
The lyrics are not the traditional "urk, urk, we yell Satan, so we are Satanists, Evil, Anti-Jesus, Hate, Aren't we tough?" Fuck!!! We consider our inner obscure and dark emotions and hate to be more important. The lyrics reflect our views, hopes, dreams and thoughts. They're all in Norwegian because English is idiotic and trendy. Besides, Norwegian sounds much more hateful, raw, cold and harsh. Also, it's easier to express ourselves in our native language.

By now, everyone knows of the (former) existence of Norway's infamous 'inner circle." Was Manes ever associated with this "organization" and what are your thoughts on the "civil war" in that group last year that ended with Euronymous' death? Who now sits upon the throne as leader, in your opinion?
We have never been associated with the inner circle. It's not interesting at all. We would much rather be along in the cold, nocturnal winter landscape of Norway, dreaming, hating, and feeling forgotten and depressed than being together in a fellowship like the circle. Solitude and loneliness is a much more interesting feeling than friendship! It's great to be totally isolated from the rest of the world!!!

Take your mind back to the mid 80s, bands such as Destruction, Celtic Frost, Bathory, Slayer, and others ruled the "black" metal scene. What is your opinion of such classic bands? Do you draw inspiration from them today?
Bands like Destruction, Celtic Frost, and Slayer, etc., have never been black metal and will never be!!!! They were true death metal! And don't mention the so-called "death" metal bands of today. They don't know what they're talking about! Death metal is all about death, not society and politics!!!! The old death and metal gods were bands like the ones you mentioned, plus Sodom, the first few Kreator releases, Hellhammer, Bulldozer, etc., etc. Without Venom and Bathory, there wouldn't be any black metal bands around today! Perhaps except for MANES!!!

What was the reason behind Manes' formation? What does Manes strive for?
Manes strives for total world domination. Destruction of the weak and feeble, corruption of mankind, eternal winter, darkness, hate, war, sodomy, blasphemy, bizarre obscurity.

Tell me about Manes' newest material. When will we see the dawn of the next Manes release ?
We are right now recording a new demo, probably entitled "Ned I Stillheten" (Down into the silence). Some things are yet to be done, like the final lyrics/vocals and the final mix. It will probably be out when you read this. This new tape is a bit more experimental and bizarre than "Maanens Natt" more synth and samplings, and the vocals will be much more unholy and dark. We are also talking to a label about an album, but we won't speak that much about it until all papers are signed.

We have seen a flood of Satanist/occult bands in the underground in over the past few years. What do you think of this? What sets Manes apart from these others?
A lot of the black/occult bands are fakes! To play and create true black metal, you have to have a really dark mind; your thoughts have to be totally gruesome and hateful. You can't pretend to be evil; you just are! A lot of bands think that by playing fast and yelling, they are automatically black metal, which is NOT the truth!

How do you feel about big bands like Deicide using a Satanic image, and of others using it, for shock value? Aren't these bands missing the whole point?
Deicide's music is childish and boring! But Glenn Benton has a few interesting things to say, and his personality is quite okay.

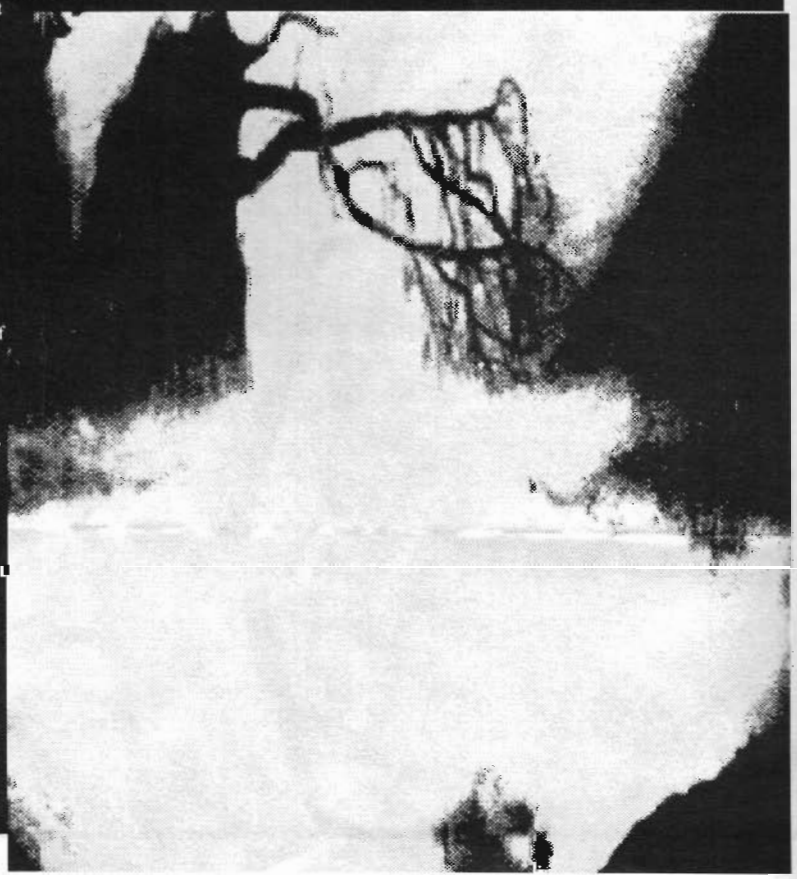
A glorious rise of a full moon is a beautiful thing. What do you see and feel when you look upon one in the black of night?
Well, we called our first demo "Maanens Natt," didn't we? If you don't know the words 'Maanens Natt" mean "The night of the moon." That would explain a lot, wouldn't it? The emotions you feel when being totally alone with the full moon just can't be explained, it must be experienced.

In your opinion, what are the best bands in the scene? Who are some of your favorites?
We listen to bands/artists like: Diamanda Galas, Munch, Pink Floyd, Mortiis, Abruptum, Max Reger, Burzum, Bloodstar(*What about Hellstar???-ed.*), Hades, Mayhem, Darkthrone, Black Sabbath, Laibach, Moonspell, Sisters Of Mercy, Danzig, Enya, Nosferatu, Prospectus, Tangerine Dream, Which Witch, film music like Omen, Twin Peaks and Hellraiser, plus tons more.

The U.S. seems to have a lack of bands focusing on the black/occult scene, although there are exceptions. While places like Norge and Greece seem to be a factory for such bands. What do you think of the few US black bands that exist (Grand Belial's Key, Sorath, Absu, etc)?
There's currently two great bands in the US, namely, Grand Belial's Key and Darkness Enshroud. Norway has the best scene (Mayhem, Darkthrone, Burzum, Hades, Mortiis) closely followed by Greece (Necromantia, Rotting Christ, Varathron, Mortify).

Okay, thank you Sargathanas for taking the time to answer this interview. Any last statements?
Okay. T-shirts will probably soon be printed. The new tape, "Ned I Stillheten" will be available for a blank tape and return postage, or $5 U.S.

Manes
c/o Håvard Jenssen
Kattemsv. 7B
N-7080 Heimdal
Norway



United States Darkness.....

It seems that the majority of quality black/war/occult bands on our pitiful earth come from two countries: Greece (Varathron, Rotting Christ, the godly Necromantia, etc.) and the cold lands of Norway. (If you don't know any bands from this country, then you must have been living in a cave for the past few years.) The United States has not been quite as well known for true darkness embracers, but there are several bands that, in my opinion, deserve notice.

Indianapolis gives us three quality bands with one thing in common. Namely, Azrael Abbadon. Sorath, is the first and oldest of these bands, playing a raw form of black metal with lyrics based upon medieval satanic themes and lifestyle. Sorath has released 2 demos and a 7" EP will be available soon on Miscarriage Records of Italy. The proposed mini-CD will not be happening, in case you hadn't heard.

Black Funeral is the newest of Abbadon's projects, supposedly picking up where Sorath left off. I heard this band's material, it is not as chaotic as Sorath, but more mid-paced riffs are among these atmospheric hymns. A demo consisting of 7 tracks has been recorded and will be available soon (see review section.)

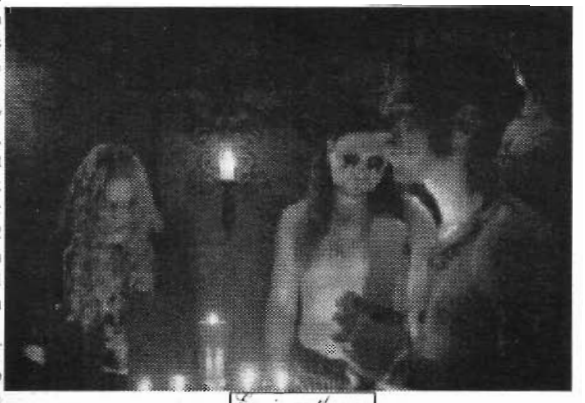
The most interesting of Abbadon's projects, in my mind, is Darkness Enshroud. Let me make it clear that D.E. is not music in the conventional sense; it's more of a ritual (via keyboards) or soundtrack put to tape, along the lines of Abruptum. Very good stuff. This project has released a demo "Winter of Sorrow" and is distributed by the band and Moribund Records. "Reaching to my Northern Castle," the act's second demo, should be out this summer and their debut DP, "Ghost of a Shadowed Land," is under negotiation to be released soon. Also, this group (also consisting of Rahu, keys and vocals) is preparing to record a split mini-CD for Pure Evil Records of Holland. Support this band!

Besides this, Abaddon (and Rahu...also a member of D.E.) still finds time to write for the great "A View Into the Abyss" 'zine (now on its 3rd issue)and run Abyss Productions! This guy is totally dedicated to the real underground, and one of the few in the U.S. to be so involved. When writing, please enclose IIRC, $1, or a few stamps to help with postage: c/o 3122 Dunster St., Indianapolis, IN 46227, U.S.A..

Next we move to Connecticut, where resides Moonburn. This 2-piece has only released one song upon the "Diabolical Netherworld" comp. (Also run by the band) and from what I can tell from this, it is quality black metal along the lines of Darkthrone's "A Blaze..." album (well, a bit anyway). Elykathos also does quite a bit of tape trading and his list is quite impressive! Also, Moonburn is preparing to record a 7" EP for a label which I have forgotten the name of. Write this band for more info: 248 Palmetto Road, Bridgeport, CT 06606, U.S.A..

We journey next to Pennsylvania, where resides Innards 'zine. Count Leon is the brainchild behind this mag, which is preparing to release its 2nd issue, and also the self-titled "Head" of the "U.S. Black Metal Mafia." Hmmm....apparently a lot of controversy surrounds this individual, as his first issue contained mostly mainstream death-metal groups and was just released last year. From our letters, however, he seems dedicated to "the cause," or rather the scene so more power to him.....Rd. 1, Box 1407, Stroudsburg, PA 18360, U.S.A..

Ahh...now we will move to Virginia, where resides the masterful Grand Belial's Key. This band has had some line-up problems since their debut and excellent demo "Goat of a Thousand Young" was released in late '92. This band is very original, playing a unique form of music able to stand on its own, of which they dub



Equimanthorn

"Vampiric Black Metal." This style contains more punk rock influence than death metal in my mind. Quite excellent! In the past few months, this band has gotten things rolling again and will record an album, as soon as it is ready, on an as-yet unspecified label. Watch out for this one as it is sure to crush the unknowing....in the meantime, their demo is out of print!!!.....P O Box 23455, Alexandria, VA 22304, U.S.A..

Now, we venture further south to the heartland of shitty death-metal, Florida! Fullmoon productions floats here among the sea of Suffocation clones. Thorns is the head of this label, which is to release the Burzum material here in the States, and has already pressed up several different shirts for the wolf of the north. He has also signed Hades(Nor) for a full length album and Vlad Tepes(Fra), Black Legion members, for a cassette release. Thorns also writes the great Petrified 'zine, a forum of the most interesting groups from around the world. The third issue is being prepared now.....c/o Thorns, 948 Callahan Court, Lakeland, FL 33801, U.S.A..

Our journeys take us across the south to Texas, of all places. ABSU resides here in the south land, having just released their debut album, "V.I.T.R.I.O.L." on Osmose records of France. Pure black/death is what this album and band is all about, although Equitant (bass) assures me that their newest material calls upon the old gods (Slayer, Destruction, Celtic, etc.) heavily for inspiration. Look out for their new material.

Equimanthorn is a side project of this band, and is, in my opinion, better! Equimanthorn's mystical hymns are more along the lines of Abruptum, the previously mentioned Darkness Enshroud, and a bit of Necromantia, that is ritualistic and mystical sound. This stuff is very atmospheric (needless to say) and brings to mind ancient times and places. They have released an album, "Nindinagga Nimshimsh Argal Enlillara" on Unisound Records of Greece (Ex-Decapitated....*HA!HA!*) and are preparing new material for a possible second release.

Equitant is the solo project of...who else....Equitant! My Celtic brother here performs much along the lines of Equimanthorn, save with more of an older Mediterranean feel. One promo tape has been recorded and a second is now being conjured. Quality and excellent material. Write any of these three groups at: P O Box 743307, Dallas, TX 75374-3307, U.S.A..

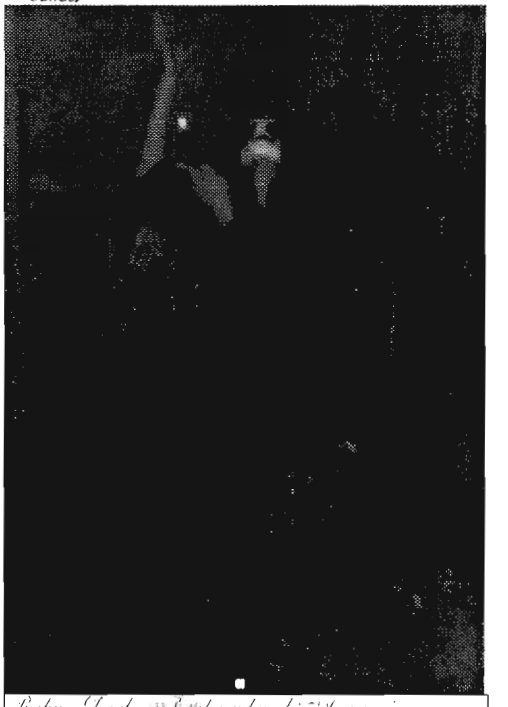
Also, "The Black Mountains of thy Septentrio" is a Texan 'zine containing the most elite and nocturnal bands of our time. The first issue stacks up at 115 pages (!!) and is available now from: Mythopoeikon of Malkuth, 2304 Stafford Lane, Mesquite, TX 75150, U.S.A..

We move further west now, to California, home of Necropolis Records. Necropolis has released an excellent Beherit 7" and the debut (and final) album by The Black(Swe) should be out by the time you read this. Several other great releases are in the works as well. Apparently this label will release the earlier Burzum albums (read: first two) on cassette, as well as T-shirts of Burzum, Emperor, The Black, and others. Support this true underground label.
.....P O Box 14815, Fremont, CA 94539-4815, U.S.A..

Colorado is home of the yet-to-be-released "Death by Stereo" 'zine, to contain several interviews with many great bands and personalities. Also, this is the contact address for "The Black Trinity," another U.S. organization. This group is an ally/rival (?) of the "U.S. Black Mafia" and apparently there is some tension between the two...hmmmm.....P O Box 1113, Loveland, CO 80539, U.S.A..

Then, of course, here in Seattle is the excellent Moribund Records. If you haven't seen this label's distro list, then definitely send postage ($1 or 2 I.R.C's) for a copy. It contains rare items from all sorts of great underground bands. In planning for release from this label are albums from Amon (Czechoslovakian black/thrash kings) Infester(U.S.A.), N.M.E.(U.S.A.) and several others. Support this pillar of the underground.....Moribund Records, P O Box 77314, Seattle, WA 98177-0314, U.S.A..

If you are in a group, do a 'zine or label that I have not listed, please write to be included in the next issue's article. Only the darkest artists need write to be included here. Also, next issue will feature Grand Belial's Key, Abaddon, and Equitant in interviews regarding their bands.



Rahu...Darkness Enshroud and "A View..."

Australia is home to several great underground dark acts....including Sadistik Exekution, Disembowelment, and BESTIAL WARLUST!!! You may know Bestial Warlust better under the name Corpse Molestation...a name which they changed a while ago. AAAAARRGGH!!! Musically this is utter chaotic darkness!!! A unique sound...not a clone of ANY black/occult act, that is for sure. Fucking great!!! They have been signed to Modern Invasion of Australia and their debut album should be out by the time you read this....although I haven't heard it. Support the great and powerful force known as Bestial Warlust!!!

Please introduce yourself. Besides B.W., what do you do?
We are Bestial Warlust - Satanic War Metal. Keith - Guitar, backing VOX, Joe - Lead guitar, Markus - Drums, Chris - Bass, Damon - VOX. Besides Bestial Warlust, I work for Modern Invasion Music label and distro company. The others have their jobs too! Also, we just party and get wasted when possible.

Tell us a bit about the history of the band. Have you scored a record deal as of yet?
Early history of us is boring. We basically have been rehearsing in some form since mid to late '90s. Things back then were not too serious. It wasn't until mid-91 we started to do things positively, by finding the right members. All members have previously played in other bands of similar influences. We first did a rehearsal/demo in September '91, which first started our name circulating. Then we lost our drummer. We found another quickly, then did our first studio demo in May '92. That's about it for a brief look at our history. The rest is not worth speaking about. To answer your question about a record deal, we have just about signed the dotted line with Modern Invasion Music here in Australia for a 2 or 3 LP/CD deal. To add a bit more to our history, we've just decided to change our name after months of dispute. Our new name is Bestial Warlust. The reason is C. Molestation is very misleading to what the band is about. We are not into fucking corpses or anything like that. So we changed to the new name for this reason. Now it's more to our beliefs.

Your music seems fueled by an extreme amount of aggression. Where does this fury stem from? Who or what are some of B.W.'s influences?
Our music is created by power from ourselves (thought to music). We are strong and powerful-minded people. After all, isn't that what this music is about? By the direction of most lame bands around these days, not a lot of music is done by this. Some of our influences I tend not to think about, but I could maybe say early Blasphemy, Beherit, with old Possessed. Also, we come up with a lot of our own ideas too(*I hope so!!!-ed.*)! From our beliefs and stuff.

Tell me about the demo "Descention...." Where was it recorded and how much time did it take? What was your opinion of the finished product?
"D.O.A.D.D." was recorded in May '92 at TT Studios here in Melbourne over a period of 2 days or so. The producer was Justin Wornes. We are reasonably pleased with it, though tracks were a little old before recording them. We had a big response to it here and worldwide, which is okay. Our newer stuff is much improved than that 100%.

How does a B.W. song get written (the process)? What about those cool intros.....whose concept were they?
When we write a song, it's never final. We always find changes somewhere in it along the line until we are completely satisfied with a song, we'll keep on going until it is. We basically take our time. In other words, good things take time! Our intros are done by us musically. Sometimes we get (like on the demo) some statement from something. But we don't do it anymore. We just make 'em up all ourselves with some objects or something. We kind of keep it personal. On the CD/LP you'll hear some strange, dark intros done by us.

Has B.W. recorded any new material since the demo? When can we expect a new release (and with which label)?
Yeah! We did a comp track called "Swarming Black Emotions" for the "Wine of Satan" comp. LP brought out by Morbid from Necromantia/Rotting Christ for his new label. It's out now! Hail to him for that dark epic release! We've also done an unreal promo and some studio tracks not too long back, just for ourselves. We'll begin LP/CD recording in and around late November-early December '93 and it'll hopefully be out in January '94 on, as I said, Modern Invasion Music.

Which way is B.W. heading musically? You mentioned it was much faster.
We've progressed quite a bit. We are pretty much faster, darker, heavier, slightly different sound, though! We set our own direction. We ain't following no trends. We are just doing the same thing. Less shit involved in music.

On the demo, no lyrics are printed. Why is this? What are the sounds about, theme-wise?
Yeah, we never thought of including lyrics with our demo. Don't ask me why. Most lyrics anyway are personal to us, I guess, so that's why we probably didn't enclose them. Also, it's only a demo, not a CD or LP or something. No lyrics are needed until then. We deal within our lyrics many things to do with the occult, like becoming immortal, the Aryan Race, etc. A wide range of things.

Can you tell me a bit bout the new songs (specifically titles, themes, music, etc.)? Are you pleased with them? Which are your favorites?
Our new songs are much better. We are completely satisfied with them. We've changed and axed a few songs like 1st track on the demo is gone and 2 or 3 others. Track 3 on the demo has changed for the better. Some new tracks are "Heathens", "Holocaust (Wolves of the Apocalypse)", "Dweller of the Bottomless Pit", and more. They all deal in the same type of theme; not exactly, but in the same views. They are all pretty much fast all the way through with less boring parts or unnecessary parts. They are not technical. That's not us! I couldn't say my fave. I like 'em all. Our vocals are used in a wide range to give that more feeling in the music. I guess you just have to hear when the CD is out, because there's a lot more to it.

The artwork on the demo (and on other flyers I've seen) is quite graphic. Who does this artwork and how did you hook up with them? Do you have any interest in art forms besides music? If so, please explain.
Our artwork was done by this chick who we are good friends with! Anyway, she does very good art of all types. But that artwork was done long before the demo was out. I don't like it at all; it's not what we are about. I like art, but especially ancient art. I've done a lot in my early years, but not so much these days.

Someday I'll get back into it.

I have heard rumors that Disembowelment's main inspiration and influence was B.W. Now they have an album out on Relapse. What is the situation here? What is your relationship with them? What do you think of their work?
I don't know who told you that about Disembowelment's influences are us. That's the first I've heard of it! But yeah, we are cool friends with them. I've known them for many many years now and we've always helped one another in some way. I have a lot of respect for them because they do what they want to do. Yeah, sure, their CD is different than their other stuff, but it's up to them what they wanna do and I understand that. But Disembowelment has finished

up now. Either people will like it or dislike it. I personally think it's heavy and very atmospheric and original. My style of music is not of this, but I admire what they have done!!!! 100% Depends on how you take this sense of music.

I'm sure you have heard of the insane situation in the Norwegian black metal scene. (Euronymous' murder, now Count Grishnackh [Burzum] is at trial, and all of the arrests and confessions). What do you think of this? Are you a fan of that style? What are your views on the music, satanism, and mafia/terrorist aspects of their scene?

Yeah, I know all about the shit in Norway! I think it's fucked up what has happened. Sure, I'm into bands of that style in some way, but I think they should not make this publicized on what they do, as in satanism, mafia, etc etc. Mayhem was and still is a great band! It's a loss to see this happen. Sometimes I agree with what they say. Some are fucking bullshit. Personally, I think it just provokes little fucking kids to be like them and then in turn start a band and try to be like them. When in fact, it is what Burzum and others didn't want because of fake posers pretending to dark and evil. They want the music to stay underground, but they are making it trendy by exposing what they do. Sure, I'm into many of the things to do with the occult, but not in their way. Norway is fast becoming like Sweden was a few years back. I like some bands from Norway, but I much prefer bands like Necromantia, Mortuary Drape, Rotting Christ, Thou Art Lord, Varathron, Beherit, Blasphemy, etc.

You meet someone in a bar. Things move along and you mention that you are in a band. They ask you to describe B.W. What do you say?

Well, I've done this before! I say we are fast, dark, heavy satantic war metal. That's to someone who's into the music and asks. But if they don't know of the music style at all, I don't bother because they never understand.

If you had a chance to relive your life in any part or place in history, where and when would it be? And why?

I would relive my life in Greece, because I find the old, ancient Greek myths and art interesting in some ways. Also, some other places around centuries ago. But I won't go into it now, it'll go on too long. Too many to talk about.

What is the scene like show-wise in Victoria? Does B.W. play live often? Do you ever have any problem pulling off the songs live? What is your fondest memory of performing...your worst?

Yeah, a lot of shows around the scene are the biggest in the country and the quality of bands is the best in the country. We don't play much, maybe every 3 months or more. We only play for ourselves and no one else. When we play, it is a ritual. We make chains, studs, etc. etc. No, we don't have a problem doing our songs live. Why do you ask? The best we did was Halloween shows yearly. Darkest night on Earth. The worst? I can't recall.

Have B.W. had a chance to play abroad as of yet (outside of Australia)? Where would you most like to play? And with who? Do you ever play with bands outside of the extreme metal genre?

We've never played outside Australia. We hope to someday. We'd like to play in Greece most of all. Or I would anyway, because we've a lot of true brothers over there that support us a lot or U.S.A. would be good too! Band's I'd kill to play with would be Rotting Christ, Blasphemy or Beherit (if still played), Necromantia (if played). It's a little hard. Do you mean do we play with non-death metal bands? Well no, not yet! If it was a dark ambient band, maybe yeah, but not anything else. We've played with some lame death metal bands (*what, there's lame death metal bands???...HAHA!!-ed.*), but that couldn't be helped. It was the organizer.

What is your opinion of the U.S. music-wise? The political aspects? Military-wise? Religion-wise?

Yeah, I really want to go to the U.S.A.. I am, hopefully soon! Music-wise, I don't like much from there as in mainstream stuff, none at all. Crap stuff. I still like some bands like Immolation, Incantation, Rottrevore, and a few more GOOD death bands. I like Grand Belial's Key and Sorath and Profanatica (R.I.P.). Great bands!! Truly!! I don't really follow political, military views in the U.S.A..

What's your view on religion in general? Do you think organized religion is dangerous? In the US there is now an extreme right-wing Christian political party gaining power. Any comments here, Damon?

I am totally against the religion of Christianity. It is the weakest form! Preys upon the weak. It is the religion of pity! I don't give a fuck who is in what religion. I just think about myself and of my beliefs.

What are your favorite releases of 1993 (demo, 7", whatever)? What 10 records would you wish you had if you were stranded on a desert island with a stereo (don't ask me...)?

It's pretty hard! I really get into a lot of old stuff. In my opinion of releases this year:
Rotting Christ - Thy Mighty Contract CD, Necromantia - Demo 93, Order from Chaos - Stillbirth Machine CD, Mortuary Drape - Into the Drape CD, Beherit - Drawing Down the Moon CD, Mystifier - Goetia CD, Sorath - Sodomizing Jesus Christ demo 93, Thou Art Lord - Demo 93, Archgoat - Angel Cunt - Tales of Desecration MLP. And maybe a few more.....Yeah, if I was stranded on an island, I'd have:Blasphemy - Fallen Angel of Doom LP, Bathory - 1st and the Return LPs, Sadistic Execution - The Magus MLP, Rotting Christ - All stuff, Necromantia - All stuff, Kreator - Pleasure to Kill LP, Hellhammer - All stuff, Sodom - In the Sign of Evil LP, Beherit - All stuff.

Where would you like to see B.W. in five years? What's your #1 complaint about the underground metal scene?

Well and truly split up! It's no way we would continue doing the band for that point of time. We wanna finish up on a good thing with no shit releases, know what I mean??? Too many bands cash out!! But not us ever!! Maybe in 5 years metal will be totally different, as like most shit bands trying to create something new and it sounds totally fucked! Metal is not about peace or depressing crap! Like a lot of bands these days play. The underground reigns supreme! But slowly a lot of labels that were once small are getting big now, thus exposing underground bands more. That's a fair enough thing because a band can still be underground and still be widely exposed. My one complaint about underground is like black metal was very quiet before it was exposed to big mags that have total crap glam shit in it! Which now is making the music a new trend! And complete trends claiming they are true and play the music with no knowledge of what it is about. I say fuck them!!! Also, what pisses me off about people is that they think it's just a gimmick in some ways, when it's not!

That's about it. Hopefully not too boring. Any last comments?

Look for LP/CD under our new name, Bestial Warlust (ex-Corpse Molestation) out early (now mid-) '94 and merchandise! Thanks for the interview Steve! Ave Impure Lord!!

Bestial Warlust
c/o Damon Burr
P.O. Box 294
Mont Albert 3127
Victoria
Australia

EMPEROR

Here is one of the most popular bands in the black metal genre currently....and one of the best. I might add! Emperor have recently had some problems with members being convicted....T'chort(bass) is serving 6 months for assault and Faust has received 14 years for murder. Hellhammer (ex-Mayhem) has stepped in to replace Faust on drums....an excellent choice! Guitarist Samoth and Ihsahn (vox) still face trial in the weeks ahead. Their debut album "In the Nightside Eclipse" should be out in the meantime on Candlelight Records of Britain. Also Nocturnal Art productions has released a limited edition 7" by the band ....available at the band's address for $8 world. Well, this is a small one but it still gives a bit of a look into Emperor.....

Hello again, Samoth. How are you this eve?
I am depressed and truly pissed off and my head is drowning in thoughts.

It is no secret that several members of Emperor are to go to trial in February. What has brought this on and is there any remorse?
After Euronymous died, the police seriously started to haunt us and everything collapsed. There is no remorse.

It seems that many individuals in Norway's black metal scene are under investigation for various acts of mayhem. Has this hurt the scene at all? Can you mention any good new groups to look for?
Of course it will hurt the scene since several of us have to serve prison. Look out for bands as In the Woods, Gorgoroth, Mystucum, Gehenna, etc.

Will Emperor continue if its members are convicted?
We will be convicted, that's for sure. But it won't stop us. But it will, of course, cause several problems. Emperor is my whole existence.

What is the purpose behind church burning? Do you really believe it will start a dark war?
It causes fear and sorrow and if there were a lot more people into our morbid way of thinking, then we probably could start a dark war as well.

As for death metal, it seems that a lot of black metal bands oppose it, while many of them played it only a while ago. What is your opinion of death metal. Didn't you turn down a European tour with Morbid Angel?
I truly like some death metal bands, but they mostly sound the same and the concept of death metal has been infected by humanism and so on. We did turn down the Morbid Angel tour, but it has nothing to do with Morbid Angel, which is a fucking great band I truly respect. But we hadn't any keyboard player at the time and had also just returned from a small shitty UK tour and we had just recorded the album as well, and we weren't really into supporting Dismember (who was the second band for the tour), so we didn't feel like doing it. Even if we said yes, there wouldn't have been anything since some of us were arrested a short time before the tour was supposed to start.

And on to the new album "In the Nightside Eclipse." What can you tell us of the album? And when?
It includes 8 monumental tracts of a souling black metal art. We still need to do the final mix and get the artwork finished before releasing it(*translation: may-july-ed.*).

What can you tell us of the mighty Emperor's lyrics? Are there any particular themes or topics that you mainly stick to? Can you tell us of the lyrics/themes on "In the Nightside Eclipse"?
They describe our longing for ancient epochs of time, for something different. Our thoughts and emotions for the dark nature (which truly ensouls us), for unholy realms beyond, for the forces of the night, the melancholy and hatred inside of us, the supreme powers and they all praise darkness and evil.

I know that all of Emperor is Satanic/occultists. When did you decide that this was your path? Which rites do you practice/perform?
I have always been into heavy metal and was always seeking and attracted to the more extreme sides of it. Personally I practice no rites except from my music, which can be seen as a rite.

It seems black metal is the new trend. Is this true? A lot of bands are playing black metal these days.
It seems so, but there are still a lot of dark quality bands, but also far too many brainless bands with no feelings or atmosphere. I don't really care - Emperor belongs to the elite anyway.

How important is corpse paint and the black metal "uniform" to you? (Spikes, etc.)
Corpse paint, etc., is not too important for me anymore, since everybody is using it. We don't want to be just another band in the masses.

Your opinions on the following people:
Alester Crowley: Dead
Quorthon: Genius
Anton LaVey: Intelligent
Count Grishnackh: Doomed
Tom G. Warrior: Fucked up
Euronymous: Dead

What is your biggest source of inspiration for composing infernal Emperor material?
Thoughts and emotions.

When will the true conquer?
To be honest, I think most of our conquering dreams will remain as dreams, at least on this Earth.

What's on your turntable right now? Best release(s) of '93?
The depressing sounds of The Cure's amazing "Pornography" album. Best releases of '93: Burzum "Det som en gang var," Burzum "Aske," Emperor "Emperor," Morbid Angel "Covenant," Vangelis "Conquering of Paradise," Inanna "Day of Torment," and so on.

Last chants...
I burn with hate...burn with me.

Emperor Horde/Nocturnal Art productions
Box 53
3812 Akkerhaugen
Telemark
Norway

Include IRC when writing.

heathenism in classical music

One of the more common misconceptions about classical music is that most of it is inspired by Christian beliefs. Far from it, actually. Pieces such as Handel's *Messiah* notwithstanding, much of the classical music that we recognize today is decidedly pagan in origin, inspired by the legends and myths of Norse, Russian, Greek, or Celtic history, or even by ghost stories or folk legends from "Christian" Europe. And it was not unheard of for the Devil himself to make appearance in some of these pieces.

One of the most famous pieces of this sort is the Teutonic legend of Siegfried, which became Wagner's Ring Cycle, a series of operas and an epic musical drama. This famous and famously long opera is the source for "the Ride of the Valkyries," a distinctive martial piece celebrating the flight of the Valkyries across the battlefields, gathering the souls of the greatest fallen warriors who will be taken to Valhalla to fight alongside the gods. The martial tone of the piece and the image of invincible flying warriors has inspired its appearance in **Apocalypse Now** as well as in many collections of music. Also from Teutonic legend, we have Grieg's *Hall of the Mountain King*, a piece that inspired Ravel's *Bolero*. This excerpt from *Peer Gynt* deals with the magical realm "under the mountain" where the Dwarves live and create fantastic treasures.

Russian myth brings us the tales of the Firebird, a majestic and beautiful creature whose ability to flout the control of the Tsar so maddened him that he sentenced to death one of his sons after the boy failed to catch the creature. Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite* was written with this folklore in mind. And perhaps the best-known figure from Russian mythology is the witch Baba Yaga, archetype of witch-hags, who resides in the Dancing Hut, a simple-appearing hut save for the fact that it can arise and walk or dance upon the legs of a chicken. Moussorgsky's *Hut on Fowl's Legs* is inspired directly by this terrifying ogress and her dwelling.

The Greco-Roman myths of the Gods and Titans provided astrologers and astronomers the names for the planets and the constellations of the night sky. Holst's series of compositions, the *Planets Suite*, reflects the powers and moods ascribed to the Greek gods: Neptune is moody, Jupiter regal and proud, Mars militant and formal. As they reign atop Mount Olympus, dwelling far above the mortals, the gods personify forces beyond man's control, as mighty and as distant as the planets.

Wodan and Brunhild

Meanwhile, half a continent away from Rome, the Druidic priests built Stonehenge as a Celtic religious site. These priests of nature were lorekeepers and healers, attributing their knowledge to their close bond with nature. Druidic history inspired Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*, a ceremony celebrating the rebirth of life. The Celts referred to this festival as Beltane, a ceremony where great fires were lit to symbolize the sun's light and heat returning to warm the earth, and people and animals were brought to receive the blessing of spring and new growth. The frantic pace of Stravinsky's *Danse de la Terre* (Dance of the Earth) is inspired by the Celtic sexual rituals designed to bring fertility to the fields.

Another elemental force, that of the Sun, inspired Strauss's tone poem *Also Sprach Zarathustra*. This piece is probably best known for its appearance in **2001: A Space Odyssey**, but originally dealt with sun worship. Its oddly-building form might cause it to be considered in a different manner from most other classical compositions, but it still bears mention here.

Finally, some classical music is inspired by nothing less than the works of Satan himself. Moussorgsky's *Night on Bald Mountain* is a musical tale of the Devil's frolic on Bald Mountain, where he and a conclave of witches terrorize the night, until the sun rises and the terrors of the night retreat. This piece was popularized among modern audiences by the movie **Fantasia**, which actually represents the piece quite well. Also represented in **Fantasia**, although somewhat less accurately than *Night on Bald Mountain*, we have Dukas' *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*, a piece about a young student of black magic who acquires more power than he can control.

In short, pagan themes in music have a long and glorious tradition of being both popular and rebellious. Modern death metal incorporates many themes from classical music, often intentionally choosing certain themes from classical music in order to convey a certain attitude. But for those who scoff at heavy metal as the music of ignorant punks who simply seek to protest tradition, there is a long tradition of classical music with the same rebellious and distinctly non-Christian style. Inspiration from pagan sources is nothing new, and has the backing of some of the greatest masters to ever compose symphonies.

-Sky Kruse

Immolation

I am sure that most of you who are reading are familiar with this band....this is one of the first in the new wave of death that was unleashed in the late-80's.....fucking classic!! After a few demos Roadracer Rec. released their epic "Dawn of Possession" album in '91. Sadly, this was a time when shit death-metal albums were coming out of our asses so Immolation have never received the respect that they deserve.....

Hail! Let us start here. Well, Immolation has been relatively inactive for the past few years. Why is this?
Following our U.S. tour (Summer '92), we've mainly been working at getting ourselves into a better situation. Since the beginning of 1994, we are dealing with the band as a full-time thing for the first time. This includes all of our mail, which we recently have gotten fully caught up with. We are now finishing up material for our second LP and plan to record it this summer.

Also, you guys were dropped from Roadracer. How did this falling out come about? Also, I hear that Nuclear Blast has developed an interest these days. Will they be releasing the new album this year?
Roadrunner had a set time period in which they wanted to get our second LP out. The date they had set was October '92, and then it was extended to the end of '93. We knew it would not be ready and told them so. We insisted that they terminate the contract if they could not wait. We are more interested in the music being done right than rushing to get some product out for Roadrunner. We want to find a label that will be into our music 100%, and not just the trend of the time. Nuclear Blast has been interested in us for a long time, and right after we parted with R/C, we've been in contact with them,. We have a contract that they sent us and we are negotiating it. At the same time, however, we will be recording a demo to send out to other labels in order to get as many things to choose from as we can.

It seems that Entombed was the reason you guys were not signed to Earache several years ago. Their style has changed quite dramatically on their newest material, as has several of those old Earache bands (Carcass in particular). What do you think of the direction that they've taken?
The fact that Entombed was signed to Earache had nothing to do with us not being on that label. Dig from Earache was interested in us when we released our first demo in '88. However, at the time we were not prepared to do an LP and he lost interest after he heard our '89 demo. The direction other bands take is their own business. Personally, we feel that both Carcass and Entombed deserve being at the point they are. They have been large in the underground for a long time and each have their own individual style; there is nothing wrong with that.

Tell us a bit about the new Immolation material. Will it be along the lines of "Dawn of Possession" or has the sound changed?

The new material is different, yet it is still Immolation. The new songs are darker and have more feeling, but are just as intense as our debut. It is something you'll have to hear for yourself.

Also, lyrically and thematically, Immolation seems to hover around the "good vs. evil" and "falling to hell" topics. Does this continue, and how important are these topics to your true beliefs? Tell us of the lyrics in the new songs.
Some of the new titles are "Away from God," "Towards Earth," and "Christ's Cage." All of our lyrics are our thoughts and ideas.

I know you guys are fans of the old black and thrash bands (Venom, Sodom, Destruction [fucking great!], etc.) Since your last album, we've seen a re-emergence of black metal and interest in it in the underground scene. What do you think of these newer bands? (Burzum, Emperor, In the Woods, etc.) in comparison to the old greats?
We are not very familiar with the new black metal bands, so we can't really comment on them. "Burn the church to the ground, hear the helpless dying sounds, Christians scream and writhe in pain, feeling wrath of Satan's reign."

You guys have influenced many bands today, and a lot of bands and fans consider Immolation one of one of the classic death metal bands of the late '80s-early '90s. Yet it seems that Immolation never has really gotten the amount of popularity it deserved. Does it bother you that things have happened this way?
Yes, it bothers us that a lot of the bands that started the same time as us have moved on to bigger and better things and we are still struggling to get noticed. The reason being that our LP came out at a bad time with about 50 other death metal bands that put their albums out, as the big trend of this music began. We've been into and playing this style for a long time, and we feel that people will start to get sick of the trendy shit and see the difference in us.

Also, another reason that this may have happened is because, in my opinion, the death metal scene is drowning in the flood of unoriginal and boring bands, causing people to look for more unique stuff. Is this killing death metal? Yes, we agree and have gotten caught in the flood, but we will not drown. Our music is thought out entirely, musically and lyrically. We have our own style, which sets us apart from the countless bands that have just jumped on the death metal band wagon.

Once again on the subject of the new album. What will separate it from all of the other releases this year? What makes Immolation unique and stand out form the other bands in your eyes?
As we just mentioned, we have our own style and sound, and our new album will come out alone this time and not with a dozen others. By now, everyone has heard the same old shit too many times. Our new album will have something different to offer, as did our first. But now we will have room to be noticed.

Okay, you meet someone in a bar, you get talking and after a while you mention that you are in Immolation. They ask about the band (sound, etc.) what do you say?
We would describe our sound as dark, haunting and non-generic. To be realistic though, we never go around telling everyone that we are in a band.

Thank you guys for answering this interview! It is good to see that Immolation is still going! Any last words to the Descent masses?
Thanks, Steve, for the interview and thanks to all who have been supporting us throughout the years. Everyone who has not checked out our debut "Dawn of Possession," we urge you to do so, and look out for our new LP out this year. We have all kinds of merchandise available: Canadian tour shirts 94, stickers, patches, CDs, and other shirt designs on the way. Write us for info. Send a self-addressed and stamped envelope in US or 2 IRCs in the rest of the world. For a free sticker (large) send 52 cents in postage for U.S. and 3 IRCs is you're writing from the rest of the world.

The Efforts of God Proven Useless!!!
Christ Denied...Death He Lied!!

Immolation
P.O. Box 566
Yonkers, NY
10710
U.S.A.

Accursed hail from the big land of cheese...Wisconsin. This young band specializes in a noticeable form of death metal with a blackened touch.....sort of a mix of Deicide with Accüsed-inspired vocals!!! Quite nice actually! They released their second demo, "A Curse Called Life" earlier this year and from what I understand, it has received a very positive response. I spoke with Joe Hartman, drummer of Accursed and a good friend in the underground...read on and support this young band...

Hey, Joe! Please tell us a little about yourself and the other guys in the band.
Well, I'm 18 years old and I play drums for the band. I also write poetry and some lyrics. "Psalm of a Dead Dreamer" was penned by me. Gabe (Catanzaro) is 17 and the bassist for the band. He also is our artist (a very good one!) and does his Tormenting Nightmares artwork thing. Jeremy (Nesthus) is 18 and our guitarist; probably one of the best guitarists in our state. We love him and respect him. His solos have much emotion and feeling. And Ryan (Olson) is 19 years old and he does vocals for the band. He also drew the logo and writes most of our lyrics. We are all involved in the underground, which is good cuz then we can get our name spread out a lot more.

Accursed has had a few line-up problems in the past 9 months or so. Can you explain this and give a brief history of the band?
Well, we formed in April '93 and started out with the line-up as it is now. We had a second guitarist for a little while. He left but came back at the end of the summer. Then we sort of had a falling out with Jeremy and Ryan due to lack of communication on all our parts, etc. Later it just became me and Gabe' til we finally worked out our problems and welcomed Jeremy and Ryan back to the band. Now we're stronger than we ever were before.

To me, Accursed reminds me a bit of Phantasm (another Wisconsin group). Do all those cows inspire a certain sort of sound or is it just a coincidence?
Well, that's a very surprising thing to say and I tend to disagree with you. I think we sound nothing like Phantasm at all (*I disagree...alot of the drum parts seem Tony Brandt-inspired!!-ed.*). Even the band themselves said we sound nothing alike, so maybe you're just hallucinating. But I will say a lot of bands here are starting to sound a little like older Phantasm and that's why we want to be totally different. Maybe you think that cuz we went to the same studio.

Your lyrics seem to hover around the topic of vampirism quite often. Does this subject spark a certain desire within Accursed?
Oh, definitely.. Vampirism is a very agreeable topic for discussion within the Accursed circle of dark mayhem and spirituality. You have your traditional vampires, like Dracula, and then you have your psychological vampires, who hunger for blood, etc. Of course we enjoy numerous other occult and mystical subjects.

Accursed thrives on a live performance (at least according to the bio). Do you play often in your state? Who are some of the more notable groups you have shared the stage with and how is the scene there in Wisconsin?
We play usually a couple shows every month, but right now we're in a slump 'cause we need to find a place to practice. We've played shows with tons of great bands and some not-so-great. Maruspex, Crimson, Phantasm, Putrid Mass, Afterlife, Accidental Suicide and Cyanesis. The scene is pretty cool, but as with all scenes, there is way too much shit-talking among bands, etc.

What have been Accursed's past releases? What can we expect from you guys in the future?
Back in July '93 we released our first 4-song demo, entitled "Horror Within." Then in January '94, we released our better studio demo "A Curse Called Life." In the future, we plan to do a mini-tour during the summer to promote our new tape, play in Minnesota, etc., some more local shows and hopefully Metal Fest VIII. A new demo at the end of the year, if we don't get some kind of label interest.

Over the past four years or so, the death metal scene has been flooded with an amazing amount of groups. What sets Accursed apart from these other bands? When the flood recedes, who do you think will be remaining?
Definitely a tough question to answer, but I'll try. Basically, we're more original than most and are really serious about our music. Our new stuff will be laden with chaotic harmonies, agonizing screams of anguish and a few other added unorthodox musical surprises. As far as who will be remaining will be all those true - no matter if they're making it as a band or not. But eventually, I think death metal will get bigger and bigger. Just look at the Earache/Columbia deal and Morbid Angel's new signing. Only those with new and fresh ideas will survive; others that just rehash the same shit will die out.

You also do a fanzine, right? What can you tell us about this?
The 'zine is called Crimson Tide and the first issue is for sale for $3/US, $4/World. Gabe, me, Ryan and Gabe's girlfriend, Keo Thao, are all involved in it. Issue number two is in the works and should be out by late spring.

It seems that, for the most part, women in the scene are fairly rare (especially in bands,) why do you think this is? Is this a good thing?
Probably because they feel like supporters rather than the ones that should be supported. It is a male-dominated aspect of life, but it is good to have women involved. I totally respect people like Keo Thao, Melinda Wetzel and others in the underground. Like everything else, it has its good points and its bad points. Too many people doing "zines, comps, distros, bands in the underground crowds the whole scene, but women do have a certain grace and touch that makes the underground more tolerable.

Well, Joe, thanks for agreeing to this interview. Any last remarks?
Thanks a lot, Stephen, for this killer interview and for your great friendship. Thanks to all the people who have been supporting us throughout our young life, but especially thanks to Ramie, Keo, Dawn, Jody, Jenny and all others of our close inner circle. If you want some sheer terror, write us today. New demo $5/US, $6/World. Look for T-shirts this spring and stay true to the underground! No rip-offs!

ACCURSED
c/o Joe Hartmann
1218 N Lost Woods Road
Oconomowoc, WI 53066
U.S.A.

..revi

Ahhh, yes...reviews. Most every 'zine's got 'em and this one's no different. I'd like to say a few things, however. First, as you probably can see, I do not use a rating system...."why?" you ask? For one thing, I find it hard to place bands as diverse as Abruptum, Forced Entry(shit), Seige, Master's Hammer, Earth, Cobra, and Burzum under one category for sake of it's use....the other reason is that some 'zines tend to get out of hand with the good ratings ...you know ..nothing under 7 xxx's in the whole fucking thing!!! Also, in the case of demos, etc., I haven't listed a price.....write the band or label to find this out please...the reason for omitting this fact is that I have found that it is a good idea to check and see if the product is still available!!!! No one particularly likes alternates or returned money!!! I think I've said enough.....

Rotting Christ(Gre) 7"
Osmose Productions

Well, apparently this is Rotting Christ's final release on Osmose. Financial problems, I have heard. For those of you unfamiliar with this excellent Greek band. They play great black/death with excellent melodies. Also, they delve into the old (Circa late '80s) death metal style at times, as is the case on the B-side of this 7"("The Mystical Meeting") without it coming across as boring, as is the case with too many bands these days. Mutilator's vocal style is low and powerful, yet understandable, delving into topics of ancient times ("Visions of the dead lovers" A-side) and of dark summonings. All in all, this band is classic and very original, and with all of the side projects these guys are involved with (Varathron, Necromantia, and Thou Art Lord), it's great to hear a new release as the infernal Rotting Christ!

Mayhem(Nor) "In Memorium" 7"

Released as an answer to Euronymous' (guitar of course) demise last summer, this release captures some of the best Mayhem tracks that have been recorded. Side A consists of 2 tracks taken from the Obscure Plasma rec. release "Live at Leipzig" ("Deathcrush" and "Chainsaw Gutsfuck"), capturing the raw and dark power that this band had to offer...insane yet structured chainsaw, operated by Euronymous, crushing percussion by Hellhammer, and great howling vocals (although they will never match the previous Voxman Dead, in my opinion)...side B is a very special surprise, a rehearsal track, one of only 3 released, that I am aware of, with Dead on vocals! I must say that Dead was one of the best, if not the best black vocalists to date, piercing mid and high range cries, blended to perfection. This 7" was limited to 1000 copies (a bootleg, of course) and I believe that it is sold out now so find it where you may.

Gut(Ger) "Spermany's Most Wanted" 7"
M.M.I. records

Ahhh...Gut. This is Pyogenesis' side Grind act. Apparently they need some source to vent this sort of material. And a good thing too...8 tracks total...ultra-low vocals underlie the low-down-tuned and sick guitars. Not the Americanized Suffocation style shit that floods the scene, but original and powerful grind. Very good. Besides, with a vocalist that goes by "Spermsoaked Consumer of Pussy Barbecue" how can you go wrong. This German act will also release a long-awaited 7" on Necroharmonic Records in the States late this spring, and are searching for a label to release their debut album.

Gut
c/o Oliver Roder
Klingenstr. 46
W-7101 Erlenbach
Germany
(IRC)

Nocturnus(U$A) 7" (soon to be released on MCD)
Moribund Records

This is a final release by this legendary band. Nocturnus was one of the few bands to allow acceptance of keyboards (once a shunned tool) in extreme metal. The sounds on this 7" ("Mummified," "Possess the Priest") are the best that they've offered. In the past, the drums were lacking and keyboards too loud. On this 7", with the addition of James Marcinek on drums, the final piece of the Nocturnus puzzle was added. Keyboards fit perfectly in the production, amid the furious, technical, and utterly amazing riffing and leads, courtesy of guitar wizards Mike Davis and Sean Mcnenny, two of the most skilled death metal guitarists ever. Vocals by Dan Izzo are low yet perfectly understandable. Overall, this 7" gives a strange pseudo-Egyptian feeling. This band has made a great impact on the scene over the past years, yet never gained the respect they deserved. Judging by this 7", their next album would have been epic! Hail Nocturnus!

Belial(Fin) "The Gods of the Pit, pt. II" 7"/MCD
Moribund records

Finland's Belial has re-released their demo via Moribund Records. And what a release it is. Belial's special brand of Blackened Death is unique and quite good. Besides the original 4 tracks from the demo, an additional remix of "Piece by Piece" is included, which brings me to my next point. For some reason, this band reminds me a bit of Slayer, (although that isn't a cover) Although the music is very fast, guttural, and heavy, and the vocals occupy a range much lower than Tom Araya every explored....I don't know. Anyway, incidentally, they are Church of Satan followers. If that makes a difference. Also, look for their releases on Lethal Records.

Belial
Sadotie 3
90630 Oulu 63
Finland
(2 IRCs)

Grief(U.S.A.)/13(U.S.A.) Split 7"
Grievance Records

Here we have a split 7" containing two bands of the underrated doom genre. Grief is giving us "Fall Apart," a churning, sub-harmonic track. It seems to sap energy as it chugs along. Also seems to have a bit of a punk influence as well. Better than average. 13 seems to have a more heavy rock influence, although a bit of punk feel is there as well. Apparently 13 has slowed things down quite a bit since this release ('93 I think) but I can't say for sure, as I haven't heard any of their newer stuff. Grief is the winner on this split, although 13 isn't that bad.

Sorry, no address for Grief.

13
327 Sterling Place, #1D
Brooklyn, NY 11238
U.S.A.

Acheron(U.S.A.) "Alla Xul" 7"
Gutted Records

Florida's Acheron gives us two tracks from '92 on this release. From my knowledge, their only other release, other than the "Rites of the Black Mass" CD on JL America, Acheron is also the founder of the "order of the evil eye," a subsidiary of the Church of Satan(A group I am not too fond of) and it shows on this 7". "One with Darkness" appears to be a prayer to the "Infernal Master"...and the title track also is along the same lines. Acheron plays black/death, with an emphasis on death. Actually, the music is pretty good. Even Mike Browning's drumming is commendable. Definitely not the standard Florida shit. Tony Blakk of Apostasy also plays guitar on this release. Oh yeah...Vincent Crowley (vocals)

ews..

claims to be responsible for the incidents in Norway, having "cast a destruction hex" upon the infamous inner circle. Hmmmm...judge for yourself.

Acheron-Order of the Evil Eye
P O Box 272929
Tampa, FL 33688 U.S.A.

Pan.Thy.Monium(Swe) "Khaoohs" cd
Osmose Productions

Pan.Thy.Monium. gives the world their second full-length masterpiece with this release. The Swede's play bizarre, semi-jazzy/death/doom...a hard band to describe, that's for sure. This album is a bit more upbeat than their "dawn of dreams" CD (Osmose, 1992), having a bit more of a rockish influence (?) Anyway, the overall sound on these eleven tracks comes across as being a bit psychedelic and/or futuristic and other-worldly, adding unique keyboards, and baritone saxophone as well as violins (which are not so unique in the scene any more, actually), in original and progressive ways. Much as the godly Master's Hammer captures a sound realm of their own, so does P.T.M. As for lyrics, they are apparently all in Swedish, however, the low growling is clear and comprehendable (if you know the language). Otherwise, I do not know the topics they sing about. If these guys hooked up with John Zorn for a release, it would be utterly amazing. (Hint, hint).

Pan.Thy.Monium
c/o Benny Larsson
Kovervagen 47
Pinspang
Sweden
(IRC)

Sadness(Swi) "Ames de Marbre" CD
Witchhunt Records

I do not know about most people, but to me the feeling and emotion that music puts across is one of the two most important factors (The other being musicianship). When I first heard this CD, I was utterly amazed. A darkened mixture of doom and death, with several original influences as well. Some parts on the 7 songs recorded here even have a bit of a "western" feel! This quartet adds impressively-composed elements of Christine's voice and soprano singing, as well as violin, cello, and even Tristessa's expertise of Sacuhachi and Oriental flute, all adding up to an atmospheric ride over uncharted lands. The guitar (when distorted) has a near-perfect "hollow-like" sound and Steff's mid-range rough vocals tell tales of the unknown and mysterious. This is one of the best albums I have heard in a long time. A friend once described it as "Black" Floyd, a fitting description for this powerful Swiss group.

Sadness
P O Box 1951
SION
Switzerland(IRC)

Mayhem(Nor) "De Mysteriis Dom Sathanas" CD
D.S.P.

Well, here we have the final release by the great Mayhem...a pity, too, as this is quite good. Mayhem plays pure black metal, although it could almost be called death at times. What I mean is, because this band has been around so long (1986, I believe) and their sound survived the great death metal flood of 1990, the sound is much rawer than many of today's black acts and more "heavy." Yet this never gets boring or bogged down. Attila of the great Tormentor (Hun) guests on vocals. His style much different than former vocalists and the sound of many of today's black screamers. Rather than screaming, howling and crying in agony, Attila's vocals seem to be a plotting, dark creature that could easily reside in the castle pictured upon the cover. From what I understand, Grishnackh played bass on this album, but it was re-recorded by Hellhammer (drums - now in Emperor) after the Count did the deed. Needless to say, the riffing is excellent and percussion is also masterful. A pity we may never hear anything new from this band, but life goes on....actually, I have heard that Hellhammer is attempting to re-form the band with some old members(Necro Butcher, Maniac).....we shall see.

Antagonist(U.S.A.) CD
Freak of Daze

Here we have a midwestern death-thrash type band. Uhh...well, this is not something I would normally listen to, but it was sent to me. Actually, this quartet reminds me of Slayer's "South of Heaven," with a more upbeat approach. That is, clean production, pseudo-technical riffing, although the vocalist sounds a bit too Metallica-ish for my taste. I don't know, I wouldn't really recommend this to anyone unless you are into late '80s thrash with a bit of a commercial edge.

c/o Todd Tousey
1841 Oakdale Avenue
Green Bay, WI 54302
U.S.A.

Varathron(Gre) "His Majesty at the Swamp" CD
Cyber Music

YES! This is Great! Okay, Varathron is a Greek quartet featuring Mutilator and Morbid (bass and keys, respectively) of Rotting Christ. Musically, this group plays that great Greek black way (i.e., Rotting Christ) while adding their own elements as well. Clean guitars and drums, low vocals, several time changes, and great keys and effects, all add to give this a futuristic yet ancient feel and makes this disc interesting. Lyrics are focused primarily upon ancient times, personalities and inner visions. What I like about this band is that for some reason they remind me of old metal from the mid-'80s (although not particularly sounding like those bands) and give me the same sort of feeling those old bands did. A great release.

Varathron
c/o Necroabyssious
P O Box 1265
45110 Ioannina
Greece
(IRC)

Anatomy(Aus) "Twisting Depths of Horror" CD
Dark Oceans

Here we have a 5-piece from down under that plays a cross between Benediction and Morbid Angel inspired material. That is, low-tuned death metal with a blackened touch (although not a very heavy touch in this case). This CD contains 6 tracks, 3 of which are from a previously unreleased EP. The sound difference is very noticeable..the EP sounding much more Benediction influenced and the newest 3 songs also have a bit of inspiration from fellow Australians Bestial Warlust. If you are into quality death metal, then check this out, as it is much better than a lot of the shit out there.

Anatomy
P O Box 211
Geabstone Pass 3043
Victoria, Australia
(IRC)

Immortal(Nor) "Pure Holocaust" CD
Osmose Productions

Immortal rises from the freezing earth of Norway and gives us their second full-length release. The first thing that I noticed about this CD is that it is much faster than their first album, "Diabolical Fullmoon Mysticism," and the sound is much clearer throughout. Immortal is the sound of a fiery rain

striking the earth, a controlled chaos of howling spirits and metalized-storms. Vocalist Aabath sounds as if the dead had possessed his body after a 1000 years sleep. Erik's drumming is fast, controlled and interesting. Demonaz's guitar work is masterful and mystic. A fucking great release and it keeps me interested still throughout its 8 tracks and countless listenings. I think if Black Metal, for some horrible reason, becomes a big thing in the mainstream, Immortal will be in the front of the pack.

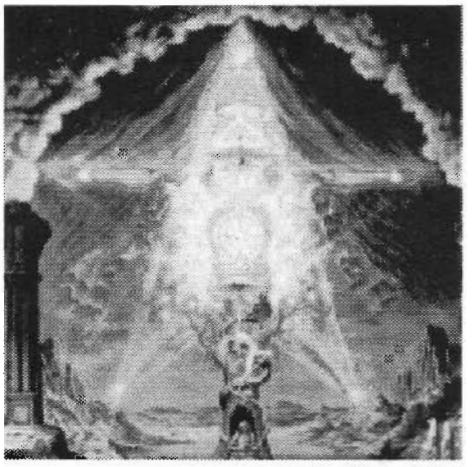
Alastis(Swi) "The Just Law
Head Not Found

Okay, this is the first release on the great Metalion's (of Slayer Mag, of course) label Head Not Found. This Swiss 3-piece known as Alastis, has been around in the scene forever, and it's about time they scored a legit deal. Alastis takes an interesting approach to song writing, weaving a web of blackened doom with great Quorthon-inspired vocals (lowered a bit, however), quite unique actually. As for the lyrics, they seem to be dreams and visions, although "The Just Law" (title track) verses could be the battle hymn of this whole black metal movement. Different but very good. Some riffs sound a bit Greek-influenced, but I cannot pigeonhole this band.

Alastis
Rte des Ateliers 16
1963 Vetros VS
Switzerland
(IRC)

Isengard(Nor)
Deaf Records

"An ancient voice calls from the sky as lightning strikes...". Isengard, in my opinion, is the closest a Norseman(in this scene anyway) has come to authenticy yet when celebrating Viking spirit. In case you were unaware, this is Fenriz's (of Darkthrone) solo project. This album consists of recordings from 3 separate sessions (1989, '91, and '93). In this review I will focus on the 1993 session. The 1989 is excellent Autopsy "Severed Survival"-esque material, and the '91 is Fenriz belting forth spirits of agony and darkness in a very intense way. As for the most current material, what one will first notice is the unique vocals. In my opinion, this is how a Viking would have sung 1000 years ago. A semi-operatic, off-key at times, and melodic baritone. Unfortunately, it is a third generation tape I listen to, so I have no idea of what the lyrics actually are, or song titles. Musically, this era of Isengard projects an almost gothic, yet proud, warrior's composition. Melodic and dark, this is a great album. One wonders if others will pick up on this unique singing style.



Equimanthorn(U.S.A.) "Nindinagga Nimshimsh Argal Enlillara"
Unisound

Ritual ambient sound. The hymns of Equimanthorn are like no other. This "band" performs dark and mystic "music" more akin to a horrific but enlightening nightmare than anything else. If you did not already know, this is a side project of U.S.A. black/death gods ABSU, yet sound nothing alike. Seven pieces cover this album, each a hymn to a different time or place. I am unsure of lyrics, but they are occult based. Very avant-garde and different, so approach this album with an open mind.

Equimanthorn
3245 Topaz Way
Plano, TX 75023
U.S.A.

Meatshits(U$A) "Ecstasy of Death" CD
Moribund Records

BLUURGHH!!! AAARGH!!! Yes, the porn-noise-grind master is back, and better than ever! First of all, the music on this disc spans several genres, from brutal death to industrial to gggrrrrinddd to porn - 70s style (although most lies in the grind-death vein). Most of the tracks open up or contain at least one sample (usually from a porn or gore movie); some hilarious and some disgusting... YES! Great production plus offensive and blunt lyrics add to the impression I got of this. As for the layout and cover, you'll have to see it to believe. Although it may be a bit hard to read the thanks list over those photos! HA! HA! I'm sure that Robert is proud of this one, as it would surely make Tipper have a heart-attack!

Meatshits
P O Box 577241
Modesto, CA 95357-7241
U.S.A.

Desolate(U.S.A.) "Deface and Obliterate" Demo

YAAWN! Okay, here we have yet another band who listens to a bit too much Swedish death metal. Okay for originality's sake, this band is sorely lacking. Although I suppose if this came out in 1989, it would have turned a few heads. I hear a few good riffs on this cassette however. Perhaps if they added some keyboards and went for the atmospheric doom thing (?) Just a suggestion.

Desolate
c/o Jerry Orne
230 Seventh Street
Leominster, MA 014533
U.S.A.

Abigail(Jap) demo 1('92)

Ahhh, this is more like it. Here we have a Japanese three-piece lying in the black metal vein. The demo opens with an interesting keyboard intro which cuts to a bombastic fury of guitar and drums...chaotic and raw. Barbatos' vocals remind me a lot of Quorthon or the "A Blaze In The Northern Sky " album by Darkthrone. The whole demo is non-stop aggression, although there are some vicious slow riffs also (opening for 2nd song, for example) that may remind one of the gods Celtic Frost. Four tracks here, all very good ("Grotesque Nightmare," "Death of Life," "The Fire of Hell," "Lucifer Sings"). I am unsure of the topic of the lyrics, although judging by the titles, they lie in the satanic realm. Support this worthy band.

Abigail
c/o Yasuyuki Suzuki
59-7 Saiwai-cho
Itabashi-ku Tokyo 173
Japan

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DARKNESS PREVAILS

(IRC)

Tenebrium(Gre) demo 1993
Shiver Records

Here stands a strange Greek group. This three-piece consists of Arcturus (guitars, chants), Porphyrogen (lead guitar, drums, effects, voice), and Infernus (bass), and they play an interesting mix of black, doom and death. Mmmm, maybe a bit along the lines of Varathron crossed with Celtic Frost. Quite interesting. I especially like the use of the organ to accent the guitar in parts. Not your average Greek band (and contains no Rotting Christ members!) Eight songs make up this demo, with four of those being nice intros or instrumentals. Lyrically, Tenebrium is spouting the usual dark themes, although, "Riding the Winds of Night"'s verses are quite good. Also, this band takes a poem from Poe and sets it to music. ("The Valley of Unrest"). Classy.

Tenebrium/Arcturus
8-10 Panagi Benaki St.
11471 Neapoli-Athens
Greece
(IRC)

Ras Algethi(Itl) "Oblita Divinitas" demo
Wounded Love Records

Aaahhh, here we have a band in the epic atmospheric doom realm. Very nice. The interesting part about this band is that they use an organ throughout. And believe me, it adds a sense of power to the whole composition. Vocalist Huldus really utilizes his voice, adding standard mid-range singing to the low, agonizing cries. Also, this band contains three guitarists(!), but no bass player(!!), providing some interesting harmonies, as they tend to each vary their riffing. Tempo never gets up above mid-paced, but it never seems to get bogged down, rather adding to the majestic quality of the three songs presented here. This is great stuff.

Ras Algethi
c/o Berchi Mauro
Via Folli 5
20134 Milano
Italy
(IRC)

Mortiis(Nor) "The song of a long forgotten ghost" demo

Okay, first of al, I must say that Mortiis is ex-bassist of Emperor, having left some time ago. However, this is nothing like anything that band has ever done; not standard by any means for that matter. Instead, Mortiis here gives us a sort of soundtrack with a great medieval feel...all played on keyboards! This really is good...somewhere along the lines of Glenn Danzig's expedition away from shit glam butt-rock into the same territory some time ago ("Black Aria" -also really very good), if you are familiar with that disk. I do not know the song titles, but it seems that this is a continuation of one theme only. An album entitled "Født Til å Herske" is available now also at the address below. For the price of a blank (60 or 90 min.) + 2-3 IRCs. My overall impression of this tape is one of traveling through the wilderness alone, lost in thought.

Mortiis
H. Ellefsen
c/o Angel
Skulpturplatsen 1D
302 71 Halmstad
Sweden
(IRC)

Filii Nigrantium Infernalium(Por) demo 1993
Dark Records

Okay, now we have the weirdest band I've reviewed yet: Filii Nigrantium Infernalium!! The use of a sailor whistles is an idea I've never heard incorporated with black metal! All right, this Portuguese trio may not be the best of musicians, but the intent is there, and the dual vocal effect is great! I cannot read the lyrics on the wonderfully laid out insert (great logo), as everything is printed backward. And I don't care to take the time to look it over in reverse. I will assume by the inverted crosses, etc., that they are satanic/ancient gods/ritual based. Three songs here worthy of checking out. A lot of breaks in the music which may be thought of to be a not as well thought out Grand Belial's Key. I have heard that this band is now doing an album for Dark Records; hopefully they will practice and plan the songs a bit more and give us a masterpiece.

Dark Records
Apartado 142
2830 Barreiro Codex
Portugal
(IRC)

Urd Verdaine og Skuld(Nor) demo 1993

That what was, that what is, and that what shall come to be.....This is something you do not see too much these days: A Norwegian band not playing black metal! Cathedral (demo + "Forest..." album) inspired doom is what this quartet specializes in. Actually quite good, and the keyboards compliment very nicely. A genuine depressive rumbling feel. The one suggestion I could give this band is perhaps to speed things up a bit once in a while, as some things get a bit too monotonous; otherwise a good first effort by this promising band.

U.V.S.
c/o Jane C. Aasterud
P O Box 10
N-3501 Hønefoss
Norway
(IRC)

The End(U.S.A.) demo 1993

Well, I think that this band listens to a bit too much mainstream (i.e., Megadeth, etc.) shit-metal, although in the opening track they do capture an Egyptian feel for "Pharaoh." Otherwise, this seems to fit right into the ever-growing death-thrash hold. Not that I don't enjoy the style (Infernal Majesty is king!) It's just that it's rare when an outstanding band of that type comes along these days without having James Hetfield-esque vocals (as this band does)which have been WAY overused , and limits themselves. Perhaps a new vocalist?

The End
3128 Walton
Suite 229
Rochester Hills, MI
48309
U.S.A.

Ulver(Nor?) "Vargnatt" promo 1993

YESS!!! Allright! This is good! Reminds me a lot of early Beyond Dawn material, with a similar sound (not being easily classified) and a lot of mood and atmosphere. Unfortunately, I don't know anything about this band, as this is a dub. But I can tell you that they are Scandinavian. One interesting thing about Ulver is that they use a lot of acoustic guitars and varying vocal styles. The guitars are raw, but understandable, and the drummer is deviously trying to do something different. . if anyone has the address of this band, please send it. Maybe classified as a black-avant-garde-atmospheric metal (read: interesting) band. Check them out if you get a chance.
Sorry, no address.

Mysticum(Nor) "Medusa's Tears" demo 1993

This is very dark....a different Norse band playing very dark black-industrial metal! Normally I don't like drum machines, but this band uses them to great effectiveness, although it is a bit to high in the mix. Plus, the guitar riffing is top grade... a lot of feeling in this stuff. Vocalist (s?) incorporate both low and high terrorizing screams to send visions of wolves into my head. Let me make this clear: this band sounds nothing like Impaled Nazarene, which has been classified as black "industrial" but rather sound as if you are standing next to a wall of souls. Also, I have heard that this band has an album to be released on D.S.P., so watch for it. A nightmare of terror consisting of four tracks.
Sorry, no address.

Hades(Nor) "Alone Walkyng" demo 1993
Wounded Love Records

Epic Northern war metal. Hades is one of the bet sounding bands to emerge from Norway in this latest wave of bands. Classic and memorable riffing abounds in these three songs ("Unholy Congregation," "Hecate [Queen of Hades]," and "Alone Walkyng") and vocals are top notch, mid-ranged and tortured. Also, I think this band exemplifies the sound (production-wise) that Grieghallen and producer Pytten will be

remembered for in the coming years. (Look at the new Enslaved and Mayhem albums for example.) That is thick guitars, ethereal vocal effects, and a strong underlying bass. Very good. Also, this band has signed an album with Fullmoon Productions here in the states. So watch for that one in the months ahead.

Hades
c/o Garmannslund
Ovre Krakensev. 204
50 62 Bones
Norway
(IRC)

Amon(Chk) "Call the Master" demo 1992
Although this cassette is almost 2 years old, I think it is relatively unknown. Okay, Amon is a Czechoslovakian quartet, bending toward the mid-'80s black/thrash sound...great! This is not the pre-Deicide band! Very nice. Dr. Fe (vocalist) is the ex-vocalist of Root, another Czech band of the same type (well, sort of anyway). Most of the songs on this are also sung in Czech, a great language for this style. As I said before, the riffing is in the mid-'80s vein a bit...a la Destruction, Slayer, etc. Well played and still original. This band has been around for quite a while (having released two demos previous to this one) and now have an album deal with Moribund Records in the works. If you like old-style thrash or even if you are a true black-hearted metaler, this is one for you.

FC Amon
Robin Kremar
Poste Restante
6020 00 Brno
Czech Republic
(no IRC [Czech post sucks dick]..$1 is nice though)

Xibalba(Mex) demo 94 (?)
Well, this is the first black metal band that I've heard from Mexico. First of all, this band seems to hover around Mayan/Aztec influence, judging by the layout and artwork presented in the insert. An interesting thing also to note is the lyrics are all in Latin (!), not English or Spanish as I would have thought. I can't read them, but I can see that the 4 pieces presented here are arranged to interconnect with a saga, if you will, of several scenes (the songs) and acts (within each song) much as Master's Hammer and Sabbat(UK) have done...maybe a concept album? Okay, musically this reminds me a lot of Hellhammer and early Celtic Frost, with the tempo generally remaining slow to mid-paced, with only a few faster parts. Keeps my interest, however. Vocals are along the Quorthon and/or Darkthrone realm. Production is not the bet, but I'd like to hear what these guys could do with an actual recording budget and a better studio.

Xibalba
Apdo. Postal 136-070
C.P. 08020
Mexico, D.F.
(IRC)

Symphony of Grief(U.S.A.) demo 1993
Symphony of Grief is a three-piece from the low-tuned state of New Jersey. I think I would classify them as a mixture of Incantation - like brutal death with low-thick vocals and Godflesh influence as well. (a drum machine is used, sort of the same feeling as "Street Cleaner"). Quite good, although there are only there tracks to this demo. ("Infernal Creation," Cerebral Hemorrhage," and "Assimilation of Souls") It still holds my interest throughout. Although more than one listen at a time is probably not going to happen. I think that if you are into either of the genre's above, then this would spark your interest.

S.O.G.
c/o Andy Marakert
515 Filmore St.
Riverside, NJ 08075
U.S.A.

Apostasy(U.S.A.) "Accuser of Brethren" demo 1993
Okay, a bit along the same lines is Apostasy's first demo. Apostasy is a five-piece from this shit-hole of metal....Florida. This band specializes in primitive, "brutal" American death metal. A style I'm not too fond of.....with exceptions (of course!). Although this band stands for anti-religion (of any sorts) and return of ancient ways and morals, I think that they don't (as of now) stand out too much from the countless other bands of the same sort out there.

Apostasy
c/o Tony Blakk
P O Box 7222
Tampa, FL 33673
U.S.A.

The Cross(Brz) "The Fall" demo 1993
Allright, I don't think I've heard a good "doom" band from Brazil lately. Although this band doesn't exactly fit that description 100% (the vocals, for example, are too high pitched, more in the '90s black metal field, but not as raw. A bit similar to Marduk's current vocal style). Their music is slower and still holds a bit of a groove, such as old Trouble did. Although this band reminds me a bit of today's Mystifier, as well. Quite good actually. As many new bands, this tape lacks the production quality that this band deserves, although the three songs presented here are quite listenable and excellent. Support this little known Brazilian group.

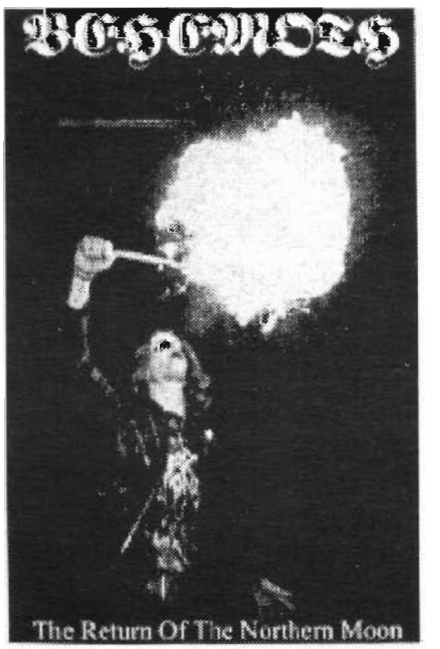
The Cross
A/C Eduardo
Rua Plinio Mosco
Ed Sto Onofre
Apt. 202
Centenarios-Salvador-Ba.
Brazil
(IRC)

Angel Kill(U.S.A.) "Garden of Crosses" Demo 1993
For some reason, I was under the impression that this band from Indiana was a Mercyful Fate clone. So naturally, I was excited when I received this tape. Not too many M.F.-esque bands out there. To tell you the truth, I was a bit let down by the nine (!) songs presented here. There were some M.Fate overtones (singer Tony Blakk attempting some of the high notes at times; some of the riffs, a song called "Elizabeth," etc.), but generally this is not very interesting death metal...nevertheless, Blakk is a cool guy to write to. Although my suggestion to this band would be to concentrate a lot less on being "brutal," and work on creating a dark and evil atmosphere.

Angel Kill
Box 371
LeClaire, IA 52753
U.S.A.

Unpure(Swe) demo 2 1993
Now, this band has more Mercyful Fate feeling on the first song (of seven total) than Angel Kill does on their whole tape!! This Swedish duo plays excellent and melancholic black metal with, as I said, heavy M.F. overtones...cool! A bit of early Celtic Frost sound in there as well...and several Tom G. Warrior style grunts ("Oohhhh...." YES!) in there as well. Otherwise, the vocal style is much along the lines of most other black acts out there today, that is mid-ranged to high, raw and tortured.....nice.... There are a lot of good riffs on this tape, and from what I understand, they have another newer demo out now as well. Support this band!

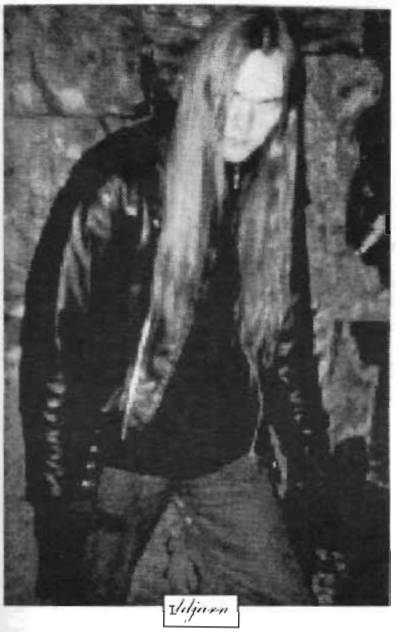
Unpure
Valthornsvågen 9C
S-149 50 Nynåshamn
Sweden
(IRC)



Behemoth(Pol) "The Return of the Northern Moon" EP
Pagan Records
Ahhh..this band ranks up in the top of the world's

unsigned black metal scene, having a unique yet traditional sound. It's hard to say who exactly influences this band, but I think that it's safe to say that the old greats, such as Bathory, Celtic Frost (they cover "Aggressor" on this tape from the great "Apocalyptic Raids" by Hellhammer), and other such notables. Fast guitars...several slower parts as well; however, hard to believe that this band comes out of Poland! Six songs here (including "Aggressor") and intros care of Rob Fudeli of Emperor-worshippers Graveland....this is a great cassette that belongs in the collection of every fan of this style.

Behemoth
c/o Nergal
UL. Pomorska 14 G/9
80-333 Gdansk
Poland
(IRC)



Ildjarn(Nor) Demo 1993
What do you know, another great black metal band from Norway. All right, Ildjarn is the brainchild of one man, Ildjarn, although this tape features the legendary Ihsahn of Emperor as the session vocalist. As for the sound of this tape, it totally reminds me of the first Bathory album, that is raw, simple, an chaotic. In other words...fucking great! Ihsahn's vocals are along the same lines as Quorthan's as well, with plenty of echo and ferocity. I hear a lot of punk influence in this as well. But then, listen to Bathory, right? The only thing bad that sits out in my mind about this is maybe they play some of the riffs a little tooooo long. I hope this band gets a chance to record again with a better production. Fuck, yeah!

Ildjarn
c/o Vi Våer
Gasefet
3810 Gvarv
Norway
(IRC)

Dawn(Ger) "The Darkness Within" Promo 1993
All right, here we have a fairly standard death metal band from Germany. I have many reviews praising this band. I'm not really sure why, to tell you the truth . .It all seems pretty average to me; not much innovation here. Vocals are Barney Greenway-ish, music...mmmm...maybe a bit of a mix of Floridian and Sinister styles, with some Dismember thrown in Oh well, nothing special here.

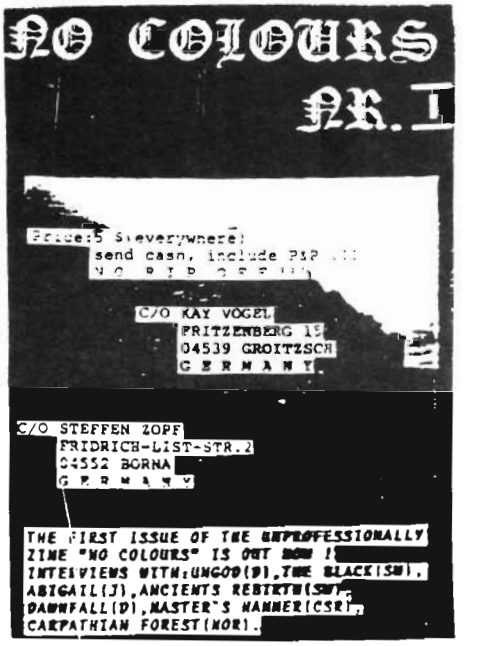
Dawn
c/o Martin Jäger
Otto-Dill-Str.6
67141 Neuhofen
Germany
(IRC)

Seducer(U.S.A.) "Enticing the Masses" demo
YAAAWNNNN...All right this really isn't my style either. From what I can tell, this band plays not very original (although very well played) thrash-death style stuff. What really turns me off to this band is the vocalist, who sounds like some Biohazard shit or something. Two things I have to give this group credit for: the level of musicianship on this is superb; and they've been together with the same members for 9 years (!!!) Those are two key elements in a good band. Too bad the progressiveness is not there.

Seducer
4625 Murrayhill Road
Charlotte, NC 28209
U.S.A.

Black Funeral (U.S.A.) demo'94
Here we have another project of Baron Abaddon (Sorath, Darkness Enshroud)....this tape opens with an extremely dark acoustic guitar intro....which moves into fairly decent norse-inspired black metal....with a bit of death metal touch. This is quite good....but I would really like to hear these guys put in a better studio. Hmm....maybe a cross of Emperor, Burzum, and Impaled Nazarene would be a fitting description. The tape has 5 songs plus intro and is available from.....
c/o Baron Abaddon
3122 Dunster St.
Indianapolis, IN
46227
U.S.A.

Enslaved (Nor) "s/t" CD
DSP/V.O.W
Finally! Another great release by these sons of the Northstar...Enslaved! After their epic "Yggdrasil" demo ('92) and split with the mighty Emperor in '93....they give us this self titled album. Pure viking (ahem...well, pseudo-viking from what I hear)hymns are what Enslaved specialize in...The overall impression I got from these five songs was one of a great futuristic landscape or perhaps encountering the unknown.....musically Enslaved play epic northern metal...that is, fast, emotional, yet not bogged down by over-technicality or boring riffing. Grutle Kjellsons vocals are sung in ancient Icelandic or Norse....a translation into english is provided however. Sagas and dreams about the ancient thoughts and times....5 rather long songs/stories. VERY GOOD despite their less than perfect reputation.



next issue.....
"Ritual Ambient Sound" report
with
Equimanthorn(U.S.A.), Darkness Enshroud(U.S.A.), and Mortiis(Nor).....
...also interviews with Grand Belial's Key(U.S.A.), Metalion(of Slayer Mag' fame), Mystifier(Brz), Amon(Czk), more with the Norse hordes, and much, much more!!!

LABEL ADDRESSES....

Vic Records, Tafelberg 71, 3328 SR Dordrecht, Holland
Necropolis Records, P. O. Box 14815, Fremont, CA 94539-4815
Shiver Records, Amerstraat 112, 3200 Aarschot, Belgium
Full Moon Productions, 948 Callahan Court, Lakeland, Florida
Cyber Music P. O. Box 2,7550 AA Varsseveld, Holland
Cymophane/Head Not Found, P. O. Box 447,1701 Sarpsborg, Norway
Osmose Productions, B. P. 57,622990,Beaurainville, France
Dark Oceans Productions, P. O. Box 244, Kedron Qld,4031, Australia
Torched Records,9411/2 E, 40th Pl., Los Angeles, CA 90011 USA
Moribund Records, P. O. Box 77314, Seattle, WA 98177-0314 USA
M. M. I. Records, Markus Woeste, Heerstaße 77, W. 5884 Halver, Germany
Adipocere, 152, rue des Acacias, 01700 MIRIBEL, France
Gutted Records, 2336 S. 1st Ave., N. Riverside, IL 60546 USA
Grivance Records, 21 Thomas Rd., Lawrence, Mass. 01843
Wild Rags, 2207 W. Whitter Blvd., Montebello, CA 90640-4014 USA
P. S. Records, P. O. Box 22, Belle Vernon, PA 15012 USA
Poserslaughter Records, P. O. Box 41, (0)- 1017 Berlin/PA 18 Germany
Wounded Love Records, Via Fonzanso 2, 20148 Milano Italy
V. O. W./D. S. P., T. H. V. Meyersgt. 33, N-0555 Oslo, Norway
Malicious Records, Kirchstr. 9, 72149 Neustetten 3, Germany
Abyss Productions, 3122 Dunster St, Indianapolis, IN 46227
Misanthropy Records, P. O. Box 3641, London E15 3hp, England
Unisound, P. O. Box 66084,15510 Athens, Greece
Cacophonous Records, 231 Portobello RD., London W11 Kt, England
Avantgarde Music, C. P. 19,20010 Vanzago (MI), Italy
Dark Records, Apartado 142,2830 Barreiro codex, Portugal
Molon Lave Records, Solomou St. 14,16 Athens, Greece 10683
Shivadarshana Records, P. O. Box 3005,3200 Da Spijkenisse, Holland
Witchhunt Records, P. O. Box 658,8029 Zurich, Switzerland
Warmaster Records, Mauricio "BullMetal" Montoya, A.A 056642, Medellin, Columbia
Tragic Empire/Embassy Prod., c/oPhil Galliana, 5 rue de la gara d'Harnes, 62710 Corrieves, France

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2430 Laakdal
Belgium

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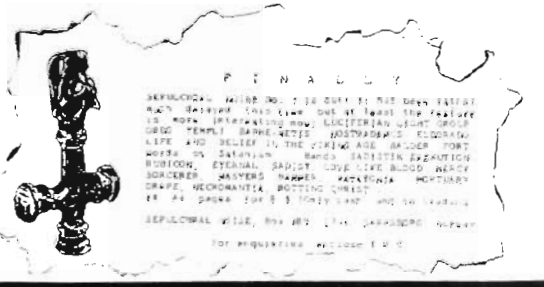

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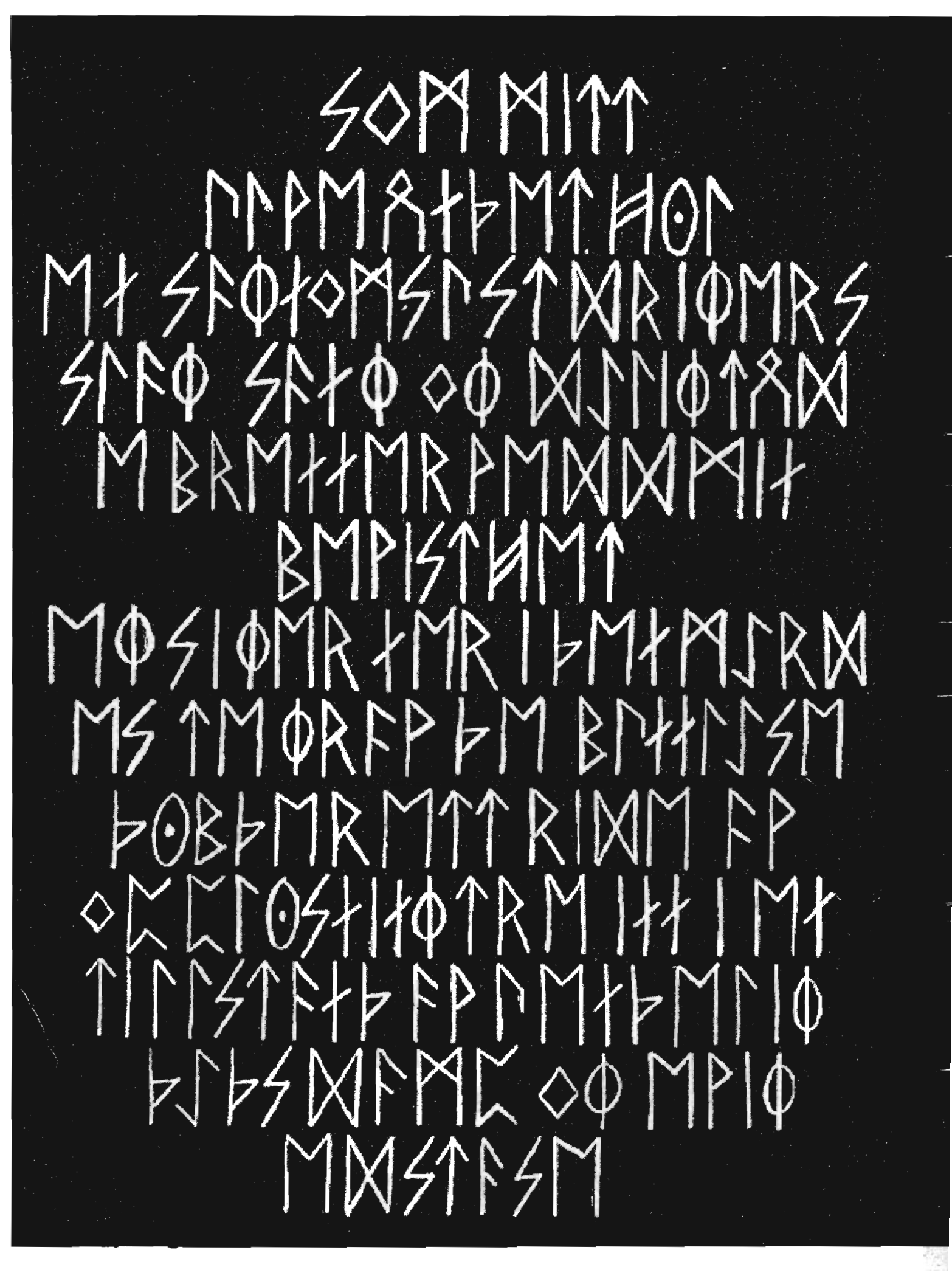
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