



NEWSLETTER #10 / DEC. 2021



SACCAGE (Can) Khaos mortem Tape album. SUICIDE BY COPS Recs.

It's easier to understand the message when a band uses your birth language, but since french isn't as important as it used to be (Since a hundred years, or more) I will help you to receive the message: "Saccage" means something like pillage or rampage, and it suits the music of these Quebecois because they sound kicking and thrashing! What my tape player delivers is a mixture of black/ thrash, old school death, crustcore, and black death moments... This might sound a little "vague" as a description, but most of the beats follow a thrashing or dbeat style, with the appearance of blasts here & there (To make your beer bottle tremble in emergency).

In fact, I can feel some emergency and intensity in these riffs and songs; This might be the main goal here: To kick. Now it's not the most original mix of styles, but do you always care about it (For real)? The production is quite powerful, sometimes it gives a serious taste of Dismember to the whole, sometimes it sounds closer to punk Hc/ Grind. It's time for the name-dropping list: I hear some old swedeth like DISMEMBER, CARNAGE (Not really Entombed), blasbeats à la old IMPIETY or TERMINATION FORCE (Less "complex"), perhaps some SODOM ("Tapping the vein" for thrashing cruelty & big sound), or some old BLACK BLEEDING for some kicking black death enthusiasm. There should also be some crust/ punk outfits added to the list, but I can see no band logo in my head right now. SACCAGE had planned to tour in Europe in 2020, and the whole was cancelled for viral reasons... But it could be postponed to 2022). So keep an eye (And a hear) on the sounds of these saccaging Quebecois "WARRIOR OF ICE" if you need to get your ass kicked. THE SAW IS THE LAW. <https://saccage.bandcamp.com>

death metal Finland



MALICIOUS (Fin) Deranged hexes Tape album. 2020. INVICTUS Recs.

Epileptic body transformations. Unbreakable intensity from the inside, willing to transmute your corpse at all costs. New teeth, new fingers, new arms are rumbling in the inside. Will you control the inhuman call of monstrosity?

After a demo and an Ep, this Finnish band comes up with a first album, and serves your chopped head to the fester, while he's rejoicing the fumes of death metal sulphur. What you find during these 8 tracks is fast evil death metal the old way. It often sounds ancient and seriously fast, but there's some research in the evil riffing. It especially reminds me of the first MORBID ANGEL album (Altars) for the fast and quite unrelenting moments (There aren't so much of "heavy" or "speed" influences here), plus the production and vocals are also in the same tunnels of death. These songs also remember me what DEGIAL (Swe) did at some point, with some THRONEUM, some old INCUBUS (For the intensity, see the "God died on his knees" demo '87), some old ANGEL CORPSE (For some evil riffs) and some oold SADISTIK EXEKUTION (But the first two albums, before they went all blastbeat and "modern"). As you can see, I served you again with a list of name-dropping, but perhaps you deserve more? (AhAh) Sometimes I feel the spirit isn't very far from the early DEICIDE/ AMON demos, even if the music is different (Less SLAYER influenced?) During this 25 minutes long album, the music sounds frenetic, sometimes perhaps epileptic... It is maybe not as catchy or memorable as some of the bands quoted before, but at least the content sounds intense, quite crazy, and a bit more intricate that you could imagine at first. This review is almost over, the inner battle of teeth, fingers and arms is now quieter. <https://maliciousfin.bandcamp.com>



HUMAN MEAT (Fra) Shape of happiness Demo 2020. Digital. Self-released.

Human Meat is a new "Death grind" project from France, and here is their second recording. To be more precise, I will say their style is a mixture of Death grind à la NAPALM DEATH, fast crustcore, with some hardcore influences

SEND BACK MY STAMPS!

and some old death metal touches. The whole comes with a quite raw HM-2 guitar sound, which is quite corrosive and sometimes gives it an ENTOMBED taste, while the music sounds more like "modern grind" in blasting parts (Not the modern technical wank). At the first approach, I thought it would be blastbeats only (I was afraid for my now fragile hears, you know), but in fact the rhythms remain quite varied (There's even some kind of "death'n roll" song). Even if I'm a little tired with the HM-2 guitar sound (Sometimes it seem used to hide average music behind a well of guitars), I can say the music here is not bad: There are kicking moments, quite energetic parts, no repetitive boredom (For the style)... Perhaps I also heard some old NASUM, mid old DISMEMBER, old MISERY INDEX or COMECON (First album, for the drums), but it's rather to give an idea... For me this isn't a new revelation in brutality (I'm kinda an old fart, or not?), but those who dig styles like mid-old school death grind, quite raw hardcore, and the swedeth corrosive sound might enjoy the brutal fist right between their two hears. (One of the band members used to play in Ananda and Knut) <https://humanmeat.bandcamp.com>



EXAUGURATE (Usa) Chasm of rapturous delirium Tape. 2020. ROTTED LIFE Recs.

INTO THE LABYRINTH OF THROMBOSIS VEINS. THE SPIRITUAL MALEVOLENCE LEADS YOU INTO A CHASM OF RAPTUREOUS DELIRIUM. REVERSED EXALTATION, THROUGH CARRIONED DEEDS... EXAUGURATE is a new band, but all their musicians played in other outfits before. Their style could be described (Quite roughly) as fast darkened Death metal à la INCANTATION/ MORBID ANGEL, with appearances of abstract riffs à la IMMOLATION here & there, coming with a quite professional (but not plasticized) approach. Concerning the Incantation influence, they don't necessarily share their most cavernous paths (This recording is quite well produced, and quite "clear", yet "obscure") but I feel they share some epicness and heavy moments. Concerning the Morbid angel influence, it can be felt for some fast blasting parts, some heavier obscurity ("Gateways...") or perhaps a classy touch ("Domination"). Then concerning the elements of Immolation, it's rather about the feeling, than the playing which is less "tortuous" and complex.

The songs of EXAUGURATE are often blasting, or simply fast, but you also hear heavier moments here & there. It's welcome, and sometimes well felt (There's an ultra heavy desperate moment in the middle of the Ep... Ugh). Fans of underground death metal might also hear similarities with Czech HEAVING EARTH (But less "brutal" influenced), FLESHITIZED (In some blasting parts), or some polish band from 5-10 years ago. I didn't pay that much attention to this tape when I got it, because I'm quite (Voluntary, and not) flooded with music... But now I can write EXAUGURATE sounds like a solid band, with some well felt/ nicely inspired riffs here & there. It's perhaps not the most crushing band in the style yet, but they already have a quite good level of playing & composing. I think it's a quite promising band for fans of the outfits quoted before. (NB: These musicians use, or used, to play in GRAVE RITUAL, ECTOVOID, MEATHOLE INFECTION etc) <https://exaugurate.bandcamp.com>

blackened are

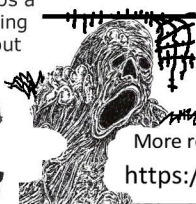


the priests

TENEBRION (Peru) Tenebrion Demo tape. 2020. DYSTOPIAN DOGS Recs.

Each time I read the name of the town "Lima", I see a picture of the animal called a "Lama"... Don't ask me why... At least this kind of camel is located in South America and loves to spit in your face! (So my feelings weren't 100% wrong... Uh) Ok, here you have the first demo of a band from Lima, that practices old school thrash/ black thrash. They're from Peru, but they could be located in Chile that you wouldn't really notice. They offer pretty cool songs with thrashing riffs the old way, more blackened guitars à la old DARKTHRONE (Probably), and nice rock'n roll riffs à la very early AURA NOIR (Well, it's not really R'N'R à la Motörhead for example, but I don't have a better word) If you want names, I also hear some early 80's Teutonic thrash influences, from the old albums... (Oh, I didn't quote band names... Nice anti-name-dropping effort isn't it?). I think the first song "Blackness commando" is better than the two following ones, not due to the riffs, but because it was built in a more efficient/ kicking way. I think TENEBRION checks all the boxes of the cool/ very nice thrash metal/ black thrash demo. I wasn't really thrilled by a black storm of thunder, but this is a good beginning. TENEBRES THRASHING VELOMOTEUR! <https://tenebrionperu.bandcamp.com>

blackened and crusty



death death UNDERGROUND IS A PUSSTRID CORPSE

More reviews, interviews, and distro at : <https://nihilistic-webzine-distro.fr>

CATHARTIC

MEXICAN DEATH METAL TERROR

Interview by Arch from Cabal zine and Gabriel

1. Hi, can you tell us the story of Cathartic? Because you seem to be a young band, and « Ceremonial Resurrection » appears to be your first recording, isn't it?

Hi, thanks for this interview! Cathartic was formed in July 2019 in Guadalajara, Mexico. By me, Erick Beltran as guitarist / vocalist and my brother Jimmy Beltrán on guitars. Bassist Jimmy Figueroa and drummer Carlos García to complete the lineup. In June 2020 Carlos García leaves the band and is replaced by Ángel Rosales. Yes, this is our first work under the banners of Cathartic, but we know each other from several years ago from our first band Iron Force.

2. « Ceremonial Resurrection » seems to have been well received in several countries, you got a deal with Concreto records (Mexico) for the CD, and also a deal with Destruktion records (Germany) for the tape edition. How did you do to have released on two labels ?

We want to spread our work, our music and vision around the globe, but we wanted to do it on the right way. We do our own psychal presskits and spread it to the world. For labels and fanzines only, with a personal handwritten letter. No streaming, no likes and followers, no big egos. And this is the case with Concreto and Destruktion Records. They received our music and we started to work together.

3. Dan Swanö did the mastering, why did you choose him and not another technician?

Dan Swanö is a very talented person and he knows exactly what he does. We knew that with his knowledge, we could reach the ultimate power for these songs. We wanted to start with the right foot.

4. Do you consider this first recording as a demo, a MCD or an Ep? The CD version comes with 4 songs and also two bonus tracks, namely « Bringer of hate » and « Drowned in terror ». Why do you view these two as bonus tracks?

It's an EP. The four songs were 100% composed by the band during the period of our formation to the ending autumn of 2019. The bonus tracks are the last remains from our previous band named Iron Force, but with some modifications.

5. For a lot of fans, old school death metal is the only way to play death metal, and this can reflect in the artworks... For your release you choose the arts of Juanjo Castellano...

Yes, I was looking for something traditional but at the same time very special. The classic black and white art with the "holy death" on that style of artwork, something taboo from the Mexican culture. We praise death, and that goes against what society expects.

6. We discovered your release on the french distro "Nihilistic holocaust". The underground is not everywhere, it has some good and old dealers, but it's very difficult to find good bands. How is your scene in Mexico? Are death metal bands like "Rockstars" or is the music the most important before anything else? What about your local scene and the physical market for CDs and Lps in your country ?

I think you are going to find the «rockstars» everywhere, peoples who only live for the moment. They only think about stepping on the biggest stages with their empty music. Here in our local scene we have Covid-idiots... Metalheads making presentations in times of pandemic! 100% live in the local bar. It's a shame. But luckily, many peoples stay at home and play their records, tapes and CDs. Concreto Records also has a store and they ship worldwide, if peoples from France want to check for a new place. Here in Mexico, we have a lot of Metal stores from the north to the south: El dispensario Underground, Alto Voltaje Store, Metal Inside Records and Store...

7. Which equipment do you use to have such a fat sound on your recording?

Marshall amplifiers, HM-2 and Tequila... Heavy gear only !

8. Are you able to reproduce this thick sound in the rehearsal place or live in small bars? It's not always easy to sound brutal and remain intelligible in "rough" conditions (I saw some local bands live that sounded like noisy "Brrrrr") and I came to the conclusion that sometimes it's better to lower the level of overdrive during gigs, to gain some impact...

I think with the correct sound equipment and a good audio engineer you can get good results in any space. Our rehearsal room is small for example, and we got a good sound there. Unfortunately we haven't had a chance to play live yet, but we will be prepared with the necessary gear to sound great in each presentation in the near future.

9. Can you explain a little the meaning of the word "Cathartic" to our readers? I think this is a quite good name for a death metal band, and surprisingly it wasn't already used (While you could expect everything decent would already be taken in 2021...). Where did you find the idea?

Thanks! "Cathartic" is the relief through the open expression of strong emotions; causing catharsis. I really wanted a name that could be related with this form of extreme music. For me, as an introvert, it's a cathartic experience to be the vocalist/guitarist and the person who writes the lyrics of the songs. It fits perfectly with what I wanted to do in the band and luckily I found a one word name that sounds like the names of bands I like (Cathedral, Carnage, Carcass...)

10. I wasn't very familiar with the old Mexican death metal scene, until few years ago when peoples started to talk more often about it, and some labels also re-released some of it... What can you say about the old death metal scene from Mexico? Which bands or recordings should metallers absolutely know? Can we say CATHARTIC is influenced by old Mexican death in a way?



Definitely. There were excellent bands that I really like: Cenotaph, Shub Niggurath, R'lyeh, Blackthorn and many more but particularly Bloodsoaked was a source of inspiration for me. I recommend listening to that band, specially "Autist Decay" and "The Omen" EPs. Another band that blew my mind was Sarcastic with their demo tape "No Forgiveness", it's raw and chaotic in a badass way. I even have the cover artwork of this tape tattooed on my right leg!

11. Okay, we hope that Cathartic will have a really good career, like Zombification. How do you see the future for Cathartic, for old school death metal, and the time to come with Covid-19 ?

Thanks, I hope so too. Right now, we are working on our full-length album, I hope it can be released at the end of August. But time will tell. We are not going to do a livestream ever! I don't care what peoples spect haha! But I really hope things improve soon. Thanks a lot for this interview! All Metal Maniacs can keep in touch via Facebook and Instagram :

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