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NEWSLETTER  
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GORE

**Ecocide**

OLD SCHOOL DEATH METAL  
from netherlands to your cavern

996

death metal assault

Compared to your first album, one can feel a difference at the level of the vocals... While on the first one it was deeper and lower, on the new one it's more scorched like old Pestilence and Morgoth... It's not usual that the same vocalist changes from low to higher pitched vocals. Why this evolution?

I have been doing a lot of vocals for other metal projects from Thrash to Deathcore. I like being diverse in what I write and play. I love playing guitar but I'm more of a songwriter/vocalist then a "real" guitar player. So with "Meta" we brought in a new vocal style to pay homage to bands such as Pestilence and Asphyx.

Could I say this new album comes with a little more "progressive" touch, a bit in the spirit of what we could find on Pestilence's Testimony and spheres? Perhaps it's also a bit more doom infused by moments...

Absolutely! We brought in some influence from Death of course, on songs like Vortex Singularity. I think our first album had a more raw aggressive sound and with this album we kept it more dynamic.

The production between the two releases has also changed, while the first Lp was closer to a somewhat Morrisound production, the newer one has more high/mid frequencies on guitars, giving perhaps a more Morgoth (Cursed) or Pestilence (Testimony) impression... What this volunteer, or was the bass guitar amp broken during the recording? ahah

I went as close to the two recordings you mention with the mixing process. I think it fits, although you might miss some low end haha.

*in morte aeterna*



**Hello. How are you? Are things okey in Haarlem/ Netherlands, and who will answer these questions?**

Hi Gabriel, Thanks for having us! Things are very good in Haarlem and the rest of the Netherlands. The metal scene is resurrected after the pandemic and so is Ecocide.

My name is Sten I play guitar and vocals for Ecocide since the beginning

**Your new album "Metamorphosis" was released recently in october 2023. How would you briefly present it to the readers, and how would you say it's a metamorphosis compared to your previous recordings?**

Metamorphosis is an album made for old school death metalheads. Raw, intense, nostalgic. We wanted to release the album we promised back in 2014. Compared to Eye of Wicked Sight I'd say "Eye" was more Massacre/Bolt Thrower-Style and "Meta" is more Pestilence/Morgoth-style.



**Your band name has a somewhat grindcore touch, a bit in the spirit of the old "political" bands from the 90's like PHOBIA for example... Did you play grindcore in the beginning of the band?**

We play "You suffer but why" from Napalm Death sometimes and make some weird noises during live shows but we were never really a grindcore project.

**I see your two full-lengths were both released in 3 different formats: Vynils, CDs and tapes... What's your favorite format and why? Do you consider digital or streaming as a format?**

It feels amazing to have a record on vinyl. But I like the reach you can get online and the nice interactions with fans and other bands.

**If you were asked under torture to cover songs by a non-metal band, and had to turn it into a death metal song, which would you choose? I remember the Danish metal band GROPE once covered the BJÖRK song "An army of me", which wasn't a too bad choice since it was the singer's most "angry" track... But what would you personally choose?**

Sean Paul - Get Busy has this melody in the beginning of the song that just feels like this groovy riff. Oh and you wouldn't have to torture me to make it haha.

**You're located in Netherlands, a country that has brought some names that are well known by death metallers, such as PESTILENCE, ASPHYX, PENTACLE, SINISTER, GOREFEST and others... Which are your favorite Dutch metal bands from the past and present? Which of these did you already see live, and did you already meet some of the musicians? Was it cool to meet your "idols" and did you learn interesting things?**

My favourite dutch bands at the moment are Adversary, Obstruktor, Violent Silence and I can name a lot more. It's amazing to see this scene grow into a community of cool bands in all kinds of metal genres.

But back to the old school bands. I did some live sound for Sinister at a venue in Haarlem back in the day but me and the guys have not yet met the other great bands you mention.

**To dig a bit deeper in the underground, which other Dutch bands would you recommend to the readers who would like to discover less famous death metal bands? Is the Dutch scene rather about old school death, brutal death, black metal, doom, or perhaps it's a mix of everything?**

Really a great mix of everything and I don't see a lot of gatekeeping. I've seen Hardcore kids at Thrash shows and Thrashers at Deathcore gigs. But to shout out a few more: Headless Hunter, Cryptosis, Loyalty Ends Here, Bloodcrypt and Massive Assault.



**How do you see the evolution of the band's music in the future? Do you think it could become a bit more tortured and "industrial" (Like Morgoth's "Odium"), or follow a more technical/ progressive path?**

We would like to use the HM2 pedal in the future and combine Old School Death Metal with some Black Metal and Hardcore elements.

**What are your next plans with the band? Maybe more gigs, new merch, more noise?**

Definitely more noise! So keep an eye out for our next release. Thanks again!

<https://ecocide-osdm.bandcamp.com>  
<https://www.facebook.com/EcocideMetal>

# DEATH METAL



## DEATH METAL BRUTAL DEATH FROM INDONESIAN HELL

**Hello, can you introduce the band to our readers? Your demo "Pejabat Bangsat" was released recently. Can you introduce this piece of brutality to our readers? I enjoy your style: A mix of old school death metal and brutal death metal, it's quite uncommon nowadays... (Everyone wants to be totally old school, or totally brutal death, but do not often mix the two styles together...)**

NAR was formed in Jakarta in 2020, the beginning was a hangout with old friends, finally we formed a band during the pandemic, with the initial formation: Canon - Vocal. Cici - Lead Guitar. Alex - Bass Guitar. Andri bagol - Drums. As time went by, we finally started recording and making the ep album "PEJABAT BANGSAT" which was released by the Indonesian label "ROTTENFLESH RECORD". As time went by, Canon the vocalist resigned from the band, because he was busy with his family ... And now the vocalist position is replaced by BOET... NAR's current formation: Boet - Vocal. Cici - Lead guitar. Alex - Bass guitar. Andri bagol - Drums. And we plan to release a full album or single album in 2024.

**Did the musicians of NAR play in other bands in the past? Did they record demos or maybe albums?**

Yes, we all had other bands in the past and also now... Cici also plays in the band CORPORATION OF BLEEDING, Andri Bagol also plays in the band MAYAT and formerly in the band DEATH OF AUTHORTIY, Boet is the former vocalist of ABABIL.. All previous bands before NAR have released albums.

**Your most old school death metal riffs remind me of early DEATH, oold SÉPULTURA and also very old GORGUTS... It's a very cool mixture of influences! But it's not common to hear this kind of old school sound from Indonesia, the Indonesian scene is usually more into extreme brutal death... How did you discover old school death metal? What are your favorite old DM bands?**

Yes, the initial concept of NAR was the old school death metal genre, so it just flowed, it's not based on other bands, maybe technically close to SEPULTURA, DEATH, GORGUTS, MORBID ANGEL, SUFFOCATION, DEICIDE, TERRORIZER, METALLICA, SLAYER and many more, so a combination of all existing music genres... About finding classic death metal...

Yes, by listening and taking techniques from the classic death metal genre itself. Favorite bands: SEPULTURA, MORBID ANGEL, METALLICA, SLAYER, TERRORIZER, DEICIDE, NAPALM DEATH, BENEDICTION, CRYPTOPSY, CARCASS, and many more.

**What does your band name mean? I imagine it comes from "Nar Mataru", the ancient underworld at the epoch of the Sumerians, but there's also a MORBID ANGEL song with the same name... Can you tell more about it?**

The name NAR means HELL fire, we took it from Arabic, and the name NAR was given by a habib, who is our friend too.

**I don't know if your blastbeat brutal parts are influenced by old American brutal death (Old Suffocation etc) or Brazilian brutality (old Kristin, Rebaellium)... Do you prefer old American brutal death or the Brazilian style? Or perhaps your sound is a mix of both?**

Well, our blasbeat is somewhat influenced by SUFFOCATION, MORBID ANGEL, DEICIDE, CRYPTOPSY and we all like brutal death, thrash metal, death metal, grindcore and crust T punk bands.



# BRUTAL EPIC

**You're the drummer of the band. How long have you been playing drums? Is it hard to keep a good level? Do you rehearse every day, every week? What are your inspirations, your idols, for metal drumming?**

I've been playing drums since 1993, when I formed the band MAYAT, It's not hard to keep a good drumming level, as long as I practice drums diligently... I practice drums every week when I'm off from work... My inspirations are Dave Lombardo (SLAYER), Pete Sandoval (TERRORIZER), Lars Ulrich (METALLICA), Igor Cavalera (SEPULTURA), Steve Asheim (DEICIDE), and Mike Smith (SUFFOCATION).

## old school blood

**Your demo was released on tape by Nekrassious in France. How did you get in touch with him? How does it feel to be released by a label from the other side of the planet? Do you have plans for a CD reissue in Asia?**

It all started when we were introduced by David, who is our friend in Indonesia... Then David tried to offer the NAR EP album to be released by a French label, and we okayed everything to be released by a French label, It feels good and proud to be released by a French label... Our plan for 2024 is to release a full album and have recorded 4 new songs all.

**Tell us more about the current death metal scene in Indonesia! Are there other bands into the old school sound, or are most of Indonesian people into American/extreme brutal death? Do you also have a scene for grindcore and black metal?**

The metal scene in Indonesia is very good, they support each other. In Indonesia, there are more people who like Underground music itself, whether it's death metal, brutal death metal, grindcore, black metal, just a mixture of everything hahaha.

**How is the situation for metal concerts in Indonesia? Can you play gigs quite regularly, or is it hard? Can you organize a small tour**

## extreme brutality

**and play in various cities or different areas?**

The concert situation in Indonesia is: Almost once a week there is a metal concert here, and even then it is routinely done here metal concerts here. Concerning a tour of NAR maybe later after finishing the full album... NAR itself has also often performed in Jakarta, Bogor, and Sukabumi, it is not difficult to perform at metal music events in Jakarta.

**In Europe everyone has become very digital, there are computers or screens everywhere, and almost everyone has a smartphone... How is this situation in Indonesia? Are the smartphones, digital screens and easy internet access very common? Do you have access to all the internet, or is it censored and are some websites blocked? (Like in china for example...)**

Internet access in Indonesia is very easy to get, and we have also made digital platforms, and other social media accounts.

**What do you know about France? Perhaps you heard about some french food, wine, or old french singers like Serge Gainsbourg? Perhaps some Indonesian peoples have memories (good or bad) of the french colonies in Thailand in the past century? Do you know any french metal bands?**

France is a very beautiful country, we know France as a fashion city, and there are also many metal musicians there, and metal bands, all good and cool.



**What's the most brutal thing you can think about? Which brutal thing could represent the best the spirit or music of NAR?**

The most brutal thing is the spirit of making a music concept, with the lyrical theme of murder, violence, corruption, and all the real brutal events that exist in Indonesia.

[https://www.instagram.com/nar\\_deathmetal](https://www.instagram.com/nar_deathmetal)

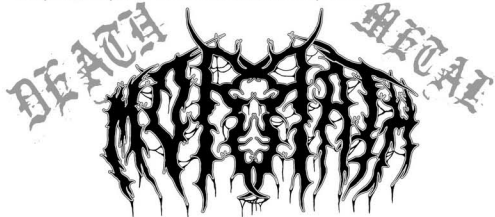


# REVIEWS FROM THE LIQUID CRYPT



**REPULSIVE MASS (Swe) Conjure apocalyptic pestilence MCD. 2022. BRUTAL CAVE Recs. UPHEAVAL OF BLASPHEMY!** This is great sounding satanic and obscure death metal! It tastes like a mix of mid old INCANTATION, old MORBID ANGEL, with parts à la early IMMOLATION (First album), perhaps BEYOND FEAR (UK), or old CENTURIAN! The fast blasting parts deliver the evil and intensity of obscurity! I'm in my bedroom ready to raise the fist (AhAh). This is quite kicking stuff, with a bit more intricate guitars here & there. I think the drums were programmed (Or triggered?), but it sounds alright and I dig how the bass drums are sounding (Kinda like early IMMOLATION in the spirit). Now I feel some doomier parts are a bit too "quiet", it dissolves a bit the intensity (Seems like the kind of "doom death" that comes with a love for "emptiness" or seems "suspended over emptiness"). This demo sounds great in the style, it's not really original and might somewhat fall unnoticed in the mass of evil death metal coming out... But it would be a shame because some intensity and qualities of obscurity are there. Praise the monolith of the apocalypse.

<https://repulsivemass.bandcamp.com>



**MORRATH (Pol) Centuries of blindness CD. 2023. METAL IS THE LAW Recs.**

The devil made me do it. Phantom arms made of dark fume took and leaded my hands, as we once leaded the rats... So I took my pen and involuntary wrote these words. This first album consists in quite kicking evil death metal in the style of MORBID ANGEL. And to be more precise, closer to the fast songs of "Altars" or "Covenant", with a bit of the following albums. Then you can also feel other elements like the evil Polish death metal (No surprise Morrath are from Poland), some early HATE ETERNAL, a bit of NILE, some old CENTURIAN, then also a bit of MASSACRA ("Enjoy" or "Signs") or touches of early SINISTER (First two albums), with a bit more "modern"

moments here & there.

Even if the blastbeats are very present here, all the songs aren't totally fast & revengeful: You can feel some heavier (Or more thrashy) moments to aerate a bit the cauldron. Sometimes maybe the polish dudes also get closer to regular 90's European DM (The mid-paced one)... But globally the music drowns in the same spirit: Evil Death metal in the "Azagtoth realm". I hear nothing new in this album, but this is a quite well made and efficient recording in the style with not too much to complain for evil deathmetallers. (It could be considered as a quite good substitute since the last Morbid Angel albums weren't too passionating...)

Give the devil more flesh.

Give the devil more flesh.

Give him more...

Band: <https://morrath.bandcamp.com>



SCALPEL

IS  
YOUR  
MASTER



**OOTHECA (Usa) Demo tape 2022. Self-released.**

"An ootheca" is a type of egg made in big quantity by mollusks, mantises and cockroaches".

I hope the band members had your rotting body in mind when choosing this word!

Yurk. This is pretty cool old fashioned death metal/grind à la old CARCASS (Symphonies) with a bit of strange 90's Finnish heaviness thrown in.

Fast grind moments, nice somewhat crazy leads, sudden breaks, semi vomiting vocals full of reverb...

This is what you find in the middle of your cereals.

Hum, there's also a very slow doom part on the second song, sounds like DISEMBOWELMENT or something. The production is quite "simple" but fits the criterias of the 90's/ early 00's.

Sometimes this band/ project might sound similar to very early PHOBIA (Usa) also, but the spirit is less grindcore, and you can feel something of old "technical" gore death metal here & there, perhaps like COPROPHILIA (Fin).

This sounds like a quite cool recording, two songs weren't long enough to reach a full erection, but this demo entertains the rotting carcass from the 90's... So keep an egg on their future infestations, which might be quite pullulating & crepitating.

<https://oothecaslc.bandcamp.com>



**PROTRUSION (Usa) Protrusion Demo tape 2023. Self-released.**

I was told veterans of the old brutal death scene created this new project, musicians from GORGASM, HUMAN FILLETED and FOUND HANGING... But musically this two songs demo

feel  
the  
brutal  
urge

EXIT  
THIS IS NOT AN  
GORE

isn't really brutal death metal: It globally contains early 90's death metal in a rather American way, with some early brutal death influences on guitars, and brutal deep vocals. This is a cool mix to shake the boombox! Sometimes the content isn't so far from the first GORGUTS album, I also heard some old ROTTING (Canada/ Demo 95) in heavier patterns, while you can feel some ooold SUFFOCATION on heavier and a bit more technical guitars... I should also quote some old USDM demos to make this description more valid, would it be about GAFFED?

ETERNAL TORMENT? REGURGITATION? (The demo that came up before the CD, which was musically different), I would have to check these old recordings again to decently compare, but this is kinda in the same spirit... The first listening gave me a more brutal death impression that it really is: The deep vocals mixed with the grooves of the entrance really tasted like the old REPUDIATION demo tape, then the rest of the music felt much more like old school 90's death metal, which is cool (Or even better?)... But then, the vocals and production still kinda keep this demo in the "brutal death world" (Even if the one of the early stages). This last sentence might sound a bit unclear/ complicated, ok, I'm just trying to describe and give an idea of what I feel:) The music is quite well packed, and the production is cool/ very cool in a 90's manner.

This demo sounds very cool, so insert the scalpel deep and let's explore the whole intestinal roads.  
<https://protrusion.bandcamp.com>



**HAGGUS (Usa) What's your excuse Demo tape. 2023. NO TIME/ FUCK YOUR LIFE Recs.**

Hey! Great sounding mix of Mincegore/ Grind grind/ Meat grind. I see the mixer vomits balls of meat that taste like ARCHAGATHUS transgenically coupled with old HEMDALE (The split CD w/ EXHUMED), with blast beats à la old PIGSTY/ Early BRUTAL TRUTH (First album), also with some pieces of old DEAD INFECTION (Gory Eps) perhaps... Then some moments also sound a bit less serious, like more groovy goregrind or old AHUMADO GRANUJO (Castrate me if I'm wrong). Some songs are kicking & kinda entertaining the inner meatballs, and the vocals are quite varied (You have a lot of gore, but also some liquid gore, more grunt death, some scream grind, some "complain" core... And some bizarre effects from Saturn here & there lol).

I like the fact the drums & structures keep a "Real grind/ death grind" aspect, at least it sounds efficient and alive on the beats. Now I don't like all the songs at the same level, the first ones are the best according to my meatballometer (For example the first track contains a great mix of vocals: More of this and I could feel like riding a deformed obese pony in the name of gore! (MY PONY!!),

but some songs are a bit less entertaining the tennis player, or there's a bit too much of groovy goregrind by moments (later songs) even is that remains tolerable. So in my ballorotting opinion, it's a quite good sounding Ep with a bunch of great tracks. Quite kicking & entertaining... MEATBALLS FOR ALL.  
<https://www.facebook.com/haggusmincecore>



**ABHORRENT EXECRATION (Fra) Demo MMXXIII Tape. 2023. Self-released.**

As some of you already know, the french putrid death metal band PUTREFIANCE has split up. But two of the members created a new morbid entity, which is called ABHORRENT EXECRATION! The style is quite different, while we remain in the death metal world, you can feel their path went closer to something like "black metal", or perhaps should I use the word "evilness". To describe the whole, I would say this is barbaric death/ obscure black death that sounds quite seriously close to early ARCHOGAT (When they had death metal vocals and a deep sound from the lower caverns). While the old tape player is trembling, you might feel the absurd brutal blastbeats of the goat, teasing the virgin ass in obscure perversion... Until the vigorous spermatozoïdal explosion in the depths!

I was going to quote the name BRODEQUIN ("Festivals of death") for some raw barbarity, but this said some peoples might be confused coz we aren't talking about brutal death here (Even if the bros of Brodequin had somewhat torture-filled medieval themes)... We are probably closer to old PROCLAMATION and more blasphemous brutal muscle-men barbarity of this kind. I also felt some old grindcore touches on some "drum hits", but the spirit is more evil.

This is bestial obscure barbarity for those who aren't afraid to explore the most bestial G.O.A.T phantasms, an underground way.

**SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL UNDERGROUND CAVERNS, OR THE MAINSTREAM SOIL WILL COLLAPSE UNDER YOUR FEET!**

<https://abhorrentexecration.bandcamp.com>



Old school death metal from France. Pro tape out now!  
c/o NIHILISTIC HOLOCAUST:  
gabsk@wanadoo.fr

# ILON LAPSET

DEATH DOOM/ SLUDGE  
FROM FINLAND

**Hello, what's up? Can you write a little introduce to the band?**

Markus: We began to practice during the early Covid era, spring 2020. Some of us knew each other before, some not, but there was a connection to "sahti", a traditional drink that's mostly homemade, a bit similar to beer. We had (and still have) the same dealer from the country side and this was the decisive unifying factor that made us realize we have the same kind of goals in music!

I play guitar, Hannu tortures the drums, Julle is responsible for bass and Lauri takes care of guttural sounds plus noise. For the time being we have played live only three times.

Hannu: Make Sahti great again!

**What does ILON LAPSET mean? The Finnish language is a bit mysterious to me, but I think it has a cool meaning...**

Markus: It means "children of joy". That's our nature. Also one could take it as a reference to SWANS, because some of us are heavily into "Children of God" album by SWANS.

Julle: It's a good simple name, you can't figure straight away that it's this or that sort of music, so it doesn't bound us to any established genre, and nice contrast to our music but in no way as a joke, I'd say Finnish language plays quite much into what we do, brings more varied ways to express lyrical topics which is of course unfortunate for our international audience, and it's also not that typical language in a world of sludge, let alone on this planet anyway.

**Your new recording "Kurjuuden tuijotus" shows improvements compared to the previous one... The music is more intense, and there are more death doom influences! These parts are very cool for the fan of old death metal I am... I remember your music was**

**mostly into sludge before. What has led to this change? Maybe life has become more difficult?**

Markus: Our so-called progress is related to playing together more and more and trying some new things more easily. For example different time signatures and song structures. We don't have strict rules of how we should sound like, so there are influences also from eg. doom, noiserock and psych-edelic rock. The first tape was more simple but I'm satisfied with that recording too. There could be truth in your assumption about difficulties in life. The older one gets the more bitter life becomes.

Hannu: Although all of us listen to the same kind of music, we also listen to a lot of different music. And when you play together more and more, your own different taste of music, and approach to playing music, starts to show more.

**In some of your new songs, I hear a very old death doom influence, in the spirit of the first album of MY DYING BRIDE or PARADISE LOST (First Lp of each band mostly)... Did you have these bands in mind when composing? Or perhaps you feel some other doom outfits are closer?**

Markus: They were not exactly in our mind during composing but in general old death doom is an important influence. Personally I would add early material by ANATHEMA, until "Serenades" album. In particular "As The Flower Withers" by MY DYING BRIDE is often on my turntable. In our latest release especially the track "Rajapinta" has a death doom influence in my opinion. Partly that was conscious but partly not because I composed the opening riff while sleeping.

Julle: I'd say our composing has been sailing forward smoothly, new bits or elements popping up along the way as we have felt and when we have felt like, or when Markus has felt like as he's the riffmaster, but all in all everything has evolved rather naturally and we keep playing what we feel like playing, there is some conscious tinkering and figuring out of what to do next involved as well.

**The production on this new release is better, it's more "full" and "wolverine" (like wolverine blues maybe ahah). Where was it recorded and who helped to make it?**





Markus: I'm mostly using a pedal that has a Swedish death metal vibe so that's the reason for your "wolverine blues" reference... Our friend Porcifer has recorded all of our material at our rehearsal place, and in addition he has also mixed everything. After the recordings we mostly just trust his vision, so it's not really planned, as long as it's dirty. That's the way we are going to continue!

Hannu: I think that's also part of the reason why there are 3 tapes in four years. We probably would have made the songs anyway, but to record with our friend at our own rehearsal place with our own (shitty) gear is so easy and comfortable that we are super happy with the setting.

Porcifer also listens to a lot of sludge and death metal himself, so he understands the music we aim to do.

**Old school death metal seems to become quite popular again in Finland, with lots of new bands, some festivals... Do you think the bigger presence of death metal in Finland could have influenced your tastes or compositions? What are the current Finnish DM bands you enjoy?**

Markus: I've enjoyed lately especially MORBIFIC, GHASTLY and MÄDÄTYS, if I think of contemporary bands. It's very true that there are a lot of bands and concerts, even good quality festivals like Helsinki Death Fest and that some early bands are still very enjoyable, like DEMILICH or RIPPIKOULU. Death metal in general is an influence so in that sense it's not really related to contemporary presence of death metal. However we are not a technical band in the same sense that death metal bands often are, so there are limits of how much influence we

can take. I could also add that nowadays there is a wave of new bands (mostly from Helsinki) with young members, like AZATOTH, DISGUISED MALIGNANCE and MALFORMED and this is a very positive phenomenon indeed!

Hannu: If we knew how to play our instruments, perhaps we would play death metal too? Newer Finnish death metal bands I've enjoyed other than what Markus already mentioned, are UNEARTHLY RITES and SONIC POISON.

**What about the Finnish music scene more globally, how healthy is it in your area? Are there some good bands to check out in there? (Metal and other styles).**

Markus: We all live in Tampere and especially considering the size of the city and the amount of interesting underground concerts (metal, hardcore etc.) is high. There are a couple of excellent venues too, just right for dirty and brutal music. A lot of people who are into underground music live here, however often there is a lack of younger talent. A couple of bands I could recommend are for example REMISSIONS (metallic hardcore) and HEKATOXEN (mid-tempo death metal).

Julle: To me it seems healthy, active, lots of gigs and bands, more zines would not hurt, and this applies to the whole country and for different scenes/styles. I would add DOME RUNNER (Godfleshish pounding), SNUFF RIDER (feedback noise rock screech).

**In the north of France, we have a festival for stoner, doom, sludge and other musics like that (Rock in Bourlon fest)... And I noticed there exists various kinds of sludge, from the very slow and raw one, to a more atmospheric "aerial" version... What are your favorite kinds of sludge? What are the most important bands for you in this style?**

Markus: For me it started with for example NOOTHGRUSH, EYEHATEGOD and FLESHPRESS in the late 1990s. They are still very important to me. Even if I mentioned EHG, I'm mostly into sludge that's not so "rocking" but more dismal and harsh. Difficult to explain maybe because obviously EHG is dismal too. But I mean later bands like METH DRINKER and MOLOCH, in addition from Finland FROGSKIN and SLAVE HANDS. These bands have a special gloominess. In the case of FLESHPRESS I appreciate their exploration of different ways of going beyond sludge but still sounding just right.

Hannu: For me, I've always preferred the unpleasant, uncomfortable sludge. Of course I like some of the more groovier ones too, but for example NOOTHGRUSH and CORRUPTED are my go-to's. METH DRINKER did that same thing brilliantly. But at the same time NIGHTSTICK is one of my favorites too.



Julle: Excellent examples there, from EYEHATEGOD to KHANATE and back to MELVINS works for me, I don't have any preferred method, I would add WINTER, one of the best for me, GRIEF of course, always enjoyed their boneheaded feel bad human infection approach, and their fellow Boston mongers UPSIDEDOWN CROSS, and all Larry Lifeless bands.

**If you could listen to an only album of sludge for the next 12 months, but had to listen to it at least once a week... Which band/ album would you choose from this list, and why? EYEHATEGOD, IRON MONKEY, CROWBAR, SOILENT GREEN (old), MELVINS (Is that really sludge?)... Feel free to add more bands to this list if "urgently" needed...**

Markus: Good question - is MELVINS sludge or not? To me at least MELVINS is a part of the musical continuation that led to sludge.

From the list I would pick "Gluey Porch

Treatments" by MELVINS because it's so full of ideas that there are still opportunities for discoveries. From outside the list "Pillars" by FLESHPRESS.

Julle: I think I stick to basics here and do for "Take as needed for pain" by EYEHATEGOD, dirt, loose, slow churning, good riffs, wonderful sound, so yes that's it.

**I see your guitarist's brother has released two of your recordings on cassette on his label Rämekuukkeli-levyt, that's how I got in touch with your music. Is it cool to have a label guy in your family? Does it make some things easier? Or maybe he tries to sing or play strange instruments (like cordless harsh-noise violin) during your gigs? Ahah**

Markus: Yeah, Rämekuukkeli-levyt is my older brother. That has made some practical things easier. We have never had any proposals from him to perform or record with us. I would be open to such an idea even if he can't play any instrument! The second tape was released by Necrolytic Effluence label because we thought that this way the distribution channels could be a bit different.

**Why is Finland a very nice country, and why should foreigners travel here during their vacations? Is it better to come to Finland during winter or summer?**

Markus: Both winter and summer have positive and negative sides. Finnish summer is not that suffocating like the summer in southern Europe so I think that because of climate change it's going to become more popular for tourists to travel here during the summer months. Winter can be beautiful when it's cold enough but also disappointing when it's too warm, wet and dark. Anyway I hope visitors would choose something outside of the ordinary routes. That way they could possibly find something more authentic than what they get at the crappy center of Helsinki or in the Santa Claus Village in Rovaniemi. Try some microbreweries, go to non-touristic towns, check out some unusual festivals, enjoy and respect the nature etc. If you're not a wimp, go to Lahti and "Lanu park" (dedicated to sculptor Olavi Lanu) where you can witness sculptures that are included in the artwork of FLESHPRESS 3rd album and also the latest album.

Julle: Well if there is something that makes this country nice I guess it's nature, although it's in coma for way too long during winter but if cold and snow is your thing and enjoy outdoor life then why not, summertime is different of course, listen to birds chirping, water sloshing on many lake shores, whole day with sunlight, fishing, swimming, sweating in sauna, slurping beer, and yeah good music, so what the heck, come over here.

**It's the last question, something to add before we unplug the artificial heart?**

Markus: Our music has a particularly negative feeling, but despite that I hope that every individual could find a way of avoiding the spiral of completely negative thinking. It can be a struggle but often it's various kinds of art and creativity that are a big help. Stay critical but not totally negative. Thanks for the interview.

<https://ilonlapset.bandcamp.com>



# EXPLORING THE UNKNOWN



**STENCHED (Mexico) Gorging on mephitic rot Demo CD 2023. TEMPLUM OBSCURUM Recs. RAISE UP THE ROTTING CORPSE.**

Here's a cool/ very cool new project dripping the remains in the obscurish death metal style, with fast parts à la AUTOPSY, slower doomy moments that doesn't sound unlike FOSSILIZATION/ DISMA... And more body parts (Whose flavors I will describe later). I was going to say "You know the obscure deal", but it feels like there are a bit more old school DM moments (And a little more of early gore/ gore-grind) than in your usual portions of obscure cavern cake. The production is quite good: Quite obscure and dark, yet easily listenable & round enough. Sometimes some slow/ mid-paced abruptish moments sound a bit like BAPHOMET (Usa), some fast thrashing/ dbeat drummings remind me of old EXHUMED (The split with Hemdale), some doomier parts might sound closer to MORTA SKULD's first album (Which was different & more old school than later releases), and there are indeed remains of very old CARCASS at the corner of a couple of riffs. Perhaps one could feel a lack of "power" in the drumming during some blasts, but that remains ok & these aren't numerous. Musically STENCHED isn't that original, but remains putridly attractive and different enough from what we usually get from the obscure cavern. This is a very cool demo with some great moments from here & there, and it has chances to please fans of old school and obscure Death metal...

**RAISE UP THE ROTTING CORPSE!**  
<https://steneded.bandcamp.com>



**DEAD ENEMY (Bra) Knowing the enemy Demo tape. 2020. DRINKIN' BEER IN BANDANA Recs.**

I think milk, water or alcohol-free beers won't be welcome here! What you get is what you deserve: Quite brutal thrash/ crossover the old way. The seven songs of this Ep remind me of old NUCLEAR ASSAULT, mixed with some old brutal US thrash (Not the semi melodic/ heavy metal influenced stuffs... They are closer to DARK ANGEL), and perhaps moments of the first RIGOR MORTIS LP (Usa). This is quite kicking music, with a quite powerful sound, and some hardcore/ crossover shouting vocals here & there. Nothing new, or thrilling like an ice-cream in the middle of a heatwave,

but this is quite invigorating metal with enough bottom kicking to keep you alive. Now you lost, the game is over, you didn't survive, you're out of order, and no one will be there to handle you with care!  
<https://deadenemy.bandcamp.com>



**RASHES (Swe) Necrotic cultivation Demo tape. 2022. NEURO HABITAT Recs.**

As the corpsegrinding machine keeps on working endlessly, I have to introduce you to a nice gore recording. The music this Swedish duo procreates isn't really goregrind, to be more precise I would rather say some kind of "gore death grind" (Yes, I'm a bit splitting the hairs in half... But at least we still have ass hairs! The butts aren't totally shaven contrary to some young peoples who seem to have a hair phobia! AhAh) Musically the influence of early CARCASS is obvious, but I hear other sweating similarities like early and mid old GENERAL SURGERY, some old SANITY'S DAWN (Gore days), a little of old IMMURED (When they somewhat tasted like C.B.T... But it's only seldom)... And perhaps this Swedish band sounds like if early NYCTOPHOBIC (Demos/ Eps) took the path of pathologic gore. The music of RASHES is globally quite classical and kicking gore death grind, but I also hear nice crazy leads (Or some background guitar "noises") that bring a touch of craziness here & there, and some parts bring a bit of "sickness fun" that is entertaining the entrails. The production is quite "clean" compared to some unlistenable sewer garbagephiliac gore demos, well this production has a somewhat death metal aspect which suits my defunct hears (It's not so far from "Symphonies of sickness" for the guitars I'd say, but a bit clearer). I would keep this release for fans of grind, but if you pay a closer hear the music sounds a bit more than just like "another grind release", it sounds a bit more crazy and "fun" than the average. It's a nice demo to taste and devour the sweating meat bullets.  
<https://rashes.bandcamp.com>



**DEAD MEAT (Can) Demo 2022. Digital. Self-released.**

We are all someone's piece of meat. This part of DEAD MEAT is a new grind band from Alberta/ Canada, and they come up with this first demo of blasting underground filth. Located between grindcore and 90's underground death grind from the demo days, it blasts as fuck! Short songs and tight drumming, this is the cold meat you get served. Somewhere, I feel there's almost something like very early brutal death, but that might be due to the fact I don't understand the riffs too well (It doesn't matter, I get the putrid underground vibrations in replacement!)

Musically, it sounds like a meatgrinded mix of early ALIENATION MENTAL (Mostly the drums), INOPEXIA (Russia), SUFFICIDE (Fra) for the absurdity, very early DESECRATOR (Fra), perhaps early THE KILL (Australia) or some antediluvian SUBLIME CADAVERIC DECOMPOSITION (Demos)... But DEAD MEAT globally comes with more grind influences than the last paragraph might depict. This is for underground freaks only, so don't expect easy listening Kentucky Fried Catchiness, or digital transvestite blasting skate punk! I dig the fact they didn't choose a clear (Or maybe usual "HM-2" production) so this demo sounds more absurd and underground! Quite "bizarre" and blasting stuff... Hailz the subterranean filth!  
<https://deadmeatgrind.bandcamp.com>



**SURFER JAMES**

**pythian**

**BIFID CORPSE (Usa)/ SURFER JAMES (Usa)/ PYTHIAN (Usa) Split MCD. 2022. MORBID & MISERABLE Recs.**

Nice 3 way compact disc! Angry bear fucking the corpse fistng the zombie! In a blood-filled grinding agony.

The first band BIFID CORPSE comes with a name that reminds me of these very biological yogurts you got 15 years ago, but their music contains no fermented milk. This sounds like angry death grind with a powerviolence side. Perhaps like very early PHOBIA (Eps) meets old BRUTAL TRUTH (Need to control). The second song is slower for most, almost sludge. The vocalist is an angry bear.

The second band SURFER JAMES is more "fucked" musically, hear something between hardcore/ punk and grindcore with some kinda fucked power violence structures (Understand "fucked" as a synonym of somewhat crazy/ sick and noisy). They insert 3 songs plus a DISRUPT cover.

The third band PYTHIAN is different, their sound is heavier, between "chaotic" hardcore and sludge stuff. It sounds quite heavy and "dark" (Or distressed?). Uh, their second song is an industrial noise one, so perhaps they're dreaming of creating a Merzbow or Einstürzende Neubaten cover band? (Just kidding).

I appreciate the underground feel of the whole release, and this could be a nice 3 way for fans of "core" stuffs.

Label: <https://morbidandmiserable.bandcamp.com>



**INSURGENCY (Uk) Primitive shrines Demo tape. 2022. DYING VICTIMS Recs.**

The days of wrath. Impossible to separate the internal neuro-delirium from a hard reality. Good mourning, hellish Vietnam. Here you have quite dark thrash metal influenced by the 80's, with an influence of the blackened.

In the crackling speakers, their tunes might sound like the most evil parts of old BULLDOZER, with something like a darker early 80's DESTRUCTION, with some early SLAYER, some blackened "speed" riffings à la old BATHORY, and blackened thrash à la AURA NOIR or NEKROMANTHEON. I wonder if the beer they drink is actually black, because their music is darker than regular thrash metal, somewhat like a dark cloud is entering the room and the vocalist is screaming over the top in a semi demented manner. I feel some energy in there: Some kind of emergency you might feel in the middle of the battle camp. There's some research at the level of riffs, and even if everything isn't catchy, I feel some guitars to be quite close to early BATHORY (Rather "Blood fire death") are quite intriguing. I'm not totally sold on this demo, but I recognize the qualities and intensity. So some fans of underground thrash/ black thrash might feel the rise of the internal spikes. **PIERCED WITHOUT MERCY.**  
<https://insurgencythrashuk.bandcamp.com>



**ACRID TOMB (Usa) Acrid tomb Demo Tape. 2022. ICONOCLAM CONQUEST Recs.**

Here's a new band/ project from Missouri opening the gates of the underground world with a two songs demo. Two songs to cleanse each side of the coffin with anti audio-parasites acid. Their style is 90's Death metal close to what you could hear in the early/ mid 90's in America. The cauldron lets emanate fumes smelling like a melting of old MORBID ANGEL ("Domination"), old MORTA SKULD, old DEICIDE ("Once upon the cross"), mid old INCANTATION (The somewhat cleaner epoch, I have in mind "Blasphemy"), with some brutalizing moments à la CANNIBAL CORPSE ("Tomb...") and some zests of old BRUTALITY or old DECREPIT (Usa). The production sounds somewhat morissoundish, it's perhaps a bit "deaf" but remains globally cool. Some of the lineup's body parts are also present in other musical zombie activities such as The wakedead gathering, Invultation, Filth eater... But I read the guitarist/ bassist is coming from other outfits I didn't know, so the aforementioned musician's contributions might not reflect that much in the recomposing of the Frankenstein's corpse puzzle (If that sentence really means something for the readers ahah... I just meant the guitarist might compose most of the music). This is very pleasant to discover & listen to this kind of demos. It doesn't really contain something new, but it's quite well composed and I'm listening to these songs for the 5th or 6th time in a row without boredom...

So ACRID TOMB might suit the hears of 90's American death metal enthusiasts.

<https://acridtomb.bandcamp.com>

WHERE IS MY CORPSE?

# NIHILISTIC HOLOCAUST

TRADE LIST FEB 2024

INFECTED PRIEST (Fin)/ HUMAN TARGET (Fin)

Split tape. Evil death metal grind/ Old school death with a bizarre touch.

OLDSKULL (Fra) The defeat of humanity Tape.

Old school death in the spirit of the early 90's, with ancient atmospheres, heaviness, and accelerations.

VAYRON (Fra) Demo 2022 Tape. Old school death metal with remains of old brutal death (Ex members of Silure)

EXTINCTION AGENDA (Usa) Inter Arma silent Leges

Tape. Ripping old school thrash with influences of old death metal and blackened riffs.

TRAUMASPHERE (FRA) Voidcall Demo Pro CDr (Digifile).

Dark and twisted death metal with old school roots. Rerelease of old demo.

SILURE (Fra)/ FERETRO (Chile) Split tape.

Obscure death / Old school death.

SZYNHOD GLAUKHOM (Fra) "I" Pro CDr. Digifile.

Dark ambient/ old school industrial/ noise chaos  
Recorded during the first confinement.

Older releases are sold out, or very last copy

WRITE FOR TRADES

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