

CONJURETH

CONJURETH (Usa) Foul formations Demo tape. 2020. NECROLATRY Recs.

Some of my regular readers might have noticed the reviewing content of the webzine has became a bit more varied the last few years (Or so), and more opened to quite close genres like thrash, black and even some punk Hc. The fact is, I'm writing reviews about music mostly based on death metal since a bit more than 20 years, and sometimes it seemed like I was writing the same review for the 3rd, or even 4th time (AhAh)... So it felt quite needed to broaden the spectrum to "other kinds" of extreme music genres than only pure DM... So for a change, you dirty readers, what about reviewing a death metal band that sounds quite conservative and obscure? AhAh. This pretty young band from California already released two demos in 2020. What I hear on this first one sounds quite close to early "satanic" death from Usa, I have in mind outfits like early DEICIDE (The first album), some very early MORBID ANGEL (Almost pre-Altars), with a touch of the first IMMOLATION album (For some strange vibes), perhaps some BEYOND FEAR (Uk, not as technical), and a bit of old SADISTIC INTENT (Less "thrashing"?). If you want more obscure underground names, I also thought about the old Swiss band AMON (And their album "Shemhamforash"). In fact the music of CONJURETH isn't the fastest, there's even a good portion of midpacedness or double-kick ridden rhythms, but music isn't about who's the fastest in a bicycle race... Sometimes you'll even find little "melodic" (Or should I say epic?) riffs here a there, but globally the music remains in a morbid/ dark death metal realm.

Well, this tape sounds like a pretty good demo, I wasn't really branded by the burning crucifix of Ben Glenton (Yup, no typing mistake), but "Foul formations" sounds like a pretty tight first shot of blood. DEATH METAL ETERNAL. https://conjureth.bandcamp.com



THANAMAGUS (Usa) Incorporeal passage Demo tape. 2020. UNHOLY DOMAIN Recs.

The world is slowly falling down.
And the torture wheel keeps turning.
Slow, deep and hard. Will you take your daily portion of obscure suffering?

THANAMAGUS is a new band/ project from Portland/ Oregon with musicians that used to play in other outfits before (Let's keep it mysterious for a few minutes).

The style of this rotting trio is obscure death metal a 90's manner, with an abstract and also quite "technical" aspect. As a matter of influences, I hear the first IMMOLATION album, some BEYOND FEAR (Uk), and perhaps some old GOREAPHOBIA... (Plus also a bit of old BLOODY SIGN, but I doubt this was an influence). It's interesting to hear their more "technical" side or more intricate structures lead to a quite dark rendering, nothing shiny or embellished by the rays of the sun here! The atmosphere is rather somber, and quite "grotesque" sometimes. This is a quite good demo to listen to, perhaps some songs' structures could be improved for rotting example (And the music might not be as swampy as old Immolation)... But Hey! This is only a first two tracks demo! They have all the time to improve and deepen their subject. Fans of early IMMOLATION might rejoice in sulphurous morbidity! https://thanamagus.bandcamp.com



MALIGNANT (Usa) Purity though putrefaction Demo tape. 2018. TILL YOU FUKKIN BLEED Recs.

THE OLD WOUNDS SPIT OUT THE DARKEST BLOOD. This new death metal band from southern California plays it in the old American style. While fighting with drooling zombie-intruders that escaped from a 3rd grade horror movie, I heard a quite morbid and gut-lique-fying mixture of old & mid old DEATH, early AUTOPSY (For some gore and bowels heaviness), early GORGUTS (First album only, for old old school "technical" touches), also some mid

old MORTA SKULD, and a bit of early MALEVO-LENT CREATION... I think you have an idea of the morbid 90's flesh porridge. Sometimes the band is old school in the fast "thrashing" style, sometimes they are heavier, sometimes a little technical... (By moments they also have touches of very early 90's "brutal death" in the playing gimmicks, which is quite cool if you ask my rotting guts). This demo comes with a very 90's alike production: Warm guitars, with a quite present bass guitar. Perhaps it's not the most perfectly played or recorded technically speaking, but for a demo it's good, and the gasping pleasure of the flesh is here (Which is the most important, isn't it?)

This tape reminds me of the demos I used to order in the mid 90's, this sounds like a cool/ very cool cassette to check out for fans of the old burning flesh vibe. Hail the early 90's! https://malignantdeathmetal.bandcamp.com



BLOOD SPORT (Fin) Steel system/ Agitator Demo. 2020. Digital. Self-released.

Speed kills, but who's bleeding? Oh! What you have here is very cool old school speed metal with a strong 80's influence! When I say "Speed", in this spiking case I'm talking about a mix of faster heavy metal style, with a dose of more rock'n roll riffs, and a portion of "pre-thrash" fast riffings (So Blood sport might take both of the early speed metal genres, if you want to be a precise old fart). The music is warm & cool to listen to, the songs are developed in an 80's heavy atmosphere (Variations on themes...). This reminds me of the first ENFORCER Demo (Sweden/ When it was still a solo project), with some old MERCYFUL FATE ("Don't break the oath"), then with some early DESTRUC-TION or old RAZOR in the more thrashing moments, and perhaps with something from BATHORY (Think about the "Burning leather" bonus track) for some speed metal riffs (But the spirit isn't so evil here)... Uh, there are some GREAT technical & rock'n roll speed riffs here, it stands out and catches your rotting skull! (Notice the drumming is probably a machine, but it doesn't bother). This demo contains two very nice songs in the old school style! This is quite promising. At the moment I'm writing these words, these songs were also released by the band in a small quantity of tapes, but I imagine it shouldn't be too long until a label boosts the distribution... SPEED OR BLEED https://bloodsportz.bandcamp.com



SNARLER (Can) Stubborn Demo tape. 2020. SORDID BIN Recs.

Do you need a massive kick in the ass? Then SNARLER

might satisfy your needs. This band brutalizes "Power violence/ Grind/ Fast hardcore" in the rehearsal rooms of Halifax/ Canada... Well, to my hears they sound more like grindcore, with more seldom touches of PV/HC here & there, because it's not as rawly produced & screamy as usual Power "Flower violence" (Hum, where's the morbid florist?). Ok, this doesn't bother me: You hear fast, short songs, with angry vocals, a good portion of real blastbeats, and few touches of crust, HC, sludgev HC... The drums are quite present in the mix, it's cool: This and the guite "heavy" snare sound gives the whole a taste of old grindcore/ death grind. It reminds me of old BLOCK-HEADS, MASSIVE CHARGE (Fra), perhaps old INHUME (For the brutality, there's no gore here) and perhaps very early NYCTOPHOBIC (Before the albums). Well, perhaps the music is a little too hardcore or sludgey for me sometimes (Only a little), and I must confess I have been more listening to the guite ferocious drummer than the riffs itselves, so I can't really judge on all the riffings AhAh. Well, not bad, not bad. This is quite bruta and blasting stuffs. This would probably be great to check out SNARLER live in a local bar... https://snarler.bandcamp.com



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Cadaveric blues for the fast paranoid ones? Or a more sober "Death/ thrash/ punk" might be enough?

I don't know what the hell we do, everyone tells me something different!

3. If you had to choose between Hellhammer and Celtic frost, would it be a hard task or would it be easy for you? Which would you go for, and why? Now between Slaughter and early Kreator, which is your favorite one? (I think I know the answer from your last album "Worm ritual", and it has to do with the one who incinerates ahah)

Yeah that's a really tough one, I find myself listening to frost more, and I think the riffs are just unstoppable. But the primal uglyness of those HH demos is hard to match. I think they come as a pair really! The great thing about the world is I don't have to choose!! Yeah, Slaughter are fucking gods! Perfect discography, I do love early Kreator, I wish Ventor still did vocals from time to time. RIOT OF VIOLENCE makes me want to fucking kill!

4. When you compose Nekrofilth songs, how do you know when a riff is good enough? Does it appear immediately to be right, as some kind of revelation? Do you happen to record drunk rehearsals and listen to them later at home to find good riffs hidden in the unconscious "drunk"-riffing? Do you sometimes ask the opinion of close friends about new songs? (Doubts might appear sometimes)

It depends! Sometimes songs are written right on the spot! Other times it takes a while until everything is right. The feeling of a killer riff is a real high though. A far as recording rehearsal, I usually only record completed ideas, not an entire practice.

5. A long while ago, when I was playing in bands, a guitarist had the following tip to find good riffs: He used to play the guitars of his favorite bands inside out, trying to play it slower or faster, in reverse, adding notes etc... And apparently sometimes it worked... What's your opinion about it? Do you prefer to drink a lot/ smoke a lot and let the riffs flow?

Yeah. I definitely have "borrowed" ideas from existing riffs, whether intentional or not. I think everyone does though.. I think there is a fine line between "homage" and "rip-off". I think what matters to me is sincerity.

6. Your sound is quite close to the early Earache days, perhaps even more their very first releases when the label was more punk Hc/ grindcore oriented... So I wonder, what are your favorite early Earache releases? If you had to choose between Heresy, Concrete sox, Napalm death, Unseen Terror, Spazztic blurr, Intense Degree, Sore throat

Accüsed... What are the best? (Some of these bands aren't so quoted anymore but I think peoples should dig in there to find kicking stuffs, right?)

Carcass for sure, the first album is godly to me. Also Accused first record is fucking great. And Napalm Death. To be honest! don't really follow labels, just bands. But of course no one can deny the rad releases Earache had in those days.

7. NEKROFILTH moved from Cleveland (Ohio) to Denver (Colorado) a while ago. Even if it might not mean much for European peoples (It remains in USA), it might be like moving from France to Germany for example... Did it affect a lot the life of a band to change of state? Was it easier to find gigs, a rehearsal place, or perhaps musicians?

I actually have moved again recently to Portland, Or! As far as physical distance, each move is more like moving from France to Slovenia!... about 2000km each time. Wasn't necessarily for the band, but just personal decisions on where to live next. All three are places with good music scenes, so I've been lucky!

8. What's the nicest thing when you play live? Is it about hearing your riffs very loud with a cadaveric guitar sound? Is it about seeing peoples moving and headbanging?

I love the release, and the energy of the crowd. Nothing beats it

9. Is the necro filth a caustic or a morbid filth? Does it precede or follow death?

I think you're asking about the name itself and what it means? Nothing! Just sounds cool! Don't think about it too hard!

10. Which band or album would better represent the "morbid groove"? Would you say it's rather a Finnish death metal thing? Or do the American bands defend them very well in this matter? (I have in mind the old American band ATROCITY which had cool slow morbid riffs between their fast grinding parts...)

Not totally sure what you mean here, as far as artists with a good groove, I'd say James Brown and also Grand Funk Railroad!

11. Do you enjoy noisecore? (I have in mind the "short grindcore" style, not the technical -post-hardcore genre...). Do you think one can say a lot of things with very short songs ("You suffer"), or is noisecore simply a short explosion of aggression?

Sure, I dig Sore Throat and some of the classic bands. I think these days you have to be inventive with it or what's the point? Got the Final Exit LP recently, that shit is bananas! But typically I am not a noise guy. I like songs

12. Do you have other musical projects right now? Is Nekrofilth your main band, or you also to try other things, in other contexts...?

I'm in the process of a few other things now, but Nekrofilth is my main project. I have a lot of other interests as well. I do think it helps your brain to spread interests around some. nekrofilth.bandcamp.com

13. What are your next projects? Something to announce?

We are working on getting some more releases out this year. Mostly splits. Thanks a ton for the interview