



OSLO, NORWAY, 16-19. APRIL, 2014

DIMMU BORGIR SPELLBOUND BY THE DEVIL

LIKE LIFE ITSELF! **WATAIN**

ORANSSI PAZUZU THE DARKEST CORNER OF SPACE

EVIL, DARKNESS AND HATE **MYSTIFIER**

OSLO SURVIVOR GUIDE – INFERNO HOTEL HANG OUT – TATTOO – IMC – INFERNO INDIA – HIGHLIGHTS AND MORE

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INFERNO METAL FESTIVAL

Oslo, Norway

16. - 19. April 2014

Rockefeller – John DEE – Bushwick

Rock In – Revolver – Victoria – Blå

De Ville's – Kulturhuset – Kniven

TICKETS:

4-day festival pass (including club night)

NOK 1500,- (included ticket fee)

One day tickets (Thursday – Friday –

Saturday) NOK 550,- (included ticket fee)

One day tickets club night NOK 275,-

(included ticket fee)

Age limit: 18 years. Some participating clubs

have 20 year age limit – full info on this in

the upcoming festival guide booklet, where

you will also find all updates and practical

information regarding all things during Inferno.

Bring your ID to avoid disappointment.

Tickets available at Billettservice

(www.billettservice.no).

Phone: +47 81 53 31 33

www.infernofestival.net

IMPORTANT

Ticket exchange and accreditation:

Wednesday April 16.

Tickets can be bought at hotel Royal Christiania between 12:00 and 24:00. Tickets for all days are available for purchase.

Ticket exchange: Your ticket has to be exchanged into a wristband before you go to any clubs. You can exchange your ticket into wristbands at Hotel Royal Christiania between 12:00 and 24:00.

Accreditation: Your accreditation can be picked up at Hotel Royal Christiania between 12:00 and 24:00. Remember to bring your ID.

Thursday April 17.

Tickets can be bought at Hotel Royal Christiania between 12:00 and 22:00. At the venue you will only be able to buy tickets for Thursday from 17:00.

Ticket exchange: You can exchange your ticket at Hotel Royal Christiania between 12:00 and 16:00 and at the venue after the doors opens at 17:00.

Accreditation: Your accreditation can be picked up at Hotel Royal Christiania between 12:00 and 22:00. Remember to bring your ID. After 22:00 you will not be able to get your accreditation anywhere on Thursday, so make sure you pick up yours in time.

Friday April 18. and Saturday April 19.

Tickets can be bought at the venue entrance after the doors opens at 17:00.

Ticket exchange: Your ticket will be exchanged into wristband at the venue entrance from 17:00.

Accreditation: Your accreditation can be picked up at the venue entrance from 17:00.

INFERNO FESTIVAL BAG:

You will get your bag at Clarion Hotel Royal Christiania together with your wristband.

I N F E R N O

M E T A L F E S T I V A L N O R W A Y

2 0 1 4

FOUR UNHOLY NIGHTS!

Welcome to the fourteenth edition of Norway's finest extreme metal festival; Inferno Metal Festival. A black Easter consisting of four days of mayhem, madness and fun. Four days where people from all over the globe gather to enjoy the best extreme metal from around the world. Yes, this year we have artists from Brazil, USA, Japan, Singapore, Greece, Egypt and India – just to mention a few of the nations that are presented at our festival. The audience is even more diverse

and I often become impressed by the amount of miles people have travelled, and the time they have spent just to save up enough money to do this trip, in order to be a part of Inferno Metal Festival on our Norwegian soil.

But this is obviously a Norwegian festival and most bands are still from Scandinavia. From old school bands like Tulus and Gehenna to the best newcomers we have to offer like Slegest and Infant Death. We are proud to have Dimmu Borgir back at Inferno – a band that has become much bigger than the stage at Rockefeller. This is their return to their roots, playing for the most dedicated audience in the world. On the other hand, Swedish Watain has risen to glorious days and are now headlining the festival. Seven years ago they played the small stage at John DEE. We also have the legendary Blasphemy this year, for those of you who like your music brutal and old-school. These fallen angels [of doom...] will surely fit in nicely together with the evil from Mystifier.

We hope all guests at Inferno Metal Festival will have a blast. There is so much work and so many people involved to get this festival running as smooth as possible. So raise your glasses and enjoy four days of extreme metal served at our intimate and dedicated festival. We sure as hell are looking forward to welcome you all!

Cheers,
Runar Pettersen

NOTE: Some of the interviews in this magazine is shorted down and will be available in their entire glory at our webside; www.infernofestival.net.



INFERNO MAGAZINE 2014

Editor: Runar Pettersen

Writers: Roy K. K. Bakland, Gunnar Sauermann and Runar Pettersen.

Inferno logos and illustrations, magazine layout: Asgeir Mickelson, www.asgeirmickelson.com

Advertising: Turbine Agency, T: +47 21 65 77 71, E: info@turbine.no, www.turbine.no

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WEDNESDAY

APRIL 16.
- CLUB NIGHT



Arabrot

JOHN DEE – INDIE Label night

GLITTERTIND (NO)

Glittertind was formed as a one-man band back in 2001. Inspired by the beautiful Norwegian nature and folk traditions, the band made their salutes to our old country by making metal versions of traditional folk music as "Mel-lom Bakkar Og Berg" and our old national anthem "Sønner Av Norge", in addition to their self composed material. The Viking history and old Norwegian culture was used as lyrics and to set the musical mood. Now Glittertind have been strengthened to a six men army and together they are ready with a new album called "Djelve-svart". The album has received great reviews from magazines such as Kerrang! and Metal Hammer Norway and was selected album of the month in Scream Magazine.

VREDEHAMMER (NO)

After Per Valla left Elite and Allfader he initiated Vredehammer as a solo studio project. In early 2013 Vredehammer became a fully functional band, and has by now released three EPs. The band has now inked a deal with Indie Recordings and will release the debut album during the spring. Their style of black metal is solid and strong, done within an epic soundscape. This is one of the bands you have to look out for in 2014.

KAMPFAR (NO)

2014 marks Kampfar's 20th anniversary and at the same time they are ready with a new album and concert at Inferno Metal Festival 2014. The band was founded from the ashes of the black metal band Mock when the latter ended in 1994. With more folk-inspired melodies and lyrics about Norse mythology, Kampfar found their own sound in the Norwegian black metal scene. "Djelve-makt" is the band's sixth album and shows that Dolk and co. are more vital than ever – something they will prove at the Inferno Metal Festival 2014.

ROCK IN – South of Heaven stage

TÖXIK DEATH (NO)

The latest addition to the great number of filthy Norwegian thrash metal is Tøxik Death. The band have just released their debut album "Speed Metal Hell" by Demonhood. Their influences is clearly inspired by the 80s speed and thrash metal from Germany and South America. Still the band sounds like original old-school thrash metal. Never mind what year it is – Speed Metal Hell awaits!

INFANT DEATH (NO)

Infant Death is a raw occult thrash metal act hailing from Trondheim. Their style is very dark, very fast and very brutal. The band released their debut album, simply called "War", by Apocalyptic Empire in 2013. War is also what a live show with this blackened thrash beast feels like.

BLÅ – Dark Essence label night

ALFAHANNE (SE)

Alfahanne is a new Swedish band that has previously only released a split together with Swedish Shining called "Grym". They are soon ready with their debut album which will be released early in 2014 via Dark Essence Records. The album contains guest contributions from artists like Taake's Hoest, Shining's Niklas Kvarforth and Helheim's V'gandr. The members of Alfahanne are no strangers to metal and have extensive experience from bands such as Vinterland and Maze of Torment. Musically the band sounds like a badass mix between black metal, rock and punk. This is one of the up and coming bands to watch out for in 2014!



SLEGEST (NO)

When quitting Vreid after five years as their guitarist, Ese started his own band doing all instruments and vocals. An EP, simple named "Slegest", was released in 2012. In 2013 the full-length "Løyndom" was unleashed and has received great response. A kick ass album filled with blackened doom metal. Slegest actually sounds like a bastard child between Black Sabbath and Darkthrone. The band has not done many concerts before entering the stage at Blå, so this is your chance to see this awesome newcomer for one of the first times.

AIRBAG (NO)

Norwegian progrockers Airbag was originally a Pink Floyd tribute band. Over the years they started to write their own material and have now released three albums by Karisma Records. Their latest, "The Greatest Show On Earth", was made public in 2013 and was called to standing ovations from critics around the world. Check the band out at Blå and they will prove you that they will live up to the title.

SEVEN IMPALE (NO)

Seven Impale was formed in Bergen, Norway, in 2010. With all the members coming from a range of disciplines including classical orchestra, big band, metal, jazz, rock and electronic music, the band have sought to combine all their experiences and influences and refine them into a unique, mesmerizing and exciting sound.

VICTORIA

ARABROT (NO)

Arabrot is a Grammy award winning noise rock band from Haugesund, Norway. The band has since the beginning in 2001 released a huge number of EPs and full-length albums. But they are still best known for their explosive and energetic live performances. So if you like it noisy, powerful and dynamic, this is the band you don't want to miss.

MASSIVE SCAR ERA (EG)

Massive Scar Era is from Egypt and started out in 2005. The name is a pun on the word "mascara" as the band once started out as an all girl band. Today Massive Scar Era consist of two males and two females. The band has quite a unique sound and can be hard to describe. It is basically female fronted metal and alternative rock with an interesting violin painted into the sound.

HAMFERÐ (FO)

Hamferð is a doom metal band from the Faroe Islands. The beautiful mix between slow, harmonic passages and heavy brutal death is extremely atmospheric and well. Using their native language Faraose, the band sound quite unique. Hamferð even won the Wacken Metal Battle 2012, competing with a huge number of metal bands from all around the globe. The debut album "Evst" was released last year with great feedback from the press. This is a unique band to see at Inferno Metal Festival and if you miss their show you will regret it.

DEVILLE'S – Norsk Urskog stage

UNSPOKEN (NO)

Death metal act Unspoken was a doom metal band back in 2002. Over the years the band became more brutal and today the Norwegians deliver nothing less than bad ass death metal with the intensity and aggression every metal band should have.

WYRUZ (NO)

Wyruz is a well hidden gem when it comes to Norwegian thrash. The band started in 2002, but has only released one full-length album, "Fire At Will" from 2012. The best way to check out Wyruz is to see them live. That is where they come to life, so to speak. And if you still haven't heard the band, Inferno Metal Festival 2014 is the place to be.

ENDOLITH (NO)

This trio from the north of Norway, called Endolith, will serve you detuned heavy grooves, unorthodox rhythms, electronic elements, varied vocals and the occasional old-school references. For fans of Meshuggah, Fear Factory and Devin Townsend.

THURSDAY APRIL 17.

SPECTRAL HAZE (NO)

Spectral Haze is some sort of super group with members from great bands such as Obliteration, Aura Noir, Purple Hill Witch, Buckaduzz, Resonant and High Priest of Saturn. This is their flirting with the sounds of the seventies. Psychedelic space rock mixed with stoner metal, is a fitting description when you try to categorize Spectral Haze.

KOLLWITZ (NO)

Kollwitz hails from the north of Norway and embarked in 2006. Their music is a blend of many different styles, like drone, post-rock, hardcore and metal. The members of the band have lots of experience as they come from several other underground bands in Bodø, like Beyond The Fences, Oceanism and The Spectacle.

GERILJA (NO)

What happens if you mix together Megadeth, T-Rex, Anthrax, Ice T, Kraftwerk and Depeche Mode? You get the music of Gerilja. And their sure as hell sound original. Their shows are always a blast to watch. Fun, energetic and trashy.



REVOLVER – Metal Hammer Stage

POSTHUM (NO)

Posthum is a Norwegian metal band that started up in 2004. Their music leans over to the ambient side, but still kicks in aggressively where it fits. Some might compare them to acts like Wolves in The Throne Room, Alcest or Enslaved. Posthum left their old label in 2012 and are now signed to Indie Recordings. The release of their second album, "Lights Out", pushed them to the next level and they are now ready to conquer the audience at Inferno Metal Festival 2014!

METAL HAMMER COMPETITION WINNER



The spot is reserved for the winner in Metal Hammer's competition. The artist will be announced in March. See page 18 for more info.

BUSHWICK

TREPANERINGSRITUALEN (SE)

The soundscape created by Trepaneringsritualen may give the chills to most people. Words like ritual, ambient, industrial, death, and madness easily pop up in your mind while listening to Trepaneringsritualen. Watching this live is more like an experience of horror than anything else. So be aware.

TOFT (NO)

Norway's most profiled noise musician, Sten Ove Toft, is ready to make your ears bleed in the basement of Rockefeller. When the man doesn't make noise on his own, he usually makes noise in such bands as Altaar and Faux Pas.



ROCKEFELLER

DIMMU BORGIR (NO)

One of Norway's biggest and most successful bands are called Dimmu Borgir – a well earned position after more than twenty years of hard work. The band has thousands of fans from all over the world, and has won many awards, like the Norwegian Grammy and Metal Hammers Golden Gods Award. They have headlined bigger festivals like Wacken Open Air and Bloodstock Open Air and played in Norway's large concert venue Oslo Spektrum with the Norwegian Radio Orchestra. Dimmu Borgir has played Inferno Metal Festival with great success in 2002, and it is about time for a return of epic proportions. We can assure you they will grant us a larger-than-life concert we will remember for a long time.

FLESHGOD APOCALYPSE (IT)

Fleshgod Apocalypse started out as a technical death metal band, but they were quick to include more symphonic elements into their music. The band rapidly became famous for being a unique band and a favourite among both fans and critics. Fleshgod Apocalypse's third album is out on Nuclear Blast and there is nothing that can stop the band in reaching world domination. Their music can be described as complex, brutal, symphonic and agonizingly grand. Recommended to fans of Septicflesh and Nile, as well as Dimmu Borgir and Anorexia Nervosa.

IMPIETY (SG)

All the way from Singapore we have the black death thrash metal band Impiety – a band that has been around from 1990. This is brutal stuff and they will surely tear you apart when they set the stage at Inferno Metal Festival 2014. The band have many classic albums behind them, like "Skullfucking Armageddon" and "Kaos Kommand 696". They also got some new killer albums out, like "Ravage & Conquer" from 2012 and last year's EP "The Impious Crusade". Fans of extreme metal like Sarcófago, Blasphemy and Bestial Warlust must check this band. Armageddon will come to Inferno Metal Festival 2014!

DEATHHAMMER (NO)

If you like your thrash metal dirty and filthy, Deathhammer is the band for you. The Norwegian duo have almost been going for ten years now, and are still a favourite among the underground thrash metal scene. Their old-school riffs feels like a fist in the face when they play live. Drunk or not drunk; these guys always deliver the goods, so be sure not to miss them at Inferno Metal Festival 2014.

JOHN DEE

MYSTIFIER (BR)

Mystifier was among the first and best black metal bands from Brazil. We have to go all the way back to 1989 when they formed and released their first demo "Tormenting the Holy Trinity". 25 years later it is finally time for the band to visit Norway for the first time, and they will hold a very special concert where they only play songs from their first two albums, "Wicca" and "Göetia". Be prepared for a unique experience – where Mystifier serve uncompromising, raw and unpolished black metal in its purest form.

SYN:DROM (SE)

Swedish Syn:Drom was formed back in 2002. After a few demo tapes, the band released an EP in 2007. Their debut album "With Flesh Unbound" was released in 2009, and their latest work, "Iconoclasm", last year. The band performs a brutal type of death metal which also can be both technical and really heavy. Fans of bands like Nile, Decapitated, Vader and Morbid Angel should check out Syn: Drom and use this opportunity to see them live at Inferno Metal Festival 2014.

KRYPTOS (IN)

16 years ago in Bangalore in India, Kryptos began as a traditional heavy metal band. With huge influence from the aggressive part of 80s thrash metal, the band created their own sound. Kryptos has so far released three albums, where the latest one came in 2012 on AFM Records. "The Coils of Apollyon" received critical acclaim, including 10/10 in Outburn Magazine. Kryptos has also played a number of supporting gigs for giants like Iron Maiden and Testament, in addition to being the first band from India to play a full set at Wacken Open Air. Inferno Metal Festival 2014 will be their first visit to Norway and we look forward to a solid dose of old-school thrash metal. This concert is presented in collaboration with Concerts Norway as a part of their cultural exchange program with India.

THYRGRIM (DE)

Thyrgrim is one Germany's best kept secrets. The band started out ten years ago as Kältetot. The name change came one year later, and Thyrgrim has since then released four full-length albums. The last one is brand new, but their black metal is pretty old-school. "Erwacken" is filled up with raw and cold black metal with loads of dark and hateful atmospheres. And their live show is going to be just as cold and hateful.

ELDJUDNIR (DK)

This Danish black metal band write all their lyrics about our Norse gods. Their style is brutal, yet atmospheric with a lot of Nordic coldness and darkness. The band was formed ten years now, and their latest album is "Angrboða" from 2012.



Hatebreed



Tristania



A Storm Of Light



Obliteration



Blasphemy



Banisher

FRIDAY APRIL 18.

ROCKEFELLER

BLASPHEMY (CA)

One of the most evil and hateful bands was formed back in 1984 fittingly named Blasphemy. The band ended in 1993 after releasing their so far latest studio album "Gods Of War". The band was reformed in 2009 and has played a few gigs and festivals. Now it is time the bring the sacrilegious quartet to Norway to do their ritual while destroying all that is holy.

HATEBREED (US)

Hatebreed was formed back in 1994 in Connecticut, USA. The band's music can be described as a fiery mix between thrash metal and hardcore punk. The frontman, Jamey Jasta, says it best and describes their music style as Celtic Frost Hardcore. Their sixth album, which came out earlier this year, is called "The Divinity Of Purpose" and shows that Hatebreed are as strong as ever and they are now ready to return to Norway and display some truly energetic power and brutality.

TRISTANIA (NO)

Tristania is one of the pioneers of the Gothic metal scene in Norway. Hailing from the west coast alongside bands like Theatre of Tragedy, The Sins of thy Beloved and Dismal Euphony, they created their own style blending together Gothic music with the heaviness of doom metal, symphonic elements, and with the contrast of using brutal growling and beautiful female vocal. Tristania released "Darkest White" last year, and are ready to enter the stage at Inferno Metal Festival for the second time.

A STORM OF LIGHT (US)

A Storm of Light was formed in New York back in 2007. The band has since released four full-length albums, two EPs, a split and a live album. Their latest record, "Nations To Flames", was released last year. The band is known for the creative musical antics and an atmosphere of doomsday. Fans of Year of No Light, Minsk and Neurosis are in for a treat when A Storm of Light enters the stage at Inferno Metal Festival 2014 to lay Oslo in ruins. It's all about the doom...

VEMOD (NO)

Vemod actually began back in 2000, but their debut album was not released until 2012 by Terratur Possessions. "Venter På Stormene" proves that Norwegian black metal is still alive and kicking. With cold atmospheres and hellish blastbeats the album is one of the best within newer black metal. The duo behind Vemod is well known for a long line of bands like Mare, One Tail One Head, Grenjar, Black Majesty, Selvhat and Celestial Bloodshed, just to mention a few. The band has rarely been seen playing live, so we are proud the have them at Inferno Metal Festival 2014.

JOHN DEE

NECROS CHRISTOS (DE)

Necros Christos was formed back in 2001 by mastermind Mors Dalos Ra. Their death metal style is remarkably unique and esoteric, with inspiration from doom, black and the musical traditions of Eastern culture. Over the years the band have released demos, splits, EP, DVD and two full-length albums. Necros Christos is now preparing songs for the third and final magnum opus entitled "Domedon Doxomedon". They will present a new live set featuring various classics from all of their releases.

OBLITERATION (NO)

The classic-style death metal band Obliteration is one of Norway's most critically acclaimed artists. Back in 2001 they were just kids with a lot of skills and talents, and with last years "Black Death Horizon" they prove that they are still as hungry and bloodthirsty as back in those days. The album even got nominated for the Norwegian Grammy as best metal album of 2013. If you like your metal brutal and old-school; Obliteration is the band you have to see.

MGLA (PL)

Mgla from Kraków in Polen is by many regarded as one of the best Polish black metal bands ever. And that is with good reason. The band is loaded with fresh ideas that takes their music to new levels and makes their own special identity. Mgla started in 2000 and have since then released several EP and full-length. Their latest album is "With Hearts Toward None" from 2012, and offer a unique approach to black metal with melodic and hypnotic song structures that you don't hear too often.

FROM THE BOGS OF AUGHISKA (IE)

Irish From The Bogs Of Aughiska delivers ambient music loaded with dark atmospheres. This is the perfect way to experience Celtic mythology and the gloom of the west coast of Ireland, by music.

BANISHER (PL)

Banisher is an extreme technical death metal band from Poland, formed in 2005. The band sounds quite different from a lot of other death metal acts as they like to experiment a lot. Specially can the vocal be totally out of control. Their latest album, "Scarcity" was released last year and now Banisher are ready to kick some ass at Inferno Metal Festival 2014!

BUSHWICK

MGR (US)

Mustard Gas and Roses (MGR) is an ambient solo project created by Mike Gallagher of Isis. This is the guitarist going solo. He has released three albums under the moniker MGR. The latest one being the soundtrack for the movie "22nd of May". If you want to be dragged into some really atmospheric soundscapes this is the gig you have to experience.

SATURDAY

APRIL 19.

ROCKEFELLER

WATAIN (SE)

Swedish Watain was formed in 1998. The band has since then made the leap from the underground to become one of the leaders in today's black metal scene. From underground favourites like "Rabid Death's Curse" and "Casus "Luciferi", they have now taken the step up to release one of 2013's best metal albums with "The Wild Hunt", which has received great reviews from all over the world. Their concert at Inferno Metal Festival 2014 can quickly become one this year's highlights – so this is not something you want to miss.

ROTTING CHRIST (GR)

Rotting Christ was formed in 1987 and is noted for being one of the first black metal bands from Greece. After 26 years Rotting Christ is one of the longest running bands within the black metal genre. The band has released several albums that are considered classics today, like the early black metal efforts "Thy Mighty Contract" and "Non Serviam", and the mid-90s more Gothic sounding "A Dead Poem". The band has not slowed down over the years and has developed a new direction in the musical and lyrical concept with "Theogonia" (2007) and "AEALO" (2010), leading up to this year's dark and epic masterpiece "Kata Ton Daimona Eaytoy".

TULUS (NO)

Tulus is one of the early Norwegian black metal bands. They released their first demo tape back in 1993. After many great releases the band split in 2000, and the members of the band formed Khold. Tulus was reborn again in 2007 and did a great reunion gig at Inferno Metal Festival 2008. Today they are still active and released "Olm Og Bitter" in 2012. The band is now ready to destroy again at Inferno Metal Festival – a gig that will be their only one in Norway in 2014.

GEHENNA (NO)

The Norwegian black metal band Gehenna came together in 1993 in Stavanger. The band plays black

metal, but has also included several elements of death metal on some of the more brutal albums. Many of their releases are considered classics in the early Norwegian black metal scene. The band has so far released seven full-length albums and two EPs. Their latest work is called "Unravel" and was released by Indie Recordings last year.

SIGH (JP)

Sigh comes from Japan and released their debut album on Euronymous' record company, Deathlike Silence Productions, all the way back in 1993. The band has a cult status, and is credited as being one of the first Japanese black metal bands. Since then Sigh has released many critically acclaimed albums like "Hail Horror Hail", "Gallows Gallery", and last year's great "In Somniphobia" was released by Candlelight Records. Soon the follow up "Graveyard", will be out some time in 2014. Sigh was one of the big highlights at Inferno Metal Festival 2007 – and we wish them more than welcome back when they return in 2014.

JOHN DEE

BLACK WITCHERY (US)

The American black metal band, Black Witchery, is known for some of the most blasphemous and morbid albums with "Desecration Of The Holy Kingdom", "Upheaval Of Satanic Might" and "Inferno Of Sacred Destruction". You will feel misused and abused after experience Black Witchery live. You are warned; this is not for the weak hearted. This is black metal at its most brutal.

ORANSSI PAZUZU (FI)

Oranssi Pazuzu was formed in 2007 by vocalist Kuolleet Intiaanit from the psychedelic rock band Kuolleet Intiaanit. Two years later their debut album "Muukalainen Puhuu" was released to great acclaim, with their unique sound and creative madness. In 2011 their second album, "Kosmonument", took the band one step further. More doom, more krautrock and more psychedelic atmosphere than

ever before. This led Oranssi Pazuzu to perform at several big European festivals like Hellfest and Roadburn. In October last year, the band released their third album called "Valonielu". Oranssi Pazuzu's music is hard to compare, but fans of Ved Buens Ende, Virus, Hail Spirit Noir and Nachtmystium should definitely check out Oranssi Pazuzu at Inferno Metal Festival 2014.

KRUGER (CH)

Kruger started in Lausanne in Switzerland thirteen years ago. The band then had members from acts like Sweet Disease, Samael, Sludge and Abraham. Kruger's music is heavy as hell, but you can also trace more brutal and driving elements. The band released their first album in 2002 and has since then released four full-lengths and an EP called "333". Imagine a kick ass mix between Godflesh, Neurosis and Entombed and you will get a clue on how Kruger sounds. This is an energetic and extremely heavy show, and something special to look forward to at Inferno Metal Festival 2014.

MIDNATTSVREDE (NO)

Black metal band Midnattsvrede's history goes back 20 years. The band was active between 1994 and 1997 before splitting up. In 2013, founding member Jormungand, known from DHG and Den Saakaldte, came together with guys from Kraanium and Fortid to give the band new life and fresh blood. Now, Inferno Metal Festival 2014, it is time to see and feel their wrath (vrede) live on stage!

THE SICKENING (NO)

If you like your death metal brutal, fast and with sick guttural vocal – than this band from Kristiansand is the right stuff for you. The Sickening started in 2001 as a side-project and has members and former members from such bands as Slagmark, Likorm and Blood Red Throne. Not until 2007 did The Sickening turn into a full-time band. Their debut album "Death Devastation Decay" was released in 2009.



Watain



Tulus



Sigh



Rotting Christ

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SPELLBOUND BY THE DEVIL

DIMMU BORGIR

THE FLAGSHIP OF NORWEGIAN BLACK METAL RETURNS TO THE INFERNO FESTIVAL. TWELVE YEARS AFTER THEIR FIRST APPEARANCE IN THE YEAR 2002, DIMMU BORGIR WILL HEADLINE THE ROCKEFELLER STAGE. THE BAND SEEMS TO HAVE GONE INTO HIBERNATION, BUT CORE MEMBER AND GUITARIST SILENOZ IS GIVING GUNNAR SAUERMAN OF GERMAN METAL HAMMER AN EXTREMELY HONEST AND EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW FOR THE INFERNO MAGAZINE.

There is an old German saying, which goes along the lines of: if you paint the devil, he will pay for it. Dimmu Borgir have always seen themselves under the influence of a vicious band curse. As a true black metal band the Norwegians will hardly blame their bad luck and recent absence on Satanic forces. Instead they seek the cause within themselves. 'There are many reasons for this hiatus', explains Silenoz. 'Most of all we are generally a dysfunctional band, which makes up a large part of our eternal curse. Next to this there have been miscommunication and also a serious disagreement with our label. All of these issues have been going on for years now.'

Angry Somewhere in Time

Before analysing these three recent plagues of the band more detail, it might shed some illumination on the current situation to go back in time to the year 2002: Dimmu Borgir have just performed a much celebrated show at the Inferno Festival, but the band is anything but content. 'We will not play here again', growls the tired looking guitarist and for many years it looks like the band will be true to his word. 'I really meant what I said back then, until we got the offer to play this year', admits Silenoz. 'We were really fed up at the time and it was partly our own fault. Our old sound engineer dropped out and we had to find a replacement last minute as we did not want to use the house technician. This new guy had never worked with us before and we are hard to mix at the best of times. We took a gamble with the engineer and it failed as it always does. This band is the very definition of Murphy's Law.' There are of course more reasons for the long absence of Dimmu Borgir from Norway's biggest and most prestigious extreme metal fest. 'We need a lot of details solved and resources to do a proper show',

continues the guitarist. 'This of course also means the economical side in all honesty. We have a big production and a large crew. Of course, we could save money and not bring our own technicians and engineers and leave our own lights and so on at home, but that feels like cheating the audience.' This has never meant that the band members did not like the festival. 'It is in fact quite the opposite', remarks Silenoz. 'We have always visited the Inferno these past years and were kindly invited to do so. We could of course easily do our own headlining show in Oslo. Therefore it is a compromise for us to play at the festival, but a good one. It is an honour to perform at the Inferno and there are also many international guests.'

Music Is My Business... and Business Is Bad

Dimmu Borgir obviously view the Inferno Festival as an excellent starting point to return to the stages after lying low for an extended period. 'We have at least agreed to do shows and festivals again', confirms the Norwegian. 'We are a band and that means playing live before anything else. Secondary is recording and promoting. For anybody wanting to be creative full-time, it takes the funds to back it up.' His last statements hits close to the matter. Aside from the two founding members vocalist Shagrath and guitarist Silenoz being young fathers and having family duties, both have taken on regular jobs. 'We have not been in a situation like this since the Mid-Nineties', the latter says. 'The game in this business has changed. We are not crying about it, but it also forces us to set up our lives in a different way. For 20 years we have been active as professional musicians. When we are not touring, we should be creating new music. There should be no excuse to break that pattern and this is my vocation. Knowing

there are people out there, who go mad about your songs. That is a dream come true.' Yet a dream that can turn into a nightmare, especially when there is friction on the business side and the guitarist already mentioned a currently strained relationship with their record company. 'The argument with our label has been very de-motivating', allows Silenoz and stresses. 'It is one of the reasons forcing us into jobs instead of composing. We should be in studio, but things are as they are at the moment. Sooner or later this kind of thing seems to happen to any band in this business.' According to the musician at least the band communicates with their label, but there has been little progress. One temporary victim of this situation is the long waited DVD of the spectacular orchestral show already recorded in Oslo in May 2011, which is finished and ready according to Silenoz. 'It has been sitting there, waiting for its release for two years now', he regrets. 'What you see on the internet is only the broadcast version, which does not even feature the complete set list. This will be on the DVD as well as re-edited sound and extra features including the orchestral show at the Wacken Open Air. For us it marked a historical moment and we received great reviews for the concert. It just has to come out and the sooner the better. That evening was rather weird for us as nothing major went wrong. I would love to do more orchestra shows around the globe, but that will most likely remain a dream.'

Fade to Black

Each passing day the memory of this special night with the orchestra having taken place fades a little further in the collective mind of metal heads. At some point people are bound to simply lose interest. Dimmu Borgir are quite aware of that problem. 'Of course there is always the danger of drifting into obscurity

and end up as a forgotten band', Silenoz agrees. 'We have always taken some breaks, but this is starting to drag out. We are not fooling ourselves. These are different times now and to be away for five years is going to have a negative impact on the band.' The solution to this dilemma would be a new album, but here comes the bad news. 'At this point in time it is totally up in the air, when the next album will come out', the guitarist reveals. 'We had already started to work on new material. It went really well, but then another spanner flew into the works. And yes, that is very frustrating. I adapt to this situation, but I do not want to.' As regards the reasons, he remains silent, but the problems mentioned above are sure a part of it. Singer Shagrath is also currently quite involved with his other band Chrome Division. 'The good news is, that Dimmu Borgir have always been right at the edge', Silenoz tries to make the best out of the current low tide. 'Despite all the heavy beatings that we got, we have never ever given up. And individually all of us are of course working on new songs. While nothing happens in the rehearsal room at the moment, all of this can change tomorrow. Expect the unexpected with Dimmu Borgir.' It might be seen as symptomatic for the whole Norwegian black metal scene that their flagship is leaking at this point in time. 'It happens to most bands that at some stage in their career that the lights are dimming after shining brightly for a while', the guitarist remains as calm as realistic. 'We just have to get through this phase. I hate and love this band for being so unpredictable. I am not sweating bullets yet. In any genre of music everything goes in cycles. That is just normal. Someone else will come and take over – especially, if you are not on your toes. You should never lean back in complacency and rest on your laurels. Music is not about competition with others, but a struggle with oneself. We are very lucky to have such dedicated followers. They have never stopped to stick with us and push us to keep going. That gives us much strength.'

The Struggle within

Talking about his love-hate relationship with the unpredictability of Dimmu Borgir, Silenoz leads this conversation back to the topic of being a dysfunctional band as mentioned in the beginning. Any observer following the Norwegians on tour cannot fail to notice that their performances sometimes vary

like a roller-coaster ride with up and down days. 'Being in Dimmu Borgir does not mean hard labour, but it is often mentally and physically more draining than people think', replies one of the main men. 'You need to be in shape. I have performed with a bucket next to the amp and I am really not proud of this. Well, you get older, you get wiser. Now I know my own strengths and weaknesses and act accordingly. Alcohol has never been the most important issue in this band, but sometimes it looked like. Now, we are no longer the mad party animals of yesterday.' Obviously Dimmu Borgir have never been as deeply into the pits of the rock 'n' roll circus as notorious chemical brothers such as Mötley Crüe – but they might have come close at times. 'At the beginning we thought that our band had no future as nobody could even pronounce its name', Silenoz recalls. 'Then things started to take off and our ambitions grew as we found ourselves at the right place in the right time. There have been so many sacrifices along the way, but I do not regret any of them. You need to be out of your mind, just to do this. Therefore being crazy is not wrong, but simply a part of being an artist.' It does not always help to be out of control though and maybe sometimes even leading to the point of regret. 'I am not going to sit down and think about what we could have done better or missed chances', the Norwegian shrugs. 'That is a waste of time. An opportunity missed means a train that has left the station. We have taken others and they got us far. When making decisions, there are bound to be some very wrong ones too. No risk, no fun.'

Although there is a sense of frustration emanating from Silenoz, he appears neither depressed nor stuck in the past. 'At the moment, we are planning and rehearsing for our show at the Inferno Festival', he ends on a brighter note. 'We strongly feel that we

have to make this event as special as possible. This is pretty much going to be our 20th anniversary show. The set list is ready. I will not reveal anything, but I can promise all of you that it will be a really great concert. That we are playing in Norway is of course a high motivation for us and on top of this close to our homes as well. Of course we will be watched twice as critically as elsewhere, but Oslo has always been very good to us.' Welcome back to the Inferno Festival, Dimmu Borgir!

"WE STRONGLY FEEL THAT WE HAVE TO MAKE THIS EVENT AS SPECIAL AS POSSIBLE"

– SILENOZ

INFERNO HIGHLIGHTS



ESPEN NØRVÅG SLAPGÅRD JOURNALIST IN METAL HAMMER NORWAY

I have many fond memories from various Inferno festivals, and many of these include an element of the unexpected. Skitliv with non-inverted crosses onstage to REALLY provoke people is one. Merah playing their first and only gig under that name before changing their name to Khonsu, and baffling everyone present with their combination of tech metal show and performance art is another. And the musically odd ones out, like Church of Misery, Pentagram and Witchcraft, are always entertaining breathers amidst the general extreme metal bombardment, and have brought many a smile to my face. However, my absolute highlight throughout the years must be the time Voivod demolished John Dee in 2011! Why they were playing the small stage downstairs and not at the main Rockefeller stage will remain a mystery for the ages, but it seemed like

everybody was trying to get into John Dee and those of us who were there turned into a grinning, fistpumping sweaty mass of human bodies from the second Canada's finest entered the stage. They sheer energy they emitted was impressive in itself, but the songs... THE SONGS! Classics like Ripping Headaches, Tribal Convictions and - gulp! - Ravenous Medicine were delivered with such intensity, power and conviction that everybody present felt that this was going to be one of the best shows they had ever seen! When the band left the stage after the last song, the audience had been completely drained, and left the building happily. The fact that I was there with what would turn out to become the love of my life and mother of my child obviously puts the icing on the cake for me, making the concert even more unforgettable!

INFERNO OSLOFJORD CRUISE



AT SEA
WITH



church of
MISERY

Japanese doom metal kings Church Of Misery will be a part of an all new experience at the Inferno Metal Festival. Thursday 17th of April you can join the band at sea in the boat S/S Johanna. This is a three hour tour in the beautiful Oslofjord where Church of Misery will serve you their classic doom metal hymns. The tickets are very limited and cost 250,- NOK + ticket feed. Departure is 13.00 and the boat will be back at 16.00. The boat leaves from Rådhusbrygge 2 and last show up is 12.30.

CHURCH OF MISERY

The Japanese doom outfit Church Of Misery started in 1995. Their style of doom can be described as a mix between Black Sabbath and the more psychedelic bands from the seventies. Church Of Misery are well known for making songs about serial killers and mass murders. They even got an EP named after the Norwegian descendant serial killer Dennis Nilsen. Their newest album was released to critical acclaim, last year with the title "Thy Kingdom Scum". A concert with the doomsters at the sea will be a unique experience no fans can miss.



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INFERNO HIGHLIGHTS



JONATHAN SELZER JOURNALIST FOR METAL HAMMER ENGLAND

To this day, Behemoth's performance in 2002 is one of the most head-caving gigs I've witnessed, almost literally. It was my first Inferno – and I haven't missed one since – but I managed to get a killer flu a few days beforehand and by the time I'd arrived at the festival, I was so sick I could barely speak. But on the first night, Behemoth came on just before Dimmu, and even for someone who saw Swans play in the 80s it was stupendously loud. I remember watching them mesmerised from the balcony in a state of

delirium but Behemoth made it a psychedelic experience, the sheer force of the riffs and volume more than my fucked up head could contain. For me, the real moments of truth at gigs are those moments where I don't know where I am anymore, when chaos rules, a genuine act of summoning to make that happen. Watching Behemoth that night felt someone had performed trepanation on me. I got back to the UK and my ears were blocked and ringing constantly for three weeks. I've been obsessed with Behemoth ever since.

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FRESHTEA er en Oslobasert vinyl-label, som også lager arrangementer og
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FRESHTEA samarbeider med Båtservice sightseeing om Metalcruise i Oslofjorden sommer/høst 2014,
samt andre events som foregår på Oslofjorden. Freshtea er på utkikk etter seriøse samarbeidspartnere i
forbindelse med musikkcruise innen Metal og Rock på Oslofjorden.

Båten S/S Johanna tar 160-200 mennesker, har full bevertning/servering, 3-5 timers aftencruise i Oslo-
fjorden med innlagte småstopp et par steder, for så å vende tilbake til Oslo på kveldinga!



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OSLO GUIDE

VENUES, PUBS & RESTAURANTS

* = Inferno venues

INFERNO OPEN AT CLARION ROYAL CHRISTIANIA HOTEL

During the Inferno Metal Festival our official hotel, Clarion Royal Christiania, will be packed with action. This is where you'll get your wristband and all other information. Pre-parties every day from 12.00 with kick ass metal from the best DJs in town. There will also be quizzes and other activities. So you don't have to go far to get the party started. *Biskop Gunnerus' gate 3.*
www.clarionroyalchristiania.no

ROCKEFELLER MUSIC HALL & JOHN DEE *

Rockefeller opened way back in 1986 and has since been the most used concert hall in Norway. The venue got gigs almost every day, hosting everything from small artists to world famous bands. Rockefeller is the main stage for the Inferno Metal Festival, and right below in the same building we got the smaller stage called John DEE. *Torggata 16. Age limit: 18 years.*
www.rockefeller.no

ROCK IN *

In this sub-level pub you can hear all kinds of metal. Rock In is the most popular and largest metal club in Oslo and has been around for more than a decade now. The staff is nice and Rock In also have favourable prices if you want a beer and/or some drinks. During Inferno the pub is always packed, so make sure to be there in due time for the gigs. *Øvre Slottsgate 10. Age limit: 20 years.*
www.rockin.no

REVOLVER *

You will find the club Revolver just around the corner of Rockefeller. You have the regular bar on the first floor and in the basement you will find the venue [for the gigs]. The stage is small, something that opens up for a nice and intimate atmosphere. *Møllergata 32. Age limit: 20 years.*
www.revolveroslo.no

VICTORIA *

Victoria used to be an old theater. You can see it for yourself and feel the special atmosphere. This place is well known for its great acoustic. The venue is usually used for jazz concerts, but works great for metal gigs as well. The bar is in typical jazz style with a great selection of wines and fancy cocktails. *Karl Johans Gate 35. Age limit: 18 years at the venue. 20 years in the bar.*
www.nasjonaljazzscene.no

BLÅ *

Blå has a close to perfect location in an old factory beside the Akerselva river. Blå originally started out as a jazz club fifteen years ago, but over the years their stage has been visited by artists from all kind of genres. *Brenneriveien 9c. Age limit: 20 years.*
www.blaaoslo.no

DE VILLE'S ROCK LOUNGE *

This small pub has become one of the more pleasant places to drink your beer while listen to good hard rock and heavy metal. The music is very varied and the atmosphere is very intimate. Be there in due time before the gigs since this place will be packed. *Kirkegata 34. Age limit: 20 years.*
www.devilles.no

BUSHWICK *

This well hidden bar is in the basement of Rockefeller. It is known for being mysterious and having extremely good drinks. The bar has taken inspiration from when there was alcohol prohibition in USA, and bars were illegal, hidden and hard to find. During Inferno the bar is not hard to find. It is just all the way down in the basement of Rockefeller and John DEE. This year we will have a few selected concerts at Bushwick for the first time during Inferno. *Mariboegate 1. Age limit: 23 years.*
www.rockefeller.no/bushwickbar.html

KULTURHUSET *

Kulturhuset is the latest addition to Oslo's large culture life. This venue is placed in the heart of Oslo at Youngstorget, where an old post office used to be located. The location is perfect for Inferno Metal Festival, just between the festival hotel Royal Christiania and Rockefeller. With over 800 square meters of area this building has everything - like concerts, art exhibitions, film screenings, workshops, ping-pong, coffee bar at daytime and a bar with a great selection of beers and 120 wines. During Inferno Metal Festival you will get a nice coffee deal. Just make sure you show your wristband. *Youngstorget 3. Age limit: 20 years.*

KNIVEN *

During Inferno Metal Festival 2014 the bar called Kniven (The Knife) will serve you Inferno related stuff all week. Expect nothing but great music and delicious cold brew! Already on Wednesday you can participate in a quiz while DJ Live Evil (Live Evil Fest and Amulet UK) will bring you some kick ass metal. The bar is perfect located just around the block from Rockefeller. *Bernt Ankers gate 5. Age limit: 23 years.*
www.knivenbar.no

LAST TRAIN

Last Train is Oslo's oldest rock pub, from 1984. This place might be small, but has a big brotherly heart. Many famous Norwegian artists have played there over the years, like Aura Noir, Cadaver, Virus, Cumshots and Turboneger. *Karl Johans Gate 45. Age limit: 24 years.*
www.lasttrain.no

BAR ROBINET

Next door to the main entrance at Rockefeller, you will find this tiny bar that serves plenty of rock 'n' roll and the best drinks in town. The walls are decorated with Pushwagner art and you can only pay the old-school way, namely by cash. *Mariboegate 7. Age limit: 23 years.*

TILT

Tilt is located in the same building as Rockefeller. Just walk around the corner and you will find it. They have a huge selection of beer at Tilt - both on tap and bottle. They also have a cool look for all the gaming nerds out there and many games to play if that's what you're into. *Torggata 16. Age limit: 23 years.*
www.tiltoslo.no

AYE AYE CLUB

This piracy themed bar is the place to go for good food while listening to hard rock and heavy metal. The menu is prepared by the famous Norwegian punk rock chef Mona Halvorsen, who has written the cook book "Godsaker med guts" and used to sing for the punk rock band Meduza. The place got a nice bar with good beer and drinks. The music is not the hardest, but old favorites by bands like Ramones, Misfits, Motörhead and Iron Maiden can be heard here - if your lucky. *Storgata 9. Age limit: 20 years.*

HELL'S KITCHEN

If you want respectable Italian pizza close to Rockefeller, Hell's Kitchen is not far away. With a name like this you know the place perfect for Inferno Festival attendees. They also got the underground club concept "Let the Streets Burn" with DJs from bands like Nekromantheon, Throat Violence and Darkthrone. *Møllergata 23.*

PATIO

This pizzeria have the chefs from Cin Cin that is known for winning the Norwegian championship in pizza baking. The place got a huge outdoor area that will open up when the weather is getting warmer. Although Patio is the right restaurant for true Italian pizza, a lot of people will visit them for the fusion Norwegian fare. The menu features interesting dishes like Pizza Rudolf with reindeer meat and another local favorite, the typical Norwegian smoked salmon pizza. *Pilestredet 60. www.patio.no*



STORES

TIGER

Tiger is an independent record store in Oslo that started up in 1996. Their main focus is underground music, punk and diy-culture, but you can also find a lot of metal records here. Tiger is located right across the street at the south side of Rockefeller, so it should be easy to find. Tiger is also home of the record label Fysisk Format, that is presenting the stage at Kulturhuset.

Hammersborggata 18. www.tigernet.no

NESEBLØD RECORDS

If you want rare stuff, like old black metal demos, first pressings and other collector items, this is the store for you. The shop is small – but the selection is great. This place is the closest thing to a black metal museum you'll ever find. You know where it is located, don't you?

Schweigaards gate 56.

www.neseblodrecords.com

BODYMAP

Bodymap was established in 1990. Back then this place stored an incredibly huge collection of Iron Maiden, Metallica and Guns N' Roses shirts. Today you can find everything here, like shirts, boots and leather jackets. From metal to punk to goth.

Skjpperogata 31. www.bodymap.no

RÅKK & RÅLLS

Great second hand store in three floors. You can find everything from vinyl and CDs to DVDs and books. All genres are well represented.

Akersgata 39.

SHADOWLAND

Shadowland is Norway's only specialist in gothic, synthpop, EBM and industrial genres. The store has been around for ages, but has now much bigger locals central located in Torggata, not far from Rockefeller.

Torggata 36. www.shadowland.no

ANTIDENIM

Antidemin is a store where you can get pants inspired by Norwegian black metal, made in nothing but the best Norwegian denim. So if you want to look good for the Easter you better find this shop.

Maridalsveien 15, on the opposite side of Westerdals School of Communication. www.antidenim.no

ROCK FRISØR

This is the only safe place in Oslo for a metalhead if you want anyone to touch your hair. The nice and good looking girls at Rock Frisør will make sure your hair is treated the best way, while you can listen to awesome heavy metal tunes.

Storgata 10. www.rockfrisor.no

OTHER RECOMMENDED TOURIST TRAPS

VIKING SHIP MUSEUM - Huk Aveny 35.
www.khm.uio.no/besok-oss/vikingskipshuset/
10% off at the store when showing your Inferno ticket/wristband.

KON-TIKI MUSEUM - Bygdøynesveien 36. www.kon-tiki.no

FRAM MUSEUM - Bygdøynesveien 36. www.frammuseum.no

MUNCH MUSEUM – Tøyengata 53. www.munch.museum.no

AKERSHUS FORTRESS - Akershus Festning.
www.forsvarsbygg.no/festningene/Festningene/Akershus-festning/

NORWEGIAN MUSEUM OF CULTURAL HISTORY - Museumsveien 10.
www.norskfolkemuseum.no

THE VIGELAND PARK – Kirkeveien/Middelthuns gate.
www.vigeland.museum.no/no/vigelandsparken

THE NORWEGIAN OPERA - Kirsten Flagstads Plass 1. www.operaen.no

EMANUEL VIGELAND MUSEUM - Grimelundsveien 8.
www.emanuelvigeland.museum.no

MONEY TALKS

ATMs are plentiful in Oslo. There is one inside of Rockefeller just outside of the toilets, under the stairs leading up to the gallery. Be sure to check that the ATM is the kind that takes VISA/Mastercard/AMEX. Or else you might lose your card into the ATM.

If you need cash travelers cheques etc, there is an exchange office at Oslo Central station. And if you have foreign currency in cash, there is also an exchange machine open at all times.

Note that all normal stores are closed in Norway on Thursday and Friday during the Easter, and the following Monday. So if you want to save some money on food and alcohol, go to the grocery store on Wednesday to stock up. There are some grocery stores that are open every day, also during Easter, but keep in mind that you cannot buy alcohol in any stores during holidays.



USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

- Ambulance 113
- Police 112
- Fire dept. 110
- Tourist information 815 30 555
- Taxi 02323
- 02202
- 08000
- Gardermoen airport 815 50 250
- Torp airport 33 42 70 00
- Rygge airport 69 23 00 00
- Clarion Hotel Royal Christiania 23 10 80 00
- Rockefeller 22 20 32 32
- Operator/Phone info 1881

METAL HAMMER COMPETITION



There is still a chance to play at Inferno Metal Festival 2014 and we call it "Win a gig on the Metal Hammer Norway-stage during Inferno" competition. What you need to do is send in 3 songs and a short biography to konkurranse@metal-hammer.no before 1st of March. The winners will play the headline spot on Revolver during the Club Day. The winners will also get a passes to the festival. The jury this year is Guro Juul Andersen (Metal Hammer Norway), Jan Martin Jensen (Radar Booking), Espen Nørvåg Slaggård (Metal Hammer Norway), Jarle Kvåle (Amber Booking) and Runar Pettersen (Inferno Metal Festival).

For more information go to www.metal-hammer.no. Good luck!



NICK MORTE



THOUGH HIS NAME IS WELL KNOWN BOTH TO TATTOO FANS AND METAL-HEADS, HIS PERSONALITY IS A GROUND FOR RUMORS. HIS WORK CONSTANTLY POPS UP IN TATTOO AND ART MAGAZINES ALL OVER THE WORLD, HIS SIGNATURE STANDS ON CD SLEEVES AND EXCLUSIVE T-SHIRTS. WELL, HE IS ALSO FAMOUS FOR EMPTYING TROPHY-TABLES AT INTERNATIONAL TATTOO CONVENTIONS... THIS YEAR NICK MORTE HAS PROVIDED ARTWORK AND LOGO DESIGN FOR INFERNO MUSIC CONFERENCE.

Tell us about your origins and how did you end up in Norway, collaborating with Inferno Metal Festival.
- I'm Russian but I have lived the last few years in Oslo, Norway. Most people know me as a tattoo-artist, but lately I'm just as busy with painting and designing as with tattooing. I don't think about mediums when it comes to expressing my creativity. It might be a canvas or antique paper, it also might be your skin. Rumors about my origins still haunts me because of the years I've spent on the road, touring, attending tattoo conventions, art and music events around the world. I think it's pretty hard to guess where I came from for people. I had to fight for every little step closer to my dream and I still do – every single day of my life. I ended up living in

Norway probably because it's the place where I feel most comfortable with nature and human mentality. I have attended Inferno Tattoo Fair a few times and it's definitely one of my favorite metal music events. I have always been fascinated with this warm family-like atmosphere and I'm happy and honored to provide artwork for Inferno Music Conference this year.

I love to see some people being disgust by the same artwork that others got inspired with. I'm really honored and happy to share my art with people of Inferno.

This year Nick Morte is presenting his work at Inferno Tattoo Fair. Don't miss your chance to get original artwork or get tattooed by the master of dark realism.

www.nickmorte.com

INFERNO HIGHLIGHTS



RUNAR PETTERSEN JOURNALIST FOR SCREAM MAGAZINE/INFERNO FESTIVAL

One of the highlights for me was when Dissection preformed at Inferno Metal Festival 2005. Its not that I am such a big fan of the band, it was more the unexpected and the awesome atmosphere that followed. What happened was that Dissection was supposed to do an encore with the infamous Tormentor song "Elisabeth Bathory", with original vocalist Attila "Mayhem" Csihar as a guest. But their time slot was long overdue so the PA system had been cut. Dissection refused to go off stage and started to play the song with only the sound from the instruments on stage, and with no working microphones Attila and Jon had to shout the words out to the audience. This with the result of the audience singing along and going off the roof with enthusiasm. The atmosphere was truly unique and this is one of the rare moments that still stick with me now almost ten years after.

JOHN DEE Søndag 2. mars



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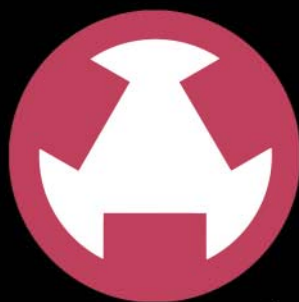


Foto: Tarjei Krogh

MYSTIFIER

EVIL, DARKNESS AND HATE

THE BRAZILIAN BAND MYSTIFIER WILL FINALLY PUT THEIR VIOLENT MARK ON THE NORWEGIAN SOIL. THEY HAVE DECIDED TO HONOUR THE EUROPEAN GROUND WITH MUSIC FROM THEIR FIRST TWO ALBUMS. AND AS SORCERER DO'URDEN AND BEELZEEBUBTH TELL US, WE HAVE SOMETHING GREAT HEADING OUR WAY AND WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE WE HEADBANG HELL OUT OF THIS EASTER.

From what I understand you will do tracks from the two first full-lengths, "Wicca" and "Göetia". These albums are 20 and 21 years old by now. How do you think an audience today will grant these masterpieces?

Sorcerer Do'Urden – Infernal Hails to all! These albums marked the history of Black Metal here in Brazil, alongside other bands such as the infamous Sarcófago and Impurity. Ever since, "Wicca" and "Göetia" have been distributed around the world, and released by renowned labels like Osmose Records. Mystifier hit Europe the first time in 2010. It was like hell, but it was a very short tour. Now we are going to pay in full and in double to all our fans who have been waiting 20 years to see a Mystifier ritual and weren't able to. I'm sure the flame of Satan is burning strong in all our European supporters!

Mystifier is a unit that has lived in the shadows of the horns, if you allow me to be a bit "dark-throne" here. You should have killed someone in Sarcófago perhaps, and it would be pretty much like Norway, don't you think? Seriously, I think Mystifier is a band whose name has grown during the years. How did you experience the development of Mystifier and the steadily growing following and respect? And how do you view your band's place in today's extreme metal scene?

Sorcerer Do'Urden – What we do is entirely for our infernal pleasures! To play Black Metal on stage, becoming possessed by the bloodthirsty adrenaline that is unleashed upon an audience of black metallish sick madmen, is all that life means to us. We do it with our hearts, and the respect we have gathered around the world means much to us! Wherever we go, we make strong alliances and great brothers in arms. That's all we care for! Worship Black Metal and ally with the strong and real warriors everywhere.

Today black metal is rather commercial, with bands doing professional videos and DVDs, including full orchestra and dress up like... ..something! When Mystifier enter the stage, what is it that you strive for? How do you want your concerts to be like, and how would you prefer the audience to be like, if you could choose?

Sorcerer Do'Urden – The essence of Mystifier comes from the primordial times of Black Metal, from the Old School times, Venom times. We honor the old traditions that Mystifier was born into 20 year back in time. Traditional spikes, leather and chains - everything we have needed to wear

as armor on stage. Our audience has always reached the same throughout our concerts, with hate and violence in bloody moshpits at the fast paced parts, and with worshiping headbanging at the slow paced dark melodies. Mystifier is well known for mixing these two very well.

Do you in any way suffer from the musician's syndrome where you think you could've done "Wicca" better if you did it today, or do you more like accept it for what it is, aside from a little re-mastering? How do you view "Wicca" today? Do you think it has anything to offer a scene where people mostly search for those more known bands with clinical and crystal clear productions?

Sorcerer Do'Urden – No, "Wicca" and "Göetia" are definitely not to be compared to crystal clear, high-end productions. It's the same thing to ask for a re-recording of Sarcófago's "INRI" or Venom's "Black Metal". They are pieces of history, of the Brazilian Black Metal's history. So they should be appreciated as such. Even younger headbangers

"WE ARE VERY PROUD TO BE ABLE TO REPRESENT OUR COUNTRY IN ONE OF THE MOST INFAMOUS BLACK METAL FESTIVALS IN THIS PLANET."

- SORCERER DO'URDEN

from the newer generations who love crystal clear productions must at least respect the history from where everything came from. But what you say is true - the perfectionism syndrome is something that assaults all artists. Although there's always something you know you could have done better, we are very pleased with the making of these two first official releases because they were recorded with a lot of hardship, sweating blood along with many difficulties we have in a third-world country. We are still here today, growing every passing year around the world because of these two albums."

What did it demand from you, back in the early nineties, to be able to make music like this? I mean, how did you develop as musicians and how did you approach the literature that inspired your lyrics?

Beelzebubth - I have loved Heavy Metal since I was 12 years old (1982). I was a die-hard fan of Judas Priest, Black Sabbath, Motörhead, Accept, Ac/Dc, Iron Maiden (Di'Anno years), Ozzy Osbourne, Saxon, and so on. Years later, the so called Youth

Attack: Metallica, Slayer, Sodom, Possessed, Vulcano, Sepultura, Sarcófago, Mutilator, Chakal, Morbid Angel, and so on. As you can see, I have followed the development of Heavy Metal in all these fucking years. I am totally influenced by those Heavy Metal lyrics, I get a great excitement from reading books about the occult. Lots of bands write about Satanism and that kind of shit, but we need to pay attention to what's going on behind the curtain – Paganism, Gnosis, Egypt Pantheon, Greek Mythology, Aztec Pyramids, and loads of magnificent stuff that help me to see beyond the flesh.

From what I understand, you will not play anything from the third and fourth albums. Why is that? Being on the subject, how do you view "The World Is So Good That Who Made It Doesn't Live Here" and "Profanus" today?

Beelzebubth - Well, we need to be honest to our satanic worshipers. This world tour is just for playing tracks from our two first albums. We hope we

can make a tour next European winter so that we will play lots of songs from our 3rd and 4th albums.

I read an interview with Mystifier done in 1999, and it seems that you were dead tired of

talking about trendy black metal bands, for instance those bands from Norway. Well, 14 years later the trend is way bigger and there are new bands every week. Could you please bore us with some honest views on the development (or perhaps lack of it) of the extreme metal scene in our world?

Sorcerer Do'Urden – Technically speaking there's no doubt about enhancements to recording and playing techniques. Many sub-genres have also emerged from the roots of Black Metal. As time goes by, Black Metal is less of an underground music as it was in the past. But that is the natural way of all things that are good. It's impossible to keep them undercover for long. In spite of that, it's really hard to listen to something original nowadays. I keep searching for new original sounding bands, but they aren't very easy to find. Even the big and old bands have a hard time to make something new and unique nowadays. It's the challenge of this decade for the underground world scene, which market lives on basically the big bands from the two last decades. Only the



strong will survive.

Beelzebubth - Mystifier was found in July 1989 by me, ok. My main influences were bands like Sarcophago, Sepultura, Poison (Ger), Sodom, and so on. You can check yourself that those bands didn't sound like each other. Maybe they made bad records, but with a lot of originality. This is almost impossible nowadays! I knew Mayhem when they were just one more underground band, like Necrodeath, Order from Chaos, Tiamat, Black Prophecies, Death, Abhorrer, Demoncy, Nihilist, Aamonhammer, Grottesque, Morbid, Thy Abhorrent, and lots of others underground cult bands from that period (tape trading era). Dead committed suicide, that coward killed Euronymous out of jealousy... Like I have said for decades, many of bands that emerged after these facts have nothing to do with me (fuck N\$ bullshit!).

When I read the lyrics on these earlier albums, they are definitely on the darker side, obviously. From your point of view today, how do you view your lyrics? Do they give you meaning when performing those lyrics live now 20 years later?

Beelzebubth - Well, 25 years after our first recordings it is difficult for me to describe how I feel playing those songs at our concerts. I was speechless when we played in Nuclear War Now Festival at Germany. Satanism is only a way for opening our eyes to how much harm (read: religious evil hypocrisy) there is in the world we live in. The catholic and so called Christian churches must be destroyed!

A couple of things outside Mystifier, but still within the frames I suspect. How tired are you of questions and assumptions based on racism and skin colors? I ask this, since I've read that you've met

your share of racists, something that's pretty wicked since it should be the music that do the talking...

Sorcerer Do'Urden - Fortunately the world has evolved to a state where racism is rare and greatly despised! The small groups that still are there nowadays must hide. They don't have the courage to speak up anymore, because they are so small and insignificant that something like racism is regarded as ridiculous nowadays. We have traveled to many places known for having racist groups, like Germany and some south states of Brazil and we were warmly greeted by all! We didn't see even a hint of racism or a despising look from somebody..., nothing. Fortunately racism is on the border of extinction.

How do you (and perhaps others) view Europe? I'm thinking musically speaking here.

Sorcerer Do'Urden - Europe is the cradle of civilization, as well as many metal pioneers. Because of that, it's well known for being the best continent to do tours. Many of our favorite bands come from there. We knew that things were starting to get hot for Mystifier when Osmose wanted to release an album from us. After that many other labels around the world got interested as well.

To me, what I read about Brazil these days, it seems like the only thing that will happen over there is the soccer World Championship in 2014. And that the poor people suffer even more, if that's possible, due to showing those filthy rich Europeans "the better side" of Brazil. How do you meet presumptions like this? I mean, I guess Brazil is as varied as most other countries in the world...

Sorcerer Do'Urden - As you know, Brazil is a continental sized country. Culture here is as vast as many countries together can muster. But most of

the Brazilian people are easily controlled by politics and media. That's how the politicians steal billions of dollars every year from public taxes. The world cup is just one more excuse for the politicians to overbill building sites like stadiums and urban structure, so they can steal even more money. In spite of that, Brazil has been advancing in matters of scientific research and technological development like never before. Education is also more available to poor people. But we still have a long way to go. Talking about metal, I can only regret the fact that not many international bands are able to come to Brazil due to the hard conditions when doing tours in a overpriced country like this. But we have an immense scene of our own to enjoy, so that's one of the few things that make us happy here.

One thing about the live performance, what does it take for you to be content? I mean, the sound is a bit fuzzy on "Wicca" and improved on "Göetia". And, how do you choose which songs that need to be a part of the live experience?

Sorcerer Do'Urden - Right now we are doing a special "Wicca"/"Göetia" tour, so we are playing both albums in full. Although the "Wicca" songs may sound a bit fuzzy on CD, our fans get amazed nowadays by the way we play those old songs on stage. We are delivering a good quality sound but the hint of raw and old school is also present. The atmosphere we offer with this set list is dark, evil and very enjoyable for all headbangers from the old times up to the new generations.

What do you expect from Norway and the Inferno audience?

Sorcerer Do'Urden - We are very proud to be able to represent our country in one of the most infamous black metal festivals in this planet. We are bringing the soul and history of Brazilian Black Metal on our backs to the Inferno Festival! We are bringing the Brazilian EVIL, our signature DARKNESS. We bring demonic possession and HATE. Every subject that is one with all of that will have a night never to forget. See you all in Hell very soon!

Beelzebubth - For being an afro descendant, I am fucking excited to see the reaction of the crowd from that part of the world. But, I will just give a fuck for that kind of shitty ethical prejudice. I will just make my best, and hope to meet lots of fucking nice Mystifier and underground Black Metal worshipers in Scandinavia. Hail Norwegian 80s Black Metal Legion!

Mystifier plays at John DEE Thursday 17th of April.

Roy K. K. Bakland

INFERNO HIGHLIGHTS



ROY K. K. BAKLAND JOURNALIST IN SCREAM MAGAZINE

The highlight to me, musically speaking, was the Watain concert back in 2007. They were on their rise, but still not huge enough for Rockefeller, something that was gold to me since I have always preferred John Dee over Rockefeller! To make sure I had a good spot, since I had and still have a soft spot for Watain, I went down there 40 minutes prior to the gig. The sound was excellent, E's voice tremendous even though he had a somewhat ill time in Oslo.

The crowd was really enthusiastic, and I heard (by those telling me afterwards) that they were stopped by the guards because the lower floor (obviously) was packed. The smell wasn't like it was at Skuret two years prior to the Inferno gig, but to me it was still the highlight. And I'm afraid there's no chance in Heaven Watain will overdo things at the gig this year, now seven years later!

DOWN SOUTH METAL NIGHT MANDAL, SOUTH OF NORWAY

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Festivalpass fredag/lørdag: 500,- Torsdag 15. mai : Fri entré - Fredag 16. mai: 300,- Lørdag 17. mai: 300,-



IMC

WE ARE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE IMC WILL AGAIN BE A PART OF THE INFERNO METAL FESTIVAL IN 2014. AFTER A BRIEF PAUSE IN 2013, WE WANT TO INVITE THE METAL INDUSTRY TO THE SCANDINAVIAN METAL CAPITAL OSLO! THE CONFERENCE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE FESTIVAL HOTEL BUT ALSO AT A NEW VENUE CALLED KULTURHUSET. THIS REALLY LAID BACK BAR IS PERFECTLY LOCATED BETWEEN THE HOTEL AND THE FESTIVAL VENUE. THERE WILL BE SPEED MEETINGS, PANEL DEBATES, OPEN DEMO LISTENING, INSTRUMENT CLINICS AND MUCH, MUCH MORE.

INFERNO MUSIC CONFERENCE

PROGRAM

CONCERTS NORWAY PRESENTS INFERNO WELCOMING PARTY!

Food, drinks, music and good times in Rockefeller Music Hall Lounge Wednesday evening!

MUSIC NORWAY PRESENTS INFERNO SPEED MEETINGS!

Hook up with old acquaintances and make new ones during Wednesday afternoon!

IMC ARTISTS AND DELEGATE LOUNGE AT KULTURHUSET

This will be the natural meeting point for all delegates and artists. Here you can find meeting rooms, a main-stage and free Wi-fi and coffee from Thursday to Saturday between 12.00 to 17.00. There will also be stands by Negative Vibe Records, Unborn Productions and Demonhood.

DRUM CLINIC WITH FROST (SATYRICON/1349)



Kjetil Haraldstad, better known only as Frost, will do a drum clinic at the festival hotel during Inferno. This will be a unique chance to get a close-up with one of the giants in Norwegian Black Metal! He is generally regarded as one of the most proficient and intense drummers in the black metal scene, and has contributed on a number of epic records since the early nineties. Needless to say, we at IMC is extremely happy that Frost will be part of this years conference.

PRIDE, PREJUDICE AND SHAME WRAPPED IN BLASPHEMY: THE MANY FACETS OF BLACK METAL FANDOM

Dr. Vivek Venkatesh will talk about the results of several years of collaborative, interdisciplinary research on the distinct ways in which the identities of members of the global black metal scene are developed and propagated. The presentation will draw on a range of interviews with fans, musicians, journalists

and record store owners, as well as observations at concerts and festivals from around the world. Vivek will provide a description of how black metal scene members have created a unique identity which values the individual over the group, flirts with xenophobia, engages in discourse around current political structures, thrives on blasphemy and rejects the more communal aspects of other forms of extreme metal such as death metal or thrash metal.



WORKSHOP WITH EINAR KVITRAFNF SELVIG (WARDRUNA)

In the workshop Einar will speak about his approach to music and the extensive creative concept behind Wardruna's ongoing "Runaljod" trilogy as well as his approach and study of the runes and other Norse esoteric arts. He will demonstrate a selection of the oldest Nordic instruments, play some fully acoustic Wardruna music and there will also be opportunities for questions from the audience.

AN ARTISTS GUIDE TO THE WHYS, THE HOWS AND THE DON'TS OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Jens F. Rydland, guitarist in Borknagar and one of the founders of Inferno Metal Festival, will talk about how the Social Media develops the Music Industry and what kind of impact this has on the everyday life of an Artist. Ryland has used the Internet for marketing since 1998, taken classes and been an active Blogger. In Borknagar he has been able to test theories and new channels directly with a large audience and worldwide following.



IMC BOAT TRIP IN THE OSLO FJORD

Inferno would like to welcome IMC delegates to set sail the last day of the Inferno Festival! The capacity on the boat is limited, therefore we can only guarantee the first 70 registered IMC delegates this complimentary trip, that also will include traditional Norwegian food and some delicious alcohol.

Read the whole program and buy delegate passes at: www.infernofestival.net/no/conference.aspx

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ORANSSI PAZUZU

THE DARKEST CORNER OF SPACE

FINNISH ORANSSI PAZUZU IS ONE OF THOSE BANDS THAT IS HARD TO PUT IN A GENRE. THERE IS SO MUCH GOING ON IN THEIR MUSIC THAT YOU CAN LISTEN THEIR ALBUMS OVER ON OVER AGAIN WITHOUT GETTING TIRED. THE BAND HAS SIMPLY STATED THAT ORANSSI PAZUZU MAKES MUSIC THAT INVITES ALL THE ARSONISTS AND SMOKERS TO HOLD HANDS.

Oranssi Pazuzu started back in 2007 after Jun-His split up with the rock band Kuolleet Intiaanit. What made you go into metal?

- I have always been into metal as well as many other styles of music. My guitar playing style is not very metal though and I wanted to find out what would be the outcome of forming a metal influenced band. Me and Ontto were really into Black Metal at the time of Kuolleet Intiaanit split up and after watching Emperor play a show in the Tuska Festival at 2007, we decided to form a band that tries to capture a deep dark atmosphere and combine it with strong psychedelia and hypnosis. We wanted to do this by using our strengths as musicians and not try to force it to be "too" metal. The atmosphere must come first, not the genre or the style.

The name, Oranssi Pazuzu, is pretty strange. Oranssi means orange and Pazuzu is a well known demon for fans of horror movies. Can you explain it for us? I guess you were inspired by the movie "The Exorcist"?

- Yeah, Pazuzu describes the dark essence in our music since it is the demon of the movie as well as a mythological demon of the southwest wind. Oranssi describes the psychedelia. It is said to be the first color of the big bang so it also represents the spacier side of our music.

You can find a lot of different music styles merged into Oranssi Pazuzu. What are your main inspirations for blending all this kind of music together?

- We are heavily influenced from the 60s and 70s progressive music like King Crimson, Wigwam, Genesis, The Soft Machine, etc. At that time it was music that fused together many styles in a very open-minded way. I like to think we are a fusion band that tries to do the same thing in the field of heavier music.

Oranssi Pazuzu writes all the lyrics in Finnish. Why is that and do you think it would be easier to reach out to a larger audience if your lyrics were in English?

- Like I mentioned earlier, atmosphere is something

that comes always first in our music. Finnish is our mother tongue and through that we are able to express ourselves the most efficiently. Changing the language would water down the atmosphere in my opinion. If we were as comfortable with any other language as we are with Finnish, we might try them as well. When I'm doing vocals with Ontto's lyrics, I need to connect to them in as many levels as possible to get the right feel to it. I also like Finnish, cause

"I THINK INFERNO IS THE MOST METAL HEARTED FESTIVAL WE HAVE EVER PLAYED AT"

- JUN-HIS

it demands a bit more force to get the words out than English. It makes the physical experience of doing vocals more brutal.

I read that some of your music is jammed out in the studio. How much is improvised and how much is written before you go in the studio? And how is it to perform the improvised parts live? Is it hard to get the same atmosphere as you had when you were recording it?

- So far we have composed most stuff almost ready before going to studio, but we like to leave room for improvisation and accidents. Jamming is very important to us, but we tend to do more of that when we are composing stuff and figuring out the song structures. We do have some songs on each album that are more jam based than others though, and for me it's always easier to do them live than in the studio. You tend to over-think a bit in the studio, but once you get the right relaxed state of mind it doesn't matter where you are. Jamming for me is all about focusing 100% on the atmosphere and reacting to sounds and also reacting to other musicians' reactions.

To me, your newest album "Valonielu", seems

darker, more gloomy and more monotone than your previous albums. Is this something you wanted it to be, or maybe it's just my own feelings about the record?

- Hehe. For me it's just the opposite. On "Kosmonument" we were in the darkest corner of space, a lonely place with only the company of nihilistic thoughts. On "Valonielu" we are back to earth, flowing with the evolution of life, microcosmos and consciousness. We were influenced on those themes while composing, but it's just one interpretation. I'm glad to hear your vibes about this album differ from mine.

Sometimes your music almost feels hypnotic. How does the audience react when you're playing this kind of music live?

- From what I can sense, they seem pretty focused on the atmosphere. I'm hoping that we are able to take the audience to a trip inside their heads. To make a time freeze of a sort, where one can study themselves through music. I realize that not everyone will take it this way, but it's something I like to keep as a boost for myself when doing live shows.

The gig at Inferno Metal Festival will be the first one in Norway. What are you most looking forward to when playing at the festival?

- I've heard good things about the festival and looking forward to it a lot. I think Inferno is the most metal hearted festival we have ever played at, so it will definitely bring its own interesting aspect to the show.

What can the Inferno audience look forward to when seeing Oranssi Pazuzu, and why should they come and see you with so many other artists performing in a few days?

- If you give the music a chance to properly sink in, you will be in for a journey to the dark corners of your mind.

No doubt about that. So be sure to watch Oranssi Pazuzu at Inferno Metal Festival 2014 on Saturday 19th of April at John DEE.

Runar Pettersen

NEW PUNK FESTIVAL IN OSLO:

DOG DOWN STREETPUNK WEEKEND



26 & 27 SEPTEMBER 2014

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You don't have to go far to get the party started. The bar at hotel is great and the music is even better.

These are the fine people that will deliver the goods during Inferno Metal Festival:

WEDNESDAY

DJ Geir Kolden – The man is no stranger for the people in Norway. Many will remember him from a TV show at NRK called "Jazz og Heavy" where he played metal broadcasted on national television. He was also guitarist in the Norwegian doom band called Valhall. Today he works as an actor when he is not spinning metal as a DJ at Inferno.

THURSDAY

Negative Vibe Records will be handling the music this day. The label consists of visionaries, who have worked for more than a decade in the metal scene as musicians, producers, promoters and more. These guys will show you that there is music that proves that black metal is not the only sound to come from Norway.

FRIDAY

DJ Unborn from Unborn Production will serve only the best selections from his favourite genres; black metal and old-school heavy metal. Unborn has been handling his business as a label and mail-order for 14 years now, so this man truly knows how to desecrate your souls.

SATURDAY

The guys from the label Demonhood will bring the music at Saturday. Demonhood is a new label but has already become one of the labels to look out for. They have released several awesome records within thrash, death and black metal. The men behind the label, Einar and Kenneth, is well known in Norway for contributions to Norwegian metal in bands and behind the scene.

Hotel rates (will rise 6 weeks before the festival!):

Single room: incl. breakfast 750,-
Double room incl. breakfast 999,-
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Important:

Give the reference code "Inferno" to get the festival price.



INFERNO GOES TO INDIA

15TH - 16TH OF FEBRUARY THERE WILL BE INFERNO METAL FESTIVAL IN NEW DELHI AND BANGALORE.

The headliners for this festival will be Norwegian death metal kings Obliteration and Norway's thrash metal monster Nekromantheon. The two Norwegian acts will play both days. A bunch of the finest bands India has to offer will also play at the festival; like Undying Inc., Devoid, Inner Sanctum and Theorized. Inferno India, presented by Rock Street Journal in collaboration with Concerts Norway and the Norwegian Embassy, is an extension of the Inferno Metal Festival. This is the second time Inferno Metal Festival is going outside of Norway as you also have the Switch edition that will be held June 27th - 28th this year in Lausanne.

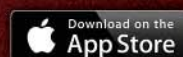
The indoor festival hits New Delhi first, on February 15th, where Nekromantheon and Obliteration will be joined by Undying Inc., the pioneering extreme metal band from Delhi, as well as explosive thrash metal exponents Devoid, from Mumbai,

On February 16th Obliteration and Nekromantheon will go to Bangalore, Karnataka. In addition, the lineup on the evening also features two of Bangalore's most prominent metal acts, the very exciting death/thrash band, Inner Sanctum, and thrash outfit Theorized.

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WATAIN LIKE LIFE ITSELF!

YOU MAY OR YOU MAY NOT LIKE THEM, BUT NO MATTER HOW YOUR TASTE CORRESPONDS WITH THE MUSIC MADE BY THESE SWEDISH WOLVES, THERE'S NO DOUBT WATAIN IS THE BEST LIVE BAND IN THE WORLD. DEDICATION, CHAOS, BLACK FLAMES, BLOOD AND STRENGTH - AND NOW A WORTHY CALL TO ARMS AS HEADLINER FOR INFERNO FESTIVAL 2014! ROY K. K. BAKLAND TALKED TO E. ABOUT THEIR ALBUMS, THE RESPONSE TO "THE WILD HUNT" AND, OBVIOUSLY, PLAYING LIVE!

Rabid Death's Curse" was released in 2000 and is the way I see it a raw album, which sound much of what we know as the Scandinavian black metal. The material is also more brutal than what has been released later on. How do you view this album today?

- It's only recently that I've had the feeling that "Rabid ..." happened a long time ago, oddly enough. I really just thought of this album as something we made before the other albums, which is also true. "Rabid Death's Curse" is an example of a piece of work that has this primitive atmosphere. It has a fairly youthful aggression and energy, but also a somewhat mature and philosophical foundation considering that we were only about 18 years when we released our debut. "The Limb Crucifix" and especially the title track revolve around heavy and religious themes. I still like to play these songs live or at rehearsal, for that matter. It's interesting to sing lyrics that I wrote when I was 18 that actually

means more to me now than they did at the time. Musically, this release may be viewed as the result of a band who hadn't quite found out how to express themselves, but who nevertheless were heading towards something. "Rabid Death's Curse" has obvious references to the music that we listened to at the time; there's a lot of Mayhem, Dissection and Marduk behind the creation of this album. I like "Rabid ...". It is violent and genuine, and it came from a unique place within us, which is why I even to this day can say that I like the album very well.

I still consider "Casus Luciferi" as a masterpiece, with awesome tunes like "Opus Dei (The Morbid Angel)" and the live-favorite "I Am the Earth". How do you feel about playing a song like that live, and know that even though one might think of the song as a whole, there's still something extra when what can be considered as the chorus comes - the part that starts with the song title?

- Well, we look at a tune as a complete song,

not as different parts put together into a track. Each song is like a living organism to us. We played "Puzzles Ov Flesh" for the first time today [at rehearsal] since we recorded the song and it was very special for us. I've have not sung the song since 2003 and I have not thought about the text since then either. It was MKM from Antaeus who wrote it for us. It's cool to see that the text still has a lot of power and that it is a good song. We were not really aware of the quality inherent in the material when we wrote the songs. I realize now that there are good tracks on "Casus ..." and it's cool to discover that we were a little "out there". We didn't have the faintest clue about music theory or anything like that, it was all about conveying the feelings we possessed and we were absolutely determined that we would not copy the music that we already liked. Take Mayhem as an example. What inspired us was their willingness to express the feelings they had, and

INFERNO
HIGHLIGHTS



GUNNAR SAUERMAN
JOURNALIST IN METAL HAMMER GERMANY

There have been so many more than memorable shows at the Inferno Festival from Emperor via Immortal, Primordial, Moonspell and a host of others. Yet, I will never forget the performance of Windir at John Dee in the year 2002. The energy, the emotion, the majesty. People went insane and the band, infected by the heat of the moment, outdid itself. 'We did not know that

we had so many fans', the tragically late Terje "Valfar" Bakken (R.I.P.) told me breathlessly and exhilarated afterwards. Well, Windir sure had made many new friends in a very strong year that also featured amazing gigs by Manatark, 1349 and Dimmu Borgir among others.

we were focused on doing the same without, as I said, coping. Clearly, there are similarities to others, since we had similar expression as these bands, but at the same time I think we did something that was our own.

I have read that "They Rode On" was the first song you wrote for "The Wild Hunt". But I won't ask about it since I assume everyone else is going to do just that. E. confirms my suspicions. What I wonder, is how you went from this song and where the title song fit into the picture?

- I can't remember what we did after that. We worked with many different songs at the same time. But the fact that "They Rode On" was the first thing we wrote made sure we got the feeling that we could go anywhere after this. We thought we'd just go on and drained ourselves. When we continued to write, we had this first song in memory at all times. "Fuck yeah, we have 'They Road On', how are we gonna do this?". But in the end we found out that we shouldn't think about it, and rather just go on. The music is based on the atmosphere we are trying to convey through the lyrics to a great extent, something we've always done. We needed to do something melodramatic and melancholic and ... how should I put this? It's about the combination of sorrow and triumph, really. There was no way we could just make traditional black metal songs to express the feelings we possessed. Now more than ever, it was important to express ourselves so it suited us rather than looking at what's been done before. With this in mind, we found ourselves in a very liberating position as artists because we could do whatever the fuck we wanted! It was a relief, and it was incredible to work freely with open minds where we could allow ourselves to think that the only thing that really counted was that the album was 100 % honest and 100 % about Watain. And this is the main reason why a song like "The Wild Hunt" is what it is: 100 % honest.

I assume everyone is going to ask you about the clean vocal, but quite short, what was it like to do this? Did you find your voice right away, or did you have to challenge yourself...?

- I guess I did in the beginning, but as soon as we started making demos of the material, I realized that the clean vocals wouldn't cause any problem for me. I took some singing lessons to see if there was something I was missing, any techniques I could use to enhance the expression, but I didn't really learn anything except that I just had to give it all. I had to open myself, something I felt I managed to do. The reason there is clean vocal at all, is because it was important for the atmosphere the specific songs demanded. I don't think anyone can imagine black metal vocals on "They Road On". It would've felt wrong and sad in an incorrect way. Sometimes you have to dare to do something new, and I think this is something that comes with age. We are constantly making something new in this band and it's one of our strengths as Watain. We created the band,

and thus we have our own place in this universe where we make the rules ourselves and can live outside the world of the average Joe.

A few months have passed since the release of your wild hunt. It is an album that have got raving feedback from loads of 'zine, but there have of course been those who think you should've copied "Sworn..." and "Lawless...". How has these last few months been for you, thinking of response to "The Wild Hunt"? Anything special that has stuck with you?

- To be honest Roy, while the positive feedback for "The Wild Hunt" has been overwhelming, it has been quite sad to once and for all conclude how shallow the majority of people's relation to music is nowadays. I am of course talking about those who in one way or another expressed their confusion and inability to comprehend the relevance of songs such as "They Rode On" or "The Wild Hunt". Instead of seeing the songs for what they are, namely manifestations of our own artistic independence, people immediately seem to jump to comparisons with other bands or other insignificant rants about how these songs are so horribly "different", not only compared to our old albums

"WE ARE GOING TO DELIVER A FULL ON BLACK METAL CEREMONY FUELED BY 30 DAYS OF TOURING BEFORE THAT, SO IT'S GOING TO BE ONE TO REMEMBER FOR SURE"

- E.

but to people's music taste in general. I mean, compared to a lot of the music I listen to, "The Wild Hunt" is very far from an "experimental" album! How people can be so baffled and bewildered about us expressing ourselves in a broader and deeper way is somehow quite tragic, and sometimes it gives me the feeling of having thrown pearls before swine. But then again, there are luckily many that have chosen to look beyond the form and into the essence of our work and it is in the end only their opinion that matter, if any.

Most people comment about the music, obviously, since they download the music via internet. But there are those of us of care about the art, about the lyrics and the visual aspects of the concerts. What kind of comments do you receive when it comes to the artwork of the new album? Do people actually get the whole package, of course viewed from the outside of Watain?

- I am not sure what people "get" and what they don't get. All we can do is to make sure the visual side of things is as close to our vision as possible. As long as Watain exists we will always put a heavy emphasis on the visual side of things, simply because it is such an integral part of our being. And I really think that doing so benefits the totality of our expression immensely. Of course it means much more work and perhaps a greater demand of the creative impulse but then again Watain is a band strong enough to carry that extra weight.

You have recently done a tour in the States. Did the audience welcome the new songs in the setlist? To you in the band, is there really any major differences playing in front of this or that audience?

- So far we have done "De Profundis", "All That May Bleed", "Black Flames March", "Outlaw", "Sleepless Evil", "The Wild Hunt" and Holocaust Dawn from the new album. It has been like pouring gasoline to the fires, adding those songs to the setlists! It has given the whole concert scenario a lot more depth and diversity already. As far as crowd reactions go, it is very hard to say since there are so many factors to take into consideration. A crowd in Texas can be the greatest and most violent ever, but not on a Monday night in a place where the beers cost 10 dollars. All we can do is to make sure we give 110 % every night, just like any band who are passionate about what they do.

No rest for the wicked, of course, and you've just returned from down under before you tour Europe in March and April leading up to a much welcomed headline-gig on the Norwegian Inferno festival. I'm curious, when do you peak during a tour? After one month on the road, do you still have energy left to do the final gig on the tour in Oslo?

- Yes, we just came back from Australia and a tour there with the Mayhem boys, which was fucking killer! It is quite an explosive combination of bands, ha ha... Add some Sadistik Exekution and Destroyer 666 members in the backstage and you got a perfect setup for a splendid disaster!

So yeah, now there is the European tour coming up which we are doing with Degial. Degial is a perfect support band because they have that adolescent hunger and power that will only be a part of a band for so many years no matter how you twist and turn it, until a sharper and more iron like determination comes in and hopefully makes things even more interesting. So it will be us and them for about 30 dates, ending at Inferno. Usually the last shows of a tour are the best ones as far as I'm concerned, to me personally it is like a constant process of elevation and increasing madness until the very last day. Just like life itself!

You've played at Inferno earlier, now almost 7 years ago. Looking forward to play at a quite small indoor festival during Easter? Not the worst way to mark the death and rise of a certain JC. What can we look forward to, we who will show up and pay our tribute to the best liveband of them all?

- I think Inferno will be great! There's always been that ambivalence of Norwegian Black Metal fans towards Swedish bands of our kind, but it's come to a point now when I think they are a bit more welcoming and ready for us. We are going to deliver a full on Black Metal ceremony fueled by 30 days of touring before that, so it's going to be one to remember for sure...

Watain plays at Rockefeller Saturday 19th of April.

Roy K. K. Bakland

15 YEARS AS A METAL MERCHANT WOLF'S LAIR

THE NORWEGIAN METAL SHOP WOLF'S LAIR CELEBRATES 15 YEARS AS A METAL MERCHANT AT THIS YEAR'S INFERNO FESTIVAL. THE SHOP HAS BEEN A REGULAR VISITOR AT FESTIVAL FOR SEVERAL YEARS AND THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT YOU GOING TO SEE THEM AGAIN THIS YEAR. FOUNDER STIG ALKVIST TELLS US ABOUT THE STORY BEHIND WOLF'S LAIR.

It has passed 15 years since you initiated Wolf's Lair. What made you start your own store?

- I got the idea already in 1992, just because I thought there was a marked for a store like Wolf's Lair. But since things always take time the store did not see the light of day until 1999. The shop was called Wolff's Lair the first two years because of the name of my partner and girlfriend – so when we separated I changed it to the more easy Wolf's Lair.

You had some trouble with the Salvation Army. What happened there?

- I made a shirt with the print "Satanic Army" on the Salvation Army's logo for the Inferno Metal Festival 2003. It even got in the newspaper Aftenposten. So, this led to threats about a lawsuit, he he. I could not sell them anymore in Norway, so I sent them to other countries to be sold there.

What's the story behind the release of The

Satanic Bible in Norwegian?

- That idea actually came very early to me because Wolf's Lair used to focus a lot on occult literature. We got a lot of questions about the Satanic Bible and if it was available in Norwegian. So, in 2003 I got the copyright for it and my good friend "The Minister" Marius H. Huseby translated it. We released the book at Inferno in 2004.

In 2006 the shop was closed down, but you still continued Wolf's Lair by traveling to festivals all over Europe. Tell us what happened.

- There were many reasons for that. The marked was not that good anymore, the Internet took over more and more, and the competition with foreign shops was hard. The rent at Youngstorget in Oslo became much higher, so I decided to end it. I have been traveling around to festivals from the very start, even before Inferno started. The first festival I traveled to with Wolf's Lair was 1001 Watt in Skien. I also went to Wacken Open Air that year. We're speaking about the year 2000. Selling stuff at festivals has become a habit. I have met a lot of people on the road, and it is always fun to meet all the other salesmen at festivals, people that have become my friends over the years. I have much contact with them. I hope I will be able to travel to more festivals in 2014, like Wacken and Hellfest.

What has been your proudest moment by having a shop like Wolf's Lair?

- That's hard to answer. But when people tells to me they appreciate what I have been doing, it makes me proud. Or if not proud, at least very happy.

You have been selling at the Inferno with Wolf's Lair for many years. How has that been?

- There have been some ups and downs. I think things were better in the old days, but in the recent years it's become better. It seems like stuff with a certain nostalgic feel to it are more popular again. Just look at the vinyls that are back on the market once again. It will be exiting to see how things turn out for us this anniversary year.

For how long do you think you will be running Wolf's Lair?

- Nah, I have no clue. As long as my health and mood is good I'm gonna keep on doing what I do.

You can find Stig and Wolf's Lair at the Inferno Metal Festival 2014.

Runar Pettersen



Photo: Håkon Heaseth

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AS USUALLY INFERNO METAL FESTIVAL WILL HAVE A LARGE SELECTION OF TATTOO ARTISTS. SO IF YOU WANT SOME BODY ART CHECK OUT SOME OF THIS GREAT ARTIST AND STUDIOS THAT WILL BE FOUND AT INFERNO AND BOOK YOUR TIME NOW:

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Booking: blackshadowstattoos666@gmail.com

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