



An odd mix of guys between 22 and 41 years old who does not care one bit about age, at least doesn't see it as a problem. An odd mix of guys who have a great chemistry and appoint themselves Denmark's only real melodic power metal band. They are called Seven Thorns and speaking for the band on this occasion is guitarist and songwriter Gabriel Tuxen.

WRITTEN BY DANIEL KÄLLMALM
IMAGES: SEVEN THORNS PROMOTIONAL PHOTOS.
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An odd mix of guys between 22 and 41 who have different musical backgrounds and still a great chemistry between them.

Another thing about Seven Thorns is that they are the only real power metal band from

Denmark, well that is if we are to believe Gabriel Tuxen, the guitarist of Seven Thorns. According to him they all share a passion for passion for power metal so age is no problem there and why should it be?

Old School Power

Speaking of age, the band has some years under their belt ha-

ving started back in 1998, but it took them a while before they actually did something. "When the first full functioning line-up was ready, a single entitled Artificial Night was then recorded and released in 2005" Gabriel explains.

This single attracted quite a bit of attention and got some good reviews as well. In fact this song was actually nomi-

nated to a Danish metal award which according to Gabriel is something unusual for something that is not death metal or equally heavy.

There was material put together for an upcoming album but the band split up and the album was not released and it triggered Lars, the drummer and founder of the band to conduct an intense search for new musicians for the band amongst where Gabriel Tuxen also was found and four years and several replacement later they are here. "The band has been

reborn, we're still Seven Thorns but this is the new era of Seven Thorns" explains Gabriel.

Musically Gabriel Describes the band as melodic power metal in the style of, as he describes it, good old Helloween and Gamma Ray, but with a neoclassical style like Yngwie Malmsteen or Stratovarius. "We play power as it would/(should have) sound(ed) 15-20 years ago" Gabriel explains and believes they are a bit unusual of the scene as they are having a pure power metal sound which as he describes it is: "very 90s."

Return to the Past

This new offering from Seven Thorns goes under the name of Return to the Past and was released in January 2011. It came into being over a rather long period of time, they started recording back in January 2009 with a single containing two tracks which was just about all the material they had at that time. "We figured it would be best just to get something out and get ourselves promoted" Gabriel explains the why of this early recording of a small amount of music.



"We then began writing material and playing a few gigs once in a while and recording when new material was ready" says Gabriel and explains that the different thing about this album is that they didn't have much to chose from and according to the band they sat out then to write a killer album and wrote the nine tracks that are present on the album and that was it.

This album was then distributed through the american label Nightmare records and was released in the United States on November 23 2010 and in Eu-

rope on January 14 2011.

Extremely well, that is how the band describes the reception of *Return to the Past*, "We've had a lot of reviews and I'd say about 95% of them has been either positive or really positive" explains Gabriel. The Common criticism for this album has been according to Gabriel, that the band is playing typical 90s power metal and that they are lacking in originality. Something that Gabriel does not really agree with as they see bands like Helloween and the such as being the most original

in the genre at to sound a bit like them he thinks is more of a positive than a negative thing. As a side note we can also add that the Hallowed reviewer shares the opinion of the band sticking to the rules set up withing the genre.

Another side note to these comments on originality I think it is a good thing that the band see this as a compliment rather than criticism, after all it is more of what the band think than what critics think and if fans like it, it is even better.

Gabriel states that he is very

pleased with the album and points out all the skilled people who has been involved in the process of making it, "We've had some incredibly skillful people involved in the recordings including Peter Brander in Media Sound Studios and the mastering by Tommy Hansen. They have just made it sound better than we could have ever hoped for" he explains.

Liberty

An album contains of songs and some songs are usually better than others, so which is the favourite song of Gabriel? "My favorite track would probably be *End Of The Road* but I think it's hard to pick just one favorite track" he replies to that question.

One track mentioned in our review was the track *Liberty* which also feature a well-known guest in Olaf Lenk, guitarist of *At Vance*. In most of the promotion I have gotten about *Seven Thorns* his name has been mentioned and I think his presence is as much an attempt of marketing through a known name as it is something the band really wanted to give as an homage to a great musician. "Being a huge fan of *At Vance* I thought it would be cool to have the brilliant Olaf Lenk do a guest performance" explains Gabriel when I ask about that thing and



also adds that his performance fits in really well into the track and therefore they couldn't be happier.

The band also made a video for this track called *Liberty*, a video which Gabriel is very pleased with. It was made on a request from Canada and they also figured it would be nice to have something to put out on youtube as it is a very good pro-

motional platform for music.

This video was shot in the cellar of an incinerator plant on a really cold day in November. It was not all easy this process as their singer Eric had been hospitalised so the singing duties in the video was given to Mik, who besides Gabriel is the band's other songwriter. "We filmed the whole thing in one day, with a girl on a podium in



Useful places to visit in order to know more about the band:

<http://www.seventhorns.com>

<http://www.myspace.com/seventhorns>

http://www.hallowed.se/english/music/reviews/2011/seven_thorns-return_to_the_past.html

http://www.hallowed.se/svensk/musik/recensioner/2011/html/seven_thorns-return_to_the_past.html

And here are some information we added to avoid having a plain white page at the end.

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the background and everything (can't have a music video without babes!) and the result was great I think!" Gabriel explains.

Tour & end of the article

The band will go on a shorter tour in March, it will be ten shows on some prominent venues around Europe, "We'll be playing in Germany, Holland,

Czech Republic, Switzerland and Austria. We're really looking forward to hitting the roads and can't wait to go out and present the new album to the world!" says Gabriel and adds as a finalisation for this article: "If you like melodic metal and power but haven't had the chance of hearing the album, go to our website at seventhorns.com and give it a listen and check out the new video. You won't be

disappointed. METAL IS YOUR DESTINY!!"

According to own words, this band is Denmark's contribution to the melodic power metal so if you are curious as to how that may sound you can check out our review of them, in that you can also see the video of Liberty. Seven Thorns album Return to the Past is available now through Nightmare Records.