



VOICES OF DESTINY

Voices of Destiny, a fairly new female fronted melodic metal band with two albums in their discography. The band released their debut in 2010 but was founded back in 2004 by guitarist Christopher Gutjahr and bassist Jens Hartwig. They were shortly afterwards joined by Lukas Palme and Erik Seitz on keys and drums.

- In the beginning there had been another singer, but in 2005 they decided to part from her. At the end of the same year I asked to rehearse with the boys and since then we play music together.

That is explained by Maike Holzmänn, the band's vocalist who along with Lukas Palme who does the growls and plays the keyboards took their time answering our questions.

Voices of Destiny combine gothic and symphonic metal and Maike explains that they use heavy guitar riffing and constant interaction between Maike's clear soprano voice and Lukas' growls that form these contrasts that the band's music consists of. They do also use bombastic symphonic parts but not as excessive as with many of the other bands that use them.

Their musical influences are many different artists and bands but their main source of inspiration is life says Maike.

- Lots of our lyrics deal with everyday issues. We try to handle these things in our songs and give our

listeners the chance to do so as well.

Power Dive

Seen from the debut Lukas explains that he thinks the band has improved in every aspect of their music, from the composition, the lyrics, the instrumentation and the vocal use, every aspect is better. This can be heard on the new album that is called "Power Dive" which does not only show these mentioned improvements.

- "Power Dive" also turned out being more heavy and aggressive than "From the Ashes". My grim shouts are much more present and we reduced the orchestral lines a little bit to give more importance to the guitars. Maike put emphasis on singing even more emotional. On top of it all, we got this punching sound from the rhythm instruments that we somehow missed on our first record.

So, what about "Power Dive"? Maike explains a little about the songs and the themes on the album.

- All the songs on "Power Dive" were written for this album, except of *Red Winter's Snow I: Prophets of Doom*. That's also a song that contains a socio-critical

topic, whereas most of our other songs are about very daily themes as I already mentioned. Each song stands for itself, but can also be seen in a bigger context. On "Power Dive" many songs deal with themes like being abandoned or being rejected. That leads us to the next question.

Which is why the name "Power Dive" (which happens to be the name of the debut album by the band Gun Barrel)?

- As you might know the opener of the album is also called *Power Dive*. In the process of finding the album's name we quickly noted that the content of this song combines the idea of many other songs as well. Therefore we decided to name the album "Power Dive".

Maike also says that there

are many good songs on the album and that her current favourite song is *The Untouchable* which has a melody that sticks in her mind for days and she likes the vocal lines very much.

- *Dedication* is a very special song as well, concerning both the

lyrics and the instrumental arrangement.

When searching the net for reviews there have been

a bit of a mixed response, Mr

Dog hated the album and

gave it 3/5 which is the lowest

ratings he gives, all the ones with a rating of

seven steps I found shared our view, there were some average ratings and some really good ones so quite

a normal response that would point towards a rather good album if you average the ratings. Lukas explains that the band themselves are very pleased with the album.

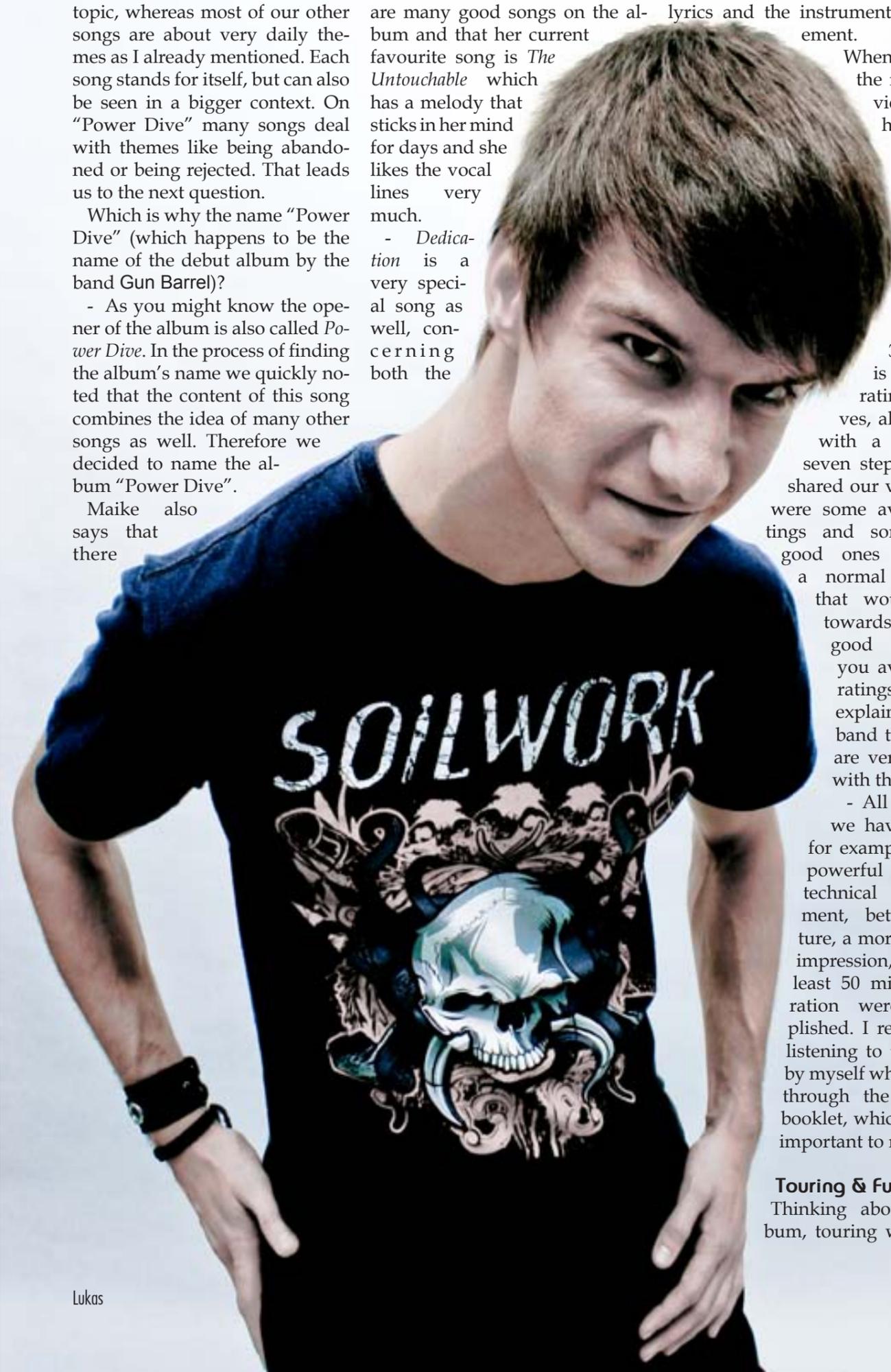
- All the goals we have set like for example a more powerful sound, technical improvement, better structure, a more compact impression, and at least 50 minutes duration were accomplished. I really enjoy listening to the album by myself while paging through the beautiful booklet, which is really important to me.

Touring & Future

Thinking about an album, touring was in the



Maike



Lukas

Chris



Jens



Eric



past something very important which is nowadays not even close to as important or at least as used and for Voices of Destiny no touring is planned as of yet but they are working on it says Maike and uses us to plant a little seed.

- We are trying to find a booking agency right now. Maybe someone reading this interview would like to support us?

Perhaps some of our readers are booking agents, or knows someone who is. But even though the band is not yet having anything planned in terms of tours, they might still be a decent live band and according to Lukas they are looking to write music that will

work well when performing live as well as on the record.

- You can tell from listening to our albums that we are not trying to make extremely technical music but rather strike a middle way between the technique and emotion. And that's what characterises our live-shows as well. On the one hand we try to play the music as sovereign as possible. On the other hand we want to transmit that message to the audience by presenting our songs with power and motion on stage.

Perhaps that is future prospect, to go on tours and something that is doable first when the band has managed to establish themselves

as a high quality band. According to Lukas their future looks rather good, "Power Dive" turned out even better than they had expected and with that in mind he believes that they might reach a bigger audience with their music. But they are not leaning back and are satisfied with what they've done so far, there is a new album coming someday and perhaps they might even be considering doing something completely different for such an upcoming album.

Thinking of reaching a bigger audience is one thing but to do such a thing one needs to stand out from the crowds, from the si-

milar bands and what sets Voices of Destiny apart from other Gothic Metal bands? Maike explains that they don't want to label themselves, so that's for us to do supposedly but they are labeled as Gothic metal in most medias I have seen and even though she doesn't want to label her band, Maike still replies.

- Probably it's the very aggressive and heavy sound and the focus on emotions that distinguishes us from other gothic metal bands. In the ends nothing but the love of music matters to us.

- We think it's important for musicians to make music they love. We love what we do and

hope you enjoy our second album "Power Dive" as much as we do!

That is a fitting ending to this article, the second album of Voices of Destiny, "Power Dive" is out now, be sure to check out our review of that album and visit the band's website if you want to know more about touring and other things regarding the band.

Useful web locations:
<http://is.gd/lGaf3w> - our review
<http://www.voices-of-destiny.de>

Voices of Destiny are:
Meike Holzmann - Vocals
Chris Gutjahr - Guitars
Lukas Palme - Keyboards
Jens Hartwig - Bass
Erik Seitz - Drums