



**Hej Daniel!
Hur mår du? Jag är
Norgahd av Wolf-
chant! (I hope that's
correct. My swedish
isn't the best so we bet-
ter continue in
english ;))**

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That is how the interview with Wolfchant begun on a cold winters night here in the confines of my small place here in the little village of Tandsbyn, the heartland of Paganity which of course is what Wolfchant is all about, Pagan Metal.

But I am getting ahead of myself now, Wolfchant is a Bavarian metal band who begun its journey in 2003.

- Lokhi, Skaahl, Gaahnt (former member) and me shared a rehearsal room with other musical projects we had back in 2003. After jamming around some time we decided to form Wolfchant. Norgahd explains.

The band is according to Norgahd a hobby and they have many fun with it, still it gets more and more successful all the time which is something that pleases the band but they still stay relaxed and make music because they like it and not for profit.

- If the metal machinery wouldn't be so complicated we would just call it "Metal" because we have so much influences but we know you have to be more precise so we call it officially "Epic Pagan Metal". Love the ever deeper categorisation of the music, I don't even call things metal as everything to me is rock but as Norgahd say, there are many people who like it to be so with Epic Pagan Meta or maybe even Epic Power Pagan Metal.

Pagan metal also fits well into the lyrical themes of the band

says Norgahd and adds that there themes are most of the time about nature, paganism and some anti-christian themes. In retrospect I wonder what the reply would be in case I had asked if they do not like people who is named Christian, it would seem a bit mean.

The music in itself is best described as a mixture between pagan/viking metal or death metal and power metal.

- This mix also stands out with the vocals. Lokhi is responsible for the screams while Nortwin

"First of all the metal spirit of course"

Norgahd on inspirations.

took over the clean vocals since our last album.

- First of all the metal spirit of course. Even if the feeling of being a metalhead becomes blurred these days unfortunately... is the answer to the question about what their inspirations are.

There are of course more than the metal spirit, Behemoth, Running Wild, Iced earth, Dissection, Manowar, Thyrfing, Mithotyn are bands that are mentioned as inspirations. Norgahd states that even though the band are inspired by other bands they try to have their own sound.

- Even if we try not to sound like another band and I think we manage that very well. At least Christianity which inspires us to write song texts which are worth to release for us.

Good thing about christianity, it does a lot of good for the world even though it, like all other religion are quite the strange thing to some people who kill in the name of the religion at the same time as it does good for others, religion is odd but very much liked in metal

it seems like.

The band is not founders of the Ragnaröck festival, that information stated in the promotional information for the new album is not correct, it is a mistake from the label. They play there often and are friends with the promoter Ivo Raab but have nothing to do with the organisation.

- We are involved in Walpurgis Metal Days which is one of the biggest metal Festivals in our area. It is an extreme metal festival from Thrash to Black Metal. This year Marduk, The Sorrow, Hatesphere and Asphyx will headline the Festival. It is always a load of work to do and it means a weekend without sleep but it is worth it. And I mean this non economic.

It seems like it is not to loose sleep over economy and such, in this case it is just a big party according to Norgahd.

- It's always a matter of what we want to say with the lyrics. Sometimes

german just sounds better because of the timbre of the language.

Sometimes english is the better choice. There is no schedule for how much

songs have to be in german or english. It happens randomly.

Call of the Black Winds

Call of the Black Winds is the latest and fourth of Wolfchant's albums, it sports a red cover and a newer and fresher sound as well as more bandmembers and a lot more.

- Wolfchant grew from 5 to 7 members with this album. Gvern took over the keys

and Nortwin took over the clean vocals, Norgahd explains.





- Both have been guest musicians on the last album but they haven't been so involved than they are now of course. Also our guitarist Derrmorh has gone to the USA and therefore left the band. Our new guitarist Ragnar took over the position.

The band took two steps with Call of the Black Winds, one back and one forward, the back step towards the first two albums which were more of the traditional Pagan Metal and the one forward with new power metal influences.

- I personally don't know a second band which mixes this both styles as we do it. Of course listeners which only like one sub-genre of metal won't be satisfied

with this mix but you cannot satisfy everyone and we don't even try to.

We do always try to please everyone with what we do here at hallowed.se, or not. I think it would be futile to do that and if you try it in music it will always result in rubbish according to the article writer who thinks he knows best. However you do always have to realise that fact when you write music or texts or whatever cultural, it is impossible to please everyone.

The writer did not enjoy the bands latest album before Call of the Black Winds, an album called Determined Damnation which was not a good album according to the review.

- Seems that much people share your opinion. I don't know why Determined Damnation was rated so middle class because still I think there are very good songs on this album but I also think that Call Of The Black Winds is a new level we reached, Norgahd explains.

He also adds that much of this can be explained by the fact that Determined Damnation was the first try to make music of this kind and that the songs on Call of the Black Winds are more grown up and well engineered than its predecessor.

- I would say Determined Damnation tried to be fast and traditional while Call Of The Black Winds is much heavier

and more into mid-tempo speed. Also the clean vocal amount rose, Norgahd explains the biggest differences between Call of the Black Winds and its predecessor. He also adds that Determined Damnation is not as coherent as Call of the Black Winds and that the latter sounds more like a complete album than the former.

New producer & touring

For Call of the Black Winds Wolfchant worked with producer Markus Stock (who has no relation to James Stock of the London Financial Times) who have worked with bands like The Vision Bleak. He has taken some of his sound into the sound of Wolchant, the heavy guitar sound for example is his doing. According to Norgahd this suits the band very well and is a completely different mix to Determined Damnation.

- The sound of the album is much more aggressive and simultaneously more professional than ever. I think he has done a very good job with this album.

Hallowed gave Call of the Black Winds a four out of seven which is a doubling of the rating from Determined Damnation. And generally it seems like the media has been positive to the band as most of the reviews the band have seen have been positive.

- We have received around 30-40 reviews so far. Only one didn't like it at all. Then there were around 5 middle class reviews. The rest were very good.

So it would seem like the me-

dia has been positive towards this album, the editor cannot help wondering if Hallowed was one of the five middle class reviews. However, the reviews are not everything, for the band the feedback of the fans is more important and so far this has been good.

"Only one didn't like it at all"

Not too many did not like Call of the Black Winds

- The e-mails we got made us very glad. Hopefully it goes on like it started now, Norgahd states.

- We will play different club and festival shows this year and maybe do a tour in late 2011. We all

are working or studying so touring isn't the easiest for us. We also proof an offer for a short us-tour currently. Let's see what time will bring.

That was the answer to the question about touring, the recommendation will have to be to check out their website to find out the latest on touring.

As is usual I also asked about a favourite and the answer was more or less as usual with no straight answer.

- I don't have a favorite song but I think "Call Of The Black Winds", "Naturgewalt" or "Heathen Rise" are very strong.

Time

The band started back in 2003 and now eight years later the bands fourth album Call of the Black Winds have just seen the light of day. But eight years is a rather long time and things have and have not changed within the camps of Wolfchant. The

working method is more or less the same according to Norgahd. However, they are more professional nowadays and Norgahd describes them as semi-professional at this stage and the opportunities they have got has given them the chance to evolve in their musical endeavours. It also increased their know-how about the business.

- But still we are friends which come together to make music and this is a very good thing I think.

In the new promotional information the band is also described as heavier than ever, something that Norgahd agrees with but adds that you should not muddle up heavy and aggressive as they are not at the fastest and dirtiest they have ever made. This more heavy sound is down to both songwriting and the fat mix that Markus (Stock) brought to the album.

- Thanks for reading this all! I hope you will enjoy our album "Call Of The Black Winds". Maybe we will make it to your beautiful country one day and enter a Swedish stage to party with you all! (if you are not in Sweden substitute Swedish to whatever nationality you have)

Keep the pagan flame burning!

From Norgahd and Wolfchant.

Remember that Call of the Black Winds is out now, you can buy it somewhere where records are sold. Be sure to check out our review when you are finished with this article.

Useful Links

www.wolfchant-metal.com/
www.myspace.com/wolfchant
www.massacre-records.de

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