



Coexistence the French-Swedish band released their second album in the last stages of the year 2016 and that proved to be one of the highlights of that year. Everlasting Scars is what they call the new album and Hallowed got the chance to ask the band things about that album and some other things. Guitarist Greg and vocalist Carl answered the questions that began with questions about the new album.

coexistence

WRITTEN BY DANIEL KÄLLMALM
PHOTOS: COEXISTENCE PRESS
PUBLISHED ON 2017-02-13

"Everlasting Scars" happens to be the second chapter in the story of *Coexistence*, according to Greg and introspective album that deals with human struggles. - Each song is different but they all relate to a main theme: How do we learn to live with those "scars", those demons that can tear us apart? How can we eventually rise up and accept who we are? Musically it is a continuation of what we started with the first album, but I guess with a more melodic approach and a bit more progressive as well

- I would also like to add that I think "Everlasting Scars" really represents and defines what *Coexistence* is all about. We wanted to write an album that could really inspire people to believe more in themselves, even if it sometimes can be really hard. You are never alone, and there is al-

ways light at the end of the tunnel, adds Carl.

A continuation from what they did on their first album "Flow", Greg claims that they have been aiming to make memorable choruses.

- We wanted to make sure that every chorus was strong and

catchy enough. That was one of the things we wanted to improve on. I think the band has evolved and matured a lot in between "Flow" and "Everlasting Scars", and you can hear that.

Greg also points out that they have been going for a more natural

sound in the production, to make it sound less processed than its predecessor, to give the elements of the sound more space to be heard and he thinks they have been successful in that regard. Carl agrees that they have evolved as songwriter and points out that he prefers the new album compared with the predecessor, that it really represents them as a band.

- The album is stronger and the song writing is cleverer. Personally, I think the album is more interesting than our first al-

bum... Still "Flow" will of course always have a special place in our hearts.

Greg describes the album as a better representation of the band "Coexistence" than "Flow" was, as the entire band was more involved in the creation of the songs than on the previous album. And that leads them to think of the song writing as more fluid and organic than before.

- I'm always the main writer, but we got to jam more with the rest of the band and then work on the arrangements together. Florent (bass) and Jérémy (drums) were not even in the band when we wrote the songs for "Flow". As for the lyrics, Carl and I sat down together and wrote most of the lyrics together in the same room, something we didn't do for "Flow", since most of the writing was done separately.

And the songs were written over a longer period of time, five years passed between the releases and Carl agrees with Greg about how they have evolved over those years and that they needed to work in that way for the concept to work and that they will probably work that way in the future.

- We will work in the same way with our third album as well. So, I would definitely say that through the years, we have never stopped evolving as songwriters, which is very exciting.

The album title is connected to the theme of the album and when they wrote a text line the title just stood out for them.



- It had to be that title... There was no other way around it. I think it summarizes the whole vibe of the album really well, and it sounds cool.

According to Greg and Carl agrees and adds that all the songs could have had that title name and he thinks that is pretty cool, as does the article writer.

Reactions and tours

Hallowed did write a very positive review and this article writer even had it on his top ten list over the albums from 2016, but what about other reviews? According to Carl the album has been well received by both fans and media, a brief search on the interweb didn't reveal much to me but the few reviews I have read seem to be on the same page as our review.

- The first reviews we've had have been really good, and we are very pleased and happy to hear that people seem to love the album.

And they are very happy with the reactions from fans and media, having not been sure that fans would still take to them considering the time since "Flow" and that it is different compared with that album. But they are pleased and happy to see that people seem to love their new album. A Great album that no fan of progressive metal should overlook was written about this album in Hallowed. The favourite song in our review was *What it Takes*, but what about the band.

- *Bring Me Home* is my favorite song, by far. This is a very special song for us, and one that we feel very proud of. Says Greg.

- *Bring Me Home* without a doubt. I do love *What it Takes* and *When the Fire is Rising* as well. Says Carl.

Besides stunning music, the "Everlasting Scars" album has a stunning artwork made by

French artist Alexandre Bonvalot who have done all the artworks for *Coexistence*. Greg explains that they are very pleased with what he came up with.

- He is part of *Coexistence* in a way! He's such a brilliant artist and always comes up with great ideas and fantastic visuals. I explained to him the whole theme of the album and gave him an idea of what we wanted the cover to look like, and he went with it. I was blown away when I saw the final result.

And Carl agrees with what Greg said. And while on the theme of fans and visuals, what about touring? Is that in the cards for *Coexistence*, will the fans get to hear the songs of "Everlasting Scars" from a stage somewhere near. Well, if you live in places near the places of significance for the band according to Carl you just might.

- Yes, our aim is of course to play even more live now with the new album out and all. We will probably start playing down in South of France, where most of the guys in the band are based. Then we'll hopefully do a couple of shows in Sweden, where I'm from, and maybe a few more shows around in Scandinavia. We hope to bring the band to London as well, where I'm based these days. It's exciting times for the band.

The future

The immediate future could hold some live shows and that sort of thing, promotion and what have you? But it is not only touring, the band is already hard at work on a new album that is supposed to be something grand. Greg says that he hopes that they will be able to release the new album next year and that they will play more live while Carl imagines something like an acoustic EP later this year.

- The third album is a BIG pro-

ject, so it will definitely take some time to finish it, but we hope we can release it next year as Greg said. We have another plan to maybe release another EP this year, with some acoustic material. But we'll see what happens.

And to be up to speed with what happens next you will have to check out the band's Facebook page or if they decide to post news to our news site. And with that we thank Carl and Greg for taking the time to answer our questions and recommend that you have a look at this album on the band's bandcamp site. The final words we leave to Greg.

- Thanks for reading this interview! We hope you will check out our music and enjoy it.

Links and info

Coexistence are:

Grégory Giraudo - Guitars & Backing Vocals

Carl Lindquist - Vocals

Florent Poulhès - Bass

Jérémy Vannereau - Drums

Our review of Flow

Our review of Everlasting Scars

Coexistence bandcamp

