



SIAMESE: FIGHTING: FISH
BREATHE: SEE: MOVE

Siamese Fighting Fish, admittedly a silly name for a band, are a danish alternative rock band that fell into favour with our reviewer and was reviewed very favourable. Therefore we had the fortune to speak with Andreas Krüger, the guitar player of the band. And we asked many questions, enough for me to compile this little article. Why Siamese Fighting Fish, what is the story behind the name? Read on and you shall find out.



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- It's a silly name isn't it?

Asks Andreas and laughs and maybe it is, I kind of like the name though as it is mysterious and the species of fish called **Siamese Fighting Fish** is a bit of a contradiction and that contradiction is

one of the reason for this band calling themselves that.

- Well, the species of the siamese fighting fish is one of the most aggressive animals in the world. And at the same time it's one of the most colourful and beautiful creatures there is. We try to create big contrasts in our music with dynamics and moods. So we thought the qualities of the sia-

mese fighting fish was something you could relate to our music, and it was a good metaphor.

A good metaphor it is but Andreas says that if anyone would have suggested that name for a newly formed band these days they would have laughed their asses off thinking it would be a silly name perhaps.

There were some turbulence

early on with some changes of members and so on and Andreas was not one of the earlier members of the band.

- Morten (bass) and our previous drummer actually started the band with another singer and guitarist. They entered some kind of a band competition, but got Mirza (vocals) in the band just before they actually won the whole

thing.

- After that the guitarist left the band and they got Rasmus on guitar along with another guy. They eventually decided to do something completely new with the band.

The other guitarist had to go, and that's when I joined the band along with Jonas, our first violinist, and we immediately started

writing our first album. After a lot of touring Jonas had to leave the band and we were so fortunate to know Christian (violin) who joined when we were writing the second album. Recently Joakim (drums) joined the band, and here we are... It's been quite a process getting this constellation together and we're really happy with the way it has turned out.

So it would seem, that it has been a long process to get to where they are today, and where they are today is what? How would one describe Siamese Fighting Fish in one word?

- Damn, that's hard.... 'Energetic' i think.

And that energetic sound comes from a racket of inspirations, the band is inspired by a lot of different things, everything from hip hop, R'n'B and such things. According to Andreas a cool track is a cool track no matter the genre, I guess he is right about that but what inspires the band?

- Almost everything. Everyone in the band has a very broad taste in music, and we are all so different as individuals.

The sound of Siamese Fighting Fish is varying from album to album, they change and they evolve. And there are many things that can be said about the sound of this band, according to Andreas many different words can be said about it and he says it with a touch of laughter.

- Energetic, melodic, aggressive, ambient, rhythmic, happy, sad, big, wacky, funky, catchy, crazy.... Schizophrenic i guess.

Breathe:See:Move

The band won the Gaffa Award for best hard rock album for their latest work "Breathe:See:Move" that was released a long while ago in Denmark and they also charted top ten in their native list, Denmark. What does such things mean to an up and coming band, one consequence is of course that they are no longer an underground band, but what else?

- I think I can speak for everyone in the band when I say that night was one of the best nights of our lives. Right after we won we actually got so drunk that we lost the award itself (laughs). After a lot of phone calls we found out who had the trophy and we

got it back. Winning the award, being on national television and placing on the danish album chart has of course meant a lot to the band. Much more people know about our band, and we're being taken more seriously now that we're not so underground anymore. It's especially nice to get some more recognition from our friends. I guess we're still not quite aware of what a difference it has made. But we're still doing everything as we're used to. Touring and so on.

It is quite clear that the album has been successful in their homeland, but what about the international scene? Andreas hopes that it will be, the scene in Denmark is very small he says and that would appear to mean that there would be bigger potential in those countries. They are excited about the reception of this album abroad and about what it could trigger. The reviews so far has been amazing according to Andreas.

- We've gotten so many kind words and reviews. And even higher ratings on the second album, so that's really satisfying. The reception from the danish media has been really good too, but the biggest praise has come from magazines abroad.

Speaking of the first album, how does the new album compare to the debut?

- The first album was made by a band coming together. We became a band in the writing and recording process. An insane amount of ideas and opinions was thrown back and forth during the whole process, and we wanted to get everything on the record. This time around we are much more on the same page as musicians and composers.

- It's all about what serves the song. So it has been a lot more about producing the songs and picking the right melodies and

parts. If you can't 'kill your darlings' it's hard to work as a band.

If you can't 'kill your darlings' it's hard to work as a band he says, why don't all band think like that? But this has apparently worked judging by the reception, the album was also quicker and more fun to record. And the favourite song of course varies between the members of the band and due to the diversity also between reviewers.

- If I were to pick a favourite song, i think *A Liar Cried Wolf* would be it. I'm really proud of that tune.

They are satisfied with "Breathe:See:Move", it is better than the debut according to Andreas who says that it is nice to hear the progress the band has made from the debut. But he says laughingly that the band can do better than that now.

- Your albums are snapshots of where you were as a band at that time. Hopefully the third album will dwarf "Breathe:See:Move".

If that is true, then we would be in for a real treat with that third album.

Touring & Future

The band did a fairly extensive tour following their debut album, a tour that took them to other nations. Andreas says that an international tour could be very plausible, signs are promising for such a thing. As for the location, more is better.

- We would like to visit as many places as possible. Germany for sure, because it has such a big market for music. And rock music especially. But we absolutely love being on tour and we'd love to play any place where people would enjoy our music. I think the coolest place to play would be at a big festival. It's always been our big dream to play all the big festivals. The atmosphere is just amazing and people at festivals





are always there to have a good time and see some good concerts. OR the playboy mansion....that would be pretty rad too (laughs).

And the Fighting Fish as a live band is something to see, at least if we are to believe what Andreas says. We can expect an energetic band that gives their best to have

fun on the stage.

- What is more fun than destroying yourself on a stage to some music you love?

We've had some insane things happen to us while on stage! And the people that come to our shows are absolutely out of their minds! Haha, it's awesome!

So while you wait for that brilliant sequel you may expect some shows somewhere near you, hopefully. And then, what about this sequel? It is already in the works and according to Andreas it is going to be really good.

- It's a very new and different sound, but it's still Siamese. It's

been amazing to hear the songs actually working in the practice room. I'm really really excited about the new stuff, and can't wait to finish the songs, play them live and hit the studio.

And the writing mode of this new album what occupies the near future for Siamese Fighting

Fish.

- We have a few shows here in Denmark, but we are really in writing mode right now.

So there are things to look forward to, a new album, maybe some international touring and such things. And with that we thank Andreas Krüger for taking

his time to answer our questions and he thanks you for the time and attention and hopes to see you out there somewhere. Siamese Fighting Fish's "Breathe:See:Move" is out now and comes highly recommended by Hallowed.