

ELYSION

From Greece hails this female fronted metal band who released their debut album called *Silent Scream* just before Christmas last year. This was a record that I liked quite a bit with its interesting metal with a nice sense of flow and quite a bit of energy. *Hallowed.se* received the opportunity to speak with the band, Female singer *Christianna* and guitarist *Johnny Zero* were the ones who answered what questions I had. And just for the record, the record is actually named *Silent Scr3am* and not *Silent Scream* as yours truly write all the time.

Talent and beauty

ElySION are as I already stated a real newcomer to the record releasing crowds of metal bands having released their debut less than a year ago. I was a bit curious about this band and asked them a little about them, this is what *Christianna* said, well after thanking me for the interest she said this:

- ElySION were founded in 2006 by *Johnny Zero* and ElySION's former singer *Maxi Nil*, who then invited friends they considered to be very talented musicians to join them in what they hoped to be an ambitious and beautiful plan. The chemistry worked perfectly and that was just the beginning, today the will to make our dream come true is stronger than ever... apart from myself and our guitarist and composer *Johnny Zero*, ElySION are *Petros Fatis* (drums) and *FxF*, our bass player.

These four musicians all hail from Greece and as always I am curious to know about how the scene looks in different countries,

maybe just to compare it with what we have but maybe also just to get a glimpse about how the metal scene looks in other places. Already I have learned about the scene in many places. *Johnny Zero*, the guitarist and composer explains that the scene is getting a bit crowded and that the competition is hardening.

- This is a good thing because it's very beneficial for the Greek scene to see the standards improving, *Johnny* begins. I am proud to see talented bands hitting the international scene. After "*Rotting Christ*", "*Septicflesh*" and "*Firewind*" there now seems to be quite of an activity going on in Greece, he continues.

Johnny Zero also points out that there are some difficulties to overcome but he says he is a romantic thinker and maybe you have to be that if you make music like ElySION.

- I Believe that whatever the difficulties, there will always be space for beautiful works and talented people.

Silent Scr3am

The band released their debut on the eighteenth of december last year, a very nice christmas gift for all of us who like good music. *Christianna* explains a little over this debut album.

- Well, although there is no such thing as a "strict" concept, we feel that there is one strong atmosphere behind *Silent Scr3am* and this is prominent in every song of the album, she explains.

- Our songs combine a variety of different elements and music influences, our overall mood is always a somewhat romantic view of our feelings and dreams, making it very easy for anyone to relate to our lyrics and emotions revealed. "*Silent Scr3am*" is what each of us would like to whisper, sing or cry out to life, hoping to be heard.

This atmosphere and these different elements can often be attributed to a good producer, ElySION has managed to bring a well-known producer into the work with creating this debut al-

bum. This producer is called *Mark Adrian* and he is according to *Johnny* one of the best producers in Europe and they are very lucky to work with him as his contribution to the outcome of the sound of this record was major.

- He is also gifted when it comes to knowing how to bring the best out of all musicians he works with, *Johnny* points out. He did an amazing job throughout all recording and mixing of *Silent Scr3am* and provided *Ted Jensen* with a wonderful platform to be able to easily work on and



master the album, *Johnny* continues.

Ted Jansen would be a rather known name in musical circles he has clients like *Madonna*, *Evanescence*, *Iron Maiden*, *Slipknot*, *Nickelback*, *Korn* and *Marilyn Manson* which would be considered some rather well-known names in the business. And he didn't disappoint according to *Christianna*.

- It was really important to us that our debut album sounds exactly what we had dreamt it would and *Ted* was a definite guarantee and he came up with a crystal clear, sharp and clean powerful sound which helps you focus on the beauty of the songs rather than the production itself.

This was a goal of the band to have a totally balanced production that could easily flow into the heart of the listener according to *Christianna*. With a list of such name of this masterers name one could easily start wondering why he would master an album for a newcomer band from Greece, well this is what *Christianna* says:

- Working with one of the top sound engineers of the industry, who among countless others has mastered *Iron Mai-*



den, Evanescence, Madonna, Nickelback, Slipknot, Marilyn Manson was a huge honour and opportunity. Over the years we have been very impressed by Jensen' work, since it has contributed so much to the sound of many of our favourite bands and artists so we totally trusted him to do whatever he thought best with our music, and of course he did. We are deeply grateful that someone of his talent got interested in our work and provided us with the sound we had prayed for!

So you see, the band clearly had the right tools for the job at hand and this reviewer at least gave this album a good rating but how about other feedback. How has it looked? Does people like ElySION's debut album? When I ask about this Johnny becomes very enthusiastic and states that everything has been amazing this far, still the album has been out

for less then a month yet (little over when this is published) and he mostly is thankful for all the support.

- We cannot thank everyone enough for embracing us, he states and points out that: - even in these days when competition has reached extreme levels, a good work can always be appreciated.

"Silent Scr3am is what each of us would like to whisper, sing or cry out to life, hoping to be heard."

Which of course is totally correct, a good work should always be appreciated. Something I always tend to wonder when I hear any album is whether or not the band are pleased with the album, after all that is actually the main thing in making music or anything artistic that you, the creator are pleased with what you have

done. So, are ElySION pleased with Silent Scream?

- We are more than pleased, Christianna explains and goes on to point out other important people they have cooperated with: - Apart from our producers, Seth Siro Anton(Moonspell, Paradise Lost, Exodus, Soilwork, Septic Flesh) and Natalie Shau (Lacuna Coil, Poison Black, The Duskfall) who are responsible for the album's cover and inlay. Overall, we believe we are letting out a strong, powerful and very up-to-date album.

And don't we all love a good parable? Here's one anyway:

- Silent Scr3am to me is a fluid ray of light sneaking into a dark room, Christianna says.

And from that we move to the next item on the list which is touring.

Touring

Many artist see touring as maybe

ELYSION

the most important thing about making music and holds the process of touring and standing on the stage as the best in the business of making music. ElySION doesn't seem to be much of an exception to that rule and they already have big plans for touring which is something they definitely will be doing. As a matter of fact the touring thing is their top priority at the moment and when asked about where this touring will take place Johnny seems not to know that much at all yet.

- We will try our best to cover as more places as possible, he explains, starting from Europe and hopefully America right after.

This however, is something that is a bit forward in time.

- This is probably not going to start before the second half of 2010, Johnny explains, as in these first months we have planned to tour Greece and thereby honor our homeland for all the great

support before we make our moves outside the borders.

That seems to be a rather clever approach especially if their music has been doing well in the home country. According to Johnny we will probably not have to wait for too long before we get to know the plans of the band.

- We expect our full schedule to be announced soon... he explains. - We cannot wait for all this to happen, nothing can be compared to playing live! The energy of a live show is what makes all efforts musicians make worth, it is the people I see when I am up on the stage who make the magic happen, it is in their eyes that we find our true reward for what we do and I cannot explain how thankful ElySION are for this reward. Right now we are all full of energy and ready to make everyone scream, not silently, but really really loud!

And with that there is really

time to round this off, Johnny and Christianna get the final word here, this is in choir:

- We would like to thank everyone for their support and invite you all to listen to Silent Scr3am and hopefully find something beautiful in it. We keep our fingers crossed that we get to see you all in a show the soonest possible! Happy New Year to everyone!

Useful links

www.elysionofficial.com/
<http://www.myspace.com/elysionmyspace>
<http://www.hallowed.se/music/readwrite/reviews/elysion.html>

Article by Daniel Källmalm
 Photos by Massacre promotion, photographers noted on images

Article written on 25/1-2010
 Interview in January 2010

ELYSION