



Majesty are back! That statement was said in a newsmail to me quite some time ago stating that german "true metallers" of Majesty was back again, the band had reformed. Thing is though that the band never really left, never really disbanded, they just decided to stop and reform as Metalforce. Tarek "MS" Maghary answered a few questions of ours about this new album and their reformation.

As **Metalforce** they did release one self titled album as **Metal Force** in 2008 but now they are once again **Majesty** which should also be pointed out that they have no relation to **Dream Theater** who of course was named **Majesty** in the early stages of their career before the release of their debut in 1989 but changed their name due to being threatened by legal action from a Las Vegas band named **Majesty**, that legal action however had nothing to do with this band's name change. The fact is that it is a move that Tarek himself questions these days.

- That is a good question and the problem is, that I don't even know the exact answer myself. At the time we stopped **Majesty** it felt right to start a new band but we honestly felt very shortly after that, that we miss the magic and the feeling of **Majesty** and therefore it was a kind of logic decision to bring back that magic and return as **Majesty**.

At the time of the name changed Tarek stated that there was no basis for the band to continue their creative work as **Majesty** anymore, he also said that the name came to him in a dream. They did change their name ahead of a show at the "Magic Circle festival" where they announced their name change, something that Tarek describes as this:

- This new band will exactly do what also was the essence of **Majesty**, but even bigger and more powerful. The first gig on the "Magic Circle Festival" 2008 already filled me up with pride as I looked into the eyes of ten thousands of fans who encouraged us in our decision.

A commenter to the article where I found this statement ho-

wever said that this statement was rubbish and that the band was just wanting to be **Manowar** etcetera, etcetera while another commenter said that they kicked

ass so the praise for the name change was not unanimous and in retrospect Tarek gives the critics right as they eventually decided to changed it all back.



Own the Crown

'Own the Crown' is what the comeback album of Majesty is called, it is a massive release with a load of songs from the band's

career but also some new songs and some new recordings of older songs, so it isn't just a regular Best of album. It is a 2-CD collection that sells to the price of a

single CD and it has something for everyone Tarek explains.

- It shows what the band stands for. People who haven't heard too much from the band before have a good collection of all our greatest hits on the first CD in the package and the fans who already have all our albums get a lot of specials and new songs on the second CD.

As previously touched upon the album contains some new recording, some re-recordings of old songs, which is the first taste of the new and returned Majesty. According to Tarek it was lots of fun recording these old songs like *Snow on the Mountains* from their first demo and also to record the new songs which are not an early taste of what the band will be bringing on an upcoming album.

- We exclusively did them for 'Own The Crown' but we already wrote and recorded most of the songs for the upcoming studio album.

Like the "true metal" guy he is Tarek states that he cannot pick a favourite song or a best moment of the 'Own the Crown' album.

- I think that 'Own The Crown' has a lot of magic moments and I can't just pick one of them. The first disc is like the setlist of one of our shows and has something out of every era. Of course really love the title track because it shows everybody that we are ready to strike again.

So, speaking of "true metal" which is what these guys are described as in the press information, what is it really? and how does it differ from regular heavy metal? Tarek explains what he thinks it is:

- For us we play Heavy Metal because we are considering it as a way to live and not just a kind of music. I think, that is what the word "True" stands for. We don't play the music to make money or because it is a popular trend, we



play it because we love it and dedicated our lives to it.

Speaking of dedication, Tarek wrote special liner notes for all tracks on this album, all 27 which would seem to be quite a big thing to do but according to Tarek himself it was not hard at all to come up with things to say about the tracks.

- No, that was actually very easy. I just listened to the songs and wrote down what I felt in that moment. As I said before,

for us it is more than music, it is a way to live and so all the songs are an important part of my life.

Reactions and New Album

Tarek states himself to be very pleased with this album and everything about, but what about the reaction from the fans and the media. Hallowed was positive to this album, not overly so but still positive and there is some foul language in the review as well which is great. Other reviews

around the web has for a change been more positive than our's, or was it the other way round? yes it was. So the reception from reviewers has been rather good I would surmise and that is something that Tarek seems to have noticed as well.

- The reactions so far were great. I think that is due to the fact that 'Own The Crown' is not just a regular Best Of CD but also a special collection of rare stuff plus new recorded material. I

think everybody is more than happy with it and everybody is hungry for a new studio album now.

Speaking of a new studio album, when will we see that?

- Very soon, we hope that we can release the new album in spring 2012 already and I can already tell you, that it will kick some fucking ass and we can't wait to release it. It is pure Heavy Metal and reflects everything Majesty stands for.

The press has been happy but what about the fans? How has the reaction been to the new works by a revived Majesty? Tarek has seen lots of positive response from the fans in emails and letters.

- We received so many letters and emails from fans who told us, that they missed an important part in their lives while Majesty was gone and that part is back now. On the comeback concert we did for 'Own The Crown' I

looked in so many happy faces and the fans sang along with every song. It was just magic.

Majesty Live and Ending

We ended the last part with a short note from a live show, but what about touring for the album? Will anything like that be done? Tarek says they are already touring and that you should visit their website at <http://www.majesty-metal.de> to learn more about where they are coming. I did so but did

not find any upcoming shows on the band's site but they might be done with what they had as it took me a while to manage to write this article so stay updated by visiting the band's website.

It will be worth looking into this information as this is not just a good live band, you will get much more than that when visiting the band's live shows. That is at least if we are to believe Tarek's opinion which I cannot comment on as I have never seen the band live but this is what Tarek says:

- No, we are not a good live band... we are a fucking great live band. I don't want to sound to bigheaded so if you don't believe me, you should come to one of our shows to witness the might metal storm yourself.

At least the band has confidence in their music and their performances, so naturally they do believe in a bright future for the band. They are ready to play as many shows as they just possibly can in order to prove to the world that they 'Own the Crown' as they say themselves.

We here at Hallowed of course wish them the best of luck in those endeavours and also conveys a big thank you for the time taken to answer our questions. 'Own the Crown' is out since september and is a massive collection of 27 songs from Majesty's career, and with new tracks you might all find something to entertain you. And with that I just leave the final words to Tarek.

- I hope that we see you on the road and that you all in the meantime enjoy 'Own The Crow'n.



Majesty Discography:
Keep It True (2000)
Sword & Sorcery (2002)
Reign In Glory (2003)
Metal Law (live album, 2004)
Hellforces (2006)
Metalforce (2009)
Own the Crown (2CD, 2011)

Majesty are:
Tarek Magharý - vocals, keyboards
Tristan Visser - guitar
Freddy Schartl - bass guitar
Jan Raddatz - drums

<http://www.majesty-metal.de>
Hallowed Own the Crown review (link)