

Nachtgeschrei

Here follows some Questions and answers for German greats Nachtgeschrei, be sure to also read our review

Could you please describe Nachtgeschrei to the uninitiated listener?

- Nachtgeschrei is a seven-piece medieval-folk-metal band from Frankfurt/Germany. We blend archaic instruments like bagpipes, hurdy-gurdy, flutes and so on with a full on amplified rock/metal band, combining beautiful folky melodies with the raw power of rock. Check it out on myspace.com/nachtgeschrei- it really rocks!

What are your inspirations?

- That's hard to say- we have like four or five songwriters and three guys who write lyrics, so everyone has his own approach to it. Inspiration can be found nearly everywhere, in our experiences, movies, books, nature-everywhere. Some things simply inspire you, some don't.. Hotti's lyrics are very emotional, based on his singer songwriter background, and deal with his personal experiences and feelings, Sane claims he just writes down what comes to his mind (it's amazing poetry, nevertheless) and I'm the weird one who has read all the books and runs around in the woods.

Where do you find inspiration to write the music you write?

- Speaking of the music, I think our greatest influences are we, ourselves and our different backgrounds. Some of us played folk

music for years, some rock or metal, some even singer-songwriter or alternative things. So we take all these influences, and all the different instruments and combine them. Basically, we just do what we feel good with.

Why did you choose to write lyrics in German instead of English?

- We feel that German, as our native language gives us more possibilities to express ourselves, as well as a feeling of integrity. Nachtgeschrei is a very natural, organic thing and Hotti just feels at home with German lyrics. Perhaps we will one day make an English song, but we have no such plans at the moment- of course it's never say die. If we feel like it, we will do it or at least try.

Do you think the choice of language will make it more difficult for you to reach a bigger audience in other nations?

- Well, I wouldn't put it that way. But actually I think that German suits our music very well and adds perhaps a bit of archaic dark-ages though or exotic appeal to it. Some weeks ago we've been to the Netherlands for two concerts and it was just great. I tend to think that you don't have to understand the lyrics to enjoy the music, they just add and extra feel to it- but it would certainly be interesting to know what people who don't speak German think it is we sing about.

Could you please describe Am Rande der

Welt?

- Oh my, this is going to be difficult... let's start with some facts: "Am Rande der Welt" (which translates to "At the edge of the world") is our second album, recorded in fall/winter 2008, released march 20th 2009 by Massacre-Records. The edge of the world is a strange thing- it frightens you and yet you want to go there. It is perhaps a place of revelations but without comfort. It's an edge, a place where we go but cannot reside- perhaps that captures a bit of the feeling that this release has for us.

- I would consider it our very own interpretation of medieval/folk-metal- expect beautiful melodies, a modern and heavy production and a band that just likes to rock.

- We got Travis Smith (who did the amazing artworks of Opeth, Amorphis and the likes of) to do the artwork, which was a wish we had in mind for quite some time- we are all very glad with this release and hope you guys will like it to.

What is the biggest difference between Am Rande der Welt and Hoffnungsschimmer?

- I think "Am Rande der Welt" sounds fresher, heavier and more straightforward. It is perhaps more melancholic and gloomier and less playful than "Hoffnungsschimmer" was, but it still has all those folky melodies and archaic instruments. The production and sound is way better than on "Hoffnungsschim-



mer", with more care for small details, yet a modern and heavy sound.

Do you have any favourite track on the record?

- That's a different one. It's like asking a father which of his kids he likes most- they're all great, adorable bastards.

How has the album been received by fans/media?

- Generally good, I would say. We got some very good reviews and know our fan love the new songs- just as we do.

How about touring, will you play anywhere but Germany to promote the record?

- Well, the album is out since march 20th, so we already did a lot of concerts in the mean time. Since we can't live from our music all of us either work or study which makes touring a bit difficult. Two weeks ago, we came

back from the Netherlands, where we played for the first (but hopefully not last) time, so there will be concerts outside Germany, but only a few at the moment (although we -- of course -- would like to play literally everywhere).

Speaking of touring, if you could dream, which band would you like to go on tour with?

- Ha, I'm sure at least three of us would say Metallica. Speaking for myself, I don't really know. I never thought about it, sorry. But there are some bands we met along the way that made me think it must be fun to tour with these guys.

Which would be the most interesting place to play?

- I always wanted to play open air at the seaside. That's one thing that actually never really happened to us. But it's always never say die, right?

Any favourite tour memory?

- Hm, everyone enjoys different aspects of touring. I could go on and tell you some rock and roll stories about parties, girls and booze but actually I enjoy the quite moments most. I think my favourite memory of touring (not concerts) this year was a lazy day in May, after a concert, where we went up a mountain together, just relaxed and enjoyed friendship and the wonderful nature (since we're some lazy fuckers and were more-or-less hung over we went up there by cable-car)- generally I like the travelling part of touring very much.

Anything else to say to our readers?

- Cheers to all at Hallowed and all those crazy guys out there! Thanks for the interview hope to see all of you at concert or festival. Until then, check out nachtgeschrei.de or listen to some songs at our myspace..

visit www.myspace.com/nachtgeschrei