

# ELDRITCH



The story of Eldritch begun in 1989, with a song called The Eldritch by a band called Watchtower. The Italian band was born in 1991 and that song was probably a favourite according to some sources on the web. In that Italian band was, and still is, Terence Holler who is the terrific vocalist of the band and who was kind enough to answer the questions this writer asked.



WRITTEN BY DANIEL KÄLLMALM  
PHOTOS: ELDRITCH PRESS PHOTOS  
PUBLISHED ON 2014-02-23

Constantly evolving, Eldritch has impressed reviewers and fans for many years, over twenty to be exact and as Holler states each release has been a bit different from the previous. They have now released nine album since the debut

in 1995 and the one thing these albums have in common is that they are a bit uncommon, uncommon progressive metal.

But that is not all, a common line throughout all the Eldritch music is the darkness. As Holler states: Eldritch is Eldritch.

- Our sound is different than the other progressive metal bands around. Our sound has a

lot of thrashy riffs, hard rock vocals, electronic inserts and piano arrangements but everything is quite dark-mooded.

Holler explained that they have many influences and as we all know influences can change over time so what are the inspirations of Eldritch and have they changed over the two decades the band has been around? The musical

influences hasn't changed according to Holler as the new era of music is not as good as the 80s and 90s was.

- We grew up listening to bands such as Fates Warning, Annihilator, Coroner, Queensryche, Metallica, Machine Head and some hard rock bands like Europe, Bad English, Skid Row, Bon Jovi, Kiss and Guns'n' Roses. Some of

us in the band listen to more extreme stuff like the Swedish and northern European black and death metal and some of us listen to pop or classical music. To be honest we never really changed our influences in music.

Many band names there, by the sound of things we have a melting pot of influences boiling into something quite atypical that has

evolved over two decades. If I am to throw in a personal point of view I would say that they sound like a dark shade of blue.

#### **New Times and Old Times**

Two decades is a long time in any business, a very long time. During such a long time one picks up a thing or two, learning new tricks, realities of the trade



and the business and so on. Holler says that the biggest lesson he and his band has learnt is the fact that nothing should be taken for granted in this business. The music business is a jungle with disorder and confusion everywhere, no real order anywhere at the moment and it can be quite difficult to navigate at times.

- Especially now in these last 10/12 years the situation is really terrible sales wise. We are lucky because we've never been a trendy band but just a mini cult band, so our fans will remain fans whatever we do.

But not all are as lucky, not all have a small core following like Eldritch.

- I think you know that a lot of bigger acts went really down to underground now. We make music for us and our fans, not caring about what's going on around the globe. But we really miss the early years when the record sales were great and the clubs were always packed.

New times are not always better times in all regards, it is a market for consumers rather than creators and music is not the only business where that is true. But in the early days the clubs were packed and that has created some great moments and Holler mentions a number of them when I ask about what has been the best moment.

- Three Gods Of Metal fests, Sweden Rock, ProgPower Scandinavia and USA, Chicago Powerfest and many other shows around the world. The Tours with Angra, Threshold, Pain Of salvation and Firewind were great moments too. This moment right now is good too, we have an awesome line up and a great new album out and we hope to play some big events again. Sweden Rock would be an orgasm!

Yes, Sweden Rock is an orgasmic event but in the spirit of impartiality I can state that there are other big rock festivals both in Sweden and around the globe.

### Tasting the Tears

The most adult album in the Eldritch discography, the ninth album "Tasting the Tears" is a collection of songs no longer than four or five minutes as they have taken care not to bore the listener with too long orgasms of instrumental masturbation as some progressive bands like to do. But that is not all they have cared about.

- We took care about every single detail of the songs to let them sound Eldritch style yet catchy and not too complicated for who doesn't know the band. It's a perfect mixture of hard rock, heavy metal, thrash and dark metal.

"Tasting the Tears" is a love album, but not your everyday love

album. It's done Eldritch style.

- All the songs talk about love matters, but not only love between a man and a woman, but love in all its forms, parental, friendship etc. The mood is quite dark and sad and it's an album that lets the listener feel part of it. Everybody has or had love issues in their life.

Sure they have, although the love issue or lyrical concept was not our reviewers main reason for enjoying the album, he had a favourite song but Holler does not really want to pick one.

- The best thing is the quality of the songs which is pretty high level. Inside you, Iris, The trade... I don't know. For us every song is

great. The sound and the production in general are awesome too.

And this time guitarist and main composer Eugene Simone had some help composing the songs from guitarist Rudj Ginaneschi and keyboardist Gabriele Caselli, drummer Raffahell and bassist John also added a lot. Terence Holler himself wrote the vocal melodies and the lyrics so it was a bit different.

- It was a real team work even if the most of the musical ideas come from Eugene's wicked mind. In the past all the songs for Eldritch were written from him and I but this time we liked to involve the entirety of the band. The result is fuck'n' great!



### Reception, tour and future

Fuck'n' Great has to mean that they are satisfied and Holler states that they are 99% satisfied, meaning that they even now realise that there is room for improvement even though they do not really see it now.

- Maybe in a few months after its release we'd probably have something to complain about but at the moment we adore what came out.

The band members are pleased, at least one guy in the

rock'n'metal press is quite impressed with "Tasting the Tears". But what about other media, are they as impressed as the Hallowed writer? According to what Holler has seen they are.

- Thanks for your review! Yeah, all the reviews are really high rated. Some are the maximum rate and the most are nine points out of ten. Everything is moving in the right direction and we are completely satisfied with the whole machine.

A web search seems to con-

firm what Holler says, although I found a pair of average reviews along the more positive ones. But good reviews don't buy economical validity from music, fans that makes it possible does. One way to find such fans and promote one's music is to embark on a tour and play at as many venues as possible. So what about Eldritch? Will they tour to promote their new album? According to Terence Holler such things aren't easy for Eldritch but they are working on so if reality allows...

- The economy situation we have here in our country let us nearly poor. So we can't really invest any private money in a tour. We gotta wait and see how the sales go and then decide to move.

If the tour doesn't come into place or put on hold for a while, what are the next plans? Well, there are some ideas and the main thing at the moment is to record a video.

- The main thing we got in plan now is to record a videoclip for the song "Alone again" and try to

promote the album through any channel possible.

But not only that, the band is also looking to go down avenues they have never ventured before, to do something different.

- We would like to record an acoustic album. We already played some old songs in an acoustic way and the result is really great.

And now that they have promoted their new album through this possible channel, we thank Terence Holler for letting us ask him some questions and gives

him the final words after pointing out that Eldritch's ninth album Tasting the Tears is available now.

- Well I'd only like to ask the rock-metal kids to give a listen to Eldritch and in particular to "Tasting The Tears". That's our only request.

### Some links

Our review of Tasting the Tears <http://www.eldritchweb.com>  
Eldritch on youtube  
Scarlet Records