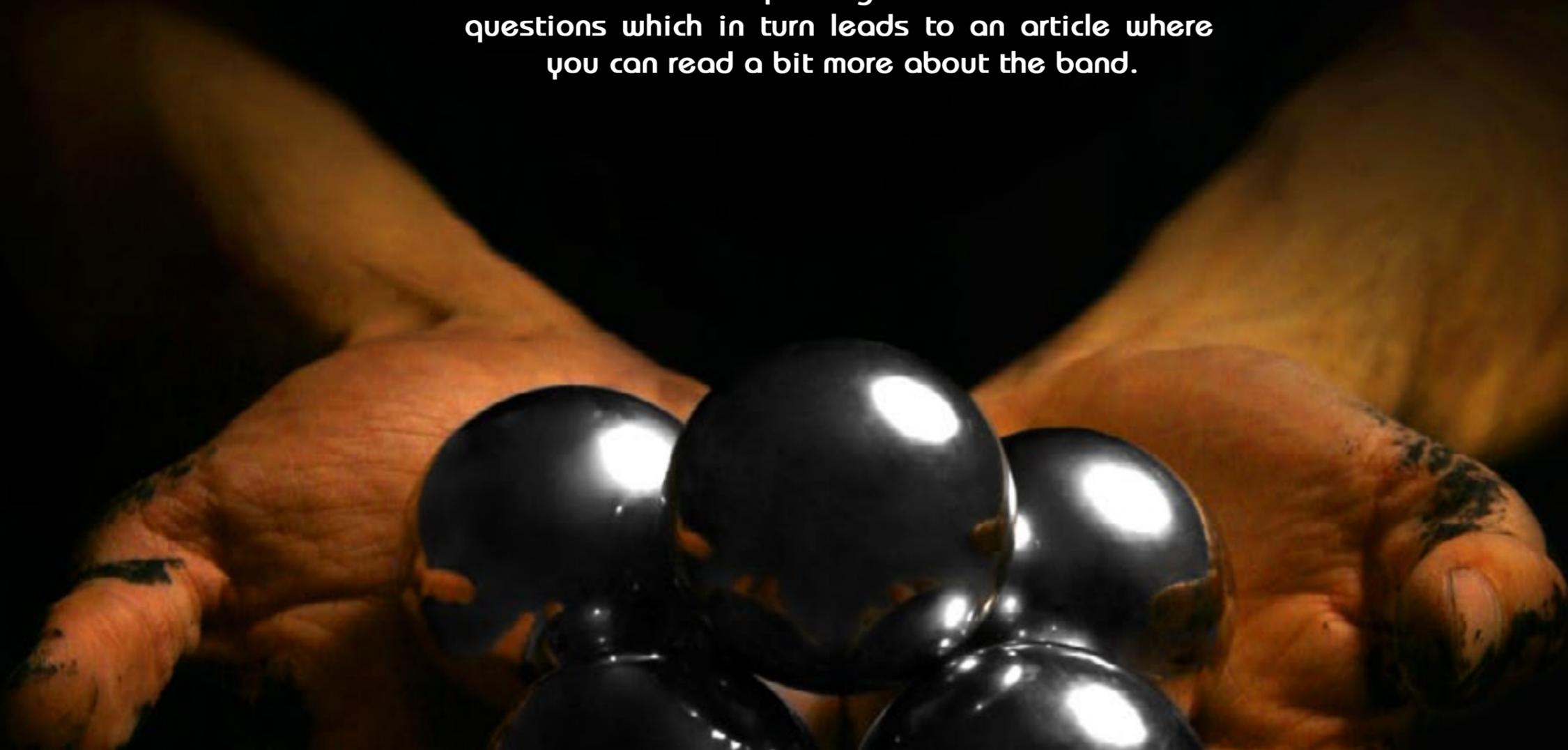


F R E E D O M S L A V E S

- What can we say, it's our band, it's our life, it's nearly always the first thought in all our minds.

This is what singer Daniel Celotti along with his bandmates replies to the question if they can tell me something about their band Freedom Slaves, who are an Italian band that was formed back in 2005 when the guys were in high school. It is not the easiest band to find information about on the web due to their name, but we have had the privilege to ask the band some questions which in turn leads to an article where you can read a bit more about the band.





WRITTEN BY DANIEL KÄLLMALM
PHOTOS: PRESS PHOTOS (AS CREDITED)
PUBLISHED ON 20/9-2012

From the beginning the band was a cover band, since then a lot has changed and the band has gone from doing covers to telling their own stories. There has also been changes in the band's line up with people coming and going but with the two minds behind the thing being solidly in place since the beginning.

The name has an Orwellian origin but is also a reflection of how the band is looking upon our society which is a concept of their lyrics as well.

- You might think we have a political ideology behind, but that

is not the case, the only influence we find interesting of this concept is the way society's rules and ideologies have and continue to influence our personal freedoms, our desires, our passions. Our point of view is a much more personal side to the concept of being "Freedom Slaves"

Their musical influences is drawn from different areas as all the five members of the band has completely different musical preferences. Sure they do have some common influence as well considering how difficult it would be to form a band otherwise. This is in their own opinion what sets them apart, this wide range of influences which can be found in their music. However, it is not

without its challenges.

- This mix makes finding a track we all like a bit of a challenge, but when we do, well, we have an interesting mix.

The Debut Album

A while ago the world got to meet the debut album of Freedom Slaves, which is entitled "Freedom Slaves" and features some hands and marbles on the cover. It is an album that has been evolving ever since singer Daniel Celotti joined the band, as they so eloquently explain.

- Our current singer joined us in 2010, after a year together we were at point A, and we started with *The Prophet*, the opening track, and by June 2011, about

to start recording, we were at point Z, passing all the letters in the middle, with *Four Days*, the eighth track. We went through getting to know one another and all that comes with that, and also we all went through various personal issues, and that was reflected in the album, introspective songs, and ones that exhorted change. The album describes us during that time.

What does the artwork describe then?

- The artwork on the cover symbolises the perfection of the world and that beauty that, through the eyes of the human race are distorted, and through the hands of the human race are ruined and corrupted. We worked a lot also on

the booklet of the album, which on the digital download of the album isn't viewable, giving importance to artificial lights, made by man, that try to discover the beauty of the world and it's structures, without being able to fully comprehend them, because they cannot completely illuminate them.

It is an album intent on telling stories both in artwork and music it seems and it is one where the band feels they have gotten everything they could out of the album, and they have learnt a lot in the process. They did record everything in their own studio and they did everything themselves which is why they learnt a lot.

- With a professional studio, the

album would have sounded differently, of course. But without that in our hands, we did everything ourselves, giving the album a very personal touch. So, in the end, yes, we are happy with the album, but we won't stop here.

Maybe they can take these knowledges into a professional studio the next time, or maybe perfect what they already have. For this album however, the band thinks that the album turned out better than they had expected in some parts.

Reception & Live

In our review of the album I mentioned that the song called *Pain 04* was the favourite on the album and a memorable song, it is an



Henry Triplette
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opinion the band agree with and does so unanimously.

- It evolves, it changes, it shows different dynamic qualities, one for each member of the band nearly!

We were reasonably positive towards this album in our review and pointed out that there was room for improvements and that the band felt a bit cautious in their approach, but what about other reviewers?

- As all bands, we all dream for worldly acclaim, but realistically that does not happen anymore. There is a lot of music out there and we do not claim to be so-

omething we are not. We are very happy with a lot of the reviews the album had, we have a lot to learn, a lot more to do, but we do have something to say, and it's nice to see that other people acknowledge that. From what we hear, the fans liked the music, the ones that are not fans didn't, but we did find a lot of new fans, and we want to keep getting our music further out.

And as the band thinks it is good not to have expectations we can presume that expectations were exceeded, but fans are what matters anyway and the interest seems to be better than the band

expected as they report that their sales has been somewhat better than they expected. That sounds good for them.

One thing that often can increase interest and sales for a band is being visible which means touring and doing many live shows and something of that is what the band is looking to do.

- We did various concerts and participated in a lot of contests and festivals, some of which are still going on, we will continue to try and promote our work everywhere we go, and then with new songs and new albums too in the future.

But for being successful as a live entity one has to be a good live band, are Freedom Slaves one of those good live bands? They think so themselves, at least that they aren't just your everyday metal band.

- Freedom Slaves as a live band are not your standard band, we are emotional, reflective, explosive and well thought out. A mix for all the senses, you don't just simply listen.

Future & Article's End

Having their debut album out and preparing for live shows and all of that, Freedom Slaves does



Andrea Cretese - Drums

Henry Triplette
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of course look towards the future. A future of new music, maybe of grande shows or just an exciting future in general. But how do they envision their own future? at least the future will not be boring according to them.

- The future is what we want it to be, we love making music and so we continue to do so, we have other life commitments, but we always find time for the band because we want to. We are currently writing the new album, or what will be the new albums, who knows, we write and compose, and write and compose, throw in a few live shows here and

there, and music for us never gets boring!

We were touching on the subject of learning, so I asked the band of what they did learn from this first album and it appears that they learnt a lot.

- While working on the album we learnt a lot about what to do, what not to do, what to do better, and what should be done by other people who know more! But we got to the end of it, feeling confident that if we were to start all over again we would have done it the same way, because we had to do it like that, it would have not been so personal if we

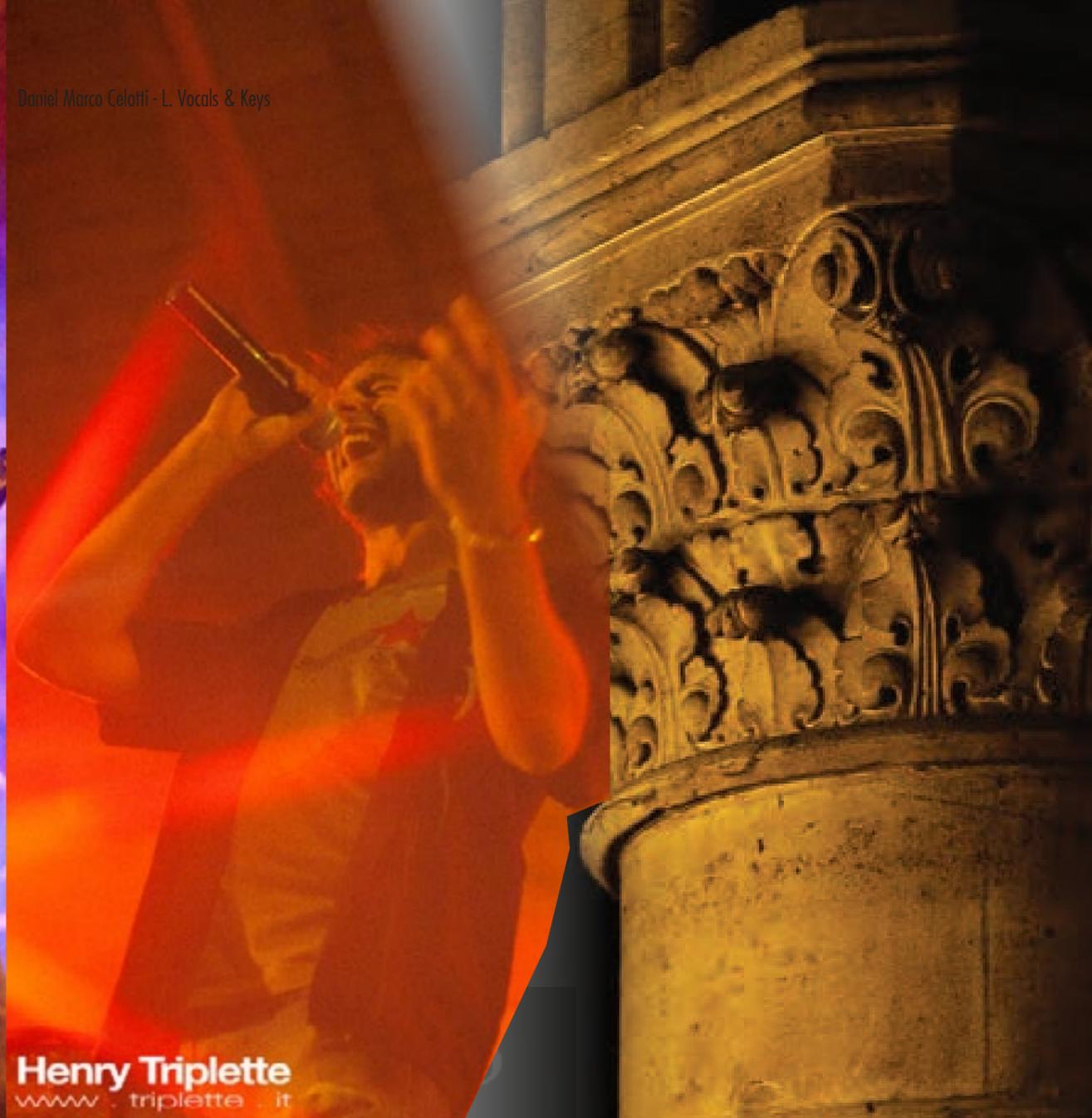
Stefano Galioto - Bass Guitar



Edoardo Bortolotti - Guitars & B. Vocals



Daniel Marco Celotti - L. Vocals & Keys



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hadn't.

- After releasing it, we played various gigs in front of new and different audiences and in front of jurors for different contests, we met people that had much more experience than us, and got from them an insight on our music that we ourselves could never have achieved on our own.

And they will of course take all of these new wisdoms into the making of their new album(s) and their future live shows, it would appear that Freedom Slaves are a band willing to learn

from experience and feedback it would seem. That bodes well seeing what our reviewer said about the debut album because with new wisdoms he reckons that they might have something really interesting up their sleeves.

And with that we hope that you have gotten some insights about the band called Freedom Slaves, check out our review of the debut album as you can both read about the album there and listen to some samples. And with that we leave a final word to the guys in the band and thanks them for

taking the time to answer our questions.

- If you'd like to listen to our album, it's on iTunes, Amazon, and all the major digital stores, but if you want the full experience and see all our work on the booklet, you can come find us on freedomslaves.com, we have our on-line store there, merchandise will be up for sale soon too.

Freedom Slaves on the web

freedomslaves.com
Hallowed's review

Freedom Slaves are:

Daniel Marco Celotti - L. Vocals & Keys
David Bressani - Guitars & Back. Vocals
Edoardo Bortolotti - Guitars & B. Vocals
Stefano Galioto - Bass Guitar
Andrea Cretese - Drums