



Hortus Animae

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Krawallgeier - Who are the members of the band and what instrument does each of them play?

Grom : Hi ! We are 5, namely myself, GroM on drums, Martyr Lucifer on vocals and bass, Bless on Keyboards, Hypnos on lead and rhythm guitars and Amon 418 on rhythm guitars.

Krawallgeier - How did the band form?

Grom : The band actually formed quite some time ago without myself. I joined the band officially when I was hired as a session drummer to record their first promo CD. I enjoyed the music a lot and decided to become a full time member. It was Martyr Lucifer who initially thought up the core of Hortus Animae.

Krawallgeier - How would you describe your music style?

Grom : Vast ! I think the strength point of Hortus Animae is that we are indeed the 'garden of the soul' and even more on this upcoming album. This time we really pushed our boundaries and gave a chance to the listener to experience all sorts of emotions and feelings that are part of the human mind and soul. We moulded many genres of music together, even outside of metal. There is a lot of Dark and Gothic in this album, some parts are very Cure or Sisters OF Mercy but everything has a solid extreme metal basis and there are even some techno-thrash songs in there like Atheist. It's a real Encyclopedia of music and emotions !



Krawallgeier - Which bands are your paragons?

Grom : It's hard to tell...we take inspiration from all our listens and our musical backgrounds. I think My Dying Bride, Queen, Pink Floyd, Dissection are some of the main ones but I could really go on forever !

I don't like to compare the band however and I really think that we have something very personal and unique going on, especially on the new album, 'A Blow Of Furious Winds' -

Krawallgeier - Do you follow these bands? / Do you copy these bands?

Grom : Follow in the sense of being a listener of those bands then 'yes', we definitely don't copy them. All of us are musicians with a very long experience and some of us have other professional bands so we have a lot of our own juice, so to speak.

Krawallgeier - How do your songs come into existence?

Grom : Well, unfortunately me and the other guys live quite far away so we usually cannot write in 'real time'. They usually lay out the basic structures and riffs and then send me the recordings which I use to create all my drum and percussion parts and then we usually get together for a week before recording to practice everything and finish off the last arrangements and details.

Krawallgeier - What about gigs? Do you have many gigs?

Grom : Not many for the moment. We are planning to wait until the new album is released before we start booking proper tours. We play a bit in Italy but that's about it. I am also very busy with Ancient so it's hard to have the time to go out live but we will do it after this album.

Krawallgeier - Are they well attended?

Grom : Pretty much.

Krawallgeier - Are the people content with your live-Performance?

Grom : Usually yes, sometimes we have problems with sound because it's hard to have a good live mix with all the arrangements we have.

Krawallgeier - How is the reaction of the people referred to your music style? Any criticism?

Grom : usually it's great ! We had loads of very positive comments and considerations for the first album and when we cooperated with Liv Kristine for a Dead Can Dance tribute track she was very enthusiastic of the project. The only criticism we receive is usually people that cannot understand our musical bouquet, in other words our mix of genres. It's all a matter of language though and understanding what language we speak.

Krawallgeier - Why do you make music? (mission, passion, expression, hobby)

Grom : Passion and profession.

Krawallgeier - Let's talk about your albums. / Tell us something about your albums?

Grom : We released the first album 'Waltzing Mephisto' on Black Lotus Records about 2 years ago now and we have just completed the recordings of the new upcoming album which will probably be released in January. It will be called 'A Blow Of Furious Winds' and it will be a sort of concept on human emotions with a dark twist. The first album was very well received and we hope to continue the legacy.

Krawallgeier - What about the future of the band. Have you got some plans or do you just wait and see?

Grom : For now we just want to make this album as good as we can and then we will see once it has been released.

Krawallgeier - Is there anything you want to tell the people out there? Like a final say?

Grom : Thanks for all the support and you can visit our web site at [www.hortusanimae.com](http://www.hortusanimae.com). I truly invite everyone to check the band out and especially wait for the new album, it will be a big surprise ! Stay Metal !

Krawallgeier - Thank you for this interview.

Grom : you're welcome.