



Soulless

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

Hell-ooo. Daro from Polish Soulless here. The current line-up of the band is: Filip- rhythm guitar, Papa-drums, Braniol-bass and me Daro-lead/rhythm guitar and vocals. Everyone has their jobs or school etc. For example our bass player works as stove fitter, Filip is a student of secondary school, Papa is unemployed and I am a second- year student of college. But it doesn't change anything because SOULLESS is the most important venture in our lives. What can I say about us... well Filip is the youngest member of the band he is 18 years old, I am 20, Papa is 21 and Braniol is the oldest he is 30. But our age is not a problem coz extreme music is something like universal language for us.

Krawallgeier - How did the band form?

Well, You probably read our history but some of readers may not know it so I will tell short story of SOULLESS. I started to dream about playing in band when I was in a 3rd class of primary school, of course for a long time I only thought about this. Some time later when I was 16 I bought a guitar and started to learn playing. I was meeting with many people because I was looking for someone I could play with. It was very hard and long way. In early 2001 SOULLESS started first rehearsals. In those time the band consisted of five people: Daro - guitars, Oley - guitars, Seba - vocal, Michal "Braniol" - bass and Mirek - drums. With those people we played our first gig, I remember it very good. We played only two songs "Buy the Salvation" and Liberator it was some kind of local competition of rock band and it was 27th of April 2001 in Swietochlowice (city in Silesia). After this concert many changes came. I mean, changes in line-up and what is more in music. Problems with people playing in this band were always the worst think in our history. Many of our ex-members aren't even worth to mention. Reason? Most of them did not treat SOULLESS seriously, some of them were poor musicians or even when they were good they did not give a shit for attention for playing and rehearsals. This was always the most horrible weakness of this band. But in the past now, we left this problems in past... I hope so. This is how our beginning was. Real existence of SOULLESS started when we have recorded our first demo CD, it was in November 2001 (from this time I was also on vocals), some time later we have recorded demo 2002- both with programmed drummer. I know this is shit but we could not find a real, alive drummer. The 1st & 2nd demo were published (under one title "TOTAL DESECRATION") by small underground labels in several countries in the World. In Poland it was released by Old Temple records. Songs from "Total..." were also released on many CD compilations for example: Unleash the Fury Compilation - 2003 - (Don't Panic Prod), V.A. "In Wüsten Lohen I" - 2004 - Compilation-2004 - (Germany), Death Compilation - 2004 - (Metal Rulez prod.),

Brutal Vomit Compilation - 2004 – (Polish Brutal Vomit Zin/distro) and that's not all. Some time after recording our 2nd demo we had found new people to play gigs. We were playing with new drummer Tomek and second guitarist –Borys (now his playing in band called Vanaheim). But it's a sad tradition is SOULLESS: there can not be full line-up for a long time in this band hehehehehehe At first Borys was kicked out from the band (but it doesn't change the fact we are good friend even now). Many guitar players were involved in our band from those time, but no-one of them were serious so we had to play as a trio for a long time! But in October 2003 Filip started playing with us and he's playing till this moment. Some time later another change came... Tomek (drums) was also kicked out from the band because of many reasons, the most important one was- he did not make any progress in his drum playing. In July 2004 we have found Papa for his place and from this time he is our drummer. In this line-up we have recorded our newest material "PERI PSYCHES". It was recoded in August 2004 in "Chinook" studio. "PERI PSYCHES" is the most brutal and technical staff we ever recorded and it show the way SOULLESS will go... I think that is all what can I say You about our history from the first day till current time.

Krawallgeier - How would you describe your music style?

People often say that SOULLESS is playing Brutal and technical Death Metal. What can I say? I think it's true. We are try to play the best we can, the best we are able to. Our music of this band is result of our efforts, our wills to work and all the power we use to made this band alive. When I'm writing our music or lyrics I do not think about what music style should it be. It would be stupid and insincere. I try to be natural in writing music for this band. Of course it's not a mystery that my music (in 99%) could be described as death metal. I proud of this what I'm playing. But if I had to describe SOULLESS after listening "PERI PSYCHES" I would say use "slogan" like that: Link Spreading Death, in short "LSD" hehehehe Of course it's a joke. I think that all names of music genres have positive and negative features. The advantage of pigeonholing music is that fans have easiest way to find bands that can probably give'em sounds they expect. The disadvantage is when some reviewer will describe music of each band by bad fitted word or too precisely... Music is made for listening and to giving us pleasure. It's not important what sort of sounds you play. The point is to play good music.

Krawallgeier - Which bands are your paragons?

There are many bands that I am listening to from the beginning of my adventure with metal music. Some of them are more or less important for me. My favourite bands/gods probably are the same as the rest of SOULLESS members, these firmly are: MORBID ANGEL(every recording of Trey is perfect), VADER, GOREFEST ("False" rules!), IMMOLATION, SLAYER, ANGEL CORSPÉ, DEICIDE ("Legion" is the best), GRAVE, ALTAR, BEHEMOTH (from "Satanica"), HATE ETERNAL, INCANTATION, MARDUK, DARK FUNERAL, UNLORD, SODOM, HYPERLINK "<http://www.nephasth.com>" t "_blank" NEPHASTH , NEVERMORE, EMPEROR, PANTERA, VOIVOD and many, many more but I don't see any sense in enumerating hundreds on band and names. I can also say that I am also listening sometimes to old rock classics like Thin Lizzy, Back Sabbath or something like that. You know I try to listen everything that seems interesting. Sometimes even shit like radio song could be good.

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

We tray not to copy these bands. When I am writing music I'm trying to something on my own. Important thing is to fight with influence, You know, listening the music is one thing and playing music is other thing, the most difficult is to do something original. Of course I don't say that SOULLESS is original band and has it own style... At first we are to young band have

it! Many years of hard work before us. This is the reason why you can hear in my music some influences of the bands I've mentioned earlier. Nowadays you can hear some specific sounds in our music and I hope (in near future) it will be the begging of our own style, the longer You play the more characteristic Your music is. The only possibility when You can follow this bands is than when You want to as professional as Your idols and you are working on it. It's OK. But when you are trying to be another Slayer, Death or Morbid Angel- you have nothing to offer to fans. Different situation is when from the beginning you are trying to be tribute/cover band... Fine but then you can't be creative, you can't "procreate" something what belongs only to You. The conclusion is, when You are trying to make, write, records something new there is a possibility You will extend the musical genre that your paragons began.

Krawallgeier - How do your songs come into existence?

I am the author of all music, lyrics and arrangements. It's a quite long process, because at first I am creating the riffs and something like a fundamental part o each song. Latter I am writing the rest: arrangements to every riff, lines of first and second guitar, bass lines and I prepare a draft of this how will be drums played. Latter I am writing lead guitars parts and fitting vocals. When everything is ready I bring it all to rehearsal, show it and teach the rest of the band. This is how is it from the technical site. But every idea is rising in my head, sometimes it takes me short and sometimes long time. I always wait and than listen to my ideas some time later to check them because I want to play only the best of it.

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

Playing gigs is one of the most important things when you are playing in metal band. Concerts are the quintessence of metal!!! We are trying to play as often as possible. We opened to almost every proposition, only thing we are expecting for is the return of expenses (you know fuel etc). In the past we had some problems with playing gigs coz we had a programmed drummer, of course it was possible to play with it, but it was bringing us many problems. That is more it was not a real member of the band so we had resigned from this machine. For a long time we were looking for drummer and we had found him. From the time of recording "Peri Psyches" we are able to play gigs. We have some gigs booked and I can say that we will play about three gigs a month. For us it's too low amount, I am doing everything what I can to organize more concert but this is really difficult. It is very hard to find good contact and credible people.

Krawallgeier - Are they well attended?

It all depends on place were we are playing, cost of ticket, bands which are playing with us. On average to our gigs comes from 100 to 200 people so I think it's a good result. The advantage is that in most cases the audience is not accidental, about 80% of people know the sense of our music and know what they can expect. We are always care about promo staff like posters, leaflet and advertisement in metal press. We are doing everything what is possible to interest the public in our set.

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

I think that in most cases – yes. Because as I said earlier they know what they can expect when they can read on posters – "Soulless- extreme death metal". Reactions of people are very enthusiastic of course not on every gig you can see a real hell under stage, because when we have to play as a first band in a new town were people don't know us, in first

minutes of our show it's really hard but later the public warms up and than we are annihilating the club we are playing in hahahaha After almost every gig people come to us and congratulate, sometimes they want to take a photo with us, sometimes they are asking when the next show will be, they are asking about- how to buy our materials.

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

People who are not enjoying metal music are rather fearful and I think it comes from their ignorance and from believing in stereotypes. They don't know how to explain the reason why we are playing such brutal music and why other people want to listen it. People think that when something is not shown in TV or played in radio stations as often as pop music it has to be worst and it's not even worth to know the sense of it. It sad but it's true and I don't want to fight with this stupidity. I have my own life they have their. This two different worlds will never live together they will live "near" but not together. The only opinion and reactions I really want to know is those from people who don't ignore this difficult style of music which is death metal. What is more we are criticized by other people because of our life style or because of the way we are clothing. I though that in 21st century your appearance is not so important and can't be the reason of conflict... but I was in mistake! This is one of the reasons why death metal is destined for specific group of people. I think it's good because extreme music will never become a part of pop music business.

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

Everything what you mentioned is a reason in a smallest or in a biggest part. At the beginning it was only a hobby but now it's something more and I think that "passion" is the best word to explain my attitude to playing and creating Soulless. Playing in this band is one of not many things which gives me pleasure. Playing death metal is thing which gives me a lot of energy to live, it's like a drug but without negative results. Of course I want also to fulfill myself by writing music, I also have a possibility to introduce other people into my opinion and views on many topics by my lyrics. Playing music can be treated like a medicine.

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

"Total Desecration" (Old Temple rec. in Poland) it's our first official release, it includes demo 2001 and demo 2002- 10 songs, 40 minutes of Brutal Death Metal. Both of demo materials were recorded with programmed drummer in amateurish studio. But the effect (in my opinion) can be interesting for fans of brutal death metal with traces of grind. Songs from "Total..." were involved in many Cd compilations for example: Unleash the Fury Compilation - 2003 - (Don't Panic Prod), Death Compilation - 2004 - (Metal Rulez prod PL.), Brutal Vomit Compilation - 2004 - (Polish Brutal Vomit Zin/distro), V.A. "In Wüsten Lohen I" - 2004 - Compilation-2004 - (Germany). It was also play in many underground radio stations. "Total..." was also released in Brazil, USA and France. Our newest material is called "PERI PSYCHES" it was recorded in the end of August 2004. It was our first recording with full line-up with alive drummer and professional studio. "Peri..." includes 20 minutes of intensive death metal, this material is really different from "Total..." and it's worth to listen it. You can find many changes there... One song from "Peri Psyches" will be released on Neostream Cd compilation (www.neostream.prv.pl) and another new song will be released on Blasphemougorevomit Cd compilation (blasphemougorevomit.friko.pl) We are now looking for a label to release this staff, so if somebody wants promo version of "Peri

Psyches" just write!

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

Waiting is not a solution! If You want to see any results the only way is to work very hard. No one will do anything for you, you have to do everything on your own. I am working now on promotion of "Peri Psyches", I am organizing gigs, sending promo Cds to reviewers, I do everything what is possible to promote Soulless. We have many plans which are difficult to realize. In many situations money are the only problem... because if you want to send many promo copies of your material you first need cash, the same situation is with concerts which are organized in remote cities because if You want to play you have to pay for fuel or (train) tickets. The reason of our problems is that we are unemployed or we are still studying- so we don't have regular earnings. But we will never surrender and I hope that we will find a label which will help us. We have also many plans about the most important thing... about our music. Nowadays the only barrier in realizing my ideas are our skills but we are learning and day by day we are becoming better musicians. We are still a young band and everything is before us. In near future (probably in February 2005) we will enter the studio to record from two to three new songs. It will be for us something like an exam before a recording session of our first full- length album. Full album will be recorded in August 2005, probably in the same studio as "Peri Psyches" ("Chinook" studio). But we aren't sure yet. We are still looking around for good studios. What can I say about our full- length album? I think now it's to early to talk about it's musical contents. The only what I can say is that our new songs will be very dynamic, brutal and intensive there will be also many "sick" moments. Also many technical fragments could be founded. I hope that new face of Soulless will be well approved by death metal maniax!

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

I hope that after reading this interview some new people will be interested in Soulless. I am also very interested in people's opinion about "Peri Psyches" – zines, labels, magazines write to me if You want to write review or make an interview. Support death metal scene and spread the word of true- "de coleo in coenum" - from heaven fall into mud !!!

Krawallgeier - Thank you for this interview.

I want also to thank You for being interested in Soulless.