

## Capitis Damnare - Black Stigmatized

6 tracks, 34:24

*Aural Offerings Records*



Capitis Damnare comes from Germany and have been around since 1999 and this is their full length debut (released 2008). It is raw, cold black metal, nothing new but good old black metal. There isn't always necessary to be border breaking and creating "new music". Capitis Damnare plays good old black metal, end of story. It is all well performed and there isn't much to complain about here, Black Stigmatized is a good album. It is not like I am very excited when listening but it sure is a good album. Sometimes it can actually sound rather catchy, in a good way. It is actually rather easy listened and easy to like. For all fans of raw black metal this sure is a recommendation. You will not be disappointed, you now know what you will get when buying this record. Capitis Damnare is pure black metal and damn good at showing us how good black metal should sound.

O.O.

## Cruention - Promo CD '98

4 tracks, 11:08

*Self Released*



This release is 11 years old but I didn't get it until now and I had never heard Cruention before and that is quite a shame because I think this is an excellent release! It is rather thrash influenced black metal or the other way around maybe. It rather atmospheric for this fast and raw kind of metal. It is all of very high quality and this is their first release, it could actually be one of the best debuts I have heard. Yes it is that good! For me this feels like a lost treasure that I have now found. I definitely recommend this to all fans of thrash/black metal. It is rather melodic, atmospheric yet raw so I think that many could like this one. Go get it now!

O.O.

## Cruention - Rudis et Indigesta Moles

5 tracks, 28:51

*Self Released*



I got this record with the previous one and this one was released about ten years later,

in 2007 that is. This sounds quite different than the previous release still good though! I can tell right from the start that this will have a different sound, it contains a piano that is in rather high focus but it is very nicely done and sound good! Some techno(!) or maybe I should say industrial effects are also included, sounded strange at first but fits good actually! The next track is though rather more raw and might remind a little more of the previous release. The songs are slightly more varied than the previous release but still it doesn't make it torn. This is definitely an album worth spending money on but I think I like the other release more, maybe it is due to the fact that this isn't as easy listened so when giving it more time it might sound better (but it does not in any way sound bad). Still recommended though if you want something more experimental.

O.O.

## Demonic Forest - Endless Silence Of Desolation

10 tracks, ?

*Croquemort Productions*



Mexican black metal isn't something that I would say that I'm too familiar with. Come to think of it, I'm pretty sure that Demonic Forest has to be one of the first bands that I've heard from Mexico (I might be wrong, but no matter). Have you ever got the feeling that some bands are just trying too hard in order to cling on to the "old spirit" of black metal? Well, in Demonic Forest case I couldn't help but to chuckle at the logo where they managed to include not only three inverted crosses, but also an inverted pentagram and the numbers "666".

Either way, when trying to review I try not to get nitpick too much on anything else but the music, but sometimes you just can't help it I suppose. Luckily for them they manage to produce some pretty alright music, but the first track isn't too good. However, the tracks after the first one are much better as they slow it all down a few notches and concentrate on playing old-school black metal that has a "depressive" vibe to it.

What I find interesting about this release is how the first side called "Desolation" is black metal while the other side of the tape (called "Ruin") is pretty much just instrumental tracks consisting of clean guitar. I'm not sure as to what gave them idea of doing this, but I would

have to admit that the "Ruin" side is pretty alright as well.

If you haven't looked up Mexican black metal yet I guess that Demonic Forest could be a good start. Keep in mind though that if you aren't into raw recordings then you might as well look elsewhere.

Ulf

## Diagon - Satan Mit Uns

9 tracks, 44:48

*Hexenhammer Records*



Diagon comes from the Czech Republic and this is really raw black metal. There is no need to make this "polished" or melodic... this is pure fast black metal. Almost every song starts with an intro, like it or not. It is a rather nice feature with intros sometimes but it can get to much, sure it builds up a special feeling in the beginning but... On this it is ok, it makes you catch your breath before the total violence starts again and actually it creates a good feeling of destruction and war, which suits Diagon very well. In the booklet it is stated "Diagon supports mass murders and annihilation" and after I have listened to the album I don't doubt it. This is fast, raw and filthy black metal violence from start to end. So if you like blast beats and violence this is something for you. There isn't really much variation on this album but it sure sounds good anyway, if you are in the mood for something that is just bone crushing all the time.

O.O.

## Drengskapur - Von Nebel umschlungen

8 tracks, 72:04

*Nigra Mors*



I have got my hands on the tape version of this, it contains one track that the self released CD does not include and that is "From Hateful Visions", originally recorded by Judas Iscariot. Drengskapur plays black metal with some pagan and nature influences, it is rather melodic but the rawness is there as well. The songs are long, only one clocks in under 10 minutes. This could be negative because many bands just do long songs to fill out the album but that is not the case here. I think all songs are really interesting and they should be played from beginning to the end to get the whole experience. The black metal parts are varied with some really nice acoustic parts

which takes the music to another dimension, it is great!

This is for fans of the pagan black metal music. It is a really good record; good variation, well performed and well produced. Buy now!

O.O.

## Echoes of silence - Beyond The Crimson Gates

15 tracks, 61:41

*Hypnotic Dirge Records*



Ever noticed how deceiving the cover art of a CD can be? When first laying eyes upon the cover for "Beyond the crimson gates" you are greeted by some pretty professional looking artwork that actually looks as if a lot of time and dedication was put into it although I have to say that it looks a bit too "slick" for my taste.

The music however is a different story although its not really the music itself that bothers me. The fact that they use "synthguitars" or whatever they are called pretty much ruins the whole listening-experience for me and although I could sit down and torture myself to actually appreciate the writing itself I still wouldn't be able to cope with the fact that they are not using real guitars. If that makes me sound like an elitist then so be it, but if you listen to it for yourself then you will notice what I'm talking about. It pretty much sounds like "Nintendo"-music in my ears.

Nothing that I would bother to listen to again, especially not 15 tracks that run in over an hour of it.

Ulf

## Elimi - Asylum

6 tracks, 47:38

*ATMF/De Tenebrarum Principio*



Finally! The new album of Elimi is here, I have waited for this for a long time. I really liked their debut so my expectations were high before putting this CD in my stereo. Asylum is one song divided into six parts, or call it chapters, and is a concept album. This album sounds a little different than the first, the sound is a little heavier and the drum sound is different. It all sounds very good and all songs are great! They all floats together very nice and it really is like listening to one long song, excluding the repetitive part that often comes