

Attached you find the original Interview before the translation from english to german between Markus for Soundmagnet.eu and Thomas V Jäger.

Hello Thomas. "A Solitary Plan" is your first solo album and it's deeply personal. It is unusual for a metal musician to release an acoustic album on which his vulnerable side is presented. What made you take this step and how did you experience writing and recording the songs?

The writing was kind of easy and recording is fun. I bought an acoustic guitar that sounds fantastic and some songs wrote themselves almost. I did everything myself except mixing (Kalle Lilja, Welfare Sounds) and some mellotron work (Emil Rolof). It wasn't my plan at first to release it but here we are and it sounds great.

You stated that this album is venting all the emotional energy you've been carrying around. Where does all this energy come from and why did you decide to channel it in a solo album instead of channeling it with your main band, Monolord?

I need to write a lot of different music or I would die of boredom. If it doesn't sound like a monolord song it isn't a Monolord song. And this is something I needed to do alone so it wasn't like I had a bunch of songs that I didn't know what to do with.

You described music as therapeutic. What is so therapeutic about making and listening to music? How can music help people with their personal struggles?

Everyone has their own way to process what is happening around them. Music works for me. Both writing and listening. For me it is mostly the creative process that is therapeutic. I like writing sad music. It makes me a better person.

You also stated that you were not able to talk to your family and friends about the very personal topics we can hear on the album at first. Sounds as if that has changed in the meantime. What changed your mind and how did you experience this change process?

I recorded the songs for myself. For my own pleasure and nothing more. A few of the songs were on Soundcloud for a couple of years and it grew into an album.

One of the topics on the album is dealing with the wish to have a family, but being unable to do so. What do you suggest to people which are exposed to this situation?

Every moron in the world can put their penis into another morons vagina and out comes a kid. Hopefully the kid would be raised properly but we know that it doesn't work like that. For a long while I did not want to have kids but when we (me and my partner) realised that we can do this and raise a child that grows into a person with strong moral values and integrity and with a will to make this world a better place. When it turns out that you can't do that, it somehow rattles the foundation of which you stand upon. And it sucks. You need to put your focus somewhere to not get lost. My focus was/is creating music.

Usually we pick songs out of the album and ask what these songs are about. This time we want to do it differently: Please tell us more about the 2 songs of the album that are most important to you? How did these songs come up and what exactly are they about?

I don't think I can pick two songs like that. The lyrics and themes are intertwining throughout the whole album. When I write a song I have some ideas, chords or lines of lyrics but mostly a few chords. I record and then the rest usually comes naturally.
I really like the chords and the mellotron on the title track though.

Can we expect to hear some of the songs live in the future, either in solo shows or with your band?

Expect nothing and you will not be disappointed.

Covid-19 affects all of us, but especially artists lose their livelihood and the vaccine will be available start of 2021 at earliest. How do you handle the current situation and how does it affect you?

It is a tiresome discussion. No one knows how it is gonna be so no use speculating. It is fucked either way and it is not gonna stop be fucked until we (humans) stop destroying everything beautiful around us. I am gonna continue making music. If there is ever something close to normal again, we will see. Every flu in the world was created because humans are dirty and can't handle animals correctly, so after this virus, there will be another. As long as we (you) keep eating meat and treat animals like shit this won't go away.

Can we expect more solo albums from you in the future? Also, is there anything new going on with Monolord?

Yes, I have 8 new songs done so there will most def be another solo album. Monolord is checking out some new tunes also.

We are always curious about musical insider tips. Which bands in your home country can you recommend to us that are not so well known internationally?

I have no idea what is known internationally or not anymore. I thought internet erased those borders? Right now I am listening to Abby Road by The Beatles.

The last words are yours. Is there anything you want to say to our readers and your fans?

Be kind & and don't be racist.

Thank you very much for your precious time.
Best,
Markus