

**Attached you find the original interview before the translation from English to German between Markus for soundmagnet.eu and Alitor.**

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**Markus (Soundmagnet): Hello and thank you for the Interview. Your second album "II" received very positive reviews in German-speaking magazines. Serbian bands rarely get this much attention in the German-speaking world. How do you deal with it, did you expect this response?**

**Alitor:** Dear Markus, it's a great pleasure for me to do this interview with you. I hope your readers will enjoy it as much as I do. Yeah, the response is really good so far, I didn't expect such good reviews and feedback from German, Austria and Switzerland. It's a great feeling, really. Doc Gator and Ragnarok guys did a great job with sharing the album with magazines! I hope that this good feedback will help us with booking gigs in the future in Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

**Unfortunately, we don't know very much about the Serbian scene. How would you describe the scene, is there a lot going on?**

Thank you for this question. I really like talking about Serbian bands, because we have a lot of great things going on in our modest scene. Especially in the last 20 years. Unfortunately, big record labels almost never paid any attention to our scene, even if we had and still have great innovative bands from different metal genres, such as Quasarborn, Centurion, Deadly Mosh, Nemesis and Jenner (all female metal bands), Eyesburn, Infest, The Stone, Mud Factory, Nadimač, Space Eater and many others. I believe that any of these bands would be well known on the world metal scene if they were from the UK, Scandinavia, Germany, or the USA. But no moaning about it, we will continue working and we will see what the future brings. Hopefully, Serbian metal bands will earn some attention from the media and bigger record labels in the future.

**To me, Alitor sounds like a Progressive Thrash Metal band that doesn't back down from other styles either. How would you describe your style and influences to someone who doesn't know you?**

It's really difficult to put our music in one specific genre because we really don't think about it. We don't want to set any limitations to our expression. And we always follow our hearts and the only criteria for some song is "do you feel anything when you play it", if the answer is positive, then we have something that might be a good song for our taste. This band started as a thrash metal cover band based on the Bay Area sound, and that style is the foundation of our sound. When we started writing our own music, we were really into technical death metal so that ingredient came naturally into our sound as well. After that, we just kept adding more ingredients to our sound, so it's hard to define it right now. And our new material will be even more difficult to define in terms of sound-genre. And that was our main goal from the very beginning – to always push boundaries and grow with every release. So, hopefully, our music will become a genre itself.

**The video for "The Tempest Within" features a dancing woman laughing on the ground towards the end. What is the message behind the video?**

We did the video for that song in collaboration with our hometown friend and actor Tea Marčeta, a rising star in the Serbian movie scene. She did an awesome job with acting in the video. The whole story behind the video is basically a brawl with the demons we all have. So, she is laughing at the end because she won that battle. It's a kind of metaphor for the topic of the song itself.

**In contrast to many other metal bands, you are partly positive and optimistic. In "Consecration" you sing for example "Enlightened by this fire from inside, this love keeps me alive". What is the meaning behind the lyrics, and do you have something like a clear message?**

"Consecration" is the song about what playing in this band means to us – me. I personally had a lot of ups and downs in my life, and there were times when I wanted to quit music and that whole thing. But it never happened. As I said in the lyrics: "Some kind of vicious force, Drives me on and on". I believe there is strong chemistry within this band and a high dose of passion for playing this kind of music that kept us together, so I wanted to pay a tribute to it. Music and this band definitely brought so many great things to our lives, and we are extremely grateful for that.

**Live activities are hardly plannable at the moment. If it should be possible again, can we expect to see you live in Austria and Germany?**

I really hope so! I'm talking about that with Rix from Doc Gator all the time. We already played in Graz, Austria, a couple of times and in Germany. But we never did a complete tour around those countries, so I hope that will be changed, once this Covid-19 madness is over.

**Many bands started to play Streaming gigs now, although at the same time they say that it can't replace the live feeling, of course. Would this also be an option for you?**

To be honest, I'm not really into it. I don't have anything against it, I think it's good as the content, and it's better to have such shows than no shows at all... Bands are finding different ways to stay active and keep their audience engaged through these wicked times... One of the ways for staying active is playing online shows, but not the only way. Right now, we don't plan such shows, but we will provide some promo videos and playthrough videos from the second album in the near future. Also, we are working on new material that will be recorded – hopefully - at the beginning of the next year. We don't want to make a huge gap between releases anymore. And this is our way of staying active while there are no club shows and festivals.

**Back to the Serbian scene: Which Serbian bands can you recommend to us that are maybe not so well known in other countries?**

I already mentioned a couple of them. But my favorites are Quasarborn, Centurion and Eyesburn. All three are extremely innovative and talented bands. Hopefully, your readers will find at least one of them interesting!

**Many thanks for the interview! The last words are yours.**

Thank you for your interview, Markus! I hope we will meet each other on some gig soon! And to all your readers – stay safe and keep listening to metal!