

Metal Only

Das einzig WAHRE Metalradio im Netz!

Band: Cyrax (I)

Genre: Progressive Metal

Label: Bakerteam Records

Albumtitle: Pictures

Duration: 40:40

Releasedate: 31.03.2015



The music of Italian Band Cyrax is very special. While listening to the current Output entitled "Pictures", you often get the impression of being part of a huge sonic circus- or fairground-show.

The high-pitched and effervescent voice of singer Marco Canto has a jester-vibe, the constant rhythm- and tempo-changes remind of a ghost train or a merry-go-round and the crazy Keyboard- and Orchestra-parts complete this playful overall image. All in all this may not be to everyone's taste, but it's well done and entertaining.

The musical range on "Pictures" is very widespread. It often reminds of bands like Dream Theater, Symphony X or Mekong Delta. The foundation for the Cyrax-sound is classical Heavy Metal, but it skillfully gets modified and augmented. By this means, many other genres flow into the music. Both classical music, excursions to Jazz and Funk as well as electronic music can be heard. If you like experimental, diversified and avant-garde music, you should definitely have a listen to this record.

Only the theatrical vocals of Marco Cantoni and the female guest singer are very hard to get used to and especially the songs "7th Seal" and "These Greenvalleys" could unsettle you. But after several listens you appreciate these songs too.

Sound- and playing-wise "Pictures" is on a very high level. The musicians control their instruments in a virtuosic and versatile way and leave nothing to be desired. Soulful guitar-solos meet hefty riffs and atmospheric orchestra-parts meet widespread instrumental-passages. The dramatic climax of the album is the "Shine-Through-Darkness"-Trilogy. Here Cyrax reveal all their skills in terms of songwriting, riff-majesty and virtuosity. The instrumental "Phunkrax" then rounds off the 40-minute-circus-show.

Conclusion:

Awesome songwriting, thrilling riffs, a great portion of experiments and the recognizable will to create something new, make "Pictures" a great, modern Prog-record. The shortness is a bit sad and one would like to hear more of that material but nevertheless, I can give an unconfined recommendation to Prog-fans.

Rating: 8/10

Recommendation(s): Cockroach, Shine Through Darkness

Weblink: <http://www.cyraxmusic.com/>

Lineup:

Marco Cantoni - Vocals

Filippo Ferrari - Guitar

Paolo Musazzi - Guitar

Cesare Ferrari - Bass

Lorenzo Beltrami - Drums

Tracklist:

01. Cyrax
02. The 7th Seal
03. Cockroach
04. These Greenvalleys
05. Oedipus Rex
06. Shine Through Darkness - Pt. 1
07. Shine Through Darkness - Pt. 2
08. Shine Through Darkness - Pt. 3
09. Phunkrax

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