

Metal Only

Das einzig WAHRE Metalradio im Netz!

Band: Mind Maze (USA)

Genre: Power Metal

Label: Inner Wound Recordings

Albumtitle: Back From The Edge

Duration: 49:40

Releasedate: 24.10.2014



This type of Power Metal hits the nail right on the head. The debut album "Mask of Lies" (2013) was already a main course but now there is a entire menu with the second one "Back From The Edge". The Band already exists since 2004 under Metal Archives but known as "Necromance" until 2012. Two demos have been released, one is "Necromance" (2005) and the other is "Never Look Back" in 2009.

However, let us pay attention to the awesome current album. Powerful riffs paired with awesome melodies and a brutal but still accented drumming (great Bass-Drums) as well as the voice of a real vocal artist lead the song from the start. She neither deals with opera nor the depths of growling but rather fascinates with the natural colour of her voice in the tradition of classical Metal vocalist à la Dickinson and Co.

The general severity still remains even if the speed will be reduced a bit as in the song "Moment Of Flight". Although majestic refrains with goose flesh feelings resound in additional as well as awesome keyboard-guitar-dual delivered by the guitar player and Jens Johansson of Stratovariou. One joins directly in with playing the air guitar. The chorus of other songs like "Through The Open Door" can't get out of ones head.

Many guests perpetuate themselves on this album without overly putting their own stamp on it although reflecting the same musical orientation. Mike LePond of SymphonyX spends his progressive bass tracks for the entire album, Matt Johnson, guitar player of Pharaoh, adds a solo as well as Chad Barnes, vocalist of Draekon, who roars the backings of 3 songs.

Some will maybe think that it can only be boring with a duration of 8 until 10 minutes as in the songs "The Machine Stops" and "Onward" but it is all-clear! Those songs are finished in a flash (Worse luck!) by short acoustic parts paired with a progressive style à la Dream Theater as well as the style of the Bands outlined above.

Everything is excellent balanced and perfectly arranged. The detailed technical parts are non-exaggerated as well as the bombast is only punctual used and in this way Metal is always on the fore. This kind of music could not be played better. A further issue is the crystal-clear sound that gives the right thrill to the album. It is a highlight of the year 2014 and I am heavy thrilled.

Conclusion:

For all those who want to have the union of power and demand: Here you find everything at the highest level without following trends but rather real blood, sweat and tears. The scene needs a thing like that. Simply brilliant!

Rating: 9,5 /10

Recommandations: Through The Open Door, The Machine Stops

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

Lineup:

Sarah Teets – Vocals

Jeff Teets – Guitars, Backing Vocals

Kalin Schweizerhof – Drums

Mike LePond – Bass (session)

Tracklist:

01. Back from the Edge

02. Through the Open Door

03. Moment of Flight

04. Dreamwalker

05. The Machine Stops

06. Consequence of Choice

07. End of Eternity

08. Onward (Destiny Calls II)

Author: Possessed / Translation: Dine