

# Metal Only

Das einzig WAHRE Metalradio im Netz!

Band: Witch Mountain (USA)  
Genre: Doom Metal  
Label: Profound Lore Records  
Albumtitle: Mobile Of Angels  
Duration: 38:48  
Releasedate: 03.10.2014



Let us lay it on the line without further ado. Witch Mountain already exists since 1997 (with a short break from 2002 until 2005). I haven't noticed the band even though the 4th album "Mobile Of Angels" will be released.

The album starts with slow fundamental beats followed by easy-played dark chords that create a cryptic and deep atmosphere. I didn't expect what follows next; a nearly mesmerizing high female voice joins in. While listening to the album, I recognized that this female voice is the earmark of the band. Deepest Doom is highlighted by a female voice.

However, the songs fall into monotony with the passage of time not even the high tones of the female lead singer can change anything. Almost nothing changes in the song structure. Again and again following the same halting chords merely minor solos leave the music. But it is not so dreary that one skips to the next song, because the music still excites a little bit.

The song "Can't Settle" is rather quick and lively. The vocalist joins again in the song with inflected speech. What's more, the voice is one more very high and doesn't fit the overall picture. One can see it as diversity of the general genre characteristics, but the female voice rather turns the melancholy songs into ballads. The melancholy parts, where the growls start, are more thrilling and have more esprit. Afterwards it rather sounds like Soft Rock and is far too boring.

Everything else is as usual for Doom; slowly chords and a fundamental beat that goes throughout the whole song as well as loosening minor solos to prevent the music to fall too much in monotony. The second side of the album isn't melancholy anymore. One is for example backed by a soft Swing Pattern of the drums and open guitar chords accompanied with the clean background vocals of the rest of the guys. That's why the nice dark atmosphere flies away.

It may sound like the voice is completely amiss and the female vocalist is unwelcome but this wasn't my intention. The vocalist has a beautiful and powerful voice, but it is too ever-present and more diversity in voice would sound also quite good because I clearly like the musical arrangement of the album. Especially the minor solos have a positive effect of the rating. If they had used more growls, the album would have had more diversity and facets.

It remains an album that isn't bad at all but hasn't convinced me due to the mentioned points of criticism.

Conclusion:

The first met with the band will also be the last. I am not really convinced. The musical arrangement is a success but the whole execution isn't good at all.

Rating: 5,5/10

Recommendations: Can't Settle

Weblink: <https://www.facebook.com/witchmountain>

LineUp:

Nathan Carson - Drums  
Rob Wrong – Guitars  
Uta Plotkin - Vocals  
Charles Thomas - Bass

Tracklist:

01. Psycho Animundi
02. Can't Settle
03. Your Corrupt Ways (Sour the Hymn)
04. Mobile of Angels
05. The Shape Truth Takes

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