

Metal Only

Das einzig WAHRE Metalradio im Netz!

Band: Midnight Eternal (USA)
Genre: Symphonic Metal
Label: Inner Wound Recordings
Albumtitle: Midnight Eternal
Duration: 49:40
Releasedate: 29.04.2016



With their eponymous debut album, New York-based Midnight Eternal set sail to the wide ocean of Symphonic Metal. This is not an easy effort if one thinks of the masses of bands that already bustles within this genre and considering their rather kitschy name I was sceptical if Midnight Eternal would be able to hold their ground. In the end it is not that bad but it remains an album with high and low points.

Directly and without frills the quintet opens with "Till The Better End", with fast guitar volleys alternating with hymnal melodies, deep drums and an orchestral substructure that always stays concise but never pushes itself too strong in the foreground. Musically seen it's a proper work, even if the first track cannot thrill me that strong yet. With this they sound too arbitrary and do not have an unique selling point that could ensure them the interest of the listener, compared to all the other Symphonic bands. Furthermore the angelic voice of singer Raine Hilai cannot thrill me. Also in the following "Repentance" the vocals are the deficit, even though the song cuts a good figure apart from that. The fast, powerful track presents itself far better than the opening song, with this they actually remind me of Nightwish in some passages.

After this, "Signs Of Fire" is really able to surprise me. Without doubt this song is the best one on the whole album, goes straight to your ears and stays there. Above all, Raines vocals cut a far better figure, standing alone as well as in duet with their male colleagues, namely because she does not try to plod in the highest fields of the musical scale. A chant that is a bit deeper fits significantly better in my opinion, also in the title track "Midnight Eternal" this facet comes into one's own. The occasional male vocals, however, are replaceable, and it would have been better if one had given up the growling in "Shadows Fall". Musically, after this portrayed initial difficulties the album remains at a proper level, considering that it is even a debut album there is nothing to grumble. Sure that the classical, calm ballad "The Lantern" must not be missing, and with the epic final "First Time Thrill" the New York guys also show that they do not stop at longer, more complex songs.

Conclusion:

It is not the big hit yet, although as a debut album it is a proper piece of work that shows plenty potential. That has to be extended on the following album, if one wants to hold ground against all the other Symphonic Metal bands.

Rating 6/10

Recommendations: Signs Of Fire, Midnight Eternal, When Love And Faith Collide

Weblink: <http://www.midnighteternal.com> , <http://www.midnighteternal.com>

Lineup:

Raine Hilai - Lead Vocals
Richard Fischer - Guitar, Vocals
Greg Manning - Bass, Vocals
Boris Zaks - Keyboards
Dan Prestup - Drums

Tracklist:

01. 'Till The Bitter End
02. Repentance
03. Signs Of Fire
04. Shadows Fall
05. The Lantern
06. Believe In Forever
07. Midnight Eternal
08. When Love And Faith Collide
09. Like An Eternity
10. Silence
11. Pilgrim And The Last Voyage
12. First Time Thrill

Author / Translator: Sebbi