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Style Darkrock



My Last Prayer



Biography:

Downfall gathers a dark - yet beautiful compilation of rock tunes with metallic feel. Put these songs together, mix them with renaissance-styled/autumn-like coverart and you'll get an album called "My Last Prayer". Downfall's debut album has waited itself for two years after the release of "Dark Parade" MCD. "It has been a conscious choice to wait until the time is right and the songs are finished the way that everyone in Downfall is satisfied before the release of "My Last Prayer" " explains guitarist *Timo Eskelinen*. "Finnish rock/metal scene has never been in such a good shape as it is now, so this was the perfect time for the release" adds vocalist *Jani Peippo*.

Material of "My Last Prayer" has been described as "dark melodic rock metal", but there is more to it than normal Scandinavian - almost cliché-like - melancholy and darkness. Though every song has its own chief point that makes the song interesting - whether it is a crunchy guitar riff, frequent drum pattern or a deep synth melody - it all comes down to the oldest saying of the industry: "Keep It Simple Stupid". Although "My Last Prayer" contains almost prog-like rhythms, the main theme of the album is a simple and straight forward hard rock. "MLP is made concentrating massive amounts of effort in the coherence of the themes rather than polishing up the solo notation" summarizes guitarist *Hannu Kumpula*.

The strength of "My Last Prayer" is that it founds a larger audience than a normal metal album because it does not contain any strict genre specific elements like gothic vocals etc. There is a bit from many different genres but not enough to label "My Last Prayer" to any specific locker. "We haven't tried to make up a new genre of metal and then proclaim that we are the forefathers of this new 'dark-poetic-gothic-melodic-rock-metal-BS style' like many bands do when not wanting to be categorized. We have made 10 rock songs which in our own opinion are good enough that we don't need to invent any more genres" *Kumpula* states. For example in "Hollow Mind" the retroish synth at the beginning is almost a gothic like element, the verse contains prog-like rhythms and melodic baseline, for all that the chorus summarizes these elements as a straight forward hard rock tune with nothing excess.

New Finnish metal bands are still the main comparison subjects like it is understandable: Sentenced, HIM, Charon, Entwine and many more have been put on the same line with Downfall. "As said before, there are elements from various genres which makes critics cling easily to these elements and label Downfall as similar to HIMs, Entwines etc. only by this one thing" *Kumpula* speculates. For example "My Last Prayer" has not very much in common with any of HIM records, still in almost every review **HIM** is mentioned. "I think that is due to some synth melodies in "In Your Heart (only in Russian version)" and "Hollow Mind" " *Eskelinen* wonders. Forgetting the details in different songs, there is one thing that stays the same in every Downfall tune: the rock-solid, airbraking and powerful vocals. *Jani Peippo* has proven to be one of the best rock singers in Finland and he is a very important cornerstone of Downfall.

Tracklisting:

01. Hateshades 4:02
02. Sweetest Wrath 3:32
03. Hollow Mind 3:55
04. Time To Pay 4:18
05. My Last Prayer 3:43
06. Torn Apart 4:10
07. Soulsearching 4:00
08. Revelation Black 4:09
09. Dark Parade 3:51
10. Withered 3:50

Discography:

My Last Prayer
Dark Parade (Low Frequency 2000)

Line-up:

Timo Eskelinen - guitar
Hannu Kumpula - guitar
Kalle Tulonen - drums
Dmitry Martynoff - bass
Jani Peippo - vocals

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