



Piercing The Spiritual Fabric With The Energies Conducted By amGOD

Dominik Van Reich when you here that name for those that keep a close eye on the Industrial music scene you'd know he was one half of yelworC. Now he has a new project called amGOD and is in the process of having his new double CD, Dreamcatcher, coming out in the late fall. I loved yelworC and was curious about Dominik's new project. I was so intrigued I contacted him and wanted an interview with this fascinating musician. This is a monumental interview for those yelworC fans and fans of industrial music done right. So without further ado here is the interview with amGOD.

1.CAM: Thank you Dominik for talking with us about amGod it is an honor to have you. How did the inception of amGod happen?

Ditto...

After differences with my past label "Celtic Circle Productions" and Peter Devin from "yelworC", I retrieved from the scene and stopped for a while, making music. In the early 90's the EBM-scene was detached more and more from the pure techno style. I liked the elements of this electronic generation and I started some projects in this area, especially for live presentation. I made some steps with an "Hardcore/Hardtrance" project called "A.H.H." ("Amgod's Hardcore Hell"), the "Goa" scene with "M-God" and the newest one under my artist name "Dominik van Reich" with an "Electro/Techno/Minimal" project. Therefore I produced many tracks with some local techno-DJ's and I have co-produced some "more-commercial-techno-style" tracks.

The "good old style" I had never forgot, and I have ever liked it, but for a long time, I found, that there was not the right time to recover my "amGod" project. In the last years, one can determine that there are many resurrections and that more and more a mixture of all electronic styles will be accepted by the people. So, I decided to continue with the "amGod" project and include all of my experiences and influences of the last years into it...

2.CAM: You have a new release coming out called Dream-Catcher is it a conceptual CD?

Yes, it is. The thematically background will contain the abysses of mankind and the decline of today's society. There are for example the songs "Schuldig (Guilty)" and "I am Innocent", which shows a perspective view of a mass murder. Or "War Trap", its concentrating on the always actual theme of war. The track "Dreamcatcher" will be the opening track. It will describe how the powers of darkness will stretch out their hands to your seeming secure dreams. Like my opening track on the "yelworC - Brainstorming" CD ("Funeral Procession") or the last Intro of the "amGod - Half Rotten And Decayed" CD ("Fall Out"), "Dreamcatcher" will come also with soundtrack elements and very hypnotic beats. Furthermore I will put at least 3 remixes of older Songs on the album. There will be a newer version of my "yelworC" hit "Soulhunter".

You will find there also finished versions of "Crime!" and "CyberChrist" from the album "Crime!" (Included in the "Half Rotten And Decayed" 3-CD-box, which was not authorized by me for my last label "Celtic Circle Productions".

Perhaps I will decide, to make one more remix of an old "yelworC" song... Anyway, there will be enough stuff on the album to satisfy the audience. :-)

The present sound of "amGod" is shaped by harsh guitar riffs, electro-, industrial,- and classical elements and very danceable beats. My hard and dominant vocals gives the music their darkly and threatening character.

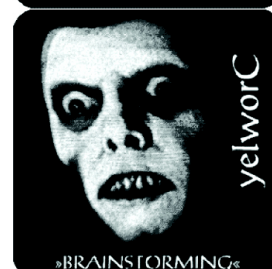
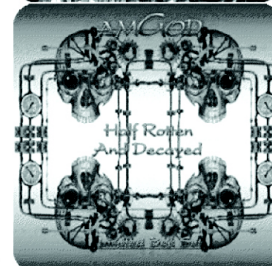
3.CAM: Where is it being recorded at and who engineered it?

You have to know, that I'm a perfectionist in my music. So I only publish songs, by which I'm 100% satisfied. I prefer to engineer my songs myself at my own studio, which i built up at my flat over years. I only record the guitar tracks external in the rehearsal room of my guitar player "Ca\$h", were we also prepare the live concerts. A foreign producer or engineer will never implement my musical perceptions to my satisfaction. But I would be open to a foreign engineer, if it would be "Trent Reznor" or "Dave Ogilvie". :-)

At my time under "yelworC", I also was responsible for the final mixing and mastering, but at this time the technical requirements were not really the best.

4.CAM: Who did the art work for it?

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All of the artwork will be done by Phil Amelung from "Armageddon Industries". He is a 3D character modeler, web designer, painter. I know him very well almost 15 years. His pictures are morbid, dark and intensive, and he is the right person to implement my music into pictures. He also supports me to create the video animations for the live concerts.

5.CAM: What does a live show with amGod consist of?



I prefer to give the audience a powerful charismatic show of myself... So you will never see me standing only behind the instruments. I will be supported by my guitar player "Ca\$h" and my technical live supporter "Marty" at the keyboards. In the future, I hope to add live performer as drummer and bass player...

A live show also contains video animations and project-related decoration.

6.CAM: Is there a meaning behind the name amGod?



The name has got its derivation from the word "doGma" and symbolizes the first commandment in the inverted sense "I am God".

Similarity to "I am God" are conscious chosen. It doesn't connect only with myself, but also with the egotism in sense of the monotheism, of every thinking individual. "amGod" is very similar to narcissism (morbid or conceited falling in love with oneself) in the meaning. The most conflicts (like war, cruelty, aggression ...) are the results of envy, dissatisfaction, depression, aggression ... in our modern society. The thirst for money and the striving of power are destroying the existence of mankind. The name "amGod" symbolizes that kind of behavior and egotism.

7.CAM: What message are you trying to convey through your music?



To look into the abyss of our own souls and never give up to learn and make it better; To be open minded and never close the eyes for the shit which happens on earth by human being and the society. I never wanted to make depressive music, as if I have given up.

8.CAM: Any ideals or beliefs that you cling to that comes across in your music?

Don't sell yourself and your musician soul. :-)

9.CAM: Where would our readers be able to find out more in concerns with amGod and purchasing your material?

The most detailed information from "amGod", they will find at my homepage (www.amgod.info). I have also a myspace and a facebook profile. On all they can listen to some "amGod" songs, to have a musical imagination what they will awaiting. They get the most topical information, if they contact me directly. :-)

Actually I have signed to "alfa matrix" (www.alfa-matrix.com), where I will release the new album "Dreamcatcher" approximately in May/June 2010.

As I said before, I made many experiences in different styles of music. So, all my influences will be adapted in the new album. Be sure, that the people will recognize the "amGod" style. In order to cover up all my ideas and influences, I decided to produce a double CD with more than 20 songs.

One will be more shaped by harsh guitars riffs, based on electronic elements and the other one will have more electro/ techno/industrial/soundtrack elements.

Additional I can say that usually every "alfa matrix" album comes along also in a limited edition. In my case there will be a third CD which contains remixes from various Bands and several "techno" dj's.

At the moment have agreed:

Bands: Leaetherstrip (Denmark), Kant Kino (Norway), Implant (Belgium), Experiment Haywire (USA), Geo Alessandro (Italy), QEK Junior (Germany), Christian Limonet IV (Germany), ...

DJ's: Alex Dune (Fumakilla), Gilbert Martini & Joseph Disco (Greatstuff), Tonio Barrientos (Platform B), Linus (Exun), ... all from Germany

10.CAM: What are your thoughts about Peter Devin continuing yelworC without you?

I wish him only the best...

11.CAM: Do you feel religion and politics are important in the music field?



Yes, because I think that musicians reach a lot of people and speak out loud their opinion about themes which the commercial media do not respond. But they have not to be the only contents. There exist many other themes, which are worth to speak.

12.CAM: What are your thoughts on commercialism in the music industry?

You mean stuff like "America's got Talent" and the many, many "made" bands, like the boy groups etc?

I think, it is a big problem for the real musicians that the record industry went to the stock exchange, because they think only in quarters.

An authentic musician needs time to be successful. A made one has to bring immediately success and its not important how long, the next one will be ready to start.

I can only hope, that the people are feed up with this kind of "retort" music.

Actually you can watch counter movements; thanks of internet. Musicians can introduce their bands and ideas without any label and promotion, it's nearly a subculture, and they have meanwhile many fans. I know some guys who love



the Brazilian punk-crossover bands and without the internet they would even don't know that they exist.

So there is hope in the future ...

13.CAM: What influences do you draw from for the sound of amGod?

Of course the good old times.... Bands like Skinny Puppy, Front 242, Nitzer Ebb, SPK, The Normal, Cabaret Voltaire, Coil, Front Line Assembly, Leaetherstrip, as well as David Bowie, Depeche Mode, The Doors, Joy Division, Neurosis etc.

In the last time bands from the "techno" scene like Prodigy, Aphex Twin, Chemical Brothers, Underworld, Timo Maas etc., and of course my own impressions of life and

my personal environment.

14.CAM: Any final words you'd like to impart on us?

I agree with the philosophy of "Zarathustra":

We only need to know the three principles: good reflection, good word, and good deed, and the purification of water, soil, air, and fire.

Prophets and confidence by itself are not necessary, to conduct the mankind to ethical and humanitarian behavior.

If you bring to mind, how often the rulers of different religions and states send their supporters to war, only to expand their own power, then we realize what disastrous part religion and their resulting confidence perceptions often played and still do.

Thank you Dominik for talking with us about amGOD we are looking forward to hearing more about this project. amGOD is an evolution of Dominik's older work and it is very menacing and thought provoking. We are looking forward to hearing DreamCatcher since we previewed the snippets on his Myspace. Those that like really good industrial music keep an eye out and an ear open for amGOD. This release will be well worth the money it already has the Culture Asylum stamp of approval. Kudos to you Dominik and keep fighting the good fight my friend.

