

BATTLE HELM




MIRACLE FLAIR

BY ANDERS EKDAHL

APRIL 20, 2017

INTERVIEWS

 Switzerland is best known for the cliché chocolate and clocks but for us into metal there is MIRACLE FLAIR. Answers by Nicole Hartmann Anders Ekdahl ©2017

You have one of these names that do not really tell what kind of metal you play. How hard was it to come up with the name?

-We wanted to keep it open, to leave space for interpretation and our own thoughts. It wasn't easy to find the perfect name and we thought a long time until we found it. The choice of the band name is even more important than I thought at the time. There is not a single day when

I do not deal with it in writing, reading, or at least mentally. We are satisfied with our choice.

As I am sure of we are quite a few that are rather new to you guys could you give us a short introduction to the band?

-Miracle Flair is a band following the creative lead of Nicole Hartmann and Daniel Maurizi. We are responsible for the compositions and started to write and work together a few years ago. After being in bands with various playing styles we realized we needed to go our own way. We have noticed that we complement each other very well and tried to combine our strengths to form our style. It was a long journey to find the right musicians. With Cédric Bron (drums) and Jonas Lüscher (bass) we have found two great guys and musicians to pursue this path.

We all carry baggage with us that affects us in one way or another but what would you say have been the single greatest influence on your sound?

-That's a very interesting question. The shortest answer would be „life itself“.

Some difficult years with losses forced us to look a lot differently. Fate has made us even more reflective and melancholic, but also brought us closer to ourselves. It has certainly affected my lyrics and our songwriting. It also allowed us to grow and showed us what is important.

In retrospect it's a question of the perspective whether something was a burden or a bridge forward.

Musically, there are many influences in our songs. For this reason, we are not easy to label. Daniel and I grew up mainly listening to Rock and Metal. Later on we both studied at and graduated as music majors from a Jazz-School. Miracle Flair is the result of life, our years of musical activity in different styles and projects.

What is the scene like in your area? Is it important that there is some sort of local scene for a band to develop or can a band still exist in a vacuum of no scene/no bands?

-We do have some big festivals like „Sonisphere“ or „Greenfield“ as well as a lot of smaller but very atmospheric places. Besides the festivals the most famous venues for metal in Switzerland are probably „Konzertfabrik Z7“ or „Komplex 457“.

A lot of international acts love to play in our country, the conditions seem to be still good for them. I guess for a newcomer band it is like anywhere else – not easy.

These days a band can organize a lot themselves but nothing is comparable with live experience. Therefore it is very important to have possibilities to play and exchange with the audience or other musicians to learn and improve. Probably it's easier with a local scene but as musicians we are used to driving long distances.

Something I have often wondered about is if you feel that you are part of something bigger and greater when you play in a band, that you are part of a movement sort of?

-Music is what we want to pursue and want to do. Through our style, we automatically become part of a scene, which also feels good.

It doesn't necessarily have to do with something bigger but it frees and creates access to other feelings or worlds. It is an opportunity to express oneself or share experiences. From this point of view, it opens up horizons but one can also explore this as a listener.

When you play the sort of music you play I guess you cannot have birds and bees on the cover of your album? What is a great album cover to you?

-A good album cover already has a meaningful power and symbolizes the music itself. In the best case, it provokes thought and awakens curiosity. Similar to the band name, it is interesting to leave room for interpretation. For „Angels Cast Shadows“ we wanted something strong but not destructive, mystical, dark with a hint of hope. light and shadow. We are happy with the result. It fits to our music.

What is your opinion on digital verses physical? Is digital killing music?

-The developments are continuing. We must move with the times. It has become easier to procure music and to discover something new. We need less space to store and collect it.

But it is difficult to keep an overview, to select, and many people lose the ability to deepen themselves.

Then there are two other major aspects regarding this question – the visual and the music itself.

In addition to music, the visual always played a very important role. The album cover, the booklet, the band photos, general information, the credits and not to mention the lyrics already tell a story. It is exciting to discover the music also in this way.

The listening experience has changed a lot. Unfortunately, people get used to the compressed sound and the poorer quality of the digital files. Very often there is a huge difference between the studio recording and the final product. The recordings lose their power and dynamism. Details blur or even disappear.

What kind live scene is there for bands like yours?

-There are rock/metal venues as well as festivals. Through our various influences we fit well with many other bands or styles. Apart from this, Miracle Flair is very adaptable for smaller bars or clubs. We can also play acoustically. We love to play in both ways because it's a different sound experience and atmosphere.

When you play live is it a happening or do you see it more as a party?

-Rather the first, the party can come afterwards.

Music itself and to perform live means a lot to us. We like to show our dedication to the listeners. Of course, we are happy when our music reaches our listeners, they enjoy the performance, or just have a good time.

What would you like to see the future bring?

-It would be great if people would keep going to concerts and were open and curious to discover new music. This helps support a lively, healthy and happening live scene.

Personally we want to go on like this in style and passion. Hopefully we will get some interesting opportunities to play and present ourselves at festivals or other cool locations. Also, touring would be good for us. A third album is already in our thoughts and we hope for good inspiration to write lots of cool songs.

In other words, we wish to be able to do what we love and to share it.

Also we want to learn, to improve, to collect good experiences and to enjoy this path.

Thanks for your time and interest in Miracle Flair!

MIRACLE FLAIR - Angels Cast Shadows Full Album

