

DARK Music for EVIL - Minded People

By Shan



Group: Inquisition
Title: Wraith
Genre: Goth Pop
Label: L.B. Hughes Productions

When I first popped this cd in the player and sat back to listen, I thought there was some sort of mistake. Surely this was Peter Murphy! But no, Canadian singer L.B. Hughes seems to be the vocal twin of ex-Bauhaus frontman Peter Murphy. Perhaps the similarity best reveals itself in the dirge-like "Beowulf." The melody is slow and sombre, very suiting for the rich tones of Hughes' voice. Tracks three and four, "Ode to an Omen" and "Confrontation to Thy Brother" are two more slow and strong songs. Get out your black clothes and silver jewelry, folks. Although there are a few up-tempo and poppy songs, this album is a serious slice of goth.

The upbeat songs may be the only weak songs on the album. The lyrics can be somewhat pedantic ("Candle-

light on the rose so red / spawns across the ocean bed / sand beneath our entwined feet / slowly do our bodies meet"—"Imagination if Free"). Nevertheless, the music is worth giving a serious listen to. If you don't have access to this little Canadian gem, request



it some time from your friendly neighbourhood CHSR dj at 453-4979. The album is currently in playbox, after all.

Group: Helios Creed
Title: Busting Through the Van Allan Belt
Genre: Experimental Industrial
Label: Cleopatra

This album varies wildly from song to song, from the very good to the amazingly bad. The title track, "Busting Through the Van Allan Belt" is perhaps the strongest track. Samples are taken from the Apollo mission, and they help to add a bit more spice to a nasty piece of electronic body music.

The drum tracks are simply amaz-

ing in track four—"Alien Lady." As I write this review, I am reminded time and time again about how very glad I am that I do not have a migraine today. The filtered guitars buzz in and out, framing the treated vocals in a bizarre way.

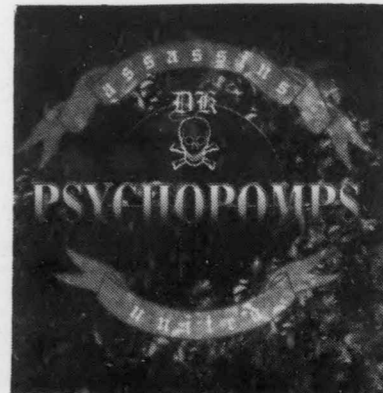
One of the very bad songs on this album is "Hyperventilation." Although it could be called innovative by some, I personally think saxophones and big bopper vocals do not mesh very well



with cyberpunk synthesizers. This song is a big brown steaming piece of shit. My final word on the album? Give it a listen sometime, but don't waste your money on it.

Group: X-Marks the Pedwalk
Title: The Killing Had Begun
Genre: Industrial Dance
Label: Cleopatra

This is great Great GREAT!!! Needless to say, it's gonna get lots and lots of airplay on *The Erotic Tablesaw*, Fredericton's only industrial specialty



show Friday nights from 9-11 on CHSR-fm 97.9 (shameless plug, cuz it's my show). Anyway, the whole album is industrial dance in the classic tradition. It's kinda like old Front 242, old Skinny Puppy, and old A Split Second with new synths and samples. Although none of the tracks really break new ground or deviate from the tried and true form of mid-80s electronic body music, X-Marks the Pedwalk perform their tracks with demonstrated talent.

Buy this album; listen to this album; dance to this album. 'Nuff said.

Group: Psychopomps
Title: Assassins United
Genre: Industrial Dance
Label: Cleopatra

If you are a very religious person, you probably will not take well to the opening track of this album: "Godshit." "There ain't no God, there ain't no Jesus" is part of the lyrics. *Assassins DK United* is decidedly atheistic. But, if you

are agnostic and like good heavy dance music, you are going to move that body, shake that body to this album. As the liner notes say, "This record is meant to be played louder than bombs and is dedicated to the desires of body slam." "Drug Addict," the second track, is extremely heavy, and the drums already sound louder than bombs when my stereo is only at a three.

Assassins DK United is another album which will get heavy airplay on *The Erotic Tablesaw*. My only cause for complaint is some of the titles. Song titles like "Masturbation Generation" and "Sadistic Killer Instinct" only make me think of cheesy death metal songs. Couldn't they have thought up something better than that? Oh, one more complaint. The smiling skull on the album cover looks really silly.

This
space in
memory
of
Lilith.
May
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Rest in
Peace

Book Review (Continued)

logical experiments of Van Helmont in the seventeenth century, the theories of NASA researchers regarding environmental sustainability, even Rachel Carson's famous 1962 book *Silent Spring*. But nowhere in this history so we get a glimpse of how the larger part of the world's societies have been developing in their attitude towards ecology.

This month, the CBC has been airing a four part TV series, *The Human Race*, which in part explores the game

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of industrial "catch-up" being played by developing nations with the First World. The series points out in its first episode that in India, a nation of over 900 million people, industries based in Europe and the U.S.A. have essentially created a rapidly growing consumer culture. After all, if you're a captain of industry, why not capture more consumer territory by creating a middle class and a mass market? To meet the ever-growing demands of the domestic Indian market, factories and mills are being established. Industrially developing countries lack laws for environmental protection from industry, a situation exploited for decades when the factories were producing for First World markets, and now being exploited on an alarmingly larger scale to meet Third World demands. And the industrial world still advertises its products to the people of the Third World, creating its own utopic myth and increasing demand for the material wealth that seems to provide a healthier, more comfortable, and even a freer lifestyle.

The problem appears to be more monstrous than anything that could be addressed by a closed dialogue between members of the post-industrial First World, which is now giving itself the luxury of pondering the consequences of its past actions. The facts are, we're outnumbered, and imposing our environmental standards upon the rest of the world isn't possible.

Awareness of the idea of environmental sustainability is more widespread than ever. Somewhere in Fredericton, there's someone who was opinionated enough to paint "environmental sustainability is a deadly fantasy" in black on the sidewalk in front of my residence. While I don't necessarily agree with that view, I do believe that green propagandists such as Nickerson need to come up with more realistic approaches to sustainability that will take the ever-increasing North/South divide into account. When the issue under discussion involves the entire planet, a tiny minority can't presume to speak for everyone.

Now that you've seen what a run-of-the-mill review in the *Brunswickan* looks like, let me invite you to contribute your own. Free stuff, like the book reviewed above, regularly arrive in the Entertainment Editor's mailbox. All we ask in return is that you write your opinion on a piece of paper, just like I did. Yes, it's really that easy! That's the "soft-sell." If you want the "hard sell," the *Brunswickan* is always a welcome place for masochists without minds or souls who can sit glued to machines for hours and like abuse, abuse and more abuse. Just come on up to the staff meeting Friday at 12:30 (Room 35 of the SUB, same floor as the cafeteria) and let an editor wearing Docs order you around.

- by Mimi Cormier

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