

KARKADAN



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black heavy metal

SHORT INFO

- 1997-09 Foundation
1999-12 Release of the first edition of
„Eternal Black Reflections“ (CD)
2000-01 www.Karkadan.com is online
2001-08 Performance on Summer Breeze OA
2002-01 Release of the second edition of
„Eternal Black Reflections“ (CD)
2002-07 Release of 10“ picture disc
„The Lost Secrets“, limited to 333
2002/2003 Recordings and release of
„Silent prayers of the forlorn ones“



1999 *Eternal Black Reflections*



2002 *The Lost Secrets*

Gigs with bands like :

Agathodaimon, Die Apokalyptischen Reiter,
Belphegor, Dunkelgrafen, Eisregen, Eminenz,
Graveworm, Hollenthon, Hypnos, Lord Belial,
Morrigan, Penetralia, Satanic Slaughter,
Siebenbürgen ...

Gigs in countries like :

Belgien, Luxemburg, Schweiz, Slowenien ...

Songs on several compilations, e.g.:

Darklover (U.S.), European Death-o-Phobia II,
Vönger, ...

All records available at Nuclear Blast Europe.

In foreign countries partly available on Aftermath
Music (N), HAK (U.S.), ...



2002/2003
Silent prayers of the forlorn ones

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BAND HISTORY

In September of 1997 Dennis Klink on the keys, Thomas Reeß on the drums, Robby Beyer at the vocals, Florian Spannagel and Michael Zieschang on the guitars wrote the original kind of Black Metal on their banner and formed up the basis of **KARKADAN**. But the first creative activities of the band were taken up at the beginning of December. The line-up of this time was replenished by replacing Michael Zieschang on the guitar with Daniel Pütz and Felix Moosmann joining the band on the bass guitar. In seeking its own style the music of **KARKADAN** developed to a very varied mix of the dark types of Metal. The result is a symbiosis between hard Heavy Metal and extreme Black and Death Metal vocals. Because of no better description the followed direction was called „Black Heavy Metal“. Only three months after its foundation the band did its very successful live debut. The very positive reactions were the reason for the decision to present the written material to the public. In December of 1999 the debut album called “Eternal black reflections”, which was first thought to be a simple demo record, was finished. It was recorded and produced at the May Day Studios by Vagelis Maranis (Sanvoisen). After the recordings Florian Spannagel left the band for musical reasons and Thomas Reeß for health reasons. Thomas Reeß was replaced by Marcel Frano on the drums for a short period. After numerous changes on the instruments the band has found a new line up which has a good future. At the side of the founding members Daniel Pütz (g) and Robby Beyer (voc) the band is now completed by Philip Oefner on the guitar, Christian Grunenberg on the bass guitar and Martin Daniel on the drums. This line up already proved on various live events. The band has won more and more fans playing various gigs which were always acoustical and optical impressing events.



Karkadan 2002



Robby (vocals)



Oefner (guitar)

REVIEWS

Eternal Black Reflections :

Metal Inside

October 2001 (translated)

The origins of Karkadan can be dated back to somewhere in the medieval times around 1997 when the band committed themselves to black metal. But soon the guys around singer Robby Beyer recognized that there was more on their musical mind, something independent. So they finished their only album till now at the end of 1999. Musically these southern German dark metal guys cover quite a wide range of metal which can be seen listening to all of their songs. So it starts with the quite fast opener and title track "Eternal black reflections" and with its aggressive screaming vocals this song is to be categorized as Black Metal where the keys are used quite heavy. Chanted in German the next song starts with a guitar solo until the fast and heavy like riffs begin. The vocals are very dark and somehow I am missing a little bit atmosphere here. With the song "Sleepwalker" it is totally different and this song starts with a gloomy keyboard part which is used in nearly the whole song. The guitars are also not heading for speed and so this song seems very mystical. "Never Ending Love" starts with a faster power metal riff and promptly the aggressive come up. A really cool combination of these two styles and additionally with very good melodies played by the keyboard. Because of its variety this song advances to a real highlight and is anyway my personal fave on this album. Generally seen "Eternal black reflections" is offering something for every metal head and also because of the quite fair production I can recommend this piece.

Xhb



Martin (drums)

Power-Metal.de

September 2001 (translated)

Oh boy. I am deeply impressed what these 5 Swabian Black Metal guys burned on CD. On the other side, it is not really Black Metal what you can hear on "Eternal black reflections". Here and there it is mixed up with some Heavy Metal riffs, it is changing between Black and Death vocals and you can even find progressive elements in some parts.

KARKADAN, that is : Robby Beyer (v), Daniel Pütz (g), Philip Oefner (g), Gruni (b) and Martin Daniel (d). Since 1997 the group round their fronter and textwriter Robby is existing and they already got some successful gigs on their side. Therefor it is no wonder that I got the second version of "Eternal black reflections". The debut album which was released in December was sold out in a very short time. But lets have a closer look at the CD. KARKADAN do manage very well to combine classical Black Metal elements with lots of different nuances. The quintett are not backing off from pairing Black Metal vocals with Thrash or Heavy riffs ("The Calling"), but always abide by their dark side. They even do also not recoil from German Vocals, whereby "Niederkniender Todeskampf" partly reminds me of CREMETORY. The thrashy "Never ending love" is pleasing, too, with the keyboards fully integrated like in all 7 songs without being nerved. Especially the first class production of "Eternal black reflections" is something to point out, which is not a standard for self produced records. KARKADAN are proving very impressive that multifaceted and imaginative Black Metal does not have to be from Sweden or Norway. Why drift far away if the good is so near that often.

The homepage of KARKADAN is also worth to be seen.

Alex



Philip (guitar)

Cerberus Zine

July 2001 (translated)

The underground booooooms !!! It is really heavy what some bands are pulling out of the hat. We have heard that much bands which follow the melodic style but I have never had any band doing this the way Karkadan are doing it. Great !!! Very much melodies. Everything with a beautiful keyboard in the back which is partly very dark and on the other hand very romantic. The voice is changing between screams and growls. Sometimes it is both at the same time. This band is very determined and will realize lots of more stuff for sure. The guitar work is very sophisticated and the drums show also up their technical knowledge. You can here the album at anytime anywhere for a really long time. Come on guys. PLEAAAAAAASE !!!

Beleth



Daniel (guitar)

REVIEWS

Brutal Punishment

July 2001 (original)

KARKADAN play a very unique style of metal. It's what I can only describe as power/death/black metal. A nice combination of all styles I must say. The music can go from playing black metal to even original heavy metal. Very melodic & heavy as fuck. This band use keyboards to create a very dark atmosphere. No it's not a shitty keyboard atmosphere bands like CHILDREN OF BODOM or DIMMU BORGIR would use. This music will definitely take you onto a journey into darkness. Very awesome music indeed. The solos are very challenging & complex. The music even at times thrashes very fast & extremely catchy. KARKADAN even put out slam mosh riffs that most death metal bands of today can do as well. I wouldn't be surprised if KARKADAN would get sign. I look forward to hearing more shit from this band in the future ...

Brutal Joe

Metal Hammer

May 2001 (translated)

Founded in September 1997, Karkadan from southern Germany recorded their demo "Eternal black reflections" after two years of existence and some positive reactions on first gigs. It found it's way to us a little bit late, but it is worth to have a closer look on it. Karkadan are playing an quite original mixture of hard Heavy- and Black/Death Metal, whereby the las' influences mainly can be found in the voice. The demo is published as CD including a twelve pages, professional printed booklet and leaves behind a very good impression. From the sound to the songwriting a successful product and a worthy beginning, which should call some labels on the plan. The seven Songs are variedly and interesting structured...Contact: ...

Martin Wickler

Ablaze

March 2001 (translated)

Black Heavy Metal you may call the style of music the German Karkadan are playing. They cope with this description for all the 35 minutes of this release. The songs paint an atmosphere of gloominess with a distant sound of keyboard just to burst out into pure heavy metal-solos. Acoustic parts change with bombastic ones, always staying mid-tempo. All in all a very pleasing piece of work on a high technical level with unexpected but harmonic changes of performance. I was especially surprised by the quality of this production. The explosive high-tension grooves, the crystalclear sound of each instrument, everything fits in this convincing collection of well-planned songcraft. This gorgeous selfproduced release with professional Artwork is available at...

Magnus Peror

Orkus

October 2000 (translated)

The debut of this south German band, which has been active for several years, offers seven songs showing a summary of their sound, which they call quite appropriate Black Heavy Metal. The opener and title song or also „Requiem of yearning“ show the songwriting talent of the group, especially considering the guitar work. Listening to „Niederkniender Todeskampf, which is dominated by fast and catchy guitars, or also with the successful „My Ablaze“ their description of the style seems to be even more suitable, because here heavy guitar melodies were combined with classical growl singing. „My Ablaze“ even reminds me a little bit of Maiden, which nevertheless should not deter the dark fans : „Sleepwalker“ and particularly „Never ending love“ again spread a rather longing-spherical mood by usual, but sinfonical keyboard backgrounds. Melodic blackies, who love lots of guitars, should contact : ...

Andras Kais



REVIEWS

Metal-Online

August 2000 (translated)

Karkadan - Eternal black reflections (8/10) and CD tip,
on 18.3.2001 place 18 at the all-time-faves-List (besides Hypocrisy etc.)

With "Eternal black reflections" I got the debut of the south German band Karkadan before me. Once planned as a demo it was finally the debut CD ... and that is alright. A good production and not less good songs are distinguishing this ... well, not masterpiece, but this superior album. On the search for a drawer which are likely used to categorize a band the bands style was called Black Heavy Metal. This always mostly nice if it fits perfectly :) With "Eternal black reflections" friends of typical Heavy Metal guitars (as long as they do not like this unspeakable True Metal vocals) can cope around as well as uncompromising Black Metal guys. Catchy guitar parts, widely excellent keyboard passages (which are not all super original, but very beautiful) and very good vocals, which can be associated with Melodic Death, are offering a melodic and not too sturdy sound experience. Not one of the seven songs deserves to be called poor. Of course with the time there are crystallizing personal faves. There is the black metal like title song, the more Heavy "Never ending love" and "Sleepwalker", which reminds me pleasant of Cemetery of Scream because of its arrangements and its vocals – genius ! Because all the songs are written in 1998 and the band has already new material I am really looking forward to the next release. If they are escaping the monster called "development" it will really be getting interesting again.

Pro, 27.08.2000

Purgatory of Grief

May 2000 (translated)

News from the Black League in the South of Germany - the underground is not dead yet... This CD offers us 7 tracks, written between 1998 and 1999. The style of this unique dark sound can be described as more Black/Death, mostly played in mid-tempo. Sadly, most of the material is not that up to date now- but the songs, which were played at the live gigs I've seen, sounded quite hope rising to me. The production is clear - good value for money I'd say, and mixed in an affirmative way. No dominating keyboard sound - thanks. By the way - but played in a pretty good accordingly manner. Azaroth's vocals have nothing to do with those lousy shrieks we are penetrated with the whole fucking time - they are deep as hell. The growls and grunts are performed in a fascinating way either. Eternal Black Reflections - fist fingers up for it ! I think, I really have to heartily recommend this very promising debut from KARKADAN to everyone, addicted to the dark side of music. Give it a try, and you'll discover the beauty in darkness...

79 of 100 points - review by Pain

Summer Breeze Open Air 2001 :

Metal Inside

October 2001 (transled)

Unfortunately the guys from Ludwigsburg could only give a short performance to the curious and already awakened metal heads, which I thought was very sad, because they are already one of the hopefuls of becoming big in the Black Metal genre. So there was not much time left for that big show or introducing the band, the band had to prove itself with hard and impulsive songs for getting the attention of the still a bit sleepy looking small crowd. But this did not seem a problem because they offered worth seeing melodic Black Metal to the audience. So totally the right music for waking up. They performed violent songs like "My Ablaze", "Faint", "Todeskampf" and "Eternal". So it was finally a very convincing show ! Well done guys - keep on doing this !

con

At an early hour this relatively young group had to do the opener on Friday morning. In front of the stage there were already amazingly lots of metal heads for this time and soon I would know why. The band round Robby Beyer was obvious in good mood and they seemed to please to the fans too. Their music contains lots of varied elements from the metal genres but most fitting I would describe the music as melodic Black Metal. With a burning microphone stand and spikes Karkadan fulfilled the cliché of Black Metal and hopefully some labels will recognize this soon. Thumbs up !

xhb



15.3.02 Ljubljana / Slovenia
with Agathodaimon



9.4.02 Ulm / Germany with
Lord Belial & Satanic Slaughter



24.8.01 Summer Breeze OA
with Immortal, Kreator and others