

Hail over there, how are you today ? Winter is nearly over, which means many gigs are taking place right now in Greece, aren't they ? Hello !! Thank you very much for the interview ! Yes, let's hope that the winter will end up soon. Yes there are some summer festivals this year.

How was METALMORFOSIS created ? What were the bands that influenced you for this combo ? METALMORFOSIS originally started as Mad Ages, a school band that formed in 1989, by me (Nick Banger – vocals and guitar) and Steve Breaker (drums). In 1993, we changed our name to Spectre and recorded 3 demo tapes. In 2003 we raised up as Metalmorfosis. We started listen to Metal from 1986 and we were influenced by Iron Maiden, Accept and Judas Priest.

Metal Archives gives information that METALMORFOSIS was originally formed by Nick Banger and Steve Breaker in 1989 as Mad Ages, in 1993 the band changed their name to Spectre and recorded 3 demo tapes. Could you speak a bit about these early days and how did these demo tape sound ? Yes, the 3 demo tapes of Mad Ages recorded at home and they sound very childish but back then a radio station played some songs of that old tapes because the mother of one of the members was working on that radio station. The 2 Spectre tapes were studio recordings and one home demo recording. The sound is a mix of Manilla Road with King Diamond style in vocals.

How do you explain that

**Internet can bring you nice discovering when you're looking for obscure Heavy Metal combos. I found a Greek combo that was promoting Heavy Metal through their unique vinyl and decided to send some euros to the band to get the material. Once the METAMORFOSIS self title vinyl was at home, it simply kicked my ass with their 80's Heavy Metal songs. There's something fucking true and rooted to the N.W.O.B.H.M in their songs, the music and the production smell like tunes come from the glorious eighties. But not only the music crushes everything, but the lay out of the vinyl is of exceptional quality ! Nick (vocals and guitar) tells us some words about his band. Support, support, support !**

**Metalmorfosis**



Heavy Metal is so strong in Greece ? I mean that you've thousands of gigs and combos over there... I really can't explain it, maybe there are still some true Metalheads here, I also see teenagers that like the 80's Metal culture, that's good from one point but from the other I want to see them how they will look like in 10 years from now. Yes there are many gigs every year and many new bands of course but time will tell.

Let's keep on this topic, even though that now it's the Heavy Metal that's strong in your country, early combos such as Varathron, Rotting Christ, Zemial, Thou Art Lord and Necromantia opened the gates to international feedback. Do you enjoy these more extreme combos and what kind of memories do you have from the early 90's in Greece ?

Yes that's true ! All those bands were a unity back then, they played superb Black Metal and I believe better than many of Norwegian bands.

All those early Greek black metal bands deserved the success they had. Of course they opened the gates for international feedback and I believe that this will never happen to Greek Heavy Metal because most of the bands here (old and new) believe that they are rock-stars. I have many memories from those bands in the early 90ies as I bought their demos back

then and I know some of the members personally. They made a serious and professional work over the years.

What is your musical background ? When and why did you start playing instruments ? Were there some famous musicians that gave you the need of



playing music ?

I started listen to Metal back in 1986. I started play the guitar from 1988 because I wanted to learn how to play my favourite songs. Sadly till now I think I am an average guitar player and I play good only my songs. I was influenced from Iron Maiden, Accept, Judas Priest and later by Cirith Ungol and Savage Grace.

The original METALMORFOSIS exists since 2003 but you've only recorded 2 songs in 6 years !! Are you lazy or what hehehe ?

That's a long story. Not lazy for sure ! Sure is bad luck. In December 2005 we entered a studio to record 6 songs. When we realized how much will be the cost, we decided to record 4 songs. Sadly we ended up paying a huge amount of money for 2 recorded-mixed songs. I put all the money for the record pressing and the covers and most of the money for recording and mixing. So there was no turning back, 2 songs only and fast for pressing.

How was the only 2003 EP recorded ? Did you shop some labels to find a deal as you printed the vinyl yourself ? The EP took some months to be completed because I had a serious problem with my throat, it was released by the end of 2006. The situation back then was not perfect among the members that's why they departed from the band shortly after the release. I really wasn't interested to find a label because I knew that I could make better work from many so called "labels". There was no risk at all because almost everybody have listen the demo version of "Show Me The Way" and demanded an official release. In 2 days about 150 copies were sold !!! By early 2007 some labels from Germany contacted us for a future collaboration.

This EP offers really two great tunes of Power/Speed Metal that are rotten in the 80's. I

mean, fuck, I felt like discovering a jewel in a lost 80's chest. The only two songs are very memorable and crushing, the band needs to go further !!!! Could you explain us how and under which circumstance these songs were written ?

Thank you very much for your kind words !! When I first held in my hands the test press of the EP and put it in my turntable, I had the same feeling ! "Show Me The Way" is a personal story and is the beginning of METALMORFOSIS and what is all about. "Ultra Metal" is about Metal life. I really wanted to express something from these songs.

I really like the sound of this EP, what is your gear ? Did you spend a long time finding the accurate sound and gain ? You know many many people from Greece and foreign countries asked me this question ! The answer is that I used nothing but my guitar and an amp, no effects, no pedals, no shit. I just used my ears and my passion to bring Metal sound.

Nick Banger vocals are really of high quality, I feel like you're coming from an international combo. How long have you learnt to get this vocal ?

A huge thank you is not enough !!!!! You made me one of the best compliments ever !!!!! I discovered that I can sing at a high-pitch level around 1993. I took some vocal lessons around 1998 but I do all the work alone trying to put my voice into the songs I write. I just scream my passion for Metal.

When looking at your vinyl, you took care of the design, cardboard quality and the glossy printing. It's a nice piece of collector.

Was it important to you to reach such quality ?

The cover was made by me and 2 fellow students in the art school back in 1996. This cover was about to be the cover of the first Spectre LP which never came out due to various circumstances. So when the time came for METALMORFOSIS I wanted to use this cover. Of course I spent a huge amount of money for top quality covers and vinyls. It was important for me because I put my soul in it ! I really tried my best.

Let's keep on this topic, I guess you're a vinyl freak!! How large is your own collection and what are the jewels you're fucking proud of ? What do you think of the high prices we could find on





Internet for some releases ? For instance I saw a Future Tense LP at the crazy price of 140 \$ and nobody cares of this album !!!!!

Yes !!! I collect records from 1988 but I don't consider myself as a collector. I'm just a Metal freak !! I have over 3000 records and hundreds of tapes and CDs (which I really hate) but they have some rare stuff inside. Well, some of the jewels I'm proud of: Berzerks – Berzerks, Hellen – Talon Of King, Nokemono – From The Black World, Kraken – Kraken I, Shelder – God Of Vikings, Trop Feross-Resurrection, to name few. Well, the high or low prices for a record on ebay it's the law of offer and demand. I actually bought some rare stuff on ebay at a very low price. I even saw METALMORFOSIS EP the blue vinyl version for 30 euros..

You wrote me that you're a fan of the 80's French scene and combos such as H Bomb, Sortilège, Vulcain, Blasphème and so on.

What do you like so much in the French bands and how do you feel when the lyrics are in French language ? Are you seeking for any special materials from the French scene ?

Yes ! I love 80's Metal French scene. I first listened to Sortilège - Metamorphose in 1990 and I was blown away ! Now I have plenty of French metal LPs in my collection. I believe France had a very strong scene back then. I really like those bands sing in their native language as I also like bands from Spain or Hungary sung in their native language. As a matter of fact I took lessons to speak French for many years but sadly, I cannot speak them or write well. But I quite understand someone speaking French. Some rarities that I search from France is Venin and Anthracite ( I know that only 25 copies exist)

What is your view on the current scene ? Even though that you play Heavy Metal are you also into more extreme kind of Metal such as Black, Death, Grind or anything else ?

If so, what are the latest releases that impressed you ?

To tell you the truth, nothing impressed me for the last... years. As for the current scene I see many bands coming and going. My musical tastes are from classic rock up to some Death Metal with classic Metal being my main field. As for Black, Death, Grind I think that these bands are more true than the so called "Metal" bands, so they have my respect even I'm not into this extreme stuff !



What are the future plans with METALMORFOSIS ? Don't you think that with a label and a manager you could perhaps do a little buzz in the scene ? I mean that look at GOAT HORN/

CAULDRON from Canada, they have now they fan base !!!

The future plans are to record our first full-length album and do some shows with the new line up. I am in touch with a German label for the next LP. I hope that time and luck will be on our side this time. As for a manager, he must be a trustworthy person and I don't know someone now. Now I am real happy and proud from all the kind words I have heard from many fans and friends of METALMORFOSIS from all over the world !

Thanks a lot for the answers, even though this interview is a bit short the band really deserves support !!! Horn up !

I want to thank you for giving us the chance to be presented from your magazine ! Many thanks for your interest and support ! All the best !!!! Ultra Metal in your head – Ultra Metal till you're dead – Heavy Metal till the end !!!! YIAAAAAAAA AAAAAAAHHH- HHHHHHHHHH

