

Hail over there ! How the fuck are you going ?

What's the very fresh news ?

Hi Eric ! Well we're doing just fine I guess, as we're motivated to the maximum. We just played a gig with our good friends of Lonewolf recently. And that's during this gig that the compilation LP "Long Live Metal-Acte Premier" has been released, thanks to Emanes Metal recs. Apart from that we work on the tracks for our second album, and I am doing my best to organize a little European tour for February 2010 with Slough Feg, one of the finest epic Metal bands these days.

How did you create RESISTANCE ? Was it immediately a serious band ? If I'm not wrong Nathaniel you're the last one to join the combo....?

Yes, I am the last one to have joined the band. I remember having tried to start something in a Doom band, which sadly split up quite quickly. Though I was lucky enough to play a couple of songs with this band on stage. Florian (bass player) saw me then and got hooked by my stage presence and vocals. So I soon joined RESISTANCE in 2005, as we were

ent factor of our everyday life.

I've never heard the 2006 demo tape, could you describe it a bit ? Was it largely promoted back then ?

A description? In one word: lame. This demo is utter crap because we couldn't handle

our instruments properly, and I could not sing better than a pig being slowly killed ! Haha ! Thus not a lot of promotion, it was mainly sent here and there to get gigs and also as a give away for friends. Hopefully we evolved a bit since then.

Congratulation for your first full length, it's an amazing piece of Thrashing madness and it's pretty well done for a first effort, what is your point of view from the inner band on this stuff ?

Thanks ! Cool that you like it ! (you gave me so much money last time to tell good words about this release hahahaha-ed) At first we were and are still disappointed because of the overall production and some details here and

**Bang your fucking skull and praise RESISTANCE. Indeed, if you're into old school Thrash Metal and are looking for a great underground act you should check the French combo RESISTANCE. Their first full length (name above) is a convincing piece of head-banging full of beers and die-hard spirit. But once you've listened to this album and met the really nice lads behind this combo you want anything else be support them. That what Franang zine is doing**

already friends with Florian and Joël, and that good Metal is a strong bound between us. It seems that a certain chemistry came out of it and we enjoy playing together very much.

Honestly speaking the first day I heard about your band name, I thought it was an Oi combo. You know RESISTANCE is more connected with the national feeling and stuff like that, but now I understood the meaning you put behind the band name. Thence, could you tell us some words about this band name ?

Naaah, no political stuff connected to our band name. It comes from the French Heavy Metal band Killers, which started in the 80's and never quit releasing cool records until today. They have this track "Résistance", and that's where our name comes from. You might also understand it as a way to be against the grain. We follow our own way, like it or not. For us Metal/music is a passion, a very pres-

there. But in the end, what saves this album is the fresh and spontaneous edge it got. Kind of immature, but this is what gives the charm to this record. At least that's what we think and what we heard from people and bands we respect. It's also helping us not to do the same mistakes on the next recording sessions. It feels good to evolve.

Could you tell us how was the recording of the first full length "Bang Your Fucking Skull" ? Was it hard to find a proper studio and get the "right" sound immediately ?

We got the opportunity to find a guy in Karlsruhe (Germany) who's into vintage recording and owns a little studio full of analogue stuff. We got to appreciate each other, but the guy was not really knowing how our kind of Metal sounds like, and we were not enough experienced in a studio. What happened in the end is that he let us do our stuff without trying to focus on our mistakes, because none of us was completely sure on what was happening. We

# RESISTANCE





don't blame him for that at all. It's just that both parts lacked of knowledge to a certain extent on different points. In the end you get something quite representative of the best we could give at that time. So yes, it was hard to find the right sound, and we haven't found it on this album. Hopefully we do still enjoy our new tracks recorded in July of 2008.

You decided to cover a song from Manilla Road "Necropolis" that sounds pretty good at least. It's pretty seldom that new combos cover Manilla Road, I mean most of new Thrash bands prefer to cover Sodom, Destruction or Slayer. Could you explain this choice ? Thanks again for your appreciation. Well, we might play fast and have a thrashy edge in our music, but we're first and foremost fans of Metal in a very wide scale. So for us 70's rock and blues, epic/Heavy Metal are as important as aggressive stuff to define what we do. We try to play Thrash Metal as if we would never have heard Thrash Metal before. And in a way it is what sounds interesting to us. Very few actual Thrash Metal bands get my full appreciation, because too many of them simply lack identity, they often rehash what's been done, and it doesn't interest me. Right now, there's only one thrash metal band from the 2000's that I like and it's Hellish Crossfire from Germany.

According to me, Nathaniel you sound a bit like Big Boss from Root for the clear vocals. Do you agree with me and is there any plan to cover a Root song ? Hahaha ! Yeah, but I am not as old and gay as him for instance...(well...not as old...but for the second part...hehehe-ed) At least I hope so ! Haha ! Root is a band I respect for sure, but somehow I never got the time to pay enough attention to them, from Czech, I am more familiar with Debustroll and Avenger... Anyway, Big Boss has a very original and strong voice, so I take it as a compliment. Though no Root cover is in sight. We're right now working on Mercyful Fate's "The Uninvited Guest".

In the end I don't try to copy someone's style, even though I might get inspired by singers like Paul Di Anno, Mike

Scalzi (Slough Feg), or Simon (The Lamp Of Thoth). I can't sing in another way. So I just do sing my own way basically.

How did you hook with EmanesMetal Records and was it clear from the beginning that you would only release the first full-length as vinyl format ?

I knew Laurent since a couple of years already, just as a fan of real Metal. He saw us with Nathalie at a gig we played with RESISTANCE in Lille (northern France), and then he offered us to open for Hirax in September 2007...

It lead to a stronger friendship and then we started to "work" hand in hand. In the end it's just the same passion which is moving our asses !

Haha !

Still the first album has also been released as a CD, and I think the second one shall also be available in both formats.

According to me, you sound a lot like the German Thrash scene from the 80's. Do you think that living close to German/France borderline lead you to get this musical direction ?

I don't know if the fact of living close to Germany influenced us on our sound, but it surely is a great opportunity to go to this country to see some kick ass festivals (like Keep It True) or great concerts. In Germany there definitely IS a Metal culture (with its goods and bads) as opposed to France... We like music played raw and with feeling, so it's maybe why you hear some German Thrash Metal Influence in our sound.

A new song titles "Long Live Metal" features Jens from Lonewolf as singer. I guess this project started just after Long Live Metal festival ???

We're definitely proud and happy to appear with this song on the "Long Live Metal-Acte Premier" compilation LP with bands like Lonewolf, Hirax, Rising Dust, The Bottle Doom Lazy Band, and many more.

No, the project to get Jens from Lonewolf winging with us is older than the festival you're mentioning. We just happen to connect with each other and appreciate our bands, and this collaboration is born. And we're damn happy with the way it went ! Recently we even had the chance to sing it on stage with Jens. A cool moment indeed !

You lost the drummer, that's pretty uncomfortable. How does it happen that Marc left the





combo ? Was there any musical troubles ? And have you found a new one so far ?

We parted ways because Marc wanted to try some new things in music and in his life. That was surely the best way for each part to be able to continue on its way.

At the moment we are lucky to have Marti Ilmar from Bloody Sign helping on drums for a couple of gigs. He's doing very fine and we appreciate each other very much. Still, we're always in search for a drummer, as Marti Ilmar lives quite far from Strasbourg and is also busy with his other bands and projects. Anyone interested to play drums with RESISTANCE ? Then get in touch at [resistance667@hotmail.com](mailto:resistance667@hotmail.com) Let's see what the future will bring.

Why do you only have a myspace to promoted your combo ? Do you really think that is more useful than a real web site ? We're about to prepare a real website in the upcoming months. Myspace is definitely a great tool when it comes to contact people and discover music from all around the world. That's what allowed us partly to be where we are today. Though, Myspace being just a mere tool, it has obviously its good and its bad users. Still it's easy to ignore the lousy people and to focus on the bands and persons of interest.

Among the different lives you did and different bands you played with, which one are the most memorable to you ? What would be your dream bill with RESISTANCE ? Definitely our gig with Manilla Road in Colmar in April 2008 ! These guys are the most humble people we've ever met, and to sing "Necropolis" with mark Shelton himself on stage was an awesome moment !

Other great gigs were with Hirax, Killers, Fueled By Fire (for a mini tour), Bloody Sign, Cage, Hatchery and obviously Lonewolf !!! We're looking eagerly forward to playing with Slough Feg in 2010. A dream would be to play with Brocas Helm

Personally I'd also love to play with bands like The Lamp Of Thoth or Pagan Altar.

According to you what would be the best festival RESISTANCE could ever play ? What would be your favourite bill ?

To play someday at the Keep It True festival or Headbanger Open Air in Germany would be killer. A bill with Hellish Crossfire, Lonewolf, Manilla Road, Ulysses Siren, Portrait, Brocas Helm... bands like these ones you see what I mean !

Are all members fans of the same kind of Metal within the band ? I mean I know that you Nathaniel are more into old school Death Metal for instance...And do you think that getting members with different taste is a positive point ?

Even when people do enjoy the same musical styles, there always will remain differences. So that's not a problem to me as long as everybody in the band likes any kind of music played with feeling ten thousand times more than music played with skills only.

Nathaniel, you are pretty active in the underground scene as you had a fanzine and helped Bloody Sign back then. How do you see your past involvement in this scene ?

That's fucking cool because there are people like you who I got to know when I started to get involved in the underground and we're still in touch after all these years. I keep a good memory from anything I've done in the past; it allowed me to meet some very cool people and bands.

Let's keep on this topic, how do you see the underground scene today and what does "underground" mean to you ?

Many of people get the view that underground only means "poor Black Metal with a shitty sound", but according to me, this is absolutely not the way the underground is... Hopefully there are more and more good new bands these past few years. The gap that our scene has know in the mid 90's is definitely over, and luckily many young fans got to discover the roots of this music and now deliver something very fresh yet crafted in a strong tradition. I think of In Solitude, Portrait here for instance.

What is underground is a counterculture based on the famous Do It Yourself motto, used in every form of expression, be it art or music. So the core of the underground is





always made of people lead by passion and dedication and sincerity. Sadly enough the meaning of the word has been quite strongly misunderstood and overshadowed by hordes of young clueless and talentless fuckers who thought that making faces with a dirty make up was oh so evil and true. Once the mass gets the grip on such counterculture, it becomes nothing but a usual product destined and designed for consummation. And everybody needs to be tagged as “underground” because it looks cool ! And then some other clueless fuckers who like their new Metallica more than their girlfriend think that underground means only “a movement for silly young kids in search for an identity”. To me, the core of the problem only stands in a generalized lack of culture. That’s why I got interested only in bands and people who understand why they are here and where they come from without being clone/clown.

How do you see the evolution of the last fifteen years as back in the early 90’s Black Metal was dominating the Metal scene, thence go to over populating distribution lists then let place to previous Metal genres such as Heavy Metal, some legendary bands have re united while nu metal has been the new trend ? What are the main albums that impressed you since let say 1995 ?

I think I more or less answered to that question before. Since 1995 ?! Wow There was still a bunch of good albums released, when one knows where to look. I’d say Pentacle “Rides The Moonstorm”, Metalucifer “Heavy Metal Chainsaw”, anything by Mercyful Fate and King Diamond, Kaamos “Curse Of Aeons” demo, Repugnant “Hecatomb”, anything by Headhunter DC, The Chasm “Procession To The Infraworld”, anything by Slough Feg, Brocas Helm “Defender Of The Crown”, Lonewolf “Made In Hell”, Portrait “Same”, Herald “Heavy Metal Wakes The Beast”, Candlemass “King Of The Grey Islands”, the list might be almost endless.

What would be your dream with RESISTANCE ? I mean would you like living from Heavy Metal and touring all over the world ? Honestly speaking do you think that a French combo (no matter the Metal genre they play) could ever be world wide successful with large touring ?

No, we want to stay in reality, and we don’t want this band to become a job. We want to keep the passion, and we are all very happy with our jobs. We’re not professional musi-

cians, we do it for the pleasure we get, not for a living. Of course we might earn some money here and there, but it’s all for the band, we don’t get profit from it, and that fits us perfectly.

French bands getting big, apart from the little success a band like Loudblast had in the past and the one that Gojira knows today, I don’t see any other French band getting world wide recognition like you mention (probable Sortilège back in the 80’s-ed). But it is normal to me as France is definitely a Third world country when it comes to Metal, there are more real Metal fans in a country like Peru than France, so...

There’s a plan to release a second full-length through EmanesMetal Records once again, isn’t it ? How will this new opus sound and what department will be improved ? Will you go to the same studio ?

Tes. We improve the musician-ship, and especially the arrangements. This time we won’t do things in a hurry. We’ll do pre production work in order to deliver our best once in the studio. I’m also going to pay more attention to my singing, and I’ll do my best to get the best lyrics for our project of concept album on the novel called “The Monk” by Lewis, rewritten in French by Antonin Artaud. It’s a gruesome and very theatrical story telling the fall from grace of a very pure and almost holy priest.

Perversion, rape, incest, murder on the menu ! We’ll probably go back to the

Downtown studio, in Strasbourg, where we recorded the song “Long Live Metal” last July. The sound engineer was very good and got the best from us ! A good challenger !

Thanks a lot for your time, feel free to close this interview as you wish... By the way, have you finished the liquor from the Alps so far ?

Thanks for this extensive interview with somehow different questions here and there! Cool to see FRANANG still kicking some ass !

Thanks to those who were interested enough to read this to the end.

Contact: <http://www.myspace.com/resistance667> or [resistance667@hotmail.com](mailto:resistance667@hotmail.com)

**BANG YOUR FUCKING SKULL!!!**

