

AAAAAAAA...IT'S ALIVE!!!

CURFEW

OXFORD'S MUSIC MAGAZINE



SEVENCHURCH
Jericho Tavern.

The sight of a subdued, almost coy, Martin Spear, complete with trousers and crucifix was enough to send many a mosher into a state of irretrievable mortification.

This is a whole new bag of spoons from the former Madamadam frontcase. The vocal style has mysteriously changed from the unpredictable nasal shriek and, or, monotone bellow to a mid-Surrey commuter belt Oxbridge drawl: we're talking death metal here kids.

Sevenchurch are slow. The songs are long; very long - we're talking four songs in a little over forty minutes - but rarely do they repeat a chord sequence or riff (in the same number). These, perhaps, are 'pieces' rather than songs. Everything is orchestrated, A.T.L.

precise and most certainly in its place. There is no room for error at all and if you're in a band with someone tagged 'Man Mountain' Dave Smart then error wont come into your vocabulary too often one would imagine.

It's as difficult to pin this down as a whole hole fulla pigeons but something like 'classical doom death rock' is as near as a chimpanzee gets to a typewriter: although they'll kill me if they can catch me I would love to see them improvise a little, or even construct a song live on the spot.

A full foot to the floor wipe out will surely come soon but, in the meantime, if you've a confession to make, make it at the Sevenchurch or be forever cast into the mystic eyes of time.

6.12.91

DEMO-ZONE

SEVENCHURCH

As if right on cue to show 'Watertrutz just how' it should be done here come Sevenchurch, fresh from their near victory on the Friday Rock Show rock war. The band may have recruited Martin Spear from Madamadam (the saddest loss Oxford has seen) but they are as far removed, in metal terms at least, from his old outfit as you can get. Sevenchurch deal in 'beats per hour' and are perfect for headbanging to on moogadon.

Two tracks, both around the nine minute long mark will give you an impression of the sheer, brilliant overblown pomposity of Sevenchurch. This is DEATH METAL and you better believe it.

Being no expert on the subject I couldn't even begin to compare Sevenchurch to any other current band but this kind of thing dates back to Black Sabbath at their Satanic best; and further to Wagner's hellish twenty four hour long operas. Martin may yet find himself singing at Sadlers Wells in the not too distant future as he combines complicit operations with Gregorian solemnity as he delivers some of the most fantastically ludicrous lyrics ever to have music put to them. Robert Plant eat yer heart out.

Underpinning Martin are some backing vocals straight out of the Evil Dead and thunderous, death-laden guitars that go chugga chugga boom a lot but I do get the feeling that Sevenchurch have a sense of humour for all their demonic facade and 'Circus Divine' is almost cheerful in an apocalyptic kind of way.

As slow and steady as the march of time itself, as heavy as a dreadnought and as tight as a duck's splinter Sevenchurch are metal as it ought to be and they're gonna be huge.

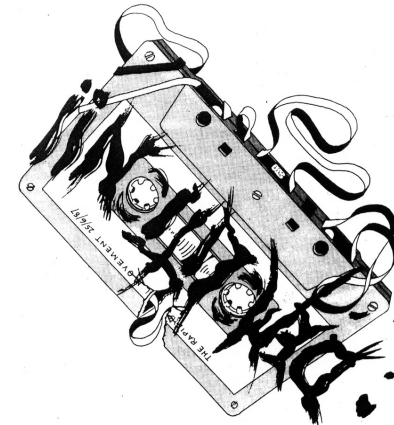
Contact: 0865 725221
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Any bands who wish to be included in 'Demolition' should send a tape, photo and full band biography to: METAL FORCES, Suite 16, 46-48 Osnaburgh Street, London NW1 3ND, England.
If demos are available to the public please give all relevant information including cost of postage to foreign lands.



SEVENCHURCH

"We understand that you have a particular passion for acts that spew forth morose malevolence", reads the letter that accompanies this two-track demo tape. And how right SEVENCHURCH are! I am indeed someone who enjoys a severe Doom analysis. As such, what this Oxford-based band have to offer I find exceptional and quite the best demo tape I've heard in ages.

SEVENCHURCH are (above, l-r) Grahaeme Bastable (drums), Dave Capel (rhythm guitar/vocals), David Smart (lead guitar), Ollie (bass) and Martin Spear (lead vocals). They proffer a mixture of ultimate, intense Doom that owes something to CATHEDRAL, SAINT VITUS, BLACK SABBATH (inevitably) and COVEN, as well as pitching in an almost medieval attitude and styling. The result is incredible. The two cuts on their "Nefarious" demo, viz "Circus Divine" and "Twilight Of Evergreen", are both lengthy tone poems, allowing for an infection of reddened mystic pastures that sees the very portals of Hell swung open to reveal inner contents of malevolence and melodramatic impalement.

There is no doubt that in their chosen field of Doom-esque molten Metal, SEVENCHURCH are a true discovery. Someone should sign them up right away and get them working on a full album. I cannot recommend this tape highly enough.

For further information, write to: SEVENCHURCH, 83 Hurst Rise Road, Botley, Oxford OX2 9HU, England.

MALCOLM DOME