

INKVISITOR

'Dark Arts Of Sanguine Rituals'

Thrash Metal

Ain't No Haav



It very rarely happens that a happy-go-lucky, full of the colours of the rainbow band comes out of Finland, therefore religiously following in the Nordic Noir, Inkvisor are about to give birth to their second musical offspring, 'Dark Arts Of Sanguine Rituals'. Having formed in 2012 and released their debut ('*Doctrine*

In Damnation') in 2015, their latest creation is a concept album with an interesting and unusual theme, not only for their genre, but for metal in general. Being described as a story whose basis is a "neo-noir murder mystery that carries traces of black magic and necromancy with philosophical and political undertones," the theme certainly grabs your attention; the musical equivalent of a Scandi thriller or pulse-racing novel. Obviously, this album is extremely heavy with fringes of Cannibal Corpse meets hardcore punk on 'Punk', which is about thirty-eight seconds of ear-splitting brutality. There is a very Finnish vibe on the album, with reflections of style and technique, especially in the guitars, adopted from other well-known metal acts. Vocalist Markus Martinmaki's voice is similar in tone to Lemmy: deep and hoarse.

Although I wasn't blown away, the album is generally worthy of some praise. A bit of a let down is the final track 'Dark Farts Of Brown Rituals', which is a brain numbing three minutes of silence, before half a minute of pathetic, squeaky wind breaking. If you are going to let rip, at least make it explosive. Overall enjoyable, but leaves a trace of wet fart.

POWERPOINTS: ①②③④⑤⑥

CLAIRE BANNISTER