





July 15, 2010

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(Sic)Monic: Somnambulist

Wow, 74 minutes long, this is way too long for own taste! (Sic)Monic is an original name, written in an original way for a wanna be original band. The good news is these fellows are very good musicians, so the musicianship is real pleasant to listen to. Unfortunately, they also have vocals...



I believe those guys tried very hard to come up with something interesting, while having a bit of a trendy/ modern metal vibe at the same time. I could feel some sort of Ephel Duath / In Flames / Nuclear Blast (yes, the label) general musical direction here. Tight rhythmic section, melodious leads and arpeggios, some acoustic parts and bone crushing riffs are all good elements in the recipe. The clean vocals are somewhat mainstream, but for once, I found the growls of a better quality. Then comes the rotten parts: those screamed/ core / crappy vocals stepping in way too often. Only to make matters worse, they thought it would be a good idea to inject some poisonous trendy idiocies to attract the yo population (you know those kids who can't put up their pants or even wear a cap straight on their bonehead). What I'm trying to say here is that hip hop voicing is awful and has nothing to do with metal and should not be used in the underground scene, period.

At least, the music was very enjoyable and the more melodic tracks caught even more of my attention. Still, for hell's sake, shut your mouth in the future please or use more appropriate vocals dude!

Track listing:

- 1 - To the Fiendz
- 2 - Till the Morning Light
- 3 - Somnambulist
- 4 - Illumination
- 5 - of Blood and Grace

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- 6 - Requiem
- 7 - Oxygen
- 8 - No Conscience
- 9 - Just How Far Down do You Want to Go
- 10- Paradiseum
- 11 - Acidic Epiphanies
- 12 - Fist to Throat
- 13 - Seven Inches Deep
- 14 - Hypnotic
- 15 - Devil Went Down to Georgia

Added: July 15th 2010

Reviewer: Denis Brunelle

Score: ★★½

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(Sic)Monic: Somnambulist

Posted by **Pete Pardo, SoT Staff Writer** on 2010-07-15 09:57:18

My Score: ★★½

Not sure where to begin on this one, *Somnambulist* being a musical hodge-podge of ideas and flavors that is almost impossible to classify or at times even understand. (Sic)Monic are a young band who obviously love all forms of metal, so expect elements of death metal, metalcore, progressive metal, thrash, and nu-metal thrown into the mix here, along with, of all things, hip hop. That's right folks, *Somnambulist* is all over the place, and while some of it works, some does not.

I have to give the band credit for throwing a wide assortment of vocal styles here, from soaring clean passages, to pig grunts, to hardcore barks, to death metal growls and near black metallish rasps. Throw in the hip hop stylings, and you have a very odd combination, which oddly enough at times it clicks. "To the Fiendz" features some complex riffery and a never ending array of vocal attacks, while "Illumination" has some passages that will easily please the progressive metal crowd. "Requiem" is actually a quite gorgeous ballad, featuring lovely vocals and acoustic guitar, showing a side of the band that you don't see too often throughout the rest of the CD. "Oxygen" is sure to appeal to fans of Sevendust, while "Acidic Epiphanies" mixes Into Eternity/Divinity styled progressive extreme metal with more mainstream sounds. I'll admit to being fairly amused at their hip hop/metal take on The Charlie Daniels Band classic "The Devil Went Down to Georgia"-hey, why not.

In the end, you'll be fairly exhausted after listening to *Somnambulist*. There's plenty of solid material here, but unfortunately the CD is way too long (15 songs) and there's just too many styles going on that it makes you dizzy when it's all said and done. This band certainly has some talent, but I'd like to see them streamline their sound a little

and focus on doing one thing and doing it well.



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