[ATROCITY](#)
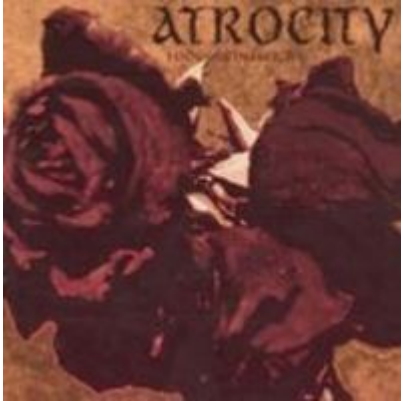*Todessehnsucht*

[Metal Mind](#)

Originally released in 1992, Atrocity's second release, *Todessehnsucht* (renamed *Longing for Death* by the record label upon it's US release), is now being re-released by Metal Mind Productions as a limited (2000 copies) release. It's an interesting choice for re-issue, as the style of the band has changed drastically since this album - even releasing a couple of collections of terrible covers of 80's pop/new wave covers songs.

For those unfamiliar, *Todessehnsucht* combines technically impressive death metal with classical influences, and also features four opera singers in small parts, adding diversity and keeping things a bit different. The most impressive showing here is the combo of "Introduction" and "Sky Turned Red". "Introduction" is an atmospheric piece, with Gregorian Chant like vocals, and a brief spoken part. "Sky Turned Red" is a brilliant piece of songwriting, featuring Atrocity's interpretation of Wagner's main theme from Götterdämmerung (aka "Twilight of the Gods"). A great mix of technical musicianship and brutal heaviness creates a song that is just great to listen to.

For those that want more straight ahead death metal without all the added bits, check out "Unspoken Names" with it's kick-ass dual guitar lead, or "Necropolis", which is probably the most straight-forward track here. We can't forget their great cover of Death's "Archangel", included as a bonus track here.

I remember when I first heard this disc back in college. I was blown away by the diversity, and the inclusion of classical elements here and there (thankfully not overdone). After 15+ years, this disc still holds up for me, and I'm glad that Metal Mind chose to add this to their list of limited re-issues. Included, as is usual with these releases, is an insert with a nice 2 page history of the album/band and some extra pictures that weren't in the original Roadrunner US release. Sound quality is also improved with the remaster done here, making this a most worthy pickup.

B+   -Goz