



Music: Gardenian: Soulburner/Sindustries

Our Take

They may not have been part of the original Gothenburg scene, but Gardenian began in 1996 which was around the time that acts such as Dark Tranquility and In Flames were really beginning to come into the spotlight. Although this particular group would not gain quite as much exposure, before they broke up in 2004 they had managed to release three full length albums. Last year Gardenian's second and third albums (Soulburner and Sindustries) were reissued as a 2 disc set by Metal Mind Productions and though they may not be the best if you enjoy the Gothenburg style of melodic death metal this set is worth a listen or two.

Soulburner and Sindustries do offer some similar to one another, but is clear that the band did try some different things from one album to the other. On Soulburner, the group let their vocalist perform all of the screaming/growling and brought in guests to sing the cleaner vocal styles. This works quite well as each of the three vocalists on the album are able to mesh well together and offer singing/screaming that is very powerful while still being a bit lighter than some of the other metal bands out there. For Sindustries Gardenian decided to change this approach though and simply have their lead vocalist Jim Kjell perform all of the vocals. It is certainly nice to see that between one album and the other that Kjell really wanted to take charge and try to do everything himself, but unfortunately his melodic vocals aren't nearly as strong when compared to the guests as before. This isn't enough of a flaw to make either album not worth listening to, but it does make Soulburner slightly more interesting at times.

The instrumentals on both albums do showcase a bit of variation, but listeners would certainly be able to tell that both discs were from the same band if they didn't know it. One of the main differences between Soulburner and Sindustries is that the group's sound got a lot louder and fuller on the latter. This is because they self produced Soulburner while Sindustries saw them utilizing a proper producer. In terms of style, both releases certainly do fall under the realm of melodic death metal with a distinctive Gothenburg flair to it. However, it is clear that the instrumentalists were trying to push away from their roots as they moved forward as quite a bit of the material on Sindustries pushes into the realm of melodic metalcore rather than death metal. Although neither release really establishes Gardenian as a unique entity with their genre they do have some good hooks and those who do give their material a chance will find something to like.

I'm not quite sure how well Gardenian was promoted when they were around, but it is also possible that they may not have become as well known as some of the other melodic death metal bands out there simply because they sounded a little too close to their inspirations. Both of these albums do showcase that they were beginning to break out of the genre mold, but they never quite reached that point. However, if you do have a taste for this style and are looking for something that you might have not heard before Gardenian could fill that void and this package does offer some value.

<http://www.metalmind.com.pl>

Chris Dahlberg
September 15, 2009

NAVIGATION

- [Home](#)
- [News](#)
- [Reviews](#)
- [Previews](#)
- [Features](#)
- [Media](#)
- [Contests](#)

COMMUNICATIONS

- [Community](#)
- [Staff](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Mission Statement](#)
- [Public Relations](#)
- [Form](#)
- [Testimonials](#)

AFFILIATES

- [1UPGamers](#)
- [Aldorlea Games](#)
- [All About The Music](#)
- [DarkZero](#)
- [GamePublic](#)
- [GameKiq](#)
- [Laxius Force](#)
- [Nintendo City](#)
- [Nintendo Wifi](#)
- [PS3vault](#)
- [Realm of Gaming](#)
- [Spogg Online Games](#)
- [The Ripple Effect](#)
- [Zangaroa Blog](#)

- [Canada Web](#)
- [Hosting](#)

Content: Copyright © 2005-2009 Cosmos Gaming (demonryu and sdexp)

