

ROCK N ROLL EXPERIENCE - May / June 2008
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GARDENIAN

Soulburner / Sindustries

Track Listing: SOULBURNER: As A True King, Powertool, Deserted, Soulburner, If Tomorrow's Gone, Small Electric Space, Chaos In Flesh, Ecstasy of Life, Tell The World I'm Sorry, Loss, Black Days

SINDUSTRIES: Selfproclaimed Messiah, Doom & Gloom, Long Snap To Zero, Courageous, Heartless, The Suffering, Scissorfight, Sonic Death Monkey, Sindustries, Funeral

Rating: 6 stars

Gardenian is an interesting band..they emerged from the Swedish metal scene, & never really attained the same success as In Flames or Dark Tranquility, yet, musically, they were equal to both bands! There's a cool 2 cd re-issue available that's numbered & limited to 2,000 copies world wide, & with this re-release, you get 2 of the bands 3 records & what makes the band interesting is their use of cealn & aggro vocals...the clean vocals really do remind me slightly of Bruce Dickinson from Iron Maiden, & when you listen to "Soulburner", I think it's a great epic metal release, BUT, "Sindustries" shows so much growth & you can hear how much the band grew in taht time period! "If Tomorrow's Gone" is an amazing song that's got this them to it that's almost like going on a voyage! Direction wise, the band has some classical influences, some stock metal influences, & what I really like is that most of the bands material has guitar solo's & you can hear pure musicianship as opposed to some of the latter day nu-metal bands that just went with tuned down riffs & no real musicianship. "Black Days" is another example of the musical diversity this band has..they are a metal band with prog roots, but they also have this side to them that creates creepy soundscapes & doomy sounding riffage! I have to mention too, most of the songs on the 2nd cd are 6+ minutes...that's something MOST bands can't say...it takes some serious direction to make a song 6 minutes & to still make it sound interesting & make the listener feel like they are on a voyage!