



Greek band ElySION are returning with a new album, *Someplace better*. It is a band we have spoken to before so lets leave the history in the previous article and have a look at what this band is up to now. We had the fortune to ask singer Christianna some questions about the new album and some other stuff.

ELYSION



WRITTEN BY DANIEL KÄLLMALM
PHOTOS: AS INDICATED ON PHOTO OR
ELYSION PRESS PHOTOS
PUBLISHED ON 2014-03-22

ElySION's debut album "Silent Scream" was released in december 2009, now more than four years later they have released their second album which goes by the name "Someplace Better". Four years is a long time, so why the long wait? Christianna points out that it was never in their minds to have this long a wait but they didn't want to rush things either.

- It just happened and we don't regret it at all because we are 100% happy with the final result and enjoyed the entire procedure a whole lot. Let's hope our point of view and people's welcome collide.

In our review we pointed out that the band has evolved quite a bit since the release of their debut album. The band having been working for a long time with this album so how do they think they have evolved from their own point of view?

- We certainly spent a lot of time together as a band, this was a great gain in "team experience points". This current lineup has remained stable for many years now so we are quite self aware and know our strengths and weaknesses. I also feel that we are more certain of our identity and of what ElySION is about.

With such a long time between the albums our reviewer noticed a difference, and a better album this time around. According to Christianna the albums can be seen as something of a time capsule, each representing the band perfectly at that moment in time. There are no life changing alteration, just ElySION four years later.

- "Silent Sc3am" might have been a bit softer in sound, a bit

more gothic even. "Someplace Better" has no dramatical change to it but to my ears is much more intense as an album, totally fresh in sound and very groovy which is just what we need for the songs to come out wonderfully when played live.

Someplace Better

"Someplace Better" is as stated the second album by ElySION and it is an optimistic journey according to Christianna, it is like the title say: an album taking you someplace better.

- It's a very optimistic journey, even the songs which are way sentimental leave me with a sense of hope. I love the fact that it's an album that can get my spirit up rather than brink me down.

Metal with a sense of hope, isn't that sacrilege according to some purists. Metal should be depressive and all of that but "Someplace Better" isn't, and this from a band coming from a dark black hole in European economy which probably has had some very large social implications as well. Which is why they wanted to keep their album a positive one as a counterpart to that reality in which they live.

- The overall sense of hope is obvious in the entire album so i think the title works perfectly. We wanted everything from the sound itself to the title and the artwork to be positive, a promise of an energetic and hopeful ride. It also carries a positive attitude towards the general dark place our homeland has been lying in for the last difficult years, so this was an additional reason why we wanted to maintain a positive attitude which was reflected in the title.

Our review was very positive and there are many great songs on this album according to this review. But our reviewer (namely this writer) still had an fairly easy

time picking out the favourite song, Christianna has not.

- All songs that made it to the album have something strong to say so it's almost impossible to choose, maybe we'll have a clearer view when it comes down to which song comes out better live. However, it's a fact that i still cannot get over *The Promise* and feel like crying every time we rehearse it.

One the question if they are pleased with the album Christianna has to laugh a bit. And it sure is a fairly silly question but it is always fun to get the answers to those silly questions. And of course ElySION or satisfied why else would they release the album?

- Have you ever received a negative answer from a band that has actually just released their new album? Honestly though, we wouldn't release anything that is not 100% compatible with what we are. We have waited so long for "Someplace Better" to come out and the least we could do was to make sure we did the best we could for the album.

Reception

In light of a musical journey going from one point to another in the landscape of musical creation, there are some destinations that are better than other. Which destinations that are better varies greatly with whom the beholder is, bands often state that their latest work is their best to date but are they really? Well, it always depends and most of the time I would say that they are not, we often form relations to certain albums due to certain circumstances and these remain the best for us no matter what follows afterwards for the band. But to these questions there aren't really any correct answers, just answers and the answer given from Christianna on the question if "Someplace

Better" was better than the predecessor was interesting.

- We are huge fans of "Silent Scr3am" and still haven't got bored playing it over and over. In fact I still discover new things I like in it. "Someplace Better" is who we are today and I totally relate to it, when it comes to both music and lyrics. I could never say which album is better, I don't even think such a question really stands when it comes to musical journeys, there is no ideal desti-

nation and each gets to pick his favourite.

With this most can probably agree to some extent or another, but the question is valid considering that bands might make things that aren't really that exciting to them when looking back on it. Though ElySION still has only two albums which follow a straight line so far so they might not end up in such a situation but I know of bands that have as well.

With that band very pleased, the great thing would of course be if

the media and the fans was very pleased as well, so what about the reaction from those. Our research shows that reviews are generally favourable with half very favourable and the other half little less so. There was one review saying it was weak that I could find of about fifteen so in Hallowed's view it seems as though they have done a positive impact on the reviewers.

- Overall ElySION is a very blessed band for receiving such a warm welcome even since our debut album had come out. We would be ungrateful to say we are not

pleased with the way people have responded to our music, which from the beginning, caused us to be even more careful and responsible about what we do. We take small steps but we are in no hurry, as long as we make music we consider good everything goes according to the plan. I'll try to be as objective as possible and say that although most feedback which reaches us is wonderful, it is not likely that everyone likes what we do, not all people and certainly not all media. We absolutely have no problem with that, as long as we are true to ourselves we are open to all kinds of criticism.

Future plans

At the time of the interview Christianna was already packing her suitcase, which is either a very female thing to do or very good planning. This as they still had no dates and places set for where they were to show off their live skills with their new and amazing songs. But a tour is sure to be materialised she says so I guess you all have to read on that news someplace better than here.

- I am more than thrilled about it because by the way it already sounds while we rehearse, the whole album is gonna have one hell of a live energy! So, we don't know exact dates and places yet but great news is on the way.

He guess is that they will start

with a greek tour and then they will head beyond the borders into Europe and maybe more but the venues and places isn't really the thing for Christianna, she states that the emotion is what matters. The moment is the thing.

- If there is one magic moment that I get to feel so overwhelmed with this exchange of emotion with people, then this is what I daydream about, be it in any venue I don't care.

With this rehearsing and touring as the immediate plans for ElySION, what about further forwards? is there any plans laid for what is coming next? According to Christianna there are many plans but nothing they want to share with us, not until it becomes a reality.

ELYSION

Christianna



Photo by: Irene Kolovou

Edited by:

Drahanas
myspace.com/drahanasgraphics



 Christianna - Vocals

ELYSION

myspace.com/elysionmyspace



Photo by: Irene Kolovou
Edited by:

Drakontas
graphics
myspace.com/drakontasgraphics

But she lets us know that if they get their will we should not have to wait another four years for the next effort by Elysion. Lets hope that is correct for the sake of their fans.

And with that we thank Christinna and Elysion for this time, for this interview and all the fascinating answers we have been given. So lets just leave the final words to our interviewee and wish them luck on their upcoming adventu-

res.

- There is yet much to be said but talk is cheap... I can "blab" forever but instead we make music so that we can let it speak for all we hide inside and wish to let out. Let me once more thank you for this great discussion and invite all of you guys to take this new trip with us, we need you on-board! Metal hails to you all!

ELYSION