

prophecy

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Artist: DARK SUNS
Title: Orange
Format: CD
Label: Prophecy
Country: Germany
Release: December 02nd, 2011

DARK SUNS - Orange

„Good to see that a steady, laborious artistic evolution has finally given birth to a mutation which has exciting chances to progress very successfully through the tough process of natural selection. Active since 1998, from a death/prog metal departure and a more recent doomy inclination, with Orange, Dark Suns' 4th album for Prophecy Productions, they burst out of their pupal exoskeleton as an exciting and vibrant prog rock winged creature which is kaleidoscopic, full of irony and unabashed boldness but also has its sinuously tender, catchy moments. The references to the glories of '70s prog, y'know, the usual Floyd, Crimson and Gabriel's Genesis, are striking, but DS' versatility is so vital and fresh that the references to the past become portals to a totally unique and intriguing world.

The song material on Orange is pretty straightforward and compact, but it still contains enough progressive twists and turns to keep even the most demanding fans happy. "Toy", "Eight Quiet Minutes" and "Not Enough Fingers" are great examples in that regard. It's in the longer tracks like "Ghost" and "Scaleman" where the band really finds the perfect combination between a vintage atmosphere, technique and solid songwriting. "That's why they all hate you in Hell" is closer to a high-pitched idiosyncrasy while "Vespertine" opens the curtains to a disarmingly intimate painting of our dull daily chores with a captivating piano-lounge swagger, then slides gently into a Hammond melody, only to twist into a resentful cavalcade driven by a saxophone screaming and spitting free-form jazz, concluding the ride with the catchy charm of Beatles-inspired psychedelia. Other moments capture the spirit of Syd Barrett, playfully stretching the odd elasticity of melodies and adorning the subtle, magical lunacy with injections of freestyle. The stunning closing piece, "Antipole", merges Crimson and Floyd without a glitch: again Dark Suns steer well clear of the trodden déjà vu path, grabbing instead the melodic essence of those legends, making it their own.

On a perpetually flowing musical carpet the vocals of Niko Knappe stand out with an enviable palette that goes from a solid melodic rock rasp and balanced delicate tones, to an incredibly pitched falsetto, one of the common traits that Dark Suns share with The Mars Volta, alongside eclecticism and unquestionable talent.

Germany has definitely caught my full attention. Dark Suns' fresh interpretation of psych/prog rock will leave you in a fragrant tangerine mood. And that's a good thing, especially when your own genetic color is existential-black."

anonymous

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hd5qAQpeYSI>

For more information, booking requests or collaboration matters, please contact:

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Tracklist:

1. Toy
2. Eight Quiet Minutes
3. Elephant
4. Diamond
5. Not Enough Fingers
6. Ghost
7. That Is Why They All Hate You In Hell
8. Vespertine
9. Scaleman
10. Antipole

LIVE recorded and mixed at KickTheFlame Leipzig. Mastered at East-Side-Mastering Berlin.

Line Up:

Niko Knappe - Vocals, Drums
Maik Knappe - Guitars
Torsten Wenzel - Guitars
Ekky Meister - Hammond, Piano
Jacob Müller - Bass

Dominique Ehlert – Live Drums
Govinda Abbott – Trumpet
Evgeny Ring - Alto Sax

Discography:

2002 Swanlike
2005 Existence
2008 Grave Human Genuine
2011 Orange

Genre:

Alternative, Experimental,
Progressive, Rock