

Nocturnis – Aporia – Artist Reviews

Chris Hilfinger (Frozen Infinity)

Although I personally can't do that much with modern Black Metal, "Aporia" left a lasting impression on me and everyone who counts Black Metal among his favorites should definitely listen to the album!

The mix of tempi and melancholy leaves no room for boredom. The influences that determine the songwriting are clearly recognizable and even if you think you've already heard everything in Black Metal, "Nocturnis" manage to put their own stamp on the genre.

This still very young band has laid a solid foundation with their first album and it will be interesting to see where the journey is going.

Daniel Wengle (Nachtschatten)

Black Metal almost seems to have passed over into the "post" genre in the last few years with tough, long riffs. Now the guys from NOCTURNIS show that there is another way! In their half-hour debut "Aporia" they record on record what has already impressed me live: Brute and varied songs performed perfectly!

David Müller (My Dying Faith)

The debut album Aporia from the Offenburg newcomer Nocturnis convinces from the first second. The dark but at the same time varied songwriting, paired with classic black metal influences, results in a coherent record that makes you want more. Tremolo picking underlaid with blast beats alternate with melancholic chords and guitar melodies. The vocals nestle well into the mix and create a coherent overall picture. The powerful production is not reminiscent of a debut album either. Shout-out to Vince and Christoph for the successful mix and master.

My favorite song: Gaia's Revenge

Emanuel Oropesa (Repressed)

You can clearly see a breath of fresh tech-death in the guitar work and it came out as good as it could have been. Raw blast parts, which show an intermezzo with simple but effective melodies, give you no other option than to headbang and in the next second you get an atmosphere that melts your heart. The first Nocturnis release is an absolute banger!

Eric Tobian (Pessimist, Inner Sanctum, The Privateer)

The guys from Nocturnis prove that it is still possible in 2020 to play Black Metal with convincing character in the style of Dissection and Naglfar.

The balanced relationship between atmosphere, melody and frenzy makes you want more, precisely because this sub-genre of Black Metal is seldom played as stringently as it is here.

Nevertheless, one breaks away from the old models here and there and loosens the whole thing up, for example with wonderful guitar hero moments (see Gaias Revenge).

All around stable, such Black Metal can be more frequent.

Gabriel Dubko (Implore)

A piece full of contrasts, no dull moments, no melody out of place. A round production that deserves to be recognized. Different landscapes and emotions in an uncompromising concept. Keep an eye on them and see them grow, this is perfectly crafted black metal.

John Turner (In Sanity, Fadead)

Nocturnis show how modern Black Metal from Germany is going in 2020. They build on the foundations of the genre greats of the past and present and give the whole thing its own touch. The atmospheric melodies are particularly captivating. The production is impressive and ensures that the music of the five guys from Offenburg comes into its own. For me one of the most interesting releases in 2020.

Kai Speidel (Vredehammer, Impalement)

The album starts with a slow guitar intro, followed closely by a driving blast beat in mid-tempo style. The first impression of the five-piece black metal band from the Offenburg area? Not bad, you can definitely hear that there are no beginners at work.

Surprising breaks and tempo changes occur again and again and set new accents. There are mostly atmospheric calm moments, sometimes even subtle ambient sounds, but also a nice guitar solo like e.g. the fifth song "Gaias Revenge".

You still have the feeling that the record only shows its true strength towards the middle. Blastbeats and short double bass passages find their place next to each other on the album. For high speed black metal fanatics, however, it is hardly anything. The record is more in the mid-tempo Black Metal area and is more for fans of the atmospheric variety. Nevertheless, you can clearly filter out the influence on bands like Der Weg einer Freiheit or Saor.

The only drawback:

The singing is strong but too monotonous for me personally. You can still listen to the record well. The sound or the production is very balanced, not raw but not too overloaded either. A solid first album.

For fans of The Way of a Freedom | Saor | Primordial etc.

7/10 points

Ralle Ungermann (A Secret Revealed)

With "Aporia", Nocturnis release a 29-minute blastbeat fireworks display. Classic black metal riffing meets progressive guitars and unerring drumming. The five Black Forests generate the necessary portion of variety through quieter parts, which are never too extravagant, as well as genre-typical vocals that perfectly support each song. The album is rounded off by a powerful and clear, but still authentic production.

Raphael Olmos (Kamala)

Intense and chaotic, this is how I can describe Nocturnis' first EP! A modern black metal vision, with songs full of energy! All songs are great, but the last one 'A PATH TO NOTHINGNESS' I think that is my favorite.

Robin Baron (Ataraxy)

Nocturnis deliver me "Aporia" an absolutely first class debut!

The extremely cleanly produced first work offers musical and emotional depth and immediately convinces that talented musicians are at work here.

Thanks to the very professional songwriting, the time flies by listening to the 6 tracks. It is extremely skillful to switch between the extreme, adrenaline-charged parts and quieter, melancholy moments. As a result, the individual titles come together very homogeneously to form a complete work when they are listened to. Nothing seems "forced" or "imposed" here, everything is very coherent and well thought-out.

The production is very cleanly mixed and offers a powerful sound that goes perfectly with the music. The guitars cleverly vary between the genre-typical shredders and powerful melodies that harmonize very well with the extreme blast beats and fast double bass interludes of the drummer. The strong vocals contribute to the overall picture, which is very coherent.

Nocturnis was only founded at the beginning of 2019, but the 5 guys with "Aporia" do not need to hide behind the great genre role models! Shortly after your founding, you are presenting a musical debut that is uncompromisingly integrated into the Black Metal fundus and knows how to convince.

As a result, "Aporia" develops a suction effect the first time it is heard, which can captivate the listener for the entire duration of the game without causing exhausting symptoms of fatigue.

Roman Hilser (Fuck You And Die, Brannthorpe)

I don't really want to go into the impeccable quality and stable songwriting, I just want to express my joy that good guys have come together in a band. Vince and Dirk have given my own band a lot of support. For that reason alone, I like Nocturnis. So it comes in handy that the songs are really awesome too.

Tobias Schuler (Der Weg Einer Freiheit, Fuck You And Die)

The Nocturnis debut album is musically very successful. At no point does it appear artificial and remains authentic. Hardness, melody and atmosphere meet to a large extent. The synth part in Predicament leaves an extremely strong auditory impression!

Tobias Zatti (Dargolf Metzgere)

The clean production allows you to hear every single note of the Black Metal chords, creating a war-ground atmosphere. Simple but memorable tremolo-style melodies accompany you through the record, which are interrupted by a few but perfectly executed sweeps.

"Aporia" is the perfect mix of blast beats that make your head spin through the air as well as powerful parts through which you want to get away from explosions with a swollen chest. That's exactly what you're looking for in this music nowadays.