



METALSTORM - USA

Author : Susan
February 2011

I love being surprised. I love when I come across an album that seems like it would be nothing more than typical or mediocre and it turns out in fact to be quite good. Given the crowded genre that November-7 chooses to inhabit (electronically-tinged, female-fronted symphonic metal), and the nature of their stylized band photos, I braced for the worst. Wrong, actually!

As I've been listening to their album Season 3 I've enjoyed their groove, melodies, and solid songwriting. Especially in a genre like this you can usually hear a marked quality difference between the new and/or struggling bands and the successful ones. Well, not this time: November-7's Season 3 has the key attributes of a successful, professional band, with quality in production and mix, songwriting, and performance. If they keep this up it'll only be a matter of time for them.

A nice blend of tempos and moods can be had, and the electronic elements seem at times like the glue bonding everything together. The keyboards or vocals never overwhelm you, and when the guitars are unleashed, the heavier songs make you feel right at home. Due to the seemingly unlimited supply of beautiful, memorable melodies, I could easily imagine fans arguing over what the "best songs" really are. I don't know if I could choose one, possibly the hard hitting "Angel," the mesmerizing "Untie Your Hands," or perhaps "World in Agony," the high-energy closer; ending on such a strong note brings about an irresistible urge to play the album again.

Vocalist Annamaria Cozza is remarkably consistent. She's not the next great metal singer, but she's passionate and has a strong, belting voice. Most importantly, though, she's smart and can make her voice complement the music in ways that too many more talented vocalists can't seem to. Consistency is actually all over this album; with each of the players everything is well executed. Some songs lean toward the commercial side of things but never at the expense of the music.

Dearest readers, I've enjoyed this music very much and hope some of you will be as pleasantly surprised as I was.

FEMME METAL - UK

Author: Tony Cannella
2011



After releasing two EPs, the Modern Gothic Metal band November-7 has issued their full-length debut, "Season 3". November-7 is another fine example of a band that comes out of nowhere and leaves a great impression. The rumbling opening guitar riff sets the stage for "Her Name" to get "Season 3" off to a raucous start. "In My Mind" keeps things going in a strong way and the vocals of Italian front lady Annamaria Cozza are just phenomenal, she adds a great deal of depth and emotion to the songs. "Angel" starts off with a slower tempo, but quickly brings forth the heaviness. "Parasite" is a song full of attitude and swagger, and quickly became one of my favorites. Other highlights include: "Nowhere", "Untie Your Hands", "In Love With Hate", "Falling Down" and "World In Agony".

I have no idea what I was expecting, but November-7 really blew me away with "Season 3".

SONIC CATHEDRAL - USA

Author: Doctor T.
29 June 2011



There's all kinds of music out there in the general area of Female Fronted Metal. You get the dark Gothic, you get the symphonic, the operatic, the doom metal. Lots of options to choose from. But every now and then, you want the pounding, edgy, furious stuff. The kind of metal that crashes through the door, grabs you by the neck and starts to expand your reality. I mean, the 'effin HARD stuff. It might not help you with that coding problem for a Univariate

analysis you're working on, er, then again, it just might. But, when you need a lift, something to bring the blood to a boil, hard metal, especially hard metal done right can be the magic elixir. And the Swiss quartet November 7 does the job as well as anyone.

What does the press say about November 7? Well, it usually goes something like this, "Niveau ambiance, on gravite ici entre dark et electro metal, quelques éléments gothiques ça et là posent une ambiance lourde et mélancolique." That or "Nach zwei EP's und einer Live CD veröffentlicht die Westschweizer Band November-7 knapp sechs Jahre nach ihrer Gründung ihren ersten Studio-Longplayer, der es wahrlich in sich hat"... which means I can only get a vague idea how the Europeans are reacting to the sound since my linguistic capabilities are limited to English and Spanish and a smattering of French. But, to the extent that I can figure it out, the press is impressed. And so am I. Vocalist Annamaria Cozza has an interesting background. Seems she's actually an Italian, who spent some time in the States before running off to Switzerland to do some tech work. There she hooked up with some rockers, they did some recording, did some personnel changes, and ended up with a first rate sound, calling themselves November 7. . . which, you might suggest, is a novel name for a band. What's wrong with June 8, or September 19? Well, seems they started writing their music in November and that seems to be a favorite time of the year for Annamaria. And the 7 you ask? Well, I'm told it's a favorite number and has sacred meanings in a number of civilizations. Same crypto analytical with the CD title. Seems this is the third iteration of the band lineup and they wanted that reflected in the title, so Season 3 it is. And there you have it.

That current line up is a good one, with Stéphane Geiser and Matt Walters on guitars, and Yann Siegenthaler on drums. There's a clear symphonic component. . and no keyboard player so you know this is done with programming. The band suggests their intended direction is industrial more than symphonic but sometimes the two can get a little confused, either way you define it, it adds significantly to the sound. But, it's not the core of the sound, that distinction falls to the guitars, the drums and a solid metal vocal. You get that nomenclature from reviewers who tend to use the terms progressive, Gothic and industrial when defining the sound. I guess that works for me. But in an interesting kind of way. The music is represented by the progressive / industrial / symphonic. The Gothic tends to be reflected in the lyrics, which are more than a little interesting and sufficiently abstract to allow for some personal interpretation on the part of the listener. Of course, I asked for direct interpretation and we'll get to that shortly.

Season 3 comes with 12 tracks. The last two are different interpretations of previous selections and actually sound like different songs. The first is Parasite, and this is a rocker of the first class. You can see one version here. And if this doesn't take you in the right direction you're on the wrong website. The second version is called a radio version, and it turns down the volume a little, but it still works. This is a version of metal that turns the soul, this is what we want to listen to when times are hard and we want someone to blame. Annamaria talked to me about this one.

She said it had a meaning, she said it had something to say. This one was personal, this one was focused. This one was aimed at someone who hurt someone, someone who has something to explain. And the song goes in that direction, this is pain related, this one is screamed. Lyrically, we get the point with immediacy:

You filthy parasite

licking the dirt

Tell me is it good ?

Empty hours, empty thoughts

parasite living

Empty hours, empty thoughts

Untie Your Hands took us into an even more personal discussion. This is a song about war, this is a song about destruction, about the ultimate sacrifice. I tend to have a personal perspective on this topic, I've got background, I often feel Europeans don't share that relevancy and I mentioned that to Annamaria. Her response was relevant, seems her grandfather went off to fight in WWII and didn't come back. That led to some feelings, with

her grandmother, her mother, and with her.

War can do that to you, and this song takes us to that understanding. This is one of the more profound songs on the CD, and one of the more emotive. It's also one of the more entertaining, we get some solid metal, some solid vocal and some background that reminds us that we're discussing something relevant. Annamaria talked about this one. She clearly has some thoughts on the subject, she pointed out, "War is a form of human slavery. A bunch of powerful people, in the comfort of their palaces, decide to attack another country. The pretexts sound always very noble : security, justice, defense of democracy etc." It certainly is nice to see that someone is paying attention.

Angel takes us in another direction. This one is one of the heavier selections; this one takes us to the edge. We get a more focused metal here, the guitars make sure we know where we're headed, the drums lay it down. And our lovely Italian vocalist cranks up the metal. Emotions at this level make us wonder, what's it mean, what can drive us to this level of communication. Annamaria says it's all personal, it has to do with her own life. She says it's aimed at someone, but it talks to personal angels. And you get that perspective here, this one aims at the soul, it relates a message. And the band seems to have a perspective as well, the guitars get into the message, they make it a group communication. And, should you have the courage, you can get a visual here.

Her Name is the truly Gothic option. We get to the dark side here, this is what reviewers heard when they gave the Gothic tag to the CD. This is the lead off song; this is the one that sets the stage. If you have any doubt about the message, it's cleared up early on. We're talking about the final visitor. We're talking about that messenger who takes us into eternity. Even Annamaria gets chills when she sings this one; it takes us to the final reward:

And no one knows her name

Her sulfur scent

Shrouds all of our prayers

And will bury you

World in Agony may take us to the ultimate message. Annamaria suggest this is an ambivalent message; you can go in multiple directions. She says, "you have both: the 'slaughter' we created but also the fact that we can change it because we 'hold the future in our hands'. The track goes in a heavy metal direction with some distorted vocals, with a heavy guitar based foundation. She sings:

We belong here

To this slaughter

We belong here

To a world in agony

In the final analysis, this is what Season 3 is all about. Solid metal, solid vocals, and all attached to a solid message. Can't get much better than that. It's pretty clear to me, Switzerland is more than just chocolate, but the taste is just as sweet, Season 3 indeed.

FIT 4 TALENT – UK

Author : [Mike Richardson](#)

2011



Having already already released two studio EPs and a live album / DVD, "Season 3" is the first full length studio recording from Swiss Metallers November-7. Recorded at Artsonik in Switzerland and produced by Stefan Glaumann (Rammstein, Within Temptation, Clawfinger), it is a powerful example of "Femme Metal", a sub-genre that continental Europe seems to do so very well.

From the off their sound is immediate and accessible; Opening track "Her Name" kicks off with some eerie samples before diving headlong into de-tuned guitar riffs and heavy drums. Vocalist Annamaria Cozza's powerful, soaring lyrics provide a perfect melodic counterpoint to the almost Industrial backdrop. The obvious comparison would be with acts like Evanescence or Lacuna Coil, yet November-7 are no mere copycat band. They have taken the best of Metal, Goth, Industrial and Electronica and managed to combine them into their own sound.

"In My Mind" shows that the band's guitarists aren't just all about heavy riffs, with some fantastic solos from Stephane Geiser and Matt Walters and some great lyrical hooks. First single "Parasite"

shows another side of their musical abilities, with bucketloads of attitude, some wicked staccato drum licks from Yann Siegenthaler, more soaring guitar and an absolutely belting vocal from Annamaria. "Untie your Hands" showcases some middle-eastern influences, with Arabesque backing vocals and a distinctively Arabian sounding solo blending perfectly with heartfelt, intelligent lyrics on war and the effect it has on the soldier's families. Lyrical depth and quality is one of the band's strong points throughout, something that is not always easy for non-native English speakers but which they accomplish with skill.

"In Love With Hate" would be an obvious choice for the next single, being one of the more commercial, Evanescence-ey sounding tracks and by the fact that an acoustic version of the track is included at the end of the album I'm guessing the band are thinking along the same lines.

Some of the tracks, in particular "Amber Light" and "Angel 2011" show off the band's more Goth influences more strongly than others. With "Angel 2011" being a rework of an older song I guess it shows a little of where the band has come from, but these outings to "The Dark Side" are never too over the top and don't really distract from the proceedings in any way.

This really is a well thought out album, with enough light and shade and variety in sound to keep the listener interested throughout the whole disc. If you are a fan of female fronted metal then this is an album that should definitely be in your collection.

ROCKSTAR MAGAZINE – Switzerland

[Author : rec.](#)

2011



Die welschen Kollegen von Daily Rock schreiben nicht mehr nur länger fleissig an ihrer formidablen Musikzeitung, sie betreiben nun auch das eigene Plattenlabel Daily Rock Records. Als ersten Release gibt es das Debütalbum von November-7 aus Neuchâtel. Die Band um Sängerin Annamaria Cozza donnert mächtigen Industrial-Metal, der sich zum Refrain jeweils hymnisch aufschwingt, aber auch ruhige und balladeske Momente nicht scheut. Ein guter Start. Vielleicht sollten auch wir unter die Plattenbosse gehen.

METALSWITZERLAND - Switzerland

[Author: Keith](#)

February 4th 2011

Nach zwei EP's und einer Live CD veröffentlicht die Westschweizer Band November-7 knapp sechs Jahre nach ihrer Gründung ihren ersten Studio-Longplayer, der es wahrlich in sich hat. Obwohl November-7 elektronische Elemente in ihren Sound einbauen bleibt dieser meistens im Hintergrund.

Die Ballade „Nowhere“ ist wohl der ruhigste Song auf der CD. „Amber light“ beginnt seicht und leicht geheimnisvoll. Aus dem Nichts setzt das Schlagzeug ein und der Song nimmt Fahrt auf, bremst aber unmittelbar wieder ab und setzt gleich wieder zum Überholen an. Diese Band scheint eine unendliche Quelle an Melodie-Ideen zu haben. Jeder Song ist ein Kunstwerk für sich. Eines der besten Beispiele ist wohl der Track „In my mind“ mit unglaublichen Gitarrenriffs. Oder der darauf folgende Song „Angel“, der synthie-lastig beginnt und bald an Drive aufnimmt. Auch die Single-Auskopplung „Parasite“ rockt gewaltig. Eine wahrlich überzeugende Veröffentlichung.

VOLUME – UK

[Author: rec.](#)

2011



Hailing from Neuchâtel in Switzerland, November-7 are already making a big impact on the metal scene in mainland Europe with their album "Season 3" getting rave reviews all over the place. With numerous festivals under their belt, along with support slots for the likes of Lacuna Coil and Within Temptation, their perfectly balanced blend of power and melody is just starting to get noticed here in the UK too. Fronted by Italian born Annamaria Cozza they have their own unique take on the "Femme Metal" genre, combining aggressive riffs, soaring solos and entrancing melodies from their two guitarists with some thought provoking lyrics and Annamaria's "unexpected" vocals. Throw in some powerful drums and a judicious

smattering of electronic wizardry and you get a sound that has masses of depth, yet is incredibly accessible and engaging. About to release the video to the second single from "Season 3", In My Mind" and due to play a showcase in the USA shortly, November-7 plan to tour the UK next year.

RAVENHEART - UK

Author: [Dave](#)

2011



NOVEMBER-7 is defined as a mix of powerful guitar-based metal with electro influences along with melodic vocal lines and orchestral arrangements. Formed in 2005, November-7 has already released two studio EPs and a live album/DVD set, that caught the attention of specialist magazines such as Hard Rock Mag, Metal Edge Magazine and Synthetics Mag. With dog lover Annamaria Cozza on vocals, Stephane Geiser and Matt Walters on guitars, and Yann Siegenthaler on drums, the band puts on a lively and electric show, that has allowed them to share the stage with a number of internationally renowned artists. And nothing defines the band's sound better than opener 'Her Name', a great song featuring a great chorus, and some powerful industrialised sounds. 'In My Mind' continues this totally awesome album, while the band can prove that they can write some catchy tunes too - listen to the strong sounding and first single 'Parasite', while the acoustic/string led ballad 'Nowhere' took my breath away. My album fave 'Amber Light' is a helluva track, and I can actually see this band touring with my Italian Friends The Shiver, and to my eyes and ears, that would be an awesome combination. This record is certainly for fans of Evanescence, Lacuna Coil and the more industrial sounding alternative bands, so check them out at November-7, and get the cd! Also available on iTunes.