

JOIN THE CULT!

VIVITO! CREATO! MORITOR! This is the album title of the newly founded philosophical avant-garde Black Metal crossover band ECHELON. The band presents philosophical connections between Jacques Callot, Francisco de Goya, Édouard Manet and Otto Dix and their search for the true portrayal of war.

The Origin

Founded in 2013, out of the ashes of Grimforst, ECHELON consists of Thomas Faller (vocals, lyrics), Franz Ferdinand „Feanor Omega“ Hawa (drums, clean vocals), Micha Heiser (guitar, vocals, programming), André Rassinger (bass) and Patrick Schweiger (guitar) and each musician has nearly 10 years of experience in music. Furthermore, Franz is part of the Black Metal band Sakrileg and as a session musician in various others.



1. ECHELON (2013) vl.nr: Δ.P. (Bass), Φ.Ω. (Drums, Clean Vocals), T.Φ. (Main Vocals, Lyrics), Π.Σ. (Guitars), M.X. (Guitars, Vocals, Programming).

There is a deep association with the local music scene, not only because of Franz' label CURSED RECORDS but also because of the EINE IN TEICH FESTIVAL which was established by Franz and which is co-organized by Micha.

ECHELON is a different chapter of the book. ECHELON is defined by contrast. The contrast between the musicians and the contrast between the genres. The idea of a holistic point

of view. Away from superficial content to a profound analysis of music and concept. That's what "VIVITO! CREATO! MORITOR!" is about. The philosophical bonding between four painters, who are connected by their observation on war over centuries. These links were brought into music, tone by tone, beat by beat by ECHELON.

The Foundation

Echelon are moving on a visionary path through a system which central star is Black Metal. Circled, by sometimes smaller, sometimes bigger, planets which represent different genres.

If we take a closer look on the surface of aforesaid planets, they sometimes appear magmatic with a doom-metallic consistency. Sometimes they are covered by a caustic ammoniac fog of punk or they have the rugged landscape which valleys are filled with quicksilver lakes of post-rock.



2. band logo. Alpha and Omega combined symbolize the beginning and the end.

The interaction of the planets has a strong presence throughout the whole concept, but sometimes one orbital body seems to fill in the whole cosmos. However, in every moment, every planet, no matter how small or big it is, has influence on the whole and is integral part of the musically system. Like the universe is expanding, ECHELON are expanding themselves.

4 principles

ECHELON define themselves beyond the music, though it is the center of the symbolic cosmos. In addition, there are three arms coiling around the center: (1) conception, (2) lyrics, (3) artwork. Each arm is connected to the center and among each other and as a whole they are ECHELON. Conception requires to focus on "art". Further, art requires to take a view on subjects like no one did before. Art means to arouse attention and is subordinated to a whole which implies to deal with a topic intensively.

The lyrics are used to put the aforementioned conception into words and is strongly connected to the music. Only if lyrics and music generate emotions that consume the listener a song becomes a song of ECHELON.

The last arm is the artwork. It allows to perfect the music through pictures and enables more ways of interpreting the topic. The transformation of music into images happens mostly by ECHELON themselves.

For everything the band is not able to visualize, artists and designers are asked to contribute their work and to push boundaries.



3. Coverartwork (Sigfried Strauß; Cruzkustoms). The artwork contains the desperation of war but also a spark of hope.

The Appearance

of the five Austrians is defined by three axioms:

AXIOM 1: CONTINUITY; which means that in every moment music is present. At the beginning of the show, between songs and at the end, interludes push the concert to its limits.

AXIOM 2: MONOCHROMY; which means an exaggerated light show is not part of an ECHELON show. Furthermore, by only using the color blue, the audience is hypnotized by the harmonic interplay of music and visual elements.

AXIOM 3: NON-MODERATION; which means the show spares with comments and announcements to create a deeper experience for the audience.



4. Live at Runen der Nacht Festival 2013 (fl.tr: T.Φ. (Main Vocals, Lyrics), Δ.P. (Bass)).

These maxims lead to a meta-physical concept which surrounds ECHELON. A concert is a good one if the audience is touched emotionally and if it leads to a deeper interest in the given topic.



5. part of the Inlays (Michael Wedenig). The inlay is structured as triptychon. The part shown symbolizes the helplessness of a soldier

The Album

VIVITO! CREATO! MORITOR!
(Live! Create! Die!) is the title of the debut LP and consists of two concentric circles:

INNER CIRCLE: consists of nine songs which are organized alphabetically and are based on works of Jacques Callot, Francisco de Goya und Édouard Manet. Each painter has another emphasis on war which are reflected in the lyrics of the songs. With the growing despera-

tion throughout the journey the lyrics become darker and the music becomes slower.

OUTER CIRCLE: consists of four songs which reflect the work of Otto Dix from his *Self-Portrait as Mars* up to *Triptychon: War*. The songs foreshadow events of the Inner Circle as well as they reflect past songs. From a musically perspective they follow Dix evolution from being an interested realist to a shaken anti-war activist. In addition to the music, spoken parts, influenced by Dix diary entries and quotes which were done by an actor, perfect the interludes.

At the end, VIVITO! CREATO! MORITOR! is an atmospherically epic which shifts between impulsive rhythm and monumental broadness and focuses on war from a historical and cultural perspective. Finally there is enough room for interpretation on Dix question of what war actually is and if it is possible to overcome war by painting what one has experienced.

Facts	
Name	ECHELON
Genre	Avantgarde Black Metal
Founded	July 2013
Label	Gravity Entertainment
Booking	PMC Band Managing
Album	
Titel	VIVITO! CREATO! MORITOR!
Tracks	13
Running time	62 minutes

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