

Album Review: Dante Tomaselli's *Witches* (2017)

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Daniel XIII ⌵

If there's one thing that maestro of the macabre, Dante Tomaselli, brings to all he creates, it's a richness of image and a real sense of fever dream aesthetics. Now I know what you are thinking, ol' XIII has finally flipped his lurid lid...why in the unholy hell is he rambling on about visuals in a review of an album of music? Well, first of all; up yours for doubting my sanity, and secondly; demonic Dante is a top shelf fright flick director who just so happens to be a wiz on the sinister synths as well..and every bit of arcane ambience he brings to the silver screen is amplified a thousand fold in his musical endeavors...like his latest collection of terror tunes, *Witches*!

Unlike Tomaselli's previous releases (*Nightmare*, *The Doll*, *Scream in the Dark*), *Witches* has more of a synthwave vibe going on rather than the more full-on ambient style utilized in the past, but the affair is truly hallucinogenic as well. When the listener closes their eyes and drifts into the world created by these thirteen sinister soundscapes they will find themselves in a realm of religious zealotry cloaked in ancient evil rituals...basically picture Jonestown by way of Stonehenge. As you can imagine, the effect is akin to listening to the soundtrack to a truly great picture from our beloved horror biz; but one that exists solely in the putrid peepers of our minds.



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Speaking of fright flicks (aren't I always?), the last track on *Witches* "The Ocean" bears the same name as a film Dante was set to lens a few years back, but as the fickle (and decidedly middle) finger of fate dictates, the film never came to be (but your's cruelly certainly hopes that will change at some point). I can't help but wonder if perhaps this track is indicative of the score we would have been treated to...

I honestly can't recommend *Witches* enough, especially if you dig on the works of John Carpenter, *Werewolves in Siberia*, or *Disasterpiece*...it's truly immersive horror-scape awesomeness that will fill your eerie ear holes with a pitch black musical mass that'll haunt you for quite some time!

Entertainment Value



Technical



Summary

Musician/Film maker Dante Tomaselli returns with his fourth album of dark synth heavy compositions titled *Witches*. Over thirteen tracks the album plunges the listener into a sinister world of evil cults and pagan rites. Not to be missed for those that dig John Carpenter, *Werewolves in Siberia*, or *Disasterpiece*!

5.0

