

# I N T E R V I E W



(THE INTERVIEW BELOW IS A COMPILATION OF QUESTIONS MADE BY THE FOLLOWING INTERVIEWERS: ANTONIO C. MAGALHÃES: ROCK BRIGADE MAG. /// JAIME AMORIM: METAL VOX /// FRANK GONÇALVES: NOVO METAL /// ROSBERG LIMA: BRUTALISM ) AND ANSWERED BY ALEX RODRIGUES (G)

1. Please make a brief resume of the band's history.

OF THE ARCHAENGEL was founded in 92 with the name of Lethal Curse. We recorded one single demo in 93 and in 95 we were featured in the compilation "The Winds of a New Millennium I", released our debut in 98, "Rape the Innocence", through Cogumelo Records (Sepultura, Sarcófago, Vulcano) We made some good concerts through the years playing with bands like Anathema, Rotting Christ and Sarcófago and after this we were some time in silence into a deep process of restructure which lead to a new band name.

2. Now the name of the band is OF THE ARCHAENGEL. Which reasons made you to decide for this change?

There are lots of reasons but the main one was to have a name which had a better connection with our lyrical themes and that could represent ourselves better, since we felt a little bit "dated" with the previous name, which wasn't working correctly anymore in order to represent the music we were making currently.

3. I'm really confused about the band's musical direction. I can see influences of Dark and Doom Metal, but the complexity of your songs gets you far from bands of such genres, I could even define OF THE ARCHAENGEL as "Complex Metal". How do you define yourselves?

We too! (laughs) The band is formed by musicians with different backgrounds and we learned to respect this and to allow most of your influences to be present in our music in harmony, it's almost defying.

We heard lots of labels used to define our music but there isn't an unanimous opinion about it, and we actually see it with good eyes, it's a sign that our effort of years working in our songs to make them unique and able to make OF THE ARCHAENGEL to differ from lots of other bands present in the nowadays scene wasn't in vain.

Part of this difficulty is due to the theme which we work with. Every song shows a different "state", there's a different feeling being exposed in each track so it obviously extends through the music making the songs different from each other.

It's a detail which everyone who reviewed our work didn't notice. We understand the importance of labels and I think that in some way every label which we received make sense. Dark/Doom Metal, Melodic Dark Metal, Doom/Gothic Metal and even your "Complex Metal", because I guess it's the way you identified our "progressive" influence - which in our way - is very present in our songs.

4. Originality is a characteristic that few bands reach and you have more than enough. What are the main influences searched to reach such result?

Thanks for your words and without a false modesty it's very gratifying to hear this! I think that what leaded us to this result is the fact that we have a high self criticism, then, for us, after so many years receiving nothing but just the pleasure to create art, being in a band to make music derived from other works or just to "keep the tradition" would be something that would n't bring us any motivation to keep fighting against the known difficulties of a Brazilian heavy metal band which wants to work in a professional way.

5. What is your main objective releasing this demo CD?

Send the warning that those "old devils" from the past are back, show that the Brazilian underground scene is still able to produce relevant music and try to sell some copies to help in the maintenance of the band' activities.

6. Well, when I listen the demo CD "The Dante's Children Extravagance" I was impressed with the band's quality. I ask you Alex: How a band with such level is still in the phase of demo CD?

Fortunately I think that we won't stay in this phase for a long time, since everyone who had listen our work recently, especially in the press, say the same as you.

In fact we choose to come back in an underground way, creating a base between the people who are in the scene, reviving the memory of people who are older in the scene about our work and presenting it to the newest ones so in a not distant future (when we have a full length released) people will know "what the hell is" and "where came from" this such OF THE ARCHAENGEL.

7. In Brazil a few bands play this kind of music which you make...I see a great potential in O.A, however the narrow minds of most people who listen to metal can be a barrier for the evolution and survival of the band, how will you face this solid wall of prejudice?

It's certain that our position throws some rocks on this wall, but it would be such an innocent thing to want to break it since it's something cultural.

Fortunately Brazil is very big and as time passes there are a good number of people who listen to metal with other ears, and with the huge number of bands which appear every day they become more selective with what to listen and to support.

Normally are people who already passed through the "wonderment phase", they don't have 16 years old anymore (however the are people with such age who have musical maturity enough) and already have a more developed mentality so these narrow minded people even become target of jokes by such groups.

8. We wait for a next record, being sure that it'll be so good as "The Dante's Children Extravagance". We thank you for the informations and say good bye, leaving the space free for your final comments.

Frank, I assure you that it'll be so much better.

Thank you for your intelligent questions and to everyone who read such lines so far. I invite all of you to know more about OF THE ARCHAENGEL through our website -

[www.ofthearchaengel.com](http://www.ofthearchaengel.com)