

I do not know what the Scandinavians and the Dutch put in their water, but there sure is a vast array of decent bands coming from that part of the world. NEMESSEA appeared on the scene a couple of years or so ago with their debut opus MANA. This cd was a strong operatic gothic metal album, not too dissimilar to Nightwish in places. In-fact, being a Nightwish fan, I enjoyed that cd very much. And then I heard about NEMESSEA recording a new album. Obviously, I was interested in hearing the new material. Now, let's get something straight here. Anybody reading this review that is expecting and wants MANA mark two, I am afraid they are not going to get it. I am though bowled over by the new cd. I would call it electro rock/metal, with the odd touch of techno for good measure. I like all types of music, and I never get stuck in a rut. I myself love 'IN CONTROL'. OK, it is totally different to the debut, but the potential for the album is enormous, even over here in the UK, if it was pushed in the right directions. It is only 34 minutes long though, comprising 10 tracks, but I believe in quality not quantity, so I do not have a problem with that. Favourite tracks are a plenty, but I particularly like seventh track in, 'BELIEVE'. Any open minded person should check this album out. It is a strong release! 9/10 **(Reviewed by Dave)**

REISM..'LIFESTYLE PRODUCT'

(Independent release) Reviewed 7th August 2007

REISM are a Liverpool based band fronted by a Norwegian Lass called Kirsten. I have seen a review of some Reism material in an English Rock Zine, but it seems the review referred to a 12 minute EP by this band. I actually have the full length CD, This is a another independent band worthy of one's attention, and this is a good effort. I read the Powerplay review as suggesting that Reism sound like Evanescence. Cannot quite see it myself, but it seems all female fronted bands pick up these Evanescence comparisons. That puzzles me a wee bit. Back to the cd in question. 'Lifestyle Product' is gothic rock/metal with electronic elements. The cd plods along with 'Nothing to Lose' being a good un, with a heavy guitar 'bit' in the middle. I also enjoyed 'Burn Brighter', which reminds me a little in places of Avril Lavigne, 'Waiting' and 'Any Other Way. In-fact I find Kirsten's voice quite captivating throughout. Reism is another good gothic indie band worthy of your support. It's an 8/10 **(Reviewed by Dave)**

TEMUJIN..'1000 TEARS'

(Independent release) Reviewed 7th August 2007

Temujin is a gothic metal band from Australia. An independently produced cd, which I have quite taken a fancy too. The band being founded by Karl Lean, who was with an Aussie band called 'Nothing Sacred'. In 2004 Karl began solo writing of new material. With several arrangements underway, the next step was finding a vocalist with the sound and style to complement the music. A single session with the angelic sounding Kelly was all it took to confirm that something rare was taking shape. The arrival of Kelly instantly transformed the songs under development. Working from a collection of 25 completed arrangements, the final track listing of 13 songs was chosen for the debut CD "1000 Tears". And these atmospheric sounding songs are very good too. It is a real pleasure when something like this arrives at Ravenheart Towers. Please visit their myspace site at <http://www.myspace.com/temujin1>, and as I have said numerous times before, support a band that are unsigned and that fully deserve your attention. 8/10 **(Reviewed by Dave)**

THE PENNIES..'THIS WORLD UNKNOWN'

(Independent release) Reviewed 26th July 2007

This mini cd by The Pennies has taken me totally by storm. The story goes like this. I received a friends request on our myspace site from an unknown band (to me anyway) called The Pennies. I accept, go to their page at <http://www.myspace.com/thepennies> and listen to what they have on offer. I promptly order this cd. 5 tracks and nearly 30 mins of music. Penny sounds a little like Dido to my ears, particularly on 'Shine Within Sadness'. And that