



Metal. Real Metal. True Metal. Heavy Metal as I know it. Has it gone the way of the DoDo bird? I mean you still have the old guard bands around like Priest, Maiden, Megadeth, even Saxon. But not many younger bands claim the genre. Those that do... phfftttt shouldn't be saying the word let alone claiming it. Into The Void claim it proudly, and deserve to wear the badge. Dark lyrics, brute force attack, and most of all no Nu-metal 15 string tuned to Z tunings, with unintelligible vocals. Into The Void have released a virtual tour of metal history and lore with their newest CD Black Dawn. All the best influences are there and gel as something fresh, defiantly missing on store shelves and the tour circuit the last few years. The trio that makes up Into The Void

include Cameron Childers on bass and vocals, Cody Childers on guitar and Kevin Williams pounding the skins. They'll be doing a lot of touring over the summer and should be on your list of must sees if you want to regain you hope for the future of Metal music. The following is an interview with Cody Childers. Be sure to check out Into The Void and hear songs from the new CD Black Dawn at www.myspace.com/intothethevoidtheband and Into-TheVoidTheBand.com

MR-How many years have Into the Void been at it now?

CC-We have been a band for about 4 or 4.5 years now

MR-How many releases had there been to date?

CC-Black Dawn is our third album so far.

MR-Black Dawn your latest effort sound to be the most aggressive yet. Is that something that's done purposely when you set about writing or does come natural? In other words did you guys set out to say "this has got be harder !!"??

CC-Well, you always want to do better and better. But, really it comes down to playing what you feel and trying to make it the best you can.

MR-What's the bands and or your various influences? I hear a good mix of many punk and metal bands in the sound.

CC-We all like a lot of stuff. Cameron and I are really mostly influenced by old metal and punk like Ozzy, Black Sabbath, Megadeth, Sex Pistols, stuff like that. Kevin likes a lot of the same bands and he listened to a lot of Lamb of God and Avenged Sevenfold too.

MR-Do you get a lot old schoolers turning on to Into The Void? The band has an "new" sound but with out the "cookie monster" vocals so popular these days. How does your sound set with the younger generation?

MR-Yeah, we seem to have a pretty broad fan base. The screaming thing is something we just never got into. It can be cool if you do it right but, so many people are doing and we are trying, above pretty much everything else is to do something different than is going on now.

MR-How has the band held up the challenges of being from a mostly rural state? Many reading may not know of the trials faced from a band in West Virginia, let alone a metal band.



Tell about some.

CC-It can be hard but, there are advantages too. A lot of bands from bigger cities have a lot of trouble even finding a place to practice. We do usually have to go farther to get to bigger shows and there really aren't any in our hometown. Really, almost anything can be an advantage or a disadvantage depending on how you look at it.

MR-I imagine you fellas plan on some touring behind this CD right? Will it be a regional thing or national?

CC-Yeah, we are touring. We are focusing mostly on the east coast but, who knows where we will end up.

MR-The rise in gas and other expenses facing bands these days has to effect out of town shows right?

CC-Oh man, I don't even want to think of how high gas is going to be soon it's already an insane price.

MR-I hate to use the word crossover but for lack of something better do find that you appeal to wide range of tastes in music? Why do think that is?

CC-Well, we all listen to a lot of stuff and that plays a part but, also the only deciding factor in whether or not to keep something is if it sounds cool or it doesn't. We don't just throw something out because, "oh, that sounds too punk" or "that is too slow" just if it sounds good and adds to the song you know?

MR-The guitar player in me has to ask about your rig. What's your set up and how do you get the most outta of it? Any secret weapons?

CC-I use Gibson guitars and for effects I have a DOD wah and an Danelectro echo pedal. I use them so little they practically just sit on my pedal board. Then that goes to a Peavey Rockmaster preamp and a BBE Sonic Maximizer into my Laney head and cab. Pretty much everything we use is modded in some way or another so that would probably be my secret weapon.

MR-What age did you start playing and what made you decide music, most of all heavy ass music was what you had to do?

CC-I started playing around 15 or so. Heavy music is what I always listened to so it's just naturally what I wanted to play.

MR-Did you catch a lot of crap from peers at 15, listening to heavy music? Is so how did you deal with it?

CC-We catch crap from people constantly. Anybody that doesn't conform seems to have to deal with it but, we prefer it that way.

MR-Do you find you have a better connection with fans and potential fans because of the web?

CC-Extremely, you can get a hold of people that you would never be able to without the web. It's cool because, I get recognized a lot in public from people seeing us on the web haha.

MR-Who puts together new material in the band or is it a collaborative effort?

CC-It's collaborative. We all write the stuff and suggest different changes or progressions to add. Everybody tries to make it pretty equal.

MR-Was Black Dawn released by your own label? How is you decided to work independently and start

your own label?

CC-We always liked recording ourselves and we got into it so much that we ended up building our own studio. After that we were like "well, why don't we put out our own stuff?"

MR-Any plans to record and release other bands on your label?

CC-We don't release them on our label but, we do record for other bands. Most of the time we do shows and stuff like that with them after they record.

MR-Tell us about the personality of this new record. What makes it Into the Void's best yet?

CC-This album is really dark and kinda gritty. It's probably the darkest thing we have done yet. This album is a lot more developed and in some ways heavier than our last one. It's a lot different but, I think you can still tell it's Into the Void. You know what I mean?

MR-If Black Dawn is your darkest record so far, with the two releases before hand, can you describe or put a personality on each of the first two CD's?

CC-Our first album was a lot rawer in some ways, a lot more punk influenced in parts but all that is still part of our sound. Our last album, See You

Pay, was thrashier on some songs but, again it still is part of our sound. We play songs from all of our albums live and we plan to keep doing that.

Really, if you think about it an album or even a song can be a snapshot in time. It can take you back to where you were and what was happening then. But,

like any other memory it can change where you are going now and how you do it.

MR-I ask this of almost every band so I cant spare you.

CC-Its Friday night, me and boys are heading out, why do we go see Into the Void and not a titty bar?

CC-Hmmm, the top three reasons I can think of would be there is less of a chance you will get an STD, its cheaper to see us, and some of the places we play are safe to eat at.

MR-Do your picture yourself at 35,45,50 years of age still kicking it out? Or in an lawn chair fishing?

CC-Hmm, it's hard to say. I always thought I would stay pretty much the same until I died. Hopefully, I can do a little bit of both. I don't plan on quitting anytime this century ha ha.