

On their newest album, **Fvnerals** don't have to go over the top to convey a wide range of emotions - not necessarily of the calm and cheerful kind, while we're at it.

The latest full-length from Germany-based duo, entitled **Let the Earth Be Silent**, is a perfect example of that, and its minimalism in no way restricts the band's artistic genius. On the contrary, it only amplifies the bleak atmosphere of their upcoming release, which will be out on February 3rd.

Already at the very beginning, the song titles give us an idea that the music we're about to experience is far from easy listening. **Let the Earth Be Silent** has a truly apocalyptic vibe and encourages us to listen with utmost attention as darkness is oozing from the speakers.

Seven compositions, each of them belonging to the post-doom/ambient genre, are mind-bendingly heavy, and the dreamlike mood combined with gloomy synths adds a nightmarish quality to **Fvnerals'** music.

The longer we keep listening, the darker it gets. With each song, **Fvnerals** thicken the atmosphere as it gets more and more grim, almost claustrophobic. As the title suggests, **Descent** is where the record gets more intense and truly resembles diving deep into the soundscapes created by the band.

It's pure post-doom drenched in distant, cold synthesizers, where the clean vocals, slightly hidden in the mix, lead the listener further.

The spine-chilling, suspenseful sounds prepare us for what comes next – namely the songs **For Horror Eats The Light** and **Annihilation**, which together provide the culmination point of the album. Both tracks bring forth a breakneck heaviness, wreaking sonic, but most importantly emotional havoc.

The atmosphere is apocalyptic and, to a certain point, gets increasingly intense, until it gives way to the eerie **Rite**. The track has a dark, ritualistic vibe and despite being short, it can only be described as memorable. It resembles a pagan ceremony, the arcana of which are not for the faint-hearted. The suspense builds up until the final composition **Barren**, which gradually fades down and leaves the listener with the feeling of... what exactly? Emptiness? Profound confusion? Despair? It is entirely up to the listeners to decide, since the music with such personal themes can't be described with lightly chosen words. After all, the composers have mentioned depression, isolation and despair as states of mind which accompanied the creative process...

Even though certain similarity between the album's tracks can be discouraging to picky listeners, I'd describe it simply as consistency and keeping the songs within the same style. **Let the Earth Be Silent** is consistent and at the same time devastatingly gloomy, well worth of your listen especially in the wintertime.

Last but not least, I couldn't recommend **Yearning** enough to everyone who wants to make sure if **Fvnerals'** new release is the right music for them. The track truly encapsules the album in miniature, where sparse guitars join melancholic vocals, all against an ambient background. Hypnotising, slightly unreal sounds seem to cut through the air, and the loops are downright mesmerising, making it easy to understand why **Yearning** has been chosen for one of the singles.

The other songs revealed before the album release are just as well-composed and gripping. Like an unholy trinity, these three singles announce an excellent premiere, which is sure to move the listeners to the core with raw darkness in an otherworldly, musical experience.

Rating: 8,5/10