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FREESTONE

News

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MUSIC INSPIRED BY FREEMASONRY

Freestone <i>The Temple of Humanity</i>	Releases
<p>With the release of Freestone's album <i>The Temple of Humanity</i> in May 2008, Freemasonry entered popular music for the first time. The album tells a story unheard in rock music: progressive and symphonic rock music inspired by the symbolism of the mystical and philosophical tradition of Freemasonry. Experiencing the album is like undergoing a musical ritual and brings forth associations with legendary artists such as Pink Floyd, Mike Oldfield, Alan Parsons, but clearly in a 21st century performance which justifies comparison with present day bands. The album provides a discovery through symbols and rituals of Freemasonry. No conspiracy theories or unnecessary secrecy, but an authentic story based upon personal experience.</p> <p>The album is composed and produced by Harm Timmerman, member of Lodge nr.17 L'Union Provinciale in The Netherlands and Music teacher at Stenden University. In co-operation with experienced musicians, '<i>The Temple of Humanity</i>' is a professional produced authentic and unique album. The packaging and booklet contain fascinating art; artists from different countries (of whom a few are masons themselves) have contributed their work.</p> <p>The album shows that in the changing music industry there is still place for something different. Indeed the album can help gaining new attention for the valuable legacy and tradition of Freemasonry among a broad and young public. Considering the character of the album and the fact that it's full of references to history, legacy, symbolism and of course the meaning of masonry, the album indeed can contribute to the spreading of knowledge about Freemasonry. Much can be discovered in music, lyrics and artwork.</p>	<p>Dan Brown – The Lost Symbol</p> <p>Well, mr. Brown had the world waiting and speculating for several years, but finally we can expect the forthcoming Dan Brown novel in September 2009. By now, we all are expecting that in this next adventure of prof. Robert Langdon, Freemasonry is going to play a vital role. The title is not what most people thought it would be, <i>The Solomon Legacy</i>, but maybe even better: <i>The Lost Symbol</i>. On the cover of both the American and the British version we see clear references to Freemasonry. It is known that Dan Brown is a serious reader of Masonic author Robert Lomas and comparing the cover of <i>Turning the Hiram Key</i>, only seems to underline this. The story of <i>The Da Vinci Code</i>, is largely based on <i>Holy Blood, Holy Grail</i>; basically Brown translated this highly speculative and none-scientific story in a great and easy to read page-turner. Maybe, Brown played this trick again: doing good and (in all respect) extensive research by studying interesting books about Masonic legacy, Masonic roots of the founding fathers of America, geometric patterns in Washington D.C., Kaballah, etc. and turning all this knowledge into a great novel. Anyway, without any doubt this novel is going to be a best seller. I'm already looking forward to all the documentaries, specials on TV and in news magazines, et cetera. I'm pretty convinced that all together the novel will have its effect on the attention of the public for Freemasonry, either in a positive or a negative sense. These are exciting times. Considering Mr. Brown's interest for Freemasonry, I sent him a copy of the album some time ago. Haven't heard from him or his publisher yet. ☺</p> <div data-bbox="619 1077 1023 1279"> </div> <p>Dream Theater-A Rite of Passage</p> <p>Recently the American symphonic rock band Dream Theater released the album <i>Black Clouds & Silver Linings</i>; truly a great album with impressive songs and instrumental breaks the band is famous for. One song in particular caught my attention.</p> <div data-bbox="608 1346 799 1536"> </div> <p><i>A Rite of Passage</i> has lyrics full with references to Freemasonry. In the middle of the booklet of the album and on the cover of this single we see the well know international logo of the brotherhood, the compass and square within the middle, not the letter G what we would expect, but the logo of the band. Checking out the video of this song on Youtube we come across some strange looking ritual, with clear and obvious connections with Masonry. At the end we see a company of initiates gathered around what appears to be a holy object, the Perfect Cube.</p> <p>Checking forum discussions on the website of Dream Theater's record label Roadrunner, it is said that none of the guys in the band are Masons themselves, but somewhere in their family there can be found Masonic ties. All together, an interesting reference to the Masonic legacy in present day music. The song doesn't seem to be critical toward Freemasonry at all, but seems more to be intended as some kind of tribute. And of course: it's great music.</p>
<p>Soft Cell – The Singles 1981 – 1985</p> <p>Here's an interesting album cover. I wonder what on earth the music and lyrics of the songs have to do with Freemasonry and what the graphic designer had in mind when he decided to use the Tracing Board for the cover.</p>	<div data-bbox="715 1823 906 2011"> </div> <p>Join Freestone on Myspace</p> <p>http://www.myspace.com/firstfreestone</p>

Review

The Temple of Humanity has received several great reviews in the international press; they can be found on Freestone's website. Here is a review from Chris Hodapp; thanks Chris for appreciating the album.

Friday, May 1, 2009

Masonic Music: Freestone's "Temple of Humanity"
Freemasonry and music have long been intertwined. A large section of Anderson's Constitutions featured the lyrics to songs that were sung by the earliest members of the modern fraternity.

A new CD, "The Temple of Humanity" by the Dutch band Freestone, is the latest melding of Masonry and melody. Producer, composer, and Freemason Harm Timmerman wrote the twelve tracks, wrapped around Masonic symbolism, initiation, and mysticism, and even takes a stab at anti-Masons (Masonry Dissected). Vocalist Diederik Huisman, Alex Simu's flute, and the multi-talented Timmerman on guitar, bass and keyboards, have created a concept album with Freemasonry at its core, at times recalling Pink Floyd or Alan Parsons Project discs. At times progressive rock, at other times jazz, it is a fascinating and thoroughly enjoyable collection of songs and ideas. These are not just occasional Masonic buzzwords grafted onto rambling studio tracks. They are contemplative lyrics that explore Masonic concepts, along with solid and enjoyable music. "Temple of Humanity" is well worth seeking out.

Lyrics Brotherhood of men

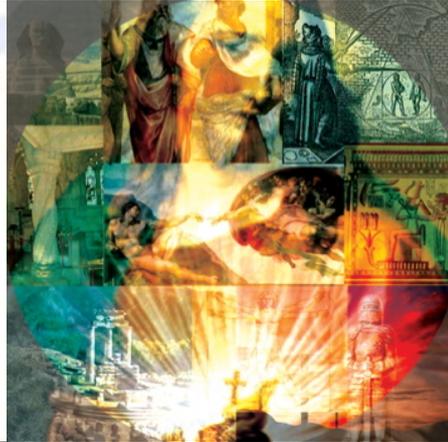
*I was a traveller and travelled alone
On my way toward nothing
I had my dreams and my hopes and my fears
I kept looking for what was missing*

*I was a seeker in search of what
I searched the highest mountains
I searched on the bottom of the sea
Only to find the secret inside of me
As above so below
From dark into the Light I needed to go*

*I knocked on the door and I started to pray
I opened my eyes
And the dark, the dark went away
In the chain that encircles the earth
As above so below
From dark into the Light I needed to go*

Artwork – Out of the dark

The theme of the fourth track on the album *Out of the dark* is the legendary history of Freemasonry as described in Anderson's constitutions. All songs have a central theme with accompanying artwork in which its central theme is further explained.



Breaking news: second album Freestone

Rumor has it that Freestone is working on a second album. With the impressive and highly original first album *'The Temple of Humanity'*, Freestone introduced Freemasonry in rock music. On the second album (title yet unknown), Freestone continues its inspiring quest through the boundaries of more personal and not only Masonic thought but clearly with a darker character which can be heard in music and lyrics. The art again will contribute to a better understanding of the (Masonic) themes Freestone explores and is struggling with. The album promises to be an album of personal uncertainties, but in the end an album of hope.

*Pierce your heart to find the key
What can't be seen, try to see
With you take, what no one else would take
Lose, that the lost you may receive
Die, for no other way you can live
When earth and heaven lay down their veil
And that apocalypse turns you pale
When your seeing blinds you
To what your fellow mortals see
When their sight to you is sightless
Their living, death
Their light, most lightless*

*Seek no more
Seek no more
Seek no more*

Visit Freestone's Youtube Channel: freestonemusic



Lecture: Does Freemasonry belong in Popular Music?

Harm Timmerman, Producer and composer of *The Temple of Humanity* prepared a lecture, including a multi-media presentation in which he further explains the ideas that can be found in the album's music, lyrics and artwork. First he goes into detail to what extend Freemasonry can be found in popular music, after which he speaks about the motives that had him started working on the album. If you are interested in this presentation for an evening in your lodge, please contact Freestone: info@free-stone.org.

Production Video clip

Freestone will start working on a video clip in collaboration with a great and experienced media producer. It is yet to be decided which of the songs on the album is most suitable for a motion picture production. After this summer Freestone will start working on the script followed by shooting of the material, editing, etc. In line with the album, the video will have lots of Masonic references, without revealing too much of course © We'll keep you informed when the video is released and features on Youtube.

Visit Talkshoe Radio for the podcast of an extended interview between Freestone's producer and artist Greg Stewart.

Visit Dangerdog for a great review on *The Temple of Humanity* by Craig Hartranft,

<p>Album Available</p>	<p>BEST BUY</p>		<p>major digital retailers</p>		<p>YOUR LOCAL RECORD STORE</p>	<p>UK: Distributed by Metronome Distribution and available from all leading stock lists</p>	<p>Online Masonic Shops Worldwide</p>
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Contact information For questions, remarks, a lecture in your lodge, please contact Freestone's producer and composer Harm Timmerman. info@free-stone.org 0031-61412 4663 www.free-stone.org