



Hi Henric! Thanks for your time spending with Via Nocturna and congratulations for your excellent album! Can you speak a little of your career until now?

Hi there and thanks! Well, I started playing classical guitar at the local music school when I was around 10 years old, but eventually I started to be more and more interested in the electric guitar and influences such as Jimi Hendrix and Frank Marino, so after a few years I switched entirely to the electric guitar. I started playing in various bands and sets and in 1987, Metal Force, came out with a (MC) containing own songs. Metal Force were eventually dissolved and there were the other sets founded eg PN Wildbrain and Tinderbox, etc.in which I played in until 1996 when I took a musical break. In 2006 we started the classic hard rock tribute band called Solid Faces and since that I have over the years participated in various compositions as a guest artist and played gigs around Finland.

All Of Your Illusions is your first solo album. Can we say that, definitively, is a mark of all your illusions?

Yes, this is my first solo album and a dream come true for me. I have long played with the idea of making a solo album, I've always written music so many of the songs are music ideas that I've written a long time ago. I would definitely say and hope that the album would lead to some illusions...for the listeners.

Who were the musicians that play with you in this album?

I have been fortunate to get to know many singers and musicians around Finland but also from abroad so I have 4 singers participating on the album, Doogie White (UK)

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known from, among others Rainbow, Yngwie Malmsteen and now participating with Michael Schenker and then we have Jari Tiura (Fin) who also have been singing with MSG and Jukka Nummi (Fin) a well known singer from the local music scenes around Finland and Johan Mattjus (Fin) known from (i.a. Stormwing and Altaria) and now lead singer in Solid Faces. On bass we have Jonas Kuhlberg(Fin), a bassteacher and basist in the Finnish Melodic Death Metal band Mygrain, on Hammond/keyboards we have Sven Wannäs (Fin)known from (i.a. Stormwing) and now keyboardplayer in Solid Faces. Drums are handled by Roger Snellman (Fin) (i.a. Tinderbox) also the drummer in Solid Faces. Sven Wannäs is also the co-producer of the album and he has also mixed and mastered the album.

They are musicians that usually work with you in other projects or not?

Yes, they are all good friends who I work with on various projects and now and then playing shows around Finland. Sven, Johan and Roger are also playing in Solid Faces.

Except Doogie White! How do you get this sacred monster singing in your album?

I met Doogie for the first time in March 2009, on his visit to Finland when he was here to do a gig and I was asked if I wanted to join the band as guitarist, of course I was interested... (this was the man who has sung in Rainbow “for goodness sake” and shared the stage with one of my guitarheroes, Richie Blackmore...) Doogie came back in June the same year and we did a few more gigs. It was during the mini-tour, when I had some interesting conversations with Doogie, in the tour bus and discussed music and stuff with him and he told me that he was interested in working with various guitarists “they stretch me to my limit” he said. It did not hit me then but later when I

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had decided to start making a solo album, why not ask Doogie if he is interested in cooperating. So I sent some mp3 files of some demos I had done and asked if he was willing to cooperate on some songs, it took some time before he replied ... that he was interested!...

Does he went to Finland to record with you or made is work alone?

Doogie had the opportunity to sing his part in London so I prepared a song that I thought would fit and sent it to Doogie. Then we agreed that I write lyrics that Doogie then edits and modifies to suit and he writes the melody to the song. Doogie recorded some versions and sent them back for me to listen to and tell him my thoughts, when we had agreed on a final version Doogie recorded leadvocals and backing vocals and sent the files back to me. So I would say that we recorded together though we never were in the same studio :)

All Of Your Illusions is a real classic hard rock. Who are your main influences?

The song writing process is spanning over a long time so I think there's a lot of influences but of course the bands, Deep Purple, Whitesnake and Rainbow among others have influenced me but I think that Frank Marino, Ritchie Blackmore, Ronnie James Dio and John Lord also had an influence on me too...and also my co-writers have put their touch on the songs from their influences.

In a review I read that this album was not influenced by 80's hard rock; it sounds like was done in 1986. It was intention since the beginning?

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It was not, I think, the intention from the beginning that the album would sound like it was from 1986, but as we made the songs more finished we started to think about the sound. I did not want to have an overwhelming sound with a lot of guitars and synthesizers, but a simple sound with a relatively nice guitar sound, simple guitar tracks, bass and Hammond during guitar solos and the overall sound would be simple and transparent, easy to listen to without getting tired ears... so I think the sound evolved with time and the "soundguru" Sven Wannäs did an amazing job.

How do get to kept all those vintage sonority?

I think the guitar sound contributes a lot to the sound image sounds very vintage, I do not use too much distortion, which means that it can fit more sustain and tone but the biggest reason is probably the Hammond sound which is probably the sonority that people associate with a classic rock sound.

How is the situation with Solid Faces?

Solid Faces released their first album in 2013 a "Tribute to Classic Rock" containing cover songs, so right now we are working to book gigs. We have also discussed to start working on a theme concert and under own management spring 2015 organize some concerts in Finland. For the future I think Solid Faces will continue to be a cover band and do cover gigs and theme concerts around Finland and when it comes to writing own music I think that will be with other people and different sets.

Do you have any video shot from the album?

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There was a film crew who were filming a show related to the album release we did in the summer, but the material is still on the editing table, but hopefully soon some sort of DVD are coming out...

About next time projects? What have you scheduled?

I must say I've become a bit taken by surprise by the good reception that the album has received so of course that inspires me further. We've already started talking about a new album but with who and how is still unclear. It is clear in any case that I write songs like crazy so hopefully soon things are becoming clearer in which set it's going to be. I've thought a lot about that, will it be like the first album with several guest singers or will it be more like a band...

Well, was a pleasure to chat with you. There is anything else you want to say more to our readers or to your fans?

It was a pleasure to talk to you too and thanks for the interview and for the review. First of all I'd like to thank everyone who reviewed the album, it has arrived a lot of great feedback that inspires me even more, and to everyone else who, one way or another have given their support. I also would like to thank all the great musicians who participated on the album and who gave so much of their time, I'd especially want to thank Sven Wannäs for his effort and time he spent to make this album come true . I hope there will be another album soon and the goal would be to come out and play some gigs in Skandinavia and Europe and to be able to meet some fans ☺. Take care and Cheers.

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