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Songs for Mithras: The Void, Asbes of Dawn

THE SEA WITHIN

"The Sea Within"

Formats: Available as Special Edition 2CD Digipak (incl. bonus disc), 180g Gatefold 2LP Edition (incl. the album and bonus tracks on 2 CDs) and as Digital Album

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Let's get one thing straight from the start. The Sea Within is more of an amalgamation of some serious talents, than a regular "supergroup". These musicians have come together to create a unique album. Guitarist/vocalist Roine Stolt, bassist Jonas Reingold, keyboard player/vocalist Tom Brislin, drummer/vocalist Marco Minnemann and vocalist/guitarist Daniel Gildenlöw have a vast reservoir of experience. Look at the portmanteau of artists with who they've worked: The Flower Kings, Transatlantic, Jon Anderson, Steven Wilson, The Aristocrats, Joe Satriani, Yes, Steve Hackett, Renaissance, Pain Of Salvation, Deborah Harry, Meatloaf, Karmakanic ... that of itself tells you this is something very special.

"I suppose it all began to take shape in the autumn of 2016," explains Stolt. "I had a chat with Thomas Waber, the boss at InsideOut Music, about the idea of putting together a new band. I wanted to move in a fresh direction with new collaborations. So Thomas gave me the 'go ahead' to seek musicians for a new project." First on-board was The Flower Kings bass player Jonas Reingold. "He is a long time bandmate and friend and we were also very keen to get keyboardist Tom (Brislin) involved - after seeing his synth pyrotechnics with legends Yes 'Symphonic' and with Camel. Then we have been a fans of 'Aristocrats' drummer Marco for a long time; I first heard of him 15 years ago and he is a brilliant drummer, unique energy. Then when we discussed ideas for singers, Daniel's name came up, he has such a great range and dynamic voice and we've worked together on and off over the years." Also added later to the bands line-up for live shows was vocalist and guitarist Casey McPherson of 'Flying Colors' and 'Alpha Rev', who also sings a couple of songs on the album.

Initially the band went to Livingston Studios in London last September to begin the process of assembling all the material and recording it for the debut album. "Most of the material you'll hear are really band compositions. Of course, ideas were triggered by all of us. Sometimes Jonas would come up with a part, chord sequence or tune and then I or Tom would write melody & lyric and some new riff section and Marco enhancing with further musical metric twists and developments - then Daniel would add or rewrite some of the lyrics, change or add more melodies. Overall, the vast majority of the tracks have been worked on and developed by all of us in one way or another." "Why did we decide to record in London? That was down to simple logistics, because we live all over the world. Jonas is in Austria, Daniel and I are in Sweden, Tom is on the East Coast of America, while Marco is on the West Coast. So, it made sense for us all to come together in London." Not all of the record, though, was finished at Livingston, as Stolt outlines. "Some extra touches