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Peaceville Records is proud to announce the signing of Finnish prog death metallers, Barren Earth. With a line-up consisting of former members of prog/folk metal legends Amorphis, as well as current members of Swallow the Sun, Moonsorrow & Kreator, the band has been busy recording their debut album at the renowned Seawolf Studios in Helsinki, with the tracks currently being mixed by Dan Swanö (Katatonia/Opeth/Novembre).

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www.myspace.com/officialbarreneath

LINE-UP

Mikko Kotamäki – Vocals (Swallow The Sun)

Olli-Pekka Laine – Bass (Ex-Amorphis, Mannhai)

Kasper Mårtenson –Keyboards (Ex-Amorphis, Ben Granfelt Band)

Janne Perttilä – Guitar (Rytmihäiriö)

Marko Tarvonen – Drums (Moonsorrow)

Sami Ylisirniö – Guitar (Kreator, Waltari)

On signing to Peaceville

“Getting signed by Peaceville Records is a great honour, as they are one of the very few metal labels left who have a passion and feeling for the music they release. To us, it also feels like coming home, because in a way they carry a big responsibility for BARREN EARTH’s existence by having released the most important albums from pioneers such as Autopsy and Paradise Lost. Those albums played a huge role, when we sucked our musical mother’s milk in the late 80’s and early 90’s. This is a fact that should be noticeably evident in Barren Earth’s sound and music. Hopefully BARREN EARTH will also be able to add a fresh spin to Peaceville’s already impressive roster”.

- Olli-Pekka Laine

About the recording of the album

The very first rehearsals with the full band were in early 2008. Already then we tried out songs like “Ere All Perish” and “Forlorn Waves”. Both songs ended up on the album in exactly the same form in which they were played for the first time. That’s how well the parts have clicked together from the very beginning. This kind of mutual awareness of arrangements and composing made the pre-production and the whole recording process smooth and easy.

The recording sessions started in late June 2009 in Seawolf Studios, Helsinki/Finland with producer-engineer Jukka Varmo. The band nailed the drums, bass and piano parts in 3 days at Seawolf Studios and then moved to Jive Studios to record the guitars, vocals and keyboards. The rest of the process, mixing and mastering (or “mixtering”, as Dan puts it), was handled by Dan Swanö (Opeth, Katatonia) at Unisound Studios, Örebro/Sweden.

BARREN EARTH BIOGRAPHY

BARREN EARTH was formed in Helsinki in the autumn of 2007. This new ambitious, progressive death metal band was originally conceived in late 2006. With a head full of new, brutal, yet melodic songs, Olli-Pekka Laine(ex-Amorphis, Mannhai) asked drummer Marko Tarvonen (Moonsorrow), to form a new

progressive death metal group with him. Around 2005 Tarvonen, keyboardist Kasper Mårtenson (ex-Amorphis, Ben Granfelt Band) and Laine played in a prog-rock project called The Camel Gang (influenced by The James Gang and English prog-rock band Camel), so they knew they already had the chemistry. Tarvonen agreed to go for it, Mårtenson and guitarist Janne Perttilä joined the band as well, and little by little things started snowballing towards the first incarnation of BARREN EARTH. At the end of 2007 Tarvonen, Laine, Mårtenson and Perttilä gathered together, and laid down the final plans. Still lacking a lead guitarist, the guys called their old friend Sami Yli-Sirniö (Kreator, Waltari), as they knew his playing style to be a perfect match. Rehearsals began immediately, and by the summer of 2008, BARREN EARTH found themselves in the studio, recording the four first songs they had put together.

When it came down to finding a vocalist, the name of Mikko Kotamäki (Swallow The Sun) popped up. The band knew that Kotamäki's skills in growling and singing were what the fresh promotional recording screamed for. Luckily he agreed to join, and BARREN EARTH had found its final form.

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The members' individual backgrounds in many internationally known and acclaimed outfits is a testament to the quality of the band's music. These same backgrounds are obviously also echoed in BARREN EARTH's music.

For more details contact [Paul Groundwell](#) at Peaceville Records

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