

## **The new album**

After increasing set of shows was performed in 2007 Moonsorrow decided to record some new tracks together with the selected cover tracks and older material updated. They had the idea of "Tulimyrsky" ("Firestorm") for years. A song that couldn't fit on the previous album concepts. Now it was right time to release it as an ep. Lasting almost 30 minutes the song has the most fierce parts the band has ever tracked. Always going their own way and not bowed for trends but towards their original roots and influences, including the Scandinavian black metal ca. 1992-1993 and their growing interest towards progressive rock of the '70's. A kind of Jethro Tull from hell was born! Lyrically the song continues the tales familiar from Voimasta ja Kunniasta. As the B-sides they re-recorded a couple of demo songs from 1997-98 and covered Metallica's classic "For Whom The Bell Tolls" and the ever-thrashing Merciless' "Back To North", giving both the needed moonsorrowish spice.

## **Biography**

Formed in 1995 Moonsorrow's sound has always drawn influences from different styles such as folk and progressive music. This mixed with extreme metal with the lyrics in their native tongue Finnish and the band's ability to have every instrument to serve the arrangements is exceptional. Besides their records their live performance has got great commendation.

The music's heroic atmosphere with historical citations is in the first class of metal genre. The debut album "Suden Uni" ("A Wolf's Dream"), released in 2000 convinced people and the Helsinki-based quintet got signed to the leading metal label in Finland, Spinefarm Records. The next couple of albums "Voimasta ja Kunniasta" ("Of Strength and Honour") 2001 and "Kivenkantaja" ("Stonebearer") 2003 have sold copies internationally over ten thousands each. Because of huge demand the debut "Suden Uni" was re-released in 2004 with bonus track, bonus DVD and new cover artwork. "Verisäkeet" ("Blood Verses") released in 2005 collected a great number of good reviews from all over the world with its longer songs and more down-to-earth sound. Moonsorrow promoted the album heavily besides in their home country, on many European metal festivals and they did a tour in Russia.

In 2006 Moonsorrow toured in Europe together with Ireland's Primordial. "Heathen Crusade" named tour first started in Minneapolis USA where Moonsorrow headlined with Primordial and Thyrfing. On the same trip Moonsorrow visited Montreal in Canada and headlined a show there and the doors opened for them in Northern America.

2007 started with a 5-gig-tour in Canada. Most of the dates were in Quebec where they played crushing sets and gained a lot of new fans. When the band came back home the release of the fifth album was at hand. Moonsorrow's Viides luku - Hävitetty (transl. The Fifth Chapter - Ravaged) represents the band's most extravagant output to date. As an example of this the album consists of two extended songs lasting near 30 minutes each. The songs have skilled arrangements with sententious taste, echos from traditional Finnish tunes and some really harsh riffs. As all the previous Moonsorrow albums, the album was once again recorded and mixed in Tico Tico studio with Ahti Kortelainen. It got on the national charts in Finland (position 16.) and in Germany (position 72.) After the release they did a 12-date tour in their home land before starting a massive series of shows in Europe. Together with the fellow doomsters from Finland, Swallow The Sun, Moonsorrow headlined 3 weeks in Europe successfully. Following that they had their most intense summer festival period. The absolute highlights were Graspop in Belgium, Wacken and Summer Breeze in Germany and Tuska Festival in Finland.