By Nicky Baldrian

**Band:** The Inner Me
**Album Title:** Rosabelle
**Label:** Kromazonta
**Genre:** Heavy Metal, Melodic Power Metal

**Band Line-Up:**
Reinhard "Kotza" Müller - Guitars
David Stawa - Vocals
Daniel Tallamassl - Bass

**Guest:**
Rainer Lidauer - Drums

**CD Track Listing:**
1- Immigration
2- I Am Magic
3- Far Away From Light
4- Dime Show
5- Metamorphosis
6- Vaudeville
7- Milkcan Escape
8 -How I Conquered The East
9- Margie Box

10- Deathpunch
11- Rosabelle Believe
12- Epilogue (Rosie, Sweet Rosabel)

**Discography:**
A New Horizon - 2015
Rosabelle Believer - 2024

Hailing from Laa, Austria, we find Heavy Power metallers THE INNER ME. They have an excellent new twelve track album out now called 'Rosabelle' which clocks in at around fifty-six minutes long and is the bands sophomore full length release.
Opening the album is *'Immigration'*. This song is a catchy full-on melodic power metaller with a glorious anthemic chorus, coupled with furious guitar melodies from Reinhard 'Kotza' Mülle , pounding drumming from Rainer Lidauer, coupled with solid bass grooves from Daniel Tallamassl, whilst singer David Stawa soars high and is up there with Tobias Sammet, Ronnie Romero, and Joe Lynn Turner amongst others. There is clearly chemistry here between the band members and the song is instantly catchy.
*'I Am Magic'* is a faster catchy melodic power metaller, the chorus is killer, with soaring vocals right up there with Tobias Sammet, there is a video for this track on YouTube. Next up is the stunning ballad *'Far Away From Light'*, this song is a deep sensitive piano led ballad, with fabulous vocals from David. There are also female vocals in the background, but unsure who the singer is, but she's good. As the song develops, it gets more haunting musically, pulling in the listener in an almost magnetic way, this is an immense magical song with soaring guitars from Reinhard. Exquisite.



The lively *'Dime Show'* is catchy and heavy power metal, the playing is a little more complex on this track.
Meanwhile *'Metamorphosis'* is quite a technical melodic power metaller, catchy and heavier with solid musicianship. Daniel Tallamassl, and Reinhard both complement each other's playing on this track.
The pumping *'Vaudeville'* keeps the power metal temperature rising high with a solid anthemic music and vocals.
*'Milkcan Escape'* is thirsty work as the song keeps the musical fire burning. This is an immense inspiring catchy melodic fun power metaller with more mystic around the vocal performance, which here comes across a little more gritty and powerful. Love this song to bits, classic melodic anthemic power metal all the way. Showing a slight Iron Maiden vibe, is the excellent *'How I Conquered The East'* is also ridiculously catchy and faster passed power metaller with thundering drums and galloping guitar riffs.
*'Margie Box'* is a high-powered epical power metaller with glorious playing from the whole band, this song has a strong Avantasia vibe. Guitars crank up to eleven for the ferocious fast paced and very catchy *'Deathpunch'*, this is a classic forceful metaller.
*'Rosabelle Believe'* is another song at over the six minutes mark and is the longest song on the album. It starts off with gentle guitars and is quite softly melodic with soothing vocals from David. Once again there are female vocals on this track that add to the dramatic majesty of this song. I love the guitar work on this which reminds of Eddie Van Halen's solos on the song 'Catherine.' Lots of atmosphere with this song, coupled with some fabulous orchestration.
The album ends with *'Epilogue (Rosie, Sweet Rosabel)*,' this is a short almost poetic nursery rhyme lullaby that perfectly ends the album.

We are sitting in the rehearsal-room and home-studio of guitarist Reinhard 'Kotza' Mueller in Laa an der Thaya, a small town in the very north of Austria, close to the Czech border. The sun slowly settles and shines in golden tones through the small window behind the studio console as you hear the birds outside singing their bedtime-tunes softly in the garden right on the backside of his house. It is slowly getting dark outside and the four half-filled wine glasses reflect the dancing lights of the studio-rack located right in the back of our cosy gathering.
On the first look singer David Stawa does not think, that there is too much difference between The Inner Me and other bands making this kind of music. "We are using rather classical gear and sounds in a more or less traditional way. The songs are reflecting all of our influences, we have collected throughout our entire life. Probably the main difference is that we do not try to make music for the taste of the masses - if there is so in Metal music. We are making music from our heart and soul ... music with the best riffs and melodies we can imagine ... music, that we are proud of ... music, that we would love to hear from our personal favourites. It is everything we have and the only thing we want to do and I hope that you can hear this in every little tune and every second of the album," expresses the singer. "We are no youngsters anymore, unfortunately. And we are giving every little drop of our experience, life, and love to this project. This is, what makes it special ... at least for us. Does this make us different from other artists? Probably not, but it's the chemistry within, that makes us unique ... If you listen, you will understand."
David started listening to rock and metal music at a very early age. He and his brother, bassist Daniel Tallamassl grew up together and they were heavily influenced by the records their father and their cousin listened to. "In the beginning there were the likes of Kiss, Iron Maiden, Judas Priest and so on. But I never made a difference between the musical styles. I always liked songs, which were filled with beautiful melodies, hymnic choruses and dramatic phrases. So a mixtape of this time could include songs from Twisted Sister, Bon Jovi, Judas Priest, as well as songs from Roxette, John Farnham, or Bryan Adams. Until the age of eighteen I was just a fan, listening to my favourite heroes" he tells me.
Things changed, when his younger brother was endowed with an old acoustic guitar, rescued from the trash. It only had two strings attached, and those were out of tune. But somehow, he managed to play the 'Smoke On the Water' riff on one string. Hearing this, David felt very inspired to having this ability too. "So I took the guitar and until now never put it away again. But I didn't start to learn playing guitar in the traditional



IN ASSOCIATION WITH TSM PROMOTIONS

Welcome to Chapter 38 of The New Power Files, featuring 31 of the best new rock and metal songs – free for you to download. To grab the mp3 files, band info, and Nicky's 'The Music Is Out There' PDF column, go to www.powerplaymagazine.co.uk. Click on the Power Files tab and then the link to download the .zip file for The New Power Files Chapter 35. Enter the pass code when prompted. It should be straightforward but if you have any problems with downloading the files, give us a call on 0161 3351635. Enjoy the music! Here's the code for Powerplay readers: CP33 (this is case-sensitive and the link will expire at the end of September 2024).

GROUP 1: MELODIC ROCK/AOR/HARD ROCK/CLASSIC ROCK/BLUES ROCK

1. Heart Line – 'Livin' On A Knife Edge'
From the album: 'Original Seeds'
www.facebook.com/HeartlinebandofficialIN

2. Yesterday 95 – 'N.O.R.'
From the album: 'Straightaways'
www.facebook.com/BandYesterday95

3. The Inner Me – 'I Am Magic'
From the album: 'Rosabelle Believe'
www.theinnerme.at

4. Fab Manzini Music – 'More Than Heroes'
From the album: 'Chapter One'
www.facebook.com/FabmanMusic

5. Deacon Stone – 'Dust And Glory'
From the album: 'Dust And Glory'
https://deaconstoneband.net

6. Jurassic Park – 'Sixpack'
From the album: 'Hard Drivin Man'
www.facebook.com/JurassicParkRocks

7. Honeycutt Southern – 'So Saving Me'
From the EP: 'Not Backing Down'
https://honeycuttsouthern.com

8. My Own Addiction – 'Back To You'
From the album: 'My Own Addiction'
www.facebook.com/myownaddictionband

9. Crimson Crux – 'Black & Blue'
From the album: 'Teenage Rebel'
www.facebook.com/crimsoncruxband

10. Dead Root Revival – 'Going Down Slow'
From the album: 'The Controller's Exam'
www.deadrootrevival.ca

GROUP 2: HEAVY METAL/POWER METAL/SYMPHONIC METAL/THRASH/PROGRESSIVE ROCK/PROGRESSIVE METAL/INSTRUMENTAL/ALTERNATIVE METAL

11. Mistheria – 'Lies & Deception'
From the album: 'Dragon Fire'
www.mistheria.com

12. Metal Emergencia – 'Sobrevivir'
From the album: 'Sobrevive'
https://metalemergencia.com

13. Edge Of Ever – 'My Invisible Me'
From the album: 'The Assent'
www.facebook.com/edgeofeverband

14. Symphress – 'Pseudo'
From the album: 'Pseudo'
www.facebook.com/symphress

15. Powertribe – 'Harvest'
From the album: 'Up With The Sword'
https://powertribeband.com

16. Saturday Night Satan – 'Devil In Disguise'
From the album: 'All Things Black'
www.facebook.com/saturdaynightsatan

17. Confusion Field – 'Atom Child'
From the album: 'Future Impact of Past Diversions'
www.facebook.com/ConfusionField

18. Fionn Legacy – 'Majestic Return'
From the album: 'Rise Of The Windlord'
www.facebook.com/Fionnlegacy

19. Crypto Knight – 'Don't Ask'
From the album: 'The Odyssey'
www.facebook.com/CryptoKnightBand

20. 7 Ocean – 'Before The Fourth Sleep'
From the album: 'Father Of The Abyss'
www.facebook.com/sevocean

21. Bruno Karnel – 'Promsa'
From the album: 'Nic Sunt Dracones'
www.brunokarnel.com

22. Captured Kings – 'Into The Fish Pit'
From the album: 'Replicidal'
www.facebook.com/CapturedKingsOfficialNZ

GROUP 3: THE EDITOR'S COLLECTION

23. Ramblin Preachers – 'Keep Doing You'
From the album: 'Sins & Virtues'
www.facebook.com/ramblinpreachers

24. Pirate Queen – 'Ghosts'
From the album: 'Ghosts'
www.facebook.com/DespotzRecords

25. Ruled By Raptors – 'Waves'
From the EP: 'Silent Sound'
www.facebook.com/RuledByRaptors

26. Paula Teles – 'Jogo Do Silêncio'
From the EP: 'Desencanto'
www.facebook.com/paulateslemusic

27. Nastergal – 'Immaculate Perception'
From the album: 'The World War'
www.facebook.com/Nastergal

28. Emergency Rule – 'Something To Say'
From the album: 'The King Of Ithaca'
www.facebook.com/EmergencyRule

29. Shadowdance – 'Climb'
From the album: 'Ageless'
www.facebook.com/Shadowdance.Music

30. Riffless – 'I Won't Start The Fight'
From the EP: 'Ghost Is A Woman'
www.facebook.com/Rifflessofficial

31. Hellgrimm – 'Scream Bloody Mary'
From the album: 'Sacrifice'
www.facebook.com/Hellgrimmband

Loving The New Power Files?
Get in touch to see your song here!

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS ONE!

Check out the new album from MIKE MATNEY, featuring guitar legend STEVIE SALAS!
Includes the new single ALL FIRED UP
Available APRIL 26 from
ROULETTE

way: from day one I started to write my own songs, still not knowing how to play this thing, and nothing has changed until now. One year later I formed my first band: Incestum was a black-metal band as this was the music, I listened to mostly these days. This was back in 1994," he points out.

As a singer Davis and was very inspired by Chris Cornell from Soundgarden, James Hetfield from Metallica and Phil Anselmo from Pantera. His singing style is a good mixture of the three. "Chris Cornell is my main influence. The way he sang his melody-lines and the way he ended them is quite unique and I think I owe him a lot for this. I am very sorry about his sad death, because I think he was one of the most underrated singers ever out there. Rest in peace my friend. James Hetfield inspired me dramatically in Metallica's 'Ride the Lightning' period until the 'Black' Album. Together with Phil Anselmo in the 'Cowboys From Hell', 'Vulgar Display of Power' days. "Both of them taught meme how to articulate words and showing me, that raw vocals can have their own beauty. As a composer my all-time favourite is Desmond Child. He is the man behind hits like Living on a prayer, Poison, You give love a bad name and If I could turn back time, just to name a few. Too little people seem to know, that he is a very good singer too and that he has released some records, which were never as successful as the songs he wrote for his clients. In the eighties and early nineties he was dominating legitimately the songwriters-scene like no one else. His work in that time is still lodging in my forehead and heavily influences my compositions until the present day. The inspiration for the latest album 'Rosabelle believe' comes from the concept itself. I have tried to fill the songs with words and melodies, that cope with the story and the emotions of the actual song-topic. This is the moment when I close my eyes and there is a movie playing right in front of me and my task is to find the right musical accompaniment. I really hope, this doesn't work only in my imagination," he smiles.
For David music is the main topic of what his life is all about. "Right behind my wife and my three kids of course. Attending a seven-to-five-day job, there is not much time for other great hobbies and activities. There is the family, which needs you most of the time. Then there is a house, where you always have to do or to repair something. It's like a merry-go-round: if you finish on that side, you can start on the other side right from the beginning.
Besides 'The inner me' I am playing in other bands and projects too: my second main project is 'Das schwarze Herz von Österreich' (what means the black heart of Austria in English). With this band we are making 'Heart Rock' as we call it: Rock songs with emphasis on songwriting sung in Austrian native tongue. I also started getting into making music videos, what is very important nowadays, as only very few people listen to your music without visual support - actually it's a shame ... And if I finally find some time and space between all of the things mentioned above, I love to play the one or other video game to turn my head off," he adds.
Daniel absorbed music already with his mother's milk, so to speak. "It all started with a bunch of her seven inches which she played to him to help him fall asleep. "The very first song I can remember consciously hearing was 'Talk To Me' from KISS. Not that much later at the age of about four or five I regularly hung out at my cousin's place to hear records. And on one fateful day he played me 'The ides of march' leading straight into 'Wrathchild' from Iron Maiden's 'Killers' album. And in combination with its awesome, jaw dropping cover artwork it hit me like a hammer. Needless to say that from this day on heavy metal was the law. My cousin was a big influence in my musical career. He also never had blinders genre wise so I also got in touch with all kinds of rock and pop music," he expresses.
Daniel personally listened to many different genres of music. El draw my inspiration from artists that are openminded and not stuck in their style. My all-time favourite artist is Frank Zappa who I also got to know though my cousin at a very early age. Zappa showed me that in music there are no boundaries and everything is possible. Influential for playing my Instrument was Gene Simmons, Kip Winger, Nikki Sixx as well as Steve Harris. I always liked the team players more who rock solidly forward and support the sound and especially the song. In the end it is all about the song."
If Daniel does not make music or even listen to music from his ever-growing collection of vinyl and CDs, then he likes to watch movies, TV series and sports entertainment, especially wrestling. "I also play games on my consoles and collect toys related to my childhood, especially figures and playsets from the brand 'Masters of the Universe' by toy company Mattel."
Guitarist Reinhard 'Kotza' Mueller's first encounter with music was in his childhood when he learned to play the recorder. However, that didn't last long and so he started playing classical guitar. "I got the initial spark for rock music when I discovered my older brother's records and became aware of bands like Black Sabbath and Deep Purple," he points out. After he got his first electric guitar as a Christmas present, he started playing along with his brother's records. 'Iron Man', 'Paranoid', 'Whole Lotta Love' and all those great songs with the big guitar riffs. And then I discovered UFO with Michael Schenker. His way and art of playing the guitar influenced me the most and laid the foundation for my future playing. For days I tried to listen to and replay the songs from the LP. And then came Gary Moore, George Lynch, Yngwie and all the other guitar heroes. And not to forget - Iron Maiden - The number of the beast. The twin guitars still influence me today. Today I think more outside the box and am also enthusiastic about guitarists like Joe Bonamassa, Steve Morse, David Gilmour, and many others," he enthuses.
As Kotza mentioned before, his main influence are definitely Michael Schenker. "Not only during his time with UFO, but he inspired me with his first solo albums, which are still among my favourites today. The songs, which are mostly based on an ingenious guitar riff combined with melodic and virtuosic solos, are still a huge inspiration. And this is also how the songs for our new album were created: I first compose an instrumental version of the song based on a main guitar riff. The lyrical concept - for which singer David is solely responsible - often flows into the songs and we try to implement the content musically. Since there are also two ballads on this album, this time we worked with real strings, a background singer, and a piano player for the first time, which gave the songs additional support and even greater intensity," he expresses.
Since Kotza works full-time as a dispatcher for the Austrian railway, he finds that music is the best hobby you can have. "I like many different musical styles and Therefore play all kinds of music in my free time with other musicians in various bands and groups. From Gipsy Jazz to Acoustic Blues and I'm even a banjo player in a Dixieland band. Everything that makes fun. Of course, I am not only an active musician but also a huge music fan who still buys CDs and DVDs and loves going to concerts. I recently went to the Judas Priest / Saxon / Uriah Heep package and it was incredible. Pure heavy metal. I'm also a huge football fan and follow every game, especially our Austrian team and like all other fans, I'm looking forward to the European Football Championship in June."
The band's new album 'Rosabelle Believe' tells the life story of the greatest escape artist and magician of the twentieth century, Harry Houdini, from the time of his leaving Hungary for the land of unlimited opportunities until his mysterious death on Halloween of 1926. "We tried to translate his exciting life, his outstanding magic tricks and also his love for his wife Bess into music. The final title song represents the 'code word' with which the magician wanted to connect with his Bess from the afterlife: 'Rosabelle Believe'. 'Rosie, sweet Rosabel' was their favourite song and was always played by Bess on the piano. The song is featured as an outro on the CD and is sung by David's daughter Anika," explains Kotza.

The band's first album 'A New Horizon' was released in 2015 and was a project that the band actually recorded just for fun and didn't produce much. "We were therefore hugely surprised at the great response to this CD. On the first album the drums came from the computer and on the new album - 'Rosabelle Believe' - we worked with drummer Rainer Lidauer. Rainer was also responsible for the drum recordings that he made in his studio. On the current album the arrangements are a little more playful and the sound is much more transparent than on the first CD. We also paid more attention to the vocal arrangements and worked with more harmony vocals. All in all, we have improved as musicians and I have improved as a sound engineer over the last few years and I hope that you can notice that on the new recording," expresses Kotza.
The album was produced by Kotza in his recording studio in Laa an der Thaya. "Over the last few years I have expanded the studio a little and so we were able to record the strings and piano in addition to guitars and vocals without any problems. After the demo recordings, where we worked with a drum machine, were finished, Rainer Lidauer recorded and edited the drums in his studio in Vienna in 2020. He did a fantastic job. Then we started playing the bass and rhythm guitars. Then came alternating vocals and solo guitars and the remaining recordings of the string section and piano tracks took until mid-2023. Since we actually do our music as a hobby, we didn't really have any time pressure and the album was mixed and mastered by me in mid to late 2023," he explains.
The highlight of the album for Kotza is the implementation of David's lyrical concept, namely a continuous story that is reflected in the arrangements of the songs. "When David suggested the text concept to us, I was a bit sceptical at first because I thought it would be very difficult to implement. But the longer we worked on it, the more we became excited about the topic and I think we managed it quite well. We tried to cover everything in as many varieties as possible. From straight heavy metal stompers to groovy elements to ballads and progressive parts, everything can be found. We are most proud of this mix and hope that there will be a highlight for every listener. Nevertheless, the album is also my own personal taste in music. This is the music I love," he says with spirit.
At the moment, The Inner Me is just a studio-band. "Without the right drummer and a second, very good guitar-player, it is nearly impossible for us to play shows, which come up with the same quality as manifested on the albums," explains Kotza.

"Recently we have played some acoustic shows, featuring some of the 'the inner me' songs, but for us, this is something completely different. We don't have any high hopes on getting ahead with our music. Probably we are to old, too settled or have spent too much time in the music-scene ... call it what you want, but what keeps us going on is having fun with what we do. We love to compose, to record, to listen to and to bring our music to people who feel the same way as we do. For us it is a great honour e.g. to be interviewed by a guy from England, to receive a good review from Poland, to be played on some US radio-stations or to receive enthusiastic fan reactions from everywhere in the world. This is, what it's all about for us and we enjoy that fact a lot and in every single case. Every further step we make is a present for us and shows, that we are probably on the right way, wherever it may lead us."
Right now the band are busy promoting the new album. "So far the reactions from fans, webzines and other magazines have been sensational. Reviews and interview requests from Europe and overseas have really surprised us and at the moment we are busy working through everything. Musically, we are busy collecting ideas for the follow-up album. So far, we have recorded some parts and are working on composing songs from the fragments. Lyrically there will probably be a central theme that we will then explore musically. We enjoy this way of working the most and David, who is solely responsible for the texts, is also very challenged. But the final topic is not yet fixed," concludes Kotza, bringing an end to our conversation.
The album is out now from all the usual digital platforms.
'Rosabelle' is a sensational album from start to finish. The production sound is awesome and clean cut, and as mentioned the chemistry between the band members is unmistakable from the get - go, and they clearly enjoyed themselves throughout the recording process.
This is a must have album. Highly recommended.
Web and Social Media Links:
https://www.facebook.com/theinnermemusic
https://www.youtube.com/@TheInnerMe-ic5vc