

HYPERAUSTRA

FFO: Wiegedood, Downfall of Gaia, Altar of Plagues.

* Hyperaustra is an international post-black metal band formed in 2020, during the pandemic. The group consists of two Argentine members, Gastón Aguirre (guitarist) and Marcos De Caro (bassist and lyricist), both from Buenos Aires, and one American member, Daniel Lewis (singer), who lives in Kentucky. A session musician, Bruno Valente, recorded the drums on the debut album.

The band's concept is related to the south as a mindset rather than a cardinal point (see "About the Band's Name" on the next page). Even though its music has influences from a wide range of sounds within black metal, (atmospheric, avant-garde, dissonant, etc.), it also feeds from other music genres, such as post-rock.

Even some echoes coming from artists such as David Bowie or the Argentine tango and contemporary music composer Astor Piazzolla can be heard in the songs. The debut full-length album, "The Fall of All Pride" introduces the versatility of the group, with five tracks evocating diverse atmospheres, ranging from aggressive intensity to melancholic calmness.

The lyrics are deliberately ambivalent, even oxymoronic. One of the tracks, 'Irradiate (First Movement)' is instrumental (guitar and bass) and another one, 'Lustful Starvation', just includes a short excerpt taken from a poem by William Blake (see "About William Blake" on the next page) also with music only played with guitar and bass.

The album was recorded, mixed and mastered by Sebastián Barrionuevo at Fin Du Monde (FDM) Studio, except for the drums, recorded at El Jardín Studio by Bruno Valente, and the vocals, recorded by Daniel Lewis at his own studio. The cover artwork was made by the Portuguese artist Cvspe.


The Fall of All Pride

1. The Tree of Knowledge
2. Inherit the Wind
3. Lustful Starvation
4. Dissent
5. Irradiate (First Movement)

RELEASE: December 15th 2023 (Digital only)

About the Band's Name

Language is powerful. The act of giving a name can be violent and inventing a word is defiant. It has to be an endless source of meaning but it is also meant to serve as a start. It makes sense to have philosophic foundations for a name, but philosophy is not the substance of music. Art is knowledge of a different kind. Although clearly opposed to Hyperborea, the word Hyperaustra was born with the band.


 In Greek mythology, Hyperborea was an island located to the far north of the known world, in the arctic Polar Regions. The name Hyperborea is a reference to Boreas, the north wind, and the prefix hyper means beyond, so that place was “beyond the north wind”. The Hyperboreans were strong Giants and lived for a thousand years, unless they desired to end their lives drowning in the sea. The light of the midnight sun illuminated them.

Northern Europeans identified themselves as Hyperboreans. This Greek myth was mentioned by Nietzsche as the Hyperboreans resembled his concept of der übermensch. This narrative was misunderstood and later incorporated into Nazi mysticism to explain the origin of the fictitious Aryan race. The Black Sun became the emblem of Hyperborea and Neo-Nazism.

Mythology, philosophy, geography and history can be traced behind our name, but everything is metaphorical. Music is what matters. The reasons and emotions underlying our music can be interpreted in diverse ways. The lyrics are important but in the end, they are just part of the whole. Hyperaustra means “beyond the far south” (australis is the Greek word for southern). That is why the Tropic of Capricorn is part of our logo.

Two of us are from the southern hemisphere, and one of us from the southern territories of the United States. Two of us are actually Capricorns, and the symbolism of the goat in history is captivating, especially the power of the horns and the shape of the pupil allowing a wider field of vision. That is the origin of our emblem: always look beyond. It is said that things “go south” when they deteriorate or fail, but that is because there is a fixed destination, a single perspective.

For us, dissent is the key. The south - Hyperaustra - is a place of the mind, the decision of standing against oppression. Hyperaustra is the domain of everyone opposed to the most abhorrent aspects of humanity.

 We embrace dissidence. We are antifascists, antiracists and support the civil rights of women and LGBTQ people all over the world.



About William Blake

William Blake's parents belonged to a sect called 'Dissenters.' They thought State and religion should remain separated. Blake's poetry embodies an attitude of rebellion against the abuse of class power and was concerned about the wars and the effects of the Industrial Revolution.

He was deeply opposed to slavery and believed in „free love“. Some consider him a forerunner of modern anarchism. His earlier work is rebellious in character and can be seen as a protest against dogmatic religion. In later works, Blake carves a distinctive vision of a humanity redeemed by forgiveness, while retaining his earlier negative attitude towards what he felt was the rigid and morbid authoritarianism of traditional religion.

Blake has a sense of human „fallenness“. For Blake the major impediments to a free love society were the corruption caused by intolerance and hypocrisy. He fought for racial and sexual equality.

His works express a notion of universal humanity. When he died, his body was buried in a plot shared with others at the Dissenter's burial ground.



Hyperaustra

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