

Ma YaN Biography 2016

Dutch Symphonic Death Metallers MaYaN have released their second full length album 'Antagonise' in 2014 through Nuclear Blast.

The album showcases the current condition of our society, in which our freedom and privacy are further limited. The lies and propaganda from governments all over the world, the spying, a so called 'war on terror', the insinuated 'freedom' we get just to keep us under control... This translated through Mark's sharp view and the band's characteristic style of symphonic progressive (death) metal for maximum expression results in the perfect and most powerful and confronting album possible to date. With their first release 'Quarterpast' (2011) MaYaN got instant recognition in the media as has proven by the excellent reviews, in-depth interviews with many provoking questions about the band's point of view and raving reactions of fans throughout the world.

After very successful tours through parts of Europe, Central and South America plus playing renowned festivals like ProgPower USA, Graspop Open Air, Heaven & Hell (Mx), Zwarte Cross and Prog Power&Metal fest for thousands of fans, the band put themselves on the map instantly. Hundreds of thousands of views and confronting discussions from all over the world on their video 'War on Terror' prove they set the world to think and hopefully act about what is really going on nowadays.

MaYaN was conceived early 2010 by versatile musician and Epica mastermind Mark Jansen and old friend, ex-After Forever keyboardist Jack Driessen to write an album in the style they always really wanted. Mark asked guitarist Frank Schiphorst (Symmetry, Christmas Metal Symphony) to join in. Frank has a broad range of experience and skills aboard. When put together with Mark and Jack, an undeniable chemistry takes place producing songs in no time.

The band needed the perfect musicians to work this out with, and as a logical result Epica drummer Ariën van Weesenbeek and guitarist Isaac Delahaye joined in. Soon also guest vocalists Henning Basse, Laura Macrì, Simone Simons and Floor Jansen were a fact. Not much later followed by bassist Rob van der Loo (Epica, ex-Delain). Laura and Henning became full members in 2013. That same year Isaac was followed up by the talented female guitarist Merel Bechtold.

'Antagonise', MaYaN's second album, has been released in 2014 and was the first

Ma YaN album to enter the official Dutch and Belgian album charts. It received raving reviews and has been recognized as CD of the month in leading Dutch metal magazine Aardschok and album of the week in Revolver Magazine.

The album's concept is about the current state of the world in which spying is more present than ever before. Our privacy has been taken away step by step. Some people say, "We have nothing to hide so I don't care", but after all we all have our secrets, not just the criminals. Under the flag of 'war against terrorism' governments (and above all the big corporations) all over the world have found a handy way to control their people and get things done without much resistance. They are spreading fear in order to have more power, make more money and stay in total control. It's hard to find good documentaries about this subject on TV as a little part of the media is truly independent but if you really search for the truth, you'll get the truth. Songs like 'Faceless Spies' and 'Paladins of Deceit' (National Security Extremism part 1 & 2) are perfect examples of these subjects being presented on '**Antagonise**'.