

1/Why have u chosen such a name?

It was a tough decision to leave my old band, but I had come to a point where I just had to stop where I was going and reassess what I wanted to do. To call a moratorium on an activity is to stop it dead. So I stopped dead the path I was on and the music I produce from now is a testament to that decision. I also think Moratorium sounds like a cross between Mortuary and Sanitarium, two very “metal” words. That,s kind of my own personal joke as the lyrics aren,t in that vein.

2/ Your ex band Ligature was having a good success and was loved cos very thrashy musically, what made you leaving the band? Why not continuing with this band you played in for so long?

It comes down to personal stuff. There were things I would have like to have done differently in the band but went along with the status quo in the spirit of natural band compromise, the band consisting of the views of 5 people etc. When the personal stuff happened I didn,t want to compromise anymore.

3/This new band is actually your project and you do everything. Do you prefer this way and would you have other members one-day? If not what is your wish as a one-man band?!

It was just out of necessity really. I just want to get people listening to the music. Technology has advanced so much that you can get digital quality recording with just a PC. Hearing the kind of things that Akercocke and Anaal Nathrak do with their own recording facilities opened my mind to the possibilities for self-recording and production. I hope that other bands can see how easy it is to self-record and get good results rather than pay a lot of cash to a studio.

4/ The Moratorium music doesn't have a big relation with what you played in Ligature, there is less thrash and we discover another person, you sing in a brutal death/black metal way and play with less thrash influence. What made you becoming another person?!

I felt the need to progress what I was writing. I wanted to get more darker and malevolent tones into the music. I had been writing thrash stuff for 9 years, and I felt I had taken it as far as I personally could. I don,t actually listen to thrash much these days either. But I think there is still plenty of thrash influence on the full album to keep thrashers such as yourself happy!

5/ Couldn't you do this project at the same time playing in Ligature or you are bored playing with musicians? Do you find that the UK has a lot of musicians? We usually see the same persons going from band to band; do you think the Metal scene is real in the UK?

I didn,t feel I could do a solo side project alongside my ex band. It wouldn,t be fair on them for me to devoting a lot of time, energy and material away from the band.

There are a lot of musicians and bands going around the UK. I think it,s quite weird that there are some bands I never hear about or see but they are all there in the UK doing shows and releasing material. There have been a few bands from the UK that have really made an impression over the last couple of years. I have spoken the quality of UK bands for some time as I have seen these bands play live and got their CD,s early before they get their material more widely known. Apart from the obvious UK metal stars I,m quite excited about Detritum and Throne of Nails right now.

6/Generally how have people reacted when they heard Moratorium (like me) who knew you in Ligature and saw you live in that band. [What,s] their opinion if you have sent the CD to others who know you already before this project?

Not many people have heard it yet. I have sent a CD to very few people. One guy said it was like early *ÆNocturnus*,. I,ll have to take his word for that as I haven,t heard them! And I may have the band name wrong as well so that isn,t much help. Another guy heard the song *ÆLegacy*, and said the chord progression and changes were like something out of a horror movie. On the whole the little feedback I have had has been positive. Many people have been very helpful though. After a launched the website many people donated their own contact lists and now I have a long list of zines and distros around the world to send the album to when it,s finished. So hopefully I,ll get lots of people listening to it soon.

7/ Do you regret or have any remorse to have spent so much time and money in a band you could make a fortune with?

I,m very glad to be expressing myself fully in my music. I need to have that outlet. I have no regrets about leaving none whatsoever.

8/What are the bands you're listening to at the moment and do you like the Metal these days?

I am listening to *ÆActs of War*, by *Throne of Nails*. They were always impressive when I saw them live and I,m glad they have done an album to match the potential they had back in the early days. I also bought a *ÆBlaze under the Northern Sky*, by *Darkthrone* recently. It might take me a while before I *get* it!

9/ What are your future plans? Anything to say?

Thanks for the interview. My future plans are to finish the 1st *Moratorium* album, tentatively titled "Stripped of all Sacred" in the next month or two. That,s shaping up quite nicely. After that I want to try and get as many people listening to it as possible by getting in contact with zines and distros all over the world. After that the long-term plan is to continue writing music. This album will draw from material I have written between 1997 and the present day. With the next album I want to write a collection of material that,s completely new and fresh. I want to decide exactly what I am trying to achieve by writing the album before I start so it can be as honest a contribution to metal music as possible. That isn,t going to be easy! It will be tough. But I,m willing to take that challenge on.