

**WHITIN SILENCE – Interview <https://tntradiorock.com>, by José A. Marroqui**

**Within Silence has been active for almost a decade. How would you describe the evolution of the band since its inception? How have your musical influences changed over the years?**

**Martin:** We started with a strong European power metal foundation, especially evident in our debut “Gallery of Life”. That album was all about catchy melodies, fast tempos, and powerful vocals, reflecting our love for classic power metal bands. It was high energy with memorable hooks and immediately accessible.

With “Return from the shadows”, we began to evolve, incorporating more progressive and symphonic influences. This added complexity to our sound, with more intricate arrangements and deeper, more emotional themes. It marked a shift in our approach, showing a more mature side of the band.

Our latest album “The Eclipse of Worlds” brings everything we've learned so far together, blending the best elements from our past records into something fresh yet familiar. It combines the energy and melody from our roots with the depth and creativity we've developed over time. It's a perfect mix of everything we've worked on, and we're excited for our fans to experience this new chapter.

**Your new album, The Eclipse of Worlds, marks the band's third album. How do you compare this album to the previous ones, Gallery of Life and Return from the Shadows?**

**Martin:** As I mentioned in the previous answer, our latest album The Eclipse of Worlds combines the best elements from our previous two albums. We consider it our most mature and strongest album to date, both in terms of composition and how the album sounds overall. It takes everything we've learned and evolved throughout our journey, blending it into a cohesive and powerful record that showcases the band's growth and creative development.

**Can you tell us the story behind the name of the band, Within Silence? How does this name reflect your musical career and the themes you address?**

**Martin:** We spent a long time searching for the right name for our band, one that would capture both the message we want to convey in our lyrics and align with our musical direction. There were many different suggestions, but in the end, *Within Silence* stood out. The idea behind the name is that in silence, when everything around us quiets down, we can truly hear our inner voice. It's also about connecting with the voice of the God, which strengthens us to continue on our life's journey. Through silence, we find the power to face the daily struggles and challenges. This name reflects the themes of introspection, personal growth, and spiritual strength that are present in our music.

**Your sound is based on a very 90s power metal, to which you add certain progressive touches. What are the most direct influences that Within Silence draws from?**

**Martin:** Certainly, power and speed metal from the 90s and early 2000s is one of the main sources of influence that has shaped and inspired us. However, we were also influenced by some of the biggest names in hard rock and heavy metal, such as KISS, Iron Maiden, Deep Purple, Metallica, Judas Priest, Dio, Queensrÿche, Helloween, and others. These legendary bands have had a significant impact on our sound, combining melody, energy, and musicianship, which has naturally translated into our music.

**From Return from the Shadows to this new work you have undergone changes in your formation, how has the dynamic within the band changed and how has this influenced the sound of The Eclipse of Worlds?**

**Martin:** Our new drummer, Peter Pleva, and guitarist, Marian Gonda, have made a significant contribution to the evolution of Within Silence's sound, bringing a better dynamic and a more mature overall expression, both on the new recording and in our live performances. Their presence in the band has allowed us to explore new dimensions of music, pushing us towards faster and more complex compositions while still maintaining the melody that is so important to us. This is definitely our strongest lineup, and I believe that with this formation, we will be able to produce more uplifting and powerful music together.

**Over the years you have had the opportunity to play around Europe supporting bands like Theocracy and Sleeping Romance on their tours. How has that experience influenced the band's performance and songwriting style?**

**Martin:** It is always important to work on and improve your skills independently. However, having the opportunity to learn from others and from better bands is crucial for true growth. I believe we really achieved this during our tours with Theocracy and Sleeping Romance. Both bands were very open to us, allowing us to talk, exchange ideas, and learn from their experiences. We took full advantage of this opportunity to gather valuable advice and insights.

This experience has also influenced our songwriting. Just like with performance, we believe in trusting ourselves and staying true to what comes naturally. When writing music, it's important to be authentic; if you create just for the sake of it or try to force something, it becomes obvious, and the audience won't connect with it. Our time on these tours reinforced this mindset and helped shape the way we approach both our performance and our songwriting.

**One thing I like about your sound is that you maintain that essence of early power metal, with that mix between speed and mid-tempo, epic and melodic guitar solos, good choruses, very well structured and dynamic songs. In recent years we have seen how many bands, even classic ones within the genre, have evolved towards much more modern and avant-garde sounds, losing, in my opinion, authenticity. What do you think about the "new" paths that power metal is taking, and what do you think differentiates you from other bands?**

**Martin:** Thank you, we are glad that you appreciate our authenticity and that we make music because we love it, honestly and from our hearts. Personally, I can't imagine writing a song with the intention of just following what's currently modern or trendy. That's not to say I'm not open to new influences, but I don't think I could force myself into something I don't feel internally or don't identify with. I usually write songs the way they come to me and how I feel them, without forcing the process. If an idea comes to me that might deviate from our usual style, I certainly wouldn't dismiss it just because it's different, as long as I stand behind it and like it. On the other hand, as I've mentioned before, we make music sincerely, and creating music just because it's trendy or with the expectation that it will capture people's attention isn't the right path for me. And as you rightly pointed out, many bands these days try this way (and many bands in the past did it too, even big ones), but fans often see through it, and it hasn't led to the expected success.

To conclude, in some bands, I like this “new” path that power metal is taking, in others, I like it less, and in some cases, it just doesn't resonate with me at all. However, it's all a matter of taste, and if an artist or band feels that way and wants to go in that direction, there's not much more to say about it. Everyone has their own approach and vision for their music. What differentiates us is that we stay true to our roots and focus on making music that feels authentic to us, without trying to follow trends or chase what's currently popular.

**The album features a wide variety of songs, from fast power metal anthems like "Battle Hymn" to the emotional ballad "Storyline." Was it important for you to have this contrast on the album? How did you decide on the order of the songs?**

**Martin:** Before every album, we grapple with an overflow of new ideas and songs. This time, I believe we selected a more balanced combination of ideas that formed the foundation for the new tracks. During the demo recording sessions, we ended up with 16 songs, from which we ultimately chose 11 for the final recording. After the mixing stage, we selected 9 songs that made it onto the album. This process resulted in a perfect mix of songs with varying tempos, atmospheres, and an epic feel.

**We also have songs like “Divine Power,” which has catchier choruses and a slightly less power-driven beat. What was the inspiration behind this song and how do you approach creating these kinds of tunes?**

**Martin:** This song was the biggest surprise of the album for me. Originally, I composed it just to have something a little different on the album. Something more direct, energetic, with a simple structure and a more modern feel and basically, something we don't usually do within our band. When we first heard the mix of the track, we were all really surprised by how well this seemingly unassuming song turned out. The fact that it ended up being one of the singles was something I definitely wouldn't have predicted during the demo phase! 😊

**The production quality of The Eclipse of Worlds is excellent, thanks to contributions from Matt Smith (mixing) and Jacob Hansen (mastering). How has their involvement influenced the final sound of the album?**

**Martin:** We believe that Matt Smith's contribution to mixing and Jacob Hansen's mastering has resulted in the best-sounding Within Silence album to date! We are extremely satisfied with our collaboration with Matt during the mixing stage. It truly felt like we finally achieved the sound we had been striving for. Jacob's final touch in mastering was the cherry on top.

**The band's music maintains a positive atmosphere. What can you tell us about your lyrics, what message do you leave us with this album through your songs?**

**Martin:** The inspiration for our new album stems from the theme of spiritual warfare, influencing both its lyrical and musical direction. The main idea is rooted in the Bible's depiction of the battle between good and evil, but we've also infused it with our own imaginative elements. To better illustrate this, we explore two worlds: the real world we inhabit on Earth and a “fantasy” or “spiritual” world where our decisions manifest as actions.

During the writing process, we envisioned each of us as a Medieval Knight or warrior, battling demons and dark creatures for eternal life. However, this is not a concept album. Since each of us lives a unique life and story, we didn't want to confine our listeners with a fixed storyline. This is why we feature the Knight on our album cover where he represents any one of us.

Listeners can identify with him, imagining themselves as real warriors in another world, fighting for their eternal lives.

And why “The Eclipse of the worlds”? The eclipse symbolizes a feeling many of us experience today: that evil seems to be overshadowing the good. It often feels like darkness and negativity are more visible, but it's important to remember that there is still a great deal of goodness around us. Even though it may seem like evil is winning, the ultimate victory has already been secured. God has already triumphed, and He offers us the chance to achieve salvation. So the idea of this album serve also as a reminder to stay positive, to keep our focus on our ultimate goal: reaching the light and striving for eternal life.

**The album cover was done by Jan Yrlund, and in certain aspects it bears similarities to the previous two. How was it collaborating with him to ensure that the visuals matched the mood and energy of The Eclipse of Worlds?**

**Martin:** It was very easy. We sent Jan our rough sketch of what we wanted on the album, and he transformed it into a beautiful piece of artwork that we are extremely happy with. The reason we chose him again was that he has always been able to capture exactly what we want to express with our lyrics through his artwork. We are glad to have one artist for all three albums, as it creates a magical connection between them that probably wouldn't exist with different artists.

**If you could describe the album in just three words, what would they be?**

**Martin:** Melodic, powerful, uplifting.

**In your journey from Gallery of Life to The Eclipse of Worlds, what would you say is the most important lesson you have learned as a band? You've played a number of festivals across Europe and had some memorable shows, and while they're all important, which ones stand out for what you felt at the time?**

**Martin:** Maybe it sounds like a cliché, but I don't have a single lesson learned that I would highlight above the others, and the same goes for memorable shows. I see it as a collection of different experiences that have shaped us and continue to shape us because we're always learning new things as a band and creating new experiences that push us forward. The same applies to concerts. We enjoy both small club gigs and larger festivals, and each one has its own unique atmosphere and brings something new. Being in a band and having the opportunity to play abroad like we do, with the support of a label as we have, makes this journey very colorful. We are so thankful to have this opportunity and are happy to explore new horizons.

**Seven years between albums can be a long time, especially at the speed music moves these days. What kept you motivated during this period and how do you feel about finally releasing The Eclipse of Worlds?**

**Martin:** The seven year gap between albums was definitely long, especially with how fast music moves these days. During this time, our motivation came from our love for creating music that feels real and meaningful to us. We also faced challenges during the pandemic, we had to find also new members and get used to playing together as a new lineup. We spent time refining our sound, exploring new directions, and making sure that every song represented who we are. With "The Eclipse of Worlds," we feel like we've captured our growth as a band. We're

excited to have shared the new album with our fans, and we're really happy with the positive feedback and support we've received from them!

**Looking ahead, are there any plans for tours or concerts for *The Eclipse of Worlds*? What can fans expect from your upcoming live shows?**

**Martin:** Yes, we do have plans, and we'll definitely play as many shows as possible. It's likely that we'll be doing a tour in Europe to support *The Eclipse of Worlds*. We'll keep our fans informed about all the details through our official channels, including our website, Facebook and Instagram. We're really excited to see our fans and we hope to meet many of them at our concerts. We also hope they'll enjoy hearing the new songs live! :-)

**Finally, what do you hope listeners take away from listening to *The Eclipse of Worlds*? What final message would you give them?**

**Martin:** With "The Eclipse of Worlds", we hope listeners not only enjoy the music but also connect with the deeper messages behind the lyrics. Each song is an expression of our personal experiences, struggles, and triumphs. We believe the album has an emotional depth that will resonate with our fans, and we're excited for them to experience that connection. Ultimately, we hope they appreciate not just the melodies and energy, but also the messages we've put into the music. It's about staying true to ourselves and finding strength, and we believe this album reflects that in both its sound and its lyrics.

**Thank you very much for your time, and congratulations on this third album!!**

**Martin:** Thank you so much! We really appreciate your support and kind words.