

AXXIS

"Utopia" - Style: Melodic Metal - Release: August 28th, 2009

After their immensely successful tour together with Metal legends Helloween and Gamma Ray in 2007/2008, German melodic metallers **AXXIS** strike back with another fantastic studio album. "Fantastic" is a fitting word here (not only quality-wise) because the band takes us on a journey to "**Utopia**". The musical direction hasn't changed too much since their 2007 release "**Doom of Destiny**". "**Utopia**" is a melodic Metal hurricane, varied in speed and arrangements, covering melodic Power Metal as well as the classic Hard Rock sound that **AXXIS** stand for since their debut in the late 80s. The band is breaking new grounds with "Fass Mich An", their first album track in German language ever! For "**Utopia**", **AXXIS** didn't change the basics of their already successful sound. Bernhard Weiß and Harry Oellers produced and recorded again in their own Soundworxx studio and trusted in the services of Dennis Ward (who did the mixing) and Jürgen Lusky (the man responsible for the mastering of every **AXXIS** album since 2002). Again, Derek Gores was responsible for the cover artwork.

Bernhard comments: "Recording-wise, we put a lot of power into the guitar sound. We used different amps, microphones and different guitars for each song. Everything should fit perfectly with the songs.

At the same time Harry was focused on his key-arrangements with new sounds and equipment. He recorded millions of keyboard tracks and it was not easy to decide which ones we should keep or erase. By the end of the day the sound is really "FAT". Okay, on an mp3 file you wouldn't get it", laughs the singer.

"**Utopia**" is a step further, with less female vocals, more guitars, more keys, more bass and more intricate musical parts. YES, these songs forced us to go this way, haha! It's good to have ALEX on the drums. His kind of drumming fits perfectly with these songs."

Harry: "Rob and Marco were very enthusiastic during the recordings and production. They wrote the song "Taste My Blood" just to give "**Utopia**" another colour. It was great; a lot of fun!"

On the **13 minutes epic "20 Years Anniversary Song"** a lot of popular guest musicians appear. "This is truly one of our highlights", Harry Oellers tells us. "Good old friends and companions join us in this song with great performances. **ANDI DERIS** (Helloween), **SCHMIER** (Destruction), **DORO**, **CLAUS LESSMANN** (Bonfire) **DAVID READMAN** (Pink Cream 69/Voodoo Circle), **ROLF STAHLHOFEN** (ex-Söhne Mannheims) our long-time friend **WALTER PIETSCH** (ex-AXXIS). Singer Bernhard Weiß adds: "We are totally overwhelmed about the reactions of these people. It only took a short email and everybody came back to us with a YES quickly, without any questions. DORO was on tour and because of the timing she has sung everything in a hotel room (must be stressful, but she did it:-), ROLF wanted to come in our studio to let our good old rock 'n' roll memories come alive, ANDI and DAVID recorded their vocal parts with powerful delivery, SCHMIER left his mark with his super voice on the song, CLAUS delivered not only his voice but also backing vocals and WALTER has played his solos with heart and soul as always. We really want to say THANKS to everybody and we're really proud to know such great people. THANKS!"

As the "20 Years Anniversary Song" will be on the limited edition Digi-Pak only, you'd better grab your copy quickly!

AXXIS celebrate their 20th anniversary in style. "**Utopia**" is past, present and future and a must-have for fans of melodic metal!



PROMOTION



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TRACKLIST

1. Journey To Utopia
2. Utopia
3. Last Man On Earth
4. Fass Mich An
5. Sarah Wanna Die
6. My Fathers' Eyes
7. The Monsters Crawl
8. Eyes Of A Child
9. Heavy Rain
10. For You I Will Die
11. Underworld

Bonus tracks on lim. Digi Pak:
12. Taste My Blood
13. 20 Years Anniversary Song

LINE-UP

- Bernhard Weiss (v)
- Harry Oellers (k)
- Marco Wriedt (g)
- Rob Schomaker (b)
- Alex Landenburg (d)

HOMEPAGE

www.axxis.de

www.myspace.com/axxisworld