

Angrenost

Nox et Hiems (2017)

Altare Productions · 2017

Amid the axis of territorial sceneries, generational junctures, the zeitgeist of concrete periods, there lies invariably scattered anomalies that transgress the semblance of passing time, space and reasoning itself, individuals and ensembles whose magnitude goes beyond the imposing rules of artistic behavior. Within the portuguese Black Metal landscape, one of the epithets of perpetual yonder outside the boundaries of any assorted alignment is Angrenost. On the course of a career that goes back to the cauldron of the mid 90s, the group released an EP at the end on said decade yet returning to the darkened shades of chaos soon after for a ten year plus of slumber. 2013 witnessed the herald of reawakening entitled Planet Muscaria, a full-length record in which the band treaded ambitious shores with a conspicuous delivery of dim blackness and cosmic revelation. Four years have passed and Angrenost returns with a retribution, the emergence of an odyssey through canyons of somber vastness. Nox et Hiems is a mammoth of sheer Black Metal crime, a 63-minute tome whose sentient angst and widespread malignancy ravishes upon its suffocating grasp and viciously holds the listener on an unfathomable pathway. Amidst chanting lines intercalating the portuguese and the english language, Angrenost creates an ominous atmosphere of glowing solemnity by a narrator whose mordant wording scorches a path of metaphysical might, where the uttermost darkness and tenebrous aura breaches the borders of stellar vision and visionary exaltation. Acting as an omen to the nightskies, the vocal performance finds its parallel union in the piercing might of electrifying riffs which superbly and firmly paint a canvas of slaughtering gloom, a distressful attainment of infernal emersions which enshrine the unholy Black Metal hailstorm of ancient times, notwithstanding sounding utterly prevalent, dangerous and treacherously monumental.

Each of the nine songs in Nox et Hiems vibrate of ardor and ordinance, dominantly sustained by a dynamic mixing which magnificently aligns vocals, six-string ferociousness and an impervious rhythmic section. The artwork glorifies the archaic, monolithic ensemble of the lyrics, majestic landscapes of Granite, Night and Cold. The seeds of sinister grimness are overall present on said penned crafts, therein spectral mantras that in ecstasy unite sound, spirit, hidden keys to higher knowledge.

Released on a gatefold double vinyl edition limited to 300 copies, Nox et Hiems stands as a magnified gathering of Black Metal mastership. Menacing and enlightening, these abyssic hymns vow to distinctly emanate throughout the edges of boundless time.