

ARTIST: WIZARD

ALBUM TITLE: Fallen Kings

FORMAT: CD, Ltd. Digipak

LABEL: Massacre Records

**CAT. NUMBER: MAS CD0978,
MAS DP0978**

**RUNNING TIME: 48:49 Minutes (CD),
57:41 Minutes (Digi CD)**

MUSIC GENRE: True Heavy Metal

HOME COUNTRY: Germany

**BARCODE: CD 4028466109781,
DP 4028466119780**

RELEASE DATE: 16.06.2017

LINE-UP:

Sven D'Anna - Vocals

Dano Boland - Guitars

Michael Maaß - Guitars

S. van Heek - Drums

Arndt Ratering - Bass



TRACK LIST:

1. Liar And Betrayer
2. We Are The Masses
3. Live Your Life
4. Brothers In Spirit
5. White Wolf
6. Wizard Until The End
7. Father To Son
8. Let Us Unite
9. Frozen Blood
10. You're The King
11. We Are Ready For Metal
(Digipak Bonus)
12. The King
(Digipak Bonus)

FACTS:

- **The German true heavy metal masters WIZARD present their 11th studio album „Fallen Kings“!**
- Also available as limited edition digipak with exclusive bonus tracks, jewel case CD available for a cheap „Discover Price“.
- **Recorded at Steel Studios in Bocholt, produced by WIZARD.**
- **Mix and mastering by Achim Köhler** (Amon Amarth, Brainstorm, Primal Fear, Sinner) at Indiscreet Audio.
- **Cover artwork and cover artwork concept by Aldo Requena** (Fearor, Black Majesty, Paragon), booklet layout by Sinneswerk, photos by Jochen van Eden.
- **Numerous shows in Europe and the US, and tours & gigs with bands like Paul Di'Anno, Edguy, Paragon, Sacred Steel, Grave Digger or Gun Barrel, among others.**
- **Appearances at festivals like Germany's Bang Your Head!!!, Dong Open Air, Metal Frenzy and Wacken Open Air, etc.**
- Excellent press feedback for previous albums.
- **Full-page ad campaign in May/June/July with Eisregen, Jotnar, Lost Dreams, Masquerade etc., e.g., in Metal Hammer (D), Orkus (D), Nuclear Blast Magazin (D), Legacy (D), Rock It! (D), Hardline (D), Gothic (D), Aardschok (NL), Rock Tribune (B), Hard Rock (F), Metallian (F), Terrorizer (GB), Powerplay (GB).**
- **News campaigns on various social media platforms and in various web forums.**
- **Online promo incl. animated web banners, interviews and reviews**, for example on: bleeding4metal.de, concreteweb.de, emp.de, heavylaw.com, lordsofmetal.nl, metal.de, metalnews.de, metal-only.de, metalunderground.at, myrevelations.de, powermetal.de, powerofmetal.dk, rockoverdose.gr, soulfood-music.de, stormbringer.at, time-for-metal.eu, zephyrsodem.de, www.rockandmetalinmyblood.com and many more!
- **Flyers and electronic newsletter distributed to more than 100.000 contacts** via street-/e-team.

BIOGRAPHY:

WIZARD is a synonym for heavy metal from Germany.

The band celebrated their 25th anniversary in 2014 - 25 years of metal, live shows and a whole lot of fun!

It all began when Michael Maaß (Guitar) and Sören van Heek (drums) started playing metal while drinking some beers in a basement more than 2 decades ago. V. Leson (Bass) and Sven D'Anna (vocals) soon joined the band! All band members aren't musicians only - they are, most importantly friends.

After the releases of the legendary „Legion Of Doom“ demo (1991) as well as the self-financed „Son Of Darkness“ (1995) and „Battle Of Metal“ (1997), the band received lots of reviews, gig requests and fan mail, which led to a contract with B.O. Records in 1999, where WIZARD released their first official album „Bound By Metal“.

After parting ways with B.O. Records, they signed with Music Limb Productions and released „Head Of The Deceiver“ in 2001, which was the most successful album of the band so far. It received rave reviews and tours with bands like Paul Di'Anno, Edguy, Paragon, Goddess Of Desire, Sacred Steel and Death SS followed, as well as highly acclaimed shows at Germany's Bang Your Head!!! and Wacken Open Air.

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Their first concept album about Odin, the Allfather of the Norse gods, was recorded in the fall of 2002 at Hamburg's Powerhouse Studios with producer Piet Sielck (Iron Savior, Heavenly, Blind Guardian, Gun Barrel, Paragon). „Odin“ became a mighty and highly acclaimed power metal epos, with smashers like the opener „The Prophecy“ or epic hymns like „Thor's Hammer“. In May 2004, Michael Maaß took a break from the band, was replaced by Dano Boland and the band recorded and released „Magic Circle“, which was a true success.

In 2006, WIZARD parted ways with LMP and signed with Massacre Records. They began recording their next album „Goochan“ with producer Dennis Ward, loved both by the press and the fans.

After a small headlining tour through Germany and many shows abroad (for example in Greece, among others), Michael Maaß returned to the band and it was decided that WIZARD will continue with two guitarists.

Their next album „Thor“ (2008) was produced by Andy Horn and mixed and mastered by Achim Köhler. Songs like „Midgards Guardian“, „Resurrection“ or the ballad „Serpents Venom“ lead the listener to new worlds and are the reason that there will be a lot of headbanging!

After moving the rehearsals to a studio, WIZARD began working on a new album. The lyrics for the band's album „... Of Wariwulfs and Bloutvarwes“ were co-written with the German author André Wiesler, whose books - a trilogy about Hagen von Stein - left Volker impressed. Achim Köhler was responsible for the mix and mastering. Steve Argyle created the cover artwork. The album was presented over the course of numerous shows in Ireland, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Germany and the Czech Republic. Tours in the United Kingdom, France or the United States followed.

In January/February 2013, WIZARD joined the „German Metal Attack“ tour with Grave Digger, Majesty and Gun Barrel. The album „Trail Of Death“ was released in September 2013.

It deals, as the title already suggests, with death in all its ways and the possible afterlife. The album features serious lyrics („Creeping Death“, „Post Mortem Vivere“) as well as lyrics with a sense of humour („Machinery Of Death“).

Recorded at WIZARD's own studio and once again produced by Achim Köhler, „Trail Of Death“ turned out to be very varied: it features thrashy tunes („War Butcher“), epic tracks („Angel Of The Dark“), metal tunes („Angel Of Death“) as well as WIZARD's trademarks songs like the speedy double-bass smasher „Black Death“!

Jens Reinhold, who already worked with bands like Virgin Steele or Freedom Call, created the album artwork, which pictures the reaper walking down a path that is paved with dead bodies. He's holding a lantern in his hand, in which you can see a soul burning for all eternity - a symbol for hell itself here.

During the first leg of the „German Metal Attack“ tour and around the album release, Volker Leson decided to leave the band due to health reasons. It was a shock for all band members but there was no turning back. Arndt Ratering, a long-time friend of the band, joined the band to help out. After the second leg of the „German Metal Attack“ tour with bassist Arndt Ratering, WIZARD decided that Arndt will be a permanent member of the WIZARD family from then on.

2014 was a special year for WIZARD, because the band celebrated its 25th anniversary. They decided to organize a 25th anniversary festival in their hometown, together with Majesty and Black Abyss. It was a blast! WIZARD recorded the show and released it on their first live DVD. They also joined a tour with Vortex and played a lot of shows in Germany, Austria, France and the Czech Republic.

In 2015 the band was in writing mode for the next disc of steel, but they still found time to play festival shows and appeared at the Dong Open Air, Metal Frenzy or Bäääm Festival in Germany.

WIZARD's new album is entitled „Fallen Kings“ and was recorded in the band's own studio in fall 2016. Achim Köhler (Primal Fear, Brainstorm, Amon Amarth, Sinner) is responsible for the album's mix and made sure that WIZARD's 11th studio album sounds as powerful as it should be.

WIZARD recruited the Argentinean artist Aldo Requena (Black Majesty, Skiltron, Feanor, Paragon) to create the cover artwork. Jochen van Eden (Sinneswerk) is responsible for the band photos and the layout.

„Fallen Kings“ is guided by fantasy and reality, it's by no means a concept album - it offers pounding hymns („We Are the Masses“), heavy metal songs („Brothers Of Spirit“, „Wizard Until The End“) as well as WIZARD's typical double-bass smashers („Liar And Betrayer“, „You're The King“), among others.

The breath of fresh air, that bassist Arndt Ratering brought in, is clearly noticeable.

„Fallen Kings“ RAW - METAL - KINGS

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DISCOGRAPHY:

1991 Legion Of Doom (Demo)

1995 Son Of Darkness

1997 Battle Of Metal

1999 Bound By Metal

2001 Head Of The Deceiver

2003 Odin

2005 Magic Circle

2007 Goochan

2009 Thor

2011 ...Of Wariwulfs And Bluotvarwes

2012 Taste Of Wizard (Compilation)

2013 Trail Of Death

2017 Fallen Kings

TOUR DATES:

01.07.2017 DE Kreuztal - Schloss Junkernhees (Into The Dungeon Festival)

01.-02.09.2017 DE Katzenbach - Metallergrillen Open Air

Weitere Termine sind bereits in Planung.