

# “Canadian Metal Support”

## Interview with Blinded By Faith



Date: 02/JAN/2008

Interviewers: (Canadian Metal Support)  
San Louie = CMS

Band: Blinded By Faith

Band Member: Tommy Demers - Vocals

Pascal Cote - Guitar

Daniel Gingras - Guitar

Vincent Roy - Bass

Julien Marcotte - Drums

Danny Emond - Keyboards = DE

Label : Galy Records

Link: <http://www.blindedbyfaith.com/>

<http://www.myspace/blindedbyfaith.com>.

Style: Canadian Melodic Black Metal

1. CMS : Thank you very much for accepting “Canadian metal support” interview. Let’s start off by getting to know the music style you are playing What do you think about melodic black metal?

DE : Well, black metal is not an accurate label for our music. In the past, we could assume this label. Our first CD, *Veiled hideousness* was really influenced by black metal. But with our following two LPs, we tried to dissociate ourselves from black metal, ideologically and musically. But as people need to classify and categorize bands, the “melodic black” label kinda stuck. Melodic metal is wider and describes our art perfectly. We’re open-minded and try to assimilate as much influence as we can in the large world of metal.

2. CMS: my next question is about your band’s name. Tell me where did the name come from? And what inspired the band to use it?

DE: In the very beginning, the band’s name was Cryptic spell. We weren’t satisfied with it. So one day, Dan (guitarist), told me: “Hey, I’d like to have the word *Blinded* in our name.” I pondered a little and came along with the rest. And we thought it was good, because this name appeals to everyone’s imagination. There’s not only one interpretation possible. You can be blinded by your faith in yourself, religion, government, money, love, sex, dope, what else? You can complete the list.

3. CMS: What are the ideals and messages behind your style of music? And what does the band’s music deals with lyrically?

DE: Well, there’s not only one message. As the band’s name, our lyrics can be interpreted in many ways. But our goal is, basically, to make people think, or think twice, actually. We’re force fed with so much bullshit via the mass Medias. It’s easy to act and think like a zombie. It’s hard, but more rewarding, to think by yourself, to take some critical distance. Sometimes, there are hidden causes behind the major events and conflicts. You can tear the curtain to see behind the surface, the facade. We don’t really want to tell people what they should think; we’d rather suggest our listeners to adopt another way of thinking, an alternative point of view, we invite them to analyse things from different angles, because a phenomenon is never one-dimensional, we construct it’s meaning.

4. CMS: What do you think about the metal scene of Quebec?

DE: This province is undoubtedly one of the best places in North America to play metal. Metal is really big in Quebec City and Montreal, but it's also flourishing in cities like Trois-Rivières, Jonquièrre, Rimouski, Rouyn, and many more. A lot of incredible bands, good venues, and the fans are really into metal. American and European bands come here very often, and they usually say that Quebec fucking kicks ass!

5. CMS: Beside your hometown, what do you think about the metal scene of ON, AB, BC or NB?

DE: well, except for Ontario where we played a lot, it's hard to talk about the other provinces. Of course, we did a Canadian tour last summer. But it wasn't a success, crowd-wise, I mean. Promoters didn't do a lot of publicity. So when there were 50 people in the shows, we were happy. It wasn't very good in the rest of Canada. But when we talk with other bands that did many tours in Canada, they say the same thing: when there's a metal scene in cities outside the province of Quebec, it's not really strong. Good venues are hard to find. But in Ontario, there's something going on. The secret, if you're a local band and you want to establish your name in Canada is to play, play and play again, get the fans one by one. People are interested in metal everywhere, but if they don't know there's a concert in their own city, they won't go, right? So it's all about communication and organisation. Promoters, labels, fans, zines and bands must be tightly linked to make things happen in the underground. It's easy to feel alone or isolated when you listen to metal, so it's important to develop a community, a microcosm in which you can evolve.

There's still a lot of work to do in Canada.

6. CMS: What do you think about Canadian death and thrash metal scene?

DE: I don't know a lot about Canadian bands. But in the province of Quebec, there are so many good bands that I can't name them all. In Montreal, a lot of bands excel in technical death: Unexpect, Quo vadis, Augury, Neuraxis, for example. And there's a resurgence of thrash and heavy metal in the air too. I think of Horfixion, Reanimator, Merkabah and Moonlyght.

7. CMS: a lot of people know that north European black metal is the most famous in black metal field. What do you think about that?

DE: It's obviously true. Black metal comes from Norway and Sweden. Emperor, Arcturus, Immortal, Burzum, Mayhem, Setherial, Dark funeral, Dissection, Enslaved, Dimmu Borgir, just to name a few. They all have this frozen atmosphere, blizzard guitars and vocals, cold imagery. A lot of the best jazzmen come from the USA, it's a fact. Jazz was born there. The same is true with Black metal and Scandinavia.

8. CMS: We know that your band released 3 albums: *Veiled hideousness*, *Under an occult sun* and *Weapons of mass distraction*. Which album is the most powerful?

DE: It depends on your taste! If you're into really melodic stuff, with a lot of keyboards, you'll probably prefer *Under an occult sun*. But if you like aggressiveness, brutality, rhythmic stuff, *Weapons of mass distraction* is your thing. Our EP, *Veiled hideousness*, is a lot more black metal oriented. If you dig Cradle of Filth, this is the one to listen to in first. Anyway, if you want to know which one is the most powerful, listen to them all and make your own opinion!

9. CMS: Which BBF song is your favourite?

DE: Maybe "Tear the purple curtain", the opening song on *Under an occult sun*. This song shreds! It's also a good song to start a gig with. Right in your face, this is the shit. Awesome melodies, killer lyrics, perfectly structured. Decibels like scalpels in your ears! We don't like to copy ourselves, but this song is, with "Burning rebellion" (another song on *Under*) the prototype of a BBF piece. We're trying to get the same energy and dynamics in our new compositions.

10. CMS: Are there any bands or people who have been an influence on your music?

DE: As teenagers, we were kind of blinded by the Cradle of Filth phenomenon. So, as I already said, you can feel on *Veiled* that this influence is omnipresent, and not perfectly assimilated. Iron Maiden as always been a huge influence too, along with the instigators of '80s extreme metal like Metallica, Slayer, Megadeth, Sepultura, Pantera, you know, good old school shit. And now, here's a list of bands that certainly had an influence on our sound: Arcturus, Rhapsody, Nightwish, Dark tranquillity, Dimmu Borgir, Soilwork, Slipknot, Dissection, At the gates, Children of Bodom, In Flames, Hypocrisy, Rammstein, Tool, Dream theatre, etcetera. And also a lot of non metal stuff: prog, blues, jazz, world music, classical music, rock, movie soundtracks, electro and techno... We're really open-minded, and I think there's no good or bad style, there's only good or bad music.

11. CMS: Would you let us know your Metal Gear?

DE: Pascal has a Godin guitar and another that is a Proto, he had it done by an excellent stringed-instrument maker. Daniel Plays on a Jackson. Both guitarists are endorsed by ENGL (<http://www.engl-amps.com/>), the German amp company. These amps (Powerball) sound like earthquakes! Vincent plays on a Godin bass and an Ampeg amp. I use a Korg triton extreme. Julien beats the pulp out of totally destroyed tama rock star, but he's about to have a Luka drums. Luka Percussion (<http://www.myspace.com/lukapercussion>) is another custom instrument maker. These drums will fucking tear your eardrums! And Tommy... I can't remember what his mike is. But he smokes a lot of cigarettes and drinks like a madman; this is the secret behind his growls and shrieks! LOL!

12. CMS: who writes most of the music? Is it a group effort?

DE: I write about 80% of all the stuff, music and lyrics. On every album, Daniel writes the lyrics for two songs. I sometimes come with a melody or a rhythmic idea, but I also like to create a complete song on which we can work together as a band. I can compose for every instrument, as I can play (though I'm not a virtuoso) guitar, bass, keyboards and drums. Tommy writes a lot of music too, he's a music teacher. He has a very good ear, he knows a lot of musical theory, he studied the rules of harmony and has a good knowledge of musical history. In fact, anyone can come up with an idea and we'll try to integrate it in a song. It's always an open creative process. Usually, we like to arrange, harmonize and orchestrate together. This is where the real fun begins.

13. CMS: We know that your band played Metallica cover "For whom the bell tolls" in a gig. Why your band did it? Any reason?

DE: We just liked this song and wanted to do it our way, with barking vocals, keyboard lines, fast picking, some more BPM and a more modern approach. We did it in many shows. If you're interested, you can go see it on Youtube.com. This song is a good encore. We just make the Metallica cover and people go like: "hey, I know this fucking song, man, let's jump in the mosh pit! Arghhhhhhhhh!" Well, as you can see, the comments on you tube are either pretty good or pretty bad. Some people think we have disfigured a classic song. They can think what they want. You know what? We just don't give a fuck! It's our own way to pay tribute to Metallica, these monsters of Metal. "For whom the bell tolls" is not an untouchable monument, the statue of a God. We can take it and interpret it, even change it if we please, and if you don't like it...just too bad.

14. CMS: Would you let us know your all time favourite metal album?

DE: Hey, only one? It's almost impossible! So here's my top 10:

1. **Arcturus, *The sham mirrors.***
2. Iron maiden, *The number of the beast.*
3. Pantera, *Vulgar display of power.*
4. Nightwish, *Wishmaster.*
5. Soilwork, *Stabbing the drama.*
6. Metallica, *Master of Puppets.*
7. Rammstein, *Sehnsucht.*
8. Slayer, *Seasons in the abyss.*
9. Dimmu Borgir, *Puritanical misanthropic euphoria.*
10. Dark tranquillity, *The gallery.*

15. CMS: Actually, China is a huge market, a lot of metal fans over there. What do you think about this country and its market? Do you want to enter the Chinese market?

DE: Well, to me, China is a country full of legends, with a very long history, very interesting too. It's the land of wonders and, paradoxically, misery. Of course, economically, China is becoming a very powerful country. We would be glad to play there some day. But it seems difficult because it's so far! So if we ever play in China, it must be in a very well organised tour, with a renowned headliner. We can't go there and play three gigs, you know? It would just cost us too much. But we always follow our dreams and never say never... so maybe one day we will meet. And then, we'll fucking rock the place!

16. CMS: Can you tell us about your upcoming release? Pending or not? Any idea of your upcoming album?

DE: Right now, we write some stuff. We have something like 3 complete songs and a whole lot of riffs and various ideas. I think it will be really, really melodic and fast. We want it to be released in 2009. So patience, folks! I can't say more about it, we have just started the creative machine, and the best is to come!

17. CMS: Thank you for the interview. This was a great opportunity to learn more about your band. Wish your band all the best. Please keep supporting "Canadian metal support"!!! CSM is 100% supporting Canadian metal bands and scene!

DE: Thanks YOU for the interview! Hope to see y'all in the future! If you're interested to know more about BBF, you can visit our website at [www.blindedbyfaith.com](http://www.blindedbyfaith.com). You can also go on our myspace page at [www.myspace/blindedbyfaith.com](http://www.myspace/blindedbyfaith.com). And if you want to see BBF live clips, you can find some on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com). Cheers, and keep on rocking, all you crazy Chinese head bangers!

**END**

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