

Taken from Voices from the Darkside:

VETERNUS

Awaken The Grave (7" EP)

(Detest Records)

7:58min

Late last year VETERNUS announced its existence with the demo tape, "Perpetual Insanity". Barring the fact that there are two pressings of the demo, copies are scarce. Nevertheless, they did well enough to attract attention from Detest Records, one of the youngest, and best, labels for Death Metal today. Continuing where they left off on "Perpetual Insanity", VETERNUS improve on their dark brand of Death Metal with mid-paced riffs, crushing drums, and haunting vocal patterns not unlike the sort pioneered by bands such as OBSCURITY. The guitars wail like tormented banshees, reminding one, perhaps, of Trey Azagthoth in his younger days. Interestingly, VETERNUS' drummer, P. Possessed is the same P. who drummed for LAMENTATION before they split up. Those of you who had the privilege of hearing LAMENTATION should know how capable he is for this kind of music, and he does indeed do a great job on this newest VETERNUS single. The sky is the limit for this band. For more info check out: [www.myspace.com/veternusuppsala](http://www.myspace.com/veternusuppsala), [www.detestrecords.com](http://www.detestrecords.com)

Nat Shapiro

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GRAVEHAMMER

Ensnared In Dismal Blasphemies (7" EP)

(Detest Records)

9:49min

Here's a bit of an irregularity: a Swedish band that would rather not sound so Swedish. Like many of the new, young Death Metal bands from Sweden, GRAVEHAMMER writes music without geography in mind. In some places they sound rather like OBSCURITY - a Swedish band, but one that didn't sound remotely like any other Swedish band before or since, and would prove to be a global influence on the Metal world. The vast majority of the songs takes after the Americans more than anything else, particularly early MORBID ANGEL and NECROVORE. But whatever influences you hear in their music, one thing you'd be hard pressed to deny is the fact that GRAVEHAMMER is talented. [www.myspace.com/gravehammerswe](http://www.myspace.com/gravehammerswe), [www.detestrecords.com](http://www.detestrecords.com)

Nat Shapiro