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At War With Self - A Familiar Path

2009 Sluggo's Goon Music

With each album being a full expression intricate melodic chaos, Glenn Snelwar's **At War With Self** is at the highest accolade of real experimental progressive metal - always we can expect the same wild improvisations finding themselves within a tuneful blueprint, but what becomes of each new album, you can also expect the unexpected. Like bands such as Spiral Architect, Cynic, F-O-E, King Crimson, & Morglbi, **At War With Self** sees no boundaries of what musical strengths can arise from non orthodox time signatures & key changes with a penchant for insanely executed arpeggios - yet **AWWS** stands as an entity on it's own.

Keeping everything accessible and interesting at the same time, the tunes are differentiated here - eight cuts with complex & elaborate diversity that prevail over the melodic bedlam is imposed - mirroring the imagery within the M.C. Escher-reminicent cover and liner notes, drawn by Snelwar himself. Utilizing acoustic instruments over the aggressive metal overtones (not being this over synthesized record) - both the mandolin driven "Reflections" and the Voivod-ish "Diseased State" proved that the unplugged factor can be correctly copulated with all things heavy; the prog-metal tunage of "Ourselves" & the Porcupine Tree-esque title track bring things to a vocal level; while the instrumental interludes of the sporadic "Etude No. 10," "Concrete and Poison," and the laid back "Hope" with the glistening clean electric, are further showcases of what the axeman/multi-instrumentalist/composer can do.

Along with drummer/percussionist Manfred Dikers & guest vocalist Maggie Snelwar, *A Familiar Path* is a further exposition of Glenn Snelwar's musical mindset, again treading the same lines of his past relapses, yet bringing something new & inventive to the table.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read an interview with Glenn Snelwar from 2005

[CLICK HERE](#) to read a review of *Torn Between Dimensions*

[CLICK HERE](#) to read a review of *Acts of God*

Added: December 20th 2009

Reviewer: [Tommy Hash](#)

Score: ★★★★★

Related Link: [Glenn Snelwar link](#)

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