

If you've been wondering **what to listen** to lately or perused Spotify and social media searching for the **next emerging band** that would restore your faith in The State of Music, this reoccuring feature is for you. We checked in with a few of the bands we think have a unique voice in the musical landscape to **inspire a new generation** of concert-goers and record-buyers alike.

featuring Camlann · Ötzi · ABU NEIN · Gwendoline

interviews by Elizabeth Rhodes

BAND LINEUP

Camlann

Roll Call Ony Godfrey (16) : singer and guitarist Bayu Triyudanto (15) : bassist Fauzan Pratama (16) : synth player

When did the band form and what was the original intention of the band? Camlann : We are a dark postpunk teen band from Jakarta, Indonesia. Camlann started in early 2019, founded by several middle school students who have the same interest in music such as postpunk and darkwave. This band was actually started as a school project and at first it was all just for fun. But then in August 2019, which is after we released our debut EP, *The Arrival*, we received a lot of positive feedback from people. Since then, we finally decided to take this band seriously. In September 2019, the three of us (Ony, Fauzan, Bayu) started to write and record songs for our debut album that now has been released on July 20, 2020 via Cold Transmission Music.

About your name: how does it communicate the sound or vibe of the band? C: The name Camlann is taken from King Arthur's final battle which is the battle of Camlann. The myth and mystery behind the Arthurian legend quite influenced our music to sound somehow mysterious, dark, and melancholic. Somehow the mystery that lies behind King Arthur and his final battle shaped this band to be somehow mysterious in the sound. Somehow it also made the theme of our lyrical contents to be sometimes mysterious and myth-like. This name really gives us a mysterious vibe, especially in the sound of our songs.

How would you describe your music to someone who has not yet heard you? C : As we said previously, we're a dark postpunk band. But we're not playing pure dark postpunk/darkwave, we mix them with other genres such as new wave, synthwave, and even Japanese city pop. If we should describe our music to people who have not yet listened to our music, we would describe our music as, "Hauntingly dark and melancholic synth-driven music."

What inspires you to create this style of music?

C : We have always loved darker music since a few years ago, so we decided to come together and make our own dark music and share it to the world. It's simply because we want to make something out of our huge interest in postpunk/ darkwave music.

What influences in fashion, literature, and culture impact your creativity?

C : We're all heavily influenced by the 80s goth music and subculture. Our biggest influence musically would be Joy Division, The Smiths, Drab Majesty, and The Cure. These names are the ones who really inspired by how goths dressed back in the m a lot. Fashion-wise, we are really inspired by how goths dressed back in the 80s and in the 90s. Siouxsie Sioux and Robert Smith would be our biggest influence on fashion. The goth subculture in general really influenced us as musicians and it shaped how we sound now.

What other bands are inspiring you right now?

C : We always try to discover more bands. Currently, we're really influenced by Cocteau Twins, Vandal Moon, and Korine. We also listen to city pop a lot lately, since our second album will be a mixture between darkwave/dark postpunk with city pop. Junko Ohashi and Mariya Takeuchi would be our current favorite city pop artists.

How would you describe the current alternative music scene where you live? C: To be honest, we're not really active in the local alternative scene and we have only watched some shows from the scene like three to five times. We're still high school students, so we don't have a lot of time to participate actively in the scene. But from our few experiences, the scene is totally great. Various alternative genres come together, and we see that people in the scene are actively supporting each other. It's a great scene.

What are your favorite tour or stage stories? Share 'em here.

C : We haven't really performed a lot, but from what we have experienced, our favorite one would be back in November 2019. Camlann got chosen to perform in this huge event in Jakarta as the opening act for another huge name in the Indonesian music scene. We had a lot of fun performing at that event, but there were some technical issues that happened, and it was an unforgettable moment for us. Fauzan's synth suddenly couldn't work and we got quite panicked, but then he fixed it and it's all good again! [laughs] It was the first time we performed on a big stage, and it was amazing.

Tell us about your latest release.

C : The Forgotten Lost Fragments is our debut album that invites you to see the bittersweet reality of the world we're living in. A fictional story that tells you about pain, darkness, love, light, and death, all wrapped into a dark and melancholic tentrack album that has a strong religious splash in it. The album tells you the story of a young man called Father Johannes Bianchi from the perspective of a woman who considers Bianchi as a big part of her youth. Bianchi has always wanted to be a Catholic priest from a young age. As life goes on, life dragged and shook him very hard with all the problems and trials. Bianchi experienced falling in love and heartbreak, a prolonged dilemma, illness, and so on. Unfortunately, a few years after Bianchi became a Catholic priest at the Vatican, he died. Decades after the woman moved on from her youth and lived in Los Angeles, she remembered her youth in her deathbed. The bittersweetness of her youth with Bianchi, the lost and forgotten memories that had become forgotten fragments in her mind.

What's next for your band?

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C: We're currently recording and composing our second album that will be released in 2021. The sound of this album will be a mixture between dark postpunk/ darkware with 80s Japanese city pop. The first single alongside its official music video will be released at the end of 2020, so stay tuned!

S Where can people find out more about your band and any other projects members are involved in?

You can listen to our music on both Spotify and Bandcamp: camlannmusic.bandcamp.com You can also keep in touch with us on our socials: Instagram: @camlannmusic Facebook: camlannmusic Twitter: @camlannmusic

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