

Photography by Jonas Fransson

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# Then Comes Silence

Interview by Elizabeth Rhodes

**Roll Call**

Alex Svenson: singer and bass player  
 Jonas Fransson: drums  
 Mattias Ruejas Jonson: guitar  
 Hugo Zombie: guitar

**When did the band get started and what was the original intention of the band?**

Then Comes Silence were formed in Stockholm, Sweden in 2012. In the beginning the band was exploring the concept of horror music. Diving into darkness and fear. In the early years the sound was more doomy, ghostly and gritty. There was a dogma to follow. The guitars and drum heads would only be tuned once every recording session of an album. Only one take on every track was preferable. It gave the sound that eerie feeling. Insecure, a bit crippled and stiff.

**Tell us more about your name: how does it communicate the sound or vibe of the band?**

The main topic was and is still death so what could be better than Then Comes Silence? There is nothing after death, just silence.

**How would you describe your music to someone who has not yet checked you out?**

It's rock music. Some might say it reminds them of something they've heard, but never like this before. If you like the dark scene evolving around dark rock, dark pop, dark wave and goth you might want to have a closer look at us.

**What inspires you to create this style of music?**

Eavesdropping on people's thoughts and lives. Pondering and listening to our own troubles and thoughts. On the wider scale of popular culture, we get input from movies and the contemporary dark scene.

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

We dress in black. On certain special occasions some of the members spice it up with colors. Horror culture has a big influence on the band. Stretching from the old Victorian age through the 1920s silent films to modern times.

**What other bands are inspiring you right now?**

We like listening to TRUE MOON, Memoria, HAPAX, JE T'AIME, Okandi and Ritual Howls at the moment.



Mattias Ruejas

Alex Svenson

Jonas Fransson

Hugo Zombie

**“The dark scene in Stockholm is small, but has been quite**

**How would you describe the current alternative music scene where you live?**

The dark scene in Stockholm is small, but has been quite nutrient and energetic to everyone in it over the past five years. It's definitely worth a visit if you're into post-punk, goth and industrial music and want to meet like-minded Swedes.

**What are your favorite tour or stage stories?**

Share 'em here. We can't share any spicy stories due to the discretion and confidentiality of others, but there's a story about Alex, the singer, while on a band practice before a tour: he opened a beer and the cap exploded straight up like a rocket and hit one of

his eyes. He lost sight in that eye for almost a week. After medical treatment it finally came back. During that recovery time he could still rejoice that his eyes looked like Bowie's with one large pupil in one eye.

**Tell us about your latest release.**

The newest album Machine (SPV/Metropolis Records) will be remembered by all of us in the band as the "Pandemic album". It was released on the same day as the whole of Europe and most of the world entered lockdown, Friday, March 13th, 2020. Luckily our partners in music gave us more funding to make more videos so we could reach out on social media since the concept of touring completely died for

everyone on this planet.

**What's next for your band?**

We have started working on new music as we speak. We recently did a festival show in Poland which was great to experience again. Finally, there will be a couple of shows for us to perform this year. Not many, but it feels good to be back anyway.

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

There will be a solo project coming up with the singer called NEONPOCALYPSE this year. One of the guitar players has his own musical creation under his name Hugo Zombie. || A

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—Then Comes Silence

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