

# FIREBRAND'S

## ROCK & METAL EXPRESS



### Nordic's Yell

**Record Label** Self Release

**Reviewer** Rob Birtley

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**Release Date** 20 July 2014

**Highlight** Wild Child

I may be of advancing years but I'm always up for something new. So when an album appeared in my inbox from the editor by a band I'd never heard of and just the teaser "Think you may like this" my curiosity was immediately sparked.

Nordic's Yell is a French band and is the brainchild of two brothers Lorenzo and Neils. The band got its distinctive name Nordic's Yell because the singer Niels has a Viking name and because his voice is really heavy. The album line up is as follows. Lorenzo: Guitar, Neils: Guitar and Vocals, Tommy Rizzitelli: Drums and Jerome Duclaut on Bass. The self titled

and the whole mixture is a head banging, fist clenching rebel rouser. 'On The Road' has a 60's vibe going on. The track opens with a piece of drumming right out of the Bonham hand book and the rhythm line follows in the Zep tradition. Guitar well touches of Hendrix especially in the break and the vocal is verging into the Stoner area. At points when the track slows early Rival Sons with a gravel vocal comes to mind. 'Nocturnal Frenzy' is another track you can find on Youtube. It opens with acoustic guitar and electric guitar coming in to play counterpoint. There is a depth and warmth in the recording that

almost like a later day Johnny Cash singing 'Hurt' type of way.

To close this album is something different. You can tell English is not the first language of the singer but that seems to add rather than detract. It's moody and atmospheric and has warmth in the recording I've not heard in a long time. The brothers Lorenzo and Neils wrote the songs in 2013 then the band split up before recording losing the singer and Neils taught himself to sing to complete the album. Then they had a distribution deal fall through so they had to release the album digitally themselves so the whole

and first album was recorded at Magic Studio in St Peray because this it is an analog studio and they wanted a warmer sound and mastered at Absolute Studio (New York). The sound, well think guitars influenced by the Classics Zeppelin, Hendrix and more modern Slash and Metallica. Vocal styling well it's a melodic growl fest in the groove of Black Label Society, Stone Sour and Corey Taylor. They describe themselves as Grunge/Rock but that only tells half the story.

The album Rocks up with 'Quiet Spectator' it's one of the band's tracks that can be found on Youtube and comes in just short of three minutes. It opens with a Blues guitar riff and a yell. The Blues shuffle and thudding drum line power it along. Like most of the songs on this release the underlying theme is rebellion to the pressure to conform and not be yourself a lot of us feel. Also running through the album is the struggle of retaining one's soul in a world that tells you it doesn't exist. Spelt out most literally spelt out in track 4 'Lose My Soul'. The middle break chorus is almost anthemic

takes you way back. May be it was using an analog recording studio but in some ways this is old school in a good way. The short guitar solo has a bit of 'All Along The Watch Tower' in it as the track winds out into a hypnotic ending. 'Wild Child' is based on a true story and is the personal favourite of guitarist Lorenzo who wrote the lyric. The vocal is a tortured and plaintiff growl full of passion bringing to mind Black Label Society in their quieter moments. Chunky and blocked driving rhythm guitar heavy with reverb thuds along mixed in with acoustic segments ripping into a fine solo that just edges out before the final scream. 'Red Bag Girl' is a thank you song to a friend of the French Blues/Folk artist Gaelle Buswell who did all the backing vocals on the album. It seems every time the band needed guitar strings, harmonica etc. she had it all in her big red bag so the brothers wrote an extra song for her. 'Hey You' is a plaintiff plea set to a mostly acoustic background. A song about the dangers of walking through your life with your eyes closed. It's slow pace is powerful and compelling and draws you in

process has been far from an easy birth you can feel this pain and passion in every track. Do yourselves a favour at least check out the Youtube videos.