

VAN CANTO

VAN CANTO "Break the Silence"
Style: A Cappella Metal
Country: Germany
Release Date: 23 Sep 11 (EU), 27 Sep 11 (US)

"**Break the Silence**" is the title of the fourth album by the a cappella metal band **VAN CANTO**, although the band has been nothing but silent since their beginnings five years ago. With their innovative approach to melodic metal by solely making use of vocals and drums, Van Canto made their debut with "**A Storm to Come**" in 2006. "Hero Metal A Cappella" was born, as well as the battle cry "Rakkatakka Motherfucker", which turned into a catch phrase among open-minded metal and music fans around the world. The band played numerous shows in support of the debut including festivals, gigs with Nightwish, and a tour of Brazil.

The successor "**Hero**" was released in 2008 and included well arranged cover versions of songs by Iron Maiden, Manowar, and Blind Guardian. The album was produced in the holy Twilight Halls studios of Blind Guardian, whose frontman Hansi Kürsch performed with the band on one of Van Canto's own compositions. The release of the album was followed by an extensive club tour throughout Germany and Switzerland.

Their third album "**Tribe of Force**" was released in 2010. Again the band focused on their own songs, but also covered one song by Metallica and one by Grave Digger. The album entered the charts and the band played two headlining tours, a tour in support of Blind Guardian, and performed at numerous festivals.

The metal scene started to take more and more notice of the band. Van Canto performed as guests of Blind Guardian, Tarja Turunen, and Grave Digger (at their 30th anniversary concert at Wacken). The clips of the band reach an audience of approx. 20 million YouTube users.

Now is the time for "**Break the Silence**", which follows the vision of the band in every detail. The main part of the album consists of 7 original compositions, which range from soulful ballads ("Spelled in Waters" featuring Blind Guardian's **Marcus Siepen** on acoustic guitar) to heavy rock songs like "Neuer Wind", and true power metal anthems like "If I Die in Battle". In addition, the band recorded 3 cover songs. The war drum version of Sabaton's "Primo Victoria" features Sabaton frontman **Joakim Broden**, Alice



Cooper's "Bed of Nails" is doing more than just fine with vocal guitars, and Inga shows with "Master of the Wind" that Manowar songs sound terrific with female lead vocals.

The limited edition digipack also includes a bonus cover song ("Bad to the Bone" by Running Wild). In addition, the track "Betrayed" features a symphonic "metal-a-cappella" piece with orchestral support, while "A Storm to Come" unveils an exclusive bonus: the first song from "Peer Returns", the Van Canto Crossmedia-Projekt to premiere at the end of this year.

In the studio as well as on stage, Van Canto's driving force is still the love for powerful vocals, the passion for catchy songs and positive messages, and the love of metal! The band will embark on a European tour soon after the release of the new album! Break the Silence!

Van Canto sind:

Sly - lead vocals
Inga - lead vocals
Stef - lower rakkatakka-vocals
Ross - higher rakkatakka-vocals
Ike - deep dandan-vocals
Basti - drums

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