



**VINTERSORG**  
**Solens Rötter**  
**Style: Nordic Folk Metal Country: Sweden**  
**Release Date: 27 Apr 07 (EU), 22 May 07 (US)**

VINTERSORG emerged in 1994 as VARGATRON (Wolfethrone). The band's goal was to allow for innovation by blending clean vocals, acoustic guitars and heavy riffs — nowadays a common practice — and thus, bring about new dimensions to the black metal genre. Following the typical line-up changes, the band reached a standstill in 1996 prompting Vintersorg to bid farewell to his colleagues and continue on his own. He promptly recorded a demo and was soon picked up by NAPALM RECS, the same label that had already signed Vintersorg's other claim to fame, OTYG.

Satisfied with the outcome of the 1998 MCD entitled *Hedniskhjärtad* (Pagan-hearted), Vintersorg began writing new material for his first full-length recording, *Till Fjälls* (Up in the Mountains). Vintersorg's passion for folk music became obvious with this release, as with the follow up, *Ödemarkens Son* (1999).

VINTERSORG returned in 2000 with an outstanding new release entitled *Cosmic Genesis*. The natural progression of the band's musical development soon gave way to the addition of a second guitarist, Mattias Marklund. The two musicians had been playing together for over ten years, so it was a logical step to forge a more permanent bond.

*Cosmic Genesis* continued to emphasize Vintersorg's personal exploration of obscure musical territories. The result was that of a more progressive gloomy atmosphere and diverse vocal styles and arrangements, while still retaining the old essence. Lyrically, the album philosophically explores thoughts, questions, and observations regarding the essential forces of the infinite cosmos. Theorems influenced by Copernicus, Galileo, and Kepler are a recurring theme and create a contrast between the harsh and the beautiful, the cold and the warm, the spiritual and the physical, and the earthly and unearthly.

In 2001, Vintersorg began writing material of an even more progressive and intricate nature. It soon became clear, after the pre-production work in their small studio Seven Stars, that a drummer capable of handling the technical and creative aspects of the new material would be needed. Asgeir Mickelson (Spiral Architect, Borknagar), with whom Vintersorg already had a working relationship through Borknagar, joined the recording efforts. With Asgeir came the suggestion to recruit Steve DiGiorgio (Death, Sadus Testament, Control Denied) for the recording of the bass tracks.

*Visions from the Spiral Generator* was recorded in three different studios, three countries, and two formats. First guitars, keyboards and vocals in Ballerina Audio (Sweden), then the drums in Top Room Studio (Norway), and finally the bass in Nu-tone Studio (US). Lyrically, this release continues to touch upon the concepts of science and faith, the search for the formulas that create us and the universe, and the never-ending journey through mathematics and philosophy.

As *Visions from the Spiral Generator* hit the streets, Vintersorg had already completed the follow up. The idea this time was to develop a concept album from start to finish. The music continued to evolve and it became even more diverse—using all the previous Vintersorg elements, but placing them into new environments that included more acoustic guitars, more vocal harmonies, more extravagant guitar leads, and fresh keyboard frameworks. The two renowned genií Mickelson and Di Giorgio once again contributed the inspiring drum patterns and fretless bass wizardry to complete *The Focusing Blur*—a much more melodic album in which the folk influences shine through as clearly as ever. The lyrical theme focuses on the *Vintersorgian* quest to find the essence of Man and the complex connection between science and fate.



With Solens Rötter, or "The Origin of the Sun", the band returns to its roots, deeply anchored within traditional Nordic soundscapes, and further strengthening them by blending in the elements that modern Metal has to offer. The ever-so-present Folk influence, including flute, harp, and violin arrangements,

merges skillfully with the technical prowess of both drummer, guitarist, and session/live bassist Johan Lindgren to create poignant and versatile songs that can only be the work of VINTERSORG. An eloquent symbiosis of hymn-like passages, cold Black Metal, and Nordic music, crowned by Vintersorg's impressive vocals that prefer to focus this time around on nature and its poetic language than on the scientific perspectives of previous releases.

**Previous Napalm Releases:**

Hedniskhjärtad MCD (1998)  
Till Fjälls (1998)  
Ödemarks Son (1999)  
Cosmic Genesis (2000)  
Visions From The Spinal Generator (2002)  
The Focussing Blur (2004)

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