

## THE DEAD BROTHERS      Newsletter #4

The Dead Brothers are back.

More than a year of songwriting gave birth to a list of 40 new songs. And we've been recording the best of 'em. 15 beauties that you will hear soon On Voodooorhythm Records, of course: For Easter actually *'cause Jesus died for somebodys' sins but not mine.*

We've been recording in an old shed cranky and planky. The oldest mill in the Jura Mountains, around 1000 meters over sea level in Vaulion, where a mythical radio dj named G-rare the undertaker has collected some mighty mikes. He captured our always strange sounds in a few days of recording, all crammed in the warmest room of the old farm, from Halloween to the day of the dead. We cooked great food (Jambalaya, spaghetti aglio & olio, and wiener Gulasch), drank tons of wine and ate french cheese that moved around on the table all alone. The sound is bewildering, poisonous and intimate at the same time. String orchestra meets mountain folk music, punk rock meets Wagners' gothic and we invented a new style: blackgrass, the dark side of bluegrass. Cowshit on snakeskin boots.

This time the instrumentarium resembles grandpa's attic with fiddles, lots of mandolines and cellos, a devilish slappin' double bass, a great pump pedal organ from the turn of last century, banjos, the sixties twangy Hopf guitar, hawaiian lap-steel, a singing saw and other hobo suitcase percussion. Ha ha! You wonder how that sounds? Like the Dead Brothers of course, with a lot of strings.

At least half the lyrics were written by the great filmmaker Mark Littler. He's been writing poetry for the last ten years: gospel songs basically. So he came to Switzerland and we wrote a bunch of great songs in no time. He's a great guy and you'll hear that too. He knows the Dead Brothers well: he made a movie about them ([www.slowboatfilms.com](http://www.slowboatfilms.com)).

Another great guy is Michael Ilbert, a swedish producer with whom I love to work and have worked in the past from Göteborg to Cairo, and from Danemark to the swiss mountains. He moved to Berlin to run the legendary Hansa Studios (remember Bowies' Low) That's where the Dead Brothers are being mixed.

So brace yourself until the 26<sup>th</sup> of march. That's when the album will be sanctified by the Reverend Beatman. The Dead Brothers will hit stage in march already: we're planning a first run through Switzerland and in may through Holland, Germany, Austria and Belgium. Keep your eyes open. You never know when death comes a knockin'...

Yours truly Alain Dead

*January 2010*

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[www.voodooorhythm.com](http://www.voodooorhythm.com)

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