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Album Review: Arkona - Kob'



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After 5 years of silence, **Arkona** returns with their ninth studio album, **Kob'** (Spell). This is their darkest work, so far.

Arkona is a Russian metal band. They usually play pagan/folk metal, but on this album they incline more to the black metal world and even death in some parts.

The album paints a gloomy picture; six tracks plus an intro and an outro (each represented by a song) in which humanity descends into complete annihilation. A conceptual and fluid album that develops itself from beginning to end with introspective lyrics.

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The vocals are guttural and also clean (as are the backing vocals), charging the album with an atmospheric tone that results in an apocalyptic feeling.

The first song, *Izrechenie. Nachalo* (Saying. Start), introduces the album, with a major presence of synths, not only on this song but throughout this work. The second song, is one of their singles, *Kob'* (Spell) which deals with the occult.

ARKONA - Kob' (Official Video) | Napalm Records



Mor (Pestilence) has a more black metal sound, obscure and sad anthem.

ARKONA - Mor (Official Video) | Napalm Records



To any **Arkona** fan, they will find on this album an interesting twist from their previous work. And to a person that just got interested in listening to this band, if you're more into black metal and dark, misanthropic lyrics, you'll love these new songs.

Line-up:

- **Maria "Masha Scream" Arkhipova** – vocals, keyboards
- **Sergei "Lazar" Atrashkevich** – guitars
- **Ruslan "Kniaz" Rosomaherov** – bass
- **Vladimir "Volk" Reshetnikov** – wind ethnic instruments
- **Alexander Smirnov** – drums

Rating: 7/10

Release Date: June 16th 2023

Released By: Napalm Records

FFO: Heidevolk, Wolfchant, Falkenbach



Tracklist:

- 1) Izrechenie. Nachalo (Saying. Start)
- 2) Kob' (Spell)
- 3) Ydi (Go)
- 4) Ugasaya (Fading Away)
- 5) Mor (Pestilence)

- 6) Na Zakate Bagrovogo Solntsa (At the Sunset of the Crimson Sun)
- 7) Razryvaya plot' ot bezyskhodnosti bytiya (Tearing the Flesh from the Hopelessness of Being)
- 8) Izrechenie. Iskhod (Saying. Exodus)

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