

As is the mighty SOWBERRY HAGAN, the latest evil monster from Liege's Ultraphallus with which I've chosen to conclude this first Reviews Section for 2011CE. Kiddies, this is one dark experience that irrigates your heart and blasts open your wintertime synapses; one motherfucker of a T R I P, perpetual and ever-unfolding like some ambient panto of Metal Deluge. Like Japan's free cult Death Comes Along, Ultraphallus exhibit a truly daring approach to their recordings, (here) capturing the moment herein with that same abandoned

Abbadon approach as side 2 of Patti Smith's RADIO ETHIOPIA, or (there) presenting exquisitely researched & presented meditations on Tony Iommi in a psychological stylee, (elsewhere) mush-mouthed as Lizard Jimbo via Burton Cummings. I mean, C'mon! It makes dark sense that Ultraphallus hail from one of my World Bogey Cities (Nagoya and Munich are the others), but there's a satanic inventiveness of presentation to this SOWBERRY HAGAN – in its cinematic presentation that pitches this record outside of categories and into 'instructional' i.e.: useful. Released on the always-fascinating Riot Season record label (www.riotseason.com), it's pretty early in the year for SOWBERRY HAGAN to be setting the rock'n'roll bar so high. Gentlemen, you are to be congratulated!

