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PRESS RELEASE
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I HATE THE GAME AND YET I PLAY.

The anticipated Verenn album The Game has been released

The Finnish rock group **Verenn** (formed by **Jussi Järvenpää** and **Mikko Hautakangas**) has released their debut album titled **The Game** (on 19th of May, 2006). The album contains ten tight rock tunes that form a clear arch of drama with no fill-up tracks. Verenn combines in their music the heaviness of metal flavored rock with melodic emotionality and catchy hooks. The songs are mostly composed and arranged by Jussi, and Mikko's sharp lyrics back up the melancholy feel of the Verenn sound, providing the record with a thematic backbone: the critical exploration of the modern society and the image-centered way of life.

- I think that the songs on the album show how our sound has constantly developed, becoming bolder and more unique. We started off from the metal sound, but in the end it seemed important to discard the genre thinking when writing songs. If the song moves ourselves, it's a Verenn song, Jussi says.

The soundscape of *The Game* is original and high-standard. The album has been produced, recorded and mixed by Jussi Järvenpää. The important factor to the overall mood of the record is **Matara Music's** own studio, which is located in Northern Finland on an abandoned farm. The absolute solitude of Matara provided a unique atmosphere for the recordings.

- When we went to record the vocals in the middle of darkest Finnish winter, we were told that two wolves had been seen on the studio yard two days earlier. So we recorded in candle light and were all excited that this is exactly what the lyrics refer to: back to the nature!, Mikko laughs.

The cherry on the cake is the mastering by **Thomas Eberger** (e.g. Opeth, The Hives, Kashmir, Disco Ensemble) in the Swedish Cutting Room.

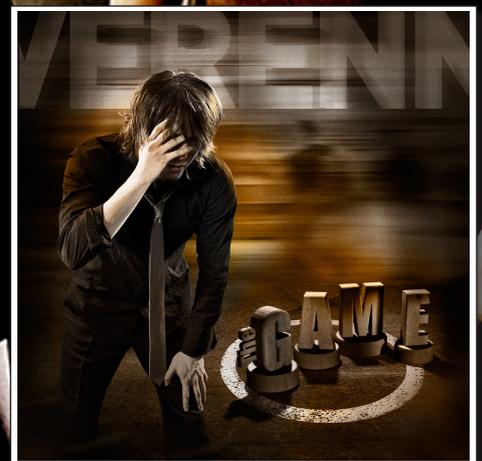
A video published, new website opened, the live band heading for gigs

The first promo single **No Trace, No Sound** was released at the end of March. Now a music video has been shot for the song. The video captures the overall mood of the song and the whole album beautifully. The video has been written and directed by **Ville-Veikko Heinonen** (Alasin Media), and edited by Heinonen and **Jussi Jokinen**.

The album cover and new band photos were designed by Jussi Jokinen and shot by photographer **Ville Harilahti** in the studio of SSC International (www.superstarcollective.com).

In addition, a new Verenn website has been opened (www.verenn.com). There one can find eg. the biography, photos, and samples of the album tracks, along with an online shopping possibility.

For live performances, the Verenn core duo is supported by rock-solid live band who are: **Teemu Kiiskilä** (guitar), **Jouni Pöllänen** (keyboards), **Ville Niska** (drums). For more info about Verenn live bookings, check out the band website and the homepage of Matara Music (www.mataramusic.com).



The Game tracklist:

1. Homecoming
2. Scapegoats
3. Speedblind
4. Glass House
5. The Tide Is Turning
6. Dead Dreams
7. No Trace, No Sound
8. Awake
9. Distance
10. The Game