

# Press Release

For Immediate Release

## Medieval Act “Rondellus” Breaks New Ground With their Black Sabbath Tribute Release, “Sabbatum” Critics and Artists agree that Producer, Mihkel Raud delivers an artistic triumph with his medieval angle on the Sabbath tribute album

The idea of the tribute recording has been around for quite while, but it’s impact and originality has certainly been on the wane. Enter *Sabbatum*. “Few records, recorded in tribute can be considered true artistic triumphs...I can only hope that someone on the Grammy nomination committee finds a copy of this disc,” says **ElectricBasement.com**. But the praise doesn’t stop there. **Loud! Magazine** says, “*Sabbatum* is a remarkable and unique concept that is sure to get a few healthy debates going.”

The initial idea for *Sabbatum* started way back. “I’m a dedicated Black Sabbath maniac,” says producer Mihkel Raud. “As kids, my older brother and I used to listen to them a lot. I formed a Black Sabbath band when I was 13...I was Ozzy and Tony all built into one.” That infatuation and dedication lived on. Along the way, Raud refined and formulated his ideas. “*Sabbatum* is an extension of something I started in my early teens. However, this time around, I decided to explore a totally different angle in Black Sabbath music.”

When asked, “Why medieval music?” Raud is quick to respond. “Bands cover classic rock songs in order to make them sound modern. We were determined to have it go the other way around.” He began playing with the idea that his versions were the originals - from the Middle Ages - and that Black Sabbath found and recorded them centuries later. Raud - an Estonian (the recording was done completely in Estonia) - goes on to explain how he and medieval performers, **Rondellus** hooked up. “I started asking around, trying to find an early music band that would be willing to turn my crazy idea into a reality. One name kept coming up – Rondellus!” Apparently, it didn’t take too much time to convince them either. “They are the most open-minded, creative and talented people I have ever worked with,” he says.

Rondellus hails from Tallinn, Estonia. The band was formed by Maria and Rober Staak in 1993 to perform and promote medieval and renaissance music. All members of the group are professional musicians with years of experience in Estonia’s finest early music groups. They have toured extensively in both Eastern and Western Europe.

In a time when coming up with an original or creative idea - especially with regards to rock tributes – is all but impossible, Mihkel Raud seems to have done just that. *Sabbatum*, with all of the attention it is getting, definitely has something going for it. And that something is what it takes to make people go out and buy music in the first place.

One may ask, could it really be that good? “It is good...and it is most definitely different...it simply rocks,” says **Black-Sabbath.com**. And the list goes on. The proof is in the pudding, or so the saying goes. And in the case of *Sabbatum*, the proof is undeniably there. For more information, please visit <http://www.sabbatum.com>

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