

Rondellus – the band behind “Sabbatum”

Rondellus hails from Tallinn, **Estonia**. The band was formed by **Maria** and **Robert 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 (Hortus Musicus and others).

Rondellus has just released a **Black Sabbath** tribute CD – “**Sabbatum**”. The album contains medieval versions of 12 Black Sabbath classic songs including such well-known hits as “War Pigs”, “Symptom of the Universe” and “The Wizard” among others. All tracks are played on authentic medieval instruments like psaltery, organistrum, harp, frame drum, fiddle, hurdy-gurdy, bagpipe and lute. All songs are sung in Latin language.

Together with “Sabbatum”, **Rondellus** has recorded 4 albums. In addition to Black Sabbath material, Rondellus' repertoire includes both sacred and secular music ranging from **Gregorian chants** to love and drinking songs and instrumental dances, including music of the trouvères and troubadours, works by Hildegard of Bingen, Guillaume Machaut, Francesco Landini, Guillaume Du Fay, Gilles Binchois, Josquin Des Pres and others.

Rondellus has an extensive history of touring and playing live. They have performed numerous concerts in the Baltic States, Scandinavia, Poland, Hungary, Germany, Italy, France, Spain and Switzerland. With the release of “**Sabbatum**” (“sabbath” in latin), Rondellus is planning to expand their audiences from medieval music lovers to rock music fans.

Rondellus will spend most of their future time touring and promoting the “Sabbatum” album. Taking the **Black Sabbath** classic songs back in centuries has been a challenging experiment for the medieval music band. Judging from the feedback Rondellus has received so far, the project has generated a lot of positive interest among both Black Sabbath and early music fans.

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