PANDORA
ALIBI FILOSOFICO
(Booklet Translated in English)

"To all our fans world wide:
This digi-booklet was made especially for your
comprehension of our songs, lyrics and stories!
Happy reading!"
- Pandora

"I have really enjoyed working on this new album by Pandora.
I have found it to be exciting and refreshing and original:
a real Pandoran Box of Delights!
You can never guess where Pandora’s music is going next.
I have tried to reflect that spontaneous feeling in the parts
and solos that I have created for this great new CD.
I can strongly recommend it to you!"
- David Jackson
1.
THE NECROMANCER, KHURASTOS AND THE FORTHCOMING VICTIM

Music by:
Claudio Colombo

Lyrics by:
Beppe Colombo

Musicians:
Beppe Colombo
Keyboards

Claudio Colombo
Drums, Percussions, Electric Bass,
Electric Guitar, Acoustic Guitar,
Keyboards, Chorus

Corrado Grappeggia
Vocals, Chorus, Keyboards

Featuring:

Emoni Viruet
Chorus

"...The final formula had drained more energy out of the druid than he had expected. It's true that that very move brought victory to a battle of adverse fate, yet the feeling of sure immortality, which that power made him feel, wore Chad-Bat out..."

The necromancer, noticing the druid's weak state, planned an unexpected revenge flaunting his cruel talent, made all the stronger by the blood-soaked battle.

And so the souls of the dead, under the necromancer's control, returned to their bodies, where there was no more blood flowing, and to ensure a sure victory against his eternal rival, he decided to team up with, along the Undead, a fearsome beast born from the rock...

...the Earth started to shake and everyone turned to look up at the black mountain. Khurastos, the half-giant, came out in huge, heavy steps from the impertious rocks from the highest peaks, becoming one with the jagged wall. As he headed with noticeable speed towards the battlefield, he set off an all mighty storm of fencers and stones..."

LYRICS:

You people don't think I will let you roam free
To enjoy the raids as if you were a flock of heroes
Because I will exterminate you all...

Don't think you will all continue with your ways
Cursed damned souls, you believed in eternal life and instead
You're all just victims, with no breath, no ideas,
Just like carnage

All this hoping
And you fall
And don't fly,
But die

Now I'll show you what I'm capable of
poor ignorant souls,
my puppets
I'll handle you all with just two strings

So much sadness within your hearts
I know how to make you cry bitter tears
I see no trace of regret
Just rage and bewilderment

You can cry blood and sweat
I've made my decision
You must all perish!

It is too late
And I do mean this
Now I cover my face
and go back to craving

You shall shiver!
You lowlives!
NEITHER TITLE NOR WORDS
(In memory of Jonathan Douglas Lord, 1941 – 2012)

A. In a Distant Valley (00:00)
"...The distorted sound of evil reached the ears of Siruet, a young elf whose voice held an extraordinary magic. The only way of expressing herself was through singing, which gave immense power to Lord Jon, her faithful knight... Everyone knew their ways of taking action and advised Chad-Bat to look for them... but he refused. The druid’s death during the attack made the people lose hope, at least until a melodious voice was heard coming from the sky, opening the clouds..."

B. Supernatural Sound (01:43)
"On the back of a shiny-scaled dragon, Siruet and Lord Jon came and presented themselves in front of everyone... the knight hit the ground with his sword wrapped in an aura which was kept alive by the continuous singing of the elf... the people found hope once again..."

C. The Dawn of Evil (02:31)
"In a short span of time Khurastos fell along side the armies of the undead. Everything seemed to be over, but then the air started swirling and the people celebrating stopped to look at the sky... A dark veil wrapped the clouds which were once snow-white... The necromancer, now hovering among these, summoned, with a gesture, the thousands of souls offered by the battle taking place around him. An apocalyptic sight of all of the surroundings filled the melancholy look of Siruet, who had always kept her magic afloat. The two heroes began to sing intensely, emanating around them a godlike power, ready to face the enemy. The moment of truth had arrived..."

EPILOGUE
D. With the Power of Harmony (04:52)
3.
THE RESURGENCE

A. Lulled by the Abyss (00:00)
What seemed to be the end of a feeling of fear was now a numbness which filled her skin in those waters.
Pandora, after Hades’ encounter, realized that perhaps being lost in the meanders of the Styx was a punishment for what she had done to humanity.

B. Abandoned at One’s Own Fate (01:26)
Even the smallest chance to see the sky and savor the air once again grew ever more remote in that stifling environment. She wondered how she could still think and realized that maybe the gods did it to make it a harsher punishment...

C. Hope for a Future (02:40)
Right before completely letting herself go, the thoughts of privileges and feelings during her young life came to her mind.
Her heart began to pound at these thought; she thought it was absurd remembering emotions knowing that never again would she re-experience them, making that moment all the more terrible... But from the top of the waters a glow gave her hope, maybe she had found a way out... This made her feel life once more.

D. The Resurgence (03:37)
The pressure slowly decreased and she saw the clear water around... Her heart was pounding...
The close vision of the light made her determined, so she began to shake her limbs with her last bit of energy. She did not know how or even why, but nevertheless, she was re-emerging from oblivion...
However, the strength needed to achieve this was too much, causing Pandora to lose all consciousness right before reaching the finish line...
4. APOLLO

A. Realness Again (00:00)
"Stunned, Pandora heard a voice. Opening her eyes she found herself on the banks of the Styx river and saw a man enter a village. A voice inside her thoughts kept saying: 'Pandora, pull yourself together and follow me…' And with a blink of an eye she found herself in a square where everything was confusing and surreal. The music cheered her up, but a little further on something made her sink into a whirl of colors and sounds.

B. The Maze (3:25)
The young woman realized that everything had changed and a feeling of loss took over her thoughts. She knew she was in a sort of maze without walls, but rather made of different melodies that came from everywhere, making her feel disoriented...

C. The Sky of Art of Many Feathers (05:17)
Then everything disappeared into thin air, and she knew was not in any ordinary place. Apollo presented himself before her as an ethereal figure, made of melodies and words that echoed confusingly and enigmatically all around, even if they were all meaningful. With a lot of difficulty Pandora was able to perceive his words and wandered into this whirlwind of sensations...
Once again alone in the maze, her passion exploded, making her become one with everything. But not for long because Apollo, proud as he is, gathered his own emotions and threw them against her.

D. The Understanding of Colors (10:07)
When she thought he had gone mad, she remained suspended in the clouds with sounds that danced all through her hair… A little later on, as if awakened from a dream, she found herself among the village people, who had never stopped celebrating. Pandora felt a strong bond with the melody now that she feels everything so alive and thus began to dance…

LYRICS:
Apollo:
Pandora, pull yourself together and follow me...
Pandora: Where am I?!
Apollo: Nowhere and everywhere.
Pandora: Is it my soul that’s making me experience this magic?
Apollo: Perhaps…
Pandora: So then, I’m dead…
Apollo: No
Pandora: But who are you… what’s happening?!
Apollo: Surely you know me, Pandora… I’m Apollo. And I represent everything fantasy can express… it’s what you mortal beings call Art.
Pandora: …art?
Apollo: Glee, sadness, emotion, pain, passion, happiness, hope, dreams, fears, surprises, freedom, wishes, love, colors, sounds, visions, rhythm, tales, experiences, life, death, desperation, frenzy, confusion, flavors, aromas, sensations, silence, harmony.

Apollo:
Art can be anything… either too much or nothing.
Pandora: Where did I get lost?
Apollo:
You are lucky for you are experiencing the core.
Pandora: I’m confused… there are so many sounds coming from all over… The rhythm is so aimless… And so many feelings so fast… I’m scared…
Apollo:
Art changes, confines you, and sometimes loses anyone who dares try to understand it.
Pandora: But I don’t want to get lost… I want to get out of this maze.
Apollo: But not before you feel the passion within you…
Pandora: I feel excited all of the sudden…
Apollo:
How about now…?
Pandora: Frightened…
Apollo: and now…?
Pandora: curious…
Apollo…??
5. MAD-MAN TONY
(In memory of Antonio Ligabue)

Music by:
Corrado Grappuglia

Lyrics by:
Corrado Grappuglia

Musicians:
Beppe Colombo
Keyboards

Claudio Colombo
Drums, Percussions, Electric Guitar

Corrado Grappuglia
Vocals, Chorus, Keyboards

Featuring:
David Jackson
Orchestra Flute, Soprano Sax, Soprano Sax, Alto Sax, Tenor Sax

Emoni Viruet
Chorus

Leonardo Gallizia
Electric Bass, Fretless Bass

"To Antonio, the world was seen entirely different from how normal people perceived it. And through his hands he showed these visions on white canvases painting tigers, lions and animals from yards, producing colorful scenic designs.

His marginalized self, due to a severe form of schizophrenia, alienated him from society, forcing him to live and paint in absolute seclusion and poverty.

Unfortunately, it was only in his final years that he was discovered by critics who made him into a celebrity and gave him a bit of well-being, even if this didn’t change his life much, but rather made him immortal."

LYRICS:

The echo bounces back and forth in his head and smashes the corridors
The rooms are all the same, and so many abnormal men
The anger within memories inside a color gorged with violence that not even rusty railings can hold back

Emerge from the layers of silence
A man, a shack, a dog, an unkempt beard, and dressed in rags
Antonio, who goes by "Tony" or "Madman Tony", comes from southern Reggio Emilia, on the fringes of the Po river.
Ten bowls of soup in exchange for a portrait to introduce his drama to the world
"C’mon, Cesarina... gimme a kiss, so I can drink up a nice Lambrusco and I’ll be off!"

Emerge from the layers of silence
A man, who has created an infamous destiny, is now remembered as Ligabue
6.
ALWAYS WITH ME
(Dedicated to Carla & Piero)

Music by:
Beppe Colombo
Claudio Colombo

Lyrics by:
Beppe Colombo

Musicians:
Beppe Colombo
Claudio Colombo
Drums, Percussions, Electric Guitar,
Puerto Rican Cuatro, Keyboards,
Orchestra Flute
Corrado Grappeggia
Vocals, Chorus, Keyboards
Enoch Viruet
Percussions
Leonardo Gallizio
Electric Bass

“...in a world where everything continues
to move along without stopping, and time
passes by mercilessly, love finds its eternal
demonstration in two people. They keep
the feeling alive, shining it on everything
and everyone, making it glisten like
a sparkling light. And even when one
of these two passes away, that very light
continues to spread around, never vanishing,
showing the current world that whatever
was in the past can carry on its path in time
thanks to Love.”

LYRICS:
Both of them
gave it their all
A dream of so much love
had finally come true
If the sun refused
to shine
They
would continue loving one another
Generating other lives, other love
Even after mountains
have sunken in the ocean
They
will still be there

Walking side by side
towards the silver sea
until an orchestra in the heavens
shows before them
One that underlines
that dreamy
joy
The great love celebration
Generating other lives adjoining
in destiny...
7. PHILOSOPHICAL ALIBI

"In the same world the sweet feeling showed another side with two other people..."

Life’s difficulties were the start of a downspiral in the relationship of these two, one that she could not accept and from which the other wanted to escape. However, to solve this problem, an intuition came to his mind in the form of an alibi that he could possibly defend with philosophy from what was happening.

Years and time came into play along side the calculating thoughts of the man, who was by now looking for the most suitable way to make sense of his alibi, one which could make their love either sink to the bottom or rise to the stars...

The help of the memories were being pushed away by the present sensations, but he gained back hope putting into focus what still seemed to work: their relationship has something very important.

On the tip of his tongue, the man’s thoughts wanted to take shape out of his mind’s abstractionism to save that faded love story.

The alibi first thought of tried in every way to make their way through those words full of bitterness and despair that kept coming from his mouth, until his heart was put in first place in his mind, making him show with facts that which he could have never expressed in words..."

LYRICS:

Red as fire in the evening
You say you’re ashamed of me
It was a innocent adventure
Everything ridiculed by you
You want to head out
And go around the outskirts
Sure, everything seems better
If you’ve got a radio on stereo
On high volume and you’re set off to spy around

I can read it in your mind
in that empty gaze you have
You think I’m in an affair
If things between you aren’t working
I want to explain it now
It’s not how you see it in the movies
Believe me, everything’s fine
And it’s not what you’re thinking
If years go by
It’s surely not my fault

Sooner or later I’ll have a reason
For behaving like this
Long time to reflect
You’re convinced that all ends here
Well, see, I won’t get mad
We just need philosophy
Just know that I won’t give up
Better yet, I won’t look for you anymore
I certainly won’t lose
The one headed to the bottomless pit is you!

Music by:
Corrado Grappeggia
Lyrics by:
Corrado Grappeggia
Musicians:
Beppe Colombo
Keyboards
Claudio Colombo
Drums, Percussions, Electric Bass,
Electric Guitar, Acoustic Guitar,
Classical Guitar, Keyboards, Chorus
Corrado Grappeggia
Vocals, Chorus, Keyboards

Featuring:
Emoni Viruet
Chorus

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PANDORA – PHILOSOPHICAL ALIBI

Recorded at Racconigi (CN) Italy
In PandoraMusic Studios from 2012 – 2013
Audio Mixing: Claudio Colombo
Audio Mastering: Imagina Production
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Cover Art: Emoni Viruet
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Painting for “Mad-Man Tony”: Corrado Grappeggia
Stories written: Claudio Colombo
Art Director: Claudio Colombo
SoundBeam parts were prepared by David Jackson and recorded live on February 28th 2013 at the Meldreth Manor School with the help of Lauren Grace, Ben Haigh and Anna Lewis.
Original voice recording of Antonio Ligabue at the start of “Mad-Man Tony” extracted from documentary by Raffaele Andreassi
Produced by: Beppe Colombo, Claudio Colombo, Corrado Grappeggia, Emoni Viruet and Matthias Scheller

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Thanks to our fans as well, that still today make us feel their presence and their passion, making us want to compose even more! And a thanks to music because without it everything would be void.

We wish you all good music always and everywhere!
Pandora