



# IMAGICA

## PRESS KIT

Who are the band members and what do they play?

IMAGICA is a Ukrainian - Portuguese Cinematic Arena Dance Metal band | art project, founded by Ukrainian professional film director, musician and songwriter Victor Maslyaev and Portuguese composer and guitar player David Uricchio. The project is conceived as a combination of music and filmmaking, where every track is an individual storyline in a format of a short film telling a story in its unique and cinematic way aimed for live shows with strong imagery and visual base.

MAGICA's songs combine different styles of metal with the elements of EDM, pop punk, and industrial with catchy choruses, killer riffs, and massive film score inserts. Sheer individual plot-line lyrics hook you immediately.

How and where did you get together?

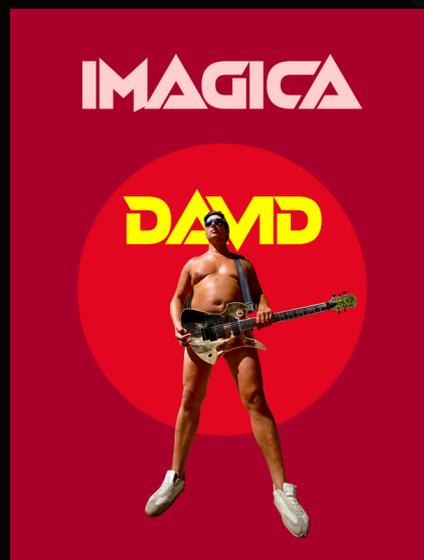
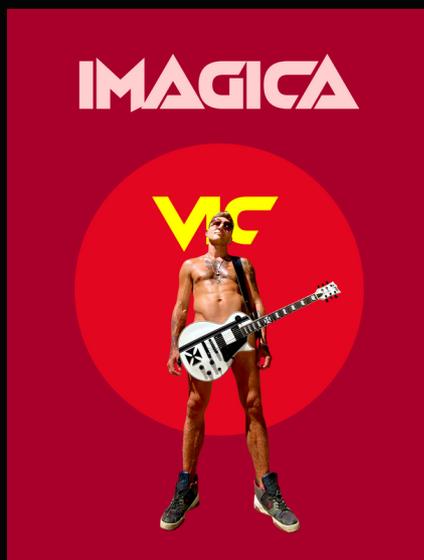
The band got together when Vic moved to Portugal with his family and started looking for a rehearsal studio and guitar coach. After meeting David, Vic showed him some of the demos and he immediately decided to join the band. After that guys spend one year playing, defining the style, sound and sharing influences, before starting to record the first singles, which later formed the band's first EP 'Number One'.



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### What are the band's main influences?

Rammstein, Queen, In flames, At the gates, Metallica, Motley Crue, Rise Against, My dying Bride, A-ha, Morten Harket, Aerosmith, Mylene Farmer, Meat Loaf, Roxette, Kaiser Chiefs, Avenged Sevenfold, Claw Finger, The Offspring, Muse, Ukrainian folk songs, System Of a Down, Septic Flesh, Ghost, Linkin Park, Bring Me The Horizon, Paradise Lost, The Kinks, Big Money Makers, Van Halen, Boston, Rush, Stone Sour, Blue Oyster Cult, Summoning, Amorphis, Edge of Sanity 'Crimson', Theatre of Tragedy, Saturnus, Sentenced 'Amok', Crematory, Dark Tranquility, t.A.T.u, Scooter, EDM (a collective of the genre, different artists), Bryan Adams, Sting, Mythotin, Police, Enya, Lamb of God, WDM, Tangerine Dreams, James Horner, John Carpenter, Jean Michele Jarre, Eddie the Eagle, Howard Shore, Ed Kowalchick, Poets of the Fall, Hunger Games/Taylor Swift, Smashing Pumpkins, The Cure, Adel, Corey Taylor, Chris Cornell, Lana Del Rey, Garbage, Clannad, Thirteen Senses, HIM, Prodigy, Petula Clark.

Have you played any notable gigs, festivals or other events? Likewise radio or TV appearances?

EP review by Flight of Pegasus, full metal radio, Greece.

Interview made for Rádio Comercial, Portugal.

Included to rotation by Overkill Radio, TX, the USA.

NUMBER ONE airplay and promotion on the Powerplant Radio Channels in Germany and Canada. Promotions program on Powerplant Radio Organisation, Canada.

Several tracks were included in the Super Play Favourites playlist by Radio Super FM, Portugal.

Selected by Locki Sanher, CD Music Radio Rock&Metal, Spain.

Selected by Stahlradio Webradio, Germany. Added to the playlist by the Representative office of Liberland FM in Ukraine.

Jackhouseradio, NY, the USA promotion. Included to The DoKtor Know Radio Show, Guerrilla Radio, FL, USA. Included to rotation by Valley FM Radio, Australia.

“ I am really digging the song NUMBER ONE, and will have a home for it here on Nobodies Radio Station and in specialty programming!”

Chad Vice, Heavy Rock Radio, Nobodies Are Somebodies Podcast The USA

Are there any other interesting or amusing happenings – no matter how small – that the band have been involved with that would be of interest to those who like your music?

IMAGICA is closely associated with art and fashion. The artworks of 'Number One' and 'Insanity' are the result of collaboration with viral Australian digital artist Howlsnteeeth. For years Vic has been collaborating with an underground Ukrainian fashion brand Vellers Official, the band is planning to release a unique IMAGICA's fashion line with them. Vic is a collector and huge adorer of guitars, sneakers, and leather jackets and was endorsing G-STAR RAW for years in Kyiv. Apart from that, being a professional Film Director Vic has been repeatedly awarded for his commercials and music videos by a number of world-class international festivals.



Do you have any favourable quotes from previous reviews of the band that you'd be happy to share?

“ How would you explain the term “cinematic arena dance metal”? It sounds exciting and has been adopted by the musicians who make up the said duo from Portugal, a native and a Ukrainian. It combines their qualities, composer, and guitarist for the former, director and composer for the latter. Each of the five songs on their featured EP maintains its own individuality, displaying a stylistic departure from the others, which may lean towards metal, EDM, industrial or pop punk. What homogenizes and holds the whole material together is an aura of modernization, not necessarily a modern one, but clearly serving the creators' intentions. Perhaps with this tactic, they often move the center of gravity of impressions and quick ranking of their style, but they make frequency choices that can give addictive results. Sympathetic, they have the means to come back more active”.

Flight of Pegasus, full metal radio, Greece

“ Very unique blend of sounds!”

Overkill Radio, TX, the USA

“ Love your style. Modern and unique. Streaming right now, 10/10”

George Constantine Kratsas, musician

Where was the single/EP/album recorded and who was involved in its production?

The songs for 'Number One' were composed in Cho Chi Minh (Saigon), Vietnam, where Vic was locked down during the Pandemic, and in Kyiv, also during the lockdown. He also recorded most of the draft demo tracks and lyrics there during that period. Later when he came back to Portugal, they started working on rehearsals, arrangements, and recording with David in their StarCult Studio.

Is there a particular ethos behind the single/EP/album or any particular music styles or events that inspired it?

The concept behind the "Number One" album is a journey of different characters trying to find their ways to survive and find their way to happiness and serenity, being put in different situations scattered around different realms of existence. Since childhood, we have been suppressed and put into a framework, suggesting that we cannot achieve anything, over time, this thirst for superiority, competition, and the desire for supremacy leads to emotional exhaustion and the impossibility of being happy. But, nonetheless, we grit our teeth and continue to push on.

At some point, you must accept your nature and believe in yourself. This is the main concept of the album - how hard it is to become and stay Number One.

What it takes to survive and follow your dream, how scared you might be in front of a looming pace of tomorrow, taking care of your beloved ones, how hard it is to open up before other people, and the fights you take to protect your world is nothing to compare with inner fights you have inside you to stay sane... And maybe your insanity is the only thing left for you, making the better part of you, giving you strength in your loneliness... the true strength sometimes is to admit your weakness and vulnerability.



Can you briefly describe what the song/each song is about? If you are releasing an album then either describe the thinking behind the project or choose a couple of lead tracks to focus on.

'North From Heaven'

An ethereal intro (for live gigs it's a suspense moment to reveal the band on the stage), the mood and tone are snowy lands, abandoned, cold, and full of white deadly purity. Primal raw North, wild and unheard of... The intro prepares us for the next song plot-line...



### 'Better You'

A story of a rivalry in far Northern snowy lands. Two creatures from a long-forgotten race, almost extinct, clash together in the fight for food and resources. Both strong and powerful, both are equal and under other circumstances, they might have become best friends, but now they must fight till death to protect their families and provide for food to survive the long winter. After fighting all night long they respect each other even more. The Protagonist finally kills the Rival. And in his last will he asks to bury him on the highest hill and put a stone cairn on his grave to commemorate him as a warrior. As the Protagonist is putting the last stone he can't help crying. He secures the family but lost perhaps the only friend, the only creature in these snowy lands that might have understood him as no one else.



### 'Number One'

A story of a little kid (a Lynx cub on the album artwork represents his character) who left an orphan from his childhood and must survive fighting the biggest and ugliest rivals to survive and to become Number One.

The poppy chorus contradicts the dark meaning of the verses supported by thrashy riffs. All those beasts who were trying to kill you are all dead now, but the price the Protagonist paid to stay on top is poisoning him, as he tries to find his way to be happy in this hectic life.



### 'Bout Myself'

Emotional song. Dark and sentimental ballad. It's so much hidden under the surface, behind the masks we expose to the public. The inner boy who is locked within is still struggling with the terrors of the past. How hard it is to open up and share what you've got inside... And if there's no one to help you this pain may kill you and finally reunite the little boy with his other self. Like the Catcher in The Rye, waiting to save you when you fall down from a cliff... It is also dedicated to Vic's friend who hung himself 2 years ago. He was always kind, and cheerful and looked like an absolutely happy person, no one could tell there was something inside him that disagrees with this life...

IMAGICA



INSANITY

'Insanity'

The main conflict of the song is whether it's bad or good to be insane. Being sane you follow the rules and whims of the society. Your reaction to all the rules is a silent agreement. Insanity makes you unique and allows you to think out of the box. It's something that no one can take away from you. It may well happen that in this world of pain, you are the only sane...



\*'Shchedryk' (Bonus Track)

A metal interpretation of a Ukrainian folk song, which later became world known as 'Carol of the Bells', Ukrainian people call it 'Shchedryk'. Was composed by request of Ukrainian friends to congratulate the soldiers on the frontline with Christmas. After 26 hours of work, the demo track was recorded and then re-recorded and mixed in the studio.

Were there any notable or amusing happenings surrounding the recording/production of the EP?

The first track IMAGICA released was the last one composed for the Number One album. The full album comprises 12 tracks and the band keeps working on the record. The fun thing is that the band has been constantly struggling to find a drummer. As soon as they found one, something happened and Vic and David admitted the fact they are a duo for the time being.

Please provide a one or two-line personal quote that can be attributed to a band member, about either the band themselves or the release. Obviously the more eye-catching this is the better.

“ YOU'RE ALL NUMBER ONE. GET US THE ARENA!



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