

Principe Valiente

Barricades

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Genre: Post-Punk / Dream Pop · UPC 782388126069

Four years after the album "Oceans", the Swedish post-punk band Principe Valiente returned with "Barricades", their first album on the American label Metropolis Records, released on 18 March 2022.

If you have ever visited the world of Principe Valiente, the ten songs on "Barricades" will feel pleasantly familiar. The dramatic soundscape rises like a fairytale forest around singer Fernando Honorato's warm and unassailable voice. It's all in there, the beautiful melodies, the post-punk energy and the cinematic drama.

At the same time, it is the quartet's most intimate album to date. On "Barricades", the songs have grown out of melodies and chords rather than guitar riffs. Lyrically, Honorato has been seeking new paths. In the dark and sometimes desperate tone, there is always a streak of hope. "I haven't had the same need to express desperation and frustration this time. Now I wanted to try to sing more sensitive", Honorato says.

"Barricades" is an album deeply affected by the Corona pandemic. Most of the songs were recorded from home, with the members recording their individual contributions alone. This has given the album a special, almost thoughtful, atmosphere. "I've had more time to reflect freely both in terms of lyrics and recording, I've been able to try different ways. In the end, I knew exactly what I was doing with the vocals", says Honorato.

If the band has previously been something of a solo project for him, this time all four members - Honorato, guitarist Jimmy Ottosson, keyboardist Rebecka Johansson and drummer Joakim Janthe - contributed to the album. "There are more ideas coming together now. Everyone has added their different perspectives to the songs and it's much more of a collaboration together with Jimmy during the song writing", says Honorato.

On "Barricades", Principe Valiente shows its full breadth as a band, from the epic ballad "Porcelain" to the power and sorrow of "I Am You", the album's first two singles. "I Am You is the most intense song we have ever done", says Honorato.

"Our records never turn out the way we imagine them when we start working, but I'm very happy with Barricades. It feels like it's the best album we've done so far", says Honorato.

ABOUT PRINCIPE VALIENTE

Principe Valiente is a Swedish post-punk and shoegaze band founded in 2005 by **Fernando Honorato**. After a self-released EP (2007), the debut album (2011) led to a European tour and shows with Peter Hook and The Light and Peter Murphy.
Choirs of Blessed Youth (2014) and *Oceans* (2017) followed, then *Barricades* (2022) and *In This Light* (2024) on Metropolis Records - the latter as a duo of Honorato and guitarist **Jimmy Ottosson**. Honorato also records as Fernando's Eyes.

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