



Marțolea is the project of Alin Drimus, who also contributed with pipe parts to Negură Bunget's "OM" album.

Marțolea is a Demonic entity in Romanian mythology who lives up in the mountains and descends on Tuesday nights to lure with his singing and punish the women caught working.

Gâlmele Întunericului is old Romanian for “The fiends of darkness”. *Gâlmele Întunericului* is a musical expression that combines elements from black metal and Romanian traditional folklore. Each track refers to a mythological creature from the folklore of Bucovina. They are considered malefic forces of nature that take different forms, from maidens, to ugly old hags. These creatures are present in the deep woods, always at night. Unlucky travelers may be lured and charmed by them. Few manage to escape from the horrible things that await them. Even nowadays, these supra-natural beings have a strong influence over the lives of people, being present in many folk tales and stories in Bucovina region.

Muma Pădurii (Mother of the woods) – ugly evil hag living deep in the woods and showing no mercy to those who try to harm the forest in any way.

Fata Pădurii (Daughter of the woods) – long green hair fairy of the woods who usually charms young lads with her beauty making them unable to find their way back home.

Caii lui Sântoader (Sân Toader’s Horses) – fierce hybrid monsters, half human- half horse, who wonder in spring nights and crush the infidel and snitching women in their gallop.

Samca – unholy spirit who often materializes as a monstrous spitting fire naked woman bringing disease to children and pregnant women in order to cease human life by all means.

Gâlmele Întunericului was recorded in Molidului studio in September 2008. There are many

traditional Romanian instruments present on this recording, some of them very rare nowadays. The instruments contribute to create a dark and authentic Romanian atmosphere.

Buciumul (trâmbița) is a wooden horn, 3 meters long, made from spruce, covered in birch tree bark, still used by shepherds in the Rarău Mountains for signaling. Its presence nowadays includes Northern Romania as a musical instrument in traditional manifestations. The buciums used on this album were recorded in the natural surroundings of Moara Dracului.

Cavalul (kaval) is a wooden pipe with tonalities in the low register, present in the life of shepherds throughout all Carpathians and Balkans. Its sound is warm, melancholic and pleasant. The cavals used in the recordings are made of cherry tree.

Fluierul (pipe) is a wooden instrument with tonalities in the middle and high register, present in the life of shepherds for sheep soothing and entertainment. Often with six holes, the shepherd's pipe is a common pastoral image. The pipes used on this recording are made of elder tree.

Drâmba (mouth harp) is a lamellophone instrument present in many cultures and thought to be one of the oldest instruments in the world. Its presence in the Romanian traditional music is nowadays rare, but still used in isolated villages.

All acoustic instruments were recorded in the surroundings of Rarău Mountains, capturing the unique atmosphere of the forest (fluier, caval) or open spaces (bucium).

Album artwork by Schaerban.

Gâlmele Întunericului:

01. Căii lui Sântoader
02. Muma Pădurii
03. Marțolea
04. Samca
05. Fata Pădurii

Websites:

www.martolea.com

www.myspace.com/martolea