

# METALGATE

## **METALGATE RECORDS PROUDLY PRESENTS: ASCENDANCY – THE AMAZING ASCENDANCY VERSUS COUNT ILLUMINATUS**

**Do you like superheroes? Are you interested in diabolical plans of supervillains of all kinds for world domination? Do you fancy epic battles between good and evil in which the fate of mankind hangs in the balance? If so, then here is something just for you! Three years since their debut album, the progressive power metal act ASCENDANCY from Vsetín returns with a new conceptual piece as if taken straight from the Marvel universe. While “Out of Knowhere” took into the far reaches of space, its successor puts us squarely on the ground, straight into the epicenter of a conflict between the sinister Count Illuminatus, who got so fed up with humanity that he decided to architect his own utopic civilization and annihilate the current one, just to be on the safe side, and a group of heroes called The Amazing Ascendancy, whose goal is conversely to stop Count’s design from fruition. On the scope of 13 songs, such an epic storyline is played out, one that features not only the confrontation itself, but also explores what makes one to become such an enemy of mankind as is Count Illuminatus himself. Although you will find here no dragons and unicorns, the music of ASCENDANCY stays true to its power metal focus, enriched with progressive elements, which translates to elaborate guitar solos, orchestral passages, plenty of melodic lines and crystal clear vocals.**

The album was recorded in the Vsetín-based MetalGate Studio, under the supervision of Libor Kukula, who is simultaneously the guitarist and founder of ASCENDANCY. The album artwork was produced by an acclaimed Czech artist Martin Mišík, who based the visuals on classic sci-fi movie posters of Hollywood’s 50s and 60s, meaning an unusual colorful retro drawing. The new album also brought a completion of the band’s line-up, with the bass guitarist Radek Kročil, of Irokez and formerly of Abstract Essence, and the drummer of Forgotten Silence and Ador Dorath, Zdeněk Čepička, joining the core members Libor Kukula (guitar), Ivan Jakubo (vocals) and Honza Pavlůsek (keyboards), as well as a new on-stage style in the vein of, who else than, the superheroes of The Amazing Ascendancy themselves, all of which makes the band ready to conquer club and festival stages alike.

**The second studio album of the progressive power metal warriors ASCENDANCY, entitled “The Amazing Ascendancy versus Count Illuminatus” is released by MetalGate Records in a digipack format, and is available on MetalGate e-shop, in selected stores in Czech Republic, the list of which is on our website, as well as digitally via the Metal Online service.**

[www.ascendancy.cz](http://www.ascendancy.cz)

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