

Aquilus “Bellum I” [2021]

Enigmatic, atmospheric metal band **AQUILUS** became one of the most whispered-about secrets in the metal world, following the quiet release of their debut album “*Griseus*” in 2011.

A 2013 vinyl release by **Blood Music** rocketed the band into public consciousness, and “*Griseus*” slowly amassed a following of devoted worldwide fans. The album ultimately climbed its way to being voted #1 album of the decade on top metal ratings site *MetalStorm*.

Conceived in the early 2000’s, Aquilus released two experimental demos before self-releasing the “*Arbor*” EP in 2007 [re-released in 2013 by **Blood Music**]. The band's debut album “*Griseus*” was self-released in 2011 before amassing its cult status.

For the past ten years, an epic, sophomore masterwork has been-in-the-making. So legendary, in fact, that fans hardly believe it exists! The opus grew so furiously, the decision was made to split the work into two parts, culminating with the 2021 release of the first album – “*Bellum I*”.

“*Bellum I*” showcases the band's rare amalgam of authentic classical, European folk, and black metal influences, alongside Aquilus's unique multi-instrumentation and compositional complexity.

Metallic influences, ranging from early **METALLICA** to **SOLEFALD**, **OPETH**, and **KATATONIA**, combine with the grandiose beauty of the classical masters: **RACHMANINOV** and **CHOPIN**.

“*Bellum I*” also blends Aquilus's signature acoustic elements throughout the work with folk and Middle Eastern flavours. Solo instruments range from an assortment of acoustic guitars to pianos, violins, mandolas, balalaika, mandolins, banjos, gusli, bow psaltery, and fipple flutes – recalling the auras and dexterity of emotive film composers **BERNARD HERRMANN** and **THOMAS NEWMAN**.

Hailing from Melbourne, Australia, Aquilus's music is composed and produced by one person – **Horace Rosenqvist** – recorded in collaboration with session musicians. The amount of detail poured into each note is immeasurable. Years of dedication are undertaken without compromise for performance nor recording quality to produce the finest work achievable.

“*Bellum I*” is a stunning tribute to perfection. A testament to the beauty and chaos of creation.

Pre-order: October 2021

Release date: December 3rd, 2021

Formats:

CD:

- 4-panel Digipak CD with 8-page booklet
- Jewel Case CD with 8-page booklet

Vinyl:

- Gatefold 2xLP

Digital Download:

- All download and streaming services, such as Apple Music, iTunes, Bandcamp, Amazon mp3, Google Play, Spotify, Deezer, etc.

Track list:

01. The Night Winds of Avila
02. Into Wooded Hollows
03. Eternal Unrest
04. Moon Isabelline
05. The Silent Passing
06. Embered Waters
07. Lucille's Gate
08. Empyreal Nightsky

Credits:

Created by Horace Rosenqvist

Additional Musicians:

Percussion: Zebadee Scott

Violin: Hayley Anderson / Troy Schafer

Operatic Vocals: Sasha Chaply

Fipple Flutes: Sara Orania

Percussion Engineer: Troy Mccosker at Pony Music

Piano Engineer: Aaron Dobos at Sing Sing

Mastered at Fascination Street by Jens Bogren

Handwritten Artwork by: A. Alvarado and Anaïs Mulgrew

Aquilus discography:

Arbor – 2007 [EP]

Griseus – 2011

Aquilus online: <https://www.facebook.com/AquilusMusic>