Quiet These Paintings Are…

The Function of Slowness in Doom Metal Styles

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'From a purely musical point of view, the morbid pace and soaring lead guitar tones versus a crunchy, low rhythm tone; oh, the contrasts! A rhythm feels infinitely more powerful and driving to me at 65bpm than at 220bpm.'

'I adore the weeping guitar lines, the slow rhythms... so slow that one can think and feel and stay away from the everyday life.'

'There are so many interesting elements to consider [in the music of My Dying Bride, Paradise Lost, and Anathema], one of them is [...] the hopelessness they create with such slow and heavy arrangements, the slow riffing [...]'.

'I love a slower/mid groove and tempo rather than the fraticness of thrash, which I find to be boring and without dimension.'
Thergothon
*Stream from the Heavens* (1994)
‘Who Rides the Astral Wings’
Catacombs

*In Depths of R'lyeh* (2006)

‘In Depths of R’lyeh’
Mourning Beloveth
*The Sullen Sulcus* (2002)
‘Narcissistic Funeral’
Shape of Despair
*Angels of Distress* (2001)
‘Quiet These Paintings Are...’

Painfully, into life, to die.
My Dying Bride
*Like Gods of the Sun* (1996)
‘For My Fallen Angel’
The Funeral Orchestra

*Feeding the Abyss* (2003)

‘Feeding the Abyss’

We must feed.
You must heed.
Feeding the abyss.
Mournful Congregation

The Dawning of Mournful Hymns (2002)

‘Remembrance of the Transcending Moon’
Anathema

Pentecost III (1995)
‘They Die’

All tears, restrained for years
Their grief is confined
Which destroys my mind

An ode to their plight is this dirge
Some yearn for lugubrious silence
Serenity in the image of the coffins

Shall life renew these bodies of a truth?
All death will he annul, all tears assuage?
Fill the void veins of life, again with youth
And wash with an immortal water, age
They die.
Evoken
*Embrace the Emptiness* (1998)
‘Tragedy Eternal’
‘Mostly their [MDB, PL, and Anathema] music helps to transform everything that is fucked up in this world into some form of art and then find a safe distance to suffering enchanted in sounds and lyrics.’

‘Anathema make me feel like I'm dreaming. And Paradise Lost... It depends on the moment and on the album, but I just like listening to them and get carried away.’
‘Doom metal is the lowest form of suffering in music and rhythm, but can bring out the highest form of hope for lost souls.’

‘Their [MDB, PL, and Anathema] music is a source of inspiration for me, a way to survive and to overcome negative things in life.’
‘[When listening to MDB, PL, and Anathema I feel] immensely satisfied; perhaps even so far as so say: complete.’

‘When listening to a band like My Dying Bride or Paradise Lost, the feeling should be sadness, depression, yes, I experience those emotions but at the same time, [but] there’s [also] an element that brings relief and satisfaction, sometimes pleasure and glorious happiness.’
‘Feelings of despair, sorrow, and moody stuff actually makes me feel happy in a weird kind of way.’

‘If I have to describe the feeling with one word it would be joy. If I have a bad day, I listen to some doom and my [mood] gets better. If I have a wonderful day and I listen to some doom, then the day gets even better.’
‘It’s definitely a special moment when I sit and enjoy an album. It’s a sacred moment indeed, it’s the best therapy!

‘[I like] the calmness it makes me feel, even though the word doom obviously suggests otherwise. Maybe it makes me feel less lonely, the music is easy to relate to.’
Thank you!