



AND THE SYSTEM TRIES TO LISTEN TO MY WAKING HEART, A MELODY IN MOTION

Melodic, imaginative alternative rock that combines emotional depth with pop culture inspirations — this was the goal of three young Munich musicians when they formed Downer Ending.

The songs revolve around the modern fairytales of our time—the stories from the big and small screen, which follow and move Rosenbauer, Sven Kolb, and Paul Siwasch throughout their lives just like millions of others.

Musically, Downer Ending is characterized by contrasts and dynamics. Melancholic passages and dramatic emotions lead into furious riffs and explosive rhythms—everything but generic. Inspired by *Nirvana's* raw emotionality, *The Smashing Pumpkins'* phased structural distortion and *Radiohead's* eclectic experimentalism, the band creates an extremely dense soundscape that leaves listeners wanting for more. It is the meaningful English lyrics, unconventional arrangements and tight interplay of three traditional rock instruments, which invoke in the audience not the urge to dance, but oppressive gloom and nostalgic reflection of moments gone too fast.

**SELL THESE MELODIES
TO SOMEONE ELSE TO CONTINUE
THE DAWN CHORUS BURSTS MY WINDOW**

INTERVIEW

How did the band come to be?

It's not a very exciting story. Frank and Paul already knew each other after being in a different band for two years and wanted to try something new. That was in early 2019. They made a "drummer wanted" post on the *Jodel* app (before that went downhill). The description sounded interesting, albeit far from what we ended up doing, so Sven replied and we have been sort of inseparable ever since.

How would you describe your music? Alternative rock covers a lot of different styles, after all.

That's a tough one. One thing that definitely sets us apart is that we all have different interests and idols. We love effects, distortion, weird rhythms and incremental escalation. Quiet intros give way to wild time changes and poetic lyrics. People often expect namedropping rather than a detailed description to give an idea of the music. But it's all in the eye of the beholder and each listener will get different impressions and associations out of it. If we were forced to come up with examples in terms of emotions, technical influences, audience feedback and who we would like to be, bands like *The Smashing Pumpkins*, *Muse*, *Radiohead*, *Jeff Buckley*, and *Tool* would come to mind.

What distinguishes you from other musicians?

An important question that we keep asking ourselves. It's great how easy it has become for artists to record and release music and to promote their stuff, but that also means that now we are all just noisy sand in the big ocean of music. We dare to try new things, even go too far sometimes. We actively try to incorporate dissonance, both vocally and instrumentally, without losing sight of the melancholy and beauty of a coherent arrangement. We don't like to compromise and we prefer long passages and songs with a focus on storytelling over 90s and 00s radio friendliness. Not that there is anything wrong with that; it's just not our style. Another distinctive aspect is the TV and movie theme in our lyrics.

What made you choose pop culture, movies and TV as inspiration? And is this only reflected by the lyrics or the music itself as well, like a soundtrack?

When we founded the band, we immediately found out we all share a huge passion for film as a medium. It's not just visual, it stimulates all senses connected to entertainment. Combining a musical score and soundtrack, a moving story, engaging actors etc. can stimulate ears, eyes, feelings, and maybe tear ducts. It's these indirect emotions that many people let into their own real lives through screens that we want to reflect on to convey our own interpretations. We are full of complex happiness, nostalgia, and depression and want to share that. It's why our instrumentals, lyrics, and almost theatrical performances combine personal experiences, hopes and anxieties with the ones of our on-screen heroes, who taught us that we are not alone in this madness called reality.





INTERVIEW (CONT.)

How have you been coping with the pandemic so far?

There have been highs and lows. Highs, because in some ways we can be very proficient couch potatoes. The abundance TV and streaming makes it easy to pass time and get inspiration. But all in all, it was tough on us and our mental health. The pandemic affected our creativity, motivation and day-to-day routine. So we're glad to be "back". Not that we were ever really "here", but things are looking up for us, our music and our level of sophistication. We have ambitious plans and we want to pull them off with newly found conscience and structure.



FRANK

FAV. GENRES

Stoner rock, Post-punk, alternative rock

INSPIRATIONS

Flea, Justin Chancellor, Tim Commerford

FAVORITE MOVIE

Scott Pilgrim vs. The World

FAVORITE SHOW

Bojack Horseman



SVEN

FAVORITE GENRES Alternative rock, prog, classic rock

INSPIRATIONS Chad Smith, John Bonham, Dave Grohl

FAVORITE MOVIE Grand Budapest Hotel

FAVORITE SHOW Bojack Horseman



PAUL

FAV. GENRES

Alternative rock, electronica, indie folk

INSPIRATIONS

Jeff Buckley, Thom Yorke, Elliott Smith

FAVORITE MOVIE

Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind

FAVORITE SHOW

Six Feet Under


LINKS




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