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**Gegenwind:** *You started from being Rammstein tribute band, weren't you afraid when you created Heldmaschine that people will always compare you, or accuse on too strong inspirations?*

**René:** We knew it before it could happen, so it doesn't surprise us to be compared to Rammstein. For us, it is not really a problem.

**GW:** *During Völkerball show you play a role of Till Lindemann - how do you handle being once Rene from Heldmaschine and once Till Lindemann?*

**R:** For me, it is a kind of freedom to sing in Heldmaschine, because I don't pretend to be someone else... in someone's shoes. This is the reason why I love to play in Heldmaschine. I love to be myself.

**GW:** *Do you need special preparation "to be" Till Lindemann on the stage?*

**R:** Yes of course. It is something I've practiced about 4 or 5 years. We are preparing ourselves sometimes in front of a mirror like in some kind of ballerina hall. When I sing as a Rammstein leader I try to be like a Till Lindemann.

**GW:** *Do you also look first how the concert looks currently or do you prefer for example older style?*

**R:** As you know our tribute band is Völkerball. This is the name of DVD Rammstein made with their Reise Reise tour. Exactly this tour we tried to duplicate. What we all can say, it is really simple to make something like Völkerball, to make a Rammstein tribute band, but to make own music is more difficult.

**Eugen:** I agree, all the responsibilities,

everything is much harder because you are yourself. You have to be only yourself, you should be closer to yourself, you don't try to be anybody else. If they do not like it - they automatically do not like you. It's much closer to yourself, to your heart...

**R:** Eugen is new in our band and I didn't know that he speaks English so good! (laughing).

**GW:** *Eugen how do you like to play in Heldmaschine so far? We know you have to say that you love it (laughing).*

**E:** No, I do not have to say that, really! I wouldn't do it if I wouldn't like it. That's the main thing - it is what we all are doing here. We are trying to make something we love, while some people just concentrate on making money. In Heldmaschine it's not about money! It's about having fun, doing what we love and otherwise, we wouldn't be here!

**R:** So you don't want to have money for that...? (laughing)

**E:** No... I mean if there is money I take it! I don't say no! (laughing)

**GW:** *You are well known from your scene image - could you tell us something more about the costumes? We know that they are designed by you and however the idea for a costume for Doktor song is quite obvious we are interested in the genesis of the other designs. What inspires you? From where do you get the ideas?*

**R:** Well It's not so spectacular. It's only looking for clothes... something that looks good or not so bad. We just buy it, without any special history behind it. I'm looking for something, and if I can say "well that's



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cool” I take it. The rest is just mimics and gestures.

**GW:** *Recently plenty of hints regarding your new album appear on social media. Could you reveal some more information? In which direction would you like to go (music/genre)? Which genres/artists give you currently inspiration?*

**R:** Upcoming album is going to be a little bit harder. One number we will play today. Maybe you will find out which one it is... and it is a very hard number! It’s a song prepared for a movement... \*

**E:** New songs are really kind of riff-oriented. While writing we decided to put it more uptempo and make it more powerful.

**GW:** *What inspires you currently? Maybe which artist? What are you listening right now?*

**R:** For me, it's always the same. For me it's nothing. I try to find myself in making music. Not to look around what other bands do or did, and not try to find out current trends. Because if you hit it then you are too late. You have to make an unknown trend. This is the only thing that works for me, and I believe in it.

**E:** For me is so many different styles. It’s everything from jazz, through classic to heavy metal. Really hard to focus on one. Just try to be yourself as much as you can even if that’s the hardest part.

**GW:** *We are aware that in Poland there is a problem with distribution and concert organization, but if you got a chance to play a concert in our country, would you be interested?*

**R:** As Heldmaschine we would love to play in other countries, but first of all the train course must fit (laughs). But seriously - we need a band which ensures an audience on the concert in the foreign country. Playing as support of OOMPH! is a great opportunity for us to present ourselves and our music to the new people.

**GW:** *Which countries would you like to visit?*

**R:** Everything!

**E:** We know that we have many fans in South America or in Russia. Actually, my homeland is Russia, so I would love to go there and play there. South America would be also great! We have fans in Brazill as we can see on youtube. It would be great to go everywhere!

**GW:** *And have you ever been to Poland?*

**E:** Yes I played a tour last year, very very small clubs, really unknown artists. Great fun its really great audience. they really know how to party. You are a really grateful audience that’s why the people appreciate a lot playing there. When you play all the time in Germany or just in your own country, it’s nice to have something more “exotic”.

**GW:** *What was the biggest achievement for you as a band in 2018? Which goals do you have for 2019?*

**Dirk:** For 2018 - One big thing for us was touring with Hämatom. It was a great tour with great fun. Another thing was the headliner tour we did!

**E:** Also the tour with Megaherz.



**GEGENWIND**

PORTAL DLA FANÓW NIEMIECKIEJ MUZYKI

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**R:** And Amphi Festival of course!

**D:** 2019... Well, it is our headliner tour we are playing in February\*\* and the tour with Oomph! We also hope for a new album which we plan to do.

**GW:** *So the release date of the new album is not set up?*

**D:** No, not yet.

**R:** Next year (laughs).

**D:** We will have new songs for the tour of course, and also new record will be available for fans only in our merch shops\*\*\*.

**GW:** *It was our last question, therefore we would like to thank you very much for your time! We are looking forward to your new album, headliner tour, and tonight's show!*

**All:** Thank you! See you on tour and enjoy the show tonight!

*\* Springt! played at Nacht der Helden in Hannover*

*\*\* Im Fadenkreuz Tour*

*\*\*\* Volles Brett with premiere on 15.02.19*