



GEGENWIND

PORTAL DLA FANÓW NIEMIECKIEJ MUZYKI

On October the 29th 2019 we had the pleasure to prepare the photocoverage and speak with Maerzfeld bassist - Korbinian Stocker - once more. This time we have met the band in Der Hirsch club in Nuremberg during their "Zorn" tour. How was the studio session? Was the band satisfied with the results? Answers for those and more question can be found below:

Gegenwind: *During last year's conversation [1], you talked about the new album. Will you reveal which pieces were ready at that moment? Have they changed later?*

Korbinian Stocker: I think only one song was fully ready, it was "Menschling". Some other songs like "Schwarzer Schnee" were just demo versions, but "Menschling" was the first one really finished. They also changed a little bit. I mean here programming of the keyboard, sometimes a mixing, but the overall arrangement stayed for Menschling the same. For other songs, it changed quite dramatically. We worked really hard with our producer until we found what makes us all really happy.

GWD: *We were really curious, what were you talking about last year when we heard "Zorn" for the first time.*

K.S.: At the moment we had about 5 or 6 demos, but you know the demo can be anything. It's just a short idea, a hook line, chorus or just a riff and then it all expands. We're figuring out what could be a verse or solo part...

GWD: *Some recording sessions are so fruitful that the band releases another album shortly - how did you record this time?*

K.S.: There are some ideas left. I think there are 2 pretty good ideas from Mike and I have also several ideas... Let's say about 2 ideas that are quite strong. Actually, our producer didn't like it in the form they are now, but I will probably work on it to make it better and so that the guys will love it. So maybe we would already have about 3 songs to put on the new album...

GWD: *Did you have a problem to decide what will be on the album and what goes on the shelf?*

K.S.: Yes and no. Our producer is really good. He knows exactly in what direction we should go, what to put on the CD etc. Of course, if I have an idea with which I am totally happy, excited and proud, I just bring it to the guys and present them and he as the third person may say "Just wait a minute. It needs some more work" and then we discuss everything once again. We discussed a lot, so it was really hard work and we did it until everybody was happy. What's more, as an end product - everybody is happy with each and every song. It never happened to me before.



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GWD: *Do you also use old ideas, rejects from previous recording sessions?*

K.S.: No. It's let's say brand new. We didn't use any old ideas or rejects from previous sessions. Except for the cover version - of course, it is an old song :)

GWD: *About this mentioned cover - was there a reason why you chose this song and this artist?*

K.S.: We chose it because, our singer Heli back in the '80s was like a stagehand for this band (Muenchener Freiheit) when they played in this area, so he knew them even before they were famous. He always loved this song and had his own idea for it in the head quite some time already. We were all rather skeptic about it, but then he said - "Come on guys, let's do it" and it turned out to be great, it has an epic ending... we find it quite nice.

GWD: *The album's announcements emphasized that it would permanently separate projects such as Stahlzeit and Maerzfeld - was the separation of these bands a goal itself, or is it rather a result of style evolution?*

K.S.: I think it was meant to be. Actually, the separation happened before I joined the band, but when I talked to the guys they told me "write from the beginning that we want this project to be separated because Stahlzeit is a Rammstein Tribute Band and Maerzfeld is our own stuff". There are also differences when it comes to band members for both projects - Michael and I, we're not a part of Stahlzeit. So it's better to keep it separated.

GWD: *How do people react to new songs?*

K.S.: Quite well. Already singing along what is really amazing! When we started the tour in Essen, already during our first song everybody sang along! It was "Zorn" so the single, but really everybody sang along - we had real goosebumps. Seriously! Obviously, they loved it and today we also found out that our album is no. 1 in the Alternative Charts (DAC).

GWD: *That's definitely a huge success! Are there ones in particular that have concert potential?*

K.S.: Yes, "Die Welt reißt auf". We thought about this song more like about B-Side, one of the weakest songs, but it really sounds nice live! It's makes so much fun to play, really.

GWD: *Were there any events in 2019 that particularly inspired the lyrics? Seeing other premieres this year, we have the impression that the lyrical layers are largely dominated by a rather pessimistic vision of the coming years and man as an extremely weak being.*

K.S.: Yes, like in "Menschling" - a song about humankind and why humankind is so evil. Or "Schwarzer Schnee" dealing with depression problems. Depression is such a huge thing, a problem touching so many people... Heli wrote the lyrics and it was really important to him to



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write exactly those lyrics in exactly this form. As a consequence, we had to change some arrangement so the lyrics fit. Another example would be the song "Reich" and it's about a famous company that used resources of Africa and gave not a single thing back to the people living there, suffering from thirst, etc. This story just inspired us.

GWD: *Do you plan to release another single / video?*

K.S.: I am not so sure, we already released 2 videos and 3 singles, but maybe... We'll see.

GWD: *We actually wanted now to ask about your plans for 2020, but we already saw a couple of hours ago the upcoming tour with Eisbrecher - congratulations! Anything more coming up?*

K.S.: Yes, thanks! There are several plans. We're going to have a second leg of the Zorn Tour in February, I think for about 2 weeks and then in April/May a couple of shows as an Eisbrecher support during their European tour! We're really looking forward to this! Alex even visited us during our last show in Augsburg - it was really nice to see him.

GWD: *In the booklet attached to the album, sessions, and clips the black and white style dominates. Does this idea have any origin / a story behind it?*

K.S.: That's from the shooting of "Schwarzer Schnee", the 3HE Studio had this idea, us wearing black and white clothing, having this contrast, etc. It started the whole thing and also fits perfectly with the lyrics of the song. Also a bit like a yin and yang. We really liked it so we kept it and it works well.

GWD: *Thank you very much for the interesting conversation!*

[1] Interview during Nacht der Helden 28.12.18 (available also in English):

<http://gegenwind.pl/marzfeld/wywiad-z-marzfeld/>