



*We invite you to read the second part of the interview with Ost! Previously, he told us about the recent Hämatom release; This time, we will ask about the band's online activity, thoughts on the crown, and the „Maskenball” Tour.*

GGW: We've already talked a bit about your last release, but that's not all that has happened since our last conversation. We basically expected the rescheduling of the „Maskenball” festival and the fall tour during the last interview, but probably none of us expected the „Maskenball” Tour will be finally canceled. It must have been a big blow for you. Are you planning to „take it back” as soon as possible and organize the tour with even greater momentum?

Ost: No, it's not likely to happen. It was our anniversary, the 15th anniversary... We expected it to become the 16th anniversary, but making it the 17th or the 18th anniversary? It does not make sense. In addition, a certain smoothness of the cycles must be maintained. There was the album „Maskenball”, and the era of that album lasted 2 years, similar to the previous albums. Would it be hard to release something new and stay in the old era and do nothing and wait for the end of the „Maskenball” era? No no, it definitely has to be well split and we don't want to be idle which is why the „Maskenball” Tour had to stay canceled. Naturally, it was very unpleasant because it was supposed to be a really great tour and with great guests. It was incredibly hard to undo something like that.



*One week after the cancellation, I was arguing with an imaginary god, „You asshole, once in a lifetime! ONCE IN A LIFETIME! Why Me?!”*

**GGW:** You choose guests for the tour depending on their availability on specific dates, or would you like to do another large solo tour in the same line-up as the Maskenball Tour was supposed to be?

**Ost:** The Maskenball festival will be held in 2024 and therefore we had to completely change the lineup. Nobody knows what will happen in 3 years, so you can say that we are all starting from scratch. However, we did not want to cancel everything again (which is why we did not postpone the concert to next year only to 2024), because a lot of people bought tickets, kept them, and of course, they were very much looking forward to this event. We also wanted to appreciate those who are still waiting and offer them 2 days of the festival for the price of the one ticket purchased years earlier.

**GGW:** The autumn wave of Corona took away the opportunities to meet and enjoy the concerts again, but you gave us a very nice surprise by streaming „Zombieland“. We liked the concept of the concert „Zombieland“ as a concert in the zombie apocalypses. You are planning something similar with a similar film scale? Do you have regular cooperation with Wacken?

**Ost:** It is not so much cooperation with Wacken as their support, they were our sponsors/partners. I have to honestly say it was fantastic. Not even to play a concert again, but to organize this type of event itself. It would be a real shame if we canceled it. Somewhere at the top of my To-Do list is to organize something similar again. I don't know, maybe on the occasion of the Release Show of the next album? It's hard to say what we would play it with, but I really don't want to give up this form because it was really beautiful. And it suits Hämatom very much. (editor's note. Now we know that „Zombieland II“ will be released on October the 31st).

**GGW:** Perhaps the online form of concerts is not even comparable to the normal ones, but can you enjoy it? Do you feel motivated on such a movie/streaming set to give your best? Ultimately, fans cannot share their energy with you.

**Ost:** No :D It's really hard and unpleasant. At least for me. I love playing live!

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*I could die on stage while playing eg before the last song. It really is the most beautiful thing I can imagine.*

Except for sex, of course. And good food: D Recording the Release Show for „Berlin“ was extremely tough. We wanted to enjoy this event and concert, and it was like a birthday party. Additionally, imagine that you are playing a song and there is silence when you finish. And so every time, when everything is already played you leave the stage totally unfulfilled. It's like fucking for an hour without orgasm. Imagine how awful it feels!

**GGW:** How was your year in quarantine? Are you still seeing your crew regularly at ZOOM or can't you look at him anymore?



Ost: We liked the first ones a lot and did it on a regular basis. Now the situation has improved and we can be on the road, which makes us happy ... The first weekend on tour was amazing, you could really see the effects of this long separation. Now we are trying to enjoy ourselves because we will probably get stuck in our homes in the fall. Probably then ZOOM will come back. It is obviously not like a live meeting, but you can derive joy from it.

GGW: How do you deal with creative burnout, so common among people now? Is it easy for you to create or do you have any rituals/routines that motivate you to work?



Ost: I know what you mean, a lot of people think that since there is a pandemic, they have time now and they force themselves to do a lot. I experience it sometimes when writing texts. This was not the case with „Berlin“, where everything went smoothly, but for the new album („Die Liebe ist Tot“ 3.12.21 - editorial note) we have already recorded 3 songs and it is with these „ordinary“ songs that I sometimes get writer's block. I always want to say something new, and this is probably the source of the problem.

GGW: If you could go back to the beginning of 2020 with the knowledge you have now - what would you advise yourself?

Ost: It's damn hard to say. I guess I wouldn't enjoy the „Maskenball“ Tour :D Or better, I would play this tour in January! After all, when I think about how naive we were when we postponed the tour to May, then to autumn... it's a pity to talk. However, it is worth noting that we are experiencing something rare in human history, with all the pros and cons ... The world stopped overnight, it was amazing to be able to see it from the inside. It was also possible to revise your acquaintances :D



GGW: Did the last year bring any musical discoveries or inspirations?

Ost: Yes, for example, it's hip hop - Danger Den. He did hip hop with keyboard arrangements and I've listened to that a lot lately (it's about the song "Das ist alles von der Kunstfreiheit gedeckt" - ed.).

GGW: Finally - will you reveal what awaits us in the coming months? It seems to us that we have seen the mentioned next "normal" album somewhere :) Are you already working in this direction?

Ost: I can't reveal too much, but that's right, we've already released 3 songs and under one of them on YouTube someone has already written: "Back to roots".



*It will definitely be a heavy album and will create a huge contrast to the previously released „Berlin“. Vulgar, full of power, full of contrasts.*

In between, there will be one more relaxed song, the rest with a real punch in every way. We also have some demo ... production is in progress.



GGW: PS: We did some research on your YT channel and found the video „Warum liegt hier überhaupt Strohrum?“ which refers to the iconic dialogue from a certain German porn movie. Would you like to go in the direction of such parodies in the future? We thought this “Maskenball” ad came out very funny. Especially West’s dubbing :D

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*I think we’ll have to because it was an unexpected success. We were exhausted with the professional photos, clips, etc., and spent a lot of money on them, and the spontaneous porn parody was best received anyway.*

GGW: Thank you for the interview and we wish you all the best!

