



### LA CAVERNA • Italien

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### **ROCKOLA INDIE • Mexico**

"The band offers a series of super hypnotising riffs!"



### **METAL JUNKBOX** • Portugal

"The mixture of great melodies and heaviness makes it it's easy to be mesmerised by the Germans."



### FOLK ROCK ALCHEMISTS • Belgium

"The instrumentation and vocals killed me! Seriously, great work!"



# YURIY SUMNYK • Ukraine

"This song is a masterpiece!"



### **ZONA EMERGENTE • Mexico**

"Put an end to social manipulation by the powerful metal that Porter has in store for you!"



### PLASTIC MAG • UK

"Behind The Banlieue is full of dynamism. An epic, new song from this exciting band, which increases the anticipation for the upcoming album."



### HARD ROCK STATION • Polen

"The guitars are absolutely fantastic and have a great sound. The composition is very well thought out and the vocals are phenomenal."



ALT 77 • Sweden

"I'd love to hear more of that in the future!"



"Their songs embody a mixture of musical melancholy and anger and become anthems for democracy and freedom." "The band's long-awaited third album, Genosha, is a conceptual masterpiece."



### HEADBANGER'S NEWS • Brazil

"Tax Free Hollows is accompanied by an incredible music video and offers a unique audiovisual experience."



### UNDERGROUNDSOUND / EDM REKORDS • UK

"As Behind the Banlieue proves, PORTER show time and time again why they deserve their reputation as one of the best bands around."



# PROGRESSIVE ALTERNATIVE ROCK . THE BAND PORTER







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BANDPHOTOS BY KERSTIN SCHOMERS

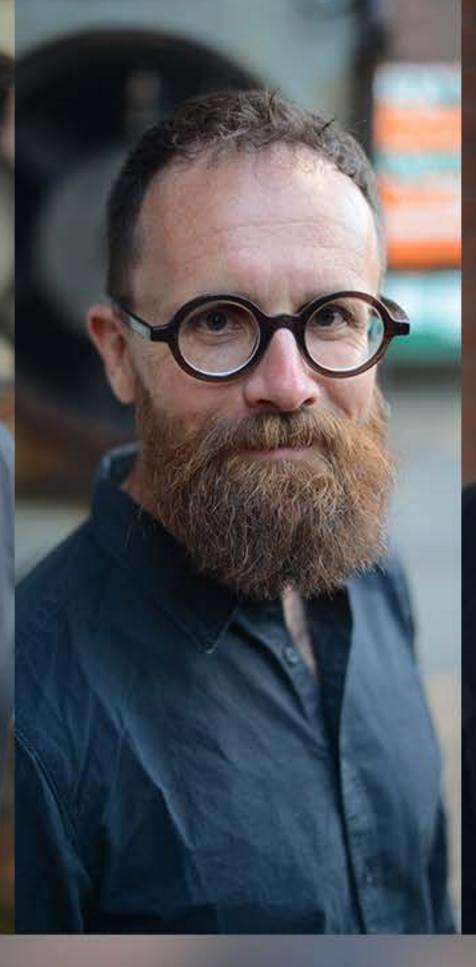
# THE MEMBERS OF PORTER













VOLKER FABIUNKE Bass LARS DAUM Guitars RAIMUND DETHER-NEUHAUS Vocals FRANK STEWEN Guitars CHRISTIAN KERKELING Keyboards

MARKUS G. SÄNGER Drums



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WHATS APP CHANNEL



MAIL TO PORTER: derherrgott@derherrgott.de

### THE STORY BEHIND PORTER

The progressive alternative rock band PORTER from Germany has been around for quite a while and mixes the different preferences of the individual band members for metal and punk, indie and singer songwriter, hardcore and alternative into a completely unique blend that brings the sound, which is stylistically rooted in the energetic, guitar-led alternative rock of the 90s, into the present day thanks to progressive elements and a rich production.

PORTER's songs combine musical melancholy and anger with an expressive lyrical statement against any totalitarian or fascist ideas, and with their sometimes anthemic choruses become a beacon for democracy and freedom. In times when this is all too often sacrificed for the sake of security or misused by populist forces, PORTER raise the question of what kind of society we want to live in.

"Genosha", the long-awaited third album by the band from the Ruhr area, is on the home straight and marks a new start for the band with a much more metal-heavy focus. On 10 November 2023, the first single "Taxfree Hollows" was released on all popular streaming portals and clearly showed where things are heading from now on. At the same time as the single, the band released the video for "Taxfree Hollows" on the band's YouTube channel @porteralternativerock. The second single "Behind The Banlieue" followed on 22 December 2023.

The songs show the musical direction of the new Porter and the upcoming album. Powerful guitar riffs, polyphonic leads, a pumping bass and driving drums provide the musical counterpart to the urgency of the content. The new singer Raimund relaxes his charismatic melodic arcs over all of this and makes for echoing moments. PORTER, now travelling as a sextet, sound more like themselves in their 2023 incarnation than ever before. This is not least due to the fact that the entire production process, arrangements and sounds are now in the hands of the band in their own studio.



# THE GENOSHA PREMISE



#### THE CONCEPTUAL SUPERSTRUCTURE OF THE ALBUM

On this album, PORTER relocate the current, undeniable social currents, the desire for change of some and the ossification of others, to a fictitious city called "Genosha". The paralysing lack of interest in an obviously unavoidable change towards a more thoughtful coexistence drives an initially small, then ever-growing group to stop accepting their fate as God-given and to take it into their own hands.

The name "Genosha", borrowed from the dystopian place of the same name in the Marvel comic universe - where it was used as an allegory for slavery and apartheid - stands for an imaginary world frozen in its destructive habitus in PORTER's film.

Isolated, frustrated and predominantly young people group together and set off in search of the origin, the core of everything, instead of being satisfied with superficial answers. Society appears divided. Into those who want to preserve the sometimes fatal status quo of the day before yesterday at all costs, and the others who strive for the change that is so necessary. On the visible surface, a quiet, almost inconspicuous battle breaks out, but in the medium term nobody in Genosha can escape its pull. Egoism and altruism cross swords.

In the face of a world in which totalitarian and fascist structures are becoming more and more entrenched, and for many actually seem to be viable options, PORTER explore one of the core questions of their work on "Genosha": what kind of world do we want to live in? How much freedom is enough to feel free? How much coercion leads to a life determined by others? How far do you have to go for yourself personally in order to really change something big for the better?

The first single "Taxfree Hollows" introduces the topic and the world of "Genosha" without further ado.

### THE SINGLES FROM THE UPCOMIG PORTER ALBUM GENOSHA



"TAX FREE HOLLOWS" Released November 10, 2023



STREAMING VIDE 0



ARTWORK



BEHIND THE BANLIEUE" Released December 22, 2023







VIDEO



ARTWORK



Release February 16, 2024







ARTWORK

# "TAX FREE HOLLOWS"

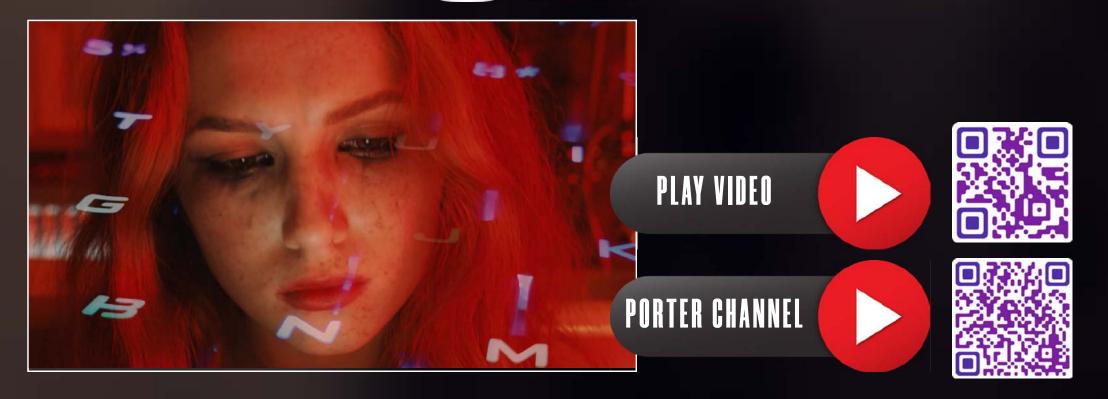
#### LINER NOTES – GENOSHA CHAPTER I

The song sets a musical scent mark of the new PORTER and shows the musical direction of the album. Powerful guitar riffs, a pumping bass and driving drums counter the urgency of the content with the musical counterpart. Above all this, the new singer Raimund relaxes his charismatic melodic arches and provides reverberating moments. PORTER, who have recently been on the road as a sextet, are making a loud comeback.

"Taxfree Hollows" - the song, like the video - is about a society that indulges in seemingly endless diplomatic debates instead of striving for real solutions, which can be quite painful. Some react with agony and apathy in the face of seemingly unsolvable problems, while others celebrate an apocalyptic ego party in order not to have to see the end coming.

In an endless time loop of ever-same actions and behaviour, a paralysing cycle is established here as normality, which seems to have no consequences whatsoever and leads nowhere except to appease each other with the most diverse means. In the end, all this works in a system that few of us have asked for, defined by simple, self-regarding minds that gain their short-term advantages on the backs of everyone.

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ON ALL STREAMING PORTALS

# "BEHIND THE BANLIEUE"

#### LINER NOTES – GENOSHA CHAPTER II

In times of deepening social rifts, you can hole up in your social bubble, pull the information-dampening blanket over your sheltered head and hope that everything will be fine. But what does this "good" mean for whom? Am I not perhaps doing well because others are paying for it with their lives in case of doubt? Is my reassuring prosperity based on the poverty of others? Would that even be okay because I don't even know - want to know - the others? Or do I understand the anger of others and am I right to fear their anger, which is based on sheer desperation?

We submit to our own economic systems, moan here and there about our miserable lives, in which only the others earn money, and silently wonder why everything is getting out of hand. Without even having an eye for the least of these, we entrench ourselves in our world and spend the rest of our lives trying to pull together everything that seems possible. We compensate for the lack of consideration for the resulting losses by numbing our senses, hiding from the crushing weight of bad news behind a variety of reward systems and diligently collecting points.

Between doomscrolling and "you should have", we feel the increasing pressure, but have optimised ourselves to perfection in dealing with annoying facts. We have made ourselves comfortable in the oasis of our agony. Sure, the mob is somehow right, but hey, they won't get in here. At some point, someone will have to pay the price for all this, but not us, baby.

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#### LINER NOTES – GENOSHA CHAPTER III

In a world that only endures her instead of carrying her, it can be a valid survival strategy to subordinate yourself and simply go along with it. You don't choose it. Women certainly don't. Sometimes it really hurts, but over time you learn to numb yourself. To forget yourself.

It made sense to her that there were only two kinds of people. Those who send and determine and others who receive and execute. Sally executes. Always. Ever since she could remember, she had been told what to do and who to be. She had been so many things since then - just not herself.

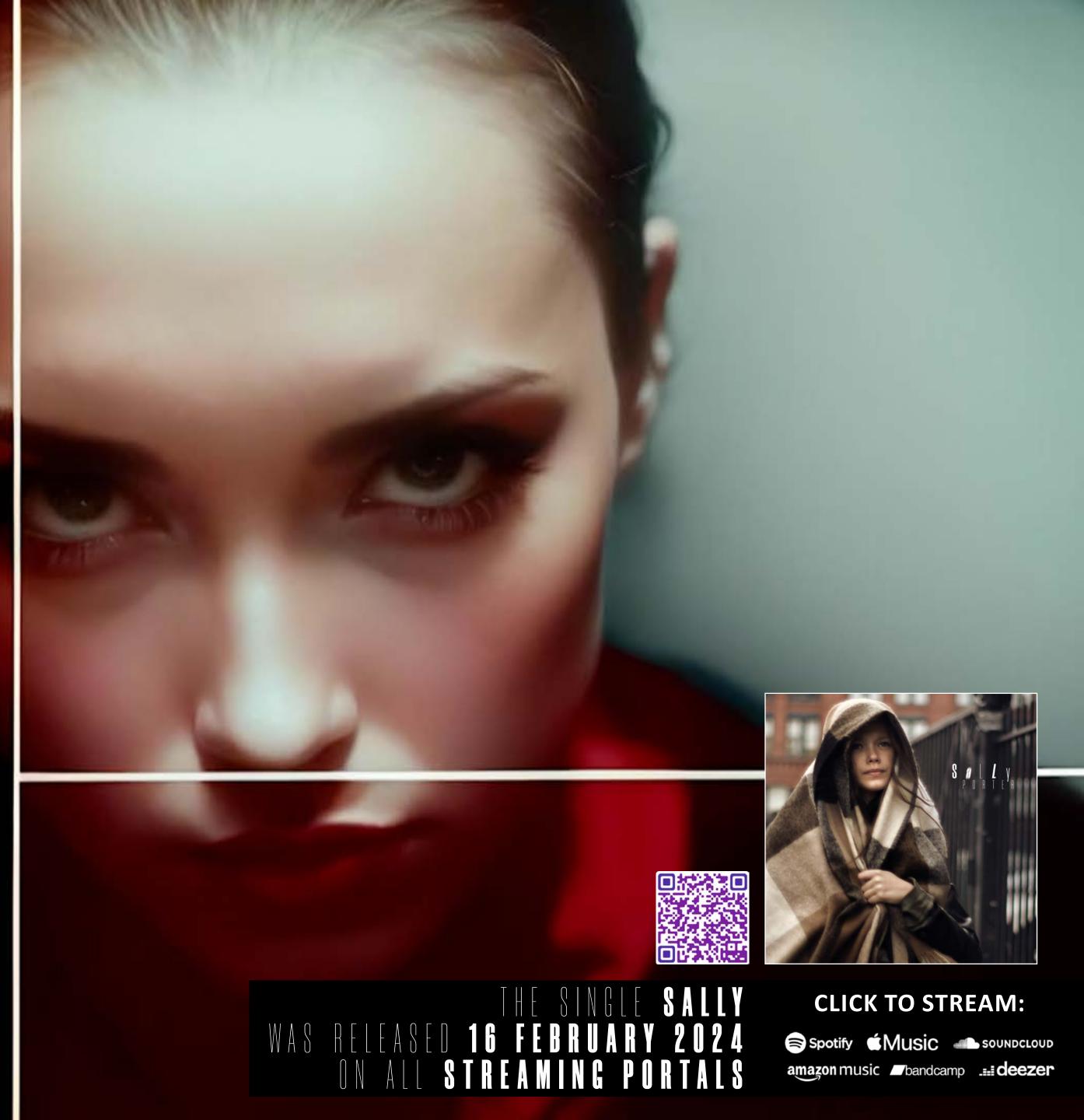
But they had overlooked this one, inconspicuous thought of their own - or wanted to overlook it, because it didn't matter what she thought. The last bit of her that was left burned as a small flame in her pupils.

She only needed one thing:

some hope.

### OFFICIAL MUSICVIDEO > YouTube









### UNDERGROUNDSOUND / EDM REKORDS • UK

"With their brand new single Behind the Banlieue, the German rock band has managed to combine lightning-fast guitar work with fantastic lyrics. The way they combine mesmerising vocals with aggressive music is creative."

"PORTER towers above many bands dominating the scene today." "As Behind the Banlieue proves, PORTER continue to show why they deserve their reputation as one of the best bands around."

"The guitarist weaves virtuosic, melodic lines around the pulsating sonic backbone provided by the bass and drums. "

"At the end of the first verse, a skilful bridge ensures that the band temporarily forgoes mass appeal and instead demonstrates their technical prowess."

"The guitarists shake exciting riffs out of their sleeves that hit the pulse in alternating metres.""

"At one point in the song, the guitarist gets so swept up in the moment that his hands fly over the frets in a breathtaking swirl, the overturning notes resembling the rippling waves of emotion rising from his heart and soul."

"Subtle, harmonic vocals begin to emerge between the surging guitars and pounding drums, like hidden realisations bubbling to the surface."

"Subtle, harmonic vocals begin to emerge between the surging guitars and pounding drums, like hidden realisations bubbling to the surface."

"Porter lament the rise of "breakfast diplomacy", a thinly veiled critique of superficial political posturing that obscures harsh realities. Thought-provoking lines such as "Cut - paste - collect - waste/Seek - destroy - sorrow - joy" address the cyclical nature of human progress and suffering."

"The songs give you an unadulterated insight into Porter's world of thought and show that they are not afraid to tackle society's problems. They take on serious global issues and cement themselves as an important voice in today's music world."

"Production quality plays an important role. Every instrument sits perfectly in the mix, allowing each layer to shine individually while contributing to the collective whole."











#### THE INDIE GRID • UK

"The band's distinctive sound, which has its roots in the energetic, guitar-led alternative rock of the 90s, incorporates progressive elements and a lavish production that adds a new dimension to the genre. Their music is a powerful lyrical statement against totalitarianism and fascism and a beacon for democracy and freedom."

"The professionalism expressed in both the song and the accompanying video sets high expectations for the upcoming album and leaves listeners eager to hear what Porter have in store."

"The song opens with mid-tempo guitars and drums reminiscent of bands like Queensryche and Mastodon. But before you get too comfortable, the instrumentation cleverly builds in a quick tempo change to keep you interested before the verse begins. The vocals kick in with a rich warmth reminiscent of singers like Fish, Peter Gabriel and Dave Gilmour. The well-articulated melody and interplay with the guitars add depth to the narrative."

"When the second chorus kicks in, I feel like I've known this song forever - like an old friend."





### **A&R FACTORY, USA**

"Germany's most progressive alternative rock band Porter's dark single Behind the Banlieue leans into the seclusion and isolation that our ubiquitous accessibility has brought us these days."

"The track is a testament to Porter's ability to fuse diverse musical influences, from the raw energy of metal and punk to the nuanced narratives of indie and singer-songwriter styles. The result is a sound that is unique, mature yet vibrant, complex yet accessible."

"Raimund, the band's new frontman, brings an electrifying presence to the track. His vocals reverberate and emphasise the power of the driving drums and the deep growls of the basslines. This combination creates a sound that is as gritty as it is energetic, perfectly emphasising the powerful message of the song."

"In a world where oppressive ideas are gaining ground, Porter use their music as a tool of resistance and inspiration. The chorus is not only catchy, but a call to arms for all who yearn for change towards more democracy and freedom."

"Between raw rock riffs that break through the the magical atmosphere, there is plenty of room for reflection, when you're not caught up in the

the stormy force of the song which has all the elements of an electric elements of an electrifying rock anthem."







#### **PLASTIC MAG • UK**

"The progressive-alternative rock band Porter, hailing from the Ruhr area, is a force to be reckoned with, fusing a wide variety of musical influences into a distinctive sound."

"As a six-piece band, Porter are now able to distil their songwriting talent and stunning musicianship into a sound that best represents their collective sonic vision through the band's new approach of handling the entire production process themselves. The skilful fusion of metal, punk, indie and progressive elements results in a unique and innovative sound that promises a continuation of their exciting sonic adventure in 2024 and beyond."

"With crunchy guitar riffs, complex leads and pounding drums, the band's new vocalist Raimund takes the opportunity to showcase his vocal flair with a commanding performance that rounds out this storming progressive rock with a metal edge. The song opens with gritty guitars and striking drums before the arrangement descends into an atmospheric prog rock sound, while Raimund's powerful voice weaves in brooding melodies and profound lyricism."

"Behind The Banlieue is full of dynamics. An epic new song from this exciting band that builds anticipation for the upcoming album."



### **HEADBANGER'S NEWS • BRAZIL**

"Tax Free Hollows presents the bold and innovative content vision along with the penetrating and unique sound that creates a nostalgic sound atmosphere and exudes a sincere freshness thanks to the youthful energy and visionary spirit of the members."

"Tax Free Hollows is accompanied by an incredible music video and offers a unique audiovisual experience."

"An electric shock of passion coupled with a fearless attitude! Porter are constantly evolving, flawlessly climbing the musical ladder with exhilarating arrangements. Their sound is maturing into something unique and makes the whole work wonderful, from the visuals to the sound."

"The guitar riffs in the chord progression are sparkling and very typical of 90s alternative rock, but also distil the energy of progressive music full of technique. The drums follow the heavy rhythm along with the bass, which has a strong presence in a powerful groove. Everything is rounded off by the warm and mesmerising vocals of Raimund, the new singer, who invites the listener on this timeless sonic journey, where everything is given an addictive charm by the band's unique sound, with its unique and heavy sonic atmospheres."

"Tax Free Hollows" is also quite commercial and therefore perfect for radio, but also brings back the nostalgia that you get from watching music videos on MTV in the 90s."









"Rebelling Through Rhythms: PORTER Unveils the Intense Behind The Banlieue."

"Following the progressive and thought-provoking Taxfree Hollows, Behind The Banlieue unveils another facet of PORTER's musical identity. The powerful guitar riffs, polyphonic leads, driving bass and propulsive drums create a robust musical landscape that complements the urgency of the lyrical content."

"Behind The Banlieue is an example of German-born progressivealternative rock band PORTER's ability to combine haunting lyrics with a sound that transcends genres and confirms their status as a force to be reckoned with in the alternative rock scene. By pushing boundaries and challenging societal norms, PORTER's sonic rebellion becomes a powerful reflection of the times we live in." "In addition to developing catchy melodies, PORTER use their music as a platform for poignant, lyrical statements against totalitarian and fascist ideologies. Their songs embody a mixture of musical melancholy and anger and become anthems for democracy and freedom. At a time when these values are often called into question, PORTER ask critical questions about the kind of society we want to live in."

"The band's long-awaited third album, Genosha, is a conceptual masterpiece that explores contemporary social currents, the desire for change and the resistance to those same inevitable changes. The album serves as a rallying cry against the entrenchment of totalitarian structures and challenges listeners to think about the world they want to inhabit."

"The lyrics paint a vivid picture of individuals retreating into their social bubbles, isolated from the challenges of the world. The song addresses the complexities of wealth and questions whether personal well-being comes at the expense of others. It asks listeners to evaluate their role in social structures and urges them not to be satisfied with themselves, but to consider the impact of their actions."





#### YOU! ME! DANCING! • Brazil

"PORTER make outstanding progressive indie rock!"

#### **GOOD MUSIC RADAR • Netherlands**

"Porter is a German-based prog and alt-rock band with an aweinspiring sound dynamic. Their music is a fascinating variation of rock. The band is so unique, especially in the way they present their ideas and perspectives."

"With deep grooves, fearsome riffs, grounding vocals and cresting distortion, the songs are fiery fireworks of infinite power. "

"With booming melodic lines backed by gargantuan bass, transcendental rhythms and cinematic production, the track exponentially ramps up the emotions to points of intense excitement and desperate depth."

#### **LA CAVERNA • Italien**

"Tax Free Hollows by Porter is alternative rock that manages to create a sound melody that sounds aggressive but energetic at the same time, resulting in a very exciting listening experience."

### **FUTUREPROOF • UK**

"Outstanding musical ability!"

#### **RHYTHM REVOLUTION • New Zeeland**

"It's fun to listen to the track! The melodies are really catchy and well-crafted and it's obvious how much effort has been put into it."

#### **ROCKOLA INDIE • Mexico**

"The band offers a range of super hypnotising riffs, the songs will be much loved for their dynamics and variations."

### **FOLK ROCK ALCHEMISTS • Belgium**

"The instrumentation and vocals killed me! Seriously, great work! And can we please take a moment to appreciate the clarity of this recording, because it's pretty impressive."

#### **ZONA EMERGENTE • Mexico**

"Reflective rock with a conscience that takes you through a thunderous production to break with everything that social conventions want you to believe, that makes you raise your voice. Put an end to social manipulation through the powerful metal that Porter has in store for you!"

### **METAL JUNKBOX • Portugal**

"The band's wide-ranging sound manages to move coherently through different styles and genres such as alternative rock and progressive rock in a precise and energetic way. The mix of great melodies and heaviness makes it easy to be mesmerised by the Germans."



### **LA CAVERNA • Italien**

"Tax Free Hollows by Porter is alternative rock that manages to create a sound melody that sounds aggressive but energetic at the same time, resulting in a very exciting listening experience."

"Music can always be a reflection of the society in which it is created, it can touch on global issues or more specific topics that have a big impact on the world today. Some of these songs take the time to make clear the issues they want to talk about, be it mental health or politics. But not in a way that feels forced, but with a construction, a concept around them that allows them to speak of it all in a natural way. This includes songs like Tax Free Hollows by Porter."

"The songs touch on a political theme, the lyrics are about how society indulges in diplomatic debates that often seem endless, but at the same time doesn't fight for real solutions.

### **HARD ROCK STATION • Polen**

"I love the instrumental part right from the start. The guitars are absolutely fantastic and have a great sound. The composition is very well thought out and the vocals are phenomenal."

### JELLE RAVESLOOT • Belgium

"Nice drums, some clever accents and timings with a nice drive that never overworks the track. The structure of the song works well!"

### **ALT 77 • Sweden**

"The technical aspects are very pleasing and the vocals are pleasantly impressive. I like this repetitive structure, the way everything finds its true core. I would love to hear more of this in the future!"

### **RHYTHM REVOLUTION • New Zeeland**

"It's fun to listen to the track! The melodies are really catchy and well-crafted and it's obvious how much effort has been put into it."

### **MOODPLAYLISTING • Germany**

"Really nice how the lead guitars rise up in the background. I also like the slight sharpness of the bass."

### **ROCK FUEGOINO • Argentina**

"I like the solid guitar work and the stoner vibe. An organic, lively sound with dynamics."

#### **ALEGZHA • Ukraine**

"Interesting rhythm section and charismatic, rich vocals. A cool rock song with a catchy chorus and great production."

#### **FINCH BERGLING • Israel**

"Energetic guitars and a fantastic solo."

#### **YURIY SUMNYK • Ukraine**

"These guitar riffs not only form the rhythmic basis, but also create an emotional picture. The vocals understandably convey deep feelings and create a soundscape that impresses everyone. The rhythm is catchy with tempo changes and emphasises the most important moments of the song. This song is a masterpiece."

# EVERYTHING IS NOTHING WITHOUT ART



### A PERSONAL TRIBUTE TO THE PHOTOGRAPHER JÜRGEN BÜRGIN

It's often the case that you immediately have certain images in your head when you hear music. But sometimes it's the other way round. In the case of the lyrics on the album "Genosha", this is exactly the case.

In 2015, I got to know the Berlin street photographer Jürgen Bürgin on Twitter and was immediately fascinated by his "New York" series from his book "Urban Fever". Jürgen has photographed in Tokyo, New York, Chicago, Shanghai, Hong Kong and Saigon, among other places. In addition to the special moment, he is interested in the stories that a picture can tell.

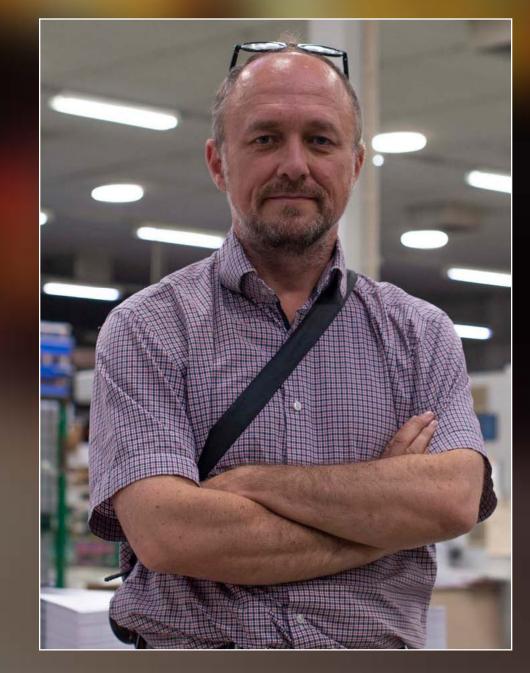
With this artistic inspiration, the basic idea for the content of the album quickly emerged: to illuminate a possible society that could both reflect our reality and illuminate possible dystopias and utopias. Like Jürgen, I am interested in the stories behind the people and so a lyrical concept based on the photographic one emerged.

Jürgen Bürgin's work has been shown in numerous solo and group exhibitions in Ahrenshoop, Berlin, Essex, Marburg, New York, Phoenix and Strasbourg, among others. He has been nominated for the Sony World Photography Award, for the Brennpunkt Award, as Urban Photographer of the Year and for the Rendez-vous Image Photobook Award.

For PORTER, this chance encounter in 2015 was a great stroke of luck and the collaboration became an integral part of the new album.

Once again, a big thank you to you, Jürgen!

Markus









JÜRGEN BÜRGIN: PUNCH. A VISUAL STORY.





JÜRGEN BÜRGIN: URBAN FEVER

