

Interview Nico Sings Country

2017

Q: Hello, Nico!

Howdy!

Q: Nico sings Country - how did it happen?

I've already loved music from childhood on. When I got my first electric guitar at 14, I had my first band two months later and wrote my own songs. To this day, I have always remained true to myself. Later, I learned music and singing at the Jazzschool Munich. I was particularly into singing. I was very lucky to learn from the gospel soprano Delcina Stevenson (USA) and the great Dennis Heath (USA). Here I got to know the technique of the Speech Level Singing, a method developed by Seth Riggs, who has cult status among the vocalists in America.

Q: Why Country?

My father was a big country fan. In the car, as a child, I always heard the American radio station AFN (American Forces Network). At that time, I first came into contact with Johnny Cash, Waylon Jennings, George Jones, Merle Haggard, Hank Williams, etc. My father would even have gone to El Paso as a priest. But we stayed with the family in Munich. His love for country music definitely influenced me at the time. Today, I feel the country music is the greatest thing music can do. It is honest, precious, deep and it directly touches the soul of man. Country music is, for me, the catharsis for all the human suffering which is ours and at the same time it is a celebration of the perfect beauty of our lives.

Q: Your songs sound more like traditional country. You would almost say Retro ...

Well, in the new country music - as sometimes also in German Schlager - unfortunately often what I love in country music is betrayed. One hears immediately when a song is only written and produced to make money. The heart, the intellect, and the soul of the artist are missing. In traditional country these factors are almost always included. But luckily, there are also today many artists who go in this direction. For example in the alternative country scene ...

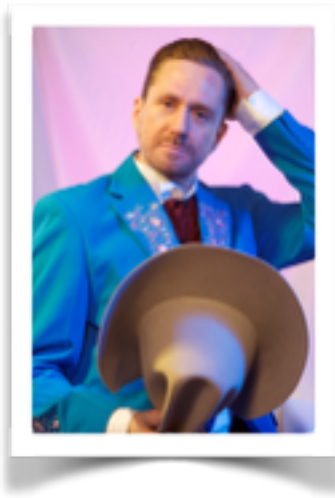
Q: Your new CD "With Hee Haw, Love & Friends" was produced in Texas?

Not produced, but mixed and mastered. On the CD are only original songs by me in traditional country style, from Honky Tonk to Tex Mex and Western Swing. We recorded the songs in our own studio and rehearsal room of the Hee Haw Pickin' Band. The whole record was then mixed and mastered by Allen Crider in Austin, TX. The special thing about that record is also the extraordinary guest musicians: Basil MacJagger, the pianist of the Derailers from Austin / TX, has contributed two songs with piano. Also: Kurt Baumer (Fiddle, TX), Ralf Willing (trumpet) and Titus Waldenfels (swing guitar). I could not be happier about the cast!

Q: Where can I buy the CD?

At the moment only on my website www.nicosingscountry.de or at our live concerts with the Hee Haw Pickin' Band. Later, I also intend to fill the digital platforms. But first I would like to pay tribute to the exclusivity of the CD and make it available to the fans and friends of the Hee Haw Pickin' Band first.

Q: Thank you for the interview!



Nico Röwenstrunk is a country singer and songwriter from Munich, Germany. His new CD "With Hee Haw, Love & Friends" has been available since May 2017.

More info at;
www.nicosingscountry.de
www.heehawband.de