

Attached you can find the interview between our editor Adriana and LÜT before translation to german.

First of all: How are you?

We are great thanks, we have finally released our album and we just feel humble and relieved to see so much amazing feedback from both fans and critics. Thanks for checking us and our music out. We really appreciate it!

Your album MERSMAK was just released. I guess you got a lot of feedback and reviews these days? How does it feel?

Amazing! We have gotten so many more reviews and shout outs then expected and people really seem to like it a lot, both lyrically and musically. The pressure to deliver on the next album really increased significantly haha.

Just a question to the band name: LÜT...Please help our german speaking readers and also me: What does it mean? It sounds familiar to me as we, in the area I was born in the western of Austria, call "Lüt" just "people".

It mostly started out just as a joke within the band, but we wanted a single word as a band name, hopefully one that didn't mean too much so we could make it our own. We were really big fans of TOOL at the time (still are), and Tool pronounced backwards is "lut" in our native language. Then we just added the "ü" because it looked cool hehe. The result was LÜT, and opposite to most band names decided by teenagers we are still happy with the name!

MERSMAK is your second album and a lot of bands and musicians say that creating a second album after a well celebrated Debut is the hardest ever. Do you agree?

Both yes and no. It hasn't been an easy process at all, and I think the process of recording and making the album has been a very life changing experience for us. We really felt pressure come down on us in the beginning and really struggled the first year and a half of recording it. I think we were too concerned about what people would think when we tried different directions so we nearly didn't make any progress at all. But after a truckload of frustrations on how we would do it and the direction of the album, something clicked. Suddenly the songs were good again and felt like LÜT. We simply did what we did when recording the best parts on Pandion. Met up as a group and jammed it out at practice.

What would you say is different to your debut PANDION, released around two years ago?

It actually was first released in october 2017, so it feels like a really long time ago now! I would say the key difference is the fact that Mersmak really is recorded as an album. It has a collective theme and MERSMAK is more about us personally than PANDION ever was. We love Pandion, but we feel MERSMAK is a step up regarding both the melodic and lyrical performance. A Lot of our biggest frustrations and fears in our early twenties are put into those songs. It feels more personal, and we love it.

I also read about the changed line up. How did this impact your creative process during the writing of MERSMAK?

It had quite a big impact on us.

When Hans and Viljar left the band we took a little hit mentally. Mostly because it feels like a relationship breakup with your girlfriend when your best friends decides to leave the band. Hans was the main writer on Pandion, and wanted to contribute to the melodics on MERSMAK as well, even though he wouldn't be part of the band anymore. The rest of the band eventually stepped up and we all finished the album writing most of it collectively. It was also really motivating to get some new blood and stoke into the band with our new guitarist Mads Ystmark.

Mads Ystmark, former musician of „Heave, blood and die“, whose album i just reviewed a few weeks ago, joined LÜT. Was he already involved in the songwriting? Are you all as a band?

Mads joined the band the same day the last of the previous members quit. It felt natural since Mads had played together with Sveinung, Ørjan and Marius in the past as The Wolves. When we needed a change in our line up the most important thing was to make sure we function as a unit. We already knew this with Mads so the choice was easy. The dynamic of the group is amazing now. Full on democracy, so when we write music we do it together. If everybody in the band isn't happy, we won't put it out.

MERSMAK is an album full of powerful songs from the first to the last! It is written to be performed live isn't it?

Yes it is. Number one priority for LÜT has always been Live. We as a band put a lot of our effort and energy into our liveshows and I guess when we wrote MERSMAK, we needed some extra spice after the experience we gained touring PANDION. So yeah, MERSMAK will be an amazing album to perform live.

Also Lars Ulrich, Metallica, praised your live performances in the podcast “It's Electric”. Does such a statement from Lars impact your legislating? Make you proud at some point?

(I have to ask this as I am a huge Metallica fan and I love a lot of Bands, Lars supported during the years).

I mean, of course it does! We all grew up listening to Metallica, learning our instruments to Metallica songs and so on. It's surreal that a guy we all grew up listening to would compliment our music publically. Next step would be to take us on tour with them haha! Would be hard to say no to...

I really like the vocals on MERSMAK. This kind of punk related shouts really got me and I think it's pretty unique and special. Do you say it's characteristic for LÜT?

Yes definitely. We grew up going to local punk and hardcore shows and listening to bands like Refused and Have Heart. The vocals in that type of music sound so energetic and full of passion so we wanted to use that in our sound when we started the group. We think that this kind of vocals combined with melodic elements from classic rock, indie and pop makes it a very interesting sound experience.

What are your further plans to promote the album? Will we see you online on a stream show or do I really have to wait until concerts are allowed again?

We have a lot in store for further promoting the album. Every song on the album has a music video. I think we have released 5 of them now. We have recorded and filmed playing the album live in a local shopping mall as we ride motorcycles, shopping carts and skateboards all around. We will air it in the coming future so stay tuned about that. It will be EPIC. And you can be sure we are back on the road the second it is possible. There might be a deluxe version of the album coming as well!

Best,
Adriana