

IAMJJ: I make music for the second before you're hit by the arrows

The merely 23 year old Danish songwriter IAMJJ wrestles with the biggest themes in his sincere songs. And he dares name the largest of names as sources for his inspiration: Nick Cave and Leonard Cohen from the world of music. Damien Hirst and Tal R from the world of visual arts.

The melancholy you hear in IAMJJ's music is striking, and it's hard to believe that he's Danish and only 23. He is.

And he is ready to walk in the footsteps of some of the greatest songwriters: To that place where you dare to stand in your suit and look like a strong man, while simultaneously putting your vulnerability and all your faults on display.

"I write my best songs when I have done something wrong, or have something to prove. There needs to be something vital at stake. That point when you're in a battlefield and all your friends are dead, and all the arrows are coming at you. Those are the seconds I make music for. It is music that is comparable to the last meal at death row. It's when the ugly and the beautiful melt together," says IAMJJ.

Not surprisingly he counts names such as Nick Cave, Leonard Cohen, Madrugada and his fellow Danes in Sort Sol among his role-models. But before he learned to play guitar, he painted and drew. And that's why visual artist like Tal R, Damien Hirst and Hans Henrik Lerfeldt also play a significant role for him.

"Music must be able to suck out the essence of a feeling. And pictures can do that. So they help me write the melodies. Because what kind of life is in the picture?"

IAMJJ and his band had their live debut on the main stage at the SPOT Festival in Denmark earlier this year. He conquered the audience with his competitive lower range vocal and left them speechless. The reviews were extremely positive and overwhelming. " we experienced a shooting star in Danish music..."and "...tracks like 'Bloody Future' can (and will) be stuck in your head for days...".

[Link](#)

IAMJJ will be playing at this year's Reeperbahn Festival during The Danish Night.

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