

Six Nominations for Nanuk

Lüdenscheid musician is happy about the success of his music

By Björn Othlinghaus

Lüdenscheid - "To receive six nominations in one year is extraordinary, and I'm very happy! "

The Lüdenscheid musician Günther Kopietz (alias Gunnar Nanuk), who has created a very elegant musical niche somewhere between electronic music in the style of Jean-Michel Jarre, world music, pop and hip hop, is happy about the renewed western appreciation of his work.



The jury of the 38th German Rock & Pop Prize 2020 of the German Pop Foundation in the German Rock & Pop Musicians Association has nominated him. Nanuk was nominated in three categories last year and was eventually awarded a first, second, and a third prize for his musical achievements. The fact that he succeeded with nominations in six categories in 2020 makes Nanuk the most nominated artist for the German Rock and Pop Prize in the past two years.

The sounds of instruments that Gunnar Nanuk made from wood himself often flow into the productions of his pieces of music. (photo by Othlinghaus)

His song "[Don't Say We Didn't Know](#)" received three nominations. Namely for "Best Electronic Artist", "Best Alternative Song" and "Best Studio-Recording". This song is Nanuk's commentary on the climate catastrophe, in which he incorporated the voices of Greta Thunberg and of authentic whale sounds. In addition, "[Steig aus](#)" was nominated for "Best German-Language Song" and "Best Composition". "[Get Out](#)" received a nomination for "Best Song of the Year - in English", a piece that Nanuk recorded with Canadian artist Lorraine Baron. There will also be further collaborations with her in the future.

Though Gunnar Nanuk is a guaranteed winner, the specific prize placement (first, second or third) will not be revealed at a large live event in this 2020 Corona year. "Normally the event should take place on December 14th, but that is not possible due to the corona pandemic" says Nanuk, regretfully. Instead, the winners will be informed of the results in writing in December.

Although Gunnar Nanuk received his first electric guitar at the age of 14, at the time, he had to plug it into a commercially available radio-like gadget in order to play it. In this way, Gunnar discovered his love for music early on, after he had trained extensively as a machine fitter. He had a successful though exhausting career in the industry that kept him from making music professionally until he retired. "In a perfect world, I think that I should have become a musician when I was 18," says Nanuk today. "But then, I would have been forced to make a living with it and would not have had the opportunity to make music in as relaxed an environment as I can today, when I am financially independent".

Since his house on Berliner Street is slowly bursting at the seams because of his increasingly extensive musical equipment, Nanuk has acquired another building in which he plans to set up an artistic studio, which will also offer space for his other artistic activities: the Lüdenscheider is active as a painter and sculptor in addition to being a musician. The creative Lüdenscheider makes his own sound and percussion instruments as well as pieces of furniture made from local woods such as birch, ash, oak and beech. It will be interesting to follow Gunnar Nanuk's late creative career as it develops over the next few years.

The Lüdenscheid musician does not want to market his music commercially. Which is why it can be streamed and heard for free, including on Soundcloud, Spotify, Deezer and YouTube.



Günter Kopietz alias Gunnar Nanuk in his studio on Berliner Street.

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