

(Konger og Keisere)



Norwegian Musician/Band

Fredrik Simensen

Sander Wetterhus

Ola G. Støkket



Interview By Azad Karimi

Introduction

In the upcoming interview, you, dear audience and reader, will get to know a Norwegian band called "Konger og Keisere" or in English: "Kings and Emperors".

I would like you to hear everything about them through themselves. So, I don't want to write about them in detail or criticize them because I'm not a music critic, but they are a strong and stylish band. For example, I immediately fell in love with the song "What are you thinking?" when I listened to the CD for the first time.

A few moments ago, I read news about the journey of an American astronaut named Jasmin Moghbeli. She is a 40-year-old woman who was born in Germany and her parents are from Mahabad. Mahabad is a city located in Kurdistan in the west of Iran.

It is very interesting that man has been able to open the way to travel to space and is engaged in research and exploration in space.

On the other hand, this is the beginning of the way because humans are facing many problems and challenges on Earth. Galaxies, planets, and stars have long been a place full of mystery for humans, the source of countless questions, and the origin of belief in the supernatural.

These days, according to astrologers, the energy of the planets, the moon, and the sun is very heavy, and everything is in a state of stagnation and weakness, stopping and returning backward instead of progressing in the affairs of our lives.

During the disgusting and infernal COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, in the introduction of one of the interviews I did, I remember writing that the world after COVID-19 will be a different world, It is more different than at any other time in the history of Mithraic calendar, which has been 6377 years since its beginning.

During the disgusting and infernal COVID-19 pandemic of 2020, in the introduction to one of the interviews I did, I remember writing that the world would be a different world after Corona. A world that will be more different than any historical period based on the recent Mithraic calendar. We are Mithraic in the year 6377 and next December 21 we will enter the year 6378. I wrote this for your information.

Unfortunately, my prediction came true and now, in the middle of 2023, we are going through a period of stagnation and crisis, of course, wars and global crises, such as global warming and rapid droughts, floods, and destructive storms with terrible earthquakes, it has made the situation much more complicated.

For readers who do not know about the Mithraic calendar, I will briefly say that Mithra is the Syriac pronunciation of the Hebrew Michael and the Sumerian Mardukh. His house is on the planet Jupiter, his number in the planets of the solar system is 5, and his order in the concept of Pre-eternity and eternity, which is interpreted with one hand, is number six. In the current Kurdish language, he is called Mahr or Mahll. His name is the guarantee of marriage between man

and woman, and he is a symbol of forgiveness and his name is a sign of blessing, justice, courage, and freedom.

According to the Kurdish mystical teachings that are directly derived from Sumerian and Akkadian mythology, on the night of the 21st of December, Mardukh sacrificed the cow of creation and spilled its blood with his iron dagger. He turned the abstract world, which was only a pattern on the wall of time, into an objective world, and by overcoming the static energy of the earth, he moved the earth's rotation axis and made the wheel of creation rotate and he caused the earth to come out of the shadow and the sun to shine on it, and the black and white eye of Anu, which was manifested in its octagonal mirror cup, looked at the earth from the galaxy in the balance.

Anu is the father of a clan of Izads called Anunnaki in Sumerian and Akkadian mythology. Anunnaki or Anumagi, which means Mugh Anu or Anu Beg in the current Kurdish language, is the founder of a chain of kingdoms that rule the sky and the solar system. Their reign is not over. Rather, the reign of Anu's family continues until the end of the world, which is accompanied by the return of Mardukh, the grandson of Anu to the earth.

When Mardukh or Mithra returns to Earth, the world will undergo a big explosion and everything will return to its original state, that is, it will return to stillness and silence in the particle of creation. This article of creation was in passive shape in the beginning, but when the Creator God, who is higher and bigger than everybody, decided to create everything, he ignited this particle, and with the yellow and red color of this particle, a big explosion took place, and after cooling, the gases resulting from this explosion gave birth to galaxies and living beings.

Because the Catholic Church did not know the exact date of the birth of Jesus Christ, so Vatican the time of his birth located based on the appearance of the

star of Bethlehem in December 4354 Mithraic. Adding this number gives us another number, namely 16, and adding the digits of this number is 7, which is the number of Saturn and the ruler of Saturn is the Izad Enki or Engi.

Enki is the father of Mardukh and he is the first baptizer it was he who baptized Mardukh who was his son. Enki or Engi in Kurdish has the nicknames Awshan, Awshur, Awshaar, Gawshan, Gawzan, and Jawzan. Because water rains on Mardukh's head from Enki's hand. He is the symbol of the sixth Sign of June. In the Kurdish-Sorani pronunciation, we call him Gyan because the soul is from him. In Kurdish Kurmanji pronunciation, we call him Djan. Djan has the same meaning in Persian and Armenian. If you pay attention, the most famous Baptist in history is a person named John the Baptist. Djan and John have the same pronunciation.

Baptism in Kurdish means Shushtn and Shushtn is to pour water from above on someone or something.

The ritual of sacrificing a cow, which is a relic of the tradition of the god Mardukh at the feet of his father Izad Enki, is a son's thanksgiving to his father for giving him the gift of life. Of course, this cow, which is under Enki's feet and sits in line with the horizon line, is the ransom for Mardukh's life, and therefore killing this cow is the beginning of creation, and by killing this cow, time, which is a stagnant and abstract concept between Pre-Eternity and Eternity, i.e. Saturn and the sun, becomes an objective subject. That is, it comes to the eyes, and the use of the eye means the beginning of understanding phenomena, but the use of the ear means the beginning of understanding and finding out the relationships between phenomena that move in time.

The relationship between Enki, Mardukh, and the cow of creation is the manifestation of the concept of the Holy Trinity in ancient Sumerian and Akkadian mythology, which is manifested in the mysticism and religion of

ancient Kurdistan, which is called Anumagi in Sumerian and Makwan, Makan, Mahan, Matan, Madan, Mughan, Baghan, Kakawand, Kakaai, Agagi, Hejaji, Hejiji in ancient Kurdish(Pahlawi) and Modern Kurdish.

When this religion is called the Mughan religion, this word refers to an ancient Sumerian myth that, contrary to what is thought, was not formed in southern Iraq, but also formed in Kur-Dilmun or Chwar-Dari or Four Gates City before the great storm in the past twelve thousand years.

Kur-Dilmun has a sublime and flourishing culture and has had a direct impact on the religious culture of the people of ancient Egypt, ancient Anatolia, and ancient Greece.

Kur-Dilmun civilization was established in the city of Saqez in Kurdistan by the hand of the Anunnaki Gods.

Anyway, if the Mithraic calendar was to be based on the planetary number of the planet Jupiter, it should include five thousand years, or if it was considered based on his ordinal number concerning the sun, this calendar should have been six thousand years, but it is not. The basis of the Mithraic calendar is the planet Saturn, which is the sign of Pre-Eternity, i.e. the house of Enki, the father of Mardukh. But time in the navigation of an earthly witness is imagined from Saturn to the Sun, and from Saturn to the Sun is the concept of Distance, that is, the distance from the thumb to the little finger. But this hand is a unit for measuring the distance between two places in a unit of time. This hand belongs to the Creator God who created everything and surrounds the destiny and creation and the Anunnaki family. In the Kurdish language, we call this hand, which is a measure for traveling and measuring distance, Bst or Bngust and Span in English.

But this calendar, which is the size of the creator's hand and is in the among of Saturn and the sun, why should it be seven thousand years? If an earthly person wants to measure the distance from Saturn to the sun with his hand, he has to measure this distance with his hand for seven thousand years without stopping. I still do not understand the logic of this matter, but the truth of the story is this and I have told you.

But why do the ancient Jews hate the tribes that sacrificed their children or other human beings in front of the famous Moloch idol, The cow was sacrificed to create creation by Mardukh, which was the image of Mallka or Mardukh's god life, goes back to their correct deduction from the concept of Mardukh's creation, the creation of creatures, the truth of the soul, and the authenticity of the myth of life.

They had realized the truth of the Sumerian myth of Mardukh, so they presented the example of the story of Prophet Abraham and his son. But what is important is that Enki gave the cow that was under his feet to his son Mardukh to sacrifice, and by sacrificing that cow, life was created into the sense that we are. Because the origin of the soul of life is the cow, which is under the feet of Enki, and by sacrificing it, the thanksgiving ceremony for the birth of Mardukh is performed, and the life of Mardukh is bought with the life of the cow, and creation is manifested. Therefore, the ancient Jews reasoned that when the cow's life was sacrificed in exchange for the life of Mardukh, and with that, the lives of human beings were freed from darkness and abstract stagnation, why should we sacrifice humans again to give thanks for the blessing of life?

The height of this enmity was during the time of Xerxes of the Medes, which is manifested in the story of Queen Esther. The story of Esther happened in ancient Kurdistan and during the civilization of Eran Shahr.

Eran Shahr Or Sakastan was already Kur-Dilmun. On the other hand, this enmity existed in the land of Israel and a few centuries before the story of Esther, during the time of King Ahab of Samaria and Queen Jezebel in 850 BC. We first encounter Elijah in the Book of the Kings. Elijah is a living human spirit. He was the king of the Kur-Dilmun civilization and then by building a ship he saved some people and animals in the great storm. Enlil the ruler of the planet Mercury and his father Anu the ruler of the pole star gave him eternal life. He is the only human being who is alive with body and soul and never dies.

Elikhas or Elijah or Elias, about whom I have written and published a lot, is a nickname given to the last king of Kur-Dilmun. Today's Christian Kurds call him ('alaka), and in the ancient texts of Mannai of Dilmun land, it is called by the name of his father, Surigash.

Surigash is now called Sultan Suriya and overlooks the present-day Saez in Kurdistan.

He appears to some people in the form of different people and we have heard many stories about him.

Elikhas was a staunch opponent of human sacrifice. He is the student of Izad Mardukh, and Izad Mardukh is the king of the Anunnaki dynasty after his great-grandfather Izad Anu. That means Mardukh is a Magus, the first Magus and the king of all Maguses.

Elikhas gets into a fight with Jezebel, who is a Phoenician princess and condemns her actions. Jezebel was the Queen of Samara. Finally, Elikhas wins over Jezebel and the Jews who follow Jehovah win over the Jews who follow Ba'al and finally, Jezebel is killed.

Man and the originality of the soul and the prohibition of killing a human being as a sacrifice have been very complex and important topics in ancient times. The symbol of this spirit is the same cow that has sat in the expanse of the

horizon under the feet of Enki and is killed by Mardukh. Therefore, it is not a coincidence that we see cow worshiping from Egypt to India. But at the same time, this cow is also a symbol of wisdom because wisdom comes from the fertility of thought. That is, wisdom will not be manifested as long as the thought is not activated. That is, from the body of the cow and the soul of the cow, life has been manifested with its material and spiritual manifestation, that is, work and wisdom.

This is why we are trying to immortalize ourselves with logic, philosophy, wisdom, knowledge, social development (diffusion of culture), and striving for permanence. Because we humans know that the opportunity of life happens to us once in the way we are, so we should try to go through the stages of spiritual advancement. Of course, this spiritual advancement has a direct impact on our material and daily life. A person who has a weak soul has weak thinking, so he thinks less, and he thinks more about eating and more about sexual relations and facing the feeling of fear caused by death.

But what is interesting is the effectiveness of the soul in strengthening human thought for immortality. The one who can ignore the limitations of time and repeat himself with his works has reached immortality.

Art and literature are very powerful tools to achieve this immortality. A person who creates an artistic or literary work has immortalized himself. He doesn't have to become like Elijah or measure the distance between Saturn and the Sun in seven thousand years. By presenting a work that is the result of his great thought and imagination, he has crossed the distance between pre-eternity and eternity, and immortality is in the middle of this distance and in the cup of Anu, whose reflection comes to Anu's eyes, and from there he is the observer of

everything. Anyone (He/She/Trans) who can stand in front of Anu's eyes will be recorded in his mind and this is immortality.

Artists are immortal. They are in the memory of Izad Anu, the king of the Begs (Maguses) of history, and cannot be erased from his mind, so they are in the middle of the road and balance. That is the place where the famous spring of water of life is located, and it is the source of wisdom and knowledge. It means the place of immortality.

Therefore, the dynamism of thinking is the sense of wisdom, and wisdom, is also the origin of immortality. Therefore, when I wrote at the beginning of the introduction that I fell in love with the song "What Are You Thinking-Hva tenker du på?" by the group of kings and emperors (Konger og Keisere), this was not a claim but a heartfelt belief.

I think this very fresh content-text is enough. I would like you to read and enjoy the interview with the creative and artistic group of Konger og Keisere. Of course, I would like to remind you that these materials are copyrighted, so anyone who wants to misuse these materials will be dealt with legally. These contents do not conflict with the principles of the Christian Church and the beliefs of Judaism.

In the end, I must say that in this introduction I wrote some points that I always think about, however, I don't know what you will think at the end of this interview. But it is better to see and listen to this interesting song first:

What do you think? By Konger og Keisere:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F3rIfppCrwo>

Thanks to my good friends Ola, Sander, and Frederik. I wish them happiness and success.

Thank you!

Østland-Norway

Interview

1- Please present yourself: (Name, education, Civil status, and...)

Fredrik: I am Fredrik Simensen. Uneducated introvert with a lot of passions and not nearly enough time for most of them. So, I just do them all half-decent, you know. Seems to work out okay.



Fredrik Simensen, 14th July 2009

Ola: My name is Ola Gudbrandsson Støkket, I have a bachelor's degree in musical sciences, and I live with my fiancée in Mjøndalen.



Ola G.Støkket

Sander: I am Sander Wetterhus. I have a Bachelor of Musicology and am currently a student of psychology.



Sander Wetterhus

2-What is your artistic specialization?

Fredrik: Bass guitar and vocals and composition in general. I do not know what my greatest specialty would be. Maybe composition.

Ola: I would consider myself a musician with guitar as my main instrument although I also do lead vocals. Genre-wise, I would say I am a blues-rock guy.

Sander: I play drums and classical percussion. At the current moment, I am the drummer in a local rock band from Drammen, Konger og Keisere.



Sander Wetterhus, Drummer

3- When and how did you become interested in this field of art?

Fredrik: I have been playing bass since I was 14 or 15 years old. It was actually pretty random because I wasn't super into the technical aspects of music at all at that time, but my father had been a musician when he was younger (bassist actually) so it was probably in the back of my mind that I wanted to follow in his footsteps. It all started in music class, in the 9th grade. Every student was handed a cheap nylon guitar to learn basic chords together and then the teacher wanted one person to play the bass guitar. And that one person became me. Ever since I was smitten. I quickly realized that I had an ear for music and I kind of just knew where to go to find the notes that I wanted.



Fredrik Simensen

Ola: I think that would be around the age of 12 when my father, who played guitar in his youth, had bought an acoustic guitar. I saw it and asked if he could teach me some. I was playing a lot of 70s rock in the beginning but what I found the coolest at that time was the guitar boogie. It really grooved with me, and it still does!



Ola G. Støkket

Sander: I have grown up playing a variety of different instruments and chose to educate myself in the field. Music has always been an important part of my

daily life and being able to express oneself through this art is meaningful. I became interested in pursuing further education within the field whilst attending Videregående (High school music course).

4- Who was your motivator?

Fredrik: Other than wanting to impress my ex-bassist dad I quickly found some great bass icons to try and live up to. Steve Harris from Iron Maiden was a huge early influence as well as Geezer Butler, and later Geddy Lee from Rush. I think though that my biggest inspirations later in life have been from people like Rick Danko and Paul McCartney. But there are just so many, cannot name them all.

Ola: I started out as self-taught being motivated only by my idol Ritchie Blackmore, but during the years I have had several teachers who have managed to keep my interest alive and challenged me to achieve more. I would like to give a shoutout to Kjetil and Randall for teaching me most of the things that have developed my guitar playing and musical interest into what it is today.

Sander: My biggest motivators have been the different teachers I've had the pleasure of having throughout the years.



5- What was your parent's reaction?

Fredrik: My parents were very supportive! They gave me my first bass at 15, which I still have and use sometimes. It is still my favorite instrument, though the sound is not the best, but so easy to play on. And my family is still supportive. My brother too does music and we both gave out albums in the same time frame. Our mom has them both framed on her wall.

Ola: They were supportive!

Sander: My parents have always supported my pursuit of music.

6- When did start you as a professional musician?

Fredrik: I do not think I have reached a professional yet. There is still a way to go!

Ola: I would not say I am a professional musician or guitarist as it is not my main income and I do not base my economic security on this. As a guitarist and singer in a band, I would say we started trying to make it professional 8 years ago in 2015 when we released our first EP "Liv".

Sander: The professional aspect of being a musician started during my years at the university, whilst studying musicology. Albeit, I have never fully supported myself by playing drums.



7- Are you thankful and happy because of your activities as a musician and Bassist?

Fredrik: I am very thankful and happy, especially for my bandmates! But happy in general as well, yes. Having hobbies at all is a privilege, so getting to find someone to share said hobbies with is always a blast, especially with the kind of chemistry the three of us have when playing together! Could not ask for a better gig.

Ola: Absolutely! I am so glad that I spent a lot of my time as a boy practicing and achieving my musical goals so that I now can enjoy my playing and my own musical creations.

Sander: My activities bring me great pleasure both directly through the music and expression, and in the form of social bonds, great venues, and amazing experiences.

8- Fredrik! On your new CD's label, The Feet of Kings and Emperors, you are also featured as a Vokal in addition to guitarist. Please explain this to us about this word.

Fredrik: Ola normally sings the greatest number of songs when we play concerts, but on this album, I ended up having a lot. Next time Ola can have more! We will balance it back and forth!



Ola, Fredrik and Sander

8- Ola! On your new CD's label, The Feet of Kings and Emperors, you are also featured as a Vokal in addition to a guitarist. Please explain this to us about this word.

Ola: "Vokal" in Norwegian is equivalent to the word "Vocals" in English. It means that I am also a singer in the band and on this record.



8- Sander! On your new CD's label, The Feet of Kings and Emperors, you are also featured as a Vokal in addition to Drummer. Please explain this to us about this word.

Sander: The meaning of the title of the album would directly be translated as "Footprints".

9- What is music culture? What is music logic?

Fredrik: Every culture and era has its music. Whether it is a blessing or a curse though, I think we live in an unprecedented time of blended music cultures and genres. There is something for everyone. If you want to play it weird and different, there is an audience out there who can get behind it. They are also much easier to find now, because of how connected we all are. When it comes to logic, there is no logic. There are musical elements that can be universally catchy, but everyone is a little different.

Ola: That is a BIG question with no simple answer. Music culture is broad and wide and bases itself on countless traditions around the world. For me it is the best form of communication across cultures, it is a language that anyone can

speak regardless of age, ethnicity, or gender. Music culture to me is entertainment but also the joy of creation and the joy of sharing it with others.

Sander: The coming together of people to enjoy great art together.



10- Why does some melody become immortal?

Fredrik: I think there are a lot of reasons, but balance is an important one. Take Purple Rain, by Prince. It is not a particularly complex song, all things considered, but it is memorable and has enough variation for it to have a lasting impact. Also, the further you go back in the timeline of popular music, the more lasting impact music has, because it stands out more. Nowadays you can make great music - and it can be appreciated -but since there is so much else that is also great, there's not enough time in the limelight for this song to become immortal. I think that is sad, but also just have it must be now. There is just so much.

Ola: The easy answer for me would be by popular demand, but in truth, I believe it is more complex than this. Some melodies stick with people, and they are repeated countless times. I believe it is the numerous repetitions of those, be it in media or live concerts, that make it become immortal. Music, melodies, or songs always create an individual response from every person who hears it so I believe it is when a big enough group of people comes together and agrees that a melody or a piece of music is good or catchy, regardless of their individual opinions, THAT is when it becomes immortal.

Sander: Some music gets the status of immortal due to their distribution and ear-worm tendencies. If a catchy tune is sufficiently distributed, it gets known by enough people. These people then associate the music with personal experiences and memories - that in turn makes the tune significant and remembered.

11- Please tell me about the group of Konger og Keisere (kings and emperors), If you don't mind, please be patient and answer my many questions.

Ola: (I would prefer the use of "Konger og Keisere" as our name and maybe add a translation to show what it means.)

I. I must remind you that many websites have published articles and interviews about you on the Internet, but I would like to go into the details and reasons for the existence of this group. In fact, I would like to know the logic of formation, or better to say, how and by whom was the idea of forming your group proposed?

Fredrik: It all started with me writing a bunch of songs in Norwegian. I had never done that up till this point, it was always in English. But then I wrote a bunch and wanted to make it like a friend/musician collaboration project. At this point, I was working at the dorm of a music school, so originally it was intended for the students to be a part of it but ended up being put on hold for a few years.

Ola: The idea came from our bass player around 2010 when he had written an album which he had given the title "Konger og Keisere".

It would still take some years before we started playing together.

Sander: The group was formed by Frederik and Ola. I became a member about six years later but had played in other bands in the same area - and shared the stage with Kings and Emperors.

II. When was your group formed and what was your role in it?

Fredrik: Then in 2014 I finally had the chance to get Ola on board, who by this time was already an old friend from the time we went to that same school I was working at. We have been inseparable ever since! We formed the band with two other members who quickly drifted away from the project. This also led to me and Ola taking on full vocal duties which we were not really supposed to do. Since then, we have had members come and go, but then we finally found the missing piece in having the fantastic Sander on drums, who has been with us for the greater part of our journey. The band would never be the same without him.

Ola: Well. We had our first band meeting in 2013 and our first band practice in 2014 before we released our first EP in 2015. There are many different opinions on what milestone counts as the beginning but for me, it was on our first

practice in 2014. My role was only as a guitarist who said yes when the bassist asked if I wanted to join in on this project and then it has developed from there.

Sander: You must ask the others.



III. Basically, what made you feel that you can form a group? Where had this sense of solidarity come from?

Fredrik: I guess it started out as just having fun, which it still is really. We have always had ambitions, but they are reasonably small in scale. The most important thing is that we are together, having a blast. But of course, getting huge would be fantastic too!

Ola: I and the bassist had known each other for a few years through school and it was evident that we shared many musical interests through jamming together. I guess we realized that we were a good match. The solidarity of the band has been built over all these years, but it has never been better than with our current drummer who joined us in 2019.

Sander: We play well together and have a sense of seriousness in what we create that we share.

IV. I left some questions for the rest of the group. But again, I want to address the type of music and presentation of your band from a philosophical point of view:

Fredrik: If I grew up somewhere else, I would probably have different inspirations for sure. In this project, I was very influenced by similar-sounding Norwegian bands from the 80s and 90s as well as Scandinavian bands in general, indie, but these bands are not well known internationally. I have to say though, the way it stands now, other than lyrics being very typical of a naive Norwegian man, the spirit is lent from all over! I have so many inspirations that it is impossible to quantify them!

Ola:

Sander: I believe our music would have little effect in other parts of the world - mostly due to language and style.

IIIV. Think if you were in an Asian, African, or Middle Eastern country, would you be able to present the same group and the same type of music with this special quality of yours? If not, what was the difference between having the Norwegian spirit in the quality and type of presentation of the group of kings and emperors and the presentation if you had it anywhere else in the world?

Fredrik:

Ola: I have never thought about this, but it is an interesting question! Most of our lyrics are based heavily on the human experience. Either emotional or physical. I believe these are themes that everybody can recognize and be familiar with regardless of location or heritage. Also, when it comes to lyrics

you can get a million different interpretations from a million different people based on their own history and background. With that in mind, I believe Konger og Keisere could be able to hit a note with anyone in the world with an interest in rock music.

Sander:

V. Sorry! I forgot to ask where the idea of the names of kings and emperors came from. Is it because you live in a constitutional monarchy?

Sander: Ask the others.

Fredrik: The name comes from a song by the band DeLillos, which is one of my favorite bands. I just wanted to have one of their song names be my band name, and Konger og Keisere flows well and sounds grand and unique! It is also a great and underappreciated song, so I am glad I did not go with a lesser one.

Ola: The name is borrowed from a song by the Norwegian band DeLillos that bears the name Konger og keisere. The name, as you have mentioned earlier, translates to Kings and Emperors.



VI. Another question! What was the reception of art critics as well as the popularity of your group and your latest album that was released in 2021? What was it like in Scandinavia?

Fredrik: We have yet to find out! Among our loyal fan base, the reception and support have been great, but our reach beyond that is limited to this date.

Ola: Maybe this question needs changing. The album was released in May 2023, not 2021.

I would not say we have had that much of a response other than locally. We did a successful release concert in Drammen in May this year and some concerts after that during the summer. I feel we have a good number of followers here in our area, but we have not yet made any impact on national media.

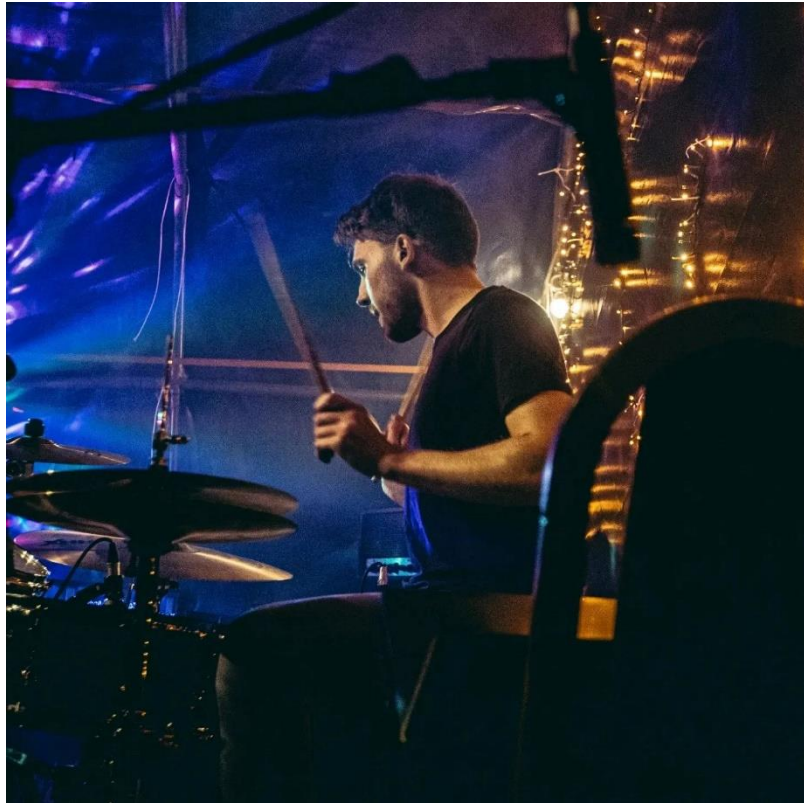
Sander: That has yet to be determined, but we are pleased with the release party.

12-To be honest, you are very professional, and you are a great Bassist. Please tell our readers around the world about your instrument and the style you play... There are many people in the world who would like to know more about Norwegian culture, including events related to music.

Fredrik: Thank you very much! I am, currently playing a Sandberg California VM4 and using a Geddy Lee Tech 21 to get my preferred sound. My playing style is at this point a mix of lots of influences. Mostly I keep things simple, but playful. It is mainly more important to me that the bass guitar fits in well with the music than me getting to do the most advanced lines. I sometimes do play too many fun lines... It is just so fun!

The Norwegian music scene is very sparse and full of smaller artists striving for a chance to shine. It is possible to break through, but if you do there are not a lot of places to go from there unless you get out of Norway. For Konger og Keisere, Norway is probably it, because of the language barrier and the type of music we play. There could be a possibility of branching into other Scandinavian countries too of course if we are being optimistic! I love the Norwegian music scene though.

Ola: Thank you so much for that, I have been developing my playing over the past 20 years using mostly my Fender Stratocaster. I am heavily influenced by Ritchie Blackmore and his playing style, but I also feel I have managed to create my own from that background. 10 years ago, I studied classical guitar and I believe that also has influenced how I think about music. I always like to see it from many different perspectives and to look beyond the genre I play for new ideas.



Sander: Rock drumming is a great Endeavor. Great community and a nice way to let out a bit of steam Make it groovy!

13-Please, tell us about the singers of the group, the composition method, and the lyrics of the songs on your album.

Fredrik: Both I and Ola have had some experience with singing prior to the band, having gone to music school together, but we were both fresh at the beginning of this band in which we were not supposed to sing. I still feel fresh in many ways! When I compose music, the vocals are often the first thing I ever hear in my head. What happens is that I start to write a sentence or two of lyrics, and then I somehow just know: this is how the melody would go. And if I do not like the melody, I start over. Not to say I have not written a lot of lackluster songs we never ended up playing, but this is usually how I do it. Then I will get

out my bass or a guitar while I keep writing and try and find the best ways to take it from there. As for the lyrics themselves, I like to think I have two types of lyrics. The most frequent type has some sort of longing and melancholy to them, in which I try to put words to my feelings on the human experience in multiple ways. The other type is just me wanting to have fun with the lyrics and phrases and not really taking into consideration how much sense they make or if they are telling a story or not.

Ola: Music is ever-changing, and I believe new forms of music will keep developing as long as artists and musicians challenge their listeners with new ideas or new methods of creating music. Just over the past 100 years, you can see so many styles have emerged. Some seem like they have evolved in a linear way, that someone has built on inspiration from a previous act, and so on. Others came with the possibilities that new technology presented. There is no limit to what music can be in another 100 years from now. I would not be surprised if it were something that I would perceive as otherworldly and strange. But what I love about music is that the appearance of a new style or genre does not mean that the old ones will disappear! We can keep building on old traditions as they will still be there to inspire us regardless of where in the future we exist. What will the future of music look like? Who knows? But I am very excited to see!



Sander: I will let the others answer this one. We come together to make new songs, but often one of us brings in an idea, that we develop together. So, we seldom start from scratch.

14- How do you see Music, art, and culture in your perspective? I mean your prediction for the future of music!

Fredrik: I have mixed feelings. I am sure the quality of music and art will never decline, even if my own perceptions were so. However, I am unsure about the future of music culture as we see it today. Concert venues are getting fewer and fewer and so are government-funded arts and culture systems meant to engage children and teenagers to get into art. There is really no way to fix it either because we live in a more isolated world now where people potentially can get everything they need online. But most will not. There is also the looming threat

of the rise of AI in music, but if anything, I am optimistic that this might at least help engage younger people in controlling said AI and making music and art!

Ola: I do not know. I am sure I could help inspire or teach younger generations, but not before I have had more experience. I do not feel ready for such a role with my current abilities and knowledge. To be a good motivator or teacher I think years and years of experience are needed. I'm not there yet maybe someday!

Sander: I think and hope that our genre will persist and that the live culture will return and reach new heights after the pandemic.

15- Can you become one part of the cultural movement for motivation in youth or new generation in your country and so than?

Fredrik: I wish I could, though admittedly our audience tends to be older since we play a genre with nostalgia to a genre from the 80s and 90s. I do hope to motivate whoever is there to listen though and they are all deeply motivating to me personally!

Ola: That is a big question! I believe that responding to everything with patience and kindness is a good solution. We must listen more than we speak, take in, and understand that everybody is fighting their own battle in this world. To not always try to win, but to be a good participant and a support to people around us. As an individual that is what I can contribute with.

Sander: Sure!

16- How can you help our world become a better place to live?

Fredrik: Only by giving what I must give. Additionally, I found ways that I could raise awareness through my means of music. I guess the message of lyrics could play a part, though I find that whenever I try writing political lyrics it turns into something overly preachy and stale. I have some political lyrics out there, but they are mostly kept very vague, to not bring too much attention to themselves and be more like a symbolic meaning.

Ola: I could not find a good answer for your last question, all the things I thought about became too much like a cliché to me. I will next find all the pictures and the links for you!

Sander: By sharing great music with words of hope and humanity.



17- Have you more words to say or suggest for our readers?

Fredrik: If you want to make something, just get out there and do it. Musical equipment can sometimes be expensive but start with the cheapest possible option and go from there. And have fun! Also, check out our album Fotspor on Spotify!

Ola:

Sander: Stay groovy!

https://open.spotify.com/artist/7reo5Id1WL52JYU06Q5AaW?si=SSnzQuOOTt2eMwfZ68OcSg&fbclid=IwAR3hi4l_-Tf987MV0sy8jUEI9HHMrH2j_SzeSP-eB0c775XPe5LzxGEu2Ck&nd=1

<https://www.facebook.com/kongerogkeisere>

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