



MEDIA RELEASE

Zurich do-it-yourself label celebrates its 20th anniversary

Ikarus Records releases anniversary compilation

And suddenly it's been two decades: What started out as an artist collective with no ambitions of success is – watch out! – still the same today: A community of musicians who are indifferent to commercial success in the music world and who have remained true to themselves.

Twenty years ago, a handful of bands from the Zurich area came together to join forces in order to get concerts. This has turned into much more than anyone imagined at the time: Ikarus Records artists have played over 1000 concerts to this day and a total of 77 records were released on vinyl, CD, mini-CD, tape and/or digitally until and including 2024. This has led to a resonance in national and international music magazines, music blogs and other channels, which today would be formulated by promotion agencies as follows: 'Ikarus Records has caused an international sensation.' Of course, that would be exaggerated; even in international music circles, the Ikarus bands always led a niche existence. Nevertheless, the collective can be a little proud: Over the years, some records have been sent by post as far away as Japan or emailed to radio stations in the remotest corner of Australia or the USA.

It was around ten years ago when the small do-it-yourself label in Switzerland suddenly emerged from the underground and was present in the Swiss music scene for a while, albeit laterally. At the time, the idea of professionalizing the label was on the table. The members decided against it in the grassroots democratic way that the collective has functioned from the beginning and still does today: They didn't want to overdo it with the altitude and prevent its delicate wings from melting! The promotion of the releases, the booking of concerts and the shipping from the mail order are still carried out as volunteer work. Who knows, maybe that's why Ikarus Records still exists.

It cannot be proven, but over the last 20 years Ikarus Records has contributed to the development of 'underground music scenes' in Switzerland beyond the niche. Today, the unconventional, the eccentric, the radio-friendly, the weird, etc. are much more welcome than they used to be and now, there are all kinds of alternative milieus and mini-labels.

Ikarus Records is celebrating its 20th anniversary with an exclusive, various anniversary compilation: from unreleased songs (some of which were rediscovered by chance in the archive) to classic album outtakes (from past album releases) and new tracks composed specifically for this collection. As diverse as the artists are, the selected pieces have one thing in common: Its productions are raw and close to the live sound. Of course, as always, no falsifying production techniques have been used.

About the anniversary release

- The 'Ikarus Records 20 Years Anniversary Compilation' will be released exclusively on Bandcamp: <https://ikarusrecords.bandcamp.com/album/20-years-ikarus-records-compilation>
- Information about the creation, the artist and year of production of each song can also be found on Bandcamp ...

All releases from Ikarus Records

- <https://ikarusrecords.ch/mailorder/>