

A Mile in My Shoes

Klaus – Size 9

“That is because it was the 1968 era – being poor wasn’t a problem then.”

Maybe that despite being well known I never got rich is a sign of quality for me.

Well, I think our system is really bad.

That rich people have more rights than the poor, that they find it easier to assert their rights than poor people. That’s really bad. And that’s why I am even more proud of it.

It has something to do with the ‘68 movement. At that time, it wasn’t a problem to be poor.

It wasn’t a loss of status or dignity – on the contrary, it was a relief.

You didn’t need to worry about all sorts of things, about your career or getting ahead in your profession – nothing!

You had completely different thoughts in your mind. Freedom was on your mind.

And that was probably the time when I recognised that.

Maybe I even lived it.

And the point is that I stuck with it.

You have to see freedom from different points of view, this was a personal freedom.

That was also the reason why I couldn’t maintain it, because personal freedom requires a certain level of irresponsibility.

And that kind of responsibility... when the high was gone, it would return after all and eventually you had to face it.

That’s why the times of ‘68 died out.

It developed relatively quickly, it was that TIME.

If you didn’t experience it, you can’t imagine it. It was an era.

That’s why those days of ‘68 were so famous. If you experienced it, you don’t

talk about it much, if you didn't you speak about it a lot, because it was so mysterious. It didn't last so long,

It was 10 or 11 years, no more. There was no sudden enlightening experience, we just had to face the issue of personal freedom...

There were lots of drugs, there was LSD, that was a proper drug, and dope and the other ones didn't exist yet. Those were the main drugs.

And the healthiest ones by far, if you ask me.

And then there was that joy of being free.

It was a certain atmosphere, and then later it tipped over, or, adapted to reality.

But I still stayed the same, I became a busker at the time, a real busker, that was my main occupation, 4 times a week, at least. I was always local in Cologne, I wrote my songs and I lived outside the system and became very political.

My statements are all protest songs, right?

And I didn't have a problem with having so little money.

It worked, you only need a fridge for 10 people and a car, if at all.

You don't have any problems, you don't need to buy all the crap anymore, and you don't even miss it.

And therefore you need less money and you live better. Absolutely. I know that now.

But it's like this, the system just works like that. A life like that is portrayed in such an undignified way, and they fill you up with all the shit and the money and the advertisements that they don't let you have the thought that it might be better if you bought less and earned less.

I also fight against a lot of things in the system, you know.

For example, the terrifying financial differences – starting with how money works, you know? It's really bad.

It's about war and all that, it's really bad.

This coronavirus is an interesting phenomenon in my opinion.

Now we should make sure that universal basic income is introduced. This is the perfect time for it.

Because of the law... now those poor pigs really will have a problem! If all the free-lancers are fired, if they don't have a contract, then they have nothing in the

long-term, and it's definitely going to continue for a few months and they will have problems.

And in my opinion, we need to make sure that we fight for the introduction of universal basic income. We should really fight for it.

I'm one of those people, right? I mainly do small-scale art, often without a contract.

I don't work for the big companies, more for the ones who are more, ethical; they are mostly small event organisers.

Ones who can't pay big salaries, right?

But they are the ones who, if they are working professionally, they are often booked up, even for a whole year ahead.

And if one of my events is cancelled... Now everything is being cancelled... I can't say they'll postpone it, because their calendars are full, where should they put me?

So, basically, it was really new story and it came about through LSD and cannabis, I'm sure of it.

All the music, the rock music that really happened came from me, and it was brilliant music right?

Think about Berlin and Rudi Tutschke, and if you think of the K1 commune, it was both, right? Teufel and so on...

They both lived their personal freedom very intensely, and propagated it too, and they were also politically active, that's what we all did.

I did too, that was how I became political.

But I'm sure it left it's traces

Just as every movement leaves its mark.

That's clear. A movement is like a wave, it has a peak and a trough, it's always like that, but it moves. That's the interesting thing, that's the beautiful thing about it. The thing that makes sense.

Movements! They are great!

Due to the whole story with the coronavirus, it has pushed everything else to the sidelines, which is completely ridiculous.

If I was believing in fake news, or someone like that, I would say they are laying

it on so quickly so we don't think of the climate catastrophe.

Or, an economic crisis which is being justified being it, but would have happened anyway.

It could be something like that, I don't know, I haven't analysed it yet.

It is very strange, because we haven't done this well for ages, with regards to the economy.

And there haven't been any wars for 80, 90 years, that's a great story too!

Even though our economy only exists due to the wars that we lead elsewhere.

But they don't want to think about that, right?

And if someone tells them, but that's what it's like, then they will say, you are an arse, you are our enemy, they don't want to have anything to do with it, and the refugees, they should stay where they come from, and that kind of thing comes out.

Yes, it's bad, but unfortunately, it's normal.

Anyone who can see through this, they have a moral responsibility to explain it and stand up to it.

It's very clear, that's how I see my responsibility. Look at a child! People should look at the children!

They don't have it naturally, they are injected with this, and then they learn it, more and more and more, some more, some less, but it's about education.

Why shouldn't there be good people? It's bad, that that has become a swear word... I think a good person is super! We should all be a good person!

What should change is responsibility for each other, or for people. There is much too much egotism, which is sold as freedom within our democracy, but it isn't freedom, it's only things that are permitted within the system. And there are rules, there are many wrong rules.

That's one thing, and the other thing is the consumption situation.

The advertising industry, we need to get tougher on that, for example the problem with boredom.

That's the reason the advertising industry can function like that and have so much success.

Because we need the consumption because of our boredom which is very

uncomfortable.

We don't know how to deal with it.

Because basically those with great spiritual power must stay within this system which keeps us going from morning to night, in order to penetrate everything in the story of life, death and everything related to that - love, responsibility...

You need a lot of power to do that. Boredom is always the excuse for not doing it.

And that is a really bad story.

I don't exclude myself either. I don't just want to talk about it. Yes.