

Introduction

100 songs within 10 years – that’s my, DrScythe’s, ‘Project 100’. Every month I’ll release a new original song I wrote, played, recorded, mixed, mastered and made the video for. In between I’ll upload ‘Doctor’s Vaccines’, short acoustic songs (under 2 minutes) about political stuff and acoustic versions of the Project 100 tracks (both not part of the 100).

The overall genre is Rock with flavor – synths, violins or even harpsichords. My influences are way too many to list them all – but I’d say one can identify them song by song. Each one’s going to be different, so subscribe to stay tuned!



History

My path as a musician began when my father showed me his 1974 Framus S-380 bass in 2004. I wanted to play bass then but he told me to learn guitar first. So we headed to a local store and bought a classical guitar. This led to an urge to own an electric guitar and in May 2005 I bought my first one. From there it was practicing as often as possible (my sister wasn’t too fond of it) and soon I began writing songs (still got the first one at hand) and played Rammstein songs with some friends. After we were joined by a drummer we even began rehearsing one of my own songs. But as we all were dependent on our parents for driving and had no rehearsal room this ‘band’ quickly dissolved.

The next attempts of forming bands (one britrock, one medieval folkrock) both were more successful in the beginning, rehearsing regularly, playing covers and own songs. But in the long run they both fell apart as the searches for certain musicians took too long (singer, drummer, guitarist...). For the medieval folkrock band (namely ‘Meinthat’) my fiancée encouraged me to sing and so I began singing.

After the final efforts of reviving Meinthat failed the two of us continued to play some evergreens (Whiskey In The Jar anyone?) but in the end we gave up the band’s room. Then I took on a new hobby: photography. By the end of 2012 I was very close to selling all the guitars except for the acoustic one and focus on photos (get it? Focus on...meh...).

I went through all the songs I’ve written over the years and suddenly realized it would be a waste to just throw it all away. And so I decided to learn more about recording and mixing, practiced on two Christmas Spoof songs, spent some time on graduating (can call myself a Bachelor of Science E-Government) and finally began the project as a YouTube channel in November 2015.

Just after I uploaded my first song a contest was announced in Germany’s largest forum for musicians. D’Angelico were looking for two endorsers. Well, I love semi-acoustic guitars, I love the D’Angelico design. But I said to myself: “You’ll only apply if you can release another two songs”. I did, I applied and almost won (runner-up). That boosted my confidence immensely but wasn’t the end. The European distributor was interested in lending me stuff, especially as I wrote many reviews in the ‘musiker-board’ before. So I was lend two wonderful D’Angelico guitars and some Triad-Orbit stuff to try and write about. What more do you need to boost your motivation?

Project 100

Right after I’ve released the 7th and 8th song I realized that two of those eight songs weren’t part of the initial ‘more than 30 songs’. That means I am close to forty songs in the catalogue

and as a matter of fact there are still many more ideas and parts lying around. This revelation spawned an idea: to record one hundred songs. I am the first to admit that I had no idea where the DrScythe project was headed. Just go on making songs and videos? Form a band at some point to play live but change the whole approach accordingly? Both options lacked something to me. I know that I am quite disciplined so just going on releasing songs wouldn't be much of a problem no matter if there's a lot of fans or not. But with no goal to achieve it felt a little random. And forming a band might not even work so my brain came up with a finish line:

100 original songs in 10 years!

Excluding:

- Covers/Traditionals
- Acoustic versions of own songs
- the recently introduced Vaccines
- Collaborations with more than ~20 sec guest part

Some may think that 100 songs over the course of 10 years aren't that many others may be impressed by the sheer number. I myself simply instantly loved the idea of looking back one day and having released one hundred tracks.

Technically there's a little discrepancy between the 100 songs and ten years when releasing monthly. It's either the 123rd song in November 2025 or the 100th in December 2023. But one central element of project management is headroom and I think it's fair to leave some space and just say: completing 100 songs within 10 years is big enough for one artist alone. If I can pull it off in seven so be it. I don't want to force a certain date for the 'big finale' so if it turns out to be April 2024 it'll be April 2024.

So let me explain the exclusions. The 'Vaccines' are obviously just for fun and do not count as a full song (especially as they're limited to 1:59min). Although I am giving away the surprise now I want to say that I want to do acoustic versions of some of my songs and some traditional folk songs in the future on a random basis which are not even included in 'monthly release' (thus the 'random' tag) under the label 'DrScythe raw' or something like that. This would also include covers of copyrighted newer material if I'll ever decide to do those.

As for collaborations it will depend on if they're ever going to happen. I guess that the number of my future subscribers will be the central figure here for others to be interested in a collab. If there'll be collabs I will allow the song to be a part of the 100 only if the guest part is around 20 seconds total. Anything way beyond that will get a different label. What I'd see as a possibility is to reissue a previously released song with a guest musician and simply do not count it again. But that's to be figured out later...

Fun facts:

I'll keep some statistics. All the instruments used are on their 1st set of strings since I began the project (and no, I don't need to change them, I don't use regular nickel- or stainless steel roundwounds) but sooner or later that'll change. I am on the 5th pack of coffee. I use too many different picks to keep track of those accurately.

FAQ

Things that might become FAQs because they already were asked more than once

1. Mixing. I do not intend to achieve the full blown modern 'everything to the max' sound. I try to get the best balanced mix where everything has its place and nothing is overly compressed or processed and give each song some sort of unique voice. That does NOT mean that I'll settle for the first balanced mix or stop learning about mixing...
2. Mixing 2. Why myself. First of all: I want the things to sound like I want them to sound like and I don't think anyone knows what I want them to sound like. Second reason: I

am very interested in mixing so better practice with my own stuff. Then: time. I want to release tracks constantly and not wait for somebody to mix them. Fourth: money.

3. The videos do not show the actual recording sessions. Due to very loud neighbors I am forced to record vocals whenever possible and so I separated audio from video in advance to avoid possible problems.
4. Why YouTube. There are several reasons. One being that I just don't like e.g. SoundCloud. Another one and more importantly: I think it's a little bit more personal to show me and my face performing the songs. A very small compensation for not playing live in the beginning but still better than nothing. And finally: it is fun. After finishing the mixing and mastering I can just do stupid things in front of a camera. Who wouldn't like that?
5. Covers. Well...living in Germany releasing a cover would possibly work for the rest of the planet but I couldn't see my own video if YouTube puts the GEMA screen on it. And I want to establish my own stuff. I know that most of the biggest channels became big because of covers – but at the moment I am doing this for fun and would prefer doing covers later on (or live only as a sort of gimmick).
6. Your Question here?