

MY SISTER GRENADINE
BAND INFO

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My Sister Grenadine lives at various places. She moves between silence and diversity, surface and structure, sound and melody. She tells stories of awkward volcanoes and homeless cities, of curiosity and solidarity, of combed teeth and colliding landscapes.

My Sister Grenadine play folk with the joy of experimenting. Built from a variety of instruments, entwined with voices and shimmering details. Their music is a concentrated play with sound and language, near and far, arrangement and improvisation. Free Folk, John Cage Pop, radical softness.

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My Sister Grenadine are:

Frieda Gawenda - horn, flugelhorn, objects, singing
Vincenz Kokot - ukulele, guitar, vocals

My Sister Grenadine is:

My Sister Grenadine is not a sister.
It is an open box where everyone puts letters in.
Unwritten ones, strange ones. Full of sharp thoughts and nonsense.

The box is not a box, though.
It is a steady sound. Mystical mysterious. Never ending, changing.
Constantly standing still and always moving.

The sound is more like whispering.
Silent words in our ears. About night and day and everything in between.
All again and all different again.

This is what we wish to share.
With a sister.
With all of them.

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Press:

"My Sister Grenadine is a songwriting project that gets you with its stunning songs, which always sound light and sensual but are enormously complex and substantially designed. Very fresh, very skillfully conceived and very, very beautiful." - *Intro*

"Great Berlin Discovery!" - *Rolling Stone*

"My Sister Grenadine are showing the way and setting the bar a little higher for what is possible off the beaten track of the singer/songwriter genre today". - *Hessian Public Broadcast*

"My Sister Grenadine are probably one of the few bands who - despite successful records! - live only with the use of all their senses. - *Title Magazine*

Links:

<https://mysistergrenadine.com>
<https://mysistergrenadine.bandcamp.com>
fb/instagram: mysistergrenadine

Biography:

My Sister Grenadine was created in 2007 as the acoustic project of the musician Vincenz Kokot. Already the debut-album "*shine in the dark*", which was released the following year via Solaris Empire, was very positively received by audience and press. The renowned newspaper ZEIT declared it the "Singer-Songwriter Album of the Summer, without any Songwriterschmuck".

After a year with various tours through Germany and neighboring countries, the remix-album "*more like a snowflake*" was released in 2009 via AnalogSoul on which ten different artists each presented their version of a song from the debut-album. At the same time, My Sister Grenadine began to work on new material, using electric guitars, effect devices and loop pedals on the one hand, and started rehearsing with Angelina Kartsaki and Felix Koch on the other hand: the band grew into a trio that often performed its songs merely acoustic, just with ukulele, violin and trumpet.

The result of this twofold change was shown on the following album "*subtitles & paper planes*", which was released by Solaris Empire in 2010. It was chosen by the Neue Musikzeitung (NMZ) as the "only valid definition for the genre of independent singer/songwriters". The double album consists of two different and at the same time interconnected musical worlds: While the first part goes on a surreal journey through everyday experiences with acoustic songs, the second part contains more experimental and partly electronic tracks that explore associative soundscapes.

After a solo support tour of Vincenz Kokot, My Sister Grenadine were on tour again as a trio in 2010 and 2011, performing in Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Italy and other European countries - now all as an acoustic trio on stage. They played numerous concerts, ranging from intimate house concerts to appearances in the Red Salon of the Berlin Volksbühne, thereby consolidating their reputation as a unique live band that can develop its magic in many different contexts.

In 2012, My Sister Grenadine returned to the stage and presented a whole series of new pieces on several tours and at various festivals (including Fusion and Transeuropa). Afterwards they recorded their third studio album "*spare parts*", which was released in spring 2013 via Solaris Empire in Germany and via Fool Tribe in Ital. It also received a strong positive response - with "*porcelain*" a song was chosen for the ROLLING STONE-sampler; the magazine called the band a "great Berlin discovery". Extensive record release tours through Germany, Switzerland and Italy followed.

Due to personal separations, My Sister Grenadine paused in 2014 and 2015. Kokot used this phase for other artistic projects, such as the release of his first book of poetry named "löschpapier" or the work with movement & improvised music in various performance projects. From 2016 on he wrote new songs for My Sister Grenadine, which he performed together with Frieda Gawenda in changing constellations - among others as support for Sarah Neufeld (Arcade Fire). In spring 2017 My Sister Grenadine went on tour as a duo through Germany, followed by various festival appearances (e.g. Camp Topsy) during summer.

In autumn 2017 My Sister Grenadine grew into a quartet with Sebastian Kunas and Gisbert Schürig and worked on a new, multi-layered sound. While Kokot's vocals and ukulele/guitar playing as well as the joy of reduction and experimentation still form the musical centre, new colors joined the palette with horns, polyphonic singing, percussion and abstract live electronics. They toured together in May 2018, played several festivals in summer, toured in the Czech Republic and played a number of other concerts at the end of the year.

The new album "wounding the weather" was also recorded with Sebastian Kunas and Gisbert Schürig - now present as guest musicians - and together with Nicolas Schneider at Trafo Hannover in autumn 2018. Again Dirk Simmig (Odb-Studios Hamburg) was responsible for the mastering, the artwork was contributed by the Berlin artists Jolanda Todt and Richard Rocholl.

It was released in May 2019 via Solaris Empire/ Broken Silence, accompanied by a record release tour through Germany as well as further concerts and tours in Germany and other European countries. For 2019 there was also a change in the line-up of the band, David Lima joined Frieda Gawenda & Vincenz Kokot as part of My Sister Grenadine.

In early 2020 Frieda and Vincenz will go on tour in Czech Republic again, playing old & new songs, feeling happy to be back!