

At Sea Compilations

La Danse Macabre 20 - 10th Anniversary Edition

Compilation · 30 June 2026 · At Sea Compilations
Genre: Darkwave / Post-Punk / Gothic · Dark Folk / Neoclassical

When we published the first edition of La Danse Macabre a decade ago, I certainly wouldn't have imagined to shape this series for the next ten years. But here we are now: at the 20th edition and almost exactly ten years after the first one. And that's all thanks to your support over the years! A lot has happened during this time. The music landscape has fundamentally changed. Today, even more than a decade ago, almost everything takes place on the big algorithmic platforms.

Handmade, carefully researched and curated compilations like this series perhaps remain more relevant than was predicted to me by many back when I first had the idea for the At Sea Compilations in 2012. With this series in particular, we have showcased hundreds of bands over the past decade - some no longer exist and others have become known beyond the confines of our scene. La Danse Macabre was never a series that focused exclusively on Dark Wave or Gothic Rock. It was always a series that consciously saw itself as stylistically broader, consistently picked up on trends and never felt comfortable in narrow categorisations. It always encouraged active curiosity.

For this edition, however, we deliberately looked back and invited musicians and bands from past editions - especially from the early years. I noticed that numerous bands sound quite different today. In this respect, this anniversary edition is not just a pure look back after all. Because just as my approach has matured over the years, the work of many musicians has evolved as well.

For these reasons, this edition is characterised by a wide variety of styles, different moods and individual approaches. Here in Germany in particular, the concept of 'music from the dark wave scene' is still too often viewed within very narrow confines. I have always disagreed with that. That is why I would also like to use LDM20 to demonstrate just how diverse the concept of 'scene music' can be without losing its essential core.

So we invite you to join us on a 137-minute musical journey through a wide variety of styles and moods. Because that is, at its core, what the last ten years have been about - and what the coming years will be about.

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31 tracks
Organisation: Axel Meßinger
Cover artwork and pixel design: Locomalito
Compilation mastering: Danijel Zambo

ABOUT AT SEA COMPILATIONS

At Sea Compilations is an independent music project from Chemnitz, Germany, founded in 2012 by **Axel Meßinger**. Its thematic compilations on Bandcamp have featured more than 500 artists from all over the world - free to take part in, with the rights staying with the musicians and no AI-generated music. The main series are **La Danse Macabre** (darkwave, post-punk, gothic; since 2016) and **Snowflakes** (dark folk, neofolk, neoclassical; since 2012).

CONTACT

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