

# PRESS INFORMATION

---

## Attention please – "Gruppa Karl-Marx-Stadt" invites to "Russendisko"

### Long Version

Rise the curtains, switch off your thoughts and let your legs take control – "Gruppa Karl-Marx-Stadt" is calling! Having started as a duo in 2013, they evolved to a five headed combo with a love for "Russendisko" influenced by ska, latin music and funk. In the past few years, Alexey and Julian passed on their passion for Balkan beats to their comrades Stephan, Thomas and Johann. Today, the five boys use the Balalaika, guitar, trombone, trumpets, saxophone and drums to make an impression on the audience and to get the listeners to move their bodies uncontrollably to these sounds. The influence of the Russian Skacore band Leningrad is not only audible but essential. Alexey, the frontman, explained: "It all started with covering their songs. That made us grow and we developed our own style over the course of time." With the name of the band, he also draws parallels to his homeland Russia. After all, the initial Leningrad is today known as St Petersburg and Karl-Marx-Stadt is now called Chemnitz (again). Therefore, "Gruppa Karl-Marx-Stadt" does not only provide dancy sounds, but also a trip back in the times of the "Iron Curtain". To build a bridge to nowadays, they use their lyrics to express the everyday madness – from superstars to "Soljanka", from casual acquaintance to "the happiest day". And what is so bad about being jobless at all? A lot has to be read a little ironically. A nice "Balkan-Disko" basis throws the gates wide open for rhythms of all kind. In fact, the multi-faceted range from rumba and cha cha to electro-pop is quite educating in terms of rhythm, instrumentality, and composition. Without a doubt: these boys know their business. Thus, it was no surprise that the second record "Russkoje Disko" has outdone its predecessor. The first work from 2015, "Budem Weselitsja" ("We are going to have fun") was mostly based on the songs of Leningrad, whereas the new EP from 2017 is a hundred percent made out of their own creativity. The passionate musicians perform their work powerfully and electronically refined. Stefan concludes that concerts ideally run like this: "The crowd is sweating, we are sweating and everyone is having fun."

## Medium Version

The horn section is ready, the drums are longingly waiting to get in contact with the drumsticks and the massive balalaika already announces its powerful sound optically. The crowd experiences rising Balkan-Fever and goes ape on the first rhythms. Why? Because "Gruppa Karl-Marx-Stadt" is in the house and they have brought joie de vivre set to music! Since 2013, while the world has gone madly into political saber-rattling, the combo from Chemnitz tries hard to remain the German-Russian friendship. And there is no better way to do so than by making music! The quintet roams the land with its mixture of self-penned compositions and cover versions of the Russian Skacore band Leningrad to make Balkan-Pop socially acceptable. Be it rumba, cha cha or funk – no rhythm is secure from them. The lyrics are written in a funny and charming manner and deal with everyday situations. True fans know: there is no shortage of anecdotes either. That fact alone should make you consider visiting one of the concerts.

## Short Version

A powerful horn section and driving rhythms combine to extravagant Balkan-Pop: "Gruppa Karl-Marx-Stadt" is in the house and invites to "Russendisko"! As a little present, the quintet has brought joie de vivre set to music and a matching soundtrack for a sound party. Orgies of dance and a sweating crowd is, of course, included.

