

Attached you find the original Interview before the translation from English to German between Markus for Soundmagnet.eu and Johannes Carlsson from The Hawkins.

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**Markus (Soundmagnet):** Hello and thanks for the interview. Your Live EP "In The Woods" was recorded in a forest, in an old barn and in a brewery. Why did you decide to record your songs in this locations?

**Johannes (The Hawkins):** It started with the idea of playing in the woods. We got really fascinated by the idea; what would it sound like, how would it feel, what would it look like. We planned and executed it in early June 2020. Luckily, it was a beautiful day with no rain at all. Otherwise we would have been fucked. It was all filmed by our friends Janne Järvinen and Marcus Haglund.

After that we got the offer to play live at Brasstacks Brewing, at the time of brewing beer. Of course we wanted to play! And I (being the recording engineer and producer) was very curious about how I would battle with the acoustics of the brewery walls. A lot of fun! We had also planned to record Fisherman Blues in a live setting with Ida, Hannes and Linn. So we decided to record it in a barn in the countryside of Sweden. This also turned out so good, that we decided to include all of these recordings on a live album.

**Markus:** According to the live videos for the EP, you miss being able to perform in front of an audience. What are your further plans until the Corona pandemic is finally under control?

**Johannes:** We are about to release another 7-track EP in June 2021. It's called "Aftermath". We are also working on doing some tours, but due to the pandemic it's all a bit risky to plan. What's so good about this pandemic-situation, for me at least, is that I have had the urge to think creatively about playing, and how to do a live session etc. I like that tickling creativity. We will most probably do a live stream release concert in June. I'm really excited about that.

**Markus:** For "The Fisherman Blues", you decided to have Gospel-like background singers, which makes the song work not only in a barn, but also well in a stadium. How does the Songwriting work for you, do you orientate yourselves on certain idols?

**Johannes:** Well, we are all just a sum of experiences, including music influences. But when writing I seldom think about other music. I focus on what I want it to sound like, what emotion I want to express, and what images should be painted. But of course all influences play a part, may it be consciously or subconsciously.

**Markus:** Some of your songs were recorded in a brewery. Can you tell us about the brewery and how your session there came about?

**Johannes:** They are called Brasstacks Brewing We have been a part of brewing beer with them once before and they do it splendidly. They are great music fans and very keen on doing fun stuff, so they wanted us to play there and so we did! Videos from this will be released in February 2021.

**Markus:** Many Nordic bands do not come to Austria, even in Corona-free times. Do you have plans to visit our small country when it's possible again?

**Johannes:** Of course we want to come to Austria! We've only been once before and we intend to do it many times more! But you know it's a whole process with booking and shit. But we will come! Hopefully this year!

**Markus:** Streaming is becoming increasingly popular and is not stopping at the Rock'n'Roll scene. What do you think about the trend towards the digitalization of music?

**Johannes:** Well, the digitalization of music is in general a very positive thing. I think it democratizes musical experiences more, and invites more people to explore new paths in music that they might have never considered before. It is in general a great door opener. I welcome it.

**Markus:** Are there any other bands in your home town which you can recommend to us?

**Johannes:** Yes! Check out the band Pasted. Great Swedish Punk.

**Markus:** Many thanks for the interview! The last words are yours.

**Johannes:** Check us out, @thehawkinsband on Instagram and TikTok.

Buy our fresh vinyls and t-shirts at [thehawkins.bigcartel.com](http://thehawkins.bigcartel.com)

Thank you for having us!