

Schkeuditzer Kreuz announce European Tour 2023 + single, video, album and more

Australian-based post-industrial punk artist [Schkeuditzer Kreuz](#), alias Kieren Hills, is self-described as "one human and some machines, making noise, in the face of it all." The latest single and video, 'Joy', showcases a gargantuan doom-laden groove and a droning, snarling synth, and is gaining widespread attention from industrial, punk, and dark alternative music communities worldwide. 'Joy' is the first single from the second [Schkeuditzer Kreuz](#) LP, *No Life Left*; the album will be released 25 August 2023 on [Bad Habit Records](#) Australia; distributed in the US by [Sorry State Records](#); and supported in Europe by extensive touring during September and October.

On the new single, Kieren recently told Europe's [Side-Line Magazine](#):

"Joy is the end - unbridled ecstatic destruction - the warming glow of smashing glass, the satisfaction of a hammer through a wall. Break what breaks you - find the structure that's keeping you under, and tear it apart, raze it to the fucking ground."

Kieren went on to tell Germany's [Orkus! Magazin](#):

"The song came together so easily - like I had the whole thing in my head before I started. I put that growling synth sound together and it just flowed; the only thing I changed from the first recording was one spoken sample... It was simple, it was loud and full of bangs and crashes..."

The [Schkeuditzer Kreuz](#) tour of Europe kicks off in Newcastle, UK on 14 September, before taking in dates across Germany, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Czechia, Slovakia, Austria, Serbia, Italy, and Switzerland with more dates still being added; and winds up in Stuttgart, Germany on 21 October.

Live promoters wanting to fill the available "TBC" dates below, please feel free to email Kieren directly: kieren.hills@gmail.com.

SCHKEUDITZER KREUZ - EUROPE 2023 TOURDATES

14/09/23 - Newcastle, UK	04/10/23 - TBC
15/09/23 - Bradford, UK	05/10/23 - Ostrava, Czech
16/09/23 - London, UK	06/10/23 - Prague, Czech
19/09/23 - Wiesbaden, Germany	07/10/23 - Bratislava, Slovakia
20/09/23 - TBC	08/10/23 - Vienna, Austria
21/09/23 - Copenhagen, Denmark	10/10/23 - TBC, Serbia
22/09/23 - Oslo, Norway	11/10/23 - TBC, Serbia
23/09/23 - Stockholm, Sweden	12/10/23 - TBC
24/09/23 - TBC, Sweden	13/10/23 - TBC, Italy
27/09/23 - TBC, Germany	14/10/23 - Alessandria, Italy
28/09/23 - TBC, Germany	15/10/23 - Milano, Italy
29/09/23 - Berlin, Germany	18/10/23 - TBC, Switzerland
30/09/23 - Leipzig, Germany	19/10/23 - Biel, Switzerland
01/10/23 - Eisenberg, Germany	20/10/23 - Kreuzlingen, Switzerland
02/10/23 - Neugersdorf, Germany	21/10/23 - Stuttgart, Germany

Watch 'Joy' by Schkeuditzer Kreuz on [YouTube](#)

Download the single edit of 'Joy' [free from Bandcamp](#)

Read more on [SchkeuditzerKreuz.com](#)

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ABOUT SCHKEUDITZER KREUZ - BIO:

Expat New Zealand punk veteran Kieren Hills has played in punk, deathrock, hardcore, crust, grind, and d-beat bands from Australia, Germany, and New Zealand since the late 1980s. Following "the wreck of the plague year twenty-twenty", he says there has been a "greater affinity with machines, making the creation of Schkeuditzer Kreuz inevitable". As [Schkeuditzer Kreuz](#), Kieren now creates harsh, dark, confronting and apocalyptic post-industrial music from a cabin that he built in the Blue Mountains of New South Wales, Australia.

Kieren began his journey into underground music in New Zealand during the 1980s, before relocating to Australia with riotous Wellington NZ punk rock group [S.M.U.T.](#) in 1993. He is perhaps best known today as longtime bassist with Sydney hardcore band [Dark Horse](#), but over the years has played in countless underground bands, including Stuttgart, Germany's [Murder Disco X](#), and occasional Australian deathrock/gothic punk outfit [Death Church](#). He meanwhile traces his discovery of noisy industrial and experimental post-industrial music to his youth in New Zealand, influenced by a previous generation of punk musicians who had begun to explore different possibilities: [Skeptics](#), [Cell](#), [Invisible Dead](#), and [Children's Television Workshop](#) among them. These local groups in turn led Kieren to the music of Laibach and Einstürzende Neubauten, Big Black and Butthole Surfers. In more recent years, leading up to the creation of [Schkeuditzer Kreuz](#), Kieren also became a fan of artists including Australia's [Knife](#), [Religious Observance](#), and [Kollaps](#); and [KUBINE](#) from Yokohama, Japan.

The first [Schkeuditzer Kreuz](#) record was a five-song 12" EP called [Give Me Nothing](#), launched with a 15-date tour through Eastern Australia in March 2021, and which produced the video-singles '[Give Me Nothing](#)' and '[Amerika](#)'. The record sold out on tour, leading to the second record: a 7" released on the [Inner City Uprising](#) label, titled [D-Beat Raw Synth Punk](#). This record is an industrial tribute to the noisier end of punk rock, and has two songs - one original, and a cover of Australian hardcore / d-beat band [Pisschrist](#). The third Schkeuditzer Kreuz record was a split EP with Sydney legends [Low Life](#) - both covering Discharge - '[State Violence State Control](#)', released by Winter Garden Records to coincide with an art exhibition with the same theme.

The fourth [Schkeuditzer Kreuz](#) record was the debut full-length LP - [Isolated and Alone](#). Originally pressed in China and planned for an October 2021 release, local authorities deemed the record "not fit for export" due to its allegedly "subversive content", and all copies were destroyed, along with the stamper plates and artwork. A second pressing of the album was finally released in December 2021 through [Bad Habit Records](#), distributed by Bad Habit and [Already Broken Records](#) in Australia, and [Pyrrhic Defeat Records](#) in the UK and Europe. The album included the video singles '[Broken](#)', and an updated album version of '[State Violence State Control](#)'; the latter video showcasing Schkeuditzer Kreuz live in Melbourne. Met with rave reviews, the [Isolated and Alone](#) LP sold out largely on the strength of extensive Australian touring.

The new album, *No Life Left*, displays an obvious progression from its predecessor, with [Schkeuditzer Kreuz](#) moving more confidently into the post-industrial space, while retaining the industrial-noise-punk roots of previous records. *No Life Left* is released on 25 August 2023 through [Bad Habit Records](#) (AU) and [Sorry State Records](#) (US), with UK and European distribution to be confirmed.

PREVIOUS REVIEWS:

"(Schkeuditzer Kreuz) doesn't pull any punches about the state of society in general but then it just wouldn't be punk if it didn't have something to say. Should you ever get the chance to see Schkeuditzer Kreuz live, take it. The experience will blow your mind." - [Onyx Music Reviews](#) (Australia)

"There's nothing nice about Schkeuditzer Kreuz and that is the intention... If you close your eyes and stick your headphones on, you're going to be afraid. If you read the lyric sheet, you're probably going to feel disturbed too. Isolated And Alone is a heavy brooding self-abusing slab of darkness that seeps menacingly over an arid soundscape, enveloping all in its path... you are sucked into a blackened metallic world of pain, fear, genocidal awkwardness and vexation... There's no signs of spring, no green shoots appearing through the cold ground. Schkeuditzer Kreuz is a bleak, deathly and desolate project." - [Louder Than War](#) (UK)

"The album is a perfect example of how to make dark, menacing industrial music with gothic and d-beat hardcore elements. The music has real edge to it that makes it feel almost dangerous... If I had to pick a single word to describe the album it would be 'ominous'. It feels like the music you're hearing is preceding something terrible, something that is coming your way that cannot be stopped or avoided... Somehow despite making a release that comes across as being so harsh and abrasive, there is still plenty of catchy industrial rhythm flowing throughout the album... There is something for all types of industrial fan on this album. Whether you like fast paced high energy rhythmic tracks, dark ominous offerings or poundingly heavy/harsh tracks it's all here." - [Cave Dweller Music](#) (USA)

"Taking the politics and fury of d-beat and anarcho-punk, then blending them with treated vocals, harsh industrial synths and queasy dance-punk rhythms, Isolated And Alone is a terrifying yet enjoyable journey into the darkness of dehumanised, repressive society. Imagine the drum machines from John Foxx's icy electro classic Metamatic turned up to eleven, combining with the squalling electronics of Throbbing Gristle or early Cabaret Voltaire and you get some idea of the maelstrom that awaits. The musical outlet for crust/hardcore specialist Kieren Hills, Schkeuditzer Kreuz is electronic punk that details his industrial influences, allowing it to soundtrack post-Covid western society in a manner that reflects our sense of hopelessness and disorientation... It will never be mistaken for an easy listen - it's challenging and even nightmarish - but Isolated And Alone sounds emotional and vital despite its synthetic elements." - [4ZZZ FM](#) (Australia)

"Dust-dry, tough and extremely dirty... It is immediately evident that this is a reaction to the mental strain caused by the protracted lockdown in Australia. As if encouraged by nothing but hopelessness, this mixture of d-beat and synth-punk chugs stoically through unadorned, raw tracks that convey their fairly manageable variance as an expression of absolute sincerity..." - [Sonic Seducer Musikmagazin](#) (Germany)

"New South Wales-based artist Schkeuditzer Kreuz (alias Kieren Hills) unleashes a ferocious reworking of [State Violence State Control], combining dark, abrasive post-industrial influences with DIY punk. Difficult to pigeonhole musically, Kieren defines the Schkeuditzer Kreuz sound as "D-Beat Raw Synth Punk" - also the name of an EP from earlier in 2021. This cover is dissonant static, an eerie voice cutting through the din and scratches; a disembodied Big Brother." - [Post-punk.com](#) (USA)

"Although he's best known for playing punk, grind, hardcore (etc) with many bands while living around NZ, Australia, and Germany over the years, most notably Sydney hardcore

band Dark Horse for the past decade... Schkeuditzer Kreuz is a much more industrial influenced project: dark, harsh, abrasive, and apocalyptic, addressing issues around mental ill-health, isolation and alienation, and Kieren's general sense of despair at the current state of the world." - [Underdog Fanzine](#) (Germany)

"Australia continues to set the standard for extreme music, pretty much year after year. This one-man assault declares this premise perfectly... The album from start to end is a raging beast of a release... S.K. is that fantastic intersection between crust punk and hard industrial synth... This band is doing something way different for extreme genres, it's also amazingly original and heavy as hell... an essential purchase." - [Devil's Horns Zine](#) (Australia)

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