

# SAUDADE

## Daniel Knutz' world

Saudade, a word that can only unfold its full effect in Portuguese. It describes that deep, bittersweet emotion that combines longing, melancholy and nostalgia. Daniel Knutz, the Brazilian artist who knows how to enchant the souls of darkwave and post-punk fans with his songs, released his latest single, 'Echoes in the Metro', on 13 February 2026.



### The artist

The artist was born in Brazil, where the first traces of his career can be found. With the band The Knutz, the musical vision that Daniel Knutz brings to life as the singer and composer of his solo project began to take shape over a period of 15 years. 'Brazil gave me the fire, sadness and loud protest, while Germany gave me the coldness of history and the edges of my work.'

Daniel Knutz is the musician's alter ego. The project is his way of telling unique thoughts and stories, of expressing his own and other people's emotions. Thus, his other self is 'a shadow that ultimately became part of what defines him today:

*A lonely figure strolls through the night-time streets, carrying a boombox from the 1980s. Echoes of songs that haunt the observer, accuse us and resonate within us. Echoes of songs that remind us that there are countless voices that have long since fallen silent – voices that tell us about our most intimate emotions. Daniel Knutz is a figure*

*who fights tirelessly for his cause. He fuels resistance against all forms of oppression and keeps the fire of this struggle alive.*



A scene that could have come straight out of one of the musician's videos: Daniel Knutz's video language makes it clear that this is someone who understands film. The visual aspect contributes to making the art more holistic and also strengthens the ideal of completion: Daniel does not see art as something that can be isolated; in his thinking, music is closely linked to the visual. On a human level, too, the musician wants the focus to be on the interaction between different artists, because 'only together society can be changed'.

### Seeking inspiration

For Daniel, the greatest magic unfolds in the knowledge that there are artists who do not sell their souls. But life itself also inspires him: music gives a voice to those who suffer, who have no power or who have been silenced. His pieces capture the storms of history, eternal cycles, his own life in exile and also saudade, the longing for what is not.

'Music carries memories within it. It makes us feel a sense of connection: whether in shared grief or crying, in shared struggle. Music empowers us. A piece of music can open wounds, but it can also close them.' Daniel wishes that kindness could be more present in our world. He hopes that his pieces can contribute to promoting his attitude, so that we no longer live in a society in which people throw themselves and others away as if they were objects. He hopes that we will help each other and learn again what it means to act together and fight together for something – not against each other.

Daniel Knutz finds musical inspiration in the 80s, with Batcave and synthpop as well as proto-punk being genres he himself enjoys listening to. His favourite artist is Fad Gadget, whose song 'Collapsing

New People' Daniel commemorated with his own version of the classic: the result is a unique version that aims to fit into the present day.

## **Becoming**

Daniel's pieces are characterised by the deep anti-fascist attitude inherent in the origins of the black scene. This attitude is not only evident in the piece 'Bats vs Rats' – the nocturnal power of bats symbolises the strong cohesion of the gothic community – but also in what we can achieve when we dare to oppose certain current trends.

The songs are fuelled by this attitude, with the lyrics at their core. When a song is created, it is born from the basic drums, which ultimately lead to the lyrics together with the other instruments – until finally a new song is complete. Daniel Knutz believes that the creative process should be "handmade", because he does everything himself, from the music to the artwork to the music videos, or lets photographers be part of the works. In this way, Daniel maintains his independence and ensures that his artistic vision can be realised.

## **Into the future**

In 2026, listeners can look forward to a new album on the Cold Transmission label, which deals with the 'eternal cycles of hope, anger and memory'. The album will be accompanied by visual art and films. Daniel Knutz will also be performing in several cities and countries, including Berlin and Venice.

The music scene needs young artists, says Daniel. He advises those who want to take their first steps in the world of music to just do it and not wait. He talks about how he taught himself to play instruments and write music.

He also wants to pass on his deepest convictions to those who want to become musicians: 'Leave your comfort zone and be persistent. Knock on doors, because eventually one will open. Always treat people with

love and respect, support each other. We all make mistakes, but we should always try to be good people.'



All links can be found in the original version.  
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