

# People from the region - Portrait: Rapper and dancer Daniel Grischov



*(12.03.2015) The 22 year old Daniel Grischov is known not only as the crazy guy in the pink plush bunny costume, who brought the people of the oldest city in Germany „Trier“ to dance the Harlem Shake. The young rapper, dancer and actor regularly mixes the Trier scene with his creative ideas.*

**Daniel you are a real multitalent, so we start with your greatest passion:  
How do you get to music?**

"The music expresses what can not be said and what is impossible to keep silent" (Victor Hugo), it is my life and helps me in all living situations. For many years, I have been writing lyrics and poems for myself and underwriting them with beats and music. Nobody knew about it and I really did not want it to be public, until September 2012.

In early September 2012 my father celebrated his 45th birthday. In the family we have agreed that everyone will show something small for this celebration. I decided to write a song and to rap it. The text was mainly about my father and our great family. The most beautiful thing for me was that my father had tears in his eyes.

The whole thing was filmed by my sister and we put it on YouTube. The response to the video was surprisingly good. Everyone asked me if I had actually written the text myself. No one would have thought that I could do such a thing and were surprised



### **What is it about in your songs?**

I am a very easy boy, who wants to reach people with his simple texts. It is about love, happiness, pain and the meaning of life.

### **So no Disstracks?**

(laughs) No, no disstracks. Nowadays, there are enough wannabe gangsters and rappers who rap about women, cars and money, that does not have to be. I remain faithful to myself.

I have chosen an instrumental from Linkin Park for my first song "Life is Hard". The song is about the ups and downs of life. I also made my first music video. It's nothing

elaborate, a simple one-take video, that is, without a single cut.

The video really pleased the people, I would never have thought of that. Many who do not normally listen to German rap have told me how they like it. Also in my circle of friends was "Life is Hard" celebrated. Most of all, however, my family is proud of me. That gives me drive.



**"Life is Hard" now has more than 13,000 views on YouTube. What did you feel?**

It is an incredible feeling when you hear your own song on the phones of others or in the car. My father always download the latest video from me to his mobile phone to show it to friends and relatives. My family supports me a lot.

I see it as a hobby, my passion. I therefore do not work under time pressure, but I take time for each track. This includes a good text, a matching beat and a beautiful music video. So far, there are four music videos, in which my friend and Cameraman Christoph Kutta is always involved. My goal is to deliver quality before quantity.

**The following track is called "Who are you?", What is it about?**

The track is profound. I address the listeners directly, so everyone can identify with it in its own way. The response showed that many people felt understood and could help them in different situations. That touched me a lot.

Today the youth often only celebrate rappers with a gangster image and aggressive texts, in which it hurts only insults. These rappers then stand at the top and make their charcoal. So I prefer to remain poor - but true to myself. I do not want to offend anyone with my lyrics or harm anyone. On the contrary, I want to give strength to people and to entertain them. I am the nice, authentic boy from next door.



**2013 you will be acquainted not only with your music, but also with the dance Harlem Shake, which you have organized and performed with around 700 people in Trier.**

Yes, exactly in early 2013, the world was in the Harlem Shake Fever, including me. I also tried it out with some friends at home, which was really fun. As crazy as I am, I thought to myself why not organize a dance with hundreds of people in Trier? A short time later, I created a public group in Facebook and invited all my friends. The whole thing has grown really big, with over 1000 commitments.



### **How to create such a big event like that?**

The group in Facebook was almost a self-running, so the people knew. Afterwards I organized a cameraman and we have looked for suitable places in Trier for the dance. I put the event on a Sunday for sale so that as much is possible in the city and started at Porta Nigra.

What no one knew at the time: I had a pink plush bunny costume and decided to go up the Porta Nigra. There I moved and put in a window to speak even better to the people.

All were dressed in a colorful dress, including crazy outfits, some even had surfboards and balloons. This was the first part of the Harlem Shake. Afterwards, we performed the second part of the dance behind the main market at the Grabenstraße.

From a creative and easy-going idea, a spectacle was created in which both participants and spectators got their money's worth. The video now has over 49,000 clicks on YouTube. But not only in the Harlem Shake, the pink plush bunny costume came into action. One year later, I was allowed to participate in another major project. In the video of "Happy Trier", which has cracked on YouTube even the 100,000 mark, the pink hare dances again before the Porta Nigra.

**After trashing Trier on the street, you have concentrated on the music again.**

Right. Shortly thereafter I have released my third track "Like a Star" with video. It is a kind of short film in which a love story is portrayed. The song is bilingual, in each case one line German and one line Russian, which perfectly complements the rhyme scheme. I always try new things. I have the necessary linguistic knowledge for my Russian descent. But I myself was born and raised in Germany.

The fourth track is dedicated to my late grandpa. The title is „Never Come Back", lasts five minutes and I have released it on the occasion of his fifth anniversary of the death day. This song has once again addressed another emotional level.



**Your music has opened another door. You were invited to the casting for the musical project "Fame" last year. How did it happen?**

Paulinstraße has a musical school. On the occasion of the 50th anniversary a performance of the play "Fame" was available. This musical was then performed on the stage in the Trier city theater. The lecturers were attracted to me because of my music and invited me to the casting. So I first acted and danced, which had always been my secret passion. With the singing, of course, I was not at the level of the students of the musical school, since I mainly rappe, but it was enough. I got a leading role that was tailored to me.

I've played a rapper and hip-hop from the street, who always comes late for lessons and takes life loose, but dancers are very talented. It was a great experience as I could connect all my passions in a project. Overall, there were four performances, which were sold out after the premiere overnight. Therefore, two other performances were planned. It was a lot of fun to perform in front of the audience - this is my world.



### **Which projects are planned for the future? Can you tell me something?**

I am planning for the first time, for example, a feature, something new for me and another facet of my music. A second project concerns "Headis", a trend sport of inventor René Wegner from Kaiserslautern. It's like table tennis, except that is played with a special ball and only with the head. It is exhausting but makes a lot of fun. I have been training in the Rummelfoarzer Trier for some time.

This sport even had her own TV Total Special. In collaboration with René Wegner and all involved, a kind of anthem is to be created. A track that makes you happy, makes you feel, and embodies the fun that the sport entails.

But at first... going on my Open End - WORLDTRIP

### **You are a creative and young man who has the courage to live his dreams ...**

I am 22, have a regular job, do a lot of sports, do not drink alcohol and do not smoke. So I try to pay attention to a healthy lifestyle. I am courteous, kind and helpful, which I owe to my parents and the education. The positive feedback of the past two years has made me stronger and helped me overcome self-doubt. I am already a bit proud of myself, but I always remain faithful to myself and to the ground, no matter what happens!

I am very grateful to all who supported me and my projects since 2012, especially my family and friends. Everyone should be able to do what you like and feel good. In what you do, being happy is the goal, the rest comes by itself.

**We wish you all the best for all the other projects Daniel! Thanks for the interesting conversation.**



## The Harlem Shake Trier

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=okNkqskEBas>

## Grischov – Life is Hard

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vCIDdiiRly0>

## Happy Trier

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-W7q-MG9bA>

## More...

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