

**T**he 200 lurkers are a band-project based in Cologne, Germany that has won a small but dedicated following all over the world in the past three years. Essentially, the 200 lurkers consist of singer/songwriter Philipp Hofmann, whose vision guides the project and who records much of the material in his home studio, supported by a host of collaborators in Europe and overseas. Hofmann – who wrote his doctoral thesis on the novels of Leonard Cohen – creates tunes that have a wistful, melancholy feel, but are buoyed by an innate sense of whimsicality reflected in the delicate instrumentation and the interplay of voices. Charmingly off-kilter melodies carry along lyrics which often depict a duality of the ordinary miraculousness of life wrapping around a pearl of bitterness and loss.



**M**usically, the 200 lurkers straddle several genres from twee pop to new folk to alt-country, though there are as many differences as similarities between these styles and the 200 lurkers. The band is fond of incorporating unconventional musical instruments or technologies (such as water glasses, children's toys, or archaic drum machines), and their principal aim is to share the joy of writing, the delight of practicing and the passion of performing songs.

**E**ven though their songs have not been professionally promoted yet, the band has already won a considerable amount of attention: songs were added to the download section of the music magazines junkmedia.org and finefinemusic.com; tracks were played by various Campus- and Internet-Radios; an interview/performance was aired on TV and director Jeffrey Wolfshohl chose the music of 200 lurkers for the soundtrack of his 2008 short film My Martyrdom In Every Case. For the press the 200 lurkers are a "worldwide local insider tip" (Ultimo) whose "finely-wrought sound is unique in the local pop-scene" (Neue Westfälische).

For mp3s, lyrics, videos and live footage visit [www.200lurkers.com](http://www.200lurkers.com)

#### L I N K S :

the music of 200 lurkers – info sheet: <http://www.200lurkers.com/protected/info.pdf>

"the pilot": [http://www.200lurkers.com/protected/200LURKERS\\_the\\_pilot.mp3](http://www.200lurkers.com/protected/200LURKERS_the_pilot.mp3)

"the last guest": [http://www.200lurkers.com/protected/200LURKERS\\_last\\_guest.mp3](http://www.200lurkers.com/protected/200LURKERS_last_guest.mp3)

"the ice maiden": [http://www.200lurkers.com/protected/200LURKERS\\_ice\\_maiden.mp3](http://www.200lurkers.com/protected/200LURKERS_ice_maiden.mp3)

"cold smoke": [http://www.200lurkers.com/protected/200LURKERS\\_cold\\_smoke.mp3](http://www.200lurkers.com/protected/200LURKERS_cold_smoke.mp3)

"cages": [http://www.200lurkers.com/protected/200LURKERS\\_cages.mp3](http://www.200lurkers.com/protected/200LURKERS_cages.mp3)

