

Transcription: **Rockshine – a Band Project**

JETTE: Now, Jörn, last week there was the Rockshine concert, last Thursday, in Mainz. You are the guitarist or one of the guitarists of Rockshine.

JÖRN: That's right.

JETTE: What can you tell me about Rockshine, what exactly is Rockshine?

JÖRN: Well, Rockshine is a band project of, well ... meanwhile more than fifty musicians of the University of Mainz, i.e. of the Musicology Faculty. This is how the project came into existence: There had always been... there was a choir, an orchestra and so we had the idea to found a band, as there wasn't any, let alone one of such a dimension.

JETTE: And when was Rockshine born?

JÖRN: That was in the autumn of 2003. We then had to find a rehearsal room, which took some time and we finally started rehearsing, I think, in January, 2004.

JETTE: And what kind of music do you play?

JÖRN: We try to cover a wide range of music, so that there is something for everybody, and so we have virtually all musical styles, well, I mean popular musical styles, there are. So we have... it starts with rock, pop, quite conventionally. Then we have ... hard-rock, metal, the harder line, then we have ska, we have reggae, we have funk, we have soul, we have had hip-hop for the first time this year, anything that is popular these days.

JETTE: And how long is a gig, as you're saying you have such a huge repertoire?

JÖRN: Well, yes, at one gig we have about ..., don't know, 40, 44 songs or 45, and a gig then lasts four to five hours. So we start at 9 o'clock and finish at 2 o'clock.

JETTE: And do you have longer breaks or what is it like?

JÖRN: Well, we don't need any breaks at all, as we have arranged it that way, that the members change from song to song, which means one time one member plays the bass, then Björn plays the bass, the next song is sung by Jens, before, Albert was the singer and so on... So we have a permanent alternation and consequently no breaks are needed at all, as every single musician can frequently pause between the songs for two, three titles, before he has to go back to the stage.

JETTE: And how often do you rehearse?

JÖRN: Usually we rehearse once a week, which has to become more of course, as the concert is drawing nearer. Then we have full rehearsals which can last up to 10 to 12 hours, because each song is done two to three times probably and with 40 songs or 45, you can imagine, that it does take some time before this all is done.

JETTE: Do you earn any money this way or do you do it only for fun?

JÖRN: Well, we don't earn any money by it. It is about ourselves having fun, the audience having fun and in fact we didn't even want to charge admission. We did so last year on the campus of the Faculty of Philosophy at the University. We didn't charge admission, we only sold drinks. We had to charge admission at the KUZ because we had to pay for the equipment, i.e. all the mikes and so on, we had to pay for the sound engineering in order to have a good sound. With the many instruments we have, it costs a pretty penny. That is why we had to charge admission and to try to cover the expenses with the receipts. There isn't much left for ourselves in the end.

JETTE: Were you satisfied with your latest gig?

JÖRN: Yes, no doubt. It was belting, the audience were really enthusiastic, from the beginning to the end. Great!

JETTE: And what about your plans for the future? Do you want to continue the project or is it now time for a break or even the end?

JÖRN: Of course, we all want to continue. The problem is that we do something else at the same time and for the regulars this is ... this consumes a lot of time and there are many

among us, who felt it was too much this year and they are no longer sure if they can continue.
... We all want to, but whether we can ..., we'll have to see. It would be belting, of course...

JETTE: Well then, I wish you much pleasure and success in your music, and thanks for the interview.

JÖRN: Thank you very much, too.