

# LINEBUG - „Portraits of Invisible Places“

Album - release: 14.03 2025



[Link to album \(music\)](#)

[Link to album \(video\)](#)

## Danish Duo Tells the Forgotten Stories of East Germany Through Music and Animation

The Danish duo **Linebug**, based in Zeitz, East Germany, is releasing the album **Portraits of Invisible Places** – a unique art project where music and animation merge to tell the stories of East Germany’s often overlooked towns and fates. The album consists of ten songs, each accompanied by a music video portraying ten places with a special history – some tragic, others marked by resilience and cultural richness.

## More Than the Typical Story of “The Poor East Germans”

In Denmark, we often see the DDR era as a simple story of an oppressive regime that kept East Germans trapped in their own country. But the truth is far more nuanced. Many East Germans also experienced a strong sense of community and lived lives shaped by much more than political control. After the fall of the Berlin Wall, large parts of East Germany were hit by economic decline, depopulation, and cultural oblivion. **Portraits of Invisible Places** offers a more nuanced perspective on what happened – and what is still happening – in these towns.

## Forgotten Towns, Powerful Stories

The album takes the listener to places where past and present intertwine. **Temporary Home** captures the decayed charm of Zeitz, while **The Last Hearts Made of Coal** tells the story of former mining towns like Deuben, struggling to find a new identity. Eythra, a village near Leipzig, was

leveled in 1984 to make way for the coal industry. Hoyerswerda became infamous for violent racist riots in the 1990s. Demmin still bears the scars of World War II, where Germany's largest mass suicide took place in the town. And in Prora, the massive holiday complex built during the Nazi era now stands gleaming and newly renovated – a place that holds history and evokes memories of a dark past.

Since moving to East Germany in 2021, Linebug has traveled across the region, speaking with people who have personally experienced their towns' ups and downs:

*"We have met people with powerful stories that deserve to be heard – not as part of an outdated narrative of 'losers' and 'victims,' but as part of a living culture that continues to evolve. On our journeys, we've encountered people who share stories rarely given attention. These are not just stories of loss and decay, but also of strength and transformation."*

### **An Ambitious Musical and Visual Work**

Musically, Line Bøgh's ethereal vocals, melancholic piano passages, and atmospheric electronic elements blend seamlessly with Christian Gundtoft's hand-drawn animations, which are integrated into film recordings from the towns. The album features original audio and video recordings from the ten locations, creating a particularly authentic atmosphere.

**The press has praised the project for its rare depth in depicting East Germany's history:**

**Neon Music:** *"Rarely do we hear East Germany's history told with such depth and empathy."*

**Urbanite:** *"The two Danes have managed to capture something that many Germans struggle to put into words: the feeling of lost places and life in the former East Germany."*

**Ahoi:** *"Finally, an art project that treats East German history with respect."*



LINEBUG is:  
Songwriter **Line Bøgh**  
Animator and visual artist  
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