

PaulLucasPRODUCTIONS

THEATRICAL MANAGEMENT AND MARKETING

484 West 43rd Street | Apartment 25F | New York, NY 10036

For Immediate Release

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Rodney Breit, Richard Jordan and Paul Lucas present

Die Roten Punkte ROBOT / LION TOUR 2009

☆☆☆☆☆ "Inspired, brilliantly executed lunacy." *The Gazette, Montreal*

[5 May, 2008 – Berlin] **Rodney Breit, Richard Jordan, and Paul Lucas** today announced the long-awaited UK premiere of Germany's Pop-Punk/Electro-Clash sensation **Die Roten Punkte**. Edinburgh marks the next stop in their sold-out **Robot/Lion Tour 2009**, which has toured North America and Australia scooping up awards all along the way. **Performances will begin 5 August at the Pleasance Over the Road 2, and run nightly at 11:11 pm through 31 August, with no performance on August 17.**

Die Roten Punkte (the utterly dysfunctional pairing of German siblings **Otto and Astrid Rot**) became an instant household name in Europe after topping the charts in Germany and Poland with its 2005 hits 'I'm In A Band' and 'Best Band In The World'. The Edinburgh concerts will see Otto and Astrid arriving just in time to celebrate the release of their new single "Ich Bin Nicht Ein Roboter (I Am A Lion)" from their new CD "Super Musikant".

Described as a "lipstick-smearing, tantrum-loving, sonic collision between Plastic Bertrand, Kraftwerk and early Ramones," Die Roten Punkte are truly unique. Their songs are ridiculously infectious and their live show is one of the most irreverent and hilarious gigs you are ever likely to see.

Things have not always been easy for the Rots. After being orphaned at a young age, the pair scraped by in squats in Kreuzberg and became homeless in Amsterdam. But after a baptism by fire (started by one of Astrid's cigarettes) in the underground rock scene of Berlin, they have clawed their way to European fame in true punk rock tradition.

Fuelling the band's intrigue are Astrid's off-stage antics. She most famously came to blows with Courtney Love at a New York nightclub and was arrested later that night for DUI on the Staten Island Ferry. "Whoever heard of a ferry that didn't allow cars?" she is said to have remarked in her defense. This led to her brief four-month stay in rehab in early 2008.

Otto's reputation as the newest Prince of Punk continues to thrive. Recent comparisons in the European Press have been made to Iggy Pop and Kurt Cobain "but with a straightedge twist." His stage presence and live energy have been described as "all five of The Hives trapped in the body of a lipstick-smearing Pete Townsend".

Richard Jordan and Paul Lucas, long-established EdFringe producers, stumbled upon Otto and Astrid earlier this year. Long-standing closet punk rock fans, the pair were taking a break from their rounds at the Adelaide Festival when they wandered into an after-hours indie rock club where the Rots were performing a spontaneous set. Five songs and a bottle of absinthe later, the four had formed an alliance and the Edinburgh premiere of Robot/Lion was set.

A favourite with critics and audiences alike Die Roten Punkte's recent awards include: **Best Production – Montreal Fringe, Best Production (Cabaret) - Green Room, Melbourne, Best of Fest Winnipeg Fringe, Most Outstanding Production – Ottawa Fringe, and Best Comedy – Victoria Fringe.**

Die Roten Punkte's Robot/Lion Tour 2009 will perform nightly @ 11.11 pm (70 mins) from 5 - 31 August (no 17) at Pleasance Over the Road 2, Edinburgh. Ticket prices: Previews (5 - 7 Aug) £5; Weekdays, £10/ (£8.50 concs); Weekends £11 /£9.50 (concs).

For press tickets and further information, please contact press@pleasance.co.uk or 0131 556 6557. For further information, interviews, & photos, contact Paul Lucas on 001 212 505 8908 (NYC) or 07914 702 607 (after August 1) or by e-mail at press@paulucasproduction.com. For more info, visit www.dierotenpunkte.com

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Reviews

"Inspired, brilliantly executed lunacy...sonic collision between Plastic Bertrand, Kraftwerk and early Ramones" - *The Gazette, Montreal*

★★★★ "It's a class act...intensely funny...their self-delusional electro-clash music exhibits influences from the B-52s, Lena Lovich and even Nick Cave" - *The Age, Melbourne*

"Right out of a Christopher Guest film" – *Metro, New York*

"Punk rock meets Eurovision" – *Montreal Mirror*

"Hilarious...equal parts smart and smartass" – *BC Culture, New York*

"With finesse and the most chemistry you'll ever see on stage...half Hives, half Boosh...they are an absolute must see" – *InPress, Melbourne*

★★★★★ "Die Roten Punkte will have you laughing your ass off...one of the most irreverent concerts you'll ever attend " - *Vue Weekly, Edmonton*

★★★★★ "If expletives were fit for daily print, I'd use one to illustrate how bleeping incredible this show is." - *Star Phoenix, Saskatoon*

★★★★★ "The funniest show at the festival...first class comedy" - *Planet S Magazine, Saskatoon*

★★★★★ "This is a perfect show...orgasmic rock-and-roll experience. The show is amazing start to finish" - *Monday Magazine, Victoria*

★★★★★ "Your cheeks will hurt from laughing" – *Winnipeg Sun*

★★★★★ "Very clever comedy...You have to see this one to believe it." - *See Magazine, Edmonton*

★★★★★ "[Die Roten Punkte] parody the rock conventions with deadly accuracy...Danke, Die Roten Punkte" - *Winnipeg Free Press*

★★★★ "Deliciously quirky and original" - *Adelaide Advertiser*

"The performances are exuberant and flawless...fist pumping fun of the highest order... Sprechen sie awesome? Fuck ja!" - *Eye Weekly, Toronto*

"Pants-wettingly funny" - *Uptown Magazine, Winnipeg*

"Boy, are they in sync – both comically and musically...The Rot's Rule!" - *Toronto Star*

"It was like watching a mixture between an Eddie Izzard stand-up routine and a tarted-up David Bowie fan perform music worthy not only of parody, but also perhaps of my beloved Scissor Sisters...A show not to be missed!" – *Mondo Magazine, Toronto*

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BIOS

Performer - Astrid Rot

Astrid Rot is singer, drummer and songwriter with Die Roten Punkte. She also plays glockenspiel, piano accordion and flute. Astrid first started drumming on the kitchen table when she was five but was quickly silenced by her mother and father. After the tragic and unexpected death of her parents on her twelfth birthday she quickly took up drumming again. Astrid's minimalist style and legendary stage antics have made her both revered and feared in equal parts. Astrid began taking her brother Otto to see live bands when he was still a boy, hiding him under her coat. One night, after a Die Toten Hosen gig, she stole a truck full of instruments. The next day they rehearsed any song they could think of and quickly began writing their own music. They instantly became the 'must see act' of the underground Berlin punk scene. Though most of their early offerings were less than a minute long they very rarely made it to the end of a song without fighting - their dysfunctional nature becoming part of their appeal.

As a teenager, Nina Hagen, Deborah Harry and Vivienne Westwood all heavily influenced Astrid's unique take on Post-Punk and New Wave style. Now, the latest 'Astrid' dress or hair-do is often immediately copied by thousands of indie rock fans. Astrid's songwriting is a potent mixture of simplicity and tragedy, from the sexually charged brevity of "Oh My God, Yeah" to the chilling depths of "The 4:15 To Spandau Will Not Run Today". Astrid has a reputation for being a 'party girl' and her excessive outlandish lifestyle has made her a constant fixture in the European tabloids, most recently referring to her alleged stay in rehab.

Performer - Otto Rot

Otto Rot is singer, guitarist, keytarist and songwriter with Die Roten Punkte. Otto grew up listening to Iggy Pop, David Bowie, The Cure and The Ramones and always dreamed of having a band of his own. His most treasured possession is his 'Joey Ramone Doll', which he never takes out of the box; in fact now 'little Joey' has his own road case. The first official DRP gig was supposed to be on Astrid's 21st birthday in their squat but the band didn't end up playing a single note. The party ended abruptly when the police arrived to break it up claiming that there were noise complaints. Astrid was furious when she found out the next day that the call was made by Otto.

After a shaky start the duo only did three gigs before Otto broke his foot. He was attempting to jump from Astrid's kick drum and landed on a cable that wasn't taped down. Astrid forbid this move forever and Otto had a broken leg that took 6 months to heal. During this time, he created his 'Official Rock 'n' Roll Band Safety Checklist' and published it on the Internet. The document caught on and was used by bands all over Eastern Europe and he won the Bundesrepublik Deutschland award for 'Best Safety Practice in Industry' and is considered a leader in the field of Band Safety. He is a committed vegan and loves connecting with other Straight Edgers on MySpace, Facebook and Twitter. When he's not touring the world he's very much a homebody and hopes one day to meet a girl, fall in love and live happily ever after.

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Producer - Rodney Breit

After attending the Royal College of Art, Rodney Breit had had solo exhibitions of his surreal artworks in Madrid, Belfast and Copenhagen. Whilst at college he worked as a wine taster, reviewed bands for NME and played drums with band 'Stop Me If You Think You've Heard This One Before'.

He has worked as an independent promoter with bands including Arctic Monkeys, Lilly Allen, The Libertines and Bloc Party. Rodney has been managing Die Roten Punkte since they began creating their latest album, Super Musikant.

Paul Lucas Productions is a theatrical producing, general managing, and marketing company based in New York City. PLP has produced over a dozen plays and readings in New York, including *Messages for Gary*, *Flyer*, *Nosferatu*, *50 Minutes with Harriet & Phillis*, *TimeSlips*, *Son of Drakula*, *that Woman: Rebecca West Remembers*, and *When Aunt Daphne Went Nude*.

In Edinburgh, Paul has been engaged as the Press and Marketing Director of the Southside Venue and Aurora Nova venue (named Best Venue on the Fringe by the Guardian in 2004.) In 2004, he presented *Kafka's The Metamorphosis* at the Fringe, which garnered a five star review in The Scotsman, and his 2006 productions of *What I Heard About Iraq* and *Taylor Mac* won a Fringe First Award and a Herald Angel Award, respectively. In 2007, he co-produced *Woody Sez*, *A Conversation with Edith Head*, *Dai (Enough)*, *Spawn and Die*, and *The Panel* on the Fringe.

A familiar face on the international touring circuit, Paul Lucas Productions shows regularly tour the UK, Ireland, Germany, Sweden, and Australia. He recently returned from Australia where he acted a theatre judge for the Adelaide Fringe Festival. He is also producing an encore engagement of the Argus Angel Award-winning *Woody Sez* at this year's Edinburgh Festival Fringe.