

# EVIL EAR PRESENTS M O L O S S E R

## ARTIST BIO

**Swedish MOLOSSER paint an electrically vibrant soundscape  
with downtuned acoustic guitars, vocals and drums.**

Tess and Jahn of Molosser found each other in Gothenburg, Sweden's second largest city and home of a lively music scene. There, both were playing in various bands and constellations, mainly of the loud and noisy variety. After a while, though, they moved to a small farm in the province of Småland, where they found themselves in the company of a couple of horses, an American bulldog, a gang of cats, some chickens and three sheep. They started making music on their acoustic guitars, and lacking a bass player they tuned them down so they could share that duty between them. The music that emerged is coloured by both their urban past and their current rural surroundings, a bit like when the blues moved from the delta to the city and got electrified, but the other way around. The nerve and drive remains, but have widened and grown to fill the windy woodlands and dusty, open fields as well as the deeper darkness beyond the edge of town.

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*"The sound is so simple, how can it be so complicated?  
This is Frustratingly Beautiful Music."*

- Mustard Relics

Molosser's music springs from a tight-knit, symbiotic relationship outside the music as well as inside it. It is built around the interplay between the two downtuned guitars, the intimate vocals, strong lyrics and meticulous, creative songwriting. Rather than using traditional acoustic guitar techniques of strumming or fingerpicking, Molosser weave deceptively simple and minimalistic lines and riffs into dancing, rolling patterns. Tess's vocals add one more voice and deliver strong, poetical and highly personal lyrics, and on the studio recordings her drums make this little unit into a complete band. Any virtuosity involved is less about dexterity or speed and more about composition, arrangement and balance. One of the foundations for Molosser's music is having access to two rather different musical temperaments, intent on creating a common territory - not necessarily a middle ground but rather a wide, including landscape.

Molosser are reluctant to speak of their influences since that won't say much about what their music sounds like now. Tess's experience as vocalist, guitarist and drummer in heavily riffing noise rock bands surely lends stability to rhythms and songwriting, and Jahn's past as an improvising saxophonist serves him well in crafting melody lines for the guitar - just to mention a couple of things - but Unsane and Albert Ayler are probably not the first names that come to mind when you hear Molosser's music. In reviews, the Doors, Nick Cave and various folk and Americana artists have been mentioned, but you're just as likely to think about something outside of those boundaries. The fact that the only cover on the album - 4<sup>th</sup> of July - is a Soundgarden song, might give a hint of where some of the music is coming from, just like Molosser's unique arrangement will tell you what happens when they get their hands on it.

Both musically and lyric-wise, Molosser tend to dive down into the deeper waters of life, since the surface is already well taken care of elsewhere. This does not mean that they are wallowing in darkness as a default mode of life, though - living close to nature it's impossible not to feel joy from watching ravens play in the sky or listening to the wind in the high branches, and being able to make music together gives a golden glow to life. But there are demons to fight and tough questions to try to figure out, and there the music comes in both as a useful tool and a fulfilling end in itself.

Molosser's first album was released in May 2021, and since this is an album with all A-sides, each track has been graced with an official music video as well as a single. Currently, Molosser are working on the material for their next album, fine-tuning their gear for when the live scene hopefully opens up again, and recording live versions of their songs with just the two guitars and vocals, for the "Barebones" video series that is featured on the Evil Ear website.

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Find out more about Molosser on Evil Ear's website: <https://evilear.com>

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