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Inspired in self-isolation: Niller Bjerregaard

With Covid-19 lockdowns worldwide and health authorities urging people to self-isolate and practice social distancing on a massive scale as part of an enormous effort to #FlattenTheCurve of this global pandemic ... we are reaching out to industry friends, colleagues, associates, partners, etc., and asking them to share their #StayAtHome and #QuarantineAndChill activities with us during this extraordinary time.

Danish lighting and set designer Niller is usually on the road and constantly working for touring acts worldwide. Since 1990, his passion for lighting and visuals have resulted in a highly successful professional career. Current and recent clients include Volbeat, King Diamond, Mercyfull Fate, Jacob Dinesen and others.

Robe: Where are you right now?

Niller: I live in Aarhus, Denmark which is the second biggest city in Denmark with a population of 336,500.

Robe: What are you doing to fill the time whilst isolating / on lockdown?

Niller: Currently we are still under lockdown, so the things we can do here are very limited.

But I try to stay sane by walking/biking every day, just getting out of the house is fantastic, spring is just around the corner!

It's also a great opportunity to keep in touch with friends and colleagues around the world. I feel that people in the industry are being very supportive towards each other right now and we all want everybody to get through this in the best way possible.

In so many industries, people are facing huge problems financially plus the uncertainty of what will happen when we can get back to work. So, positivity and big laughs are needed in times like this!

Robe: What's the most creative thing you're able to do in isolation?

Niller: I am working at home on my lighting desk and visualiser to keep busy and up to speed on things. I am watching a lot of desk tutorials and live concerts on YouTube.

I am also preparing for a summer European tour by making drawings and pre-programming, even though the chances of us touring this summer are very uncertain ... but it keeps me busy and interested.

Robe: Are you looking after anyone else during the Covid-19 crisis?

Niller: I live with my girlfriend who is working in health care and very busy at the moment. So I am "trying" to keep the house tidy and clean so she can rest when she comes home! We are face-timing the kids (22 - 27 years old) so we all keep our social distance! We miss them so much and I can't wait to have a family reunion.

Robe: Has anyone inspired you since this started?

Niller: All the frontline health care workers - doctors, nurses, hospital workers, paramedics, etc as well as first responders like firefighters and ambulance staff. Their dedication is amazing and we owe them so much credit for their incredible commitment during this crisis.

I can't wait to go back out to be able to entertain them with a light show!

Robe: Favourite book / movie / Netflix series / viral video

Niller: On Netflix it's "Tiger King", "Ozark", "HAPPY!" (live-action animated black comedy drama based on a comic book series of the same name); "Rick & Morty" (an animated sci-fi sitcom for adults) and Breaking Bad prequel and spin-off "Better Call Saul".

YouTube: Mothergrid is a German online 'magazine' with technical topics on Light and Sound.

Robe: What's the first thing you'd like to do when we are through this crisis?

Niller: See my family and friends and have a big BBQ cookout. Go back on the road and do what I love doing the most.

Robe: Own question / answer / message of solidarity or something you'd like to say?

Niller: Love and respect to all my friends and colleagues on the road!

