

Danish rock star sells his iconic wardrobe!

If you have always been dreaming of being the owner of an outfit worn by a real rock star your chance is here! We have met Stig Pedersen from D-A-D for a chat about original style and mania collection.

Stig Pedersen from D-A-D has on several occasions been on Euroman's list of 'Best Dressed Men in Denmark', and he is known both for his thorough style both on and off stage. From Thursday to Saturday he is selling out from his original wardrobe. It will take place at Fashionistas in Store Kongensgade where also some of Medina's clothes have been sold. - Even though it's a very warm day of spring in Copenhagen Stig Pedersen is wearing black, shiny leathertrouser. Out from these comes a pair of black leatherboots with 10 cm of heel. A silver, fine woven T-shirt under an open black shirt with a discrete military distinction fullfills the picture of a man who is conscious about his look.

What are you selling?

'I have taken care of my shopping, you know, so there are clothes and accessories from all over the world, casual and for parties. It's stage-clothes and clothes for 'private use'. As a recycle store should look like, and as it looked in the old days before everything turned into crap.'

It is 30 years of fashion or anti-fashion history. - There are John Wayne charmer scarfs and theater costumes and knitted David Bowie-inspired jumpsuits. I also sell all the original D-A-D T-shirts back from the very first period. So there is something for the fans to see, it's not only me and my used ties they'll find'

Why are you selling your clothes?

'I am a maniac for collecting. We are really talking sick mania! It is everywhere. I have come to a point where I pay rent for two storerooms filled clothes and accessories. It will hurt to say goodbye, but I have to be tough and pull myself together to get some space.'

Why is style so important for you?

'It comes from a huge interest that started very early, and then suddenly I could combine it with playing the bass in the background. I could that weird guy that makes ppl say: 'What the hell is he today?'

I like that style is a rounded expression, a whole. One of my favourite bands are The Ramones. They founded a fantastic form of uniforming in the midst of chaos. You could mention Iggy Pops bare belly - it's so safe when we see it and we know it's him.'

I come from punk, and there it was about uniforms. The black riding boots had to suit the leatherjacket with the rivets. The rules were tight. You couldn't show up in just anything. When I was 12 I wore my mother's paisley-dress which I had cut in two, at that time you couldn't just buy your clothes sewn and finished in the shops.

You had to use your imagination and what was at hand. I sewed leopard sleeves on a leatherjacket myself. There were demands, both inside and on the outside, about originality.

Today you can buy it all in a package. The other day I was at a hairdresser having my hair cut, and in the chair beside me was a goth-girl. She had the socks, the stockings, the dress, the jacket, the jewelry and the boots - it was all bought as a full start-kit.

It wasn't like that when I began. Back then you had to f*cking do it yourself. We started mixing it with cowboyhats and spurs on the boots, and that wasn't cool, but we thought it was. Eventually somebody said: 'Ok, that's actually rather cool', and then it became a direction in the confusion.

You have had a lot of different looks along the way...

'I have been a chorus girl from Las Vegas, musketeer, astronaut, scuba diver. Everything. All the clothes you could get for Action-man I have worn. It's also an artistic way of expressing yourself. There is nothing more funny than having an idea for stage-clothes and make it come true. Lay out your little sketches and have it all.

Everything is home-made, together with really good workmen. I want the clothes to fit the

instrument I have on my belly. For instance I have just made myself an Iron Cross as a bass, and in order to make it impossible to misunderstand I had The Red Baron (German fighter pilot during WWI) made as head where there is meant to be a small figure of me.'

Is it your own personality you express through your style?

'Yes'

What is the main thread in your everyday-style?

The high boot is always there (shows his black boot with 10 cm heel). Today I'm casually dressed, but yesterday, for instance, I was gunman.' - At home? - 'Yeah, and when I go to Netto to do my shopping. Just like a cowboy movie, you know: Slim jeans with reinforcements on the inside. Long leathercoat, under which you can have a pumpgun'

Do you follow fashion?

'What is hanging in the shops now is not funny. It is more fun to be inspired by Pansers Kursk and dress as an armour general, and it has to be NOW, and where do I get that belt? And I start collecting. That's much better.'

Are there too few armour-generals from the battle of Kursk in the streets?

'I miss those types who have lost it completely. Years ago there was one walking up and down Strøget, dressed as Darth Vader, and one dressed as a Sami from Lapland. - I miss them.

Homosexuals have also become much more toned down. As a young kid I worked in an allnight-shop opposite Cosy Bar in Studiestræde. There were gays with beard, leathercap and bare ass. And I mean 'bare ass'. They didn't care. They don't look like that anymore (in a countrylike dialect) Now you can't see no difference anymore.

On the other hand there's a lot which is more tolerated today. Earlier, when I was punk, you got slapped or people went up and spat you in the face in Strøget. You never knew whether you were met with the squitters or the opposite in the public space.

And you had to go all the way to Hillerød on the S-train where your earring were pulled all the way by some sour man yelling: 'You can't look like that! So maybe people have become more tolerant, but nobody dresses wildly and stands out. I never see anything that makes me say: Wow! I like that you dare take some chances.

What puzzles me too is watching a fashionshow on TV, and when it's finished the designer comes out and is always just wearing black. It's crazy, I think. I would dress up like a spruce cone if I were the one to be celebrated.

The designer always comes out in a damned suit or a dress. And I think: Can I trust a person like that who doesn't take any chances her-/himself? Should I buy his clothes with the tit hanging out?'

Can you judge people from their style? Can you say: He wears clothes from TøjEksperthen so he is dull?

'A person can look like shit and then the mouth opens and he/she is just hilarious. Or man with trousers that are too short and a clown's bow tie walks the street looking very grave. I just like when you add your own look. At the end of the day I guess it's just about mixing things well. I guess everybody has his/her idea when they get up in the morning and dresses.

Are you sure?

That's probably the reason why people get tattooed in the face, to get off that job in the bank. But there are jobs that demand a certain appearance, you want your banker to be dull, not too coloured.

A baker can't wear suede either, he must be clean. But otherwise it's right that a depressing lot of people don't care what they are wearing. But then they care about something else. To chance a strip of wood they need the full loaded toolbelt. I guess we're all gear-freaks in one way or another.

What is the worst crime of fashion in history?

'I don't like wedges (highheeled shoes with no transition between heel and shoe) They look like club feet.'

What is the last thing you would wear?

'If I can have my own signature-Crocs I would wear them, but otherwise no thanks. - I have to also say no thanks to the sightseeing-sandal with velcro and the walking sticks. No visible toes, as they say in the military, I can't handle that. You got me! The sandal-hater, that's me!'

Tattooes?

'I never got on that wagon'

Most men care less and less about their clothes as time passes. Why is it still important to you?

'If I hadn't become a musician and had the exposure that comes with it I guess I would have toned it down a bit and just found one style. But I have this lovely carrier that allows me to decide for myself. That's probably why the style has ended in extremes.'

So it's an on-the-job injury?

'Well, I don't think about it, but people might think 'what the fuck?'' For instance, when I am at home and rehearse before a concert as a chorus girl in 12 cm stilettos and my guests ask me: 'What the hell are you doing?' But all that mountain of clothes and stuff I'm selling now I have bought over the years, and I think that I have had a professional/artistic purpose all the time.'

You turn 50 next month. Will you become more discrete when choosing clothes now?

'No! Not at all. Though I am not fooling around on the roofs of the S-trains anymore, but you can still dress cool according to your age.' Each year I guess we all feel our 'love handles' and say 'Do we take a season more with bare belly?' I think you can dress wildly and crazy as long as there is a main thread. Some years ago I was in New York and walked behind a skater with a long ponytail, collegejacket and the skateboard he carried under his arm or rode on. I came up to him and saw a man at 70! His face looked like a walnut. It was like: 'Mum, I can see your navelpiercing* It's cool and it's not, it's a real thin line each time. Should you find your own balance or should others tell you? I don't care what others think. I started as punk when I was 13 in 1978. There were only 6 of us, sitting by StorkeSpringvandet, and I went alone on the bus from the Amager suburbs which took a good deal of courage, I guess it toughened me up. - Noone is beating you anymore. The worst that can happen today if you dress as a youngster with a propeller on your cap, is that a schoolclass will laugh themselves to death. Or you can end up like the artist Jens Jørgen Thorsen who weighed 30 kilos too much and yet wearing leopard-spandex. People were used to him being like that. Actually I think I will end up like him. Now I just got an idea, because I have a giant heap of latex clothes at home.'

Aren't you nervous that you will miss your clothes? I guess you can't keep on getting new ideas?

'That won't be a problem. When you have read as many cartoons as I have you will have ideas.'

Are you selling all your clothes?

'No, I have more. But now the maniac collector can get to the sink at home.

Fashionistas Luksus Outlet, Store Kongensgade 40H, 1264 København K

Den 23.-24. april, kl. 11.00-18.00, samt lørdag d. 25. april, kl. 11.00-15.00
Gratis entré