

## WOOG RIOTS

### Who makes the Stars



Band: **Woog Riots** Single: **Who makes the Stars** Released **Dezember 4, 2020**

Label: **From Lo-Fi to Disco!** Download (lo-fi 021) Distributed by Broken Silence

*Silvana Battisti: "Does Elon Musk make stars now?"*

"Who Makes the Stars" is the question you could ask yourself in the summer of 2020 when inexplicable fairy lights appeared in the starry sky. This song is Part 3 of a Woog Riots single series 2020/2021. In the tradition of space pop songs orbiting David Bowie, Sun Ra and Public Service Broadcasting, the Woog Riots - Silvana Battisti and Marc Herbert - launch a new perspective. What Ziggy Stardust and William Shatner as Captain James T. Kirk could not imagine has now become reality: legions of massive commercial satellites circle the earth in close orbit.

Elon Musk and his company SpaceX launched the project Starlink: a network of fast-internet satellites surrounding the earth in a low orbit. A so-called mega constellation Starlink is said to consist of 12,000 satellites. Future projections predict upwards of 40,000 Starlink satellites crowding the skies. Other internet providers will join the race to claim territory in the satellite frontier. The effects on space travel and astronomy are devastating. Failed Starlink launches have lost control littering the skies with "space junk" that regularly crash in near-earth orbit. For astronomy the reflected sunlight from satellites obscures observations and recordings of the natural universe.

In the musical universe, the Woog Riots soar in the endless expanses of electro-pop, as seen in their previous single "Good Scientist". The founders of this genre, Kraftwerk, already had their own intergalactic moment with their song "Spacelab". Woog Riots begin "Who makes the Stars" with a beep as heard in the 1957 Soviet Sputnik satellite radio broadcasts. The song names some of the Starlink satellites that currently float above us. The seemingly mechanical voice hails from the far reaches of the planet, from guest singer Terri Manning in San Francisco. The middle part features Silvana Battisti's singing saw emanating vibrations akin to sounds of the Starship Enterprise in deep space.

The single was produced in the same way as the Woog Riots album 'Cut up and Paste' (released in 2019): Recorded in their own living room, reworked and mixed by Lolo Blümller and the techno musician and producer Jörn Elling Wuttke (Primitive Painter, Alter Ego, Sensorama, Acid Jesus).

As with the two previous single releases, the topic was implemented visually in a video. The short film for "Who Makes the Stars" was shot on location at the Darmstadt public observatory (Volkssternwarte Darmstadt) and recorded and edited in the new animation studio of Woog Riots.

## Press about Woog Riots

*„Awesome new single from Woog Riots!“ Ooberus Oblivious Blog about 'Good Scientist', September 2020*

*“This is excellent. Celebration of an artist and her polka dots.” Giddeon Coe about 'Yayoi Kusama', BBC6 Music, April 20th 2020*

*“Yaay they're back and celebrating Japan's most famous visual artist. Mark my words in the early 2040's all young bands will reference the Woogs in the same way that the TV Personalties are now adored.” Bottom of The Pops about 'Yayoi Kusama', April 19th 2020*

*"An act of genius – Alan Rusbridger the editor on 'Alan Rusbridger' the album", The Guardian, April 18th 2016, Review by Alan Rusbridger*