

Rudi Burke

Indie-folk at heart. Rock in the voice.

English-language songs between rawness, closeness and honest songwriting.

SINGER-SONGWRITER FROM GERMANY

DEBUT ALBUM 2026

NEW SINGLE "FERRIS WHEEL" · OCT 16, 2026



Who is Rudi Burke?

From the heart of Germany's Ruhr region

Rudi Burke is a singer-songwriter from Gelsenkirchen, Germany. His sound moves between the intimacy of indie-folk and the energy of alternative rock — carried by a raw, emotional voice, handmade arrangements and English-language songs that hit directly without ever pushing too hard.

His music doesn't sound glossy. It sounds like real life: honest, melodic, atmospheric and deeply rooted in the experiences of a man who found his way to art through detours — and understands it all the more clearly because of it.



Electronic Press Kit

Quick Facts

Origin

Born in Essen, raised in Gelsenkirchen, Ruhr region — North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany

Genre

Acoustic / indie-folk / rock — English-language repertoire

Live

Acoustic solo act — performing live since 2021

Debut Album

“Beauty Left Within” — release 2026

Releases

7 singles since 2024 · latest: “Ferris Wheel” (Oct 16, 2026) · Label: Burke Records

Press

Coverage includes WAZ, EARMILK, Atwood Magazine, frontstage-magazine.de and vampster

Biography

The road to music

The beginnings

Rudi Burke, born Rudolf Patrick Burgmer, picked up the guitar at 14 and wrote his first songs at 17. In his early twenties he co-founded the metalcore band Men on the Run as frontman and songwriter — winning competitions and gaining intense stage experience across North Rhine-Westphalia.

Honing the craft

After years on stage, Rudi deepened his craft with a singer-songwriter diploma from Deutsche Pop in Cologne. There he sharpened his sense of structure, clarity and emotional directness in songwriting — qualities that still define his solo project today.



A personal turning point

Out of silence comes clarity

A chronic illness and recurring surgeries forced Rudi to pause — and turned a side project into a clear artistic direction.

That time of retreat produced songs that became more precise, more honest and more direct. Writing became a necessity, a language, a way of processing. Since 2021, Rudi Burke has been performing live with his solo project: stripped down, approachable and focused on song, voice and atmosphere.

Artist profile

Sound & Themes

🎵 The sound

Indie-folk at heart, rock in the voice. No glossy production, no mask — handmade arrangements that are raw, direct and believable.

💖 The themes

Alienation, hope, growing up, strokes of fate, change, transience, the decline of home — and getting back up. Vulnerability and pressure as two sides of the same song.

● The voice

Raw, powerful and warm at the same time. A voice that doesn't ask for attention — it gets it. Direct, without pushing too hard.

Musical DNA

Influences & Reference Points

Jason Isbell

Narrative depth, literary songwriting and an emotional honesty that never tips into sentimentality. Isbell shows that country roots and alternative energy are no contradiction.

Jim Croce

A master of minimal guitar work and personal storytelling. Croce's ability to pack big feelings into small, precise images is a core principle of Rudi's own writing.

Brian Fallon

Handmade rock energy meets singer-songwriter intimacy. Fallon's courage to be direct and emotionally vulnerable echoes straight through Rudi's approach.

Further reference points: Tom Petty · Dave Hause · J Mascis · Robert Earl Keen · Matt Skiba · Tom DeLonge · Creedence Clearwater Revival

New · out October 16, 2026

Ferris Wheel

The new single from Rudi Burke — direct, heartfelt and carried by his distinctive voice.

Following “Red, dead Ladybugs,” “Uneasy in my Skin” and “Scratchin’ Marks,” October brings the next song on the road to the debut album “Beauty Left Within.”

Advance copies, streaming links and press text for “Ferris Wheel” on request: Favori Media · kontakt@favori-media.de



Releases

Discography — Singles 2024 to 2026



Label: Burke Records · Songwriting: Rudolf Patrick Burgmer · Available on Spotify, Apple Music, Deezer, Amazon Music and YouTube Music

Key Tracks 2026

The album singles — three new chapters

01 · Apr 23, 2026

Red, dead Ladybugs

Two dead ladybugs on a windowsill become an image of transience — and of how precious life is. Sparsely arranged, produced by Thomas Erkelenz.

02 · Jun 26, 2026

Uneasy in my Skin

A song about self-doubt, isolation and fading friendships — and the search for one's own place. Written during a difficult period in his mid-twenties.

03 · Aug 21, 2026

Scratchin' Marks

Holding on to a broken relationship, told through the image of a dog locked out and scratching at the door — desperate, honest, direct.

Key Tracks 2024

The first singles — three moments

01 · Mar 30, 2024

Forgotten How to Breathe

Rudi Burke's debut single is about pressure, overwhelm and self-doubt — triggered by a personal turning point when everything became too much. The image of having forgotten how to breathe gives that feeling a haunting yet catchy form.

02 · Jun 7, 2024

Cradle Song

A quiet, fragile song with weight beneath the surface. A lullaby that isn't one — for everyone who knows what it feels like to have to be strong when you'd rather disappear.

03 · Aug 23, 2024

Please Tell Me Something

A song about the distance in a room that is still full of love. About the silence between people who want to tell each other everything — and somehow no longer can.

Press quotes

What the music press says

"There's a rawness in Burke's voice that avoids polish in favour of authenticity."

IGNITE MUSIC MAG

"His voice carries a certain vulnerability — one that doesn't seek perfection."

MELODRIFT

"Burke isn't chasing trends — he's focused on storytelling and authenticity."

CURIOUS FOR MUSIC

"Unfolds with a quiet confidence that feels almost unassuming at first."

ATWOOD MAGAZINE

"... Rudi Burke offers an honest glimpse into a difficult period of his life."

FRONTSTAGE-MAGAZINE.DE (TRANSLATED)

"... an up-and-coming singer-songwriter from Gelsenkirchen ..."

WAZ (TRANSLATED)

Media & Publications

Press Coverage

Date	Outlet	Article (clickable)
Aug 25, 2026	vampster	RUDI BURKE: neuer Song „Scratchin’ Marks“
Jul 1, 2026	WAZ (German daily)	Neue Musik von Singer-Songwriter Rudi Burke – das ist seine Geschichte
Jun 27, 2026	frontstage-magazine.de	Rudi Burke veröffentlicht neue Single „Uneasy In My Skin“
Jun 3, 2026	EARMILK	Rudi Burke contemplates existence with folk rock tune “Red, dead Ladybugs”
May 25, 2026	Curious For Music	Rudi Burke Unveils New Single “Red, dead Ladybugs”
May 12, 2026	The Other Side Reviews	Interview: A Chat with Rudi Burke
May 11, 2026	Melodrift	Rudi Burke Reveals New Single “Red, dead Ladybugs”
May 1, 2026	Atwood Magazine	Atwood Magazine’s Weekly Roundup: May 1, 2026
Apr 28, 2026	Ignite Music Mag	5 Reasons You Should Listen To “Red, dead Ladybugs” by Rudi Burke
Apr 24, 2026	Decent Music PR	Press release: “Red, dead Ladybugs” ahead of 2026 Debut Album
Sep 18, 2023	WAZ (German daily)	Ückendorf: Ein Kiez-Bummel zwischen Comedy und Karaoke (live at “Kommse Ücken”)

Live profile

Acoustic solo act

Rudi Burke is available as an acoustic solo act. At the center: strong songs, a distinctive voice and a direct connection with the audience. The format is deliberately stripped down — and that's exactly what creates closeness, focus and atmosphere.

His live set is close, emotional and direct. No distractions, no overproduction — just song, voice and the space in between. Living-room concerts are a special part of his live concept: as close and as real as it gets.

Ideal for

- Intimate singer-songwriter concerts
- Clubs & listening rooms
- Cultural venues & festivals
- Living-room concerts & private events

Set lengths

- Up to 30 minutes — flexible setup, minimal tech
- 30–90 minutes — flexible setup, minimal tech

Technical requirements

Tech Rider — Short Version



Vocals

One vocal microphone with stand



Guitar

One DI channel for acoustic guitar



Monitor

One individual monitor mix on stage



PA

PA system suited to the room & power near the stage

The full tech rider is available as a separate document — [download it at rudi-burke.com](https://rudi-burke.com).



Debut album

“Beauty Left Within” — 2026

After years of playing live, writing and maturing, the first album arrives in 2026. “Beauty Left Within” is the title — and it says everything about Rudi’s attitude: it’s not about staging beauty, but about finding it where it hides. In cracks, in scars, in honest moments.

Three album singles are already out — “Red, dead Ladybugs,” “Uneasy in my Skin” and “Scratchin’ Marks” — with “Ferris Wheel” following in October.

Album release date, advance streams and press info on request via Favori Media: kontakt@favori-media.de



Music press & promoters

Short Bio for Press

Rudi Burke is a singer-songwriter from Gelsenkirchen in Germany's Ruhr region. His English-language songs move between indie-folk intimacy and alternative-rock energy — carried by a raw voice, handmade arrangements and clear, honest songwriting. He has been performing live with his solo project since 2021. In 2026 he released the album singles "Red, dead Ladybugs," "Uneasy in my Skin" and "Scratchin' Marks," picked up by outlets including WAZ, EARMILK, Atwood Magazine, frontstage-magazine.de and vampster. His new single "Ferris Wheel" is out October 16, 2026; the debut album "Beauty Left Within" arrives in 2026.

This short bio is free to use in press releases, event announcements and festival programs. Longer versions and photos are available on request from Favori Media: kontakt@favori-media.de

For bookers & promoters

Booking Profile

Rudi Burke is an acoustic solo act from North Rhine-Westphalia with an English-language repertoire between indie-folk and rock. The set is stripped down, emotional and technically lean — ideal for venues that value substance over show.

- Set times: up to 30 minutes / 30–90 minutes
- Minimal tech requirements, flexible setup
- EPK, photos and tech rider on request
- Booking agency: Favori Media
- Territories: Germany / Austria / Switzerland / Netherlands

Please include with booking requests

- Date & location
- Venue & expected attendance
- Technical setup on site
- Planned format / context

Send booking requests to Favori Media: kontakt@favori-media.de

Streaming & media

Listen & discover

Spotify

[open.spotify.com/artist/
0E41krG2rzCqXicolXPPUJ](https://open.spotify.com/artist/0E41krG2rzCqXicolXPPUJ)

Apple Music

[music.apple.com/artist/
rudi-burke/1738243504](https://music.apple.com/artist/rudi-burke/1738243504)

Deezer

deezer.com/en/artist/260034671

Amazon Music

[music.amazon.com/artists/
B0CZ7SRYK4/rudi-burke](https://music.amazon.com/artists/B0CZ7SRYK4/rudi-burke)

YouTube

youtube.com/@RudiBurke
Lyric videos "Uneasy in my Skin" & "Scratchin' Marks"

Instagram

[@rudi_burke](https://www.instagram.com/rudi_burke)

Contact

Press & Booking Inquiries

Booking & media inquiries

Favori Media

- **Booking:** kontakt@favori-media.de
- **Press & interviews:** kontakt@favori-media.de
- **Web:** www.favori-media.de
- **Artist website:** www.rudi-burke.com

All booking and media inquiries are coordinated by Favori Media.

Press inquiries — please include

- Outlet or editorial team
- Type of coverage
- Deadline
- Publication or broadcast date

The promise

Between strings and edge. Straight to the point.

Rudi Burke. Singer-songwriter. Gelsenkirchen. 2026.

BEAUTY LEFT WITHIN

FERRIS WHEEL · OCT 16, 2026

