

PRE-LEFT OF THE DIAL



← CAR BOOT SALE

'We'd heard of the festival, as a few of the band members have friends from the Netherlands. They'd said it'd be a good place to play as it's always a great crowd. Our booking agents Sam & Caitlin at ATC Live dropped us a message about it just before a show in London. We were stoked. It'll be our first show outside of the UK and the excitement of that alone means that it won't be no regular affair. We're in the lab mixing a cacophony of rock n roll ingredients to make sure we bring the raucous party to Rotterdam.'

EXPECTATIONS

↓ MODDER

'At Left of the Dial, we hope to play two great shows, see some cool bands, and meet new people. Our second record will be released in November through Consouling Sounds/Lay Bare Recordings which makes our appearance in October in Rotterdam a great opportunity to play a lot of our new songs. We have been spending the summer preparing two sets for Left of the Dial that with this new record under our belt, embody perfectly what Modder currently has to offer. Hopefully, we'll be able to bring along physical copies of the new record as well to Rotterdam. People can expect a sonic experience of pure energy and attitude. Modder doesn't hold back and goes all the way, steam wheeling its way through the audience with riffs designed to break your neck.'



← COWBOY

'We had heard about Left of the Dial through posts online. We'd seen other bands play it and we loved the branding. Especially the blue colour of the logo definitely drew us in. In July we already played a free show at Rotown and that was great. I wouldn't say it necessarily changed our expectations, it more solidified the idea that this festival is gonna be awesome. We just had a great time and the crowd reaction to our set was perfect. The Left of the Dial team treated us better than we ever have been and made us feel so welcome and comfortable.'

We can't wait to come back and do our thing. Especially this time around with fellow UK bands we've played with and know. We're hoping to have some fun. We're used to mixed reactions at shows, but we like to flip expectations. People can expect three silly guys having some fun playing some silly music. Lots of tight playing, and also not so tight. From catchy riffs to ambient sounds, from ambient sounds to heavy tones and pure noise.'



↓ THE NEW EVES

'We were vaguely familiar with the name Left of the Dial as it was recommended to us recently, we are excited to see the festival for the first time. We will be researching some good places to explore whilst we are there. We are looking forward to playing our first show out of the UK and hope to make some new connections. If you come to our shows, you can expect a ritualistic mash-up of folk-song, yelping punk, and mesmeric drone.'



↑ MIDDLEMAN

'We'd had a few friends that played last year and heard it was a great time. The festival treats the bands really well and there's karaoke. So, we emailed and were glad they wanted to put us on. We're just looking forward to having a good time in Rotterdam. Hopefully, some people who have never heard us before will check us out and enjoy it. We'll definitely try and get some new songs down for it. Maybe a cover. We'll have to see.'

→ SCOTT HEPPLER AND THE SUN BAND

'We needed a Rotterdam gig for our tour and emailed Rotown, then we got offered to play Left of the Dial! We actually hadn't heard of it before, but once we told our friends it turned out many of them knew the festival. From what we gather, the crowds are very enthusiastic and willing to hear new music. This is our first show outside of the UK so we are very excited, but our preparation will be listening to every other band before the festival starts to pick who we are going to watch. And please anyone who's reading, come say hi to us, we would love to make lots of new friends, in the audience, and in different bands! ♥'



POST- LEFT OF THE DIAL

WE'RE MORE THAN AN OPEN BAR!

Here, at Left of the Dial we'd like to think we're making a real difference for up-and-coming bands. After all, that's why we once started the festival. So, we tell ourselves that artists learned something from playing at the festival, that they met valuable contacts, made new fans, and that their careers took off after performing here. You'd think that would result in some words of wisdom addressed to other bands yet to play a future edition.

But if you ask 50 bands, 49 will only tell you about how very drunk they got. For free. Apparently, that made more of an impression than anything else. Occasionally, there are bands that recognise that Left of the Dial was an important step in their European career. Although, they probably only say that in the hope of being invited back for free drinks.

Don't get us wrong. We are very happy with all the loving words we also received, and some bands had great advice for their successors. But it did make us think that we should try harder to ensure that all future Left of the Dial bands have more to say about their time in Rotterdam than to wax lyrical about the open bar. We don't exactly know how we're going to accomplish this yet, but some day Left of the Dial will truly be an indispensable link for artists who want to achieve more than an evening of free drinking.



"Be friendly to everyone and enjoy life" – De Witte Kunst

"Left of the Dial was one of the best weekends of our lives. As performers and as people, as artists and as observers. It's just the perfect music experience. Incredible to see a festival being done like that. We hope Rotterdam knows how lucky it is!" – Langkamer

*"If I believed in heaven, I would guess that it's exactly like Left of the Dial. Just that weekend in Rotterdam on repeat, over and over again. A big old Rotterdam weekend in the sky."
– Langkamer*

*"Make sure to stay in Rotterdam for the night, because Left of the Dial's hospitality is top notch, and you should make the most of it"
– Shaemless*

*"Eat bitterballen. Drink free band beer. Eat frieten. Drink free band beer. Watch some bands. Drink free band beer. Maybe play some music or something. Drink free band beer. Eat Kapsalon. Sleep."
– Beige Banquet*

"My advice for English bands playing Left of the Dial is to hang with the locals and then make plans to move to Rotterdam asap, like I did, two months after our set ended." – Dancehall

"When flying with instruments it's often cheaper (and safer!) to put your guitars (and/or other small instruments) in a soft cello case and purchase a child seat for it, instead of putting them in the hold. Check your airline's guidance, but we managed to get a guitar, a short-scale bass, and two small keyboards over from Scotland to Left of the Dial this way (and saved €€€)!" – The Wife Guys of Reddit

*"Be yourselves and play every show like it's your last!"
– SONS*

"Show up really early so when the government cancels the festival you'll be too far gone, and they'll have to let you play!" – **Joe & The Shitboys**

"If you get the opportunity to play it DO IT. It's a landmark for us as a band still to this day. You get treated like you're The Beatles or something. Free food, beers, travel, accommodation. The punters absolutely love live music over there so play as many shows as you can. We still look back at our set at V11 as one of our fondest memories." – **Pizza Crunch**

"In 2021, Left of the Dial was one of the first shows we played in Europe, and it wasn't until we got more experience playing live and touring that I realised how special the festival is in terms of its atmosphere. Try and enjoy it as much as possible, even if it seems stressful. It feels like a party, so treat it like one" – **Dead Finks**

"Go for a walk and see what the city you're in is like" – **Makthaverskan**

"Make sure to stroll down the river side at night and stare up into the willow trees, maybe chill with those crazy looking ducks whilst you're there. Maybe use that time to pick your top karaoke tune and then hunt down the karaoke bar to belt 'Eye of The Tiger' at top volume (unless that wasn't what you picked?)" – **Holiday Ghosts**

"Rotterdam is just one of the best cities in the world. 10/10! Best part was waking up at 3pm the day after our first set and getting dealt the worst hangover from the free bar and after party I've ever had. We partied so hard that we had to book flights for our hangovers!" – **The Rills**

"When coming from the UK I can only recommend getting the Eurostar, better for the environment and unlimited luggage! woohoo!" – **Ailbhe Reddy**

"If we'd ever play LOTD again, we'd take the Left of The Dial Inflatable Tube Guy with us and set it up as a special prop at every one of our shows." – **GENN**

"Play as many shows as you can, network with as many other bands and acts as you can, sample the local delicacies, drink as much as you can from the free bar and if you get asked to play a show on a boat, make sure you say yes... and no matter where the festival is, whatever the weather, always pack a pair of crocs." – **Eades**

"Just the best festival; do it!" – **Bobbi Lu**

"Everyone's in the same boat at a showcase festival, introduce yourself and meet some other bands" – **Feet**