

“Night of the Nihilist”

SONG + VIDEO FACT SHEET

KEY INFORMATION

Song title: Night of the Nihilist
Album title: Destruction / Reconstruction
Band name: Mexican Radio
Release date: 23 August, 2019
Band: Nathaniel Fregoso (vocals, keys, effects)
Dyan Valdés (vocals, keys)
Hannes Neupert (vocals, drums)
Production: [Mischkah Wilke](#) (production, engineering and mixing)
[Arne Ziemann](#) (mastering)
Artwork: [Timm Hartmann](#) (artwork and layout)
[Petra Valdimarsdóttir](#) (photography)
Studios: [Studio B](#), Kaulsdorf (recording)
[Kozmic Sound](#), Weißensee (mixing)
[Oakfield Mastering](#), Regensburg (mastering)
Label: R.I.P. Ben Lee Records
Video: [Ray Wassef](#) (a.k.a. Ray Mann) (direction, production, editing)

LYRICS

written by Nathaniel Fregoso

Night of the nihilist

I don't believe in anyone I don't believe in anything I don't believe

Night of the nihilist

I don't believe in God And I don't trust religion

I don't believe authority I don't believe

Night of the nihilist

Hedonism He-he-hedonism

Night of the nihilist

Blow up the tsar
and our legend lives on
Chaos chaos chaos
Chaos chaos chaos

Night of the nihilist
You can't deny this

Literature's a valid form of social commentary
Commentary's a valid form of social literature
Hate with a holy hate, destroy everything

Night of the nihilist

You can't deny this

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

answered by Dyan Valdés

What is "Night of the Nihilist" about?

The song was inspired by the Russian [nihilist movement](#) from the 1860s and makes reference to their [assassination of Tsar Alexander II](#). The narrator of the song also takes influence from the nihilist character Bazarov from [Ivan Turgenev's](#) novel [Fathers and Sons](#). The song is about rejecting everything, wreaking righteous havoc and still managing to have a good time in the process.

Tell us about the music.

Out of all of the Mexican Radio songs, this one is the most closely tied to techno music. Berlin is world-renowned for its club scene, and this is the closest we'll probably get to it. Anyone who has been to a club here has seen a special kind of reckless abandon that can only come when people completely let themselves go in an environment with almost no limitations - so referencing this musical style when singing about hedonism, chaos and destroying everything seems to make sense.

There's also a conspiratorial vibe to the song, it's almost like a manifesto written behind closed doors by people who are eager to unleash their "holy hate" on the world outside as soon as the sun comes up - once they've finished dancing the night away.

What was the inspiration for the video?

Ray Wassef (a.k.a. Ray Mann), who had worked on a video for Nathaniel and my previous band [The Blood Arm](#), came up with the concept and created the video. He got the feeling of the song right away, and even before knowing it was influenced by Russian history and literature, he suggested that we reference Soviet propaganda posters by recreating live. We couldn't believe he was so precisely in tune with the inspiration behind the song - total synchronicity!

We kept the setup very basic and filmed the video in our rehearsal room in Hannes' parents' basement in Heinersdorf. We constructed a walled-in stage to perform on so that the whole thing would feel very confined. The video is a combination of live performance with live-action recreations of Soviet propaganda posters. Ray added to the frenetic agitated feel of the song with lots of hard fast edits that repeat over and over, like a visual sampler. He added animation on top of the footage to enhance the mechanical feel with lots of striking colors and images. The end result is a visual manifesto that introduces Mexican Radio to the world.