



## Biography of Schëppe Siwen

### Formation and Early Years (2009-2012)

Schëppe Siwen, a folk punk band from Luxembourg, was formed in December 2009. The band's name, "Schëppe Siwen," translates to "Seven of Spades" in English. This name is a nod to the cultural heritage of Luxembourg and the village festivals where they often played. At these festivals, a traditional tombola was held using playing cards cut in half. Participants would draw a card, and the person who owned the other half of the drawn card would win a large basket filled with food or other items. The seven of spades was often the card associated with winning the biggest basket, making it a symbol of luck and prosperity—a winner's card.

The band quickly gained recognition for their energetic performances and their unique fusion of traditional folk music with the raw energy of punk rock. Their debut performance was in March 2010 at a St. Patrick's Day concert, which marked the beginning of their active engagement in the music scene. Over the next two years, Schëppe Siwen honed their craft, combining influences from Celtic and Luxembourgish folk traditions with the fast-paced, rebellious spirit of punk.

In 2012, Schëppe Siwen recorded their self-titled debut album, "Schëppe Siwen," which was released in December of the same year. This album showcased their distinctive sound and included a mix of original compositions and modern interpretations of traditional folk songs. They celebrated its release with a performance at Exit07, a well-known venue in Luxembourg, which further cemented their place in the local music scene.

### Growth and Collaborations (2013-2015)

Following the success of their debut album, Schëppe Siwen continued to expand their musical endeavors. In the spring of 2013, they took part in a unique project by performing for "The Vagina Monologues," a powerful and thought-provoking play. This collaboration underscored the band's versatility and willingness to engage in diverse artistic endeavors.

That same year, Schëppe Siwen collaborated with the Luxembourgish distillery "Diedenacker," merging their musical identity with local cultural traditions and reinforcing their deep connection to Luxembourgish heritage.

In 2015, the band returned to the studio to record their second album, "Sprëtztour," which was released in January 2016. This album showcased a more refined sound while maintaining the raw, energetic style that had become their hallmark. The album launch took place at Melusina, a popular Luxembourg venue, where they performed to a lively crowd.

### International Expansion and Continued Success (2016-2019)

Schëppe Siwen's growing popularity led to international performances, including a notable concert at Luxembourg Fest in the United States in the summer of 2016, marking their first performance outside

Europe. This opportunity allowed them to engage with audiences from different cultures, further broadening their appeal.

Between 2017 and 2019, Schëppe Siwen toured extensively in Belgium, Luxembourg, and Germany, performing over 200 concerts and headlining numerous shows. Their dynamic stage presence and energetic live performances captivated audiences and garnered them a strong following.

In 2019, Schëppe Siwen was eager to perform at the Polkabeats Festival in the eastern part of Germany. They wanted to show their support for the local communities in their fight against the rise of extreme right-wing parties. The band also headlined the Saturday show at the Schots Weekend Festival in Alden Biesen, demonstrating their rising popularity and the growing demand for their music. Additionally, they headlined the Green Stage (World Music Stage) at the Rhein in Flammen/Koblenzer Sommerfest in Koblenz, showcasing their versatility and appeal across various music genres.

That same year, the band recorded their third album, "Wat bleift," which translates to "What Remains" in English. This album, completed throughout 2019, explored themes of change, endurance, and legacy—concepts that resonated with their journey as musicians. The album was released in November 2019, accompanied by a special performance at the first Folkpunkfestival in Luxembourg at the club Melusina, marking another milestone in their career.

### **Adapting to Challenges and Digital Innovation (2020-2021)**

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 posed significant challenges for the music industry. Schëppe Siwen's last concert before the lockdown took place at the Zeltik Festival in Dudelange on March 14, 2020. Despite these difficulties, the band adapted by leveraging digital platforms to stay connected with their audience. On June 17, 2020, they performed at "Live op der Schmelz" in Dudelange, a live-streamed event via radio and television, with a limited in-person audience. This performance ensured that their music continued to reach fans even amidst global restrictions.

In August 2020, Schëppe Siwen organized a unique City SightSeeing Concert Tour in Luxembourg, performing live music on a bus as it toured the city. This innovative approach combined live performances with sightseeing, providing a unique experience during a time when traditional concerts were not feasible.

They also participated in various virtual events, including an online live stream concert for St. Patrick's Day in 2021. These efforts highlighted the band's resilience and adaptability, maintaining their presence and connection with fans despite the pandemic.

### **Recent Activities and Future Prospects (2022-Present)**

As pandemic restrictions eased, Schëppe Siwen resumed live performances in 2022, starting with a St. Patrick's Day concert at Brasserie Vis-à-vis. Throughout the year, they continued to play at various festivals and events across Europe, including the Rockhal, the Mad Ones Festival, and the e-Lake Festival in Echternach.

In 2023, the band continued to make waves with performances at festivals such as the Südstadtfestival in Cologne and the Altstadtfest in Trier. They also gave several unique performances, including unplugged shows at the Stued Theater in Grevenmacher.

In 2024, Schëppe Siwen collaborated with Greenpeace Luxembourg for their 40th anniversary. To support this milestone, the band donated a song and released a special edition vinyl, limited to 200 numbered copies made from recycled vinyl. All proceeds from this release were donated to Greenpeace to support a deforestation campaign, demonstrating the band's commitment to environmental causes and their active engagement in global issues.

Looking ahead, Schëppe Siwen has several exciting projects planned. In 2024, they performed at the Luxembourg Song Contest as part of the Eurovision Song Contest festivities. They are also planning a promotional tour in 2025 for their upcoming album, focusing on the BeNeLux region.

### **Legacy and Impact**

Throughout their career, Schëppe Siwen has stayed true to their roots while continuously evolving their sound. Their fusion of folk and punk, infused with Luxembourgish culture, has resonated with audiences both locally and internationally. They have not only entertained but also engaged in cultural exchange, bringing Luxembourgish folk-punk to a wider audience.

As sponsors of the Tornado Women's ice hockey team since 2021, Schëppe Siwen has also demonstrated a commitment to supporting local communities and sports, further solidifying their role as cultural ambassadors.

Their collaboration with Greenpeace Luxembourg in 2024 underscores their dedication to social and environmental causes, reflecting a band that is not only about music but also about making a positive impact in the world.

Schëppe Siwen's journey is a testament to their passion for music and their ability to adapt and innovate. With a robust discography and a dynamic live performance history, they have carved out a unique space in the folk punk genre, leaving a lasting impact on the Luxembourgish and international music scenes.