

15.5.2020

Inspired in self-isolation: Ed Warren

With Covid-19 lockdowns worldwide and health authorities urging people to self-isolate and practice social distancing on a massive scale as part of an enormous effort to #FlattenTheCurve of this global pandemic ... we are reaching out to industry friends, colleagues, associates, partners, etc., and asking them to share their #StayAtHome and #QuarantineAndChill activities with us during this extraordinary time.

Ed has been a lighting designer - known for his originality and thinking out-of-the-box - for 16 years. He mainly works in live music, also on commercial projects and events and has directed some music videos. Additionally, Ed finds time in his hectic schedule to run a coffee and record shop in his hometown of Margate in the UK.

If the country were not all stuck at home, he would be working on getting summer tours out for Michael Kiwanuka, Mumford & Sons, IDLES, Manic Street Preachers, The Charlatans, Orlando Weeks, Georgia, and a few others.

He is also head LX at a new London venue Lafayette, which is currently closed.

Robe: Where are you right now?

Ed: At home by the sea in Margate, Kent. I have never been more thankful for a sea view in my life.

Robe: How are you spending time whilst isolating / on lockdown?

Ed: Keeping my family alive as best I can.

Robe: What's the most creative thing you're able to do whilst in isolation?

Ed: The cooking & the washing up. Sometimes at the same time!

Robe: Are you looking after anyone else during the Covid-19 crisis? Like neighbours or others in the family?

Ed: My fiancé and I have a 1-year-old son and a 3-year-old daughter. We're looking after them. Or are they looking after us? It's a bit of a blur at the moment!

Robe: Has anyone particularly inspired you since this crisis started?

Ed: The hard-working NHS who have been systematically undermined, underfunded and sold off for years under our current government! They are dealing with this crisis with unbounded courage, bravery, and grace.

Robe: What has been your favourite book / movie / Netflix or TV series / viral video / Games / music?

Ed: Then new Alex Garland drama Devs (science fiction thriller TV mini-series) was right up my street. Mind-boggling, slick sci-fi! Similarly, series 3 of Westworld is next on the watchlist. We are also re-watching The Wire (American crime drama TV series) and just completed season 1. That in itself is a full-time commitment.

I've also enjoyed watching the deployment of the SpaceX Starlink satellites in the night sky over the course of the past week. Pretending to myself it's an alien invasion. Which would be a welcome change.

Robe: What is the first thing you'd like to do when we are through this crisis?

Ed: Give everything a cuddle. And play football.

Robe: Own question / answer / message of solidarity or something you'd like to say?

Ed: "Life is not a problem to be solved, but a reality to be experienced." Søren Kierkegaard (1813 - 1855, a Danish philosopher theologian, poet, social critic and religious author, widely considered to be the first existentialist philosopher).

