

## Songs of the American Dream

Singer and guitarist Rick Derman from Connecticut until tomorrow at Neptunes M

An American in Warnemünde – at least in winter that is a rarity. Especially when it's a pop artist from Connecticut who has already recorded with the Joe Cocker Band in New York. Rick Derman is the name of the singer and guitarist who will be performing in the new “Neptuns M” every evening from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. until Thursday. His specialty: cover versions of pop and mainstream rock.

“I couldn't survive as a musician in the USA,” says the artist, and performing with a country & western band was simply not his taste. For this reason he came to Germany five years ago. Here he lives in Berlin, and tours within a 200 kilometer radius around the capital, and performs mainly in restaurants. “I find it boring sometimes,” he admits. Because that's also the fate of a bar pianist: Hardly anyone comes because of him. What must it be like when no one listens to him?

“I then immerse myself in my own world and play for myself,” says Rick Derman.

His songs talk about the land of opportunity, the American dream. What does that mean to him? “It's financial success, of course,” explains the musician, who won't reveal his age (that's show business, you know). But the dream should also include a contented life: not just living for business, but also having “contact with your own soul”.

Anyone who goes on vacation here is looking for exactly this kind of contact and will find seclusion and relaxation. For a Berliner by choice, however, it can be frighteningly quiet.

“At the weekend I went to the disco in Schmarl. But otherwise I usually spend my evenings in the hotel room,” explains Rick Derman. “If only it weren't for the stupid foghorns. They rob me of my last sleep.”