

KINGSTONE SOUNDSYSTEM



20 years ago it all started when Rodney kicked off his first jam sessions and parties in and around his hometown Hagen in Germany followed by hosting his own local radio show. After 2 years he moved to Cologne where he was able to run regular events. When Rodney met Selector and DJ Lazy Youth both decided to build a team with Rodney on the microphone and Lazy Youth behind the decks. They dubbed the new set-up “Kingstone Soundsystem”. Between the years 1998 and 2000 both toured Germany and many corners of Europe with great success. While Lazy Youth took audio engineering classes Rodney discovered the field of being a local show promoter for Jamaican artists and reggae related dance events. A milestone in the year 2000 was the start of the regular dance named “Beat Down Babylon” at Studio 672, which is still running passionately without a loss of popularity. In this period reggae and dancehall was in high demand and so Rodney became a professional in the music business. Things moved fast and happened with high intensity: Rodney booked and toured with Sean Paul, Red Rat, Tanya Stephens, Glen Washington, T.O.K., Cecile and Gentleman. He promoted “World Of Reggae”, a synchronical event to Popkomm 2001 with 50 national and international reggae acts – a straight sold out event, which still takes place once a year.

In the following years he also worked as a tour manager and agent for Germany's reggae superstar Gentleman and accomplished numerous tours and events with and for national and international top ranking reggae artists.

In 2004 Kingstone's first own music production was released on vinyl and CD. This first riddim series called "Senorita" created a heavy impact in Japan and was successful and played across the globe by all relevant sound systems and radio stations.

In 2006, 10 Years after the first steps Kingstone was an ambitious Soundsystem crew with a weekly dance in Cologne, even though touring with Lazy Youth became fewer due to the lack of time of both. Rodney was heavily involved in a lot of live business as promoter, booker, agent and tour manager. His label managed to place songs on millions of records especially in Japan for Kingstone's music productions. Lazy Youth was primarily focused on his career as a solo artist and his studio works during that time, which were mainly laying riddims for others and Rodney's Kingstone label.

The Kingstone Sound crew expanded over the years. The two-man show Rodney and Lazy Youth were joined firstly by the experienced Selector Tim, who previously had another sound system. Later capable and known people like Selecta Norbert aka Nobbi, MC Backra (one of the founders of Pow Pow) and MC Diddi aka Junior Kigwa became part of Cologne's vibe machine. The newest member is MC & Selector Junior Lion who previously was part of Stingray.

Meanwhile the Kingstone label released long players from Ce'Cile, Richie Stephens, General Degree, Jahcoustix, Denham Smith, Daddy Rings and others.

The Kingstone Soundsystem today is a happy bunch of motivated youngsters blended with experience and know-how of the elder soundmen with a strong fan base in Germany's fourth largest city.

Crew:

Owner and Senior MC:	Rodney
Senior Selector / Artist:	Lazy Youth aka Youthman
Senior Selector:	Tim
Senior MC:	Backra
MC & Selector:	Junior Lion

Past members:

EFX & Vibes manager:	Sammy (R.I.P.)
MC / Artist:	Diddi aka Junior Kigwa
Selector:	Norbert aka Nobbi