

Best DJ of the world

Yep: he's Dutch. The best DJ of the world. Even better: the last 6 years he got this title 5 times!



Armin van Buuren.

His dad had a big knowledge of music. All kinds of different music. Armin grew up always listening to the music his father played. Next to music - being a young boy - Armin developed a big interest in computers and technology. Later this proved to be a golden combination.

At the age of fourteen he started to make music on his own computer for the first time. One of his tracks he send to Mr. Ben Liebrand a well-known musician and radio DJ in the Netherlands. He loved the track and invited Armin to come to his studio. It was Mr Liebrand who teaches Armin to compose, to arrange and to mix. This last discipline became his biggest passion.

During his study to become a lawyer he also got his first job being a DJ in a club (disco 'Nexus' in Leiden) Every month he started to spend more time in the studio and less at the university. But being a keen man he managed to get his bull.

2001. Armin got his first radio program (A State of Trance) in the Netherlands, but soon it was broadcasted on 21 different radio stations. He started to remix and developed his own singles. After his single 'Rush' was the theme song of the European soccer championship for players under the age of 21 things started to develop with the speed of light (music) and a few years later he was the number 1 DJ in the world. Not knowing this would be repeated 4 times.

The British DJ magazine, well known all over the world, has a contest about who will become the best DJ of the world. People out of 220 countries worldwide voted 345.000 times in 2007 (his first year being the best). Each year more voters are registered.

A year later his single *Going Wrong* hit the charts entering straight away at the number one position. Later this year, 2008, his concert Armin Only was live broadcasted on Dutch television. The first time ever a DJ got his concert live broadcasted!

2008 and 2009. Both years he was again world's best DJ making him the second DJ achieving this result. The first one doing this was DJ Tiesto. Yes, Tiesto is also a Dutchman!!!!

In 2010 he made sure he still was the man to beat: for the fourth time in a row he got the title 'best DJ' again.

In 2011 his radio show 'A State of Trance' was broadcasted 500 times. This was celebrated building big parties in 4 different cities. He is now working towards his 600 millstone and the ASOT 600 will be celebrated in 6 cities all over the world: Den Bosch (the Netherlands), Kuala Lumpur, NY, Mexico city, Sao Paulo and Beirut.



The British magazine *DJ Mag* publishes every year a list of the best 100 DJ of the world. (chosen by public!) The results of Armin van Buuren are listed below.

- 2001: 27th
- 2002: 5th (1st Tiesto)
- 2003: 3th (1st Tiesto)
- 2004: 3th (1st Tiesto)
- 2005: 3th
- 2006: 2^{sd}
- 2007: 1st (2^{sd} Tiesto)
- 2008: 1st (2^{sd} Tiesto)

- 2009: 1st (2^{sd} Tiesto)
- 2010: 1st (3rd Tiesto; 12th Sander van Doorn)
- 2011: 2^{sd} (3rd Tiesto; 7th Afrojack)
- 2012: 1st (2^{sd} DJ Tiesto; 9th Afrojack and 17th Nicky Romero. New entry)

The names mentioned are other Dutch DJ's.

Achieving this high level of competence he got one of the most prestigious decorations in the Netherlands, given by our Queen, 'Officer of the Oranje-Nassau'. Only people who achieve something very special can be announced and maybe get this high rank of recognition inside the Dutch society.



Ps. In case you are interested in more information about Dutch music 'export' look for the story called: Dutch music export.