

# Avro Radio 2

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**This radio station is one of the most famous ones in the Netherlands.**

**Beneath the translation of the interview:**

*DJ Hans Schiffers (introduction):*

*Every year on September 6th thousands of Queenfans go to Montreux to remember and honor Freddie Mercury. This year Miracle will close that special day. After they played as the first band from outside the UK at the International Queen convention in England, it's Montreux in Switzerland this time.*

*On the other side of the line I have John Zwaan, singer of Miracle...*

*John Zwaan, good afternoon!*

**Johnnie:**

**Good afternoon, Hans**

*DJ:*

*How did you end up in Switzerland???*

**Johnnie:**

**Yeah well, good connections, huh!!!**

**Eeehh... well, that's just the plain truth. We have a good relationship with a lot of Queen fan clubs around the world, we can say with pride. And of course with the Swiss QFC. We gave a couple of hints on when we would finally play in Montreux... because that has always been a dream for all of us within the band...**

*DJ:*

*Yeah, why is that a dream for you personally?*

**Johnnie:**

**Well, because Freddie did consider that as his second home. He loved being there...**

*DJ:*

*He lived there...?!?*

**Johnnie:**

**He had his Lake House there, as they call it. You can also see that on their last album "Made In Heaven"... at least, the view from the house.**

*DJ:*

*The view from that house...*

**Johnnie:**

**Yes yes... and the statue is there of Freddie... also the Mountain Studio. That was the studio of Queen which they later sold to David Richards, if I was informed right. A lot of famous people recorded there... Tina Turner, Rolling Stones, just to name a few...**

*DJ:*

*Those people recorded in that studio...???*

**Johnnie:**

**Yes... and Queen of course... a couple of their latest albums.**

*DJ:*

*And that statue that is there... did you ever see it?*

**Johnnie:**

**No no, but I have a replica of it...a small bronze replica, because I build the website of the QFC in Switzerland. And as a thank you I got that statue...**

*DJ:*

*That is wonderful...*

**Johnnie:**

**Yes, that is really wonderful, yeah!!! That was such a wonderful gift for it. So... it's something very special (that day). The whole entourage around this place. And I really want to recommend the die-hard Queen fans to not let this day go by. And then I'm not even talking about Miracle playing...**

*DJ:*

*Yeah, cos what kind of a day will it be for the fans? What will they get?*

**Johnnie:**

**Well, that starts off with a boat trip to see the Lake House, known from the album...**

*DJ:*

*Is the studio there to...???*

**Johnnie:**

**No no no, the studio is in the village itself...**

*DJ:*

*But they will also visit that...?*

**Johnnie:**

**Yes, they will also visit the studio. And they will get a guided tour by David Richards.**

**He was a technician of Queen and helped producing some albums.**

**And then there is a lunch at the statue, prepared under supervision of Peter Freestone, Freddie's personal assistant for 13 years...**

*DJ:*

*Yeah and he also wrote a book about his life with Freddie, right?*

**Johnnie:**

**Yeah... and then at night, the least important thing.. we will play...**

*DJ:*

*Heheheh...*

*But do they do that often that they close the day with a Queen cover band?*

**Johnnie:**

**Well, I need to rectify that... fact is that when fans go to Montreux it's on their own.**

**There has never been such an organized day before. The boat trip is something that they can always do through the whole year, because hundreds... well, thousands**

**of fans visit Montreux every year. But that is spread over the whole year.**

**It's not like...erm... this is really the first real organized day...**

*DJ:*

*So it's really the first time that you... well, that a band plays there to close this day?*

**Johnnie:**

**Yes, years ago another Queen cover band played there, but just in a local club somewhere in Montreux, but never on a day like this. A German cover band named**

**MayQueen played there, but nothing compared to what is going to happen now.**

**This is really the very first time and we are the very first band that will close this**

**special day.**

*DJ:*

*Are there any special songs you feel you must play there in Montreux?*

**Johnnie:**

**Eh yeah...**

*DJ:*

*Which one?*

**Johnnie:**

**Because we do not want to go by the fact that this is a memorial day in remembrance**

**of Freddie... "No one but you" is a good choice and, we feel, very important...**

*DJ:*

*That is a song he did record...*

**Johnnie:**

**Well, that is a song that the remaining members of Queen recorded as a tribute...**

*DJ:*

*Oh yeah, the Queen members...*

**Johnnie:**

... after Freddie passed away...

"Mother Love" is the last song he ever did and never even finished, because he died before

he could finish it. Brian sang the last part of the song...

And of course, our own tribute to Freddie "Band In Heaven" is really appropriate, I think!

DJ:

Yes, wonderful!!!

**Johnnie:**

Yeah, and a song that we cannot forget for the real Queen fans is a song called "The Prophet's Song"

A lot of fans will really appreciate that...

DJ:

Yeah?

So... September 6th... Miracle in Montreux...

**Johnnie:**

**Montreux in Switzerland!**

DJ:

That will look really good on your resume, huh? Hehe...

**Johnnie:**

**You bet ya! Hehehe...**

DJ:

John Zwaan, thank you!

**Johnnie:**

**Okay, thank you so much!**

*Song that is played next is "It's a Miracle" ;-)*