

BETTIE SERVEERT BIO 2013

The story begins when Canadian-born (Vancouver), Netherlands-reared Carol van Dyk was hired as the live-sound mixer for the celebrated underground band **de Artsen** (the Doctors). Bunscoe and Visser were already members, Dubbe was their roadie and the musical side project in which all four friends participated became Bettie Serveert. (Since you ask, the name means "Bettie to serve" after Dutch tennis player Bettie Stöve, who lost the Wimbledon Ladies Final in 1977).

After a false start in 1986 when they dissolved after only one gig, the band reformed in 1991 and quickly caught the ear of Matador, Brinkman and 4AD's Guernica label for whom they kindly agreed to record their first album '**Palomine**', which was released late 1992/early 1993. Two years later in January 1995 the band recorded their second album '**Lamprey**', which was hailed by Melody Maker as the most tangled, desolate, real life guitar sound of the year.

They toured extensively with the likes of Belly, Dinosaur Jr, Buffalo Tom, Superchunk, Come and Jeff Buckley.

1997 saw the return of Bettie Serveert in fine form with the release of the long awaited third album '**Dust Bunnies**'. It was the first time the Betties benefited from the studio guidance of producer Bryce Goggin (Pavement, Lemonheads). It was the first Bettie Serveert disc that was recorded entirely within the United States, at Bearsville studio in scenic Woodstock, New York.

In 1998 the group released a live album of Velvet Underground cover versions '**Bettie Serveert plays Venus In Furs** and other Velvet Underground songs'.

After touring with Wilco & Counting Crows, Berend Dubbe left the band early 1998 and was replaced by Reinier Veldman, former drummer of De Artsen.

In 2000 Bettie Serveert started their own label, Palomine Records.

Then, after a period of relative radio silence, Bettie Serveert entered the new millennium with '**Private Suit**', their first studio album in two years. Produced by John Parish.

In 2001, the band decided to take a break.

The sabbatical was spent re-fuelling, studying and writing. Peter Visser was a hired gun for a while, Herman Bunscoe learned to be a cook and Carol released 2 records of 'Americana' songs under the guise of Chitlin' Fooks (a collaboration with Antwerp based songwriter Pascal Deweze).

After a year the band returned with '**Log 22**' in March 2003. Their newfound freedom and Peter's 16-track home recorder made for a veritable sonic trip.

They received their first gold record for their CD 'Palomine' in the Netherlands in 2003.

By October 2004 they released their 6th album '**Attagirl**'.
Summer 2006 they celebrated their 15th birthday, releasing a new semi-acoustic CD & their first DVD '**Bare Stripped Naked**'.

Between 2006 and 2008 they toured in the USA, Canada, Germany and Spain and did a long theatre tour in the Netherlands.

In October '09 Peter and Carol did a project with 'In A Cabin With' in Australia. In cooperation with Australian musicians like Russell Hopkinson (You Am I), Matt Wicks, Andrew Morris and Ben Salter (The Gin Club) they recorded an album in Sydney and Byron Bay. The project is called '**ME & STUPID**' and was released in the summer of 2010.

Between April 6 and 10 2009 the Betties were in the La Chapelle Recording Studios in Belgium, recording a CD with Joppe Molenaar (of the Dutch band Voicst) as their special guest on drums. On '**Pharmacy of Love**', the band found itself 'back to basic': capturing their raw, contagious energy people have come to know from their many live performances through out the years.

On Nov 27th 2009 their new Single/EP '**Deny All**' was released on iTunes, together with their entire back catalog.

Their 9th CD '**Pharmacy of Love**' was released on January 11th 2010, followed by a tour in the Netherlands, Belgium, UK, Canada & the USA.

August 2011 the Betties had their 20th Birthday Party at the Paradiso in Amsterdam, playing the entire Palomine CD with Berend Dubbe on drums.

In April 2012 they returned to the La Chapelle Studios in Belgium to record their new album with Joppe Molenaar on drums.

The 10th album of 'Dutch indie-rockband' **Bettie Serveert** will be released early 2013. '**Oh, Mayhem!**' is the title of the CD, which has been described by insiders as being their most audacious disc since their debut album *Palomine* from 1992. The follow-up on *Pharmacy of Love* (2010) finds the band more energetic and confident than ever.

Guitarist Peter Visser explaining the making of **Oh, Mayhem!**: "*When we booked the studio, half of the songs still had to be written. This turned out to be a benefit: the record is very spontaneous. All the instruments were recorded*

simultaneously. The advantage is that you can look each other in the eye while playing and there's more interaction; you can feel the energy"

Prior to the album, the 'Betties' released their new single ***Had2Byou***, on Oct 18th '12 (digital only) with a special b-side called ***Situations/Complications***, a cover of the legendary Dutch band Caesar.

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Discography

Albums

Palomine 1992

Lamprey 1995

Dust Bunnies 1997

Bettie Serveert Plays Venus In Furs 1998 (Limited edition - Velvet Underground

covers)

Private Suit 2000

Log22 2003

Attagirl 2004

Bare Stripped Naked 2006

Pharmacy of Love 2010

Oh, Mayhem! 2013

CD singles

Tom Boy

Palomine

Kid's Allright

Crutches

Ray Ray Rain

Something so wild

Co-Coward

What Friends?

Rudder

Our New Demo White Tales

Private Suit

Smack

Wide Eyed Fools

Dreamaniacs

Hell=Other People

Deny All

Had2Byou

Shake-Her