



A Brief Bio

Girls Germs are an energetic 3-piece band from Brisbane, who have risen through the ranks of the independent music scene to be in an enviable position of amazing CD sales and a widespread fanbase. Blending many styles and with members with roots in both jazz and classical music, the band has combined the sum of their parts to create a uniquely Australian blend of rock, power-pop, punk, reggae, ska, jazz and metal.

If You've got Time

Forming in the balmy summer of 1995, the first incarnation as a four-piece (only for 2 shows) debuted on the eve of Livid at the Melbourne Hotel, where they were watched by Livid performer, Jello Biafra (Dead Kennedys). Starting with fewer than 10 originals, the band hit the stage from scratch, honing their skills with weekly performances and finding their feet with a song, "The Door" released on the seminal Bris-punk compilation – Brisbane Calling. The ensuing air play secured the band gigs at Crash n Burn (ground-breaking indie venue), with their first major support slots with The Voodoo Glow Skulls and Strung Out.

To capitalise on these supports, the first demo – "Hotter than Icecream" was released And sold at shows, quickly selling out 200 copies and spreading the sound to many more ears. More supports followed, notably a double tour with No Fun At All and MxPX. Around mid-97, the band holed-up in a studio for 2 nights, coming out with 7 new songs. Although really only demo-quality, the resultant release "No More Mr Nice Girl" was a local best seller. Triple Z played the EP constantly, with every song being voted in their hottest 100. A few thousand experienced the band the following year at the Triple Z market day and the wide spread support the band received showed in CD sales, selling out 2000 copies, alongside tracks on surf videos and compilations.

After the overwhelming success from the first EP, the band developed a broader, more mature sound. Maintaining the pop sensibility and close harmonies, the second EP/Mini Album delved into a darker space. The recording bettered its predecessor, selling 1500 copies in 6 months and charting in the A.I.R top 20 for 12 weeks, peaking at no.3 (below George and the John Butler Trio). Slow Burning Fuse was released in 2000 and saw the band spread its fan base from North Queensland to Melbourne and Sydney, via many smaller regional centres. This touring was further supported by the Queensland Arts Council, where the Germs are now a regular part of their "On Demand" program, which besides being advertised in a glossy magazine which is sent to all Qld schools, has seen the band toured as far west as Winton and as far north as Cairns.

At the beginning of 2001, Ben Lockens, the original drummer departed the band for overseas, leaving a period which saw Angus from the Blood Idols fill in. A permanent new member was found in Jeff Paton, an 18-year-old jazz student studying at the Queensland Conservatorium (where Bernie studied for his BMus). Jeff has brought new energy, tightness and professionalism to the band, bringing complex jazz fills and invigoration to the line-up.

In the last 6 months, the band has performed many major shows including Rocket Festival (Resin Dogs, Soma Rasa), Rapid Festival (sub-headlining below Superheist), Hoogie (Frenzal, Shatterspeed, Rhubarb), Vans Warped (Pennywise, Vandals etc), Unwritten Law (main-support), Bad Manners (main-support), Mach Pelican (main support) and Screamfeeder.

Currently half-way through production of their new CD, the new songs are a testament to the bands evolution. Having well and truly developed their own "sound", the band moves through

many musical styles, while still maintaining their roots. Bernie explains, "after 6 years of playing with similar styled bands, you realise the importance of being yourself and developing and believing in your own sound. Pop-culture is fickle and trends quickly change, leaving the imitators behind. With these new tracks, we've tried to write good solid songs in many styles. A good song will survive all trends and transcend time"

The initial single, "Summer Melts" is a great indication of things to come, blending reggae and pop, while catching the feel of the Queensland Summer and the end-of-holiday sentiment – "Why can't we stay on the beach and watch summer melt away/ Call all your friends/ and quit your job today."

With one of Brisbane's largest fan bases, great CD sales, a strong marketability, DIY ethos and indie credibility, Girls Germs have developed themselves into one of Brisbane's premier self-managed, self financed and best known acts.

The Album, "Germ Warfare" is due for release in early 2003, but in the meantime watch out for a September release of the single – Summer Melts.

The Vital Statistics:

Web Presence: www.geocities.com/girlsgermsonline

Touring: The band has extensively toured the eastern coast of Australia, from Cairns(Qld) to Anglesea (Vic), from Woolloongabba to Winton in far western Queensland, capturing the attention of many fans. They have also toured : QLD – Cairns, Atherton, Ingham, Rockhampton, Gladstone, Nanango, Gympie, Caboolture, Ipswich, Gold Coast, Toowoomba, Blackall, Winton and Stradbroke Island.

NSW – Newcastle and Sydney

Victoria – Melbourne (The Corner, Evelyn, Greyhound, Arthouse, Revolver), Geelong (wool Exchange & Lamby's), Seymour, Shepperton, Ballarat and Anglesea.

International Supports: **Unwritten Law** (USA), **MPX** (US), **Guttermouth** (US-twice), **Strung Out** (US), **Voodoo Glowskulls** (US), **Dropkick Murphys** (US), **Sprung Monkey** (US), **Millencolin** (Sweden), **No Fun At All** (Sweden), **Bad Manners** (UK), **Cokehead Hipsters** (Jap), **Offbeats** (NZ)

Festivals:

Vans Warped 1999 (w. Pennywise, Less Than Jake, Hepcat, Cherry Poppin Daddies, Frenzal Rhomb, Area 7, Grinspoon, Unwritten Law etc.)

Vans Waped 2002 (w. Pennywise, All, Vandals, Will Haven, MPX, New Found Glory, Bodyjar, Mighty Mighty Bosstones, 28 Days etc.)

Extreme Games 1998, **Triple Z Market Day** 1999, 2001, **Rapid Festival** (sub-headliners), **Rocket Festival** (w. Resin Dogs), **HoogieFest** 1998-2001 (w. Frenzal, Primary, Shatterspeed, Tumbleweed, The Fauves, Titanics, Muzzy Pep, Screamer, Sixftick and Rhubarb)