

## BETTIE SERVEERT BIO 2016

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). Herman Bunscoe and Peter Visser were band members, Berend 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 the band called itself 'Betty Serveert' with a 'y', they dissolved after only one gig. The band reformed in 1991 in Amsterdam as Bettie Serveert and quickly caught the ear of Matador Records, Brinkman Records 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 songs '**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 Arsen.

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 refueling, 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 name Chitlin' Fooks (a collaboration with Antwerp based songwriter Pascal Deweze).

Between 2003 and 2006 Bettie Serveert released 3 albums: the double LP **'Log 22'**, the trippy **'Attagirl'**, and a semi-acoustic cd/dvd called **'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 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 CD that came out of this project is called **'ME & STUPID'**: recorded & mixed with Jesse Beuker and 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 throughout the years.

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

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

The 10<sup>th</sup> album of 'Dutch indie-rockband' Bettie Serveert was 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.

In March 2014 Carol van Dyk wrote a song called '**Never Be Over**' and to her surprise the rest of the band instantly fell in love with it. After several attempts to record the song, they decided to get help from some friends.

Carol van Dyk: "The early versions of '**Never Be Over**' didn't 'sound' the way I heard it inside my head and no matter what I tried, I just could'n sing it they way I wanted to. I'm not a technically skilled

singer. At the time Peter and I were doing a 'The Cure-cover tour' in the Netherlands with Prof. Nomad (aka Bartel Bartels), so I suggested to him that I could re-write it and we'd find a better singer to do the song. Long story short: it took one hour to come up with a different version, we recorded the song with the help of some amazingly talented friends and I ended up doing the vocals myself!" **'Never Be Over'** was released (digital only) on January 11<sup>th</sup> '16 worldwide.

This Fall, on their 25th Birthday, Bettie Serveert is releasing their brand new album **'Damaged Good'** and the ballad **'Never Be Over'** will be included on their 11th record, followed by an extensive tour in the Netherlands.

**'Damaged Good'** is one of 'The Betties' most diverse albums so far, including songs barely 60 sec long up to an 8 min epos and everything in between. It's a 'big story': intense, raw, tender, but mostly passionate and fierce. Some songs will definitely remind people of their classic **'Palomine'**, the debut album that started everything 25 years ago. The album is recorded and mixed with Jesse Beuker, with whom Peter and Carol have worked before on their Australian project **'ME & STUPID'**.

The release date of the CD **'Damaged Good'** is Oct 28th 2016, the LP will be out a week later on

Nov 4th and it will be released digitally worldwide on Palomine Records and PIAS (Distribution). Prior to the album there will be a single called '**Love Sick**' (digital only) on Oct 14th: a rock-duet with Peter te Bos, the singer of the famous Dutch band Claw Boys Claw.

**Bettie op het web:**

[www.bettieserveert.com](http://www.bettieserveert.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Bettie-Serveert/345277905065>

<https://twitter.com/bettieserveert>

<https://www.instagram.com/bettieserveert.official/>

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**Booking Agency in the Netherlands:**

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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 (also as a double album on LP)  
*Attagirl* 2004  
*Bare Stripped Naked* 2006 (incl. a DVD)  
*Pharmacy of Love* 2010  
*Oh, Mayhem!* 2013  
*Damaged Good* 2016

## **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*

*Never Be Over (feat. Prof. Nomad & Co)*

*Love Sick (feat. Peter te Bos)*