



Bad Land Records

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FREE KEY BIT CHESS

BAND - INFO

As Steiff (vocals), Harry (drums) and Chris (bass) founded the band in Munich in 1995, the plan was to rock some foundations – and so the rocking began. Once they'd found a guitarist who fit, they picked out what each of them saw as the best bits from the entire breadth of the hard genre and the **FREE KEY BIT CHESS** sound was born. After some changes on the guitar, Mick joined in 2001, bringing with him the final consolidating ingredients for that sound. In December 2008, Hamlet joined the band, when Chris decided to leave the band due to lack of time. Furthermore the lineup was completed with Aki as the second guitarist in April 2009.

FREE KEY BIT CHESS – the name alone bears witness to the band's irony and creativity, even if you may have to say it a few times in rapid succession to get the point. And the name is just the start of their agenda – no cliché grinding, no fad following, just uncompromising openness and loyalty to their own style. Equipped with contemporary riffs, straight grooves and roots deep in "old school" Metal, the "Bitches(s)", as their fans know them, have crafted a sound that you just have to hear to enjoy – and they know how to carry that enjoyment over to their audiences at live gigs. In their eventful past **FREE KEY BIT CHESS** have shared the stage several times with the likes of *Ektomorf*, *Farmer Boys*, *Legion Of The Damned*, *Tankard*, *Debauchery* and *Mystic Prophecy* and proven that they need shy no comparison with their peers when it comes to professionalism and stage presence.

After many years in the metal underground and the two self-produced discs "Three Days In Space" and "...Raging", the band signed with the independent label Bad Land Records in 2007 and brought out their first official album "Kiss My Ass" on September 15, 2007. Less than a year later – in July 2008 – they followed it up with their new demo "demo-lition" that whets the fans' appetite for the next LP with four songs and a live video.

Stephan Hoff (Steiff) – Vocals
Michael Böttcher (Mick) – Guitars
Alexander Rasthofer (Aki) - Guitars
Hamid Shoja (Hamlet) – Bass
Harald Bischof (Harry) – Drums

What the press says about "Kiss My Ass"

... No messing around, just downright hard-core fare that at no time loses track of where it's going and drifts off into mindless noise. [www.musik.terrorverlag.de]

... "S.H.E. - Sweet Howling Engine" (*Flotsam & Jetsam* spaced-out on rock 'n' roll cover *Prong* at a gallop; wonderful!) [www.brighteyes.de]

... **FREE KEY BIT CHESS** set themselves apart not only with a phat sound and four German musicians who really have a grip on their axes, but most of all with their inventiveness and diversity. [www.pitfire.net]

... There's a really good band to be discovered here, which (and I'm sure about this) will definitely make its way. Everything fits: songs, sound and the entirely variable vocals (from deep growls to rock to silky smooth). [www.the-pit.de]

... Earthy, well-produced Heavy Metal is probably the best way to describe **FREE KEY BIT CHESS**. Flagship and definitely song of the month is without doubt "Kiss My Ass". Anyone who's into Heavy Metal should like this album. [www.metal-mirror.de]



Distribution

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Discography

demo-lition (2008)
Kiss My Ass (2007)
A_Live In Cham (DVD, 2005)
...Raging (2001)
Three Days In Space (1997)

Contact & Booking

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Live Dates

For latest live dates visit FKBC at:

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www.myspace.com/bitchessrock