



TUYS

PRESS KIT



TUYS

BIOGRAPHY

"Inspired by the already inspired: Tuys belong to a young generation of musicians, whose fascination for sonic experimentation as well as for sugary pop-moments results in a sound that accurately represents modern tendencies while simultaneously indicating the palpable future of pop music."

Sometime around midday, 9th July 2016, a shrill distortion effect resounded over the entirety of the festival ground and for a split-second it simply hang in the air together with dozens of tiny dust-particles. It hang there in complete excitement and released of its tension. Washing over an audience content enough to respond with equal intensity:

People had been dancing themselves into trance-like states – either alone or in groups, but blissfully in whatever constellation. People had also been running in a circle as if they had decided to chase on each other; bathing their clothes in dust and even occasionally falling over their own feet in the process. Wondrously, even when they fell (and they did), people still kept bright smiles on their faces. What counted was the act of vaporizing the energy being stirred inside of them, and the act of having ridiculous amounts of fun even on a ridiculously hot afternoon. Something made very clear by the four young men enjoying themselves onstage with equal passion.

"The Rock-A-Field gig was one of the most satisfying concerts we've ever done", recalls lead guitarist Tun Biever. "We've got lots back that summer, and I personally think that we all became more conscious of it during the Rock-A-Field show. That was when we realized that people actually enjoy coming to our shows and that all these years of hard work are starting to pay off."

Nowadays attending one of their many festival shows may be the greatest introduction to indie pop/alternative rock act Tuys, but that hasn't always been the case:

Exactly nine years ago, nobody knew about the soon-to-surface Luxembourgish indie quartet – in fact, even its members (Sam Tritz – vocals, rhythm guitar; Tun Biever – lead guitar, background vocals; Yann Gengler – bass; and Kay Gianni – drums) had yet to meet.

Befriending each other during their studies at the Lycée Nic-Biever, the four ten-year-olds quickly noticed their shared interest in music. Particularly, pop and indie music. From thereafter, it didn't take them long to get their hands on a few instruments and to schedule weekly meetings at Biever's house for their first few timid band practices, respectively play-around sessions, considering that they didn't even know how to properly play their respective instruments back then. Eventually, they started figuring out more and more bits while writing their first few tunes, which were more punk-orientated and made use of German and Luxembourgish lyricism. Over the course of such repeated sessions, the four naturally bonded closer in musical knowledge as well as in friendship.

From those small achievements on, it was all about preservance for the still nameless quartet: Honing their instrumental prowess and expression to the point that they felt confident enough to try out writing songs in English and start building their own fleshed out identity in public's full view. And by the time New Year's Eve gave way to 2010, the four now thirteen year olds had matured into self-taught musicians and had collected enough courage, respectively musical confidence, to officially announce the formation of indie pop outlet TUYS.

Two years later, the young act would go on to release their first commercial single, entitled "People", which unexpectedly became a huge hit on a national scale, reaching the number four spot on Luxembourg's national charts and setting them up as the one local band to watch. That year, Tuys became the third most broadcast band in Luxembourg. The positive response to the single consequently resulted in the success of their first EP (which shared the name with its lead cut), released in March a year later.

Tuys, thrilled by the peaking interest in their output, then went on to play multiple shows across Luxembourg and performed at several estimated national festivals (examples: E-Lake, Mess For Masses, and Food For Your Senses among others) and even a few abroad.

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"One of the most important shows for us personally though came in March 2014", states Yann Gengler enthusiastically: "That was when we got that supporting slot for the 1975 concert at the Rockhall!"

With barely one EP to their name, Tuys had managed to achieve what only a few bands of their age ever did – be the support group for one of their greatest inspirations all the while enforcing their lively presence on Luxembourg's biggest venue. They were beginning to become inescapable by now, and no one could deny it.

"It motivated us. Definitely."

Electrified by this surreal experience, the quartet, comprehending the route their career has taken to, decided to go on a creative break. Opting for calm introspection to further hone their craft and revitalize, instead of draining themselves out by heading blindly into the next wave of shows. Tuys' story has always been about musical growth and the search for constant inspiration, as well as the prescience and time it takes to produce quality art, so the only natural and logical choice was to go back to the drawing board and come up with something new but entirely their own.

This period in the band's history resulted in their second EP "Carousel", which they released in September 2014. When asked about the new project, frontman Sam Tritz claims that *"we four are all attracted to very different elements in music. There's this progressive and experimental aspect that we love to explore. That heavier side to our indie sound, where people just throw themselves into circle pits. But there's also this poppier side to us. Sometimes we just want people to dance, sing along and have fun. On 'Carousel', we wanted tracks of either kind and I think we're very satisfied with how it came out."*

An opinion that was reinforced by the media, which responded positively to their second short-length. The EP was treated as a much more ambitious and mature project than their first release, consequently emphasizing Tuys' positive reputation among their national peers and securing them even more festival gigs on a local as well as international scale.

Coming full circle and catching up with the recent now: The EP spawned two singles ("Dance" and "Carousel") which gave them enough airplay to land a gig on Luxembourg's biggest festival, the Rock-A-Field.

"Come on and get out your dancing shoes!", screamed Tritz into his microphone – clearly bewildered by the crowd's response during their RAF show. "One would assume that by now it's all routine but it's not. We clearly were nervous when we stepped upon that stage. We went to nearly every edition of the RAF festival and we would always say 'one day, we'll be playing here too' and now we did it. We're very thankful about that. It was a key moment ...

...now we got to work to reach the next stage.

There's this coherence we want in everything we do. It all builds up this identity. It's all connected. Whether it is composing our songs, socializing with people or even organizing shows for others. Even when we do the latter, there's an idea behind it.

We treat that line with care and respect."

With that philosophy in mind and with that devotional headspace, Tuys are currently recording their untitled debut LP that is scheduled for an early 2017 release. Still giving the maturing theme its fair importance in their shared story, the quartet asserts that it's trying to even further grow their musical identity and to create a more coherent sound than those displayed on previous releases.

"We're trying out new things with what we've learned so far", assures Tritz: "I think we're moving into a direction that seems natural while still challenging our capacities. I think that's important, and always has been to us.

High probability that it always will be like this. We all hope so and bet on it, we'll give it our most for it to stay this way."

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SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Tuys are a Luxembourgish indie band originating from Dudelange, LU and officially formed in 2007. The group consists of **Sam Tritz** (lead vocals, rhythm guitar), **Tun Biever** (lead guitar, additional vocals), **Yann Gengler** (bass, additional vocals), and **Kay Gianni** (drums).

Their influences include danceable pop-influenced indie (Two Door Cinema Club, The 1975), to more eclectic, experimental indie (Alt-J), and even alternative rock with a harder and progressive edge (Foals, Biffy Clyro).

The quartet has released two EPs and few stand-alone singles since then. *"People"*, their first single released in 2012, became an instant success, reaching the number four spot on Luxembourg's national charts. The positive

response to the single consequently resulted in the success of their first EP (also named *"People"*) released in March 2013 as well as in supporting slots for The 1975 and The Kooks.

"Carousel", their second EP self-released in April 2015, which was considered a more ambitious and mature project than their first short length record by the local media, only emphasised TUYS' positive reputation among their national peers and secured them festival gigs on a local as well as international scale. The EP spawned two singles: *"Dance"* and *"Carousel"*.

Tuys are currently recording their still untitled debut record, scheduled to be released in 2017.

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BAND MEMBERS



Sam Tritz
Vocals & Guitar



Tun Biever
Guitar & Backing Vocals



Yann Gengler
Bass & Backing Vocals



Kay Gianni
Drums

MOST IMPORTANT SHOWS

// 2014

- 10.03** The 1975 Support - Rockhal (rockhal.lu) / Esch/Alzette (LU)
- 14.06** Fête de la Musique (opderschmelz.lu) / Dudelange (LU)
- 27.07** Food For Your Senses Festival (ffys.eu) / Bissen (LU)
- 16.08** Kolla Festival (kollafestival.wordpress.com) / Steinfort (LU)

// 2015

- 01.02** The Kooks Support - Atelier (atelier.lu) / Luxembourg (LU)
- 21.05** Pinu'u (fb.com/Schuelercafe.im.Aachenfenster) / Aachen (DE)
- 30.05** Fête de la Cité / Paris (FR)
- 30.05** Live Club (fb.com/liveclubliege2013) / Liège (BE)
- 05.06** Blue Shell (blue-shell.de) / Cologne (DE)
- 21.06** Saarklang Festival (saarklang.de) / Saarbrücken (DE)
- 26.06** CAP'tival (fb.com/capcontest) / Baesweiler (DE)
- 12.07** Rock um Knuedler (lcto.lu) / Luxembourg (LU)
- 13.11** Schokolaton Fesitval (fb.com/Constellation.Indie) / Bayreuth (DE)
- 05.12** Bars en Trans (barsentrans.com) / Rennes (FR)

// 2016

- 30.01** Everyday Circus Release - Kleiner Klub (garage-sb.de) / Saarbrücken (DE)
- 09.02** Pooca Bar (pooca-bar.com) / Hamburg (DE)
- 11.02** Sage Club (sage-club.de) / Berlin (DE)
- 12.02** Tsunami (tsunami-club.de) / Cologne (DE)
- 12.03** Pinu'u (fb.com/Schuelercafe.im.Aachenfenster) / Aachen (DE)
- 30.04** Out of the Crowd Festival - Kulturfabrik (ootcfestival.com) / Esch/Alzette (LU)
- 14.05** Koll an Aktioun (kollanaktioun.lu) / Martelange (BE)
- 09.07** Rock A Field (rockafield.lu) / Roeser (LU)
- 12.08** E-Lake Festival (elake.lu) / Echternach (LU)
- 13.08** SummerSounds Festival (summersounds.de) / Bremen (DE)
- 27.08** Last Summer Dance Festival (lastsummerdance.lu) / Erpeldange (LU)
- 24.09** Crossroads Festival (crossroadsfestival.org) / Roubaix (FR)
- 08.11** Crystal Fighters Support - Atelier (atelier.lu) / Luxembourg (LU)
- 12.11** Sonic Visions Festival - Rockhal (sonicvisions.lu) / Esch/Alzette (LU)
- 19.11** The Courtyard (thecourtyard.org.uk) / London (GB)



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SOUNDS

Drawing from the indie and pop palette, Tuys try to create a sound that is both distinct and iconoclastic in character while not forgetting about accessibility and sincerity. *"The most important thing for us is energy and that it comes across effectively on a stage. If you're honest up there, give it your all, people will know how much passion is in there."*

A philosophy earned from thinking over different conceptual approaches used by their many influences as well as trying out new spins on their own formula, resulting in a slowly maturing sound. There are big melodic hooks, energetic performances, and ambition – all the things that make rock bands sound skilled and confident – but there's also off-kilter experimentation with effervescent post-rock soundscapes, the youthful curiosity of progressive indie, and even hints of pop-guitar funk.

All this results in Tuys resembling acts like the 1975, Foals, and Biffy Clyro when they're at their brashiest, while their poppier moments make them feel like X-rated indie-guitar versions of 1989 and E•MO•TION. *"It's not exactly easy to show off this much within the confines of a sound this focused and clear-minded"*, but Tuys try to *"give their audience all the scrubbed-up gifts of indie, alternative and pop"* – and given the response, they seem to manage this just fine.

QUOTES

Roger Hamen *"Out of the many young talented musicians I've got to know over the last years, TUYS became a tight band and has to be considered as one of the most promising and interesting pop-rock bands in Luxembourg. They are working hard and a lot. They definitely deserve good favor and encouragement."*

Claudi (Babyoil) *"An si ginn nach laang net heem!"*

Adam Walder (fuze.lu) *"I've had my eye on TUYS for quite some time now and it is amazing how much they've matured musically since I've known them, with a distinctive, catchy indie music style. They've established themselves as a well-known name on the Luxembourg music scene and I'm confident TUYS will take their music much further!"*

Fabienne Dimmer (Atelier) *"Tuys are so fresh and enthusiastic you just love them."*

Sam Steen (Luxemburger Wort) *"Without a doubt Tuys are one of the most exciting bands to emerge from the Luxembourgish music scene [...] If the reception they received from the Rock-A-Field crowd was anything to go by, they should be have plenty of support on their way to the next stage of their careers."*

Cédric Botzung (L'Essentiel) *"Cette énergie rock se prolongeait ensuite sur la moyenne scène, où Tuys avait pris place. Le groupe indie-pop luxembourgeois mêlait habilement rock et groove, avec un véritable sens de la mélodie, à l'image du single «Carousel»."*

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