

## **Bad News**

### **The GÄS presents its second album**

The second strike of the Cologne's five-pack The GÄS is again a great one, and confirms all those who believed that the band around the singer Pedro Cardoso had more pearls for the Hard Rock Olympus to exhibit, after their debut ‚Savage‘. ‚Bad News‘ is the name of the follow-up CD produced by Dirk Baldringer and causes a lot of excitement with ten new high-octane tracks of the sleaze gang from the Rhine.

Again it's a joint production of the three guitar players Jakob Timmermann, Michael Krol and Mike Schneider, building the center of the unique The GÄS' sound together with Pedro Cardoso, who also wrote the lyrics to the songs on the new album.

People who already knows The GÄS will immediately notice the new addition to the band's line-up: the drummer Hanno Kerstan got on in the middle of the lockdown and now hits the drums through the seventies roots that give the foundation to the band's hard rock style. But if you think you already know what to expect from "Bad News", you've got another thing coming: "each one of our songs should always bring a surprise with it, that's very important to us," says Michael Krol, describing the approach to the new The GÄS' tracks.

But it's nothing like the 'complex sound' from the blissful progressive rock era. Rather, the five show what a very well-made hard rock they can offer: excellent guitar riffs with always an extra spice, rough but melodic singing and beats driven to push the dirty The GÄS' sound into the limbs and leaving no time for brooding.

### **„Bad News“ – Made for the stage**

For several reasons, "Bad News" screams loud and clear for the huge rock stages from the first riff. The GÄS is an excellent live band – let YouTube do the talk – but not only. "Bad News" was also recorded completely live and analog at the studio of the Leverkusen-based legendary sound engineer Dirk Baldringer. As ‚the tinkerer from the Rhine river‘ he has always been well known to musicians in Germany: for decades he has taken care that hundreds of guitar amps from relevant brands sound more brilliant. Together with him, The GÄS sounds even

better than their debut. "Bad News" is reminiscent of the good old big live stadium rock albums but energetically new at the same time.

Like in the first CD ‚Savage‘, Michael Krol, Jakob Timmermann and Mike Schneider conjure up a guitar thunderstorm that makes people immediately aware. As always, Michael Krol and Mike Schneider pass the four-strings to each other a couple of times, so that both alternately cross guitars with Jakob Timmermann. "Mike and Michael have quite different techniques on the bass, and I get along very well with both of them", tells Hanno about the basic groove of the songs. The Duisburg-based guy (who, as the rhythmic backbone of Mystic Prophecy, often shows why the Italian "batteria" is sometimes the most appropriate term for "drum set") uses the classic structure of rock drumming when playing with The GÄS.

### **„Bad News“ - The Album**

Right at the beginning with the title track it becomes clear where the album is going: Hanno Kerstan whips the guitars for "Bad News" with every quarter on the snare and Pedro Cardoso's voice lets you hear straight away that his earlier powerful singing for cover bands in his Brazilian hometown Rio de Janeiro probably also had a lot to do with Guns'n Roses material. He nails it.

The huge stages call out for "Come on". Great riffs, a guitar lick that a school uniform wearing Australian would have spent a whole day for at the studio, and a chorus that absolutely everyone has to shout along while rhythmically clapping hands high above their heads.

Fans of the seventies will also be familiar with such names as Wishbone Ash. The doubled guitars in "Devil's Eyes" bring this nuance into a new rock'n'roll decade and turn the song with its stunning chorus into a rock anthem.

"Waste The World" sums up energetically everything that The GÄS stands for: riffs, straight driving rhythms and an unexpected bridge spreading wings and floating away almost like a dream for then bursting full steam ahead into the band's shouting.

Once again "Gun For Hire" demonstrates how The GÄS' songwriting aims and hits the really big, dirty rock'n'roll, introducing it with razor-

sharp riffs. Needless to say, this band is not about the sweet life on the beach or other entertainment activities.

"Jump In The Fire" is the unmistakable call for taking matters into your own hands. Perhaps not a new theme in the rock'n'roll world, but with the attitude of The GÄS, it might have a chance of finally arriving.

With tons of useless consumption and products in our pockets, the five announce with "The Game" that that way, we will go under like a stone. "Tame The Beast" comes along with a grumbling sound, where drummer Hanno Kerstan initially is driving the main part. The lyrics then take an unexpected turn, because perhaps the beast isn't a beast after all. More shouldn't be revealed.

And just like the band always has a lot to say on their new album, „Trinity" also does not revolve around former rock and roll mantra of Ian Dury but comes around with riffs sometimes fondly reminding of Malcolm Young.

Sex, drugs and rock'n'roll don't have to be necessarily bad. However, The GÄS is about more. "No Hard Shoulder" describes somberly who is turning the world into a downward spiral.

The only thing that might be missed after all this is experiencing the songs from "Bad News" live as soon as possible. The four guys from Cologne and their drummer from the western coal fields will go back on stage as soon as the currently known circumstances allow. Tip: secure your tickets!

The GÄS

Pedro Cardoso, vocals

Michael Krol, guitar, bass

Jakob Timmermann, guitar

Mike Schneider, bass, guitar

Hanno Kerstan, drum