



 # THE RADIO RATS #
 # " BIG BEAT " #
 # #

PRESS RELEASE !!

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Back in the late seventies while the rest of the music world was being rejuvenated by the punk explosion, South Africa was sadly lacking in musical excitement. And then from that small East Rand town called Springs came the **Radio Rats**, with an album called "Into the Night We Slide", an album that the music press declared was ten years ahead of it's time, and an album that contained one of South Africa's great pop tunes "**ZX Dan**", and a whole bunch of other greats that were a little too sleazy for the powers at the S.A.B.C. of the time. **The Rats** revealed a depth of songwriting talent and lyrical ability that the industry had presupposed only existed "overseas" - and inspired by **The Rats**, a whole bunch of other bands sprung out of the garage and into the public domain - Corporal Punishment, The Asylum Kids, National Wake etc. etc.....

Now there's a new album out - it's called **Big Beat**. The Rats are back with a whole new batch of songs that are even better - songs like "**East Rand Town Called Springs**", about a nightmarish bus drive down the main road courtesy of a bald, toothless bus driver and a ghoulish conductor, songs like "**Love is a Virus**":

"When the pebbles of the gravedigger bop upon your coffin lid,
 and the eyes of the priest say 'I told you so,
 I forgive you for what you did'"

and the title track, "**Big Beat**":

"I go downtown, where I hang around,
 Where the Big Beat brings the girls and boys
 I dress so strange , it's like a sex change
 I don't want to, but I have to, I have no choice...."

So here it is - an album that will remind old Rats fans why they liked the band so much in the first place, and capture a whole new audience for the best rock band in the country. And remember the next 12 songs are written already. And the next 12. And the next.

RADIO RATS

BIOGRAPHY

DAVID DAVIES : - Vocals
Original Rat. Miscarried in a dungeon in Port Elizabeth. Wants to be mayor of Springs. At present living with ex - vocalist from Fleetwood Mac.

JONATHAN HANDLEY : - Bass
Born in Tanzania. Met David Davies in Springs in 1975. Lives in Orkney now, but misses Springs very much.

STEVEN HOWELLS - Drums
Born in Wales(a little town called Barry). Ex- Asylum Kids, Dynamics, Cherry Faced Lurchers. Has only been to Springs once. Lives in the ceiling of his hand crafted cottage.

GIL MARAIS-GILCHRIST - Guitars
Born in Ayr (Scotland). Temporarily lives in Klerksdorp.(Cortina interceptor city) Used to play for bands in pubs in Scotland. Never been to Springs.

GA REHERSELMAN - Guitars.
Born in Pietersburg. Ex- Kerels, Gereformeerde Blues Band. Got thoroughly bliksemed in Germiston one night. Goes to Springs regularly.

JANNIE "HANEPOOT" VAN TONDER -Trombone
Ex - Gereformeerde Blues Band, The Softies and Nasionale Jong Orkes (cow Bell) Born near Johannesburg (Pretoria). Going to Holland soon.
