

RAG DOLL



Welcome To The Roaring Twenties!

When Rag Doll was founded in 2012, singer Käthe von T. and pianist Amy Protscher concurred: it's Bessie Smith's fault that Rag Doll focuses on the 1920s era and its music. Both musicians have this rare mix of raw emotion and bawdy, down-to-earth humor that lets them travel back in time into the Gilded Age – which may have been a golden age for music, but not necessarily for Bessie and her contemporaries Ma Rainey, Ethel Waters and Alberta Hunter.

Oslo native Ulrikke Hanspach-Torkildsen's extrovert, virtuoso style on trombone completes the classic Bessie Smith Trio line-up. Together, the three Berliners grab their public by their heartstrings and take them onto a trip back to the heyday of ragtime, boogie-woogie, Harlem Stride and barrelhouse. The spark lights immediately and the stage is transformed into a fabulous old juke joint in the American South of the 1920s. And rule number one is: Anything goes!

You can just listen, groove along, or dance until you burn the house down. Welcome to the Roaring Twenties!

Line-Up:

Käthe von T., vocals
Ulrikke Hanspach-Torkildsen, trombone/vocals
Amy Protscher, piano/percussion/vocals

Videos:

<u>My Castle's Rockin'</u>	(Alberta Hunter)
<u>Old-Fashioned Love</u>	(Johnson/Mack)
<u>Prove It On Me Blues</u>	(Ma Rainey)
<u>Ain't Misbehavin'</u>	(Brooks/Waller/Razaf)

Hi-Resolution Press Photos:

<https://www.ragdollmusic.de/press.php>

Selected Press Quotes:

"First-class ragtime in a rare setup, and exquisitely performed."
Norddeutsche Rundschau/Wilstersche Zeitung

"With enormous musical prowess, paired with a talent for acting and delightful humor, the protagonists succeeded in staging a one-of-a-kind performance."
Weser-Kurier, Bremen

"Stirring, authentic, and mind-blowing."
Südthüringer Zeitung, Bad Salzungen

"This sound is a magnificent fit for the classics [...] that Rag Doll interprets in proper style, yet they manage to make them their own. This is thanks to the straight-ahead, but at the same time playful piano playing and the wailing trombone that together provide a fitting backdrop for Käthe von T.'s expressive vocal delivery. These twelve songs, in their entirety, make up a well-rounded and successful début album."

Bluesnews, on "Beneath the Crown Of The Empress" (5 stars)

Selected Customers:

Sonntags ans Schloß, Saarbrücken	Kulturbrauerei, Berlin
Jüterboogie Festival, Jüterbog	Jazzfest „Jazz in Town“, Berlin
Jazz- und Bluestage Zingst	Blue Wave Festival Binz
Elbhangfest Dresden	Scala Ludwigsburg
Ukrainian Embassy, Berlin	Kulturhaus Wilster
Brandenburgische Ingenieurkammer, Potsdam	
Europe Blues Train Festival, Berlin/Prague	

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