

ECHO 003

# RIOTERRRIBELUM

PRESENTS...



# SWAPPERGATHERING

Dear readers,

18 december 2002

In front of you: the second issue of Flapper Gathering. It's been a real cool summer with Ladyfestival in Leuven and the riot grrrl scene in Belgium and Europe growing more and more. It's so cool every time someone who wants to participate or know more about riot grrrl, contacts me. I remember the time I felt so alone with my riot grrrl interests and ideas. No one seemed to care about punk feminism or things like that at all. So I'm glad that I've finally found some soul mates and soul sisters and that I can share it with likeminded grrrls and boiz.

For the ones who've never heard of "riot grrrl", here is a short general definition in which I tried to explain what it means (to me). The definition is far from complete and I'm sure every riot grrrl/boi out there has her/his own definition and opinion. So if you want to find out more, I suggest you read other riot grrrl manifestos, definitions, zines and essays. RIOT GRRRL = anti-capitalist feminism arisen out of the punk movement in the early 90s in the USA, that wants to combine DIY art and activism.

"Riot Grrrl = underground feminism" (- Karo of Riot Grrrl Europe)

Keep rioting, & enjoy reading

Nina

PS. thanks to everyone who contributed to this issue!

Please send all questions, suggestions, submissions, remarks, links, flyers, love or hate mail to:  
Nina Nijsten, G.Gezellelaan 29, 3630 Maasmechelen,  
Belgium  
[nina@riotgrrrlbelgium.cjb.net](mailto:nina@riotgrrrlbelgium.cjb.net)  
or [nina.nijsten@skynet.be](mailto:nina.nijsten@skynet.be)  
<http://riotgrrrlbelgium.cjb.net>  
or <http://www.geocities.com/riotgrrrlbelgium>

Or if you want to start a band,  
please contact me!

## NEWS

GENDER FACT FILES exhibition (by Sara 's Jegers):

2 - 30 November:

Oude Badhuis/ Stuivenbergplein 38/ 2060 Antwerp  
Centrale Openbare Bibliotheek/ Lange Nieuwstraat  
105/ 2000 Antwerp

16 November - 20 December:

Zwembad Wezenberg/ Desguinlei 17-19/ 2018 Antwerp

20 November - 18 December

Cultureel Ontmoetingscentrum Sint-Andries/ Sint-Andriesplaats 24/ 2000 Antwerp

<http://users.pandora.be/gendermainstreaming>

SCUM GRRRLS is a feminist zine made by a group of Belgian grrrls. Scum Grrrls #2 is probably released by now. #1 is out of stock unfortunately, I haven't read it but nevertheless I'm very curious for #2. For a copy contact [scumgrrrls@bust.com](mailto:scumgrrrls@bust.com) or get it from Narakan, Zuidstraat 9, 1000 Brussel. They are also working on a website.

OCEAN, the DIY label of Coline, just released the tape version of Sleepy Lili's demo CD "Jasmine & Cat Milk". There's more info elsewhere in this zine.

<http://www.geocities.com/grrrlbelgique/ocean.html>

ECHO RECORDS, my label, will put out a compilation tape with female and/or feminist spoken word & music soon. I'm also releasing the Flapper Gathering zines on Echo and hopefully other zines & music & stuff in the near future. You can find more info at:

<http://www.geocities.com/riotgrrrlbelgium/echo.html>

LADYBOMB distro from Finland will close down on January 1st 2003. @ <http://violeteyes.net/ladybomb/>

For the next Flemish Women's Day on 11/11/2003 The Next GENDERation network was asked to participate on a performance. A first meeting will probably be held in January in Brussels. More details at <http://nextgeneration.let.uu.nl/> (mailing list) and on the riot grrrl belgium website soon.

# RIOT GRRRL Q&A

[M-DEA:]

-how did you discover the riot grrrl movement?  
I discovered the Riot Grrrl Movement when looking for websites of Babes In Toyland on the internet. I started to contact Nina and she has proposed me to go to a Riot Grrrl picnic.

-what attracted you to riot grrrl?  
First the power of music!!! two the hope of find interresting persons . three I'm a big fan of Babes In Toyland and I wanted to "see" what is the Riotworld

-what is the most important aspect of riot grrrl for you now?

FRIENDS

-which riot grrrls and riot boiz have been especially important for you?

Kat Bjelland&Kurt Cobain

-do you think the riot grrrl movement has changed a lot throughout the years?

I don't know because I know this movement since a few weeks

-which riot grrrl-related projects are you or do you want to be involved in?

I'm photographer and I can take pictures of bands !!! It's the field I'm the best: take portraits of bands and make somebody beautiful on a picture.

[Nina:]

-How did you discover the riot grrrl movement?  
I first heard about riot grrrl in 2 interviews with Sleater-Kinney in the Dutch rock magazine OOR. They also mentioned bands like the Need, Team Dresch, Bikini Kill, Mecca Normal, etc. In the OOR Pop Encyclopædia that I bought around the same time (dec 1997/jan 1998) there was a bit info about riot grrrl in the 'punk' section. I started to listen more and more to grrrl punk music and when I finally had access to the Internet at home, I found out more about the riot grrrl movement and contacted other riot grrrls/soul sisters.

-What attracted you to riot grrrl?  
I was interested in feminism and I liked that this feminist movement was rebellious and anti-capitalist and combined art and activism. I heard about the "message" before I heard most of the music.

[Coline:]

-how did you discover the riot grrrl movement?  
By music and bands like Bikini Kill,in punk and crust scene.

-what attracted you to riot grrrl?

Lots of things 'cause the Riot grrrl movement is not just in politics,books,..But also in music,art,..

-what is the most important aspect of riot grrrl for you now?

A great organization ,exemple:Lady festivals in Europe now.That's nice and spend the riot grrrl movement into arts, and different kinds of music as well.

-which riot grrrls and riot boiz have been especially important for you?

For sure the most famous like Kathleen Hannah,Le tigre,,  
but also Tank girl,Emily the strange,..If you are interested into movies  
there is an interesting movie about how could be the future of  
Women:"the handmaid's tale"from Volker Schlondorff.

-do you think the riot grrrl movement has changed a lot throughout the years?

I don't know ..

-which riot grrrl-related projects are you or do you want to be involved in?

I'm doing the D.I.y label Ocean,released 2 tapes(thanx to Nina for the site on internet!)And future?I hope next Lady festival Belgium,collaboration with grrrls and me for a project to create clothings.

-What is the most important aspect of riot grrrl for you now?

DIY grrrl-style, that being a girl you can also do anything. And the sisterhood aspect is also very important to me.

-Which riot grrrls and riot boiz have been especially important for you?

Every riot grrrl and boi is special, they can all make a change! But Donna Dresch mostly for me because she played in several great bands (Team Dresch, Dinosaur Jr, Some Velvet Sidewalk, etc), she wrote a zine and runs a fantastic indie label Chainsaw and all this inspired me a lot. And also Tanja of Bunnies On Strike who helped me with my website and got me in touch with the whole European grrrl scene.

-Do you think the riot grrrl movement has changed a lot throughout the years?

Not much, I think. Of course there has been some evolution and progress but I think the essence of riot grrrl has remained the same.

-Which riot grrrl-related projects are you or do you want to be involved in?

I have a label Echo records, write this zine, am the current webmistress of the Riot Grrrl Belgium website and play guitar on my own and in a far-distance all-grrrl band. Riot grrrl in heart and bones, yeah! But I'd like to do more and become more active.

### Sara:

-how did you discover the riot grrrl movement?

Through Joan Jett. I was a fan of hers ever since I was 14 and through her I had heard of bands like Bikini Kill and 7 Year Bitch. But it wasn't until much later (in fact until very recently) that I finally read something about Riot Grrrl and what the movement stands for.

-what attracted you to riot grrrl?

The fact that the whole movement is about improving girls' self esteem and about carrying out feminism towards younger grrrls and boiz, the sisterhood, the networking, the exchange of ideas and experiences, the "everything-is-possible" diy attitude. Riot Grrrl's

encouragement to express anger and the fact that it will be understood, the idea of a revolution, the creativity, the playful way feminism is incorporated into Riot Grrrl initiatives, the recognition that I am not the only one, and finally good food (referring to the Riot Grrrl picnic here ;-).

-what is the most important aspect of riot grrrl for you now?

Riot Grrl is one of the rare alternatives to popular and mainstream culture. It provides alternative images and ideas. It's a positive and healing movement for girls and women to be involved in. It's radical and it's revolutionary and it's alive. But if I'd have to choose just one aspect: I'd say the networking is one of the greatest things: the fact that I gained at least 3 new friends in one week time just by getting involved in Riot Grrl.

-which riot grrrls and riot boiz have been especially important for you?

The grrrls from Le Tigre have been a big influence in the past yaer or so (their music that is). Apart from that I would like to count Joan Jett in with the riot grrrls. She has always been an influence.

In real life it was Nina's website who/that brought me in contact with the riot grrrl movement in Belgium.

-do you think the riot grrrl movement has changed a lot throughout the years?

I have no idea because I haven't been involved for that long.

-which riot grrrl-related projects are you or do you want to be involved in?

Founding a feminist/riot grrrl archive (a group project which I would be involved in with Nina and Coline but it has been postponed), writing something for Flapper Gathering (but this has been postponed too due to a lack of time), starting a feminist group - in the vein of Guerilla Girls - that will combat sexism in popular culture and in culture in general (a dream about the future), starting a feminist magazine that could be spread for free (also a future dream).

Sara, 24 sept. 2002

# LADY FEST

20 JULY 2002: Villa Skwattus Dei, Leuven, Belgium  
As I was travelling to Leuven by train, I was finishing the first issue of Flapper Gathering. I had worked on it hard the last couple of days and it got finished right on time.

At the train station in Leuven I was waiting with 2 friends, Lies and Tinne, for Jeanne Spicuzza aka Seasons And A Muse to arrive. But she had some trouble with her aeroplane so she arrived later.

Tinne and Lies went already to Villa Skwattus Dei to bring the food Tinne's sister had prepared. After a while I went to the squat too. Villa Skwattus Dei a beautiful building with a fantastic garden that used to be property of the sect Opus Dei. There are gigs and actions regularly and also people's kitchen and other activities.

Sleepy Lili were the first band to enter the squat. The Ladyfest organisers, Coline, Tinne, Lies and I, went to the train station to pick up Rose Turtle. She's an Australian girl living in Antwerp for the moment and she replaced Lady!Die at Ladyfest. When we got back to the squat Bunnies On Strike & Manuela had



arrived too. Everyone was very friendly and Manuela had brought a pile of Eye-Scream #2 zines with her. Hooray! Tanja of Bunnies On Strike and Manuela immediately put some Ladyfest Amsterdam flyers on the walls.

Tinne and Lies went downstairs to do the entrance and I joined them a bit later. 2 girls from my school came too and that was a very pleasant surprise because I had only expected one of them. Jeanne Spicuzza arrived too with the help of a boy who was there with his bike and could pick her up. A few Flapper Gathering zines were bought at the entrance and at the end of the day all them we're sold.

The first act to perform was Manuela and Tanja. They did spoken word, theatre and reading. Their performance started with a scream. A female/feminist sign was lying on the floor. A dead female/feminist body? Is feminism dead? They continued with original feminist plays and after that Manuela read of the work of herself and others. It was very cosy because almost everyone was sitting on the floor, listening, and Manuela on a chair, telling stories.

Up next was Sleepy Lili. Manuela said afterwards they reminded her of Heavens To Betsy and one of my school friends said they sounded a bit like Hole. I didn't notice that at the moment though. Sleepy Lili consists of a very intense drumming girl, Manu, and singer/guitarist, Sophie. The drum style was really something to be jealous of. She hit so hard with so much emotion on her face like she was giving her life for it! I especially liked when she put those fluffy things on the drumsticks (I don't know what they are called). They describe their music as sadcore, so it's not very loud/extreme. But oh my, I think Manu must have been the best drummer I saw live EVER. Sophie sings very beautiful, sometimes sad songs with a quiet yet strong voice. The melodies were so lovely they stuck in my head for days. After the gig, Sophie told me this was their second gig only. That was hard to believe! They played like a very experienced band!



Jeanne Spicuzza  
aka Seasons  
And A Muse

Frits of Bunnies  
On Strike

photos by Nina



Rose Turtle →



TERRORISME

Sophie (Sleepy Lili) photo by Nina

Then Jeanne Spicuzza (Seasons And A Muse) got on the stage. Well there was no real stage actually; the place where the bands/acts/artists performed was on level as where the audience was. Jeanne managed to keep the audience under her spell with her powerful, pleasant voice. Especially the "Sluts" poem has a lot of success. When she did "The American Dream Is Alive", she referred to the banner on the wall behind her 'KAPITALISME = TERRORISME' saying "this is true" and everyone cheered.

Then Rose Turtle came on. She played some sort of electronic punk with a ukulele and a rhythm box. She had a great voice and excellent ukulele skills/techniques. She was so good she immediately got signed to play Ladyfest Amsterdam the week after Ladyfest Leuven. Among the songs she played there was a cover of the Flashdance soundtrack song "Stolenmaniac".

Bunnies On Strike closed the (mini-)festival. They were the most punk/hardcore-sounding band playing today. They played a mix of 70s punk, new wave and no wave influenced a lot by riot grrrl. In some way - not necessarily musically - they remind me a bit of Bikini Kill. It's probably because they are a band with 4 musicians among which one boy. And they also make a zine under the name 'Bunnies On Strike', like Bikini Kill. During the gig, singer Tanja (who had done theatre with Manuela earlier this day) was very enthusiastic, jumping, dancing, and running through the audience. It's really fun to see and hear!

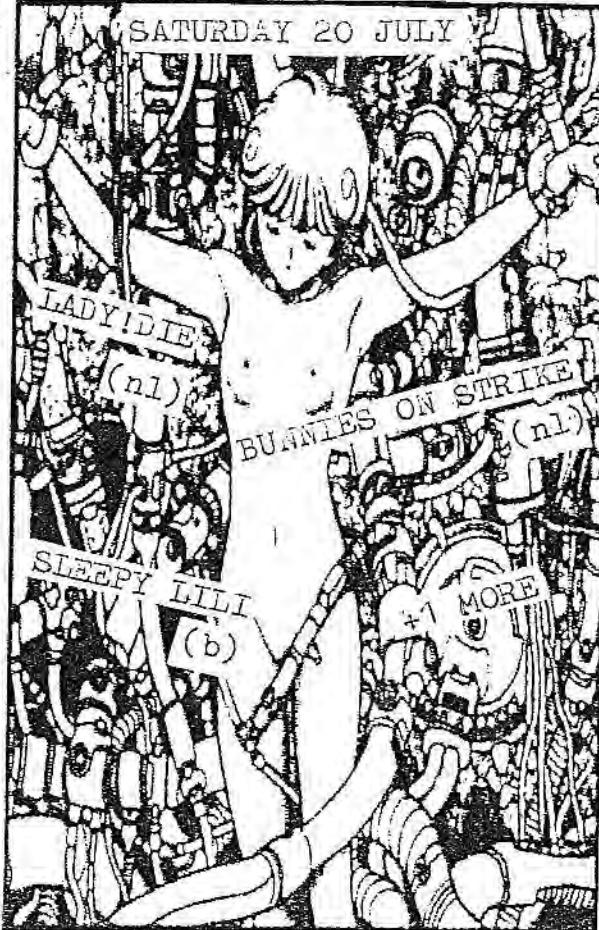


I was very pleased the festival went stainless. About 50 people visited the festival.  
More photos and reviews are on the riot grrrl Belgium website and information about other Ladyfests is on the Ladyfest website (see the LINKS page). If you missed this event, don't worry we're already thinking about another Ladyfest in Belgium next year!



VILLA SKWATBUS DEL 29, Schapenstraat, Leuven Belgium

# ♀ LADY FESTIVAL ♀



19h

5euros

no dogs, please

info: 0497.267.287 (COLINE)

-PERFORMANCES

## WHERE HAVE I BEEN

I must have been at the spot again. What I'm doing it for? Don't ask me, I'm the last to know. Fuck it. It has happened. Again. Just wanted some fun, hanging out with my friends. They like it at his place, you can do what you want, there's always enough booze and all the stuff that you sell and buy behind their backs and smile about it. And there's always a bedroom free. He didn't need a bed. Felt so good, crawled in some corner, I was watching. Even everybody had fallen asleep, or passed out or whatever. Sleeping people have their very special beauty. Making me smile. Making me forget about him. Went out to the bathroom. Likely stumbled over him, lying across the floor, still awake, or kind of. He lifted his head, well known face, disgusting. Well known mouth asking me where I was going. Nowhere. I'm going nowhere. I always did. Somehow he made it on his feet again. Had forgot how tall he was. Bigger than me. In every sense. Smiling. No, he can't be! And he is, so cruel, so cruel. Telling me he loves me. Loves me madly. He doesn't. Never did. Had me. Took me. Now he will again. I wanna get away, real fast, real far. But the door's behind his back. Calling my best friend's name. Reply? He's still smiling. I love you! He's so full of shit, I can smell it. Get out of my way! Trying to push him away, I'm leaning against his chest with all the power I find. Laughing. Holding my wrists. Now he got me. I scream. He's laughing. Believe me, bitch, I love you, I love you. If you want it or not! He's turning me round somehow, got me in his arms now. Can't stand his beard itching on my neck. Fuck you, asshole, leave me alone, get away from me, dirty bastard!!! What's this? Things changed. I'm down on the ground. He over me. This is it. Again. I'm down. He tells me he won't hurt me, I will enjoy it. This time for sure, I don't like the colour of the carpet that I look at. Pressing my cheek on it. This time I'm wearing pants, but that won't help. I know. I know.

He does what he want. He does it two times. He does it too hard. Get your beard away from my neck! Be strong, girl, hold on! You like it that way. I don't! I don't! He won't stop. I hate the noises. I hate his breath. Finished. Rolling over to the side. Break. Wake up. What happens? Cold water running over my face. How the hell did I made my way into the shower? He standing in front of me, pants still open. Everything aches. No, I won't cry. He won't make me. This is just water. He tells me I had passed out and he worried about me. For god's sake, go away! You don't love me! Turning off the water. There's blood in the sink I'm sitting in. Mine? Hell, mine. And yes, I do cry. And yes, I do scream. What did you do to me, fucking asshole, what did you do? You damned bastard, croak, croak you bastard! Get away from me. Don't ever touch me again. You don't know me. Fuck off! He says he's sorry. I say nothing. He says it can't be that bad. I say Fuck you, swine! Got his slap on my face. And again, I cry. I scream. Oh damn, it hurts so much! It hurts? Yes, it hurts, it tears me off! Break.

Wake up. White sheets, smelling good. Peaceful here. Like it here. Turning my head, I spot him. Sitting at my side. Telling me he brought me here, for that the doctors make my pain stop. And now I can make his conscience stop. Everythings alright again, no? No, it isn't! It'll never be. Not for me. Neither for you. I press the button next to my bed to call a nurse. You can't do that! What a lovely face. Got faith now. Would you please call the police and keep this man here save? She does. Then she gets run over by him. I hear him rambling outside, yelling, running feet, things cracking. Then I sleep a bit.

Annika

[mars-naschitzkiest-online.de](http://mars-naschitzkiest-online.de)

[Annika writes short stories. Some have really happened to her. This one however is fiction. Nevertheless it could happen to any girl any time. This makes it more than fiction, but also reality unfortunately. ~ Nina]

# THE HAGGARD

August 5th, 2002, youth house Alibi, Maasmechelen  
It's still hard to believe the Haggard played in the youth house in my hometown Maasmechelen. Nothing ever happens here except for some gigs in the youth house, but this was exceptional. Wow, a concert of the Haggard at only a few streets away from my house! Two local bands from the youth house opened for the Haggard. The first one had just been together for a few weeks. I liked the second band. Good guitarists! Finally it was time for the Haggard! They are an all-girl duo from Portland, OR, USA and played at both Ladyfest Amsterdam and Ladyfest London this summer. 2 girls of the Brazilian riot grrrl band Dominatrix were travelling with them on the rest of their European tour.

The Haggard was the band that topped my list of bands that I wanted to see live and they didn't let me down! The grrrls, Emily on guitar + singing and STS on drums + singing, play a mix of punk, hardcore, crust and metal. Emily's growling voice duels with STS' punky shouting vocals. Live it's even more like a real dialogue between the 2 of them when they are screaming their lungs out. Songs they played included "Quit Your Job", "Suburbs", "Jealousy Cake" and "Wouldn't Wanna Be Your Girl".

I think the kids in Alibi hadn't seen a lot of female hard-rocking bands like the Haggard before. Grrrl bands are rare in the area just as gigs with female musicians. In the middle of the gig one guy was screaming he wanted to buy 5 CDs. Apparently he liked



STS at my home



the Haggard a lot ☺. But STS answered: "Ladies first". Afterwards STS told me they sold almost all of their CDs they brought on their European tour. Apparently EVERYONE liked them!



Emily, STS, Flavia, Isabella, Ukraine

review by elina. photos by Greta & elina

# MY BODY DOESN'T FIT ME ALTHOUGH IT SUITS ME PERFECTLY

Yes, we're all actors here. all performing on the same stage, acting in the same movie called life. Me, I'm kind of glad with the part that I got. I don't think they could have found anyone else anyway that would do a better job at playing me. Maybe they could have, I don't know, I can't say that I put much thought in that one really, maybe later. For now I'm still focussing on my role...right now I'm just watching the whole thing a bit from a distance, like I'm not even acting in the movie: I'm observing the director, the set, the other actors and actress', and i'm trying to breathe in the whole atmosphere in order to understand the movie better, cause I have the weird feeling that if I'll understand the movie better I'll be able to put down an even better role, hey, I might even get nominated for an oscar...and who knows, I might even win it...but I'd better not put too much energy in that thought right now, it's important for the movie that I remain down to earth, keep my feet on the ground, floating never does anyone any good, well maybe some but certainly not them that aren't meant yet to walk with their nose in the clouds, and afterall, I do know my place, and my place is here, being me in the movie where I play me in. Okay where were we...yes, as I said, at the moment i'm watching the whole thing and it just blows me away how magnificent this movie really is, I mean, sure some people have been casted which a bit weird which makes that they don't feel right in the character that they have to play but luckily so far they haven't really ruined the movie yet. I don't even know if there if they would have the potential to ruin the movie, I mean, the story is stronger than any story I've ever read and the script is tight, I mean, t-t-i-g-h-t...I would say tight as a pussy but i don't want to ruin my good name so I won't...but yeah, tight.

Ah fuck, this isn't going anywhere and besides, who

could I ever fool, I don't like this script one bit, and although I think that the movie had an unbelievable potential well, they managed to fuck that all up and yes, there are certain actors that have managed to bring the whole production down and frankly spoken, I will be very surprised if this movie even makes any profit at the registers...

There, it's out.

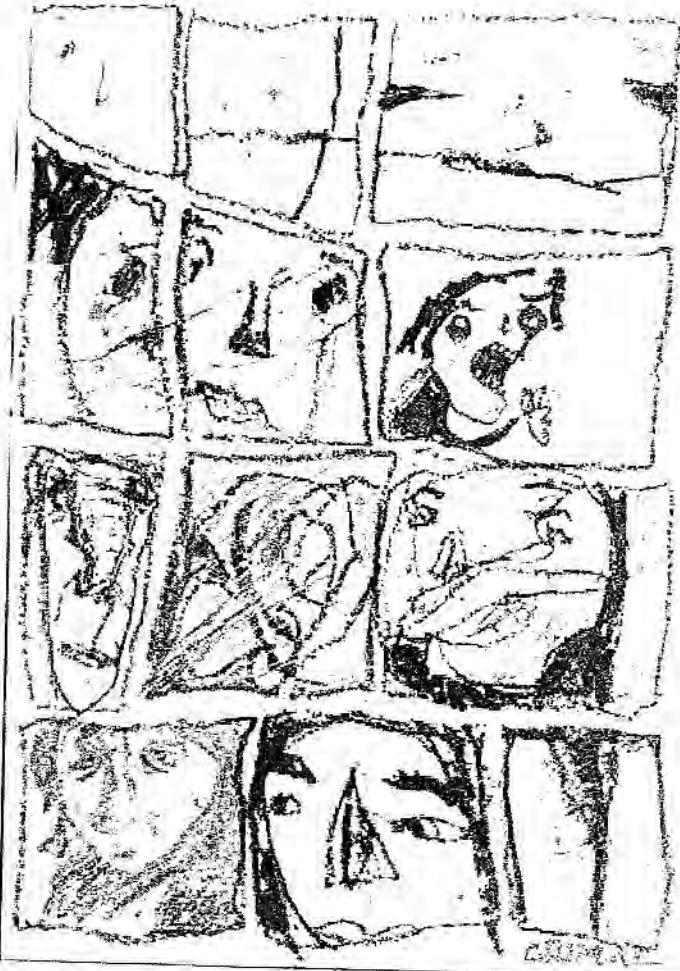
It's a shitty movie, a shitty movie, a shitty movie. And I don't blame the director, cause she has poured her soul in it, she has given it all, all that she had in herself and they completely fucked her over those ungrateful snobby Hollywood actors, those no good hot shot who think that they are better than all the others in the movie, hereby forgetting that the movie is carried by each and every character in it, by every lightman, by every camera and soundman...but no, they think that they can do it all themselves, they just make some smiles before the camera, smiles you never see them make behind the camera's except when they receive their paycheck, and they think that it'll be a hit, just like that.

I tell you, it takes more than that: it takes hard work, dedication, it takes respect for everyone involved, and the it takes tons more and maybe, if all goes right, cause there will always be unexpected surprises, pleasant or not, then if all goes right maybe you will have a movie that scores well.

But what is scoring well ? Is it making tons of profit at the registers, or is it about making that one good movie, that speaks to people, maybe not all of them but those that reach out to touch and feel and hear... Or is there really no profit to be made there.

I wonder sometimes what would happen if God would be the director of life ?

Criminal  
cantfeedmenow@hotmail.com



**Releases :**



« women being » compilation tape, 3euro  
with 21 bands, all girls or fem.  
fronted : Naked aggression, Indian dream,  
Honey bane, Blue meanies, Ultimo ressorte...  
From : Uk, Us, Fr, Sp, - Anarcho punk,  
Ska, hardcore,-

« Sleepy Lili, jasmine and cat milk », tape, 3euro  
2 girls band from Belgium, they play  
sad core in the vein of riot grrrl !  
this is their demo ! in nice packaging.

**To order or trade write first !**

Coline Van Acker  
Bp 254  
4020 Liège 2  
Belgium

e-mail: [prejudice@streetpunks.com](mailto:prejudice@streetpunks.com)

# CHICKS ON SPEED, DAT POLITICS, BELAMI BEATMINTON TEAM

August 15th 2002, Z33, Hasselt, Belgium

Z33 is the new name for the old "begijnhof (= beguinage in English)" in Hasselt. It is also called Duivelmarkt 33 now. One of the first events taking place there since the new name is the Z33 Festival. It lasted 3 days but I only went on august 15th to see Chicks On Speed. Hasselt is the town where I study. It's a nice, small city, but there are not so often good gigs, let alone grrrl gigs.

Around 21h15 I arrive at the train station in Hasselt with my mother by car. We pick up my friends Coline and Sara and she drives us to Z33. It's unusually crowded in Hasselt so we're afraid that there might be a chance the gig is sold out. But fortunately most people are there for another festival near Z33.

The Z33 Festival is more than just a music festival. There were also movies (on a big screen outside!) by David Lynch, art exhibitions, etc.

The first act to perform is a few DJs called "Belami Beatminton Team". They played a song with Kathleen Hanna on vocals but none of us had any idea which song it was. To be honest, I'm not so interested in watching DJs and I don't like listening to pure dance/techno/electro music. It kind of bores me. I prefer to see a band play and perform live instead of a few guys behind some machines, but nevertheless some of the music was OK.

Then it was DAT Politics' turn. I had spoken to their female singer before the gig without realising she was in DAT Politics (oops) and I had given her a Riot Grrrl Belgium flyer. She was very friendly and seemed interested. DAT Politics had played with Peaches, Le Tigre and Kevin Blechdom in Brussels in April this year but I only saw a short part of their gig then. Again it's not really my kind of music but it was still much better than I expected! I prefer it to most other pure electronic music. They used laptops and sung live and had visuals on the background wall.

The last band/act was Chicks On Speed. They hail from Germany (home of lots of female electronic bands) and make what I would describe as "arty electropunk". The 3 Chicks are very creative by the way and don't restrict themselves to one art form only. They design their own clothes and maybe they take care of all their graphic artwork and the background videos and

Chicks On Speed in Hasselt  
Photo by Nina



slides at their gig too, but I'm not sure about that. At this gig they wore cool arty fluo DIY dresses. Their music is similar to Le Tigre and Peaches, but everything is played live. They control all the samples, sounds, computers, keyboards and drum machines themselves. It isn't pre-programmed like it is with some other synthpop bands. Some of the Chicks On Speed songs are more electronic, some more pop and others more punkrock. Their lyrics are fun, feminist and critical. On their setlist was "Glamour Girl" (much better live than on record), "Fashion rules", "We Don't Play Guitar" (while they were playing a fake belt-guitar), etc. Towards the end of the gig some Chicks jumped into the audience, they danced the whole show long and supported the audience to do so too. Yep, it was a fun show and the music rocked!

~Nina

# RIOT GRRRL ARCHIVE/CARAVAN

Because of lack of time the riot grrrl archive project is postponed. We're not yet sure what we're gonna do with it exactly. Normally there should be more info about it in the next Flapper Gathering. You can also be kept up to date if you check the Riot Grrrl Belgium website/forum regularly. This is taken from a part of the email we sent to possibly interested people. It's written by Sara: →



## Riot Grrrl caravan: Call for submissions

Our idea is to found a Riot Grrrl caravan. There is more than one purpose to the caravan:

1) it would serve as an archive in which anything related to Riot Grrrl and feminist/grrrl initiatives can be stored. A Riot Grrrl library on wheels, if you wish. (Note that the term Riot Grrrl shouldn't be interpreted that strictly: anything that has to do with feminist resistance and grrrl revolution belongs in the caravan.) The archive would contain zines, manifestos, tapes, videos, badges, clothes, stickers, cds, records, flyers, patches, photos, bootleg recordings, signatures, posters, books, anything. The archive can be consulted by people already involved in Riot Grrrl, but it also aims to provide information to people who have never heard of Riot Grrrl or who have been disinformed about Riot Grrrl and feminism through other media.

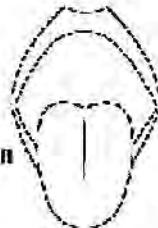
2) next to being an archive, the caravan would be a great place for Riot Grrrl activities/workshops/diy projects that are aimed at spreading the message of Riot Grrrl and providing information about Riot Grrrl and feminism to a larger public. In the three closing days (6-7-8 Sept.) of the exhibition at Camping Sanseveria we aim to organise activities that are meant to make people more familiar with Riot Grrrl and with feminism. It would also be great if the information and the activities could inspire people to found their own projects/bands/websites/organisations/whatever.

3) there will be a website that will be updated as frequently as possible to report about the activities taking place in the caravan. The website will contain information about Riot Grrrl and the caravan and will contain many links to other Riot Grrrl/feminist/diy projects. We would also like to make the archive available on-line.

Coline, Nina and Sara, three Belgian Riot Grrrls  
[sara.sjegers@tijd.com](mailto:sara.sjegers@tijd.com)

# VROUWENTONGEN CARAVAN

@ : Vrouwentongen



The Vrouwentongen Caravan is a project by Sara 's Jegers that she did for the art initiative Camping Sanseveria that took place 6-7-8th September 2002 in Heide, near Antwerp. Camping Sanseveria is travelling through other parts of Belgium now and this "mobile open-air museum" is still looking for new places so it can continue to expose its art. "Vrouwentongen" means "women tongues" and Sara chose that name because of the name of the place Camping Sanseveria and Sanseveria's are plants that are also called "vrouwentongen". First Sara wanted to make a riot grrrl caravan/archive at Camping Sanseveria with Coline and me, But because we had not enough time to do that properly, she decided to do the Vrouwentongen Caravan instead. For this idea she made almost 200 photos of tongues of women and girls who visited Camping Sanseveria. All of the women had to write a comment under the photograph. They had to complete the sentence "I put my tongue...". You can see the photos & comments at Sara's website and there's also more info (why & what) about the Vrouwentongen Caravan (in Dutch):

<http://users.pandora.be/gendermainstreaming/vrouwento ngen.htm>

n Nina



photos by Sara



# DIE BITCH

Veruska is the girl behind the musical and spoken word project Die Bitch. She released a tape called "Misogyny" and sent it to me so I could pick a track for my compilation Echoholic that will be released soon. I was curious to find out more about Die Bitch and the underground feminist scene in Italy so I suggested doing an interview by email. Here it is:

-Who and what is "Die Bitch"?

die bitch is a girl project borns in the autumn of 1999 by my need to talk about misogyny. through spoken word i've try to document the different ways misogyny affect women lives and the relation we have with ourselves and how it twists the perception we have of our bodies. i'm started by myself tryin' to say what i felt in the more natural and poetic way, i knew.

-Can you explain what you wanted to achieve when you wrote and recorded "Misogyny"?

break the silence built around women abuse. all kinds of abuse. i want push women to be outspoken & shameless about it.

-How did the song-writing & recording process work?

i wrote the poems between the autumn of 1999 and spring 2000 inspired by the reading of "art & lies" of jeanette winterson - "don quixote" of kathy acker - "american dreams" of sapphire. then slowly, i started to settle music and to synth + mix the trx's.

-Did you play & write everything by yourself?

i played most of the trx's by myself except for

- lylith's song

- eternal stitches

who was played with by my roommates and -flashback was entirely played by them behind my idea. i have to say who without the help + support of some lovely people that searched for me specific items & noises, die itch wouldn't be released.

-Is it important for you to release and do everything yourself?

i love collaborations, but i felt die bitch were just something i had to do by myself. to me is important being independent in my choices and not to have anybody else to impose their rules in my art!

-How would you describe your poetry/music?

...uhm.. i dunno..:dark, fragmentary, deep, tastes of raspberry..hahaha..

-I think your music is very dark. Is that because it's a reflection of your personality or did you choose to play this kind of music because it fits with the lyrics and the message?

i just cannot think at an other kind of music to express my feelings as regard misogyny. that not for this when my close friends listened the demo other reactions was a sorta of shock to think i've played something of so dark! ...haha... i found that funny!

-Do you intend to release a follow-up for "Misogyny"?

i dunno!

-Have you ever performed live? If yes, what was it like? If no, do you plan to do so in the future?

no never! yes, i would love perform live one day but, i see that hard here in italy!

-You have made a zine called Clit Rocket. Can you tell what it is about?

homo art, punk, veganism, gender fuck, lesbian poetry & literature...

-Are you influenced by the riot grrrl or the queercore movement? What is the Italian feminist/queer scene like? Are there any riot grrrl activities or groups?

yes, of course! i ever felt bored with that i had to be or did how girl. i grew up really outsider as a mix race girl who never recognized herself in the

society beauty standards, foundin' them racists, exists and totally stupid! i didn't recognized myself in girls or kids in films, magazines or anything i just felt myself like "other"! i didn't had fun with my girl friends and i was ever in search of tomboys or just boys which hung out..cuz i really didn't had fun doing that things usually girls do like; make shopping, dress up, talk hours of boys & make up...at 5 a dear friend of mine passed me this tape of bikini kill "pussy whipped" and everything changed! finally i felt interesting what these girls were saying and finally i felt inspired by them and bound at their vision of what a girl can make and being...

was great!

i started to felt more confident about myself like girl and found out how much beautiful and powerfull things i could make feel and set off how a girl and i started to understand how much i had need of all that!

two years later the same friend passed me tribe 8 and what say? they are my fave band ever and pushed me to find all that i know of queercore music & politics..

unfortunately there are a small group of queers & girls realizing d.y.i. stiff here in italy! seem like everyone is close in the own hometown so, is not easy to meet and organize events together. anyway, i find the follow people really passionnates and brillants in their creations; so check 'em, out:

LE STREGHE \* a punk rock italian feminist zine edited by Lara & Gio

[lestreghe\\_zine@yahoo.it](mailto:lestreghe_zine@yahoo.it)

WHOOOYEAH \* italian feminist zine w/ interviews, reviews, comix...

## SISTERHOOD =



SECRET GIRL \* little poetry zine ( in english )  
MY SISTERICAL \* italian punk girl band  
[devol\\_maid@yahoo.com](mailto:devol_maid@yahoo.com)

BITCH WITCH OR HOLY \* sk8 grrrls, feminist, vegetarianism, interviews & reviews..

SUNSHINE FAGGIO

VIA BRASINO 4

54035 FOSDINOVO

(MS) ITALIA .

CIAZNAMON \* lil' italian emo girl zine  
[stelleblu@libero.it](mailto:stelleblu@libero.it)

PORCAMADONNA \* italian feminist queerious distro of zines, lp's, cd's, demos, buttons, menstrual pads and much more... [madonnina@yahoo.com](mailto:madonnina@yahoo.com)

POLLICINA SUKA \* feminist zine ( bratmobile, L7, boston women health collective...) MARZIA LUIGINInnn V. ROMANA 73

19020 CEPARANA (SP)

You also have a radio show called "Queen Bee". How & why did you start it? What do you usually play there? And what is "Ape Regina"?

well, i started to make radio in the autumn of 1998 with a friend running this indie rock radioshow where i've read pieces of women' writings as: e.dickinson, v.woolf, vita sackville west, colette, s.plath... after some time i was in the radio i've discovered who in the same radio there was a feminist automenage space and who most of them listened my show and loved that usually i was reading. so, a nite one of them c'me at a show to compliments with me and to ask me to enter in their space to do my own show! i was amazed by the propose cuz by when i knew about their space, enter in it were ever been my dream! so, in the june of 1999 i started "queenbee" radioshow in their space! the automenage tuesday feminist space is just a women & lesbian space by the 17:00 to 23:00 pm where different women, voices and experieces speak and make shows, my show is by the 17:30 to 18:30 pm

and everyone that want can listen it through internet. ([www.ondarossa.info](http://www.ondarossa.info)) . i started queenbee cause i felt the need to give visibility and voice to feminist and queercore history in my area and let know there out what are changing, develop happening around the world in these terms. well, usually i have monographic shows, focus on a certain artist or politic agenda... every shows change musically as much as about what i'm going to talk or read about... i ever try to give space at people and artists i admire and who in some way changed my way to see things..i ever search to make a good mix of music & spoken! bands i play?! are so much... team dresch, bikini kill, lunachicks, diamanda galas, s, need, sarah douger, haggard, v for vendetta, my sisterical, tribe 8, tami hart, butchies, amy ray, yoko ono, sleater kinney, erase errata, bratmobile, 5th column and much else again.. well, ape regina is just queen bee in italian and the name was took by the book "eva's men" of gayl jones. for more info on my show, visit the beautiful website of my friend [www.freewheelzine.co.uk](http://www.freewheelzine.co.uk) going to 5 columns.

*Do you feel that you can make a change with your music, art or other feminist/queer-positive projects? By making and spreading art, do you want to fight sexism/racism/homophobia?*

i believe in the power of the word, of the music and activism. i believe in connections between people cuz these things changed my way to look at things around me so, in turn i hope to inspire somebody else with that i'm doing!

*-Thanks for the interview!*  
thank you too, nina!



'02 NN

M-DEA - 2002



# RIOT GRRRL BENELUX PICNIC & beyond

October 5th 2002: Hasselt

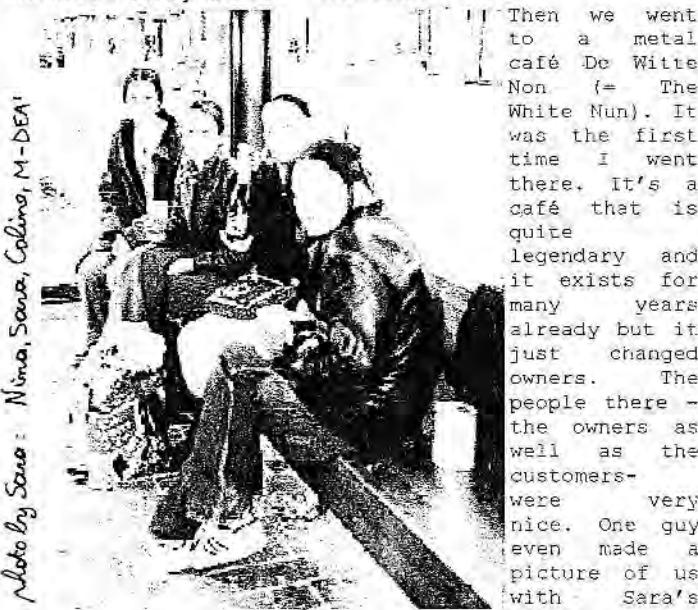
On October 5th the first riot grrrl picnic in Belgium ever was held. It was my intention to make it the first meeting for riot grrrl Benelux Chapter and discuss what we want to achieve and do with the chapter. I had also planned some flyer-actions (giving feminist/leftist/anti-capitalist flyers to passers, sticking some on sexist ads, spreading them in public places, etc) and discussions (about past and future Ladyfests, riot grrrl in the Benelux, etc). But all this couldn't really take place because only 4 people showed up (including myself). It's still strange when I think about it because at first I thought that certainly 10-20 riot grrrls & boys would go. I understand now that number couldn't be reached for several reasons, but when the picnic was still in its planning stage, I got so many positive and enthusiastic reactions and some people never informed me they weren't going after all. But nevertheless I've learned from it. I won't overestimate the number of people going to an event/activity again. But don't get me wrong, I don't want to blame anyone, it was partly bad luck, maybe for some a bit lack of interest, but it's also understandable that not many people will travel far for just a picnic/discussion/action/meeting. Unfortunately I got that message too late. So that was a pity but nevertheless it was a great day for me and I hope for the other riot grrrls & boys too.

I arrived at the train station in Hasselt at around 12h00. One grrrl, Celine, was already there. We went inside the train station to wait for the others.

M-DEA' arrived soon after that and a bit later Sara was there too. We went to a bus stop (busses are free in Hasselt) to have the picnic there. We couldn't do it outside because it was raining a bit and the bus stop was warmed and quite comfortable and

cosy (for a bus stop). Everyone had brought some food or drinks to share and we talked about several topics (horror movies, Sara's art/activist project Gender Fact Files, animal testing, etc).

Around 16h00 we went to a record store in Hasselt. They have good stuff there. I even found the limited Sleater-Kinney LP + 7" "One Beat".



M-DEA' had made a tape especially for the picnic "DeAvil Select 1" but the cassette deck at De Witte Non was out of order and none of us had a cassette player or walkman so we couldn't play it there unfortunately.

Around 19h00 we took the bus and went back to the train station to go home.

I really want to organise this sort of events more

Then we went to a metal café De Witte Non (= The White Nun). It was the first time I went there. It's a café that is quite legendary and it exists for many years already but it just changed owners. The people there - the owners as well as the customers - were very nice. One guy even made a picture of us with Sara's camera.



Sona, Coline, M-DEA; Nina  
Photo by Sona

often but I think I'll do it in another city, more central in the Benelux, and on a hopefully more sunny day. I hope more people will come then. November 23th-24th there's a Riot Grrrl Slumber Party/Action Weekend in Leiden, the Netherlands.

I'm looking forward to it, I'm sure it will be fun! The program has more different activities and there's place to stay at Manuela's house which I suppose/hope will attract more people. I also like the idea that it's a whole weekend so you can do so much more and there will be a grrrl gig which is good too because I guess a lot of people are more motivated when they can see a band play. Well, I wish such a thing could be possible in Hasselt, but unfortunately it is not. That was actually one of the reasons I had organised the picnic there, that things might change, that Hasselt might wake up and that it could be the start of several interesting events there. I had expected when I went to school in Hasselt on the Monday after the picnic, to see lots of riot grrrl flyers in the city. Too bad...  
~ Nina

## RIOT GRRRL BENELUX chapter

M

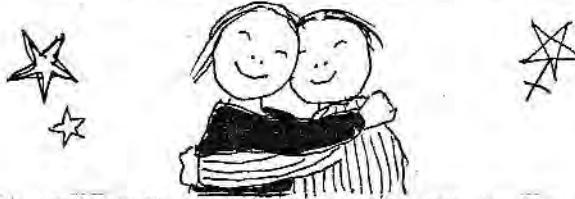
The Riot Grrrl Benelux Chapter is now a fact. The Netherlands and Belgium are only small countries so lots of people suggested it could be a better idea to work together. I hope there will be grrrls & boiz from Luxembourg joining the Chapter too. What we want to do and achieve will be discussed soon at the Riot Grrrl Weekend/Slumber Party.

### Projects so far:

- riot grrrl cavaran
- riot grrrl picnic
- riot grrrl weekend/slumber party
- ladyfest

\*SUPPORT\* \*  
\*SISTERS\* \*

Possible future plans: organising actions, meetings, picnics, festivals, discussions, gigs, etc.



Post your events, activities and news on the forums at these websites or start some discussions:

<http://www.geocities.com/riotgrrrbelgium/benelux.html>

<http://www.geocities.com/dutchgrrlband>

<http://www.riotgrrrl.nl>

<http://riotgrrrbelgium.cjb.net>

<http://bunniesonstrike.cjb.net>

Let's get active!



## Living in BELL JAR: PART II

"The Bell Jar" by Sylvia Plath was published in 1963. Esther, the main character in "The Bell Jar", finished her education in the beginning of the book and has now come to the point where she has to make a decision what she wants to do with the rest of her life. The only two options seem to be a further education or marriage. She has not been allowed to do a writing course and she doesn't feel like choosing another course. But she doesn't feel like marrying either. Her inability to choose seems to be one of the causes of her depression. She's desperate because neither options are interesting.

"The Bell Jar" was written a half century ago but it seems like our post-high school options haven't widened a lot. It's still studying or having a family + a (part-time) job. Why can't we do something different, something crazy, something we really want? It seems like we are only really free when we are retired and even then... Society controls all our options and choices (and even our thoughts). We are supposed to do this and that. We are expected to think so or not. But we refuse to admit this because we want to believe we are truly "free". Well, I've got to disappoint you because you are not.

Everything we do is controlled or influenced by our environment and society. Even if we ignore it and try to fight it, what we do/think is often defined by our education, by what our friends and peers do, by what we see on TV, by what culture we live in, by what is considered "hip" at the moment, etc. I believe nurture has a bigger influence on our personality, and therefore actions, than nature has.

Women are expected to marry so we do. Women are expected to have children and if we don't, people wonder if something might be "wrong" with us. Women are expected to use make-up and wear the latest

fashionable clothes because then we will be considered pretty and we are expected to be pretty. All these social expectations determine our life. We too often make decisions because we "ought" to do something. Our choices are not as free as they appear to be. Even our thoughts, ideas, dreams and opinions are determined by other people, the media, the "law", her/history, traditions, etc. And it is hard to go against the flow. It is difficult to break through the glass, through this "bell jar" that keeps us imprisoned and tells us what to do in order for us to fit in.

But still, I'd like to ask you to try and break through. Break some rules and upset someone by doing something radical. "Radical" and "extreme" is not always "wrong" and "bad". Radical movements and actions are necessary to achieve change. The big mass isn't going to change just like that. Dare to stand out. Be different. Show people that what they are taught and told in their whole life is not necessarily the (only) truth. You can break and destroy gender roles, fight prejudices and change people's minds about a whole lot of things, beauty standards for example. You can just as well become a traveller or an activist. You can live in a (squatted) house or on a camping with a group of people that doesn't have to be a family. You can show other people that this is possible too. You can choose: live your life like they want or live your life like you want. This is the 21st century. Isn't everything considered possible in this post-modern age?

~ Nima



NN'02

## Artist profile: CORIN TUCKER

[This article is based on a speech I gave at school a few months ago. Every student had to speak about an artist s/he admired. It could be any kind of art: painting, sculpture, graphic art, theatre, film, literature, music, ... We were urged not to take a very cliché or famous artist, so I chose Corin Tucker. You might have heard of her, but no one in my class knew who she is and what she does. Corin Tucker is obviously most well known for the band Sleater-Kinney, but she has done more than just that...]



Heavens to Betsy tape

← young Corin Tucker

Corin Tucker was born in 1973 (she's a Libra) in Portland, OR, USA. She studied in the Evergreen State College in Olympia, WA and got a degree in film (documentaries). She starts playing guitar when she's 17 and also keeps being busy with film and photography.

In the early 90s she forms the punk band Heavens To Betsy with drummer Tracy Sawyer. Around the same time the riot grrrl movement is born in Olympia and it

starts to grow and spread over the USA and the UK. Riot grrrl is anti-capitalist feminism arisen out of the punk movement in the north west of the USA. Riot grrrls formed bands, wrote (fan)zines - little self-made magazines [like this one ☺], and participated in other forms of art and activism as well. The Evergreen State College played a big role in the beginning (and probably still does) because lots of grrrls and boiz could meet there and do radio shows. Heavens To Betsy release a few CDs and 7 inches on the riot grrrl indie labels Chainsaw and Kill Rock Stars. They also participate in the self-defence project Free To Fight who released a compilation on Candy-Ass and Chainsaw.

On a sunny summer day in 1994 Corin Tucker and Carrie Brownstein of Excuse 17 start the band Sleater-Kinney. Sleater-Kinney starts out as a side-project and is called after the street in Olympia where the girls rehearsed at the time. Corin and Carrie decide to both play guitar and start looking for a drummer. They choose the Australian girl Laura Mcfarlane. But because of the distance Toni Gogin who plays guitar in Harum Scarum now soon replaces her. The first 2 albums of Sleater-Kinney (a self-titled album and "Call The Doctor") are released on Chainsaw and get positive criticism of the underground and mainstream media, even of Rolling Stone magazine.

Around the time Sleater-Kinney is formed, Corin writes the fanzine Channel Seven with her friend Erika. It includes articles about riot grrrl, racism, classism, and also reports of the tour Heavens To Betsy did in England and lyrics. The fanzine is made in a typical do-it-yourself style with alternating typed and hand-written pieces. It's probably inspired by riot grrrl fanzines like Bikini Kill, Girl Germs and Action Teen.

Before the third Sleater-Kinney album, released on Kill Rock Stars, Toni Gogin gets replaced by Janet Weiss (of Junior High). This album is recorded during snowstorm in Seattle in the winter of 1996/1997 and

is therefore called "Dig Me Out". Janet, Carrie and Corin are all self-taught musicians, but nevertheless they are often considered the best drummer, guitarist and singer ever, and not just by fans, but also by the underground and mainstream media. The girls' main inspirations are various female musicians and artists like Patti Smith, Exene Cervenka, Kim Deal, Kim Gordon, Babes In Toyland, Throwing Muses, Joni Mitchell, '60 soul and r'n'b groups and singers like the Supremes, Aretha Franklin, etc.

Like lots of riot grrrls in the north west of America, the members of Sleater-Kinney play in several other bands and side-projects as well. Carrie for example plays in the Spells with Mary Timony and Janet in Quasi. Corin started the band Cadallaca a few years ago with drummer STS of the Haggard and singer/organist Sarah Douger. Cadallaca is inspired mainly by girl groups in the 60s. At live shows the 3 girls even wear wigs and clothes like for example the Ronettes and the Shangrilas. They also have nicknames: Corin is called Kissy, Sarah Douger Dusty (after Dusty Springfield) and STS Junior. The music is strikingly poppy and the lyrics contain a lot of humour.

In the summer of 2000 Sleater-Kinney does its second tour in Europe. They also play the Dour festival in Belgium. I went to see their concert in Amsterdam, Holland. What struck me there, was the girls' energy and enthusiasm. Janet's kick-ass and inventive drums, Carrie's funny rock star guitar poses and brilliant riffs and Corin's amazing dramatic voice that sets your teeth on edge, made this gig one I'll always remember.

This summer, the newest (6th!) Sleater-Kinney CD/LP "One Beat" was released. The lyrics are more political than ever and deal mainly with September 11th, with lots of criticism towards the American government but on the album there are also sweet songs about Corin's baby son. The music is less pure

punk and new wave than they used to play, but is on the contrary very varied. The complicated guitar riffs are still characteristic of Sleater-Kinney and also the voices of Carrie and Corin are still striking. In the past Corin's voice already got



Sleater-Kinney  
live in Amsterdam,  
Holland, 2000

Heavens to Betsy  
"Monsters" 7"  
backcover ↴

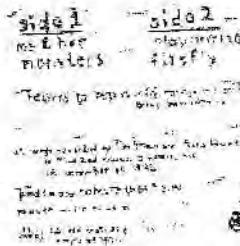


Photo by China

compared to Kate Pierson of the B-52s and Polly Styrene of X-Ray Spex.  
So, I hope this short biography was informative and has convinced you that Corin Tucker is more than just a feminist punk star. She's one interesting lady that will keep surprising us with her art! She and her band Heavens To Betsy played an important role in the riot grrrl movement in the early 90s and she still does with Sleater-Kinney.

~Nina

<http://www.sleater-kinney.be> ←

## DIY

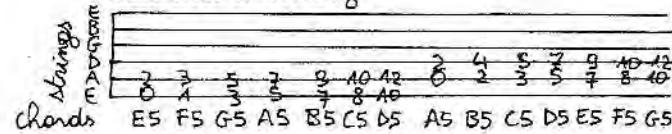
theory & tricks for guitar chicks:

mini-guide  
learn to play guitar fast & easily:



### CHORDS

C = do D = re E = mi F = fa G = sol A = la B = si  
standard tuning



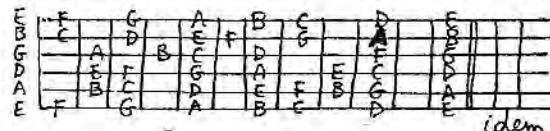
### → POWERCHORDS

numbers = position of fingers on frets

X = muted string

O = open string

instead of "real" chords, powerchords are used by a lot of bands, especially punk bands. You only need 2 fingers (although there are variations) that you move up & down the guitar neck.



↑ guitar neck

## GIRLS WITH NO HEAD

### NO HEAD



Girls with no soul  
Girls with no value  
Girls with no face  
Girls with no life

girls with no power

girls with no rights



Girls with no brain  
Girls with no mouth  
Girls with no choice  
Girls with no wishes



girls with no vision

girls with no self

Girls are just body  
Girls are just empty

Girls are just objects  
Girls are just nothing

### NO HEAD

IS THAT WHAT WE ARE TO YOU?  
IS THAT WHAT WE MEAN TO YOU?



Girls with no inside  
Girls with no character  
Girls with no opinion  
Girls with no identity

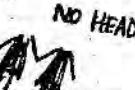
girls with no name

girls with no freedom

girls with no will

girls with no dream

Girls with no head  
Girls with no mind  
Girls with no voice!



### NO HEAD

girls with no feelings

IS THAT WHAT WE ARE TO YOU?  
IS THAT WHAT WE MEAN TO YOU?

### NO HEAD

## FEMINISM IS NOT...

There are some things people said to me when the word feminism was brought up that I wanted to share:

"Oh, I thought feminism was a way to easily get girls. But if it's about equality between men and women, we're not feminists <laughter>"

"It's time women learn what their place is again"

"Feminists are women who let men pay for their drinks"

"If you're a feminist you're against girls having boyfriends"

"A feminist is someone who hasn't got a life"

"No Nina is not a feminist! Or are you?"

MAKE UP YOUR MIND INSTEAD  
OF YOUR FACE

# LAPPERSFORT DEMONSTRATION

October 20th 2000: Bruges

\* The Lappersfort is a forest in Bruges, Belgium, that is threatened to be cut down because there plans to build a motor way, a parking-place, a bus station and an industrial complex for the company Fabricom. The whole story is rather complicated. "Green" politicians in Bruges have made big mistakes when they signed and approved the region plan, but they are only a part of the people who are to blame.

\* For more than a year a group of eco-activists and anarchists ("the Lappersfront") have lived in the forest to prevent it from being cut down and several actions were organised in Bruges. They had built tree houses and dug tunnels so it would be more difficult for the police to evict them. Massive & surprisingly positive mainstream media attention has been given to the topic. A lot of people supported the activists, especially citizens of Bruges. Despite all this effort and support, the activists were evicted on Monday October 14th. Even though alternative places were suggested for the factories and bus station and a new motor way would not stop the traffic problem on long-term, Fabricom and burgomaster Patrick Moenaert don't seem interested in what "the people" have to say. And they aren't interested in what a minister (Dua) has to say neither. She offered to buy the forest but Fabricom, the owners, ask prices that are exaggeratedly high. But although the discussion with Dua, Moenaert and Fabricom wasn't over yet, Moenaert ordered the police to get the activists out of the Lappersfort forest, with quite some violence and leaving a path of destruction (tree houses, the old farm and several trees were destroyed and some garbage was left behind by the cops). After the eviction there were several peaceful protests near the forest, but not everyone was non-violent those days. The police was VERY aggressive against activists as well as against journalists.

\* People who had not done any harm were locked away in the hooligan cells of a soccer stadium. It was blamed on the activists. They were the ones who asked for it according to the police (yeah, longhaired, work-shy scum) although images on the television showed us otherwise.

\* On Sunday, October the 20th a big demonstration for the Lappersfort took place in the centre of Bruges. It was probably the biggest demonstration ever in Bruges. +/- 4000 people were there: families who lived in Bruges or elsewhere, students, activists, children, environmentalists, anarchists, anti-capitalists, etc. It was a peaceful and fun demonstration and it showed all kinds of people wanted the forest to stay.

\* If ultimately factories of Fabricom will replace those lovely trees, I'm afraid we've lost a lot. Not just one forest, not just one battle, but it will give a signal that corporations, capitalists and multinationals can do anything. They can destroy the last tree because they "bought" it so they "own" it. And what can we do to prevent it? It's their property and it will be defended by brutal police force. What does the opinion of the people matter? Well, at least I'm very glad the citizens of Bruges are supportive of the Lappersfront activists. At least they care.

\* But still, the whole situation makes me feel so desperate. The future doesn't exactly look bright for the forest. And if we can't save a forest in Belgium, why would we even try fighting for the Rain Forest? Because I'm sure that's even more difficult.

\* One thing you could do, whether the forest will be saved or not: Boycott Fabricom and any other company connected to them (Electrabel, Tractebel, Publigas, Fluxys, Belgian Shell, Distrihold, etc). You can also write angry emails to burgomaster Moenaert at [kabinet.burgemeester@brugge.be](mailto:kabinet.burgemeester@brugge.be) and to Fabricom at [philippe.casier@groupe.fabricom.be](mailto:philippe.casier@groupe.fabricom.be).

To be continued...

\* <http://www.lappersfront.tk>  
<http://www.indymedia.be>

# REVIEWS

These are reviews of bands/artists/books/zines I like a lot. Not everything is recently released or published. Some of the stuff is a bit older, but everything mentioned here is recommended by me and not that hard to find. I probably won't review anything that's too rare or entirely sold out!.

## zines

### \*The Bathroom Activist

Girl on girl productions <http://members.tripod.com/gogproductions/>  
<http://www.geocities.com/thebathroomactivist/>  
FINGER BANG distro Red Chidgy: 29 Wellesley Road, Clacton-on-Sea,  
Essex, CO15 3PW, U.K. red.chidgy@yahoo.com  
<http://www.gurlpages.com/divyesses>

Ha, this is rad stuff! "Spiked Riot" already gave some bathroom activism tips, but here's more! Included is Activism 101 from the Lesbian Avengers Handbook with tips for running meetings and actions. The good thing about GOG is that they always combine theory & practice and make the political fun. The zines always include original activism that everyone can practice even if you're all by yourself and I'm sure the actions are effective.

### \*Bunnies On Strike #2 zine

Bunnies On Strike: postbus 10500 - 2501 HM Den Haag - The Netherlands  
- Europe <http://bunniesonstrike.cjb.net> tanja@bunniesonstrike.cjb.net  
Mini-zine that has a lot of info for just one A4-page! Writings about the pros & cons of cars, Bunnies On Strike (the band) lyrics, drawings, photos and quotes. If you can get your hands on this zine, please make some copies so the word can be spread (and maybe make some mini-zines yourself!!)

### \*Channel Seven: zine

written by Corin Tucker and Erika  
<http://www.violetyeyes.net/ladybomb/>

Ladybomb distro, Riike Pennanen, Neitsytasaarentie, 7a B 104, 00960 Helsinki, Finland. riika.ladybomb@hotmail.com

Riika from Ladybomb distro re-released this legendary riot grrrl zine written by Erika and Corin (Sleater-Kinney & Heavens To Betsy). The writings deal mostly with riot grrrl, racism and classism. They criticise riot grrrl and recognise their own mistakes and privileges. There's information about

interesting labels, bands (such as Sleater-Kinney, Heavens To Betsy and Excuse 17) and fanzines (Erika Reinstein and Riot Grrrl Press). Also lyrics and tour stories of Corin/Heavens To Betsy and poems. I got more aware about certain topics thanks to this zine. It's definitely worth reading!

### \*Clit Rocket #2 zine

Veruska Bellistri, via br. da montone 53; 00176 Roma - Italy  
[faggirl666@yahoo.it](mailto:faggirl666@yahoo.it) or [veruskaoutlaw@yahoo.it](mailto:veruskaoutlaw@yahoo.it)

This is not just a zine! It looks like a real book, or a big collection of zines! It's fat and it will give you plenty of reading time. Clit Rocket is a queer feminist zine, made with love in a beautiful cut-n-paste style layout. It's got excerpts of books like "Stone Butch Blues", interviews with Tribe B, Harun Scarum and the Haggard, info about World Pride in Rome, articles about queer/feminist artists and projects and more. Great!

### \*Eye-Scream #2: zine

by Manuela ([medpunk@geek.com](mailto:medpunk@geek.com)), Suzanne([suzusje@hotmail.com](mailto:suzusje@hotmail.com)), Mrova and Hilde.

Tada: the new Eye-Scream has arrived! This second issue is a Ladyfest Amsterdam special. Lots of girls told me Ladyfest Amsterdam was a success and a blast. Of course when you see which bands/acts were playing and which workshops, films and actions were going to take place, it's hard to imagine it would be a failure. This second issue of Eye-Scream has thought-provoking writings about idols, info about every artist performing at Ladyfest Amsterdam, a questioning article about riot grrrl, a great comic by Suzanne and info about the Ladyfest Europe Art Gallery by Red. Recently some extra pages have been made with some anarcofeminism info, a picture of Dominatrix playing Ladyfest Amsterdam and the full program of the festival.

### \*Fight Back: zine

by Stina, [her.riot@hotmail.com](mailto:her.riot@hotmail.com) <http://herriotdistro.rocks.it>  
<http://www.violetyeyes.net/ladybomb/>

Ladybomb distro, Riika Pennanen, Neitsytasaarentie, 7a B 104, 00960 Helsinki, Finland. riika.ladybomb@hotmail.com

"Fight Back" is an A6-sized self-defence zine. It's based on the translations of an old self-defence book written by Petra Östergren. I think this sort of guides is always welcome because it's necessary for women to learn to defend themselves. "Fight Back" includes 5 usual ways how men keep the power over women, verbal strategies, primary & secondary targets to aim punches and kicks to, weapons and other tips

and tricks. But as the zine says in the intro: don't just read about self-defence, also practice it!

\*Girl Conspiracy #2 zine

LADYBOMB distro: <http://www.violeteyes.net/ladybomb/>

Riikka Pennanen, Neitsytasaarentie, 7a B 104, 00960 Helsinki, Finland; riikka.ladybomb@hotmail.com

HER RIOT distro (Stina): <http://herriotdistro.rocks.it>

her riot@hotmail.com

Girl Conspiracy is the music zine by Stina and Riikka. Both of them make other zines too. This issue features lots of interviews with great female (fronted) bands like Dressy Tessy, Bis, Bratmobile, Delta Dart, etc, and articles about female hiphop, racism in riot grrrl & feminism, anti-MMPF and feeling excluded in the hardcore scene. The band interviews have good questions and interesting answers (not like most hc zines) so you learn something about what the artists and musicians have got to say about certain topics.

-How To Make A Zine

Girl on GIRL productions <http://members.tripod.com/gogproductions/>

FINGER BANG distro: Red Chidgey: 29 Wellesey Road, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex, CO15 3PW, U.K. red.chidgey@yahoo.com

<http://www.gurlspages.com/divesex>

The title reveals what this zine is all about. It's a zine-making guide with tips for layout, production, distribution and more. It includes pieces that can also be found on the Action Girl website. Very useful for beginners and also for more professional zinesters!

\*Personality Liberation Front #3: zine

Kylie, PO Box 3023, South Brisbane BC QLD 4101, Australia

[krieggeek@yahoo.com](mailto:krieggeek@yahoo.com)

First of all I want to say I really like the layout of this zine. It's fat (68 pages) and there are lots of little cut & paste drawings, small fragments of newspaper & magazine articles, photos, etc, stuck together in every page. So this means hours of reading and looking fun. Hand-written pieces alternate with typed articles. The personal and the critical go hand in hand. Zinester Kylie wants her writings to be more than just sloganising. In Personality Liberation Front she wants to offer profound columns and articles that include her personal opinion and experiences. She writes about going beyond sx, girl-zines vs. boy-zines, travelling, etc. There are also music and zine reviews, interviews (with Submission Hold, Atom And His Package, etc), letters from people in prison, flyers, etc.

\*Riot Grrrl Europe #1

Riot Grrrl Europe: <http://rge.cjb.net>

Bergselaan 126c, 3037 CG Rotterdam, The Netherlands

This zine was released a few years ago and, yeah things have changed for the better since then! If only you look at the list of distros/zines. It has grown a lot! New projects have been started, more grrrls have contacted each other,... Riot Grrrl Europe #1 was a good start! I'm sure that without the website and the zine, we wouldn't be where we are now. This first issue contains, besides the list of projects in various European countries, articles about a picnic in London, the collective Emancypunk, riot grrrl surveys, reviews of meetings, an interview with Le Tigre, an anti-porn article, and more.

Currently #2 is being finished so you can send all your contributions to Stina ([her riot@hotmail.com](mailto:her riot@hotmail.com)).

\*Spiked Riot: zine

Girl on GIRL productions <http://members.tripod.com/gogproductions/>

<http://www.violeteyes.net/ladybomb/>  
Ladybomb distro, Riikka Pennanen, Neitsytasaarentie, 7a B 104, 00960 Helsinki, Finland. [riikka.ladybomb@hotmail.com](mailto:riikka.ladybomb@hotmail.com)

"Spiked Riot" is so damn inspiring, empowering and fun! It's the first release of Girl on GIRL productions "a revolutionary feminist publishing 'stunt' dedicated to producing handbooks, zines, art + other media with information about political tactics". In this zine you can find information about GOG productions, tips for bathroom activism, T-shirt designs, graffiti practice and more. It's in a very thin A5 format, but it's cheap too. It's not a zine with extensive intellectual articles, but one that wants you to get active.

"Spiked Riot" is so rad! You really need to get hold of at least one of the GOG zines! And yes, DO TRY THIS AT HOME!

\*Synthesis #4: zine

Laura, PO Box 23272, London SE14 6XD UK

[laura.witz@yahoo.com](mailto:laura.witz@yahoo.com) or [xsynthesis@ekno.com](mailto:xsynthesis@ekno.com)

<http://connect.to/synthesis>

Laura runs the distro as well as the zine Synthesis. I'm a bit ashamed I didn't check this zine out earlier. It's very interesting! It's got the right amount of feminism, human rights and other revolutionary writings, mixed with punk/hardcore articles and fiction, adding humour when necessary. I especially want everyone to read the sisterhood/sisters columns: they are rad!

\*We Are Warriors

Girl on gIRL productions: <http://members.tripod.com/gogproductions/>  
FINGER\_BANG distro: Red Chidgy: 29 Wellesley Road, Clacton-on-Sea,  
Essex, CO15 3PW, U.K. [red\\_chidgy@yahoo.com](mailto:red_chidgy@yahoo.com)  
<http://www.gurlpages.com/divessex>

When I finished reading "Spiked Riot" I was curious to find the other publications of Girl on gIRL productions. So I traded my Flapper Gathering #1 zines for all other zines/handbooks at Finger\_Bang distro. Yes, these GOG zines are addictive. If you're feeling tired, bored or too passive, any GOG publication will give you the necessary energy to get up and smash patriarchy! They give you tips how to start your revolution! "We Are Warriors" is a collection of anti-oppression writings and strategies. The zine contains stories, opinions, queer/feminist/anti-racist theory, anti-oppression tips, etc. It questions privileges such as ability and includes writings about transgendering and riot grrrl. Very interesting and a cool DIY layout too!

## music & spoken word

\*Kevin Blechdom: I <3 Presets  
Tigerbeat6 <http://www.tigerbeat6.com>

I bought this 5-song CD after watching Kevin Blechdom perform for the second time in Brussels. It's a good CD, however the first thing that I noticed was that her vocals are so much better, more powerful, live. On the CD it seems such an over-produced fake pop voice, with too many effects. It lacks a bit power and enthusiasm. So I hope she works on that. I know she's capable of improving it because live her voice was one of her strongest qualities. Still the music is nice and danceable. Some songs ("Mr. Miguel" and the very fun "Shelley Sho'nuff") sound like computer games with crazy sounds and noises in the background. "Talkin' Tech" is a short hiphop-ish song. Unfortunately there was no lyric sheet included, but you can understand most of what's she's singing. It's mostly smart and funny lyrics, but I think this is also her way of trying to say something, of giving a message. All in all it's a nice CD though.

\*Bratmobile: Girls Get Busy

Lookout records: <http://www.lookoutrecords.com>  
<http://www.bratmobile.com>

"Girls Get Busy" got some mixed reviews and reactions from magazines as well as from fans. Some immediately adore it, others need some time to get used to it or still find it just an average effort. "Girls Get Busy" is the Bratmobile 4th release (not including 7"s and compilations) and it is more political than they ever were before. There's plenty of anti-Bush rage and pro-feminist anger. "We won't fly your flag for the rights we never had" sings Allison in "United We Don't" and "But hey man, if I know one thing/ I won't buy your fucking war" in "Shop For America". In "Are you a Lady" she claims "We're not fighting in your system/ wishing well is wasting time". For the first time, drummer Molly sings main vocals on a track too: "Pagan Baby" which reminds me of the Frumpies with its lo-fi garage feeling. Bratmobile - Molly, guitarist Erin and singer Allison - invited guest musicians too for this album. The added keyboards and bass changed the sound of Bratmobile a bit, more new wave. Although there's no doubt when you hear their trademark guitar riffs and vocals, the Bmob is back!

\*Cria Cuervos: Soap Opera

Cria Cuervos C/o T. Moya - 3 allée des Cytises, 91100 Corbeil-Essonne  
- France [cria\\_cuervos@hotmail.com](mailto:cria_cuervos@hotmail.com) <http://www.criacuervos.net>

Cria Cuervos plays fast kicking anarchapunk. They hail from France and sing in English, French and Spanish (you can find the translations of their lyrics on their website + also MP3s and live video clips). Their lyrics are very political, anarchafeminist-oriented, dealing with animal tests, capital punishment, harassment, revolution, etc. In the booklet is also info and statistics about violence and discrimination against women. I'm curious to see this band live!

\*Criminal: Songs 4 Negela  
[cantfeedmenow@hotmail.com](mailto:cantfeedmenow@hotmail.com)

Criminal is a Belgian boi who writes and records songs with just his voice and an acoustic guitar. (He contributed an article for Flapper Gathering #1 + 2!) I like this style of DIY acoustic rock a lot. Think Tami Hart for the guitars and John Frusciante or the singer of Dead Moon for the vocals. The lyrics are mostly personal I think, although there are no lyric sheets included so I'm not sure. But you can hear he is singing from his guts with a lot of emotion. He also painted the cover-art, which is great! There's a lot of

variation in the guitar riffs and the tunes are very nice. Criminal told me he is a self-taught guitarist, but he's really so good (well Carrie Brownstein, Jimi Hendrix and all those people are self-taught too)!

#### \*Dada Stunt Girl: Heartbeats

<http://www.violeteyes.net/ladybomb/> <http://www.stuntgirl.cjb.net>  
Ladybomb distro, Rikka Pennanen, Neitsyttaarentie, 7a B 104, 00960  
Helsinki, Finland. [rikka.ladybomb@hotmail.com](mailto:rikka.ladybomb@hotmail.com)

Dada Stunt Girl play anarchafeminist indie rock inspired by the likes of Sleater-Kinney, Heavens To Betsy and Placebo. "Heartbeats" is the first (mini-)CD by this all-girl band from Finland. Their lyrics mix the personal and the political, are very feminist and contain a call for action. For example "Femmenstruation Liberation" deals with the chemical poison in pads and tampons. The voices are mostly sweet though (a bit like Excuse 17), singing different melodies at the same time, and the complicated guitar riffs sound similar to Corin Tucker & Carrie Brownstein's guitar spiderwebs, but are yet original. It's clear these girls have a strong and important message and they've succeeded to musically package it very well too!

#### \*Die Bitch: Misogyny

Veruska Bellistri, via br. da montone 53; 00176 Roma - Italy  
[aggirl66@yahoo.it](mailto:aggirl66@yahoo.it) or [veruskacoutlaw@yahoo.it](mailto:veruskacoutlaw@yahoo.it)

Die Bitch is a spoken word project by Veruska, but it's more than just recorded poetry. Veruska studied misogyny and sexism in our society and recorded her results in rhymes, dark poems, lo-fi rock songs and experimental instrumentals. She speaks about pain and abuse, tells stories and reveals truths. Musically it's hard to describe Die Bitch. There are lots of different styles featured, going from sometimes frightening, distorted guitar music to a kind of classical pop and from Italian summer noises to Veruska's voice summing up men's names backed by the sound of a typewriter. All in all "Misogyny" is very dark and mysterious, like sounds without a movie, but you can visualise the images. Words can't really describe it, but probably only destroy it. You must listen to it! I really dig the b/w artwork too and the little glitters stuck on the tape itself. This tape is highly recommended by me! You can also order it through Ladybomb Distro.

#### \*Dominatrix: Self Delight

Glorine records: Caixa Postal 21083, CRP 04602-970 - SP - Brazil  
[activegrilldm@hotmail.com](mailto:activegrilldm@hotmail.com) & [glorinerrecords@hotmail.com](mailto:glorinerrecords@hotmail.com)

Teenager In A Box: Caixa Postal 205, São Paulo - SP, CEP 01059970 - Brazil  
[teenagerinabox@hotmail.com](mailto:teenagerinabox@hotmail.com) <http://www.teenagerinabox.cjb.net>

Dominatrix play what you can call "melodic hardcore". Emily of the Haggard told me Dominatrix is one of her favourite new bands. They reminded her of Team Dresch. After listening to their music a lot I could see that, but Dominatrix is just a bit heavier. The lyrics deal with anti-homophobia and pro-girl topics as well as personal topics like friendship. In the booklet/lyric sheet are also addresses of interesting human rights, animal rights and women rights organisations and some info about what Dominatrix stands for.

#### \*Dance Of Days/Dominatrix: Bike split

Teenager In A Box: Caixa Postal 205, São Paulo - SP, CEP 01059970 - Brazil  
[teenagerinabox@hotmail.com](mailto:teenagerinabox@hotmail.com) <http://www.teenagerinabox.cjb.net>

As you may know Dominatrix is a Brazilian riot grrrl band. Dance Of Days is also from Brazil and have a male vocalist who sings in Portuguese. Both bands are friends of each other so they released this split CD together.

Dance Of Days play a mix of punkrock and hardcore. They have some cool riffs and sing-along tunes, but I don't really understand what they are singing about because there are no English translations...

Dominatrix could be described as a rocking all-female punk/emocore/hardcore band. They have great lyrics mostly in English, but also with translations in Portuguese. An excerpt: "It is known that the world is afraid of smart girls/And I still do not feel safe in it so I consider it sexist/Being called separatist while fighting for womyn's rights!/And oh yeah the world is flat" (in "Flat Earth"). "Die Die" is such a catchy sing-along track and "Broken Glass Candy" starts with cool bass riffs! Good stuff!

#### \*The Haggard: A Bike City Called Greasy

Heartcore records: Columbia Univ. Station - P.O. Box 250636 - New York, NY 10025 - USA <http://www.heartcorerecords.net>

"A Bike City Called Greasy" is the first Haggard CD. The Haggard are 2 tough grrrls who sound like they're gonna kick your ass! Emily is the guitarist/singer and STS the drummer/singer and again this is a girl band without a bassist. (There's a live review of the band elsewhere in this zine.) On this CD some songs are more quietly sung with

Emily's soft growling voice and also cool punkrock, hardcore, metal and crust tracks with various tempo changes. Lyrics are about Matthew Shepard, falling in love with your sports teacher ("PE Teacher"), television, homophobia, etc. "Tampons" is my favourite on this album, probably even my favourite Haggard song ever. If you like bands like Harum Scarum (also from Portland, OR), you'll dig this:

\*The Haggard: No Future  
Mr. Lady records: P.O. Box 3189 - Durham, NC 27715 - USA  
<http://www.mrlady.com>

"No Future" is the Haggard's newest CD and the follow-up of "Bike City". There's more direct & loud punk/hardcore/crust with screaming vocals and heavily distorted guitars. There's also a funny cover of the Fondles' "Wouldn't Wanna Be Your Girl". Lyrics about traffic, jealousy, the worker society, etc with funny titles like "Quit Your Job" and "The Haggard For President".

\*Heart (Attacking): Killed By  
<http://heartattacking.cjb.net> heartattacking@hotmail.com  
(HER) RIOT distro (Stina): <http://herriotdistro.rocks.it>  
her.riot@hotmail.com

Heart (Attacking) is a Swedish boi Erik and grrrl Lisa who play electro-poppunk. "Killed by" is their second self-released demo tape and for this release all song titles start with "killed by..." except for the 2 bonus tracks. One of these bonus tracks, "Tricity Electra", also sounds a bit different than the other songs. It's garagepunk à la the Frumpies, Raoul and early Bratmobile. It's catchy and it rocks! The other songs have keyboards, drum machines and sometimes guitars. Both Lisa and Erik sing. "Intermissions" is an instrumental disco tune. Can't sit still when you listen to it and that actually counts for the entire album. Heart (Attacking) love their keyboards and we love them!

\*O.G. Panty Complex: Feminist Prose and Cons tape/CD  
Girlsoldier label + distro (now: Boom Box Recordings)  
[ogpc@atb1.com](mailto:ogpc@atb1.com); PO Box 4664; Walnut Creek, CA 94596; USA  
<http://www.boomboxrecordings.com>

I'll start this review by saying "Feminist Prose and cons" has a super cool cover. Instead of painting ske X's on our hands we should go en masse to gigs with ♀ signs! "Feminist Prose and cons" is Shasta's 3rd O.G. Panty Complex album. She just released her 5th album a little while ago and she's already writing and recording for a new one.

Everything is done very DIY. She writes the music, plays the music, records, mixes and does the design and layout all by herself. She's a great inspiration for me showing you can do everything you like without worrying about what other people might think or without anyone else's help. Shasta uses only her voice and her drum machines on this release and her keyboard too on a few tracks. She's got a good feeling for melody, the tunes are simple yet catchy. The O.G. Panty Complex lyrics are very feminist, personal and political (like her zines). Song titles include "Feminist Revolutionary", "Riot Grrrl is Alive" and "Crush". "Why ask why?" and "My Sister" are very beautiful, sad and emotional songs in which she uses her keyboard. "Emo Therapy" on the other hand is fast and punky. Some songs could be used as radical cheerleading cheers ("Let's Get Revolutionised") but backed up with drum beats they have more power. It's amazing what she can do with just a voice and a drum machine!

\*Rose Turtle Ertler Demo (self-released)  
[rossturtle@hotmail.com](mailto:rossturtle@hotmail.com)

Oh, Rose Turtle's music is so beautiful! This 5-track self-released CD is so honest and good and contains 5 tracks of great ukulele riffs with background drum machine beats and Rose's amazing voice! She even sings a bit in Dutch. There's also a cover of "Stolenmaniac". I heard this CD is gonna be released on an Australian girl label (don't know the name?) soon so it will probably be easier to order it from them.

\*Sleater-Kinney: One Beat  
Kill Rock Stars, 120 State Ave. #418; Olympia, WA 98501; USA  
<http://www.killrockstars.com>

"One Beat" is one step further away from the new wave punk Sleater-Kinney used to make. Like "All Hands On The Bad Ones" their previous album, "One Beat" includes a mix of styles, not just the raw angry grrrl rock that characterised their first albums. Not to say Sleater-Kinney is not angry anymore... they are angrier than ever! The lyrics are full of post-September 11th rage, brilliant, critical, emotional and profound ("Far Away"). My fave songs include "Combat Rock" (ah so beautiful!), "Far Away", "One Beat" and the spooky "Funeral Song".

-Sleepy Lili: Jasmine and Cat Milk  
On tape: Ocean, Coline Van Acker, Bp 254, 4020 Liège 2, Belgium;  
[grrr@streetpunks.com](mailto:grrr@streetpunks.com)  
<http://www.geocities.com/grrrlbelgique/ocean.html>

On CD: Sleepy Lili: [sonickitten@hotmail.com](mailto:sonickitten@hotmail.com)  
Sleepy Lili really impressed me at Ladyfestival in Leuven this summer. I'm very happy there's a band like them in this small country where all-girl bands are still rare. Singer/guitarist Sophie and drummer Manu are superb musicians. Manu plays the most inventive drum rhythms and easily reaches the same level as Janet Weiss and Lori Barbero. She makes me wanna play air-drums. Sophie's voice and guitar are beautiful and melancholic. The music is quiet but kicking ass. "Far from home" & "Dancer" will make you cream and drown in sound. "Beatnik Walk" starts out mysteriously before the guitar comes in. "Sweet pill" invites you to sing along. The oh-oh's will stick in your head for days! "The Same Nothing" is about longing for excitement: "nothing is happening over and over again". I can't pick one favourite, every single song here rules!  
P.S.: The cover art of the tape as well as of the CD are real pieces of art!

\*Sleepy Lili: Waterbabies  
[sonickitten@hotmail.com](mailto:sonickitten@hotmail.com)

Ah, another Sleepy Lili CD! Actually this is their first demo and it's Sophie solo, when Manu wasn't playing drums yet. So it's quieter and more melancholic but still rocking. Maybe some songs could be compared to Catpower or Lois. "Heart-Shaped Cookie" is a bit different. It's more punk and sounds like a mix of the Pixies, Le Tigre and the Frumpies. Another song, "Japanese Dream" is about Sophie who wants to go to Japan. My faves are "Waterbabies" and "Quiet Waves".

\*Jeanne Spicuzza: s/t  
[seasons@seasonsandamuse.com](mailto:seasons@seasonsandamuse.com), <http://www.seasonsandamuse.com>  
Jeanne Spicuzza aka Seasons And A Muse, an Italian-American woman, finds independence very important. She released this self-titled CD herself. She's what I would call a punk on the inside instead of the outside. Her songs are "lyrics without music" although some tracks do include instruments. She speaks about Hildegard von Bingen (a medieval lady who, like Jeanne, also practised art, music, spirituality and

writing), Helen of Troy (if she was a Jewish-American princess), racism, the "American Dream", etc. This CD is a collection of stories, real-life experiences, poems and political pieces. She shares her opinion, now in a funny voice, now full of rage. She whispers, sings, philosophises, screams, curses, acts, jokes, rhymes, raps, ... Her ideas, power and energy are never ending. The musical tracks are acoustic folk or dark/mysterious. In "This mystery, me, this reality be" her voice sounds similar to Ani DiFranco. "In my dreams of dragons" is haunting spoken word with threatening guitars. One of my favourites is the bonus-track "Sluts". Her words are amazing and well found. She will surely keep you close to your stereo for 20 tracks.

\*Various Artists: Free To Fight  
Chainsaw records: <http://www.chainsaw.com>

Candy-ass records: <http://www.candyassrecords.com>  
I've been looking for this compilation CD for sooooo long! It's queercore/riot grrrl history! Normally there's a booklet with self-defence tricks and stories included, but unfortunately not in my copy (so get yours from Chainsaw!). Bands on this compilation include Heavens To Betsy, Lois, Excuse 17, Team Dresch ("Anne Bannon" makes me want to pogo and mosh in my bedroom!), Fifth Column, Third Sex, etc. There's hiphop featured, rock, pop, folk and punk. Next to the music there are spoken word tracks with true stories and self-defence tips.

\*Various Artists: Ladybomb revolution tape 001

<http://www.violeteyes.net/ladybom/>  
ADYBOMB distro, Rikka Pennanen, Neitsytssarentie, 7a B 104, 00960 Helsinki, Finland; [rikka.ladybomb@hotmail.com](mailto:rikka.ladybomb@hotmail.com)  
INGER BANG distro: Red Chidley: 29 Wellesley Road, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex, CO15 3PW, U.K.; [red.chidley@yahoo.com](mailto:red.chidley@yahoo.com)  
<http://www.gurlpages.com/diyesses>

he Ladybomb Revolution Tape 001 comes with a booklet with ice drawings and info and photos of the (very talented!) bands and artists on the compilation. The music varies from unk/hc (Barbitch, Lady!Die, Fuck Finger, etc) to lectropunk (Rüberhöhle, O.G. Panty Complex, Low-End models, etc) and from indie rock (Dada Stunt Girl, Delta art, etc) to ballads (Ethel Scull, AlienShe, etc) so here's always something on it you'll like! Every single track impressed me and the compilation is clearly made with love so you'll love it too!

## LINKS

- [\(riot grrrl directory\)](http://yoodle.tripod.com/rq.html)
- [\(online feminist zine\)](http://www.divazine.be)
- [\(riot grrrl Europe\)](http://rge.cjb.net)
- [\(riot grrrl Belgium\)](http://riotgrrrlbelgium.cjb.net)
- [\(Dutch grrl bands\)](http://www.geocities.com/dutchgrrlband)
- [\(Riot Grrrl Benelux chapter\)](http://www.geocities.com/riotgrrrlbelgium/benelux.html)
- [\(Ladyfest\)](http://www.ladyfest.org)
- [\(Ladyfest Europe\)](http://www.ladyfesteurope.org)
- [\(Dutch riot grrrl club\)](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/thedutchriotgrrlclub)
- [\(Sara's site of her graduation project about gender\)](http://users.pandora.be/gendermainstreaming)
- [\(Think Pink: Queer, anarchy & feminism\)](http://www.thinkpink.be.tf)
- [\(Feministische Anarchistische Meiden\)](http://www.anarchie.be/fam/index.html)
- [\(info about riot grrrl, audio & video clips\)](http://www.emplive.com/explore/riot_grrrl)

## DIY

### RIOT DON'T DIET

#### \*START A FLYER GATHERING:

-make feminist/political/funny flyers that draw people's attention and inform them or just flyers to promote your concert/project/action/event/label/etc.

-take a bunch of them with you everywhere you go and spread them at public places: schools, public bathrooms, gig venues, libraries, train station, etc.

Websites of cool flyers, action ideas & art:

[\(Gender Mainstreaming\)](http://users.pandora.be/gendermainstreaming)

[\(Guerrilla Girls\)](http://www.guerrillagirls.com)

[\(Hothead Paisan fanpage\)](http://www.indiano.org/hh/)

[\(Ik zie Je Graag\)](http://www.ikziejegraag.org)

[\(Loesje\)](http://www.loesje.nl)

[\(Riot Grrrl Europe CARDS\)](http://rge.cjb.net)

INFORM! INSPIRE! EDUCATE! EMPOWER! MOTIVATE! ACTIVATE!

REVOLUTION  
GRRRL/BOI  
STYLE

FEMINISM IS NOT  
MAN-HATE  
BUT ANTI-FEMINISM  
IS  
WOMAN-HATE