



BEAT FRÄULEINS



Female pop in Germany 1964–1968

CD / 180g vinyl

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Following two “Funky Fräuleins” compilations (2009 and 2011), the time has come for the BEAT FRÄULEINS. Back we go, deep into the sixties, when the beat forced its way into the innocent world of German schlager. When the rhythm grew hotter and the lyrics sharper, the drums louder and the guitar more distorted. BEAT FRÄULEINS brings together 19 highlights of the era, namely:

- 1) **Brigitt / ...da beisst kein Goldfisch an:** Fantastic exotica, a brave arrangement using only percussion, bass and whistles. Brigitt’s career began in the GDR, continued in the west from 1968 and ended at the age of 28.
- 2) **Joy & the Hit Kids / Das Glück dieser Welt:** Soul in its finest form, with the greatest soul voice which Germany has ever produced. Motown’s luminaries can go to the back of the queue.
- 3) **Marion (Maerz) / Er ist wieder da:** The ultimate Beat Fräulein with THE Beat Fräulein track. Shot to number 6 in the charts. Composed in the same loud and quiet vein of “Marmor, Stein und Eisen bricht”.
- 4) **Dominique / Das Schlüsselkind:** Polydor’s attempt at extracting profit from the protest movement. Subject matter: youth criminality. Blame it on – who else – society.
- 5) **Anita Weibel / Was hab ich getan:** Solid, Germanized version of Johnny Tillotson’s “Please Don’t Go Away”. Anita Weibel won the prize of recording the single in a TV talent show.
- 6) **Patty Pay / Bilder und Briefe:** These days Patricia Paay sits on the Jury of “Holland’s Got Talent”. Back then, she sang under the name Patty Pay, as on this splendid little soap opera, penned by Ralph Siegel.
- 7) **Caterina Valente / Kismet:** Valente in feminist pose: promoting female autonomy and leaving the men no chance: „What do men know about women? Shall we ask? Ah, probably not.“
- 8) **Ingela Brander / Es ist noch lange nicht zu spät:** In spite of her many talents (actress, singer, saxophonist) the Swede did not find success in Germany. This track is taken from her only album release “Party mit Ingela”.
- 9) **Inga (Rumpf) / The Beat Goes On:** This Sonny & Cher adaptation is an example of City Preachers folk trouper Inga Rumpf’s extra-curricular solo activities in 1967.
- 10) **Conny Froboess / Und das Leben geht weiter:** A suitably unromantic song about being jilted. Conny Froboess doing her best to shed her sweet teenager image.
- 11) **Monique and the Lions / Er sah mich im Regen:** This pearl was discovered in the CCA archives. It didn’t and doesn’t get any more garage than this in the Schlager world. The original: “Bus Stop” by The Hollies.
- 12) **Dorthe / Darauf fall ich nicht rein:** Mister “happy sound” James Last himself composed this jaunty number for the Dane, another Scandinavian import alongside Gitte, Wencke Myhre, Siw Malmkvist et al.
- 13) **Ruth Brandin / Mich hat noch keiner beim Twist geküsst:** Ruth Brandin was one of the most successful GDR vocalists of the 1960s – until the Stasi wanted to enlist her. Ruth refused – effectively ending her career.
- 14) **Chris Doerk / Und du bis nicht mehr allein:** Another hugely popular singer from the GDR, best known as one half of the duo Chris & Frank (Schöbel), here with a laid-back organ dance number.
- 15) **Jacob Sisters / Was hab ich dir getan:** To look at, this quartet could not have been any less like The Supremes – yet they make a decent job of covering “Stop! In The Name Of Love”.
- 16) **Simone / Gelegenheit macht Diebe:** It is beggars belief, but it was Simone (a.k.a. Gitta MacKaye/Walther) who contributed the world-famous scream to Penny McLean’s disco smash “Lady Bump” twelve years later.
- 17) **Pitty und ihre Beatchicks / Teenage Love:** Teen, teen, teen – age, age, age – love, love, love, love. A welcome change from the usual shalala or shoobidoo for the backing singers. Super!
- 18) **Renate Kern / Kiss and Shake:** Werner Last (James’ brother) wrote this foot-stomper for his discovery Renate Kerns. Her debut single was actually released in England as well, albeit renamed “Now and Then”.
- 19) **Wencke Myhre / Einsamer Boy:** A contemplative conclusion to our compilation. Norwegian songbird Wencke Myhre wallows in a grand orchestral arrangement. One to melt any heart!

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