

Schallplatten der Petards:

Up To The Moon/Lazy Moon Somerset S 1007
 Right Time/She Didn't Metronome CCA 5033
 Baby Run, Run, Run/Pretty Miss Metronome CCA 5021
 LP Europa E 313

A Deeper Blue / Every Moment / Roses For Kath / My Little Heart /
 Not For You / Confusion All Day / The Sun Came Out At Seven /
 Firetree, Drive / Love All Around Me / Summerwind, I' Won't Come
 Back

Management: Horst Ebert, 3579 Schrecksbach, Tel. 06698/226

Petards-Fan-Clubs in:	4530 Recklinghausen	6550 Bad Kreuznach
1000 Berlin	4630 Bochum	6656 Einöd
2000 Hamburg	4690 Herne	6660 Zweibrücken
2139 Lauenbrück	4836 Herzebrock	6741 Hainfeld
2241 Wessein	4902 Bad Salzuflen	6790 Landstuhl
2300 Kiel	5142 Hückelhoven	6800 Mannheim
2447 Heiligenhafen	5202 Hennef	6908 Wiesloch
2800 Bremen	5220 Waldbröl	6992 Weikersheim
3180 Wolfsburg	5300 Bonn	7106 Neuenstadt
3201 Sottrum	5350 Euskirchen	7320 Göppingen
3203 Sarstedt	5409 Horhausen	7400 Tübingen
3250 Hameln	5469 Herschbroich	7500 Karlsruhe
3327 Salzgitter-Bad	5584 Alf	7501 Neuburgweier
3400 Göttingen	5586 Reil	7630 Lahr
3470 Hörter	5600 Wuppertal	7800 Freiburg
3500 Kassel	5750 Menden	8131 Leutsteden
3510 Hann. Münden	5757 Wickede	8201 Flörsbach
3548 Arolsen	5811 Vörschöven	8303 Rottenburg
3550 Marburg	5855 Hohenlimburg	8304 Märlersdorf
3559 Haina	5909 Struthütten	8359 Ortenburg
3570 Kirchhain	6050 Offenbach	8411 Bergmating
3571 Rausch-Holzhausen	6311 Maulbach	8430 Neumarkt
3572 Stadt Allendorf	6321 Angenrod	8500 Nürnberg
3579 Neukirchen	6320 Alsfeld	8636 Creidnitz
3579 Schrecksbach	6321 Kirtorf	8752 Hösbach
3579 Ziegenhain	6331 Tiefenbach	8424 Embrach/Schweiz
4000 Düsseldorf	6415 Petersberg	8717 Benken/Schweiz
4103 Walsum	6420 Lauterbach	Stroud/England
4150 Krefeld	6421 Maar	Rochdale/England
4200 Oberhausen	6430 Bad Hersfeld	
4509 Wehrendorf	6442 Rotenburg	

Autogrammadresse: The Petards, 3579 Schrecksbach Wasserweg 5



Left: Petards fan clubs proliferating in early 1968 (reverse of promo card).

played a crucial role the band's growing success. Fans who contacted the band about organizing a fan club were sent a letter outlining "Purposes and Tasks of a Petards Fan Club":

"The goal of a Petards fan club is to support the Petards to the best of their ability and to help them become a well-known and popular beat group. This is something that cannot be asked of anyone and cannot be paid for, but only acknowledged. If you take on this task, it is only because you believe that the Petards deserve this help and because you yourself enjoy this work. The only thing the Petards have to offer you in return is direct and personal contact with each and every one of the Petards."

Fan club presidents were then sent packages of promotional material including signed photos, stickers, postcards, posters, records and newsletters to distribute among their friends as well as personal correspondence from the band members—most often Roger, who was diligent about corresponding with fans. Whenever a new record was released, the fan clubs were mobilized to petition radio stations to give it airplay and for record shops to order copies. The fan clubs were also encouraged to find bookings for the band in their town and were offered a special fan club rate: 800 DM for weekends and public holidays or 400 DM for weekdays for two 45-minute sets. That price included 100 posters, 200 postcard flyers along with press releases and photos.

This resulted in the Petards playing numerous shows in smaller out of the way towns and villages rarely visited by other acts. Fan club organizers were given backstage access and other opportunities to socialize with the band members. While this kind of grassroots, fan-driven, DIY approach became commonplace in later decades, it was unusual in the sixties,

especially at the level of efficiency practiced by the Petards.

A new single was released on Somerset (a subsidiary of Europa) on the heels of *A Deeper Blue*. "Shoot Me Up to the Moon" is a devilishly catchy pop tune with bright harmonies and some clever tempo changes; Klaus played piano on the track in addition to lead guitar. Another "moon" song was on the flipside, the wistful "Lazy Moon." (According to Bear Family's annotation, both songs were recorded at the same sessions *A Deeper Blue*, but sonically they're slightly more polished.) Although the single didn't make the national German hit parade, an organized effort by the fan clubs quickly pushed the single to number 1 in the HR (Hessischer Rundfunk) and SWF (Südwestrundfunk) radio charts.

The group returned to Studio Maschen in January 1968 to record another single. Klaus's confidence as a composer and arranger was growing by leaps and bounds, and the rest of

the band rose to meet the challenge, including Horst, whose lyrics were becoming more interesting and poetic. "Golden Glass" is a beautiful pop song with a haunting Bee Gees-like vocal melody, buoyant harmonies and a strong, classically-inspired ascending organ hook. Klaus also played organ on the B-side, "Tiger Rider," a brooding, soul-inflected number. Released in May, the single was another number 1 on the HR and SWF hit parades.

Chapter 4: A Sunbeam in the Fog

Based in a rural village, far from large urban centers like Munich, Berlin or the epicenter of German beat music, Hamburg, the Petards were outsiders, paving their own path. This independence was reflected in their uniquely original music and their image, neither of which was typical of other bands of the day, in Germany or elsewhere. They absorbed the influences of the best British and American bands but never resorted to slavish imitation, always transforming it into their own style. "We listened to a lot of bands," explains Roger, "but our first priority was our independence."

Horst outlined the band's approach in the aforementioned 1968 press release: "The style of the Petards is to have no style! They are making music that is fun to them without setting anything in stone. The audience is thankful that the Petards always offer a varied program. Despite this flexibility, the Petards are allowed to call themselves one of the really 'hard' beat groups. 'Hard,' which is not 'loud' but, rather, powerful, original and exciting. Their music is precise and performed with a skillful coolness. On stage the Petards are almost unbeatable. They not only convince through good music but also through crazy clothes, a close contact

