




year. It's an upbeat, commercial pop song, and the Petards perform it well, augmented by a horn section, but it's something of an anomaly in their catalogue.

"'Everybody Knows Matilda' wasn't our style," admits Roger. "Siggi Loch really wanted us to record this third-party title. Incidentally, Klaus Doldinger played the wind section. 'Everybody knows Mathilda' and the beautiful farewell song 'On the Road With My Bag' have one thing in common: there are old film recordings of both titles that you can watch on YouTube. The films were shot by Saarland television for the *Saarbrücker Bilderbogen* program. The moderator of the program was Manfred Sexauer. He himself insisted on appearing with a humorous insert at the end of the film. Both tracks were filmed in the middle of Saarbrücken, which is also interesting to see what kind of cars there were back then."

The same month the single was released, Loch persuaded the Petards—using an alias—to record an album of songs by Creedence Clearwater Revival. It was subsequently released on Liberty's budget imprint, Sunset, under

the name Zonk. "We recorded the *Creedence Clearwater Revival Hits* LP in one day under the pseudonym Zonk and were fobbed off with a fee of DM 3,000," remembers Roger. "The record company had already expected an injunction and therefore stuffed the record stores with a circulation of 25,000. All of them were sold. Two particularly successful singles were also released [on Ariola] under the pseudonym Flitter Mouse."

In November the Petards played a second tour of the Czech Republic, and in December, back in Germany, a new single was issued with two songs from the imminent *Hitshock* album, "My World" and "Pictures." Liberty also began releasing some of their singles in France, starting with "Everybody Know Matilda" / "Blue Fire Light" and then, early in 1970, "Keep On" / "Stone By Now."




THE PETARDS

My World / Pictures (LIBERTY 15 278)
 Everybody Knows Mathilda / Blue Fire Light (LIBERTY 15 259)
 Misty Island / Tartarex (LIBERTY 15 206)
 Pretty Liza / Rainbows And Butterflies (LIBERTY 15 130)

THE PETARDS (30-cm-Langspielplatte, LIBERTY LBS 83 204 I)
 HIT SHOCK (30-cm-Langspielplatte, erscheint 1. 1. 1970 bei LIBERTY)

Vermittlung der Petards für Gastspiele und Engagements:
 Horst Ebert, 3579 Schrecksbach, Telefon (0 66 98) 226



"'Blue Fire Light' reached number 2 in the charts in France," remembers Roger. "The record company organized us two TV appearances, on *Midi Magazine*, and a recording at the famous Olympia in Paris. Hard to imagine today, but back then there were borders in Western Europe. When we wanted to cross the border with our band bus, we were refused entry. We were not aware that we needed a so-called 'carnet' for our instruments and sound system. Time was short, so we tried to cross the border via dirt roads. After five kilometers we ran into a customs control. We showed the officers our contracts with the television and explained that we were in a hurry. They finally let us drive, but unfortunately we missed the first *Midi Magazine* show. There were no further performances in France and the record company missed the opportunity to start further activities for us there."



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