

THE SPACE AGE TRAVELLERS

Biography 2022

Gerco Aerts bass
BJ Baartmans guitar
Sjoerd van Bommel drums

Surf, Jive, Blues and Spaghetti Western instrumentals with a free jazz twist.

The Space Age Travellers play self-penned material by songwriter/ guitarist BJ Baartmans, inspired by the sounds of guitar heroes springing from the Space Age like Bill Frisell, Richard Thompson, Ry Cooder, Marc Ribot, Brian Setzer or Jeff Beck and by their sources of inspiration too with the likes of Duane Eddy, Wes Montgomery, Charlie Christian, Django Rheinhardt, Dick Dale, The Shadows, James Burton and Jimmy Bryant.

Extremely dancable grooves, romantic melodies, intriguing soundscapes and craftsmanship with unprecedented velocity and poignancy. Music for lovers and freaks. A sonic voyage through time!

Performed by three soulmates with rich musical pasts in a.o. BJ's Wild Verband, Matthews Southern Comfort, The Matthews Baartmans Conspiracy, Wouter Plantejijdt's Bullhorn, André Manuel's Ketterse Fanfare, B-Movie Orchestra, Bots and Ms Hips.

The Space Age Travellers' debut album @Ventures In The Shadows was released in November 2018 to immense critical acclaim in Dutch music media garnering rave reviews. And also in renowned magazines like Vintage Guitar Magazine (USA), Roots Music Report (USA) en Pipeline (UK).

The album's successor Spaceology came out on 01/01/21 and it showcased a sound that was similarly colourful but productionally even more elaborate. It again contained all original material which may well serve as the soundtrack to a yet to be made Arthouse-, Spaghetti Western- or Cinema Noir movie. Music in which the characters of the three band members can be fully appreciated

Doing a nice string of live shows, The Space Age Travellers have developed an infectious stage delivery in which the lucidly calibrated songs offer plenty of comfortable space for improvisation, humour and imagination which these excellent musicians gladly make use of.

SATELLITE SHUFFLE

The third album Satellite Shuffle which will be released on Continental Record Services in April 2022 takes the sound of The Space Age Travellers just a small but significant step further. It contains another 12 original songs that explore a jazzier and at the same time more edgy and at times funkier vibe. Elements from African and Cuban music shine through, sonic experiments and melodic dissonance. It's also a firmly rooted twangfest. Instrumental yet fueled by intriguing short stories. Written and recorded in a period early 2022 with no actual goal or strategy in mind, just for what it is: music dear to its creators it's great material to relaunch an extraordinary band. Out there!

LINER NOTES SATELLITE SHUFFLE

It's early Januari 2022 and a lot of things are not happening. Again. Cancelled string of liveshows, another postponed album production with a befriended singer songwriter, a not happening diner party here or rescheduled meeting there... the usual I guess you can say after two intense, strange, uncertain yes almost surreal pandemic years.

I spent days watching a ton of YouTube video's, mainly live performances by musicians that never fail to inspire me, move me, teach me but now just as easily make me sad. I still love what I hear but also experience that my personal musical journey is blocked. I'm on my own. Even if it's still there, the sounds and melodies that guide me, it's not getting me anywhere.

I call my good friend, The Space Age Travellers' drummer Sjoerd. What's up? I'm either going crazy being locked up in this musical cabin fever or shall we get together and make an album? There's still a few unexplored song ideas on my iphone, all studiodays are wide open and maybe it'll ignite something new and exciting. There's also no plan.

It's all it took. A week or two later we have arranged and tracked 12 brandnew completed songs, having had a blast doing so and we decide they'll be released sometime soon no matter what will follow. Just for the sake of the music itself and for the cure it provides for the Coronatimes Blues.

So here's another instrumental record by The Space Age Travellers that we're very happy to present. It covers a lot of ground, as much emotionally as musically. Is it a jazz, blues, surf, rock or world music album? Who knows. It takes us places. It's our music! And yours. Enjoy! Love,

BJ Baartmans, Feb 22, 2022.

THE SPACE AGE TRAVELLERS online

on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEcSFDhlpTEJJ9nojwU5PHw>

on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/thespaceagetravellers>

on Bandcamp:

<https://thespaceagetravellers.bandcamp.com>

SELECTIE RECENSIE QUOTES SPACEOLOGY

“... the best guitar instrumental music is often eclectic with all kinds of sonic signposts, and staying true to their widescreen musical mission, The Space Age Travellers corners the market with the guitar-centric instrumentals on their 2021 masterpiece Spaceology...“ *****

Robert Silverstein, Roots Music Report (USA) dec 2020

“... Drummer Sjoerd van Bommel, bassist Gerco Aerts en gitarist BJ Baartmans leven zich uit met surf (& roll), spaghettiwestern, swing, cool jazz, latin en muziekjes uit het Midden-Oosten, Global Music van het fijnste soort. Net als Ry Cooder is componist en gitaarvirtuoos Baartmans in staat om met filmische muziek de verbeelding van de luisteraar te activeren. Heerlijke plaat.”

OOR, jan 2021

“... dit fabelachtig goede trio laat je regelmatig vergeten dat je naar een band zit te luisteren die uit slechts drie personen bestaat...”

Moors Magazine, dec 2020

“... Spaceology zou wel eens het allereerste goede album van 2021 kunnen worden. De band omschrijft het album als de soundtrack voor een film die nog gemaakt moet worden. Wie de regisseur ook wordt, het moet een flinke klus worden om beelden te maken die net zo interessant zijn als de muziek...”

Gitarist, jan 2021

“.. en dat alles gepeeld met een muzikaliteit en vakmanschap van een waanzinnig hoog niveau waarin ook humor en improvisatietalent een grote rol spelen. Zoals we stapje voor stapje het heelal ontdekken zo blijft deze plaat bij iedere luisterbeurt een klein stukje van zijn geheimen prijsgeven...”

Bluestown Music, dec 2020

“... deze gitaarklanken zijn tijdloos en kunnen altijd plezieren en ten dans uitnodigen. Dus plaatsen we hier graag een grote pluim op de hoed van duivel-doe-al BJ Baartmans, de drijvende kracht achter dit knappe muzikale project...”

Rootstime (BE), feb 2021

“... het resulteert in een veelzijdig album dat het ruime instrumentale kunnen etaleert van dit drietal, Baartmans voorop, en diens compositorische kwaliteiten in het zonnetje zet...“ ****

Heaven, feb 2021

“...klasse kommen die Gitarren_Sounds zwischen warm-jazzig und knackig-clean bis angezerrt, dazu kommen Hall- oder Tremolo-Effekte. Ein wirklich schönes Retro-Album mit melancholischem Tiefgang...”

Gitarre & Bass (DE), feb 2021