

VAYA CON DIOS – SHADES OF JOY

An album introduction - 2023

Music in general can be a journey and full of surprises. Sometimes fate, good or bad, has a big hand in it. As it did with the brand new album by international stars VAYA CON DIOS and the album SHADES OF JOY, their first in almost 2 decades.

It all began when leading lady Dani Klein was stuck, even trapped, in Brussels during the pandemic lockdown. Not being able to go back to her home away from home in Andalucia, she decided to make the best out of a bad situation.

In a previous writing session she had been working on a new song “Shades of Joy”, together with Thierry (Plas) and François (Garny). The three of them started putting chords together and writing new songs and arrangements. Playing it in a loop Dani recorded improvised melodies to them. A selection of the most interesting ideas was made and turned into songs.

But 2020 came and so did the pandemic. With Belgium allowing only a meeting bubble of 3 people they decided to include the band. This allowed them to start working together on a daily basis at Thierry’s Zoo Studios. New songs, inspired and forced by the circumstances.

Once the structure of the songs was approved they started to work on the arrangements, trying anything that came to their minds. The studio transformed into their creative laboratory. Not limited by time or budgets, it was liberating and inspiring to be able to work with so much freedom.

Once the arrangements ideas were completed on the computer – and the lockdown was history - musicians came in to play the parts. Sometimes asking them to improvise as well. And after a little more than two years the album was finished: SHADES OF JOY.

About the single SHADES OF JOY Dani says

It is a happy song reflecting the atmosphere that surrounded us. I had already written most of the lyrics to the song on the album. Time was running out so I asked Bai Kamara if he would have a go at it. He came up with Shades of Joy, saying he wrote it thinking of who I am and the life I've had.

About the album SHADES OF JOY Dani says

The songs talk about life the way I see it.

It is cruel, fun, terrible, light. All those things depending on what you are going through. It is kinder to some than to others and we all try to do the best we can with what we've got. I have written many love songs in the past and I realized love is very often an illusion that we want to cling on to whatever the cost.

I have come to the conclusion that there can be no love without respect and that we cannot expect others to respect us if we don't respect ourselves. To be true to oneself is much more important than to be true to a partner. Many times love is a form of addiction, and like all addictions it is toxic.

It is an album I am proud of since it reflects who I am today and how Vaya con Dios has evolved through the past years. Bringing a touch of light to the world in these troubled times.

I talk about the place women have in our supposedly equal society. They are still struggling and it seems to me the struggle will never end, since men were brought up for ages believing in their superiority.

I talk about the world and the poor state it is in. Because of the ones who run it. About injustice that seems there to stay.

But more importantly about the happiness that we sometimes feel.

We hope you'll like it. We put our skills, hearts and souls into it.

Dani Klein
Vaya Con Dios

"Shades of Joy" will be released November 17th 2023, worldwide through CNR Records Belgium

Vaya Con Dios

Artist Biography - Full length version

Vaya Con Dios, the renowned Belgian band, has left a mark on the international music industry with their unique blend of soulful sounds and captivating melodies and over 11.000.000 albums sold. Led by the mesmerizing vocals of Dani Klein, the band has enchanted audiences around the world, delivering unforgettable performances that transcend borders and languages. With their distinctive musical style and heartfelt lyrics, Vaya Con Dios has become a household name synonymous with passion, soul, and musical excellence.

Formed in Brussels in 1986, Vaya Con Dios emerged as a musical force to be reckoned with. The band, initially consisting of Dani Klein, Dirk Schoufs, and Willy Lambregt, began honing their craft in the local music scene. Drawing inspiration from an eclectic mix of genres, including jazz, blues, and pop, they crafted a sound that defied categorization and resonated with listeners from all walks of life.

Vaya Con Dios's self-titled debut album, released in 1988, served as a testament to their musical prowess and garnered critical acclaim. Fusing Dani Klein's soulful vocals with the band's expert instrumentation, the album showcased their ability to seamlessly blend various musical styles into a cohesive and unforgettable experience. Hits like "Just a Friend of Mine" and "Johnny" catapulted Vaya Con Dios into the international spotlight.

Subsequent albums, including "Night Owls" (1990) and "Time Flies" (1993), further solidified the band's reputation for delivering timeless music. Their songs, characterized by heartfelt lyrics and Dani Klein's soul-stirring voice, struck a chord with fans worldwide. Tracks like "Nah Neh Nah" and "Heading for a Fall" became international hits, earning Vaya Con Dios a dedicated global following.

Over the years, Vaya Con Dios evolved both musically and artistically, exploring new territories while staying true to their roots. Their discography is a testament to their versatility, with songs spanning multiple languages and embracing a diverse range of musical influences. From intimate ballads to upbeat, energetic anthems, Vaya Con Dios continuously pushed the boundaries of their sound, captivating audiences with their unwavering commitment to musical excellence.

Despite lineup changes and hiatuses, Vaya Con Dios's legacy endures. Their impact on the (Belgian) music scene and beyond is immeasurable, inspiring a new generation of musicians and leaving an indelible mark on the hearts of fans around the world. With their poetic lyricism and heartfelt performances, Vaya Con Dios has proven that music has the power to transcend cultural barriers and unite people in a shared emotional experience.

Today, Vaya Con Dios's music continues to resonate, timeless and evocative. Their songs remain a staple in playlists and radio rotations, their influence reverberating through the works of contemporary artists.