

# BERLIN BRATS

## BELIEVE IT OR ROT: 1973-1976

It's circa the mid-1970's and the Rolling Stones are recording in the luxury of the Caribbean and the New York Dolls are in the midst of their death throes....but in Hollywood, Ca. the **Berlin Brats** are torching the Sunset Strip, demolishing pay-to-play live gigs and bringing rock and roll into a psychosexual realm – all before the Sex Pistols have played a single note.

They were the entertainment at the raucous launch party of a soon-to-be-behemoth L.A. radio dynasty – **KROQ**. They performed their legendary anthem “Psychotic” in **Cheech and Chong’s “Up In Smoke”**, and were soon headlining the Sunset Strip. They released a 45 (Psychotic / Tropically Hot), catching the attention of the annual **Playboy Magazine’s Rock Census**, who called Psychotic “an anthem” and the band as one to beat in the industry’s largest market. The flame was burning hot...too hot.

With the advent of punk rock and half the Brats drawn to the music and the others not, the band broke up on the way back from headlining a Mabuhay Gardens show in San Francisco with the Avengers. Bobby Thomas went on to join **Johnny Thunders & Wayne Kramer in Gang War**, while Rick Wilder and Rick Sherman went on to form the notorious rock n roll punk band the **Mau Maus**, who went on create their own mayhem....

But as they say, only the strong survive, and in this case it's the musicians and their music. The February 22, 2011 release of “**Believe It Or Rot: 1973-1976**” (Ratchet Blade Records) will contain 13 digitally restored, scorching tracks culled from lost tapes, vinyl recordings and assorted bootlegs whose rawness captures the wild animal intensity not many groups (excepting the Stooges, MC5, et al) had in the polished early-to-mid 1970's. Get “Believe It Or Rot: 1973 - 1976” and you'll hold a ticket into that untamed rock n roll jungle.

### Key Selling Points:

- RIYL: New York Dolls, Rolling Stones, Iggy & the Stooges.
- The first (and only) full release by the notorious band that **Rodney Bingenheimer** called “the West Coast's first punk band”.
- The Berlin Brats break up led to the formation of the infamous Hollywood punk rock & roll band the **Mau Maus**.
- Singer Rick Wilder's notoriety has been compared to Johnny Thunders, Sid Vicious and Darby Crash.
- The 1981 line up of the Mau Maus (feat. Wilder, Cramps bassist Chopper Franklin and ex LA Guns vocalist Paul Black on drums) has reformed and perform several Berlin Brats songs live.



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### Track Listing:

1. Tropically Hot
2. (I'm) Psychotic
3. Vinyl
4. Juice
5. House of Pleasure
6. Joyride (to the End of the World)  
(intro by Rodney Bingenheimer)
7. (I'm) Psychotic (live)
8. It's My Life (live)
9. Surprise, Surprise (live)
10. Vinyl (live)
11. Bye, Bye Johnny (live)
12. (I'm) Psychotic (Bonus Track)
13. Tropically Hot (Bonus Track)

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