

THE SMITTENS



The Smittens
www.smittens.com
booking@smittens.com
www.facebook.com/thesmittens
twitter: @thesmittens
+1 207.577.7203 (Max)

About:

The Smittens are a hard-working, globe-trotting independent American twee pop band from Burlington, Vermont. The band is friends first and open-hearted indiepop revolutionaries after that. Max Andrucki, Missy Bly, Colin Clary, Dana Kaplan, Holly Chagnon, and David Zacharis switch up instruments, song-writing, and singing to create catchy, harmony-driven pop anthems and queer love songs—always brilliantly lyrical, and often brazenly political. Preferring to do it themselves, the Smittens handle every step of the process, from recording their own music to creating the distinctive artwork that graces the bands fliers and album covers, and booking tours at home and abroad.

Formed on a whim at a party in 2002 the Smittens have emerged as one of America's best-loved underground indiepop sextets, releasing 4 full-length albums, 2 eps, and a cache of singles and compilation appearances. This summer they will release a fifth, still-untitled, studio album on London's Fika Recordings.

As a fixture on the international indiepop festival circuit, with appearances at the Indietracks festival, Athens Popfest, NYC Popfest, Popfest New England, San Francisco Popfest, London Popfest, Island in the Sun, and the Cosy Den Festival in Stockholm, the Smittens have been bringing their lively, melodic sound to new fans every chance they get. They have received lots of airplay on BBC Radio One and 6 Music.

To date the Smittens have toured multiple times across the US, the UK, and Sweden, and in Canada, France, Germany, Denmark, and Finland and have shared the stage with many bands they admire including Allo Darlin', Go Sailor, Math & Physics Club, Tullycraft, The Mountain Goats, The Undertones, Ballboy, Ted Leo and the Pharmacists, Mates of State, We Are Scientists, Mirah, The Butchies, Kimya Dawson, Dub Narcotic Sound System, Tender Trap, Bishop Allen, The Essex Green, Comet Gain, Bunnygrunt, The Manhattan Love Suicides, Cats On Fire, Dear Nora, James Kochalka Superstar, and even the late Richie Havens!

The Smittens love shows of all kinds—in bars, clubs, at festivals, art spaces, colleges, squats, youth centers, drag balls, parties, weddings and barns, and we always dress to impress. Drop us a line (booking@smittens.com) if you're interested in having us play. Also, you can follow us on Facebook and Twitter!

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From the Press:

- The Smittens have the power to embody to a tee the style known as twee - *Losing Today*
- The closest America has yet come to the transcendent pop/squall mix of Scotland's terrific twee bands like The Pastels. - *New Haven (CT) Advocate*
- [Gentlefication Now! is] one of the best home recorded indie pop records of all time. - *Bee's Knees #20*
- Imagine a band that shut themselves up in the garage with albums by the Archies and Talking Heads and you sort of get the idea of what these folks sound like. - *Knoxville (TN) News-Sentinel*
- If the Disney Channel were run by K Records, the Smittens would be the hugest! Their multi-tracked harmonies, sugar-rush guitar melodies, and DIY synth burbles and cute outfits are relentlessly, huggably adorable. - *Boston Phoenix*
- Imagine you're in a room with five people all singing their hearts out, and their voices sound so good together, and their songs are filled with love and hope, [and] their songs sound good, and make you feel good, and in that room you feel like the world is good, and people are good, and things are changing for the better. That's what the little revolution of The Smittens' new album is like. - *Erasing Clouds*
- The Smittens are surely up there with the twee-est bands around – *Neon Filler*

Praise for 'The Coolest Thing About Love':

- "one of the best indie pop albums in years" *PopMatters*
- "THE twee pop album of 2008" - *Kingem*
- "another indiepop jewel" - *The Athens Exchange*
- "a must for any lover of twee" - *The Flatlander*
- "honest, simple, cute, and perfect" - *Efeito Musical*

Praise for 'Believe Me':

- "There's heaps of character and plenty to enjoy on this neat little bundle of joy... 'Believe Me' is a delightful album, perfectly timed for the sunshine and full of that summertime innocence." – *Bearded Magazine*

THE SMITTENS



The #5 Indiepop album of 2012. "The Smittens keep getting better...these songs are thoroughly connected to the world and how we negotiate our lives and loves within it. Lusty dance-pop sits near sweet love letters and humorous looks at aging. With a punk spirit of go-for-it-all, they sing about staying positive and yourself within our times." – Erasing Clouds

Praise for 'Love Record Breaker'

"To pull off diversity in sound is a feat in itself, but to do so with a coherent sound is pure magic." – The Big Takeover

Discography:

Full-length Releases:

- Gentlefication Now! CD, Dangerfive, 2003
- A Little Revolution CD Dangerfive/North of January, 2005
- The Coolest Thing About Love CD Happy Happy Birthday to Me 2008
- Believe Me LP Fika Recordings 2012

Extended Player (ep) Releases:

- Dancing Shoes; the Smittens Remixed on London's Oddbox Records, Forthcoming July 2010
- Love Record Breaker EP Fika Recordings 2014

Singles and Compilation Appearances:

- "Momus, Where Are You?" and "Gentlefication Now! (The La La La Song)" on I'm Gonna Watch The Bluebirds Fly Over My Shoulder Volume 1, Twilight Furniture, 2002
- "Good Migrations" on Cwistmas Twee, Total Gaylord, 2004
- "Party Time" (originally by True Love Always) on Teenbeat Tribute Volume Two, online comp, My Mean Magpie, 2005
- "Twitterpated" (Super Mario Brothers Remix by Steve Williams) on Recycling the Throwaways, online comp, A Bunch of Beatniks Riding a Rocket, 2006
- "Twitterpated" (Original Popkid Mix) on Yay 4 Cuteness comp, Valiant Death, 2006
- "C'mon! (When the Grass Grows Tall and Green)" on Let It Bee, My Honey Records, 2007
- "My Boyfriend's Back," limited edition Happy Happy Birthday to Me 7 Inch Singles Club (split with Tullycraft), 2008
- "Half My Heart Beats," on Indietracks 2008 comp, Make Do And Mend

THE SMITTENS



- The Obligatory Sad Reprise on Popfest! New England 5th Anniversary Suitcase Comp 2008
- "100 Roses," on Indietracks 2009 comp, Make Do And Mend
- "What do we do Now?" and "Summer Sunshine" 7 Inch ep on WeePOP! Records (split with The Just Joans), 2009
- "Summer Sunshine" on Indietracks 2010 comp, Make Do And Mend
- "Sweet" on I Wish I'd Kept a Scrapbook (Tullycraft tribute comp) L.A. Tool and Die
- "Typing, Texting" b/w "You're So Cute" & "Sometimes People Get Sad (demo)," 7 Inch ep on WeePOP! Records, 2011
- "First Bus" on Indietracks 2012 comp, Make Do And Mend
- "Burning Streets of Rome" b/w "These Days" & "Almost", digital single on Fika Recordings, 2012

Videos (available at www.smittens.com):

- "These Lips" by David Zacharis
- "Burning Streets of Rome" by Ben Hughes
- "My Favorite Dream" by Black and Blue Productions
- "Gumdrops" by Eva Solberger
- "100 Roses" by Rob Koier
- "Magpies and Eccles Cakes" by Rob Koier

XOXO,

The Smittens

Max, Dana, Missy, Colin, Holly, and David