

Dad's Noisy Basement

c/o Oh, No Wonder Records
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Tom Bittel - Guitars, Bass, Drums, Vocals, Various other Instruments, Songwriting

Genre: Indie-Rock/Garage-Rock/Lo-Fi/Surf Instrumentals

Releases: Dad's Noisy Basement, 2002; Too Much (EP), 2005

Dad's Noisy Basement (DNB) is the DIY-alias of former Broken Heart and present See Jane Run member Tom Bittel, of West Hartford, Connecticut. Situated in his actual basement with his trusty 8-track recorder, Bittel churns out catchy pop melodies with twisted hooks and offbeat lyrics. From the opening micro-cassette scriblings of the "DNB Theme" on his debut CD, to the crazed vocal and haunting organ riff of the garage-rock inspired "In A Pickle" (on the 4-song EP "Too Much"), he dares the listener to identify the many stylistic and lyrical references he reformulates in his musical *mélange*.

An avid collector of vinyl (LP's & 45's) and shellac (78s), Bittel draws on his loopy instincts and dizzying variety of influences to create memorable pop tunes set to an irresistible beat with catchy instrumental hooks. Brandishing his Univox Hi-Flier, his 30's Kalamazoo arch-top acoustic, and assorted ukuleles, accordions, and percussion, "Dad" lays down track upon track, to illustrate his unique visions of romance, heartache, and hope.

One DNB song, "She Let Me Go" (in a recording by his "real" band, See Jane Run), had the distinction of being included on a 20-song CD released by The Wiz stores in December, 2001. Entitled "Little Steven's Garage Rock Invasion!" the CD was the culmination of a contest the band entered in September of 2001. The Contest was called "Little Steven's Cavestomp Garage Rock Band Search" and this was also sponsored by The Wiz. "She Let Me Go," made it to the top 20 out of over 640 entries!

The sole release of his 1980's band, The Broken Hearts, entitled "Want One?" has been rereleased by the Paisley Pop label and is currently available through many online outlets, including Amazon.com. Bittel contributes songwriting and lead vocals to three of the nine original album tracks as well as four of the eleven bonus tracks added to the CD.

Bittel finds musical inspiration in the walk from the office to the parking garage, in a noisy square in a medieval town in Italy, and in the basement of his house. Harking back to the old form of the 45rpm single, he's now working on new recordings on an 8-track digital machine, two songs at a time. The first of these "singles," titled "45 Number One," contains two tracks, the slightly psychedelic "Back When I thought it Didn't Matter" and the goofy garage-rock flavored "In a Pickle." Bittel continues to find time between the rest of his life to lay down a track here, a track there...