

DEM BROOKLYN BUMS

BIG BAND



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Dem Brooklyn Bums have been around for two and a half years now. In that time, they have recorded two CDs and toured the entire country. Led by the energetic "Broccoli" Rob, these bums have wowed even the stingiest of audiences.

Up until the middle of 1998, the group endured several personnel changes. It wasn't until a trip to Florida, in July of that year, that the final changes were made. The line-up consists of "Broccoli" Rob Cittadino on bass and lead vocals, Timmy "Pimento" Clement on guitar, Rich "Dusty Chopmeat" Zukor on drums, Dave "Canarsie Kid" Levitt on trombone, Paulie "Pierogies" on trumpet, and Bernhard "Gunter Ginter" Ulrich on tenor saxophone.

Dem Bums enjoyed a 7 week tour this past summer, which took them all over the country. They performed in Denver, Las Vegas, Hollywood, New Orleans, among other fine cities. It was near the end of their trip, when tragedy almost struck. While trying to avoid a deer on the road in Texas, the van went out of control and off the road. It turned over one time completely, before settling at the bottom of a seven foot embankment. Thankfully, nobody was hurt, besides the bell of the trombone. The boys even made it to Houston in time for their next show.

As far as the Millennium goes, Dem Brooklyn Bums performed with Royal Crown Revue in Portland, for one of the hottest New Year's Celebrations!!!! It was one of the Dick Clark NBC sights, so there will be much more to come.

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Dem Brooklyn Bums are much more than just another "swing" band. They've shared stages with many notable rock, ska, and latin acts. They seem to exude a unique brand of energy and attitude which seems to knock even the most picky of audiences off it's feet.

With their second release "Step up to the Plate" available in February 1999, the bums are looking to continue their "brass knuckle swing" right into the next century.

Past appearances include:

- 1)The Derby-Hollywood, California
- 2)Yale University-New Haven, Connecticut
- 3)Pleasure Island-Disneyworld
- 4)All Star Cafe-New York City
- 5)Boston University

Appearances with such groups as:

- 1)The Skatallites
- 2)Big Bad Voodoo Daddy
- 3)Cherry Poppin' Daddies
- 4)Royal Crown Revue
- 5)Joey Ramone
- 6)Save Ferris



cheeseball
magazine

Another gang of street hoods from the neighborhood are New York's own **Dem Brooklyn Bums**. This tanktop wearin', baseball bat totin' tough guys can whip out one mean set of Swing tunes coming off like an Italian wedding reception gone way wrong. These punks are not too concerned with being too politically correct (*my kinda people*) when they

start out with *Boozin' and a Cruzin'* (a song they were told not to play in the plastic fairyland of Walt Disney world) The bandleader, **Rob "Broccoll" Cittadino** belts out the vocals and slaps the bass and occasionally as in *Baseball Bat Boogie*, wacks the ol bat in



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Back in the Swing

By Richard Harrington
Washington Post Staff Writer
Monday, October 26, 1998

today's print edition
Style

The swing revival keeps rolling along, fueled by cadres of New Swing Kids rifling through their grandparents' closets and searching out local thrift shops for vintage threads to wear when they go jitterbugging to bands with such jive monikers as Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, the Squirrel Nut Zippers, Royal Crown Revue and Dem Brooklyn Bums.



Neo-swing groups like Big Bad Voodoo Daddy borrow more from the riff-rooted jump blues of the '40s than from Glenn Miller. (Interscope Records)

These neo-swing bands are filled with refugees from punk and alternative rock who sport shiny zoot suits, wide ties, wide-brimmed fedoras and two-tone shoes. They serve up a propulsive sound built on screaming syncopated horns, thundering drums and thumping stand-up bass and sing sly, fun-filled songs about gambling, drinking and romancing dizzy dames.

They call it swing, but little of this music fits the traditional definition of swing, the lush, sweetly melodic dance music of the '30s and early '40s purveyed by Glenn Miller, Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman, Artie Shaw and Count Basie.

While traditional swing, supported by both original fans of the music and later generations attracted to social dancing, has survived in small pockets around the country, what's really being revived is the aggressive, riff-rooted jump blues popularized in the late '40s and '50s by Cab Calloway, Louis Jordan, Louis Prima, Wynonie Harris and Roy Brown.

Royal Crown Revue, self-styled purveyors of "hard-boiled swing," were the first retrofitted swing band when they started playing at San Francisco's art-deco nightclub the Deluxe in 1989. They also released the movement's first album, 1990's "Kings of Gangster Bop," and provided swing's first mainstream break in 1994 when they performed "Hey Pachuco!" in Jim Carrey's film "The Mask."

It's another movie, however, that set the table for the current craze: 1996's "Swingers," whose writer and star, John Favreau, was inspired

Boston Loves Dem Boyz!!!

March 17, 1998 Middle East,

The Middle East show was *incredible*. I am so glad I took the trip to Boston to see it. Thanks Luigi for getting me on the list. After some WOW opening acts, the moment of truth. DBB tore the place up. They were so good that I have to say it was the best performance I have ever seen in my life. It even beat the Hepcat/Slackers show. There were about six or seven couples dancing up a storm. "Mahoney" blew my mind playing two instruments at one time.

Playing the chair with baseball bats was kool. The only reason the show ended was the club shut them off. It was one am, so I could understand. I was psyched to discover I had enough money to buy their CD, which personally, I think everyone should order (\$5 + \$3 shipping). It is that good. I never thought it would happen but DBB has knocked off the Scofflaws as my favorite band. If anyone has the opportunity to see DBB, don't pass it up. It would be like throwing away a winning lottery ticket.
Godfather Paulie
swinginka@hotmail.com

Swingtime Magazine

Noo Yawk da Bands

First stop: the latest on the New York scene and more New York than New York itself, **Dem Brooklyn Bums**. They started as a two-piece playing block parties in their stomping ground, Brooklyn. With names like Johnny Olive Oil and Broccoli Rob and the infamous Luigi Babe himself as their promoter (for whom they've dedicated their latest original number "Pun-Tango"), how can they go wrong. So what

went wrong that cold, winter Monday night at the Louisiana? The night all the dapper hats-the kings they call the swing mafia-were there dancing and cocktaili with the usual beautiful retr fit gals. At the head of the pack was Mr. Rod Caravell himself, who Luigi babe introduced as the one-man fast ion patrol. That night in a sudden fit that took the club by storm Broccoli Rob smashed his bass into smithereens in mid swing. The reasons are still gossiped about in hush tones, but with an air of amusement. Temper, temper.
Caitlin Mia Cassaro
Swing Time Magazine
Lucky #7, Summer, 1997

BumRap Sheet



www.brooklynbums.com

Bostonia

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▲ *Deborah Cupo and Rhett seem to have a special affinity as they swing on the dance floor to the sounds of Dem Brooklyn Bums at the American Barbecue and Concert on the Warren Alpert Mall, which nearly 4,000 people attended.*



Sacred Heart University

Dear Dave & Dan Brooklyn Bums,
I would like to thank you for
the amazing performance at my
university on Friday night. The
crowd greatly enjoyed your show.
Thank you for working within
my budget. Wishing you the
best of luck on your new cd.
You will always receive high
recommendations from me.

Amy Nam
Program Asst. Student Activities

WESTCHESTER COUNTY

NEWS, ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT APRIL 16 - 22, 1998

Radio pirates see
non-commercial,
non-government-funded
broadcasters as the true
voice of democracy
in the media.

By Andrew Marino

"New York City! Where everyone knows your business but nobody saw nothing!" shouted the band leader of Dem Brooklyn Bums, an unsigned highly-talented swing band, complete with fedoras. The audience, a crowd of anarchists, civil disobedients, and others who just wanted to stick it to The Man, stomped and applauded. The band leader had just defined the spirit of this benefit party for the pirate radio movement. Much of the crowd filling the auditorium of what was once P.S. 64 in the Lower East Side were the staff of unsanctioned radio stations, broadcasting without FCC licenses.

Rapper Kid Lucky called for revolution and the leader of Dem Brooklyn Bums suggested the Lower East Side secede from the union and become its own country. Their frustration was echoed by slogans on the wall above the stage: "FCC, kiss my Bill of Rights!" and "Media for citizens, not consumers."

STEAL THE RADIO

88.7

LOWER EAST SIDE

Illustration by Kevin Pyle