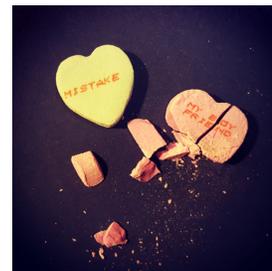


LIZ + THE BAGUETTES



Liz + the Baguettes | EPK

“Nice girls don’t go there. Nice girls go nowhere.”

Venn diagram: **post-punk** (Replacements, Talking Heads), **experimental pop** (LCD Soundsystem, St. Vincent), and **alt-country** (Brandi Carlile). The post-country sound of Liz + the Baguettes is dead center—crunchy, sharp-witted, and twangry.

Watch the video for “[White Flag](#)”

Listen to [Highway Gothic](#)

Listen to [Everything I Think I Know Is Wrong](#)

The band is the project of songwriter/lead singer **Liz Bagby**, working in close collaboration with **Charlie Crane** (guitar/drums), **Thomas Zeitner** (bass), **Zachary Sigelko** (drums/guitar), and **Julie Jurgens** (backing vocals/trumpet). It grew out of Chicago’s storefront theater scene, with band members first playing together in productions with Strange Tree. The band’s name came about as a joke on *Chicago Acoustic Underground*, and it’s too late to change it now.

Guest contributors have included **David Chervony** (bass), **Sarah Scanlon** (keyboard, vocals), **Liesl Downey** (vocals), **Scott Cupper** (French horn), and **Andy Miles** (drums).

Liz + the Baguettes joined Chicago indie label ButterBean Records with the release of the 2018 Record Store Day single “[Candy](#)”/“Midway.”

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The Baguettes

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Highway Gothic

ButterBean Records released *Highway Gothic* on March 29, 2019.

This is an album of and about the American road, with its false promises of escape. The album's name comes from the font used on highway signs.

The protagonists of *Highway Gothic* are in various stages of discovering they have been sold out by the American dream. An unemployed oil worker, in thrall to pornographic images of vigilante justice, plots a mass shooting ("Badlands"). A social media addict loses her grip on real life ("Subourbon"). A pair of lovers snatch at an hour of happiness away from their dying marriages ("The Age and the Ache"). A woman decides against having children in the midst of environmental collapse ("Gen X"). Together, the songs depict individuals coming to grips with a world ordered against them, a society in which "every road's a cul-de-sac." A raucous bit of hope arrives in "DGAF," whose lyrics match its chords.

Found noise permeates *Highway Gothic*, from the playgrounds of "Subourbon" to the semi trucks of "Badlands." For "Teflon," Crane created a percussion track of modem scratches and whines. Sounds of housework gradually eclipse a woman's voice in "After All."

Discography

The Baguettes released their first studio [album](#), *Everything I Think I Know Is Wrong*, in late 2015. They put out a Record Store Day double single, "Candy"/"Midway," in 2018. ButterBean will release an expanded, remastered *Everything I Think I Know Is Wrong* in September 2019.

Demo versions of many album tracks, as well as a number of online-exclusive singles and spoofs, are available on ReverbNation, Soundcloud, and Bandcamp.

Live Performance

A Baguettes show is typically interactive, upbeat, and funny. By band tradition, all the evening's acts are invited to join an all-play song at the end of the night.

Band Members

Liz Bagby ("dazzling," "a voice like Aimee Mann") has performed in about fifty productions and composed music for a dozen, including Strange Tree's *Three Faces of Dr. Crippen* (Best of NY Fringe 2014). Also an award-winning writer, she was one of twenty-seven artists to take part in the 2014 Arctic Circle Arts Expedition, a residency aboard a tall-mast ship exploring the fjords and glaciers of Svalbard. She spent two months of 2019 living in an Airstream to direct the roots music for *Ballad of Romeo & Juliet* with Asheville's American Myth Center.



Charlie Crane drums for the Dyes and has played almost every instrument on tour with the Parasites. His alter ego Charlie O'Brian is one-third of the Unswept. He hosts the music podcast *Stereo Hysteria*, and works in the AV section of the Arlington Heights Memorial Library, where some of *Highway Gothic* was recorded. Apart from guitar and drums, on the album he plays bass, modem, and bourbon bottle.

Thomas Zeitner met Crane on a TMBG fan site, and shortly thereafter the two began playing (with Bagby and Ryan Gatenby) as the Loudness War. He plays bass and claims not to be a multi-instrumentalist despite also playing accordion.

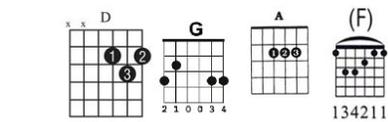
Zachary Sigelko missed most of the recording sessions for *Highway Gothic* because he was working on Ameya Pawar's gubernatorial campaign (the band does not take "political music" lightly). He plays drums, guitar, and mandolin and works as a video artist (*Battle Flag*).

Julie Jurgens sings backup and plays trumpet and miscellaneous percussion in live performances.

Images



Credit: Johnny Knight



Credit: Johnny Knight

Please visit [http://www.dropbox.com/home/Liz + the Baguettes hi-res images](http://www.dropbox.com/home/Liz+the+Baguettes+hi-res+images) for high-resolution versions of all images.

Links

[Soundcloud](#)
[Bandcamp](#)
[ReverbNation](#)
[iTunes](#)
[YouTube](#)