

INGA RUMPF Biography

Inga Rumpf was born August 2, 1946, the daughter of a German seaman and an East Prussian seamstress in Hamburg. As a four-year-old, she warbled out her first song at the kitchen table, "Das ist die Liebe der Matrosen" by a famous German actor/singer Hans Albers, who lived a few doors away from her home. A cigar box strung with rubber bands served as Inga's primary musical instrument for some years. At age 12, she found a guitar from her parents under the family Christmas tree. Soon Inga found herself listening to Elvis Presley, long before it was considered cool. She also played music with her friends and performed in a St. Pauli youth home blues group.



When **Inga Rumpf** was 19 years old, she joined the band "The City Preachers." This group of musical pioneers gained wide-ranging popularity with progressive fans featuring a colorful program ranging from traditional Balkan folk songs to blues to flamenco, as well as Greek, Italian and Israeli tunes. "The City Preachers" frequently performed before sold-out crowds, singing in 18 languages, playing numerous instruments. The group's sophisticated version of traditional world-music was recorded for the first time on an LP in 1966 under the title, "Folklore." The album achieved considerable international success.

As the group increasingly pushed Inga into the spotlight, music critics alternately used terms such as "smoky," "demonic" and "roaring" to define her distinctive timbre. Riding the protest wave fueled by Joan Baez, Bob Dylan and Phil Ochs, "The City Preachers" sang German anti-war songs on their LP "Warum", ("Why" in English), in 1966. **Inga Rumpf** transitioned into solo work and took part in the finals of the German singers' competition.

By 1966, Inga decided to move in a new musical direction with a new rock band, "Frumpy." The quartet's music reflected strong influences from such innovative contemporary blues greats as Jimi Hendrix and the Rolling Stones. Within a few years, the respected publication "musikexpress" named Frumpy the Best German Rock group while heralding **Inga Rumpf** as "the greatest individual talent on the German Rock scene" ("Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung").

With the birth in the early 1970s of "Atlantis," Inga's newest group, fans and critics responded enthusiastically. Music Express readers voted **Inga Rumpf** the Best Female Rock Singer of the Year. During this period, about 300,000 American fans welcomed Atlantis in 22 cities as the supporting band for Aerosmith and Lynyrd Skynyrd. Atlantis traveled through the States, along with the group known as Kraftwerk.

Inga eventually outgrew Atlantis, but continued to expand her musical vision on variety of trips through the USSR, France and England. She also gained inspiration on expeditions with the German boogie institution Vince Weber to New Orleans and Memphis. Following the path of blues, **Inga Rumpf** gathered new impressions which she creatively transformed in 1978 with her brilliant comeback, "My Life is a Boogie." She offered pure and passionate rhythm and blues. The following year, Inga's album, "I Know Who I Am," achieved new heights. Inga

convincingly adapted hits by the Police ("Roxanne"), Tom Petty ("Breakdown") and even the Clovers ("Love Potion No. 9"). Described as "her best album yet" by "musikexpress", The CD is sold in the American market under the title 'Inga'.

As a soloist, Inga recorded "Open Your Door" in 1994, followed by the albums "It's a Man's World" and "The Spirit Of Jimi Hendrix." Jazz, soul, blues or rock, Inga has never allowed herself to be pressed into a mold at any stage of her expansive career. "Artistic freedom" is the sole agenda when she explains, "As long as it is good music." This is probably the only consistent description in connection with **Inga Rumpf** activities that you can always count on.

Inga Rumpf reached new heights in the year 2000 with the song "Walking In The Light", (BMG, Ariola). DER SPIEGEL, Europe's number-one news magazine, wrote, "She sings with the Lord."



Germany's leading television station, RTL, tagged along for Inga's tour through Europe with her big band and gospel choir. RTL-TV recorded and broadcast Inga's concert from Luxemburger Dom Cathedral. It marked the first concert ever broadcast by the station. Another jewel in the crown of her career were Inga's performances (with more than 20 showcases) among other artists, including Bon Jovi and The Scorpions, at the world exhibition, "EXPO 2000."

Most recently, **Inga Rumpf** fulfilled a long held desire. She completed her latest live recording, "Easy (in my soul)" on CD, {25th HOUR Music / Indigo} in October 2005. Joining her in the studio was her musical twin, Jean Jacques Kravetz, from her Frumpy band period. Fans and critics alike have hailed the performance with accolades like "fantastic songs," "goose pimples" and "feeling pure."

All about Herzenswünsche!

Inga Rumpf is also involved with the organization "Herzenswünsche" which helps seriously ill children and teenagers fulfill their life's dream. "Herzenswünsche" is similar to the American organization, "Make A Wish Foundation" and both have collaborated many times before.

Inga composed and recorded a wonderful song, "Das Herzenswünsche-Lied" for "Herzenswünsche". The song is dedicated to all children and teenagers "Herzenswünsche" assists. The song is available on CD and DVD. All proceeds from sales of the CD and DVD are donated to the "Herzenswünsche." The CD may be ordered at www.herzenswuensche.de.

Inga Rumpf Photo Gallery



Young Inga



The City Preachers 1967



Atlantis 1975



Atlantis- US Tour