

# Kunstencentrum BELGIE

presents



**DATE:** sunday 9 december  
**LOCATION:** Koningin Astridlaan 85, 3500 Hasselt (OV)  
**START:** 20u00 (support tba)  
**TICKETS:** EUR 15 presale Gigaswing Hasselt  
EUR 17 kassa (EUR 15 members BELGIE)  
**RESERVATIONS:** [belgie@skynet.be](mailto:belgie@skynet.be)

## NEW ALBUM

**'Go Go Smear The Poison Ivy' (FAT CAT/PIAS)**

**OUT: 24/9/2007**

It's been over 3 years since the release of Múm's last album 'Summer Make Good', and a lot of water has passed under the bridge. And now finally, a string of dates over the Summer, heralding a long-awaited new album, strangely titled 'Go Go Smear The Poison Ivy', due out **24th September 2007**. A colourful, twitching, playful work of art, full of life affirming energy, the album will be preceded by the single 'They Made Frogs Smoke 'Til They Exploded' on **27th August**. A chirpy song about animal cruelty, it's backed with 'the amateur show', described by the band as a wonky insect-circus instrumental.

With the departure of Kristín Vlat\_sdóttir at the beginning of the creative process, the core of múm is again down to the original duo of founding members Gunnar and Örvar, but the band itself is now larger than ever, counting in all seven people. The album was recorded at a variety of locations, including the music school in the small fishingtown of Ísafjör\_ur in the west fjords of iceland, where the band made use of the schools various instruments. The songs on this multifarious album were conceived over a long period in many a different fashion, with one song even dating back to the period of 'Yesterday Was Dramatic, Today Is OK.'

The strange, almost eerie artwork for 'Go Go Smear The Poison Ivy', and 'They Made Frogs Smoke ....' is by Ingibjörg Birgisdóttir, who also animated the video for the single.

Confirmed summer festival dates are as follows. A more comprehensive set of tour dates will follow, around the release date of the album.

[www.myspace.com/mumtheband](http://www.myspace.com/mumtheband)

[www.fat-cat.co.uk](http://www.fat-cat.co.uk)

[www.pias.be](http://www.pias.be)

# About the new album

Since their foundation in 1998, múm have forged a sublimely bright, warm and rich take on electronica, imprinting it with their own unique sound and character. What sets the band apart from so many of their peers is both their strong, playfully haunted melodies, and sorcerous integration of analogue and digital technologies. Playing an assortment of instruments and percussion alongside some crisply programmed electronic washes, beats, dingdongs and beep-beeps as well as found sounds and field recordings, the band's talent, inventiveness and nose for musical exploration is immediately audible.

Their first release, a split 10" with the girl-band Spúnk saw light in the summer of '98 and following a number of collaborative projects, the group's celebrated debut album 'Yesterday Was Dramatic, Today Is OK' (reissued by Morr Music in October 2005) gained a wealth of glowing press and widespread praise. A remix project, 'Please Smile My Noise Bleed', also released on the Morr Music label in November 2001. Their FatCat debut, 'Finally We Are No-One', was released in May 2002 and followed by a plethora of tours taking the band many times around the world, dazzling the crowds by re-creating their recorded works with the main focus being on live instrumentation, accompanied by the more common site within electronic sets, the laptop (music-calculator). The band's second FatCat album, 'Summer Make Good' was released in May 2004, flanked by two singles, 'Nightly Cares' and 'Dusk Log'.

Since their debut múm have also written and performed their own soundtrack for the classic Sergei Eisenstein film, 'Battleship Potemkin', live performances of which have taken place in Hafnafjordur Iceland, Brooklyn Lyceum New York USA, and at the distinguished Gijon Film Festival Spain. They composed music for a radio play on Icelandic National radio 'Svefnhjólí\_' (Sleeping Wheel) by Gyrdir Eliasson, winning the Nordic Radio-theater prize. In 2005 they were invited to Amsterdam by the Holland Festival to collaborate with the National Dutch Chamber Orchestra to create a performance piece based around various compositions of the late avant-garde composer Iannis Xenakis for one of the centre piece shows at the festival.

The start of 2006 saw the bands creativity start to blossom once again, starting with two remixes Goldfrapp of the tracks 'number one' and 'never know'. They followed this with two legendary DJ sets at the FatCat Festival in Belgium in February and at SXSW in Austin Texas. With a combination of decks, effects, laptops, toy microphones, old cassette player recordings and vocals, coupled with their own recorded material, strange electronic covers by friends, gypsy folk music and general craziness on stage, the DJ sets made such an impact, the band is now putting together a DJ mix cd due for release in 2008. They were also subsequently invited to DJ at the 2006 Summer Sonic Festival in Japan as well as be headline act in Radio 1's Rob Da Bank tent at Bestival on the Isle of Wight.

During 2006, they also wrote and recorded a brand new album which is due for release on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2007 on FatCat Records. This follows the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2006 release of the Peel Sessions that múm recorded in 2002 for the BBC. The session includes live versions of the tracks "Scratched Bicycle / Smell Memory", "Awake On A Train" "Now Theres That Fear Again", "The Ballad Of the Broken String".

Currently múm are founding members Gunnar Örn Tynes and Örvar \_óreyjaron Smáráson and for touring and recording, this line-up is expanded to include their friends Ólöf Arnalds (violin / viola / guitar / vocals), Eiríkur Orri Olafsson (trumpet / pianette / moog / whistling), Hildur Guðnadóttir (cello / vocals), mr.Silla (Vocals / various) and Finlander, Samuli Kosminen (drums / percussion)