

SUGARMATE - SHORT BIO

SUGARMATE were born in February 2002 at Thessaloniki, Greece, by **Chrys Christodoulou** and **Johnny Papaioannou**, group members from the **Meskaline** split-up, with the addition of **Jenny Patika** and **Peter Theodorou** in the group. During late 2002 (December 2002) **Haris Markoglou** was added in the line-up of the group. With that line-up, the group presented numerous live gigs in Thessaloniki and Athens up until April 2005, when **Jenny** decided to step out of the band for her own personal reasons. Then, sometime in 2007, **Haris** left the band too and at around that time **Dimitris Tatsis** took his place. The current line-up is as follows:

SUGARMATE

- **Chrys Christodoulou** - Vocals, Guitars
- **Johnny Papaioannou** - Basses, Keyboards
- **Dimitris Tatsis** - Guitars, Keyboards
- **Peter Theodorou** - Drums, Percussion

with the help, in a permanent base since late 2005, of **Dimitris Dalezis** in trumpet and percussion.

SUGARMATE's musical style is alternative rock/pop, sometimes mixed with different musical genres such as funk, disco/ska, bossa, jazz or punk and English lyrics. Some of the group's songs have evolved from older ones - of **Meskaline**-era songs (spring 2001) - modified in such a way that it matches the current line-up and style of the group. Nevertheless, it's the new songs that capture in the best way the style and dynamics of **SUGARMATE**, as have evolved through time.

Since its official birth (April 2002) and up-to today, the group has appeared in the following live concerts:

- 16th May 2002 - **SUGARMATE** made their debut live appearance at the **Neapoli Open Theater** (Thessaloniki). This was part of the multi-day festival '**Agiorgitika 2002**' featuring live music acts, film screenings and other activities. **SUGARMATE** appeared on May 16th along with **Fokos**, **Universal Trilogy** and **Xilina Spathia**.
- 26th May 2002 - Live performance at **Mousourgeio** (Thessaloniki) for a full 2-hour set.
- 9th June 2002 - **SUGARMATE** made their way to **Mesogeios Live Stage** (Upstage - Thessaloniki) and performed live on a last-minute arrangement, sharing the stage with **Sicken Thoughts**, a local cover band.
- 11th October 2002 - **SUGARMATE**'s second appearance at **Mesogeios Live Stage** (Downstage) for a full-blown 2.30-hour set. A live presentation was held on the radio a couple of days before (**FM-101 Thessaloniki** 9/10/2002).
- 19th December 2002 - Live gig at **Mylos' Xylourgeio**, along with **Scab Level** and dj-set **Groove Exploders**. A live presentation was held the day before on the radio (**FM-95.8 Thessaloniki** 18/12/2002). **Haris Markoglou**, the group's new member, makes his debut appearance with the group.

- 6th March 2003 - Live gig at **Malt & Jazz live bar** in Thessaloniki with a full 2.30 hour set.
- 15th January 2004 - **SUGARMATE**'s second live gig at **Mylos' Xylourgeio** with a full set this time.
- 4th December 2004 - The first live appearance outside **SUGARMATE**'s hometown, at **Small Music Theatre** in Athens, together with locals **Menta**.
- 17th March 2005 - The best live appearance of **SUGARMATE**, again at **Mylos' Xylourgeio**, following a massive ad promotion. Live presentations were held on the radio a couple of days before (**FM-101, FM-102 Thessaloniki**).
- 3rd November 2005 - Yet another **SUGARMATE** gig at **Mylos' Xylourgeio**, the first one after **Jenny's** leave. Along with **SUGARMATE**, the gig opens with **Coin**.
- 18th December 2005 - **SUGARMATE** make a rather different live appearance at the **Residents**, downtown Thessaloniki bar. It is one of the very few times that this place hosts live gigs.
- 11th March 2006 - In one of the greatest moments in their career thus far, **SUGARMATE** appear as the opening act for **Echo & The Bunnymen** at **Principal Club Theater** in Thessaloniki and gets the best of comments from the audience.
- 19th March 2006 - In yet another different approach of their music, **SUGARMATE** present in **Flou Bar** (Thessaloniki downtown) a full set with songs arranged for acoustic and uncommon musical instruments - among them a ukulele and a glockenspiel!
- 7th April 2006 - **SUGARMATE** make a live appearance in **Liogerma-CitySlang Bar** in Thessaloniki. **The Garrett** fellow band was to play too, but problems made that impossible, so **SUGARMATE** took the stage alone!
- 6th July 2006 - **Sugarmate** in an open-air, multi-day festival after a long, long time! On Thursday 6th July, at **Moni Lazariston**, Thessaloniki.
- 5th November 2006 - **Sugarmate** for yet another gig at **Residents** bar.
- 1st December 2006 - **Sugarmate** with **Zebra Tracks** and **Film** from Athens at **Mylos - Xylourgeio**.
- 23rd April 2007 - **Sugarmate** with **Expert Medicine** from Athens, live at **Mylos - Xylourgeio**.

At the beginning of Summer 2002, **SUGARMATE** began the recording process of their first promo CD at their studio, which was completed on early 2003, recorded, mixed and produced by **SUGARMATE** themselves. **SUGARMATE Promo CD 2002-2003** includes 10 tracks (plus one that was not included in the final playlist), some of which had some radio success (**Mylos 88.5 FM**).

Another important award was awarded to the song "**To Return**", which is included in **SUGARMATE Promo CD 2002-2003**, as **Track Of The Day August 1st 2005** by

the well-known and respected website www.garageband.com for the song's rapid rise in the **Alternative Pop** chart and the enthusiastic reviews it received, reaching place 30 from over 300 songs in 15 days and taking its place in the site's **All-Time Hall Of Fame**.

In Spring of 2005, a new recording process commenced for some new and also some older songs, under much better conditions than before, aiming mainly at the release of some of them as a single/EP and the promotion to discography. The process was completed in Spring 2006 and the '**Someday You Will Be Mine**' promo EP was released at that time. The process wasn't halted, though, and '**Someday You Will Be Mine**' was finally officially released in April 2008 as a full LP, including 11 tracks and new artwork.

Moreover, since the very beginning of the group, there is an official website online on the Internet about **SUGARMATE** (www.sugarmate.com) with info about the group, news, interviews, photos, videos and downloadable tracks, as well as a mailing-list (newsletter) about the group, (created and maintained by **Johnny Papaioannou**, babtua@freemail.gr). There is also **SUGARMATE**'s MySpace page online, since May 2006 (www.myspace.com/sugarmate).

To contact **SUGARMATE**, make comments or inquiries you can do so at:

- official website <http://www.sugarmate.com>
- myspace <http://www.myspace.com/sugarmate>
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