

◆ The Mammalian Daily ◆

THE PARK'S OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

ISSUE NUMBER 110 SUMMER



Commemorative Issue

As Thisbe and the Barkettes celebrate their 10th anniversary, The Mammalian Daily takes a trip down memory lane. In this Commemorative Issue, we offer a retrospective on the careers of five of the most talented Golden Retrievers in history. Join us as we trace the success of the Barkettes from their whelping days to their last golden recording.



Thisbe and the Barkettes Celebrate 10 Years of Sensational Singing Success

*Mammalian Daily
Music Reporter*

Tributes poured in from all corners of the music world as Canine singing sensations, Thisbe and the Barkettes, celebrated their 10th anniversary today in The Park.

Festivities got under way just after lunchtime with the announcement of a new Canine Music Association award in honor of the Barkettes.

Afterwards, the Barkettes fielded questions from reporters about their ten-year singing career.

Asked to what quality she would attribute her unprecedented success, Thisbe replied:

"I suppose, throughout my life, my motto has been: once is a habit, twice is a way of life."

That kind of stick-to-it-iveness she said, has helped her to cope and, ultimately, to thrive in the Dog-eat-Dog world of music.

Born Bright Star, Thisbe is

the daughter of Cheska and the late Dirty Harry.

At the age of seven weeks, she was adopted by a Human and moved to an area outside The Park. She maintains a home there still and when she is not touring or recording with the Barkettes, she enjoys a quiet life of guarding, eating and sleeping.

When asked about their success in a world dominated by Humans, Thisbe appeared to be both humble and sanguine: "I think we have had a fair shake, really," she said.

In addition to that, she recently embraced the task of helping to raise a young kitten of whom she is very fond.

"I have very strong inter-spezial tendencies," she said

recently.

"I don't like someone just because she or he is a Dog. I think every species has its good points."

When asked about their success in a world dominated by Humans, Thisbe appeared to be both humble and sanguine: "I think we [The Barkettes] have had a fair shake, really. And you don't get that just anywhere."

Elaborate plans are underway for a week-long celebration of this historic event.

A formal dinner hosted by the CMA is planned for this evening. As well, a series of lunches and interviews is scheduled throughout the week.

The Barkettes also plan to visit Animals in hospital and to lecture on the subjects of world peace and inter-spezial harmony.

The week's festivities will come to a dramatic close with a concert by the Barkettes in The Park's ancient, open-air theatre.

Commemorative Issue

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Vox Animalorum Vox Mundi

Association Announces Award

Mammalian Daily Staff

In recognition of the pioneering efforts of Thisbe and the Barkettes in the field of Canine music and Canine music awareness, The Canine Music Association announced today the establishment of the **Thisbe and the Barkettes Honorary Award for Excellence in Music and Musical Citizenship**.

R.F. Aarrf, President of the CMA, said in an interview this morning that the main purpose of the award is to recognize those Canines who have achieved success both in the musical world and in the promotion of Canine music and inter-special understanding and acceptance.

Aarrf stressed the importance of promoting Canine music globally and said that no one had made a more important contribution in this area than Thisbe and the Barkettes.

"It is our feeling," said Aarrf, "that this is where our future lies [in global recognition] and no one has worked as tirelessly as the Barkettes in this regard."

Citing their recent world tour in support of universal peace and inter-special harmony, Aarrf noted that the Barkettes had forged friendships with musicians who belonged to a wide variety of species.

"I think they have been an inspiration to a lot of musicians," he said. "I think a lot of young singers [of any species] look at the Barkettes and think that maybe it is possible to achieve their dream. But, in any case, they know that they will be heard and it is largely because of the Barkettes that this is so."

The award, which will be given annually at a dinner hosted by the CMA, will include a recording contract as well as a cash payment and gold tag.

The Barkettes, in The Park to celebrate their 10th anniversary, issued a statement saying they were "humbled" by the naming of the award.

CMA Certifies New Singing Group

Mammalian Daily Staff

The Canine Music Association has announced the certification of a new singing group, The Cynics (Philosopher Dogs).

The announcement took place at a press conference here in The Park on the occasion of the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the famous Canine singing group, Thisbe and the Barkettes.

CMA President, R.F. Aarrf said that it was no accident that the certification coincided with the establishment of a new award for Canine musicians.

"We are looking to encourage Canines everywhere to get involved musically and we make no secret about that," he said.

Aarrf noted that little is known about The Cynics as yet, confirming only that they are four males under the age of six.

Thisbe and the Barkettes: A Career Chronology

- 9 A.Z. Bright Star born
- 9 A.Z. Bright Star moves to Toronto, becomes "Thisbe"
- 10 A.Z. Thisbe begins to sing
- 10 A.Z. Thisbe forms group with four other Golden Retrievers who become "The Barkettes"
- 11 A.Z. Barkettes cut first record
- 11 A.Z. Barkettes perform in The Park
- 11 A.Z. Barkettes banned from singing at Stadiums in North America
- 12 A.Z. Barkettes tour Paris
- 12 A.Z. Barkettes' second recording goes gold
- 13 A.Z. Sales of Barkettes' recordings double in one year
- 14 A.Z. Barkettes contemplate movie career
- 15 A.Z. Barkettes embark on world tour
- 18 A.Z. Thisbe contemplates retirement
- 19 A.Z. Barkettes perform series of benefit concerts in support of world peace and inter-special harmony
- 20 A.Z. CMA names Thisbe and the Barkettes most popular Canine singing group in history

Olden Goldies: Noreen Interviews the Barkettes

Long a fan of Thisbe and the Barkettes and, at one time, a Dog in-the-running for one of the top singing spots in the group, Noreen recently sat down with The Barkettes (Estelle, Lorraine, Carmen and Mercedes), for an honest chat about life, love and the Canine music world.

N: When did you first realize that you were on your way to becoming the top Canine singing group of all time?

E: I don't know if we actually thought about it in that way. We knew that we were good; we knew that we could make it, as long as we were *allowed* to make it, that is. And my Mum, in particular, kept us going and wouldn't let us ever be discouraged. Even when we faced blatant discrimination and anti-Caninism. There were many times we saw signs that said "No Dogs Allowed" and I, at least, would want to collapse. But Mum would never let me do it.

L: I don't think people — Humans, that is — realize the impact such things have on Dogs. And other Animals, too. For so many centuries, we've been treated as chattel...as if we have no value outside the value of the Humans we live with — if we live with Humans. I think The Barkettes have done a great service, really, in showing the world — Canine, Human, Feline — what Animals can do when they set their minds to it.

It's not just the sound of our music or our voices — although I'm sure that the quality of the sounds helped immensely. I think it's partly that we have an honest desire to do something with our lives...

M: And our love of music, too. That can't be discounted. Without that, we never would have been able to sustain the blows we did and the insults, too.

C: Absolutely. I think in that way, the arts, whichever of them, can help to sustain anyone who is an underDog.

We were underDogs, too, when we started. We played living rooms, parks, anywhere they would book us. And we were glad to do it. We wanted to bring our love of music to the whole world — not just the Canine world, but the whole world. I used to practice in my backyard; some of my highest notes I sent up the chimney. But when it worked, there was no feeling like it. I don't think I could have done it in any other field.

N: Do you ever miss having a normal life?

E: Who knows what's normal, anymore? This is what's normal for us...or, at least, it's what's *become* normal for us. I would hate to have missed the life that we've had, the things we've done, the Animals we've met.

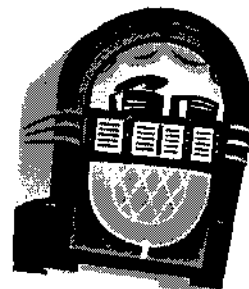
And I would like to say here that I will always be grateful to Thisbe, because this was all her idea. I could never have envisioned it.

C: That's true and I think we all agree on that. But if you mean do I wish I'd had the opportunity to...say...have a litter...I don't know. I guess I feel it's something I could have done if the opportunity had arisen. But it didn't, so I don't regret it, really. I have 187 nieces and nephews and they all give me great joy when I see them.

M: I think we can't regret it when we know that soon we'll have to retire and we know how much we'll miss performing.

L: I will really miss it. But I also am looking forward to a rest. And I've always wished I could have gone for training, so that's something that I'm thinking of starting when we retire.

Ten Years of Golden Oldies



The Barkettes' Greatest Hits

Goin' to the Groomer

*Stuffed Dogs Don't
Shed*

I Will Follow Her

I'll Never Walk Alone

Silence is Golden

Leader of the Pack

*It's my Bone and I'll
Chew if I Want To*

Puppy Love

*It's Raining Cats and
Dogs*

Spaniel Eyes

Perrito, Perrito

Ven Aqui

Ετο Σπτι Μου

Thisbe and the Barkettes: An Appreciation



From this vantage point, it seems impossible that there ever was a time in history when there was *no* such group as The Barkettes.

Their groundbreaking efforts in the field of Canine music, as well as their longevity, seem to belie the fact that thirty years ago such things could not even be imagined.

Yet, wasn't it only twenty years ago that Dogs were banned from performing live in Human eating establishments?

North America, particularly, has had a black history with regard to Canine rights. Viewed as chattel and, even worse, often as unclean, Canines were prevented from partaking of many of the privileges and opportunities that other species took for granted. There were signs in The Park that read "No Dogs or Bicycles Allowed." Restaurants and stores forbade the entrance of Dogs, either on their own or with their Human companions. Arts organizations shunned their participation.

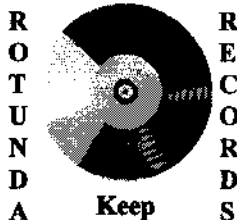
Indeed, it was not until Thisbe and the Barkettes formed their singing group that things began to roll over for Dogs both inside and outside The Park. Without the courage, determination and downright stubbornness of all five of these Golden Retrievers, there might still not be Canine music available to the general public.

Now they have turned their attention to fighting for inter-special harmony and world peace and we should all follow them in this noble quest. For, what they have accomplished in the musical world and in the world of Canine relations with other species, they may yet be able to accomplish for the whole of Animalkind.

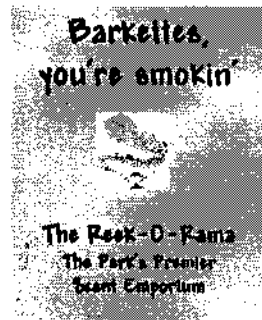
So, on this, their tenth anniversary of performing together, we at The Mammalian Daily congratulate Thisbe and the Barkettes on their ten great years of exceptional musical performances. We wish them many more years of success in music and in fighting for the rights of Animals everywhere.

LONG LIVE THE BARKETTES!

Love to the Barkettes on their 10th Anniversary

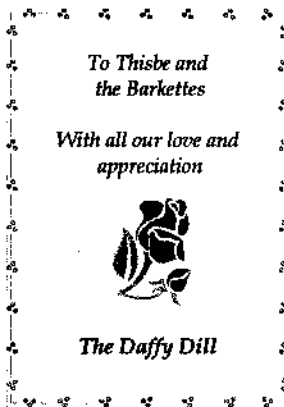


Keep on Churnin'

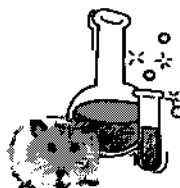


THISBE AND THE BARKETTES:
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HARDEST-WORKING SPORTING DOGS IN THE WORLD!

FROM ALL YOUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES IN THE PARK



Thisbe and the Barkettes You are It! Love Always Chuck the Guck Man



Best Wishes to Thisbe and the Barkettes on their 10th Anniversary

From Your Friends at Footpad Heaven



THISBE AND THE BARKETTES



You are the Brightest Stars

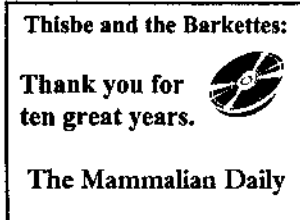
Thanks for the Memories

The Canine Music Association



All the Best, Barkettes!

You're always welcome at The Tabby Club



The Mammalian Daily