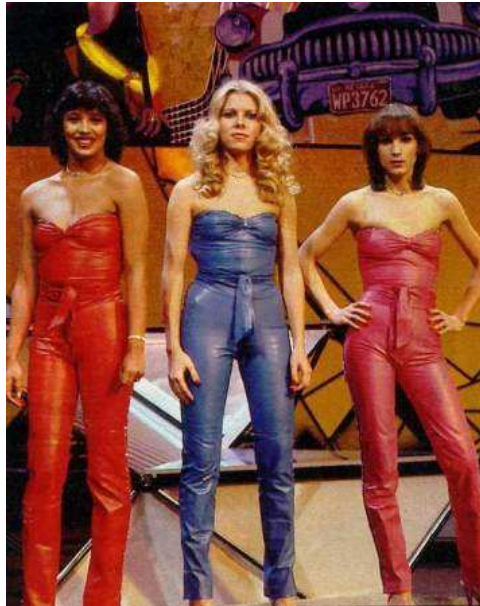


## 30th Anniversary of **TROJAN HORSE**

article posted on November 18th 2008



Luv' on "Toppop" (Dutch TV show)

After having a #1 hit on the charts, the challenge of a singer or a band is to choose the right follow-up and to avoid being a "one hit wonder". This is what happened to **Luv'** thirty years ago. The girl group had to prove their hit potential after the amazing success of **You're the Greatest Lover**. Fortunately, the trio hit once again the number one spot with **Trojan Horse**. The single entered the Dutch charts on November 18th 1978 and then did the same abroad, showing that **Luv'** was a wonderful export act.



Luv's cameo role in German film "Cola, Candy, Chocolate"

## Song history

After the American latin touch of **U.O.Me** and **You're the Greatest Lover**, the group's songwriters and producers, **Hans van Hemert** and **Piet Souer**, tried another kind of arrangement.

That's how they came up with *Trojan Horse*. This catchy pop song used a bagpipe theme.

The intro is inspired by the famous "*20th-Century Fox Fanfare*" by **Alfred Newman** which accompanies the **20th Century Fox** studio logo at the beginning of its productions. The lyrics dealt with a man who acted as a **Trojan Horse** (someone who is secretive). One sentence is a shining example of double entendre: "*The gate is not yet open so the horse cannot come in*". No need to explain what these words mean!

Thanks to this hit record, **Luv'**'s success story kept going on in a large part of Continental Europe and South Africa (see chart performance below). The trio ended 1978 in a very good way. From a national pop act, they became an export group that often performed on TV shows and toured the club circuit abroad.

*Trojan Horse* was included on the German version of their debut album **With Luv'**. It later appeared on CD compilations (such as **Luv' Gold** and **25 Jaar Na Waldolala**). A 2006 Dance remix of the song by **Hans van Hemert**'s production team was added as a bonus track to the tracklisting of the Box set **Compleety In Luv'**.

This pop standard was used for the soundtrack of the movie **Spetters** directed by **Paul Verhoeven**. Moreover, **Luv'** played a cameo role in the German movie "**Cola, Candy,Chocolate**" (aka **Drei Kesse Bienen auf den Philippinen**) in which they performed *Trojan Horse*.

## Chart performance & certification

*Trojan Horse* was a million seller and a **#1 hit song** in the Netherlands, in Belgium, and Denmark. It peaked at **#2** in Austria and Switzerland, **#3** in Germany, **#17** in South Africa and **#38** in France. The single went platinum in Benelux and gold in Austria. It was also popular behind the Curtain Iron, especially in East Germany, Poland and Hungary where it was frequently aired on the radio.

## Cover versions

- In 1979, the Swedish female singer **Siw Inger** sang a German version of the song as *Komm spiel mit mir*.
- An East German sister duet, **Die Molly Sisters**, sang in 1979 a Schlager version of this composition entitled *Im grünen Wald*.
- A short-lived German girl group **Luv' Connection** covered the track in 2003.
- *Jump With Me*, the debut single of **Sheffield Jumpers** released on August 29th 2008, features a sample and a re-sung chorus from *Trojan Horse*. This song stayed in the lower regions of the German Media Control Charts, peaking at **#69**. **Sheffield Jumpers** are a Dutch Jumpstyle Boy Group produced by German Techno veteran  **Scooter**.

## Label & Distribution deal

**Trojan Horse** (like any other **Luv'** record) was released in various editions - all depending on which countries the release took place. **Philips/Phonogram**, the group's record company, licensed the rights for the record to various labels around the world. That's how, **Trojan Horse** was distributed by **Carrere Records** in German speaking countries.

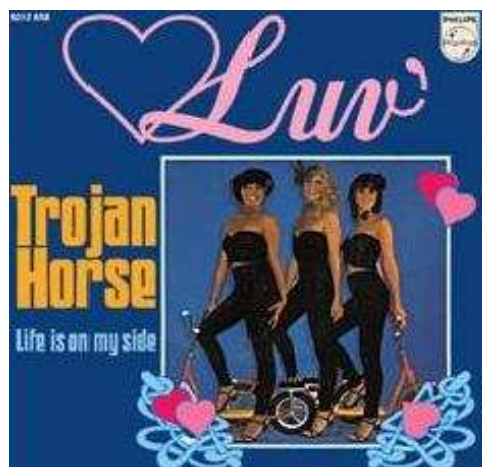
Sources of this article:

- Wikipedia's page about this hit record
- Go to the "Charts" page of the "All About Luv'" site to know the sources of the peak positions of "**Trojan Horse**" per country.
- Go to the "Awards" page to know the sources of the certifications of the hit single.

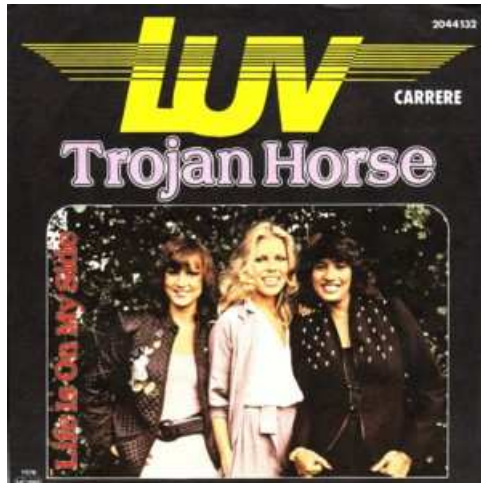
Bibliography:

- **Hit-Lexikon des Rock und Pop Vol. 1** by **Frank Laufenberg**, publ: Verlag Ullstein
- **50 jaar nummer-1-hits 1956-2006** by **Johan van Slooten**, publ: Gottmer Uitgevers Groep
- **De 500 Nummer 1-Hits uit de Top 40** (1997) by **Johan van Slooten**, publ: Gottmer Becht
- **Top 40 Hitdossier 1956-2005** (9e editie) by **Johan van Slooten**, publ: Gottmer Bech

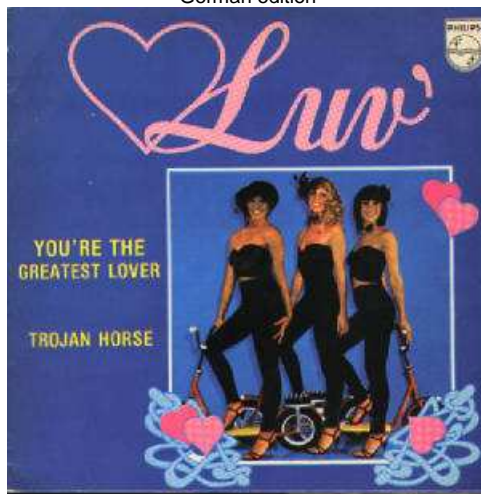
Below, different versions of **Trojan Horse** 's sleeve:



Original Dutch edition



German edition



Brazilian double A-side single "You're the Greatest Lover/Trojan Horse"



Argentinian pressing