

## Orange amps

Some swear by Fender Stratocasters. Others might have a thing or two for the Gibson Les Paul. You have those that only use Marshall amps. These guys? It's the down and dirty sound of Orange amps that gets them roaring.

Interview SARAH SCHUG    Photographer TOON AERTS



**STIJN BOELS**  
 Guitar player, Bed Rugs  
 Pictured with an Orange Dual Terror

“Orange amps have a very distinctive, recognisable sound. I love it. You can make them sound clean or dirty, just as you like it. And considering the quality, they are quite cheap. A friend of mine owned an Orange Tiny Terror for years. I saw him play with it at a lot of concerts, and the sound was always great. I actually got my first Orange amp one week before we started recording our first album with Bed Rugs, ‘8<sup>th</sup> Cloud’. Pascal Deweze, who recorded and mixed the album for us, had told me that the amp I had at the time wouldn’t be able to do the job. I think

what he actually wanted to say was that it sounded like crap. So when we went to buy some guitar strings in the music store around the corner from our rehearsal room and I saw the Orange Dual Terror, I tried it out and directly fell for its special sound. Plus, it was on sale. How could I say no to that! I also play with other amps, for example the Ranger model. And I use an old Vox cabinet, which actually urgently needs to be replaced, now that I think of it!”

Bed Rugs released their first album ‘8<sup>th</sup> Cloud’ in January 2012

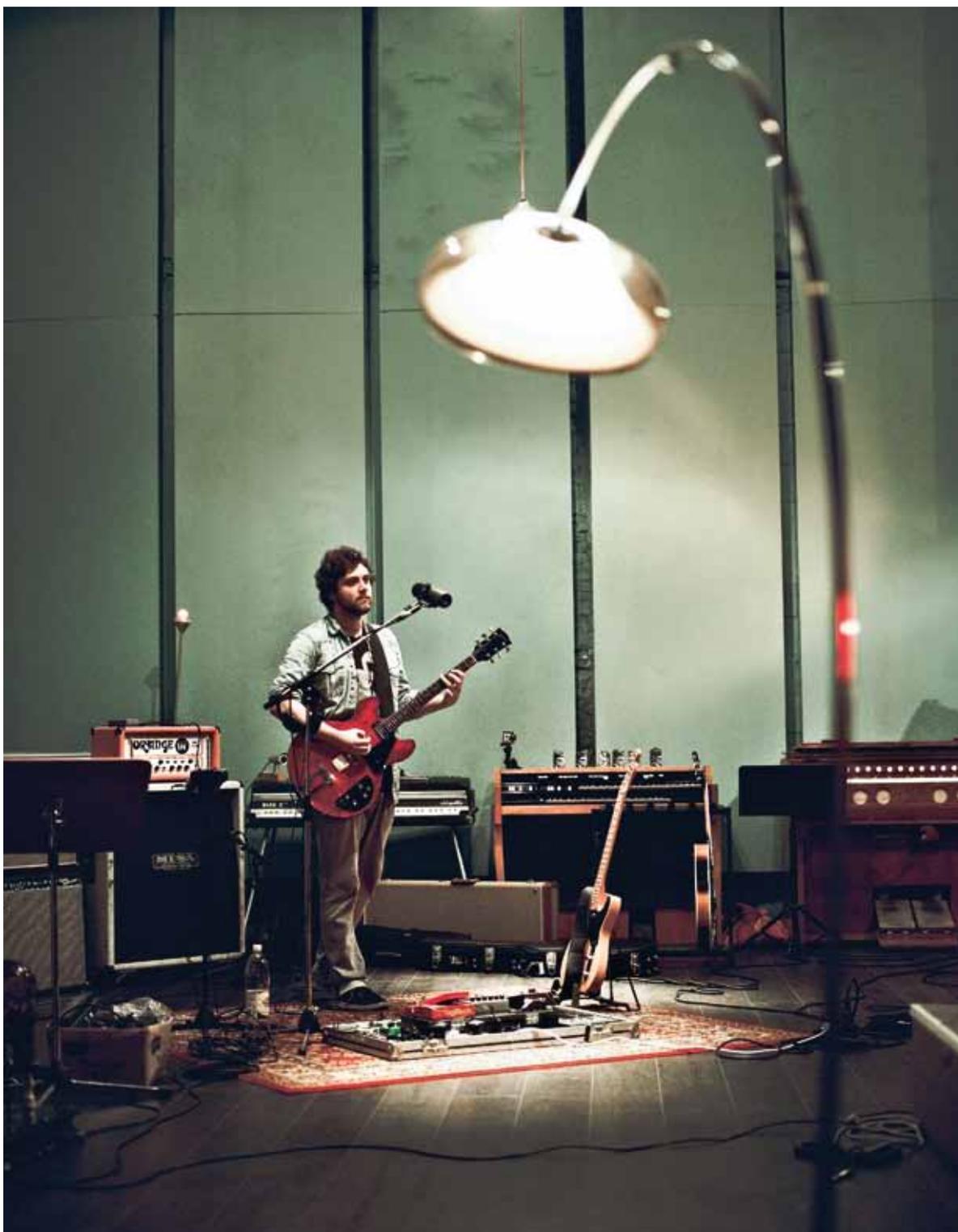


**THOMAS GALAND**  
 Bass player, Now, Voyager  
 Pictured with an Orange AD 200 Mk3

“No one really introduced me to Orange. I couldn’t help but notice however that Orange amps were becoming more and more popular over the last years, both with bassists and guitar players. Several bands that we had gigs with were using them, The Devil Wears Prada for example or Memphis May Fire. Thanks to that I was able to check out how Orange amps sound in our genre of music when played live. I also read quite a bit about them, I choose my equipment very carefully. I’ve been playing on Orange for about a year now, and I haven’t looked back since.

It is very different from what I played with before, the HARTKE Ha 3500, but it did not take long to adjust to it. I really like the simplicity of the amp. You have three buttons to make your adjustments and find the sound you need. It’s simple but effective, unlike other amps where you have to mess around with the settings for a long time before you find the appropriate tone. Plus, the unique design gives it an extra touch: They are great aesthetically too.”

Now, Voyager released their first EP ‘Seas’ in January 2011



#### IAN CLEMENT

Singer and guitarist, Wallace Vanborn  
Pictured with an Orange HTC30

I wanted this great British crunch sound, which is special and simple at the same time. Being not only a guitar player but also a singer I am actually more into song writing and melodies than exploring different sounds. For that I need a steady workhorse, an amp that has a great sound and is good to go directly. I bought the one I am using right now about four or five years ago, I already got it fixed a few times because I really like it. A lot of American desert rock and Californian bands use Orange amps, most of the time the older ones which are ridiculously loud. Mine is a

watered down version with a smoother sound. I didn't want it blasting too loud. What really drew me in is the fact that Muse uses Orange amps for their recordings. We just finished recording our second album, actually with the producer of Muse. We've tried different combinations of amps and complement the Orange with VOX and Engl because the Orange one sometimes misses this sparkle of reverb. But when playing live you don't need that.

Wallace Vanborn will release their second album 'Lions, Liars, Guns and God' on N.E.W.S on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2012