

POPULAR MUSIC

BELGIUM

PO-BE1 France 1977

LES CHAUVES-SOURIS DU MÉTRO

Popular – Variété – Vocal & Instrumental

Mus: Pierre RAPSAT

Lyr: Eric VAN HULAS

Perf: Pierre **RAPSAT** (vocal)

André Delvigne (guitar)

Jean-François Maljean (piano)

Alain Wintquin (synthesizer)

Christian Boissard (bass)

Christian Willems (drums)

Prod. Co: Viva Disc

Time: 4:08

1. **LP:** JE SUIS MOI

RCA (?) (Sd 1 – Bd 3)

2. Reissue on **CD:** JE SUIS MOI (2005)

Viva Disc (?) (Tk 3)

Notes: This Belgian singer performs the song backed by a heavy thumping beat where the chorus is – “Les chauves-souris du métro” (The Bats in the Metro). It was not possible to obtain the entire lyrics, but it seems the word “bats” is just used as a metaphor for undesirable characters.

“ ‘Les chauves-souris du métro’ nous font vraiment rappeler la première plage de ‘New York’ avec, toutefois, beaucoup plus de torpeur et de sinistrose, le métro n’est finalement qu’un interminable tunnel entrecoupé de quais mal famés qui font ‘froid dans le dos’....” (Bernie n.d.) [“Les chauves-souris du métro” really reminds us of the first track of “New York,” albeit with much more lethargy and pessimism, the subway is just an endless tunnel broken up with infamous platforms that “send chills up your spine”]

Apparently there are some real bats that spend some time in the Parisian metro and probably also in the Brussels metro. Also in the past, the French word “chauve-souris” was used in street slang to refer to a “*chauve-souris du trottoir*” or a street woman of loose morals. Whether the latter is the intended image here is not known.

Ref: Bernie n.d., Pierre Rapsat, Discographie, lamusiquepourtoujours

Pierre Rapsat, Biography, (in French) Wikipedia & (in English) Wikipedia

Pierre Rapsat, Les Chauves-souris du métro, musicme.com (◀ **COMPLETE AUDIO SAMPLE**)

Pierre Rapsat, Je suis moi, Allmusic

Pierre Rapsat, Je suis moi, lastfm.fr (◀ **AUDIO SAMPLE**)

Pierre Rapsat, Je suis moi, Musikafrance

