

KLEZMER MADNESS!
Band Member Biographies

SHERYL BAILEY (guitar) is rated among the foremost bop based guitarists to have emerged in the 1990's. Her attack can be direct and hard swinging, but she also exudes subtlety, elegance of phrase and a pure, warm, liquid sound. Her musical activities aren't confined to groups working strictly in the orthodox, bop based jazz tradition, as she has toured and recorded with bassist, Richard Bona and is a member of David Krakauer's Klezmer Madness. Other artists are tenor saxophonist, Gary Thomas, Urban Folk and Jazz artist, KJ Denhart, and pop diva, Irene Cara. While her mid 1990's CD Little Misunderstood sees her playing with total familiarity and command of the fusion idiom, her latest releases, Reunion of Souls, The Power of Three, and Bull's Eye represent her love of contemporary straight-ahead jazz. In 1995 Sheryl was awarded third place in the Thelonious Monk International Jazz Guitar Competition, and she has toured South America on behalf of the US State Department as a Jazz Ambassador, honoring the music of Duke Ellington. She currently leads her own trio, The Sheryl Bailey Three (Gary Versace on Hammond B3 and Ian Froman on drums). She is also in demand as an educator. Sheryl has been an Assistant Professor of Guitar at the esteemed Berklee College of Music since 2000, and has been a popular clinician at the National Guitar Summer workshop, The Stanford Jazz Workshop, The Duquesne Jazz Guitar Seminar, UArts in Philadelphia, and at Southern Cross University in Lismore, Australia.

WILL HOLSHOUSER (accordion) was born in Arkansas and grew up in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He was a young student when a friend gave him an old accordion as a surprise. He soon fell in love with it and in the twenty years since has developed his own sound as an accordionist, improviser and composer, performing all over the world. His interests include jazz, accordion folk styles, experimental music, improvised music, and sacred music, all viewed through the special lens of the accordion. Will lives in Brooklyn, New York and plays in many different situations from jazz to pop to classical. Activity in 2008 has included a trio tour with drummer Han Bennink and saxophonist/clarinetist Michael Moore, an accordion feature with the New York City Ballet by composer Bruno Moretti, and recording a new CD in Portugal, a collaboration with pianist Bernardo Sasseti. Will has two CDs out on the Clean Feed label with his long-standing trio, featuring trumpeter Ron Horton and bassist David Phillips. He has also played with Antony and the Johnsons, David Krakauer & Klezmer Madness, Regina Carter, Matt Munisteri & Brock Mumford, Phillip Johnston, Dave Douglas, Maria Schneider, Roberto Rodriguez, the Brooklyn Philharmonic Orchestra, and many others.

NICKI PARROTT (bass) came to New York in May 1994 on an Arts Council grant from Australia to study with the internationally acclaimed bassist, Rufus Reid. Since June 2000, Nicki has played on Monday nights at the Iridium Jazz Club with the legendary guitarist and inventor, Les Paul. Nicki and her sister, Lisa Parrott, headlined at the prestigious Tribute to Mary Lou Williams festival at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. in May 2002, which was broadcast on National Public Radio. She is also the resident bassist with the Kitchen House Blend which premieres and performs new music by New York composers. Nicki has performed with such notable musicians as Clark Terry, David Krakauer, Billy Taylor, Terri Thornton, Holly Hoffman, Marlena Shaw, Bucky Pizzarelli, Dick Hyman, and the New York Pops and Florida Pops Orchestras with DIVA, among many others. She has also performed in several Broadway shows including Ave Q and You're a Good Man Charlie Brown. Nicki has performed at such major festivals in the US as the Mary Lou Williams Jazz Festival, Newport Jazz Festival, Jazz in July at the 92nd Street Y, Detroit Jazz festival, and the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival. Overseas, she has performed at the Berlin Jazz Festival, the Cully Lavaux and the Ascona and Bern Jazz Festivals in Switzerland, the Edinburgh and Grimsby Jazz Festivals in the UK, the Krakow festival in Poland, the Ottawa Jazz Festival in Canada, and various Australian festivals. Nicki is recording a vocal and bass album with Grammy nominated producer Joe Mardin slated for release in 2006 by NuNoise Records.

MICHAEL SARIN (drums) Over the last twenty years, drummer Michael Sarin has been at the center of New York City's genre bending jazz and improvisation community. His versatility and musical wit helped forge long associations with forward-looking artists Thomas Chapin, Dave Douglas, Myra Melford, Ben Allison, and David Krakauer. Since moving to New York in 1989, Michael's unique style and approach to the drum set has been highly sought after by NYC and European musicians looking to expand the definitions of jazz and

improvised music. He has contributed to recordings by the aforementioned artists as well as those of Frank Carlberg, Anthony Coleman, Mark Dresser, Marty Ehrlich, Mark Helias, Denman Maroney, Simon Nabatov, Mario Pavone, and Ned Rothenberg--recordings found on numerous music critics' Top Ten CD year-end lists. Michael performs all over the world--in major and minor festivals; concert halls famous and infamous, big and small. He can be heard on recent recordings of Ben Allison, Frank Carlberg, Erik Friedlander, and David Krakauer/Fred Wesley's Abraham Inc.

SOCALLED (samples, beats) is a musician, photographer, magician and writer based in Montreal. He was born Josh Dolgin in Ottawa, Ontario and raised just north, in Chelsea, Quebec. As a kid he was always in musicals and drew cartoons for the Ottawa Citizen. He hated soccer. He was bribed by his mother to continue piano lessons until high school, then he picked up the accordion. He wrote for the newspaper and played in any kind of band – salsa, gospel, rock, funk – then discovered MIDI and hip hop. He worked with rappers, he made madd beats, he got into studios. He graduated from McGill and made a 50 minute animated film for the Canada Council, meanwhile writing for Hour Magazine and performing. He has now appeared on a dozen recordings as pianist, singer, arranger, rapper, writer and producer. He rocks the machine with David Krakauer's Klezmer Madness!, sings with Toronto-based Beyond the Pale, performs with home-base band Shtreiml in Montreal, with LA-based the Aleph Project. He conducts the Addath Israel choir for High Holidays. Socalled performs and records widely with a crew of mixed-up freaks and geniuses from around the world, including Killah Priest, Susan Hoffman-Watts, Frank London, and Irving Fields. He has produced tracks for many rap acts, as well as the Greekbeat soundtrack for the award-winning documentary *Man of Greece*. His own documentaries and animations have won many awards at the McGill Film Festival. Socalled's self-released EP *The Socalled Seder* was hailed in the Yiddish Forward as "one of the greatest works of Jewish music in years."

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