

Hearing them, it seems they should be very old, but they're not. I think they've fallen from a scratchy old recording or appeared through a magic door. They're worth hearing. They're worth driving across the state to hear. Burlington Press

INTRODUCING TUBA SKINNY...

On the street is where our story begins then, specifically in the French Quarter, even more specifically with seven-piece Tuba Skinny. In 2009, these feisty cats came together, long-standing friendships solidifying into a unit, one which breaths rag-time blues and Dixie jazz, as easily as you or I breath air. Their sound is as old as the hills, but their youth brings to it a vitality, a freshness which takes the old music and makes it new again, something which is happening as we speak. Sam Fell, Rhythms Magazine

The members of Tuba Skinny migrated to New Orleans independently of each other, all with the desire to play music. They met on the streets and began busking together then travelling around the United States, riding freight trains and making music wherever they would go, originally as the "Dead Man Street Orchestra". While on tour, hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans. Though the city was left devastated and flooded, most of them knew, without a doubt, that this was the place that they would call home.

In 2009 Tuba Skinny was consolidated. The band played in the streets concentrating their music to the roots of jazz and the blues of the south. Visitors and locals alike would come to the French Quarter and watch them play, and they grew their crowd. Not long after their conception they decided to fly to Europe, where they built bikes and rode through the French countryside drinking wine and stopping to play on sidewalks, in town squares, around campfires and at the beach. It was during this trip that they played a very a good rendition of Bessie Smith's "St. Louis Blues" on the street at the request of a festival programmer and we're subsequently invited to return the following summer to play at The Festival de Jazz in Vitoria-Gastiez, Spain.

Since this initial European trip, the group have continually been invited and re-invited to major European, Australian, New Zealand and USA festivals. They have seen the growth of their audience from word of mouth, the international swing dance community, uploaded youtube videos (most infamously via Boing Boing) and their barnstormin', dance driven live shows.

The swing dancers are clearly in their element with Tuba Skinny's entirely acoustic dustbowl jazz and blues stuff.. there's much thigh slapping, lady-twirling and jitterbugging heating up the place. It quickly becomes apparent that this is primarily a band to dance to. AU Review, DARWIN



It was like being transported back to a 1920's speakeasy.. The enigmatic front lady Erika Lewis swooned the audience with a commandingly full yet sultry voice reminiscent of jazz greats Ida Cox and Bessie Smith. As soon as the next up tempo tune started up the whole dance floor was a frenzy of smooth moving swing dancers strutting their stuff to the wonderfully infectious jiving brass sounds and toe tapping wash board solos... Live Review, Faster Louder.com

VIDEOS



Live at Lugano







Louisiana Music Factory



Live for ABC Radio National



Freight Train Blues



Broken Hearted

PHOTOS / PAST TOURS







"Hearing them, it seems they should be very old, but they're not. I think they've fallen from a scratchy old recording or appeared through a magic door. They're worth hearing. They're worth driving across the state to hear. (Burlington Press)"

DECEMBER Tues 27 - Sat 31 Woodford Folk Festival www.woodfordfolkfestival.com JANUARY

Tues 3 Byron Bay Brewery w/ Mountain Mocha Kilimanjaro (JAPAN) www.buddhabarbyronbay.com Thurs 5th The Clarendon, Katoomba www.clarendonguesthouse.com.au Fri 6th YAW, Gosford www.topshelf.com.au Sat 7th Sydney Festival First Night www.sydneyfestival.org.au Thurs 12th The Basement, Sydney www.thebasement.com.au Fri 13th & Sat 17th Mona Fona Tasmania www.mofo.net.au Tues 17th The Toff In Town, Melbourne www.thetoffintown.com

For ticketing and further info check out: www.topshelf.com.au

CONTACT

For all enquiries: Jordan Verzar @ Top Shelf PH) +61 (0) 408 962 319 www.topshelf.com.au

Listen to their new album "Pyramid Strut" here: http://topshelf.com.au/tubaskinnysupersecretstreamingparty/ Password: tuba