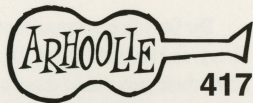


# TREMÈ BRASS BAND

"Gimme My Money Back"



## 1. GIMME MY MONEY BACK

(JAMES ANDREWS)

## 2. BACK O'TOWN BLUES

## 3. HINDUSTAN (WALLACE-WEEKS/P.D.)

## 4. JESUS IS ON THE MAIN LINE (P.D.)

## 5. FOOD STAMP BLUES

## 6. JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE (P.D.)

## 7. CHINATOWN, MY CHINATOWN

(SCHWARTZ-JEROME/P.D.)

## 8. THE OLD RUGGED CROSS (P.D.)

## 9. OH LADY BE GOOD (GERSHWIN)

*Total time: 76:09*

### THE TREMÈ BRASS BAND:

*Cuts #1, 6, 7, 8, & 9:* Benny Jones, Sr. – snare drum; Lionel Batiste, Sr. – bass drum & vocals; Kirk Joseph – tuba; Corey Henry – trombone; Elliot "Stackman" Callier – tenor sax; Fredric Kemp – soprano & alto sax; James Andrews – trumpet; Kermit Ruffins – trumpet. Recorded at Turbinton Enterprises Inc. October 19, 1993.

*Cuts # 2, 3, 4, & 5:* same as above but Roger Lewis – tenor sax, replaces "Stackman" and Jeffrey Hills – tuba, replaces Kirk Joseph; plus two unidentified Japanese tourists sitting in on banjo and piano! Recorded "live" at the New Orleans Music Factory – May 3, 1995.

Produced by Jerry Brock and Chris Strachwitz

Cover photo by Michael P. Smith

Cover design by Wayne Pope

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# TREMÈ BRASS BAND

## Gimme My Money Back!





# TREMÈ BRASS BAND

## *"Gimme My Money Back"*

The Tremé Brass Band plays the music of a people. The people in New Orleans who know how to celebrate life with a second line parade or mourn a person's death with a jazz funeral.

The Tremé Brass Band is named after the New Orleans neighborhood from which it comes. Tremé is the area of New Orleans bordered by Canal Street, North Rampart Street, Esplanade Avenue, and North Galvez. It is named after Claude Tremé, who in 19th century New Orleans owned a plantation in this area. It has always been an important neighborhood for African American culture and history. Within its boundaries lie Congo Square, where in 18th and 19th century New Orleans' enslaved Africans maintained traditional African dance and drumming; the once infamous bordellos of Storyville; the contemporary tribute to "Satchmo," Louis Armstrong Park; numerous neighborhood musical bar rooms including the Caledonia, Cozy Corner, and Picon's Bar; and the homes of literally hundreds of New Orleans jazz musicians.

Drummer Benny Jones is the leader of the Tremé Brass Band. His father Chester "Three Knocks" Jones was an important brass band drummer during

the 1940s and up until his death in the early 1980s. Chester performed with the Eureka Brass Band and for many years at Preservation Hall with George "Kid Sheik" Colar. Benny's brother Michael George is also a drummer.

Benny Jones is a soft-spoken, dedicated and hard-working individual. He is a major contributor to the New Orleans brass band revival of the 70s, 80s, and 90s. He was the drummer of the Dirty Dozen Brass Band from its inception through most of the 1980s. He then performed regularly with Tuba Fats and the Chosen Few Brass Band until forming his own group.

Benny is joined in the rhythm section by the long-time street music stalwart Lionel Batiste, often called Uncle Lionel or just "Unk". Lionel is the beloved "old man" of New Orleans' current brass band scene. He supplies a snapping syncopated bass drum beat and very blue vocals.

Lionel and his brother, sisters, and cousins were the nucleus of the Original Dirty Dozen Kazoo Band and Baby Dolls. It is from this near legendary group that the internationally known Dirty Dozen Brass Band emerged and where they got their name.

The Dirty Dozen Kazoo Band included Lionel, Henry, and Precisely Batiste. Each Mardi Gras, for years, these guys would dress in drag and parade through New Orleans back o' town neighborhoods accompanied by the Baby Dolls. The Baby Dolls are historically "ladies of the evening" who dressed up in cute baby doll outfits to taunt the local do-gooders by passing out gifts and money to the needy.

Rounding out the rhythm section is tuba player Kirk Joseph. He too, was an original member of the Dirty Dozen Brass Band, as was his brother, Charles. They are the sons of New Orleans' renowned trombonist Waldren "Frog" Joseph. Kirk is at ease playing traditional style parade music or the more contemporary funk style a la Dirty Dozen, Rebirth, et. al.

What makes the Tremé Brass Band unique is the combination of traditional second line parade rhythms with a young front-line of trumpets and trombone combined with veteran reedman Elliot "Stackman" Callier (tenor) and Fred Kemp (soprano and tenor).

Stackman and Kemp are both veterans of the Fats Domino band. Stackman is another of those rare New Orleans individuals who has a full grasp of 21st century jazz evolution. He pays tribute to New Orleans tenor man Emanuel Paul on his solo in the traditional "Old Rugged Cross," and then to Dexter Gordon on the track "I Want My Money Back."

The front line features Kermit Ruffins and James Andrews on trumpets and Covey Henry on trombone. Kermit is the past co-leader of the Rebirth Brass Band and now leads his own group. James Andrews, at the age of twelve, had his own band, the All Star Brass Band. Covey Henry, a nephew of Benny Jones, is the leader of the Lil' Rascals Brass Band.

Today, the Tremé Brass Band represents the more traditional style of parade music heard in the streets of New Orleans. But, they are also masters of the contemporary funk style that has grown in popularity over the past decade. They are at ease performing in the streets or on stage. As Benny Jones states, "The Tremé Brass Band plays music for all occasions."

*(Jerry Brock—1995)*

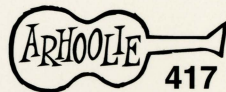
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# THE TREMÈ BRASS BAND

*"Gimme My Money Back"*



**1. GIMME MY MONEY BACK**

(JAMES ANDREWS) (9:10)

**2. BACK O'TOWN BLUES** (11:13)

**3. HINDUSTAN** (WALLACE-WEEKS P.D.) (8:31)

**4. JESUS IS ON THE MAIN LINE** (P.D.) (7:56)

**5. FOOD STAMP BLUES** (9:11)

**6. JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE**

(P.D.) (8:00)

**7. CHINATOWN, MY CHINATOWN**

(SCHWARTZ-JEROME P.D.) (8:49)

**8. THE OLD RUGGED CROSS** (P.D.) (6:09)

**9. OH LADY BE GOOD** (GERSHWIN) (7:10)

***Total time: 76:09***

***THE TREMÈ BRASS BAND:***

*Cuts #1, 6, 7, 8, & 9:* **Benny Jones Sr.** – snare drum; **Lionel Batiste Sr.** – bass drum & vocals; **Kirk Joseph** – tuba; **Corey Henry** – trombone; **Elliot "Stackman" Callier** – tenor sax; **Fredric Kemp** – soprano & alto sax; **James Andrews** – trumpet; **Kermit Ruffins** – trumpet. Recorded at Turbinton Enterprises Inc. October 19, 1993.

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