TREME BRASS BAND

“Gimme My Money Back”

1. GIMME MY MONEY BACK
   (JAMES ANDREWS)
2. BACK O’TOWN BLUES
3. HINDUSTAN (WALLACE-JEEVES/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 TREME 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.


Produced by Jerry Brock and Chris Strachwitz
Cover photo by Michael P. Smith
Cover design by Wayne Pope

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The Tremè 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 Tremè Brass Band is named after the New Orleans neighborhood from which it comes. Tremè is the area of New Orleans bordered by Canal Street, North Rampart Street, Esplanade Avenue, and North Galvez. It is named after Claude Tremè, 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 Galvez. It is named after the Caledonia, the temporary tribute to a person’s death with a jazz funeral.

Drummer Benny Jones is the leader of the Tremè Brass Band. His father Chester “Three Knocks” Andrews, at the age of twelve, had his own band, the All Star Brass Band. Benny is joined in the rhythm section by the brothers Michael George 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 dogooders 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 Tremè 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).

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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

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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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