

MAXWELL STREET KLEZMER BAND



- Chicago's own Klezmer Revival band since 1983 and still going strong!
- Master musicians and engaging entertainers
- Programs customized to audiences of all ages and backgrounds

*"It was wonderful to hear Chicago's Maxwell Street Klezmer Band cut loose so exuberantly...[They] brought the audience to its feet, cheering its approval."
- John von Rhein, Music Critic, Chicago Tribune*

Maxwell Street Klezmer Band plays lively Eastern European Jewish Big Band-style music that combines Old World melodies with Jazz Age rhythms and contemporary energy. Classical sophistication meets theatrical fun in an engaging performance filled with joy, soul and humor. Steeped in rich traditions of Chicago jazz, a polished, horn-driven sound sets Maxwell Street apart.

Performance Highlights

- Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, New York
- Barbican Centre, London
- Mozart Hall (Mozart-Saal), Vienna
- Lyric Opera, Symphony Center, and Old Town School of Folk Music, Chicago



Photo credit: Kentaro Yamada



The Legacy of Klezmer Music

Starting in the 1700s, Jewish musicians played for celebrations across Eastern Europe, playing Chassidic melodies influenced by Roma (Gypsy) music that came to be known as "Klezmer Music." As Jewish musicians immigrated to America, they blended their European style with jazz rhythms and Big Band instrumentation to create a uniquely American sound that was captured on recordings. Maxwell Street Klezmer Band honors this tradition with its rollicking interpretations of the classic era of American klezmer from the 1910s-1950s. With energy and imagination, Maxwell Street Klezmer Band has been sharing the "joy of klez" for four decades with soul and more than a touch of humor.



Photo credit: David Sutton Studios

Performance Options

- Performances for festivals, fundraisers, corporate events and private parties
- Educational shows for schools and colleges
- Music and Dance Workshops with master klezmer musicians, singers, and dance leaders
- Multimedia presentations including "The Whole Megillah: The Story of Yiddish Theater" with Charles Troy, and an educational-musical program "Jewish Songbirds of Tin Pan Alley"

We offer customized ensembles to meet all needs and budgets. *You call, we'll talk!*

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Websites: Klezmerband.com KlezmermusicFoundation.org Videos: bit.ly/maxwellstreetlive

Social: Facebook.com/MaxwellStreetKlezmer Twitter@JoyofKlez

Audio: Soundcloud.com/MaxwellStreetKlezmerBand