

SNARKY PUPPY

FAMILY DINNER VOLUME ONE

CHANTAE CANN • SHAYNA STEELE • N'DAMBI • MAGDA GIANNIKOU •
LALAH HATHAWAY • LUCY WOODWARD • TONY SCHERR • MALIKA TIROLIEN

I was asked in an interview this week what the last five records I listened to were. After responding, the interviewer pointed out to me that four of the five on my list were recorded before 1980. It made me think about why I like old albums more than new ones, in general, and the answer is simple.

I love hearing human beings play music. No quantization, no prerecorded tracks, no Autotune - just people (generally all in the same room together) making wonderful, imperfect noise. I think that's why this band makes live albums- what you play is what you get. You're forced to live with your mistakes and are doomed to listen to them over and over again, but if the performance as a whole has the right spirit, you swallow your pride for the greater good, for the overall sound. This first installment (of what will hopefully be a very long series) of Family Dinner albums is no exception.

When I think back to the week of the recording, I remember feeling like I was plugged into an electrical socket.

I'm convinced that Snarky Puppy, the craziest group of non-incarcerated human beings that I know, is incapable of doing things the easy way. We've made a habit of creating nearly impossible challenges for ourselves, especially when it comes to making records. But I think that I can speak for every single member of the band when I say that it was the most intense six days of our musical lives.

I invited eight of my favorite solo artists to join us for this album (whose namesake and concept come from a music series we host regularly at New York City's famous Rockwood Music Hall) specifically because I know that they see music the way the band sees it, and that they would be just as up for the nearly impossible as we were. On Monday night, we had a stage full of instruments and no music prepared. By Saturday evening, we had learned, arranged, rehearsed, performed, filmed, and recorded 19 songs by 11 different singers. It was absolute insanity. The band spent an average of 14 hours per day rehearsing, practically sleepless, while the film, stage, and audio crews turned yet another performance space into a film set and professional recording studio. The room was buzzing with electricity, every single person operating at 100% of their capacity. The performances were expressive, imperfect, and charged.

This record is about those little accidents... a drum flam, a cracked horn hit, a bass flub, and the raw expression of the human voice. We've left it all in. It is people, in the same room together, playing music.

We hope you feel the soul, heart, and spontaneity of the music exactly as we felt them over those two nights in Roanoke, and we thank you for supporting music education in the community.

- Michael League, August 2013

THANKS TO...

First and foremost, Dylan Locke at Jefferson Center for his persistence in making this album a reality. The 8 incredible artists who gave their time, talent, and compositions to the project. The families of every band member, who put up with and support our insane lives. Andy LaViolette, who never ceases to amaze me with his talent, patience, and enthusiasm. Christi and Halley LaViolette for housing me all of those nights in Denton and dealing with my bizarre editing and eating schedule. All of the staff at Jefferson Center, especially Cyrus Pace (the big cheese!), Jeremy Butterfield, Rob Bessolo, John Bingham, Frederick Pryor, Ian Fortler, Emilee Hoff, John Levin, Susan Jones, Kat Osborn, Chris Sheldon, Megan Ringdoks, Bruce Houghton, David Tenzer, Sarah Halsted, Chuck Luvender, Danny Bush, Tony Espelage, and Chris Miller. Eric Hartman and Scott Hull for constantly making my noisy messes sound organized. Avi Gunther and Jake Dempsey for the same. Leonard Carter and Dave Perry from Carter Media for saving our butts. Christa Stephens and the team at Black Dog Salvage for that purty chandelier. Mill Mountain Theatre for all of the decor. Tom Ohmsen, Harold Thompson, John Peluso, Skip Brown, and Stage Sound. Chef Tanner LaPrade and Chef Drew Buzk, as well as the folks at Kroger, for keeping our bellies full of healthy grub during those epic rehearsals. Louis Marks for always believing in this crazy organization, and fighting the good fight. Andrea Bühler and Matt Rousseau for taking a chance on my label. Eric Gerber and James Wright for keeping us on the road. Mike Chadwick for holding down the fort and leading the charge. Cambria Suites, A.J. Johnson, Carlos Aranguren, and Laura Schneider for their help. Grady for the hang and last-minute audio commentary session. Emilia Canas Mendes for her artistic sensibilities and flexibility. All of the kids at the Music Lab for pushing to improve as the next generation of influential musicians, and especially Gabe, Judi, Jayna, Bukuru, Furaha, Ephraie, and Elvanie for having the courage to get on stage in front of 800 people and some of the best singers on earth. Lafond, the safety net, for making sure that everything got done the way it needed to. Ed Walker, Katherine Walker, and John McBroom for their unparalleled generosity and support of the arts in Roanoke. And last but certainly not least, the craziest group of musicians I know, Snarky Puppy, for going through the most demanding week of our collective life as a band to turn vision into reality.



PRODUCED BY MICHAEL LEAGUE.
RECORDED AND FILMED LIVE IN SHAFTMAN PERFORMANCE HALL
AT JEFFERSON CENTER IN ROANOKE, VA.
CHIEF ENGINEER: ERIC HARTMAN.
ENGINEERS: AVI JOSEF GUNTHER & JAKE DEMPSEY.
MIXED BY ERIC HARTMAN IN DALLAS, TX.
MASTERED BY SCOTT HULL AT MASTERDISK NYC IN NEW YORK, NY.
FILM PRODUCED BY MICHAEL LEAGUE.
VIDEO EDITED BY MICHAEL LEAGUE & ANDY LAVIOLETTE.
AUDIO COMMENTARY ENGINEERED BY GRADY SANDLIN IN DENTON, TX.
FILMED, DIRECTED, LIT, SET, AND AUTHORED BY ANDY LAVIOLETTE.
FILMED BY BRAD HOLT, SIMON YU, & NICOLE BIRCH.
COLORED AND ADDITIONALLY SET BY BRAD HOLT.
STAGE MANAGED BY ROB BESSOLO.
ARTWORK BY EMILIA CANAS MENDES.
PRODUCTION ASSISTED BY CHRISTOPHER JAMES LAFOND.
OVERSEEN AND SUPERVISED BY DYLAN LOCKE & CYRUS PACE.

ROBERT "SPUT" SEARIGHT DRUMS

NATE WERTH PERCUSSION

MICHAEL LEAGUE BASS, KEYBASS, ACOUSTIC GUITAR, & BARITONE GUITAR

BOB LANZETTI ELECTRIC, ACOUSTIC, & BARITONE GUITARS

MARK LETTIERI ELECTRIC, ACOUSTIC, & BARITONE GUITARS, BASS

CORY HENRY ORGAN, FENDER RHODES, & KEYBOARDS

BILL LAURANCE PIANO, ORGAN, & FENDER RHODES

JAY JENNINGS TRUMPET & FLUGELHORN

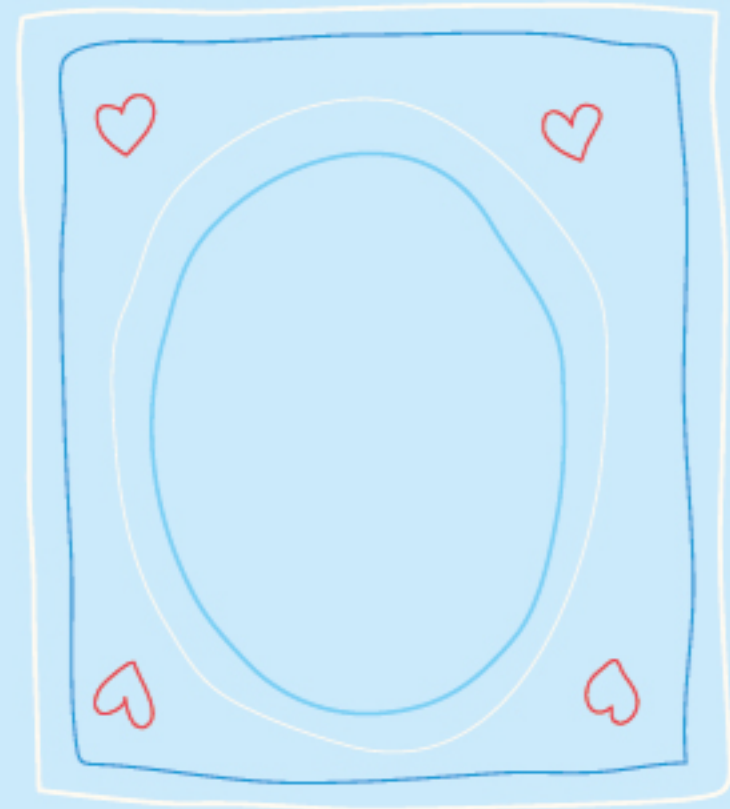
MIKE "MAZ" MAHER TRUMPET & FLUGELHORN

CHRIS BULLOCK TENOR SAX, FLUTE, & BASS CLARINET

CHELSEA "PEACHES" WEST BACKING VOCALS

KATYA DIAZ BACKING VOCALS

RACHELLA SEARIGHT BACKING VOCALS



MICHAEL LEAGUE PLAYS MARKBASS AMPS, SPEAKERS AND PEDALS, D'ADDARIO STRINGS, PLANET WAVES ACCESSORIES, PIGTRONIX PEDALS, A REALLY PRETTY ALLEVA-COPPOLO 5-STRING BASS IN ADDITION TO HIS '87 HOFNER AND '76 FENDER PRECISION, & REUNION BLUES CASES. **MARK LETTIERI** PLAYS NAYLOR AMPS, EMINENCE SPEAKERS, PEDALS BY ROCKETT AND NTN SOUND, LOLLAR PICKUPS, D'ADDARIO STRINGS, & PLANET WAVES ACCESSORIES. **BOB LANZETTI** PLAYS D'ADDARIO STRINGS, PLANET WAVES ACCESSORIES, & PIGTRONIX PEDALS. **ROBERT "SPUT" SEARIGHT** PLAYS GRETSCHE DRUMS, MEINL CYMBALS, GIBRALTAR HARDWARE, MAELO SNARES, EVANS DRUM HEADS, LATIN PERCUSSION, & VIC FIRTH STICKS. **NATE WERTH** PLAYS LATIN PERCUSSION, MEINL CYMBALS, & GIBRALTAR HARDWARE. **CORY HENRY** PLAYS KORG KEYBOARDS. **CHRIS BULLOCK** PLAYS SELMER SAXOPHONES & RICO REEDS. **LUCY WOODWARD** APPEARS COURTESY OF VERVE RECORD GROUP. **N'DAMBI** APPEARS COURTESY OF STAX RECORDS.

THE **MUSIC LAB AT JEFFERSON CENTER** IS WORKING DAILY TO PULL FROM EVERY SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CLASS OF THE ROANOKE COMMUNITY AND CREATE THE NEXT WAVE OF REAL, HUMAN MUSICIANS. THEY HOST LOW COST OR FREE AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS FOR ANY INTERESTED YOUNG PEOPLE FILLED WITH VISITS BY GUEST ARTISTS, PRIVATE INSTRUMENTAL INSTRUCTION, AND RECORDING TRAINING. WAFTING OUT OF THE LITTLE STUDIOS AND REHEARSAL ROOMS ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF JEFFERSON CENTER, YOU CAN HEAR AFRO-BEAT IN SWAHILI, HIP-HOP IN LIBERIAN KREYOL, THE BLUES COMING FROM THE GUITAR OF A 13 YEAR-OLD PRODIGY, AND THE UNDENIABLE SOUND OF YOUNG MUSICIANS GROWING. IT'S A THING THAT NEEDS TO BE SUPPORTED AT ALL COSTS ACROSS THIS COUNTRY, AND BY PURCHASING THIS RECORD, YOU'VE DONE IT.

A PORTION OF EVERY SALE WILL GO TO THE MUSIC LAB AT JEFFERSON CENTER.

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SIDE A

1. **FREE YOUR DREAMS** with Chantae Cann 4:46
2. **GONE UNDER** with Shayna Steele 5:47
3. **DEEP** with N'Dambi 5:14
4. **AMOUR T'ES LÁ?** with Magda Giannikou 4:56

SIDE C

1. **I'M NOT THE ONE** with Malika Tirolien 5:16
- * 2. **DA DA'N DA** with Chantae Cann 5:20
- * 3. **HE GOT AWAY** with Lucy Woodward 5:00
- * 4. **SEW** with Malika Tirolien 4:35

SIDE B

1. **SOMETHIN'** with Lalah Hathaway 7:36
2. **TOO HOT TO LAST** with Lucy Woodward 4:44
3. **TURNED AWAY** with Tony Scherr 7:22

SIDE D

- * 1. **ONLY LOVE** with Judi Jackson 4:00
- * 2. **I'LL DO ME** with Jayna Brown 5:18
- * 3. **BLACK SHEEP** with Tony Scherr 9:11
- * 4. **ASA ME NA BO** with Magda Giannikou 4:59

* BONUS

PRODUCED BY MICHAEL LEAGUE • RECORDED AND FILMED LIVE AT JEFFERSON CENTER IN ROANOKE, VA • ON FRIDAY, MARCH 8, AND SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2013



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