

Original Dixieland Jazz Band®

In 1917, under the leadership of Nick LaRocca, the Original Dixieland Jazz Band (ODJB) made the first jazz recording. This first and many to follow were instant sensational "Hits" that were inspirational and influential beyond imagination. The success of the ODJB recordings was immense and musicians worldwide changed instrumentation to emulate the sound and style they made famous. From 1917 to 1936 they recorded fifty-two 78's that are still sold today on various CD compilations.

The ODJB is back in full swing under the direction of the original leader's son, Jimmy LaRocca, on trumpet and vocals, with a fine ensemble of New Orleans musicians. They have performed concerts and jazz festivals worldwide and have two nationally selling CD's on the Louisiana Red Hot Records label. Jimmy and the ODJB are dedicated to jazz education through clinics, lectures and workshops. The ODJB shines the brightest on a concert stage and it is refreshing to see so many people tap feet, clap hands, smile and comment on how good they feel when they listen to this music from New Orleans.

Think of visiting a famous New Orleans restaurant and wanting to taste everything on the menu ... this is what you get in an ODJB performance with selections such as "Dixie Jass Band One-Step," "Livery Stable Blues," "Fidgety Feet," "Clarinet Marmalade," "Tiger Rag," "St. Louis Blues," "St. James Infirmary," "Bourbon Street Parade," "When It's Sleepy Time Down South," "Basin Street Blues," "When the Saints Go Marching In" and many other great New Orleans classics.

Notable quotes:

... wonderfully evocative of the era, ...The front line ... is so well versed in traditional jazz polyphony that the band's fundamental inspiration was always evident.

- Mike Joyce, *The Washington Post*, Monday, August 5, 2002

"Jimmy LaRocca leads a fine contemporary New Orleans band"

- Jack Sohmer, *Mississippi Rag*, 2001

"I have never heard anyone play trumpet like Jimmy LaRocca. He is the best in the world for this style of music."

- Presenter, *German Postal Conference*, 2000

"Your band is fantastic. It is rare for any band performing here to get a standing ovation like you have received."

- Ake Bjorange, *Sandviken Big Band Bang*, Sweden, 1999

"The first great jazz orchestra was formed in New Orleans by a cornet player named Dominick James LaRocca. They were the hottest five pieces that had ever been known before. They all came to be famous players and the Dixieland Band has gone down now in musical history."

- Louis Armstrong, *Swing That Music*, 1936