

The Imperial Swing Orchestra - Imperial Swing Orchestra (1998)

Written by bluesever

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1. *Girl With The Crimson Hair* 2. *Swingin' And Swayin'* 3. *Come Out And Play* 4. *Good Times Are Everywhere* 5. *Futureliner* Tracy Leigh Komarmy (vocals) Tom Loncaric (piano) Pat Knight (bass) Ryan Smith (alto sax) Chris Neel (guitar) Dave Gilbert (baritone sax, soprano sax, clarinet) Peter Klaver (tenor sax) Dave Roof, Brandon Cooper (trumpet) Nino Dmytryszyn (drums)

It's hard to believe that the Imperial Swing Orchestra has been around only two years. This ten piece (that's a five piece horn section!) has literally rocked the Motor City into a dancing frenzy. Performing everywhere from the Detroit Montreux Jazz Festival to concerts in the Midwest and Canada, ISO has captured the 'Rocking' element of Swing, an energy and vitality usually missing in big bands.

"Make no mistake, this is no mere retrofitted punkabilly or ironic posture of a fashion statement" writes Chris Handyside of the Detroit Metro Times. The ISO has a quality that comes from doing a lot of things the old fashioned way. Contrary to bands that play from stock music sheets, pianist Tom Loncaric custom arranges all of the songs, giving the band a unique groove.

The band was founded by pianist/bandleader Tom Loncaric along with bassist (upright, of course) Pat Knight, Ryan Smith on alto sax and visionary guitarist Chris Neel. The horn section is made up of the finest of jazz musicians. Along with Ryan Smith on alto sax, Dave Gilbert blows baritone and soprano sax as well as some serious hot clarinet. Peter Klaver is one of the most fluid tenor sax players around-watch out, he might sneak in some John Coltrane licks tonight! The trumpeters, Brandon Cooper and Dave Roof, blast fire, invoking the ghosts of Armstrong and Harry James. Drummer Nino Dmytryszyn kicks so hard that audiences find themselves automatically tapping their feet. Of course there is songstress Tracy Leigh Komarmy. Her "sultry, yet coy vocals evoke a pleasant sense of weightlessness" writes Jerry

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Mack of Current Magazine.

Like all great bands..something magical happens when the group gets together to play. Audiences throughout the Midwest have been experiencing a "killer dance party" at every Imperial Swing Orchestra concert.

The Imperial Swing Orchestra first CD, features five new original dance songs. The CD is produced by Mike Napolitano who spun the knobs for Squirrel Nut Zippers and Blind Melon. Enthusiasts may label the music as they wish, but one can bet on killer horns, a toe-tappin' beat, and the singular vocal interpretations of Tracy Leigh!

The Imperial Swing Orchestra performs both original material written in the styles of the 30-40's, as well as many of the old favorites made famous by the bands of that era. Performances include both up-tempo jump blues and swing as well as slower, sultry dance numbers. ---
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