

NEWS RELEASE

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THE KLEZ DISPENSERS PERFORM MARCH 8 at CITY WINERY, NYC

- **Say You'll Understand**, the group's third CD, melds klezmer and big band jazz *

"4-stars. With a little savvy, historical perspective and high level musicianship, the Klez Dispensers create music that not only is fun to listen to, but easily accessible to join right in and party with them. Mixing love songs, Jewish Hasidic, Latin, and American traditional jazz, the band moves freely in and out or in-between these genres without losing either the vintage or contemporary aspects of art music, turning it into a ferris wheel of sound and dimension few so-called klezmer fusion bands can come close to." — Michael G. Nastos, *All Music Guide*

"With their exuberance, musicianship and ability to have any audience get up and dance, The Klez Dispensers have become the house band for klezmer's newest wave."
— Elliott Simon, *All About Jazz*

Join the award-winning **Klez Dispensers** as they continue to celebrate the release of their recent CD, **Say You'll Understand** as part of the klezmer brunch series at the City Winery 155 Varick Street, New York, NY on Sunday, March 8 at 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. General admission \$10; kids under 13 are free. Call 212-608-0555. www.citywinery.com.

Featuring that powerful combination of youthful exuberance, expert musicianship and superb arranging for which the **Dispensers** are known, this release is a clever excursion through a variety of styles, both jazz and Jewish, that results in a phenomenal party record.

This eight-piece big band of young jazz and klezmer hotshots dispenses virtuosic musicianship and lush, swinging arrangements of mid-20th century klezmer and Yiddish classics, as well as their own stirring original compositions. While powerfully evoking the golden age of American-Yiddish swing, the group simultaneously blazes new trails in contemporary klezmer-jazz crossover. Featuring **Susan Watts** (vocals, trumpet), **Alex Kontorovich** (clarinet, saxophone), **Ben Holmes** (trumpet), **Audrey Welber** (saxophones), **Amy Zakar** (violin), **Adrian Banner** (piano), **Heather Versace** (bass), and **Gregg Mervine** (drums), this ensemble is a fresh and exciting blend of old world sounds and cool, downtown sensibilities.

Produced by Anthony Branker, the director of the Princeton University Jazz Ensemble, where many members of the group first met, **Say You'll Understand** is the jazziest delicacy yet dispensed by klezmer's favorite party band.

The Klez Dispensers perform throughout the year at festivals such as the **Montreal Jazz Festival** and venues such as the **Royal National Theatre** in London, among many others. In 2000 the ensemble recorded its first CD, **Indispensable**, and in 2004 released its second album, **New Jersey Freylekhs**, which won the 2006 Just Plain Folks Music Award for **Best Klezmer Album**.

<http://klezdispensers.com/>

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