

Gandalf Murphy & the Slambovian Circus of Dreams - Biography

Gandalf Murphy & The Slambovian Circus of Dreams have been called "the hillbilly Pink Floyd," which is an apt description, particularly if you throw in elements of Incredible String Band, Neil Young, The Band, Dylan, and maybe even some Frank Zappa as well. Upon returning recently from the U.K. this fall where they spread their contagious brand of quirky Americana from Glasgow to Penzance, the band completed work on their fourth studio album, ["The Grand Slambovians"](#). The advent of "The Grand Slambovians" is both the band's latest reincarnation and the title of [their new soul stirring CD](#).

Joziah Longo, (lead singer/songwriter for the band) describes the new collection of songs as - "A more extreme dose of what we've always been - a country prison music meets British invasion type of thing". For the uninitiated, the band's all over the map melodic avant folk conjures Tom Petty, Dinosaur Jr., and a fuller Buffalo Tom, possessing an exotic instrumental arsenal in addition to standard rock regalia. Equal parts Washington Irving and Woodstock, the band taps a broad palette of styles ranging from dusty Americana ballads to huge Pink Floyd-esque cinematic anthems. Playing art school roots rock, sometimes folk and quirky Americana, they possess an exotic instrumental arsenal (accordion, cello, mandolin, theremin) in addition to standard rock regalia. *"The entire root system of Rock Family Trees is embedded in Longo's voice."* - *The Big Issue, Scotland, U.K.*

Together since the late 90's where they met in art school, they settled in Sleepy Hollow, New York, and formed Gandalf Murphy & The Slambovian Circus of Dreams. The band has toured nationally and abroad since forming in 1998. Known for electrifying live performances, and strong original music, they have a devoted and ever expanding fan base.

In 2010 they brought their legendary Halloween show, 'The Grand Slambovian Extraterrestrial Hillbilly~Pirate Ball' to London's Electric

Ballroom and NYC's Gramercy Theater. *"Saturday was a blast! I want you to know how great I thought your show was - you guys really made the Gramercy shine and ooze with your own personality."* - Harvey Leeds, *Live Nation NYC*

There's something in the water along the Hudson River which continues to inspire creative souls - bandleader and songwriter Longo, (known for tall tales and philosophizing) is currently finishing his second musical with Broadway legend Theodore Mann scheduled to open this coming spring at the Circle in The Square Theater in New York City.

Gandalf Murphy & The Slambovian Circus of Dreams are shedding their skin and come out boldly as **'The Grand Slambovians'** touring the U.S., Canada, and the U.K. in support of their latest creative effort. Unleashing their hauntingly signature songs on the world once again, the new album is scheduled for release in early 2011. Manically melodic, the bold, new songs knit into the band's classics like an old paisley quilt wrapped around a very large family. The ultimate DIY'ers, the band runs its own label and has previously released 3 critically acclaimed studio albums - ['The Great Unravel'](#) (2008), 2004's double-disc ['Flapjacks from the Sky'](#), and ['A Good Thief Tips His Hat'](#)

(1998). ~~~~~ Recent Festivals:
(Headline Performer)

Hardly Strictly Bluegrass, Ann Arbor Folk Festival, Celtic Connections(UK), Philadelphia Folk Festival, Xponential, High Sierra, Rhythm and Roots, Green River, Strawberry Festival(CA), Bliss Festival, Roots on The River, Falcon Ridge Folk Festival, Glastonbury Festival(UK), Rhythm Festival (UK) and many more...

The Grand Slambovians are: Joziah Longo (lead vocals, guitars, harmonica), born in Philadelphia, grew up playing traditional country, folk and mummies music with his father. Performing professionally from the age of 13 doing Dylan covers, he moved to New York to pursue his muse.

Playing venues ranging from CBGB's to Carnegie Hall as a headline performer, Joziah was also the first American musician invited to perform in mainland China in the early 90's ending a decade-long ban on Western music.

Multi-instrumentalist **Tink Lloyd** (*accordion, cello, flute, theremin*) comes from a long line of feisty Irish musicians which brings a unique spark to the band's music as well as performance. Tink has worked with Joziah and Sharkey on previous projects.

Sharkey McEwen (*guitars, mandolin, backing vocals*), longtime musical partner of Joziah, grew up in L.A. and played the club circuit before coming to New York in the early 90's. His intuitive, evocative playing is a key ingredient of the band's magic. He is in constant demand as a producer and guitarist for other artists.

Native New Yorker **Tony Zuzulo** (*percussives*), sold his hair, spent all his money on a banana split, and became a professor of multimedia at the local college - which is where he met Joziah who convinced him to pack up what was left of his dessert and run away with the Circus.