

About **Isle of Klezbos**

Since 1998, ISLE OF KLEZBOS has approached tradition with irreverence & respect. Based in NYC, our soulful, fun-loving powerhouse klezmer sextet has toured **from Vienna to Vancouver.** With repertoire from rollicking to ethereal -- folk dance and trance, Yiddish swing and tango, plus genre-defying originals -- our music is heard on **The L Word** as well as our own acclaimed CD "**Greetings from the Isle of Klezbos,**" award-winning cameos on Metropolitan Klezmer's "**Mosaic Persuasion,**" and the 'Klezbonus' track of "**Traveling Show**"... And soon to be announced in full **::: ISLE OF KLEZBOS will be featured on a new release by a certain Grammy-nominated, platinum-selling world-famous band! :::** Recording has just been completed in late December 2009 on a wonderfully catchy track from the still-secret upcoming release, due out in later 2010. In addition to live broadcasts on PBS, CNN, WFMU and Northeast Public Radio, **ISLE OF KLEZBOS** has been honored with multiple awards by New York State Council on the Arts as well as The Sparkplug Foundation. Isle of Klezbos members have performed in **J. Edgar Klezmer: Songs from My Grandmother's FBI Files**, and several also play together in Metropolitan Klezmer (octet formed in 1994). From Seattle's Bumbershoot to St. Louis' Edison Theater, Vienna's Porgy & Bess to Joe's Pub, BAM Cafe to Brooklyn Museum, Merkin Hall to Michigan Womyn's Music Fest, "**These women will make you shake your tushies**" (**Village Voice**) -- check your stereotypes at the door!

"Isle of Klezbos tests the elasticity of the genre" - **The New Yorker**

"One of the finest young klezmer bands ever to appear on the block" - **Phat Planet (UK)**

"Talent as strong as its name is provocative... loK is to Eastern European Jewish music what Cherish The Ladies is to Celtic"
- **Courier News**

"Great ears and great hearts" - *Der Pakn Treger*, **National Yiddish Book Center**

"A supergroup... with an offbeat sense of humor and a relaxed sense of swing" - (George Robinson) **Jewish Week**

"Internationally acclaimed and much-loved... We'd make a joke, but they beat us to it." - **Time Out New York**

"The absolute top of the klezmer genre" - **RootsTown, Belgium**



ISLE OF KLEZBOS

(full musician bios on reverse)

Pam Fleming: trumpet & flugelhorn

Melissa Fogarty: vocals

Debra Kreisberg: clarinet & sax

Saskia Lane: acoustic bass

Eve Sicular: drums & bandleader

Patrick Farrell: accordion & piano

Isle of Klezbos & Metropolitan Klezmer

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About **Isle of Klezbos**

Trumpeter Pam Fleming has toured internationally with BlackRock Coalition's Nina Simone Tribute, Hazmat Modine, and reggae stars Burning Spear and Maxi Priest, to name a few. An Eastman School of Music graduate, she is on all five of Metropolitan Klezmer & Isle of Klezbos CDs, and composes for these bands, as well as her own world jazz project, Fearless Dreamer. On Sarah McLachlan's national Lilith Fair tour, Pam was a member of Natalie Merchant's band, and was a guest soloist with Sarah McLachlan, The Indigo Girls and Queen Latifa. Other credits: VH1 - Bonnie Raitt; *Late Night with David Letterman* - Rufus Wainwright; *Sessions at West 54 St.* [PBS] - Jimmy Scott; comedian Denis Leary; soca star Arrow [*Hot-Hot-Hot*]; Cab Calloway; and Easy Star All-Stars: Dub Side of the Moon / RadioDread / Lonely Hearts Dub Band. Pam's flugelhorn solo from Metropolitan Klezmer's *Mayn Rue Plats* in HBO's feature film *Schmatta* released this fall. Her original recordings are available at: FearlessDreamer.com

Hailed as "brilliant" by the New York Times, **soprano Melissa Fogarty** sang Empress Ottavia in Opera Omnia's *Coronation of Poppea* at Le Poisson Rouge, as well as lead soprano in Mark Morris' *King Arthur* for City Opera, and VOX 2007 - 2009. She has performed works for Pulitzer-winning composer David Del Tredici (some written specifically for Melissa), including world premieres at Symphony Space. A graduate of Eastman School of Music, she has also sung extensively with Seattle Baroque. Her debut solo CD *Handel: Scorned & Betrayed* (Albany Records) won an OUTmusic Award. She has received the Adams Fellowship at the Carmel Bach Festival and the Giorgio Cini Foundation Fellowship for study in Venice. She is vocalist for both Metropolitan Klezmer & Isle of Klezbos. For more on Melissa: www.melissafogarty.com

Clarinet/saxophonist Debra Kreisberg performs, composes, arranges and records with the NYC-based Latin jazz octet Los Mas Valientes, singer-songwriter Matt Singer, as well as klezmer bands Metropolitan Klezmer and Isle of Klezbos. A graduate of Eastman School of Music with an MM in Jazz Studies from Manhattan School of Music, she has also performed with avant-jazz ensemble Joe Gallant & Illuminati, Canadian cabaret Yiddish star Theresa Tova, Rochester Philharmonic featuring Natalie Cole, and the NYC funk band D'Tripp. Debra is also Managing Director of Educational Outreach at the 92nd Street Y's School of the Arts, where she develops and implements arts programming for NYC public schools.

Bassist Saskia Lane, a San Francisco native, began her classical training on the violin at the ripe old age of 4, and took up the bass the day she turned 11. Her musical path eventually put her on a train bound for New York City, where she received her Masters Degree from The Juilliard School. The Manhattan-based musician performs throughout the tri-state area with a variety of jazz, world, pop, and classical artists. Currently, Saskia tours internationally with Dan Zanes & Friends and nationally with her critically-acclaimed cocktail pop quartet The Lascivious Biddies. She can also be seen sharing the stage with the likes of Jay-Z, Beyoncé, Natalie Merchant and Enya. To read more about Saskia: www.saskialane.com

Drummer/bandleader Eve Sicular formed Metropolitan Klezmer (in 1994) & Isle of Klezbos (1998) and has produced their five CDs, receiving NYSCA and Sparkplug Foundation grants, Outmusic Awards and more for creative work with both bands. Her arrangements have been heard in the HBO feature documentary *Schmatta: Rags to Riches to Rags*, Showtime's *The L Word*, The Royal Ballet's *First Drafts* at Covent Garden, and SITI CO's *Score* (NY Theatre Workshop & national tour). Her original musical theater piece *J. EDGAR KLEZMER: Songs from My Grandmother's FBI Files*, a 2008 TimeOut NY Critics Pick with support from NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, played Dixon Place, The JCC in Manhattan and beyond, featuring most Klezbos bandmates in its cast. A Harvard honors graduate in Russian History & Literature, she has published & lectured on *The Yiddish Celluloid Closet* throughout North America & Europe, as well as working for YIVO Institute, Andy Warhol Archives, and MoMA's Yiddish film series *Bridge of Light*. Drumming since age eight, she has played samba, R&B, Balkan, swing, zydeco & klezmer with The Voodooillies, The Mazeltones, Charming Hostess and many more, on both East & West Coasts.

Guest klezbian **Patrick Farrell, accordionist & pianist**, moved to Brooklyn from New Orleans 2-1/2 years ago and has quickly integrated into the NYC music scene. He plays in many different genres and musical situations around the city, from dance accompaniment and cabaret to club gigs, concerts and weddings. Farrell leads his own group, Stagger Back Brass Band, playing original brass circus music, and is a member of the new-music chamber ensemble Ljova and the Kontraband, Russian and Romanian Roma-music band Romashka, Michael Winograd's Klezmer Ensemble and Serbian-style brass band Veveritse, as well as appearing with numerous other groups and individuals. He has studied music in Macedonia, Serbia, Romania and Hungary and has played for clubs, theaters, streets, and serenades all over the US and Europe as well as Canada and Mexico. He can be found at www.pattysounds.com