

## South West Oldtime All Stars featuring Trevor Richards

— The Original Louis Armstrong Hot Five & Hot Seven Classics —

**Louis Armstrong's** Hot Five and Hot Seven recorded in various line-ups from 1925 to 1928, were however only studio groups—not working units.

**The South West Oldtime All Stars** have embraced these classics, such as *West End Blues*, *Muskrat Ramble*, *Cornet Chop Suey*, *Ory's Creole Trombone*, *Struttin' With Some Barbecue*, *King Of The Zulus* and *Mahogany Hall Stomp*, and breathed new life into them. They have maintained the highest musical standard and created a genuine treat for lovers of good music—not only New Orleans jazz fans.

Armstrong's Hot Five and Hot Seven recordings were the first to offer soloists more space for improvisation and laid the creative path for later jazz styles.

These recordings set the fundamental principles of all jazz music. The artistic potential that is evident in them helped jazz to become recognised as an essential music form. The jazz critic Gary Giddins considers them "the most influential recording project in jazz, perhaps in American music".

The drummer **Trevor Richards** (New Orleans) studied with Zutty Singleton (member of Louis Armstrong's Hot Five/Savoy Ballroom Five of 1928 & Orchestra of 1929), and inherited his drums. His distinctive, authentic playing provides the band with its unique sound. He is a recipient of the highest commendation from the *National Endowment of the Arts* in Washington D.C., and of a European media award as Drummer of the Year; he was awarded the *Grand Prix du Jazz* by the *Hot Club de France* for his Trio CD with clarinettist Evan Christopher.

**Thilo Wagner** has cultivated "one hell of a swinging piano style" and was awarded the soloist prize at the jazz festival in Vienne, France. He is also an honorary citizen of New Orleans and is sometimes referred to as the Swabian Oscar Peterson.

**Thomas Stabenow**, professor for jazz string bass at the *Mannheim University of Music and the Performing Arts*, is a living legend on the German jazz scene. He is also the recipient of the jazz award of the state of Baden-Württemberg.

**Martin (Ludwig) Auer** is the lecturer and instructor for jazz trumpet at the *Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy University of Music and Theatre* in Leipzig. He grew up with Louis Armstrong's music and has mastered it like his mother tongue.

**Jörg Teichert** plays banjo and acoustic guitar and has always had a strong penchant for the early styles of jazz and blues.

**Gary Fuhrmann** is a freelance clarinettist and saxophonist, and the recipient of a jazz award from the city of Worms. He is devoted to jazz in all its stylistic variations.

**Felix Fromm** is lecturer and instructor for trombone at the *Mannheim University of Music and the Performing Arts* and the *University of Music* in Würzburg. He is musical director of the German modern jazz brass band *Blassportgruppe*. The distinguished US trombonist Steve Turre taught him the original plunger mute technique of "Tricky Sam" Nanton (trombonist of the Duke Ellington Orchestra 1926–46).

**MARTIN AUER** (trumpet)  
**FELIX FROMM** (trombone)  
**GARY FUHRMANN** (clarinet)  
**THILO WAGNER** (piano)  
**JÖRG TEICHERT** (banjo, guitar)  
**THOMAS STABENOW** (bass)  
**TREVOR RICHARDS** (drums)