



Blue Wonder Jazzband Dresden

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|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Manfred Böhlig | tp |
| Frank Geipel | saxes, voc, slide whistle |
| Gert Müller | tb, arr |
| Lutz Rethberg | p |
| Klaus-Georg Eulitz | ld, bj, voc |
| Dietmar Bazant | tub |
| Lutz Käubler | dr, washboard, voc |

The Blue Wonder Jazzband Dresden was founded in 1975 and, with its original members, has been playing ever since. A Dresden landmark, the "Blue Wonder" bridge -- which spans the Elbe river -- gave this band of amateur musicians its name. In their hometown the band, which cultivates the Oldtime Jazz of the twenties and thirties, is a regular at the annual International Dixieland Festival.

The Blue Wonder Jazzband is known for its distinctive arrangements, boisterous fun on stage and an ever-changing set list during live performances. Not unlike the sound of the legendary "Rhythm Boys", the three-part vocals performed by the band contribute to a unique sound experience. The original recordings of Jelly Roll Morton, Joe "King" Oliver, Louis Armstrong and Bix Beiderbecke, as well as the early orchestra recordings of Duke Ellington and Paul Whiteman have heavily influenced the band's music. The band often closely follows the original recordings, but manages to make the songs sound uniquely "Blue Wonder".

Countless performances at jazz festivals in Germany and abroad as well as radio and television recordings are proof of the band's popularity. Prior to 1990, the band toured several countries such as the former Czechoslovakia, the former Soviet Union, Hungary and Poland. After the fall of the iron curtain, tours have taken the band to Austria, Denmark, Netherland, Switzerland, Sweden, France and India. The band has shared the stage with many greats of jazz such as Kenny Ball, Chris Barber, Mr. Acker Bilk, Rod Mason, René and Olivier Franc, the "Dutch Swing College Band", "Paris Washboard", "Hot Antic" and the "Barrelhouse Jazzband". The Blue Wonder Jazzband has released ten CDs.