

# GANDALF MURPHY & THE SLAMBOVIAN CIRCUS OF DREAMS

If somebody forced me to describe the Gandalf sound I would say: It's as if David Bowie recorded 'Hunky Dory' with the Band in the basement of Big Pink". - Reinhard Holstein, *Glitterhouse Records, Germany*

"This band is a knock-out!" - *The Trumpeter*

"A riveting, mesmerizing, crazy, amazing machine of music" - *Chronogram*

"Imagine a band that has mixed 25 years of rock and roll with a dash of folk and a pinch of Americana into an enormous caldron over a blazing fire. Stir it all with creativity and season with talent. The result is the sound of a yesterday long forgotten, and a refreshing revival of what made you listen to music in the first place." - *Falcon Ridge Folk Festival Review*

In 1998 The Circus emerged from the misty hills of Sleepy Hollow, New York and exploded upon the Hudson Valley music scene with their stunning self-produced debut release, "A Good Thief Tips His Hat". The quirky quartet then began touring throughout the northeast and rapidly developed a fiercely loyal, all-ages following. Featured recently in *Relix Magazine*, the *New York Times* and on the CBS hit show, *Joan of Arcadia*, the band's charismatic live performances and whimsical blend of folk, rock, hillbilly and pop have simply captivated audiences and critics alike.

Their much celebrated new release "Flapjacks from the Sky" has garnered high praise from music writers, sparked generous activity at radio, and continues to invoke wave after wave of enthusiastic response from music fans world-wide. The music of Slambovia has been described as "Hillbilly-Floyd, folk-pop", "alt-country roots-rock, and "surreal Americana". Yet as earthy as their music seems, The Circus has a spiritual side - "Talkin' to the Buddha," "Call to the Mystic," "Living with God," "Flapjacks from the Sky". Dancing freely between existing religious and philosophical mythologies, their music is not only uplifting and empowering but fun, a lot of fun. As Woody Guthrie said: "It's not enough for a song to be good, it must be good for something." Gandalf Murphy and The Slambovian Circus of Dreams ... Their music can "Heal what ails ya!

"Gandalf Murphy & the Slambovian Circus of Dreams is simply one of the finest American bands out there on the road." - *AllMusic Guide*

"Gandalf Murphy's repertory is filled with lively songs that are imbued with mystical stirrings and idealism suggestive of the 1960's." - *The New York Times*

"The Slambovians cast a wide net... (their) music seems to energize anyone who hears it." - *Relix Magazine*

"Onstage they create an enchanting atmosphere, a tasty recipe combining musical ability and finesse with charismatic personalities." - *Taconic Weekend*

"Don't say I didn't warn because with a charisma bordering on cultish, the Slambovians will lure you in and they will become your new favorite band." - *KyndMusic*

"They're not just a band. That's something like saying the Bible is just a book." - *Westchester County Weekly*

Music that can 'Heal what ails ya!'

### *Gandalf Murphy is:*

Joziah Longo (lead vocals, guitars, harmonica), born in Philadelphia, grew up playing traditional country, folk and mummers 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) 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.