

The Poudre River Irregulars: Live at Avo's

The Poudre River Irregulars are a traditional jazz band based in northern Colorado; their music is an outstanding example of modern-day Renaissance New Orleans and Dixieland jazz. Since 1995 the PRI have been playing to sell-out crowds at their favorite bistro, Avogadro's Number (Avo's) in Fort Collins. This CD was recorded on October 3, 2008, at one of the PRI's monthly Avo's gigs.

Some of the band's personnel have changed since its last CD came out in 2002. The personnel on this CD are:

On cornet, leader Bob Cooke – defying actuarial predictions, he says he plans to play this music until the hearse (or paddy wagon) comes for him.

On clarinet, Clark Burnside – his sparkling runs and mellow tones continue to be a wonderful example of the idiom.

On trombone, Len Kellogg – his growling solos, juicy counterpoint, and sliding glissandos have that indispensable New Orleans flavor.

On string bass, Gene Libbea – one of Colorado's most versatile and professional bassists, he propels the rhythm beautifully.

On drums, Tim Clarkson – Tim is unusually adept at the New Orleans and Dixieland styles, as well as other jazz idioms.

On piano, Mark Flory – Mark (from Denver) shines in many styles of jazz and is acknowledged as one of the best ragtime piano players in Colorado.

The band would like to thank Rob Osborne, owner of Avo's, for his support and encouragement, and especially the Northern Colorado Traditional Jazz Society, which has stuck with us through thick and thin since 1995 and underwrote this CD. Finally, we thank our SRO crowds of loving and slightly crazed fans, often of the "gray" persuasion, for their years of loyalty and remarkable musical taste.