

The Sazerac Swingers - Livin' the Sazerac Life (2025/2026) Tour/Press Info

The golden 20s, The Roaring Twenties, The Jazz Age - it seems like these references to a possible return or renaissance of this fascinating era in cultural and social history are omnipresent in today's 2020s. The reason is evident: Starting out from New Orleans, and proceeding via Chicago and Harlem, Jazz began its conquest of the dance halls of the world more or less exactly one hundred years ago.

Now when "The Sazerac Swingers," once labeled "refreshingly anarchic and cheeky" by Germany's leading jazz magazine Jazzthetik, used to play their recurring shows for the young party Bohème of Berlin, Hamburg, or Paris in pre-lockdown times, the subconscious impression was unmistakably confirmed: Jazz has returned. Yes, jazz is back, and it has arrived in a resurrected kind of golden era, which also feels like a new borrowed time. It's the expression of a lifestyle guided by the dichotomy of sheer boundless hope and apocalyptic sentiment.

In 2018, "The Sazerac Swingers" entered the European scene with a bold mission to bring jazz back. Their album "Put the Jazz back in Jazz!" was deeply rooted in New Orleans sounds, and called for the attention of international jazz experts. Good Times magazine, accordingly, claimed that "The Sazerac Swingers rank among the biggest attractions on the German Jazz scene." Aforementioned record was on heavy rotation both on the Lufthansa on-board radio program, and presented by Fred Kasten on American NPR at the same time. Having once been the first German band to ever perform at the legendary "Le Caveau de la Huchette" in Paris (the inspirational club for the emotion picture La La Land), "The Sazerac Swingers"

soon became somewhat of a house band of the venue, making around 10 appearances per year. They were awarded headlining slots at highly renowned international jazz festivals such as Düsseldorf Jazz Rally, JazzOUT! Heerlen (Netherlands), Jazzfest Gronau, or Hot Jazz Spring (Poland), to be followed by the next knighting: In 2019, The Bavarian Jazz Institute named "The Sazerac Swingers" a "landmark group for the current development of jazz music", and granted them the headlining show slot at the "Bavarian Jazz Weekend" in Regensburg - Germany's largest jazz festival. Another landmark moment in the band's career was the overwhelmingly received 2023 appearance at "La Pena de Plateria" in Granada, Spain, making the Sazerac Swingers the first jazz band to ever perform at the world's highest temple of Flamenco in its 70-year history.

With their latest full studio album Stylin' And Profilin' (IRMI 2021), "The Sazerac Swingers" continue their path and attempt to translate the original spirit of the 19020s into the jazz language our time. "No retro, no vintage, no revival," writes the Rhein-Main-Magazin, claiming that the official house band of the "Berlin Burlesque Festival" has "an impressive energy and stage presence." Ranging from topics such as Burlesque to motor sports, from romance to wrestling, love, humor, dance, desperation, and the undaunted will to party like there is no tomorrow - all facets of life that will emotionalize people in the spirit of the 2020s are represented on this masterpiece album.

On another interesting note, the music video of the first single from the latest album, "Burly Girls," was produced by the renowned video animator James D.K. Tancill at the University of Louisiana in Lafayette (USA). With "Burly Girls," Tancill, who is probably best known for the production of the famous "St. James Infirmary" music video of New Orleans' own "Preservation Hall Jazz Band", delivered another masterpiece video that was selected to be screened and eligible for award wins at several important film festivals across Europe and the US, including the 2023 "Berlin Independent Film Festival" and Austin Lift-Off Festival (Austin, Texas, USA). The film won all category awards at the 30th Gütersloh Short Film Festival in April, 2023, thereby making "The Sazerac Swingers" the first German Jazz group to ever win a film industry award for a music video.

The band is releasing two new EPs in the spring of 2025: "The Goldstaub Sessions" and "Fiesta Kings." The latter features vocalist and co-writer Fredy Omar, "The Latin King of New Orleans", who has been working with "The Sazerac Swingers" for more than 10 years. Omar has probably also delivered the best description for the band's musical style, having stated in a 2023 radio interview in Paris, France: "It's very New Orleans. It's like Fiesta Music with Solos".