

The Rumblestrutters

Band Biography and media quotes

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Two line summary

The Rumblestrutters bring you feel-good blues, jazz and ragtime of the 1920s and '30s. The authentic sound of Prohibition America!

Short (one paragraph)

The Rumblestrutters bring you feel-good blues, jazz and ragtime of the Prohibition era. The band's vivid evocations of the music of the 1920s and '30s has earned them a reputation as one of the most authentic and popular roots bands around, with highlights including stellar performances at Birmingham International Jazz Festival and Gloucester Blues Festival. Songs of bootleg liquor, all-night parties and bacchanalia abound, tapped from a rich musical source. The Rumblestrutters bring you the authentic sounds of 1920s and '30s America!

Medium (two paragraphs)

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Started when Jon Toft (vocals, mandolin, banjo) found an ink jug at the back of an old cupboard, the Swansea-based acoustic three-piece features the virtuoso guitar-playing and voice of Jonathan Nicholas, and Liam Ward on vocals, harmonica and jug. Songs of bootleg liquor, all-night parties and bacchanalia abound, tapped from a rich musical source. The Rumblestrutters bring you the authentic sounds of 1920s and '30s America!

Long (one page)

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The band are a consistent feature at arts centres and theatres. After a recent gig, Pontardawe Arts Centre said: "It is really heartening to know such relatively young guys are into playing this sort of material and with so much authority. They are keeping roots music alive!"

Most of the band's songs hail from a time few of us remember, so how do "such relatively young guys" go about tapping into a musical canon from the 1920s and '30s? "The selection process is simple" Ward says, "the songs must be great - and ideally older than our combined age!"

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Media quotes

“The Rumblestrutters are good. I was very impressed!”

Paul Jones, BBC Radio 2

"Super, pacey and energetic!"

Blues Matters

“Like ‘em, good singing and playing!”

David Crosby

"Pure, rootsy & authentic!"

Andrew Smith (Author, Broadcaster, Journalist)

“When the Rumblestrutters come to your neck of the woods, be sure not to miss them! I had a great time hearing them, and an even more fabulous evening joining them on stage!"

Spencer Davis (The Spencer Davis Group)

“It is really heartening to know such relatively young guys are into playing this sort of material and with so much authority. They are keeping roots music alive!”

Pontardawe Arts Centre

“What a breath of fresh air!”

Jim Simpson, Big Bear Records