

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Music Royalty Comes Together To Pay Tribute to Fats Domino on New CD

Charlotte to Host First Album Release Event,
Proceeds Benefit Music Education in New Orleans, Charlotte



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Charlotte, NC - Two years ago, Hurricane Katrina ravaged the Gulf region and stole the New Orleans home of legendary blues musician Fats Domino. This month, dozens of music's most celebrated icons will come together to salute Domino's genius with a landmark tribute album. A tribute that will be heard by music lovers around the world—and create a meaningful impact in Domino's neighborhood, New Orleans' 9th Ward, and in public school music programs throughout the nation.

The city of Charlotte has been chosen to host the first event to officially release "Goin' Home: A Tribute to Fats Domino", which was created to raise desperately needed funds for music education programs. For one night, the French Quarter will come alive in Charlotte as neighbors are treated to performances by some of New Orleans' hottest musicians, a little Crescent City heat in the form of New Orleans-style food and some very unique party favors—event-goers can take part in a celebrity auction and bid on personal donations from the artists featured on the album.

The 2-CD album is a stellar tribute to one of the cornerstones of rock 'n' roll music, with performances by some of the biggest names in rock, blues, reggae, pop and country music—as well as the rich musical tradition of New Orleans. The roster of music royalty contributing their interpretations of classic Fats Domino songs includes: Sir Elton John, Sir Paul McCartney, Tom Petty, Robert Plant, Willie Nelson, B.B. King and Neil Young. "Goin' Home", which will be released by Vanguard Records on September 25, will also feature the late John Lennon's version of Fats' most popular song, "Ain't That a Shame".

The Tipitina's Foundation, a New Orleans-based charity dedicated to preserving the city's cultural legacy through music education for youth and programs to support working musicians, has teamed up with the Muzak Heart & Soul Foundation to organize the album release event, in keeping with Heart & Soul's mission to expand music education opportunities here in Charlotte and around the country.

"We jumped at the chance to help out with this project," says Neely Vasher, business manager for the Muzak Heart & Soul Foundation. "The event brings together everything Heart & Soul stands for—the irreplaceable music culture of New Orleans, helping kids become part of that culture through music education and our core belief in the power of music to change lives."

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The event will be held at Amos' Southend, Wednesday, September 26. Doors open at 8pm, and the event is open to the public. Tickets, which include a full night of music, food and more, are available for \$20 at www.amosouthend.com or by calling 704 377.6874.

The Tipitina's Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, conceived and executive produced "Goin' Home". The album is set for a September 25 release on Vanguard Records.

The event will support Tipitina's and Heart & Soul's work to restore music education programs in New Orleans, in Charlotte and around the country by raising awareness of the CD release. Funds for the effort will be raised through ticket sales, on-site CD sales, event sponsorships and a celebrity auction where event participants will be able to bid on personal donations from the artists featured on the album.

The "Goin' Home" album release event will feature some of the New Orleans artists included on the album, as well as other legendary Crescent City artists, to bring a taste of this unique music culture to Charlotte. The roster of committed artists includes (but is not limited to):

The Rebirth Brass Band

Simply put, The ReBirth Brass Band is an institution. Formed in 1983, the band has long since graduated from the streets of New Orleans to theaters and festivals all over the world. ReBirth is committed to upholding the tradition of brass bands while at the same time incorporating modern music into their show. Their signature brand of heavy funk has placed them among the world's top brass bands and they are the hands-down favorite among the younger generation. In reference to the sometimes stringent competition amongst brass bands, Offbeat magazine remarked, "...it's clear that ReBirth, which boasts 10 albums and has traveled the world, is the band to beat (July 2001)."

Jon Cleary

Jon Cleary is a triple threat — with a salty-sweet voice, masterful piano skills and a knack for coupling infectious grooves with melodic hooks and sharp lyrics. He balances a career performing with his band The Absolute Monster Gentlemen and Bonnie Raitt, recording with both groups and composing songs for various artists. His live shows are an explosive funk party mixing old school soul with the rhythms of New Orleans.

"Jon Cleary is the ninth wonder in the world."
- Bonnie Raitt

Cleary plays piano as if he's revving up an engine and sings as if a line drawing of his behatted self were next to "soul" in Webster's.
- The Washington Post — Pamela Murray Winters

About the Muzak Heart & Soul Foundation

The Muzak Heart & Soul Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit charity, was established in 1998 by Muzak, one of the world's leading providers of music and other media services. Muzak believes in the power of music to change lives. The Foundation's mission is to redefine and expand the scope of music education. Heart & Soul helps students turn their passion for music into real world opportunities—by providing teens with new and exciting programs, such as Noise!, which

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are focused on all aspects of the music business. To learn more about the Muzak Heart & Soul Foundation, please visit www.heart.muzak.com.

About Muzak

As the world's leading provider of business music, Muzak creates experiences that reach more than 100 million people daily. Some of the biggest brands in business, from Aveda to Sur La Table to Boeing, work with Muzak to enhance their brand image in more than 350,000 client locations. More than 90 music programs and an endless variety of custom programs are distributed around the world. Muzak issues approximately \$27 million in royalties annually, as it promotes artists from its library of approximately 2 million tracks. For more information, visit www.muzak.com.

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