

# the Casco Bay Tumblers Klezmer Band



Photo by Colin Malakie

“...an important piece of Yiddish culture that should be sustained and nurtured. Everyone should welcome The Casco Bay Tumblers into their home.” -*Charles Epstein, The Jewish Post & Opinion*

“...outstanding! It was a wonderful evening thanks to the very talented Tumblers... I highly recommend them.”  
-*Dr. Alice Falkenstein, Kessel Jewish Cultural Institute*

**The Casco Bay Tumblers**, from Portland, Maine, have been performing klezmer music for fifteen years. They have released two recordings and were also featured performers on the LL Bean Holiday CD. In 1999 they created and performed the music for the world premiere of “Manifest” at Portland Stage Company.

The Tumblers have a unique sound and a stage performance that features all members of the band. Steve Gruverman brings an extensive background in ethnic dance music to his soulful clarinet playing. Carl Dimow has developed a unique klezmer flute style, making the instrument an equal solo voice in the music. Julie Goell has a rich background in theater and jazz that comes out both in her bass playing and in her vocal features. Nancy 3. Hoffman brings a playfulness which audiences love to both her accordion playing and her singing. Hayes Porterfield is not only a great player on drumset, but one of the few people keeping the klezmer xylophone tradition alive.

The band's repertoire is versatile, ranging from original music to traditional dances and Yiddish theater and ghetto songs - all with original arrangements. They also teach traditional circle and line dances.

In March of 2000 the Tumblers were in Germany where they performed to sold-out houses at the Hackesches Hof Theater in Berlin and at the ninth annual Festival of Jewish Culture in Chemnitz. In May and June of 2000 they traveled to Lithuania as the first klezmer band to perform at the Skamba, Skamba Kankliai folk festival in Vilnius. They toured Lithuania performing in Pakrojjs, Linkuva, Kaunas and Druskininkai.

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**[www.cascobaytumblers.com](http://www.cascobaytumblers.com)**