

Traditional Fiddlin', No Foolin'

Savoy-Doucet Cajun Band brings Louisiana to us.

Ann Savoy (pronounced Sav-wah) is the Cajun music go-to woman. She contributed three songs for the soundtrack of *Divine Secrets of the Ya Ya Sisterhood*, has written about Cajun music for *Rolling Stone Press*, was featured on the PBS series "American Roots Music," produced a CD for Vanguard called *Creole Bred — A Tribute to Creole and Zydeco* and more.

Actually, if I listed each of Savoy's accomplishments, there would be no room to tell you about her band. Along with her husband, Marc Savoy, and Michael Doucet (perhaps

best known for his band BeauSoleil), she performs with Savoy-Doucet Cajun Band, who appeared in Eugene as part of OFAM a few years ago.

Savoy-Doucet Cajun Band
7:30 pm • Mon. 4/10
Jaqua Concert Hall
\$23.50

Savoy says the band insists the music remain traditional, which means following the music's thread from its French Canadian roots. "Basically what we love is some of the older songs," Savoy said. "We

find old 78s, and we have old friends who were early Cajun musicians and we learn from them. We have taken [the songs] and made them come alive again in this period.

There's some beautiful old melodies."

The band specializes in barn-burnin' dancehall Cajun music, but in a concert setting like the Jaqua Concert Hall, they offer something different. "We'll do ballads and fiddle music, twin fiddles and different versions of Cajun music, like sort of an evolution of Cajun music," she said. The band doesn't just offer music. They also share history and anecdotal musings about the songs. "We tell the history, Marc might tell a few jokes, and we talk about the traditions, like Mardi Gras," Savoy said. Though the songs are sung in French, they'll



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make sure you understand the poetry.

When at home in Eunice, La., Marc Savoy hand-makes six Acadian accordions a month and sells them through the family's Savoy Music Center. To find out more about the history of the accordion and Savoy's bands, visit <http://www.savoymusiccenter.com> **EW**



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