

STRANGE CHANGES



The STRANGEST SHOW on EARTH



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ABOUT THE BAND

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, gather round and summon your courage, for you are on the precipice of an experience you won't soon forget! An *entertainment spectacle* not suited for children, the elderly, pregnant women or Nickelback fans! In the sewers and back alleys of *Allston Rock City* potent and perverted musical forces have given birth to a **Monster... a NINE-HEADED FREAK** (see fig. 1) that has a long and sordid history of *savage attacks* on the cliches of **American Popular Music**. Spewing half-digested remnants of *metal riffage, bebop licks, and soul grooves*, the **Beast** is as unpredictable as **It** is ugly. Local residents must remain on their guard, for **It** is known to seduce **Its** listeners with soothing siren songs, catchy melodies, and danceable grooves, only to *viciously and suddenly* attack the eardrums with bile-spewing **FREE JAZZ and MATH ROCK MELTDOWNS**. Rumored to have nurtured **Itself** on *wastewater* flowing from prominent local **Music Institutions**, the **Monster** has acquired a voracious appetite for new genres to dismember and new crowds to *shock and entertain*. Hear Ye, Hear Ye! In the grand tradition of **luminous musical freak shows** such as **ZAPPA and the MOTHERS, CHARLES MINGUS, and MR. BUNGLE**, I present... the *electrifying, the terrifying, the horrible....*



figure 1 - erik is a 9-headed freak

STRANGE CHANGES

BIOGRAPHY



Strange Changes is the brainchild of the guitarist, singer, writer, and arranger Tom Dowd. Having graduated the Berklee College of Music in 2008 with a portfolio of original compositions that spanned genres from jazz to rock to classical, he decided to put together one ambitious and multitalented group that could play anything he could dream up. In 2009 and 2010 he assembled a lineup that recorded the three track Evil Genius EP. This group included notable New York-based players like Evan Marien, Devin Collins, and the LA-based Jordan Siegel and Ryan Dragonn. The EP recording process introduced him to the similarly multitalented engineer and musician Geoff Nielsen. After the breakup of the original lineup in 2010, Tom went into the studio with Geoff and recorded I Want You, the first full length release for the band, in 2011 and 2012. This recording experience introduced him to several current members of the group, including Lyubomir Tsanev and Joe Brogan. Now armed with a fully-functional 9-piece outfit, SC will be coming to a venue near you, also featuring the outstanding musical talents of Erik Van Dam, Sam Crawford, Tiago Michelin, Evan Waaramaa, and Matt Knoegel.



BOOKING

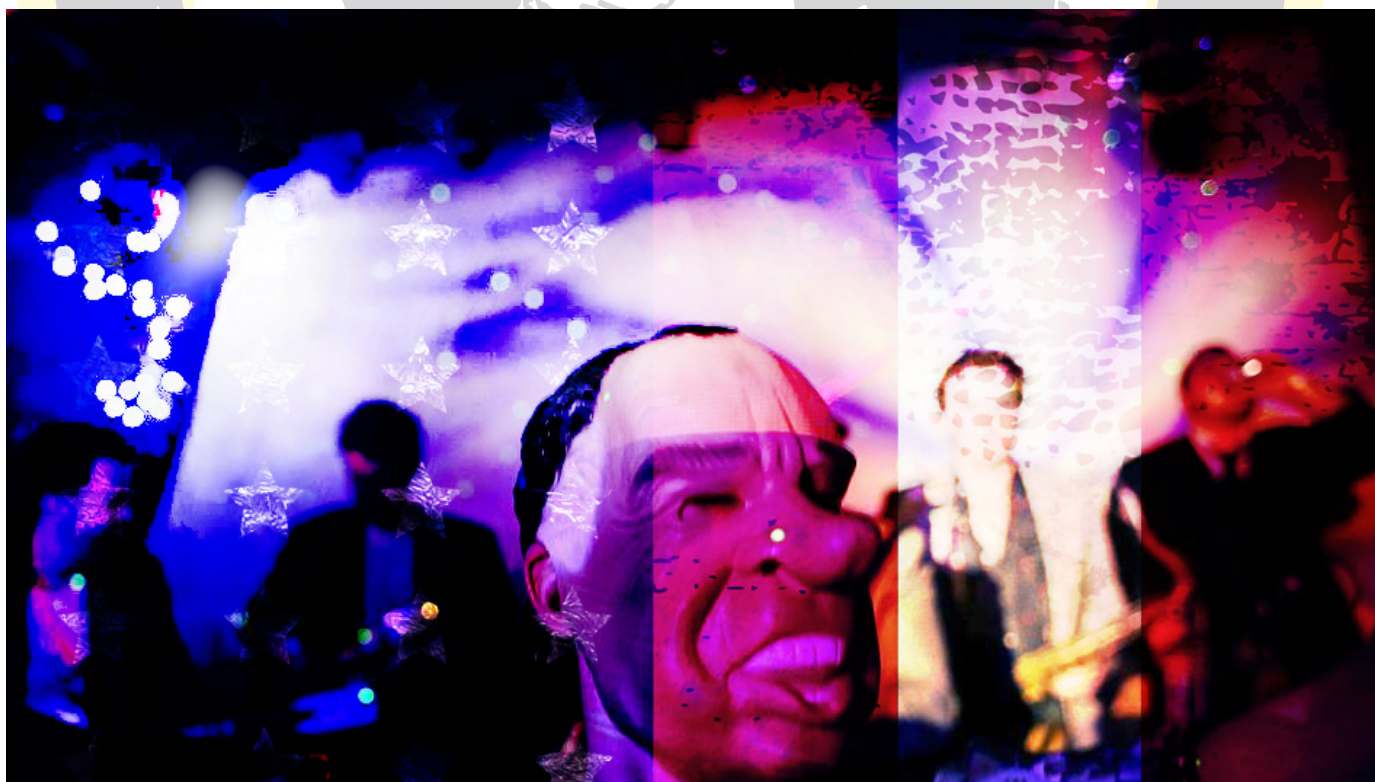


Strange Changes are a versatile group who pride themselves on a uniquely entertaining live show. The full 9-piece lineup consists of guitar/vocals, lead guitar, keyboards, drums, bass, trumpet, alto sax/bari sax, tenor sax, and trombone/guitar. The group has 3 hours of original material mixed with the occasional cover.



GENERAL BOOKING:

Tom Dowd
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MEMBERS



Tom Dowd - guitar/vox/compositions

Geoff Nielsen - trombone/guitar/vox/engineering

Evan Waaramaa - keyboards/piano

Joe Brogan - trumpet

Erik Van Dam - alto/bari sax

Matt Knoegel - tenor sax, flute

Sam Crawford - electric guitar

Greg Toro - electric/upright bass

Tiago Michelin - drums/percussion

DISCOGRAPHY



Evil Genius EP - 2010

I Want You - 2012

PRESS



PRAISE FOR I WANT YOU

"I actually have to sit down after listening to this, so give me a second... This is a must-hear album."

-Cady Drell, Boston Dig, 9/12/12

"They make music unlike what you've heard before... 4.5 out of 5 stars."

-Kait Shirley, Vents Magazine, 11/8/12

"Step into the spazzed-out psychomusical time blender known as STRANGE CHANGES and let the waves of nostalgic post-jazz roll over you like an eighteen-wheeler. Not a group to be tied to any particular genre, STRANGE CHANGES is a Boston-based amalgamation of progressive anthemic rock, bebop jazz, breakbeat drum-and-bass, thrash punk and hardboiled noir movie soundtrack, all tied up in a funky pop wrapper. Sweet and sour like a Warhead."

-Daniel Shea, Boston Hassle, 9/2/12

"...they put on a performance that captured the audience from the first note till the bitter end of their amazing set."

-Mark Kaye, HearNowLive promoter

"The word "eclectic" doesn't even begin to describe the music of Boston's Strange Changes."

-Josh Johnson, Deli New England, Artist of the Month June 2012

PERFORMANCE HISTORY



10/5/12 - Middle East Upstairs, Boston, MA

10/20/12 - Bitter End, New York City, NY

11/17/12 - Church, Boston, MA

12/15/12 - Precinct Bar, Somerville, MA

2/1/13 - Sullivan Hall, New York City, NY

2/15/13 - Iron Horse Music Hall, Worcester, MA

3/16/13 - Milly's Tavern, Manchester, NH

3/30/13 - Middle East Downstairs, Cambridge, MA

4/12/13 - Clube Fete, Providence, RI

4/28/13 - Club Metronome, Burlington, VT

6/15/13 - Northside Music Festival, Brooklyn, NY

6/19/13 - Spot Underground, Providence, RI

6/21/13 - Camp Coldbrook, Barre, MA

6/28/13 - Beachland Tavern, Cleveland, OH

7/12/13 - The Ritz, Martha's Vineyard, MA

7/30/13 - Brighton Music Hall, Allston, MA

8/3/13 - Spotlight Tavern, Beverly, MA

8/30/13 - Fiori, Great Barrington, MA

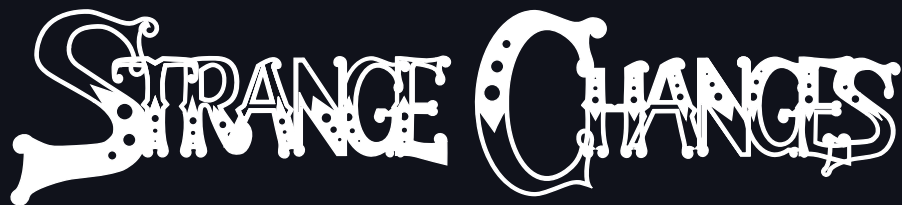
9/15/13 - Wormtown Music Festival, Greenfield, MA

9/19/13 - River Road House, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY

10/4/13 - Middle East Upstairs, Cambridge, MA

10/12/13 - Sully's Pub, Hartford, CT

10/16/13 - Beachland Tavern, Cleveland, OH



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CLINICS/MASTER CLASSES



Strange Changes offers educational events to fit all occasions. Lead by Berklee College of Music graduate Tom Dowd, and featuring a 9-piece lineup of skilled musicians and educators, Strange Changes gives teachers the perfect way to add road-tested musicianship and experience to any curriculum. Many of the band members are full or part-time teachers with experience across all age groups and musical styles. With musicians specializing in plucked string, woodwind, brass, keyboard and percussion instruments, as well as composition, arrangement, audio engineering, and even film scoring, Strange Changes truly has something to offer every musician of all ages and abilities.

Strange Changes offers group sessions focusing on the language of jazz improvisation and musical communication for players of all ages. Advanced students can request classes that range from odd-meter improvisation, metric modulation, post tonal theory, advanced chord scale applications, and many more.

PRIVATE LESSONS



Private lessons are available in person for students in the Boston area, as well as Connecticut for sax/flute/clarinet, and live via online video from all members of the band. Personal instrumental instruction is available on guitar, piano, drums, bass, soprano, alto, tenor and baritone saxophones, trumpet, and trombone as well as flute and clarinet. Strange Changes also offers private lessons in recording technique, live sound engineering, audio mixing, music theory, composition, and arranging. Local lessons may be available in other areas depending on the band's touring schedule.

Send all clinic, masterclass, and private lesson inquiries to:

STRANGECHANGES@GMAIL.COM



"My high school Jazz Band and I were very fortunate for Strange Changes to come do a workshop with us. The group was energetic, friendly, and extremely interactive. They offered solid advice in many different mediums, providing fantastic instruction to all of us. My students absolutely loved working with them, and have begged for another similar workshop.

The group also gave a fantastic performance to many students at our school throughout lunch periods. They were incredible, and gave our kids the opportunity to hear a first rate performance. I highly recommend Strange Changes for workshops and performances."

-Dan Hamlin, Director of Instrumental Music
Saint Ignatius High School (Cleveland, OH)

MEMBERS



Tom Dowd – Lead Vocals, Guitar, Composition, Arrangement

Graduated class of 2008 from Berklee College of Music as a Professional Music major. Tom has 10+ years experience as a bandleader, educator and clinician.

Sam Crawford – Lead Guitar

Graduate of Manhattanville College class of 2011 as a music performance major. Sam is a full time faculty member at the Boston School of Guitar, and Paul Monte School of Music. He is also a former clinician and engineer for National Guitar Workshop.

Evan Waaramaa – Keyboards

Graduate of Berklee College of Music 2013 with focus in film scoring. He teaches private lessons in the Boston area.

Greg Toro – Upright and Electric Bass

Graduated class of 2007 from Berklee College of Music with dual degrees in Jazz Composition and Bass Performance.

Tiago Michelin – Drums and Percussion

Current Berklee College of Music student with specialty in South American percussion and jazz.

Erik van Dam – Alto and Baritone Saxophone

Erik earned his BFA in Art Education from UMass and went on to earn his Master's in Creative Arts. Erik teaches clinics at UMass Dartmouth in Saxophone Performance.

Matt Knoegel – Tenor Saxophone and Flute

Graduated class of 2013 from Berklee College of Music with a major in Saxophone Performance. Matt is a full-time music instructor who teaches all saxes, flute, and clarinet.

Joe Brogan – Trumpet

Graduated class of 2009 from Berklee College of Music as a Trumpet Principal.

Geoff Nielsen – Trombone, Guitar, Vocals, Engineering

Graduated class of 2008 from Berklee College of Music with a major in Music Production and Engineering and Trombone Principal. Geoff has 10+ years experience as professional audio engineer and was the former band director at Cape Henry Collegiate School in Virginia Beach, VA.