



## **The Pfister Sisters are**

### ***Puttin' It On!***

CD Release – April, 2008

Mambo Goddess Productions, New Orleans, LA

Contact: Yvette M. Voelker, [yvoelker@aol.com](mailto:yvoelker@aol.com), 504-452-3657

Website information: [www.pfistersisters.com](http://www.pfistersisters.com),

[www.myspace.com/thepfistersisters](http://www.myspace.com/thepfistersisters)

Boswell Sisters info – [www.bozzies.com](http://www.bozzies.com), [www.lmhof.org](http://www.lmhof.org) (includes footage of the recent induction of the Boswell Sisters into the La. Music Hall of Fame at the Pfister Sisters French Quarter Festival performance.)

The **Pfister Sisters** are pleased to announce the release of their fourth full length studio recording, "**Puttin' It On**," a collection of 14 pop favorites from the 1920's, 30's and 40's featuring their signature harmonized vocals in the manner of New Orleans' own **Boswell Sisters**, originators of the style here early in the 20th Century.

Upon returning to their beloved city in October, 2005, The Pfister Sisters were among the first musicians to perform regularly again in post-Katrina New Orleans. Because of both the lack of paying gigs and available musicians, the sisters found themselves working mostly in their "core-4" formation, with piano as their only accompaniment.

As other musicians returned to town, they would often pop into the Pfisters' regular Wednesday night performances, sit in for a few songs, then head on to their own gigs. Pianist, **Amasa Miller**, first suggested doing a CD that "sounds like we sound now" and "Puttin' It On" was born.

Showcasing vocals and piano, with touches of **Matt Perrine** (Bonerama, The Tin Men)

on sousaphone and bass, **Matt Johnson** (Hot Club of New Orleans) on guitar, and **Matt Rhody** (Hot Club of New Orleans, New Orleans Jazz Vipers) on violin, "Puttin' It On" was recorded in the same manner as the original Boswell recordings, with the three vocalists mixing themselves clustered around one vintage RCA microphone. The warmth and blend of the vocal sound make this CD stand out from their previous recordings.

The Pfisters also hired a producer for the first time – long time musician, producer, teacher, and recording and visual artist, **Spencer Bohren**.

"When first approached with the idea of producing an album for New Orleans' sensational songstress, the Pfister Sisters, I was excited by the challenge of capturing the marvelous vocal subtleties and daring three-part musical acrobatics of the Crescent City's favorite close harmony singers. In the process of recording this excellent selection of songs, I was continually amazed by their discriminating musical sense and refined feel for the dynamics of song. If you are already familiar with the group, you will say, "Yowzah!" If it's your first date, you will absolutely fall in love with the Pfister Sisters."

The Pfister Sisters' "Puttin' It On" **CD Release** will be celebrated at **Snug Harbor** on Thursday, May 29, with shows at 8 and 10pm.

### **Pfister Sisters - Biography**

Formed in 1979, The Pfister Sisters – **Holley Bendtsen, Yvette Voelker, and Debbie Davis**, along with **Amasa Miller** on piano, have devoted decades to delivering vocal jazz harmony to the city of New Orleans and beyond.

During that time, they've shared stages with **Vet Boswell** (of the Boswell Sisters), **Maxene Andrews** (of the Andrews Sisters), **The Neville Brothers, Charmaine Neville, Kermit Ruffins, Ernie-K-Doe, Frankie Ford, Dr. John, Banu Gibson, Leigh "Lil' Queenie" Harris, Marcia Ball, Henry Butler, Linda Rondstadt, Jimmy Buffet, Judith Owen, Harry Shearer, The Dukes of Dixieland, Luther Kent**, and most recently, the renowned classical acapella mens' choir from San Francisco, **Chanticleer**.

Recent recording guest appearances include "Tales of the Bushmen" - Harry Shearer, "Sunflower City" - Matt Perrine, "Christmas in New Orleans" - the Dukes of Dixieland; "Freaks for Industry" - the Tin Men and "Late Lunch" - 3 Manisha.

The Pfisters recently served on the **Boswell Centennial Committee**, bringing the first celebration of New Orleans' indigenous swing music to the city in December of 2007. At French Quarter Festival, 2008, they accepted the induction of The Boswell Sisters into the Louisiana Music Hall of Fame on behalf of the family.

In addition to their regular Wednesdays (6:30-9:30) at the Spotted Cat, and Sunday Brunches (11:30-2:30) at the Marigny Brasserie, the Pfister Sisters will be appearing at the **Jazz in the Grove Jazz Fest** in Bay Springs, MS on Saturday, April 26, and at the **New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival** in Economy Hall Tent on Sunday, May 4 at 12:25. They'll do an "in-store" performance at the **Louisiana Music Factory** on

**Saturday, May 17** at 4pm, appear at the **Natchez Music Festival** in Natchez, MS on **Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>**, and celebrate **“Thursdays at Twilight” in the City Park Botanical Gardens** on **June 5** at 6pm.

This summer, The Pfister Sisters will be performing for eight days at the **Ascona Jazz Festival** from June 27th to July 6th, followed by a month long engagement from July 18 to August 17, at the **Bar-jeder Vernunft Cabaret Theater** in Berlin, Germany.

### Previous Press Notices

#### Allen Toussaint

“I have seen the Pfister Sisters perform, both on the stage and in the recording studio and find them most exciting and unique.”

#### Gambit Weekly, New Orleans

“Best Non-advertised Louis Armstrong Tribute” (Jazz Fest reviews)

The Pfister Sisters were one of the best examples of heritage still at Jazz Fest, and pulled off a stirring double homage to Satchmo and their primary inspiration, underappreciated New Orleans legends The Boswell Sisters. 'Jazz vocal harmonies started right here on Camp Street with the Boswells, and their arrangement of this song was one of Armstrong's favorites,' the Pfisters announced before a sublime version of "When It's Sleepy Time Down South."

“Any one of these three could hold a stage in her own right. What they accomplish is dazzling. Don't miss them.” — **Provincetown Magazine**

"Their voices melt together, their band really kicks, and they get the audience smiling and swaying in the timelessness that is the joy of music." — **Radio Free New Orleans Jazz Fest review**

“Their forte is close harmony singing and they are very good at it, no, they are probably the best today” – **Footnote** (England)



The “Pfister Pfamily” at Word of Mouth Recording Studio

L to R, Top Row: Amasa Miller, Marilyn Bohren, Henry Perrine, Yvette Voelker,  
Debbie Davis and Holley Bendtsen.  
L to R Front Row: Spencer Bohren and Tim Stambaugh