



The first ever jazz record

New York, Mon. 26th Feb. 1917, and the band was all-white.

Keyboard arrow, home, end, page-up, and page-down keys may be used to navigate the presentation.



The precursor groups to the Original Dixieland Jazz Band (the name by which it became widely known after several alternative iterations) formed in New Orleans. The ensemble came together for a date at Schiller's Cafe in Chicago on Fri. 3rd Mar. 1916 under the name Stein's Dixie Jass Band. The band's popularity and acclaim grew and it came to wider prominence during a date at Reisenweber's Café in Manhattan starting on Sat. 27th Jan. 1917, just before the USA entered the Great War on Fri. 6th Apr. 1917. *For more details, click to visit the band's [Wikipedia](#) entry.*

Special Table d'Hote Dinner \$1.50

AND AN EXCEPTIONAL BEEFSTEAK DINNER \$1.50

SERVED DAILY
AND SUNDAY
FROM 6 TO 9 P. M.

With Elaborate
Entertainment
Features, Including

SERVED IN THE
"400 CLUB"
ROOM.

The First Eastern Appearance of the FAMOUS ORIGINAL DIXIELAND "JAZZ BAND"

Untuneful Harmonists Playing "Peppery" Melodies

NIGHTLY
AT MIDNIGHT GUS EDWARDS' INTERNATIONAL REVUE

With Mons. Vilani, Lillian Boardman and 8 Beauty Roses

GUS EDWARDS' "ROUND THE CIRCLE" NEWEST REVUE

Featuring Ruby Norton and Sammy Lee and a Company of 30
TWICE NIGHTLY AT 7:30 AND MIDNIGHT

JONIA and her SISTER
Heavenly Hawaiian Twins,
with their South Sea Troubadours.

Private Dining Rooms, Banquet
Halls, Ball Rooms, Beefsteak
Grill for Socials, etc. Catering.

REISENWEBER'S

NEW YORK'S NEWEST, LARGEST AND BEST EQUIPPED RESTAURANT
COLUMBUS CIRCLE & 58TH STREET



Four days after opening, the band auditioned for the Columbia label, but no record was issued. A month after that first audition, on Mon. 26th Feb. 1917, just as the Russian Revolution was getting underway, the band went into the Victor recording studio. Two sides were announced on Wed. 7th Mar 1917, [*Dixieland Jass Band One-Step*](#) and [*Livery Stable Blues*](#) (Wikipedia links), released in May, and became recognized as the first commercial jazz records ever. Legal issues were evident even at that early stage of the recording industry, as you may learn at those links.

REISENWEBER'S

Columbus Circle
& 58th St.
Phone Col. 9640

THE GALA REVUE

"The Shelburne Girl!"

Presented in the Main Restaurant Twice Nightly at
7:30 and 11:00

SPECIAL DINNER \$1.50
SERVED DAILY 6 to 9 P. M.

The Original Dixieland "Jazz" Band

Nightly Beginning at 9 in the 400 Club Room
AND AT THE AFTERNOON DANCES
DAILY 4 TO 6



With their first recording a smash hit, the band went on to greater things, which involved the personnel changes and legal fights one has come to expect in the music business. There is a summary on the [Syncopated Times](#) website that has a titles list and a personnel list. On the same website, [Colin Hancock](#) makes the case that there may have been jazz records before ODJB!

REAL "JAZZ" by REAL JAZZERS!

Those Wonderful "JAZZ" Numbers As Played by
THE ORIGINAL DIXIELAND "JAZZ" BAND

And Recorded by the Victor Talking Machine Company

Are Now Ready For Orchestra In The Popular **FEIST EDITION**

OSTRICH WALK

Fox Trot

SKELETON JANGLE

Fox Trot

BLUIN' THE BLUES

Fox Trot

MOURNIN' BLUES

Fox Trot

AT THE JAZZ BAND BALL One Step

TIGER RAG One Step

SENSATION One Step

WAR CLOUD One Step

Decided Novelties For Your Dance Program!

Orchestra, 13 parts & Piano, including Saxophones. 25¢ each. Full Orchestra, 40¢ each

Not Published For Band

LEO. FEIST, INC. FEIST BUILDING 335 WEST 40TH STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y.



For a more expansive source of information, try Dave Radlauer's [*Jazz Rhythm*](#) website, which uses a narrative audio format to present discussion and music. In four parts, the series totals just short of an hour and twenty minutes. There is also a text discussion of the ODJB legacy, plus the part nationality, ethnicity, and history played in the development of jazz music.

The Original Dixieland "Jazz" Band

*Offer through the popular Feist Edition
Their Greatest "Jazz" Hit*

BLUIN' THE BLUES

JAZZ FOX-TROT

This number is a positive sensation wherever it is played!

Some other "Jazz" Hits as played by the Dixieland "Jazz" Band and Recorded by the
Victor Talking Machine Company and others.

CLARINET MARMALADE	One-Step
FIDGETY FEET (Originally Entitled "War Cloud")	One-Step
SENSATION	One-Step
TIGER RAG	One-Step
AT THE JAZZ BAND BALL	One-Step
MOURNIN' BLUES	Fox-Trot
SKELETON JANGLE	Fox-Trot
OSTRICH WALK	Fox-Trot

Every Number a Decided Novelty—Real "Jazz" by Real Jazzers!



The ODJB has been caught in commentator crossfire over the years. The standing and place of the band in the prevailing culture has been questioned, but currently its standing and place in history seems to be widely accepted. Meanwhile, the music is there to be enjoyed.



Original Dixieland "Jass" Band

"A brass band gone crazy!"

That's the way a wag describes the original Dixieland "Jass" Band. Beyond that description we can't tell you what a "Jass" Band is because we don't know ourselves.

As for what it *does*—it makes dancers want to dance more—and more—and yet more! Just have another look at the picture above—you can almost *hear* the hilarious music of the "Jass" Band in your ears.

You'll want to hear the first Victor Record by this organized disorganization—it's a "winner." "Livery Stable Blues," a fox trot, and "Dixieland Jass Band One-Step" are played with charming ferocity and penetration.

Victor double-faced Record, 10255. Ten-inch, 75c.

New Victor Records for May

The Griswold, Richmond & Glock Co.
Perfect Victor Service





You may follow the modern continuation of the band, led by Jimmy LaRocca the son of founder member [*Nick LaRocca*](#) (Wikipedia), by visiting the [*ODJB*](#) website.

LATEST JAZZ Numbers Composed and Played by
The Original Dixieland Jazz Band



BLUIN' THE BLUES, Fox-Trot..... .60
 CLARINET MARMALADE, One-Step..... .60
 WAR CLOUD, One-Step..... .60
 MOURNIN' BLUES, Fox-Trot..... .60
 LAZY DADDY, Fox-Trot..... .60
 TIGER RAG, One-Step..... .60

STANDARD EDITION
LEO. FEIST INC. NEW YORK
BERNARD BARROWS MUSIC PUBLISHING CO. LONDON, ENGL.

SENSATION, One-Step..... .60
 OSTRICH WALK, Fox-Trot..... .60
 AT THE JAZZ BAND BALL, One-Step..... .60
 SKELETON JANGLE, Fox-Trot..... .60
 LOOK AT 'EM DOING IT, Fox-Trot..... .60
 BARNYARD BLUES, Fox-Trot..... .60

Nothing in this presentation comes from original research. We have used web sources for all the information and some of those sources conflict. Treat all information with due caution. There is a book online, [*The Story of the Original Dixieland Jazz Band*](#) (Louisiana UP, 1960, by H. O. Brunn), available for reading at the Internet Archive website.



The March of Time Volume 3 Episode 7 featured the story of the ODJB.

CREDITS

Visit the [*The78Prof*](#) on YouTube for a wonderfully curated archive of vintage records.

Visit [*Adam Swanson*](#) on YouTube for delightful old-time video and music.

Many thanks to all the generous people who share resources to the web.