

PLANET D NONET

"IF YOU HAVE NOT YET EXPERIENCED PLANET D NONET, YOUR GROOVE TANK IS MISSING OUT ON SOME SERIOUS FUEL."

They're Detroit's own down and dirty little big band, known nationally for curating some of the best in early jazz traditions and Black-American musical influences from the 20s, 30s and 40s. More "hot" than "sweet," according to PD9 cofounder and bandleader RJ Spangler, who started the nine piece ensemble with longtime musical partner James O'Donnell in 2007.

PD9 is a pared down version of the traditional big bands of the 1930s, and they frequently feature guest vocalists, adding to the versatility of the band's show. The number of musicians in the lineup is reminiscent of the earliest big bands, when swing was still evolving into the sound that defined jazz music's most popular era.

"The band retains the agility of a small group," says Spangler, "but with the harmonic palette of a larger one."

The group has been nominated and awarded multiple honors over the past decade, including several Detroit Music Awards. Most recently, they were named 2016 DMA for Outstanding Traditional Jazz Artist/Group, and not surprisingly that was not the first time they received that award.

With all the hours that PD9 have put in pounding the musical pavement, it's hard to imagine that any avowed Ellington/Strayhorn fan hasn't yet experienced them, whether live or recorded. Luckily, the fall/2016 release provides the perfect opportunity to discover this group known for putting body, soul and spirit into every bit of music they touch.

"ONE OF THE LOCAL SCENE'S MOST IMMEDIATELY APPEALING GROUPS, THE PLANET D NONET FEATURES A ROLLICKING JUMP-BAND AESTHETIC, WITH A BOLD LINEUP HEADED BY DRUMMER RJ SPANGLER AND TRUMPETER JAMES O'DONNELL AND A REPERTOIRE THAT RANGES FROM ELLINGTON TO SUN RA. YOU GET THE POWER OF A BIG BAND BUT THE FLEXIBILITY OF SMALL GROUP ALL IN ONE SWINGING PACKAGE."

– MARK STRYKER, DETROIT FREE PRESS

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BAND MEMBERS

JUSTIN JOSWIAK – ALTO SAX,
CLARINET

JIM HOLDEN – TENOR SAX,
CLARINET

GOODE WYCHE – CLARINET,
BARITONE SAX

JAMES O'DONNELL – CO LEADER
TRUMPET, VOCALS

KEN FERRY – TRUMPET

JOHN T. BONE PAXTON – VOCALS,
TROMBONE

MICHAEL ZAPORSKI – PIANO

SHANNON WADE – STRING BASS

RJ SPANGLER – LEADER,
DRUMS

