

Underwear Productions Presents:

The New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Funeral

THE UNFAIR GROUNDS -- It could be the Night the Music Died, as the Krewe of Underwear presents the first annual New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Funeral.

No one knows exactly what caused the death of music in the Crescent City. Commercialism, casinos, or most likely, dehydration due to lack of free water at Jazz Fest are possible culprits.

Since it now costs a family of four about a hundred bucks a day to do Jazz Fest, the price alone has killed many New Orleanians' opportunity to enjoy this supposedly Quint-essential New Orleans event. Tourists now crowd out natives, and there are more sponsors' names plastered around the Fest than at the Abomination in the Oaks, which litters City Park over the Christmas holidays.

Yes, every last local tradition and celebration in New Orleans is for sale these days, and it's time to hold a Jazz and Heritage Funeral.

Underwearians have decided to merge their second line with the Krewe du Vieux parade on Saturday, February 7. Center stage will be a combined Jazz Fest stage and cemetery, with gravestones marking the last resting places of such great institutions as the Old Absinthe Bar, Holmes, K&B, and Schwegmann's. The corporate grim reapers who brought about the demise of these and other local favorites will march alongside; these include Last-Rite-Aid, The Rock Hard Cafe, Planet Whoreywood, the Outhouse of Blues, and Bank None.

A Krewe spokeslizard expressed hope that they would be able to march their traditional French

Quarter route before that too was sold off to a corporate invader. "We understand K-Mart is trying to buy the Quarter, roof it over and turn it into one large store," said the unidentified mourning marcher. "We can hear it now: 'Check the Bourbon Street aisle for this hour's red light special.'"

More invasions are expected soon. The Ottoman Empire is rumored to be taking over Michael Hebert Furniture. The port may soon be located on the Waste Management River. Banc Marc (BM) will open soon on Loyola Avenue, featuring combined ATMs and voting machines. And your oyster po-boys will never taste the same at McUglesich's.

According to the Underwearians, the best way to fight back is to start some new chains. "We're opening up Gawdchaux's department stores, our new entertainment rip-off, Planet Gretna, and a Yeah-You-Rite-Aid drug chain," confirmed a Krewe member. "Sex Toys-R-Us will be all over the Quarter, and we'll serve some really scary food at TGIFriday the 13th. If you can't fight 'em, buy 'em out, that's our new motto."

C.O.A. STATEMENT

Le Monde de Merde is offered by the Krewe du Vieux in the true spirit of Carnival as a venue for satire and political comment. The views expressed herein may not reflect those of Krewe leaders or all Krewe members. They are designed to entertain and provoke thought. Besides, ain't none of us got nothin' worth suing for.

All material © 1998 by the Krewe du Vieux.

Jieux Brothers Triumphant Return At House of Jieux

THE PROMISED LAND -- After years of wandering in the desert and a long harangue with their mother, the Jieux Brothers, Jacob and Esau, made their triumphant return on stage last night at the House of Jieux. The bagel boys were accompanied by the greatest Klezmer blues band ever (in fact, the *only* Klezmer blues band ever), the Nogoodniks, and their mother.

Jerusalem Jacob Jieux was actively kvetching to hype the band's shows. "Ladies and gentiles, we're on a mission from G-d!" he proclaimed. "This could be bigger than Moses! Bigger than Joseph and the Pharaoh! Bigger than Norman Greenbaum!"

Commented Esau, "Oy."

The Jieux Brothers' Mameh had her own take on the whole affair. "G-d, schm-d -- those boys haven't seen the inside of a synagogue since their bubbe died of a heart attack -- G-d rest her soul, shtupping the butcher at her age! So now they go running around playing music and chasing shchik-sehs -- I wasn't born yesterday, you know -- and do they ever call their Mameh? And after all I've done for them! How I used to kvell when they were younger -- where did I go wrong?"

For those of you who missed the gig (how could you?!), the entire Rhythm and Jieux Review has another shtik in the Krewe du Vieux parade on Saturday. The House of Jieux stage will roll in the parade, and there will non-stop performances. Don't say we didn't warn you.