

TOM RIGNEY & FLAMBEAU

Tom Rigney, the fiery, electrifying violinist/composer, joins forces with some of the finest musicians on the San Francisco roots music scene to form **Tom Rigney and Flambeau**, a band that generates enough heat and energy to ignite a dance floor or lift an audience to its feet. Rigney, after fifteen years at the helm of **The Sundogs** (and, before that, with **Queen Ida's Bon Temps Zydeco Band**), has stepped out into the spotlight with a vengeance. Flambeau showcases his passionate, virtuoso fiddling, his commanding, charismatic stage presence, his range and originality as a composer, and, of course, those notorious red boots! His bandmates are veterans of the great bands of Charles Brown, Roy Rogers, Clifton Chenier, and others, and together they have forged a unique sound that blends American Roots styles into something original and HOT.

Flambeau specializes in blazing Cajun and zydeco two-steps, low-down blues, funky New Orleans grooves, and heartbreakingly beautiful ballads and waltzes. Most of the repertoire is composed by Rigney, but they also mix in a few classics from the Cajun/zydeco/New Orleans songbook. And if, along the way, you pick up a trace of Rigney's Irish roots, or echoes of Eastern Europe or the coast of Spain, it just makes the musical gumbo that much tastier. In the past few years Rigney's skills as a composer have broadened and deepened, and he is today writing some of the most evocative and compelling music you will hear anywhere. And Rigney's charismatic stage presence, humor, and high-energy showmanship pull the audience into his performances and make them feel that they are a part of the music and the show.

Tom Rigney and Flambeau were voted **Best Cajun/Zydeco Band of 2004** by the **West Coast Blues Hall of Fame** and they have been tearing it up at festivals, clubs, dances, and concerts from San Francisco to Fort Lauderdale to Fairbanks, Alaska. Their critically acclaimed debut CD, **Red Boots and Rice**, was released on the Parhelion label in late 2000. **Metamorphosis**, hit the street in summer, 2002, and the latest Flambeau disc, **Happy to Be Here**, was released in July, 2003. Tom Rigney's brilliant new blues CD, **A Blue Thing**, was just released in October, 2004. This is a band you have to hear!

THE MEMBERS OF FLAMBEAU ARE:

DANNY CARON: Guitar. During the 1990's, Danny toured the world as guitarist and music director for blues/jazz great, **Charles Brown**. Among his other credits are stints with zydeco king, **Clifton Chenier**, **Marcia Ball**, **Henry Butler**, and numerous other blues and roots artists. He is a master of nearly every style of American roots music and his inspired improvisation and fiery soloing make him an excellent foil for Rigney.

CAROLINE DAHL: Piano, Accordion. The newest addition to the Flambeau roster, Caroline brings a strong element of Boogie Woogie and New Orleans-style piano playing to the band, in addition to her hot accordion work on the Cajun and zydeco tunes. Originally from Louisville, KY, she has spent the past twenty years as a mainstay of the Bay Area blues and roots music scene, earning a reputation as a brilliant soloist and a strong ensemble player.

IAN HOFFMAN: Drums. Ian is a powerhouse drummer, whose grooves have an infectious, upbeat feel that is the foundation of the Flambeau sound. He has been in great demand for years around the Bay Area roots music scene, and joined up with Flambeau in 2000.

STEVE PARKS: Electric Bass. Steve is a rock-solid bassist, whose big tone and deep groove sense anchors the bottom end of the Flambeau sound. He is a longtime mainstay of the Bay Area blues and roots music scene, having performed and recorded with numerous bands over the past twenty years.

PHONE/FAX: 510 526-1048

EMAIL: RIGO@RIGOMANIA.COM

CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE: WWW.RIGOMANIA.COM