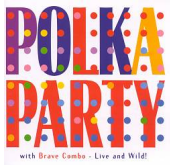


Live in Texas Presents: Brave Combo "Live & Wild" With Oktoberfest just around the corner, we're giving you a taste of polka! Tune in Thursday, September 18th at 7pm to hear the entire record!



Today, we will be presenting Brave Combo! Brave Combo is a polka, rock and world beat quintet based in Denton, Texas. Founded in 1979 by guitarist, keyboardist, and accordionist Carl Finch, they have been a prominent fixture in the Texas music scene for more than twenty-five years. Their music, both originals and covers, incorporates a number of dance styles

, mostly polka, but also some Latin American and Caribbean

styles. Trying to describe Brave Combo's music requires a pretty extensive vocabulary – at least when it comes to musical styles. As part of their perceived artistic mission to expand the musical tastes of their listeners, they have often played and recorded covers of well-known songs in a style radically different from the original versions. Examples include polka versions of Jimi Hendrix's "Purple Haze" and The Doors' "People are Strange", and The Rolling Stones' "Satisfaction" as a cha-cha. Alongside Finch for most of Brave Combo's 30 years has been multi-instrumentalist Jeffrey Barnes, who joined in 1983. Barnes is known for his lively and imaginative stage wear, as well as playing an array of reeds and woodwinds, sometimes in multiple, simultaneous combinations. Rounding out the current line-up are trumpet player Danny O'Brien, drummer Alan Emert, bassist Little Jack Melody and Ginny Mac on accordion. They won a Grammy Award in 1999 in the Best Polka Album category for their album Polkasonic, and again in 2004 for their album Let's Kiss. In naming Denton, Texas, the "Best Music Scene" for 2008, Paste magazine cited Brave

Combo as the "Grand Pooh-Bah of Denton bands" and said that "Brave Combo, is in many ways the template from which all the rest are cut: artistic, ambitious, with a high degree of musicianship and a strong DIY ethic." Brave Combo's catalog of recordings range from Japanese pop to Latin American dance tunes, to the orchestral classics to rock and roll at its finest. From festivals and fairs of all varieties across the globe, rock clubs big and small, colleges, roadhouses, dances, cultural centers Brave Combo has charmed countless listeners. Brave Combo's vivid music can be heard in the films David Byrne's True Stories, Clive Barker's Lord of Illusions, Late Bloomers, Fools Rush In, Envy, The Academy award winning The Personals. They appeared at Oktoberfest in the beloved American burg of Springfield on an episode of "The Simpsons" and in 2008 Brave Combo provided the musical score for PBS's first ever animated series, "As the Wrench Turns" which resulted in an "Annie" nomination from the International Animated Film Society. They have also contributed original music for ESPN and The Big Ten network. Brave Combo continues to tour extensively and is currently working on their next CD release.