

# Detroit Free Press

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Mark Stryker

## MARK STRYKER'S JAZZ AND CLASSICAL HIGHLIGHTS: Jazz fest has names, hype



June 24, 2005

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FREE PRESS COLUMNIST

### JAZZ

New ideas are always a bit of a risk, but few recent ventures on the entertainment scene panned out quite so gloriously as last year's inaugural "Jazzin' on Jefferson," a free jazz-and-blues-themed street festival that attracted more than 7,000 people to a closed-off section of Jefferson at Chalmers on the east side of Detroit.

It wasn't just the music that got folks excited; it was soaking up the good-time vibe within the warm intimacy of a united urban neighborhood. Saturday's sophomore edition of the festival -- sponsored by the Jefferson East Business Association and designed to celebrate the jazz and blues heritage of the neighborhood -- promises an even bigger bang.

Once again there will be both a main stage and community stage for the music, but the headliner, imported from New Orleans, is the vibrant **Dirty Dozen Brass Band**, which closes the festival beginning at 8 p.m. Rooted in the second-line parade and brass band tradition of the Crescent City, the Dirty Dozen creates an explosive melange of funk-jazz-blues.

The festival runs from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday and the main stage acts change hourly. A few highlights: **Chris Codish with Perry Hughes** at 1 p.m., **Odessa Harris** at 3 p.m., **Straight Ahead** at 4 p.m., **Eddie Burns Blues Band** at 5 p.m. and **Marcus Belgrave** at 7 p.m. Beyond the music, there will be a variety of ethnic food, crafts and children's activities. It's all free. 313-331-7939.

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