



## **PRESERVATION**

reviewed by [Mike Greenhaus](#)

for [Relix Magazine](#)

published on 07/09/10

New Orleans' legendary **Preservation Hall Jazz Band** is the latest group to receive a reboot with the help of some famous friends on the all-star benefit album *Preservation*.

Notably better than the average collaborative effort, *Preservation* succeeds because the lauded ensemble remains commitment to traditional, Dixieland New Orleans jazz. Though the album's celebrity guests are associated with such diverse styles as indie-folk ( **Andrew Bird, Cory Chisel** ), alt-country ( **Jason Isbell, Steve Earle** ), singer/songwriter ( **Richie Havens, Ani DiFranco** ), American roots music ( **Pete Seeger, Del McCoury, Blind Boys of Alabama** ) and places in between ( **Tom Waits, Angelique Kidjo** ), each performer essentially curbs his individual voice to fit with Preservation Hall Jazz Band's distinctive sound. Album highlights include **Jim James'** delivery of "Louisiana Fairytale" through a retro-New Orleans bullhorn, and a lost recording by jazz pioneer **Louis Armstrong**.