

THE CARNIVALEROS

"The Carnivaleros occupy that ghostly twilight niche manned by lurking gatherings of really good musicians who keep a tight lock on neighborhood familiarity and loose professionalism by capturing a Saturday Night vibe and keeping it firmly stoked"
Mark S. Tucker, Folk & Acoustic Music Exchange



The Carnivaleros' music has always been difficult to define - they combine moody Eastern European motifs, western movie themes with strains of Zydeco rhythms, Tex-Mex polkas, waltzes and swing to create a stew of Desert Bayou Music.

They live up to the name with this year's release of "Dreams Are Strange". Bandleader Gary Mackender has penned six instrumentals and eight seductive tales of life, conjuring lyrical stories of American Gothic characters of fiction, for his fifth full length album. His lyrics deal with the human condition as he sees it; some light, some dark. The tales told on this latest project range from a story of a psychic practicing her trade in New Mexico; a lament of the consequences a soldier faces coming back home; a tribute to the 1950s First Lady Mamie Eisenhower; and the opening track, Hesitation Bridge, was inspired by Kazuo Ishiguro's An Artist of the Floating World, the bridge symbolizing choices one must make every day in our journey.

Mackender is looking forward to live performances with his tight band throughout 2016-17. Their shows are always filled with high energy and the joy of playing music for a thirsty, music-loving audience.

Dreams Are Strange credits:

Gary Mackender: Accordion, Drums, Piano, Vocals

Karl Hoffmann: Bass, Guitar, Vocals

Joe Fanning: Guitar, Baritone, Mandolin

Chris Giambelluca: Banjo, Double Bass, Vocals

Heather Hardy: Violin, Background Vocals

Rebecca Carlson: Background Vocals

Greg Mackender: Vibes on Donna's Song

Dreams Are Strange (released 3.29.16)

Lyrics: carnivaleros.com/dreams

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| 1. Hesitation Bridge 4:23 | 8. Moving On 3:52 |
| 2. Dreams Are Strange 4:59 | 9. The Red Maple 1:25 |
| 3. The Chestnut Oak 1:41 | 10. Wore Out My Welcome 3:29 |
| 4. Gonna Jump In A Hole 3:27 | 11. Donna's Song 3:54 |
| 5. Mamie Eisenhower 3:13 | 12. Psychic Mary 3:45 |
| 6. Tumacacori 3:42 | 13. Time Traveling 3:31 |
| 7. Who's To Say 3:27 | 14. High Speed Yard Sale 3:16 |

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