

THICK as THEIVES



NEW ALBUM "Sack Lunch" MAY 2013

"This two-man band from Brooklyn harness a guitar sound that's a cross between a thousand angry hornets and a busted tailpipe on your uncle's long neglected BSA."

-THRUST

"Thick as Thieves has all of the grit and grime of a true American rock band."

-The Deli

THICK
as
THEIVES



Sack Lunch

www.thickastheives.net

Scene & Heard Soundcheck

THE METER MEN WITH PAGE MCCONNELL

THE GRAND BALLROOM
NEW YORK, N.Y.
MARCH 22

As **Page McConnell** switched to clavinet and locked in with bassist **George Porter Jr.** on the tight groove of "Just Kissed My Baby," **The Meter Men**, a collaboration between the Phish keyboardist and founding members of The Meters, lived up to their full jam-funk potential. The Meters were one of Phish's strongest influences and McConnell was able to slip perfectly into this band, featuring Porter, drummer **Zigaboo Modeliste** and guitarist **Leo Nocentelli**. Kicking off with the stiff funk of "Fire on the Bayou," the group delivered more than three hours of music.

Though McConnell was responsible for the crowd full of Phish fans that packed the Manhattan Center's Grand Ballroom, onstage he mostly played the role of a sideman thrilled to play with his heroes. "Fire on the Bayou" found the

keyboardist in the spotlight with a swirling organ solo, while Modeliste's drums impressively answered each flurry of notes. But McConnell was equally content to play percussive riffs while Nocentelli soloed away on guitar.

Though The Meters kept their studio recordings crisp and concise, their jamming sensibilities emerged in the live setting and nearly every song stretched past the 10-minute mark. McConnell took the lead on "Cissy Strut," before the band slid into "Cardova," highlighted by shredding from Nocentelli. Throughout the night, the guitarist played with an abundance of power and aggression, delivering long solos full of lightning-fast blasts of notes that only occasionally resembled his subtler work on The Meters' studio recordings. And while Nocentelli's playing was always extraordinary, at times, it felt showy and self-indulgent.

The Meter Men were at their best when solos from Nocentelli and McConnell spurred the bandmates to reach greater heights—"Just

Kissed My Baby" and "Doodle Loop (The World Is A Little Bit Under The Weather" being two prime examples. With a set list full of The Meters' classics, The Meter Men weren't trying to do anything more than revisit fun, old material with a new friend and new voice—and they succeeded in doing just that. *Sam Robertson*

CLUTCH

THE WILMA THEATER
MISSOULA, MONT.
APRIL 1

THROUGHOUT THEIR NEARLY quarter-century career, **Clutch** have evolved from a hardcore riff-metal band touring with the likes of Slayer to performing improvisation-packed sets at Summer Camp and Bonnaroo, supporting albums drenched in hard blues. The group has gained a fanbase that looks like a chapter of the Hells Angels but are as dedicated to the band in the way jamband fans are to, say, Phish. (Their online forum is 14,000 members strong and they allow people to record their shows.)

McConnell, channeling his inner Art Neville, stretches out with his longtime heroes in *The Meters*

