



# Snarky Puppy

Michael League / *Bass*

Justin Stanton / *Keyboards and Trumpet*

Michael "Maz" Maher / *Trumpet*

Jay Jennings / *Trumpet*

Chris Bullock / *Saxophones and Flute*

Bob Lanzetti / *Guitars*

Chris McQueen / *Guitars*

Jason "JT" Thomas / *Drums*

Nate Werth / *Percussion*

*with special guests*

## **Mama Sol**

Mama Sol / *Vocals and Band Leader*

Ron "Juice" Hopson / *DJ*

George Warren / *Keyboards*

Andreious Reed / *Keyboards*

Antwan Kirkland / *Bass*

Famadou Keita / *Drums*

Thursday Evening, March 16, 2017 at 7:30

Hill Auditorium

Ann Arbor

46th Performance of the 138th Annual Season  
23rd Annual Jazz Series

Tonight's supporting sponsor is Altarum Institute.

Funded in part by the JazzNet Endowment Fund at UMS.

Media partnership provided by Ann Arbor's 107one, WDET 101.9 FM, and WEMU 89.1 FM.

Snarky Puppy appears by arrangement with Royal Artist Group.

In consideration of the artists and the audience, please refrain from the use of electronic devices during the performance.

The photography, sound recording, or videotaping of this performance is prohibited.

## **PROGRAM**

*Following a 45-minute opening set by Mama Sol, this evening's program by Snarky Puppy will be announced from the stage by the artists and will be performed without intermission.*







The arts **stimulate** the mind  
and inspire **creativity**.

Altarum Institute is thrilled to support UMS and provide inspiring and enjoyable cultural opportunities for our team and our community.

Altarum serves the public good by solving complex systems problems to improve human health, integrating research, technology, analysis, and consulting skills.

**Join our growing network of partners as we work together to build a healthier future.**



## ARTISTS

**Snarky Puppy** seamlessly fuses a deep knowledge and respect for musical tradition with sonic and conceptual innovation in a way that is able to reach the most critical — or most carefree — audience. The convergence of musicians from white and black America (who also perform regularly with artists including Erykah Badu, Snoop Dogg, Kirk Franklin, Justin Timberlake, Roy Hargrove, and Marcus Miller), which occurred while the band was in its adolescence at the University of North Texas, has naturally established a system of balance that instantly draws listeners to the music — raw funk and sensitive dynamics, relentless pocket and lyrical melodicism, lush harmony and soulful simplicity, and most importantly, a delicate mixture of composition and improvisation.

Though an instrumental band in nature, Snarky Puppy thrives on collaborating with artists from all styles. Their *Family Dinner* album series is a vehicle for this, having seen the likes of Salif Keita, Susana Baca, David Crosby, Lalah Hathaway, Becca Stevens, Laura Mvula, Brazilian legends Carlos Malta and Bernardo Aguiar, Swedish neo-trad group Väsen, Jeff Coffin, Charlie Hunter, and many more over the course of the first two installments.

The group is led by bassist, guitarist, composer, and arranger Michael League, whose creative grassroots approach to a tougher-than-ever industry has created a new model for independent artists. Snarky Puppy is a three-headed creature: first, and most obviously, an original music ensemble. Second, a production team and session band for individual artists. Third, and probably most importantly, Snarky Puppy is a group of musicians enthusiastically committed to music education and community outreach.

Working with non-profit and arts advocacy groups around the world, as well as giving clinics at hundreds of colleges, high schools, and middle schools on six continents, the band has made a strong commitment to spreading their love of music and general positivity to a young generation looking for something real to be inspired by.

*UMS welcomes Snarky Puppy as the ensemble makes its UMS debut this evening.*

**Mama Sol** is a Flint, Michigan-based hip-hop/neo soul ensemble committed to breaking the self-destructive cycle of mainstream hip-hop. Frontwoman Mama Sol is a mother, breast cancer survivor, humanitarian, motivational speaker, and spoken-word artist. She was an honors student and collegiate athlete at Eastern Michigan University where she graduated with a BA in psychology and sociology. In the 1990s, Sol worked at the American clothing and hip-hop apparel company FUBU at its peak, helping to develop promotional campaigns. Following a five-year bout with breast cancer, Sol began teaching at Detroit's Timbuktu Academy of Science and Technology. Her experiences teaching have had a major impact on her life as a person and artist.

TONIGHT'S VICTORS FOR UMS:



Altarum Institute

—

JazzNet Endowment Fund

*Supporters of this evening's performance by Snarky Puppy.*

**MAY WE ALSO RECOMMEND...**

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 3/18 | Steve Reich @ 80: <i>Music for 18 Musicians</i> with Eighth Blackbird and Third Coast Percussion |
| 3/29 | DakhaBrakha  |
| 4/12 | A Far Cry with Roomful of Teeth  |

*Tickets available at [www.ums.org](http://www.ums.org).*

**ON THE EDUCATION HORIZON...**

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 3/18 | You Can Dance: Kidd Pivot<br>(Ann Arbor Y, 400 W. Washington Street, 2–3:30 pm)  |
| 3/25 | Pre-Concert Lecture Series: Exploring Beethoven's String Quartets<br>(Michigan League Koessler Room, Third Floor, 911 N. University Ave., 7:00 pm) |

*Educational events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.*