

Sports, Entertainment, Arts & Media News

Psychedelic Dub-Jazz Collective Club d’Elf releases new album “Loon & Thrush” via Potato Family; Now on tour

April 10, 2026- World-class instrumental ensemble **Club d’Elf** releases their new album **Loon & Thrush** via Royal Potato Family. Recorded entirely live in the studio with minimal overdubs, the LP captures the raw, ecstatic, Moroccan-influenced energy that defines the band’s signature sound since their inception in 1998. To accompany the release, they’ve also shared an in-studio video for the otherworldly title track.

The band is currently in the midst of a short tour through the Northeast with a special album release show planned for at De La Luz in Holyoke, MA. For a full list of dates, please see below or visit clubdelf.com.



Watch the in-studio video for “Loon & Thrush” on YouTube

Although it was never planned or discussed, a theme gradually emerged as this album took shape – the idea of flight. It revealed itself in many forms: the avian imagery of the title piece and their Moroccan-infused cover of the Grateful Dead’s “Bird Song,” the realtime musical explorations the group undertakes, and the sense of late member Brahim Fribgane’s spirit rising, guiding the music from beyond.

“Going into the recording of this album was a very heavy time for the band, as we had just lost Brahim, who was a core member,”

Club d’Elf performs magic in the group’s latest “Loon & Thrush” album with its Moroccan-infused cover of the Grateful Dead’s “Bird Song.” The album was recorded live in the studio. (Photo Credit: Liz Linder)

Rivard shares. “This would be the first album we had done without him, and the thought of never being able to play with him again was a reality that was very hard to grasp.”

A member of the group since 1999, the Casablanca-born musician introduced Rivard to Gnawa – a centuries-old spiritual music rooted in repetition, ritual and ecstatic groove. Over time, Moroccan trance became not just an influence but the foundational pillar of the Club d’Elf aesthetic. Fribgane left a profound musical and spiritual imprint on the band – particularly through both Ri-

vard’s sintir work and Brahim’s teachings which remain central to the band’s identity. Trance, repetition and ecstatic propulsion form the glue that holds together the band’s shifting lineups, improvisatory flights and broad stylistic vocabulary.

Built around Rivard, the band has spent 28 years with a rotating cast of fierce improvisers, navigating deep grooves, trance-drenched vamps and sprawling textures. Over the decades, Club d’Elf has toured internationally, developing a fervent nationwide

underground following and a deep admiration from peers such as Dead & Company’s Oteil Burbridge and Phish’s Mike Gordon.

Gordon shares: “I have a friend who said her favorite two bands were Phish and Club d’Elf, so I thought I better check ‘em out sometime. I was pleasantly surprised to find a band that is bass forward (believe it or not, I like that aspect) and with some great players. It’s really cool to watch Michael Rivard switch from a regular bass to the Moroccan sintir and make them both sound so

primal and deep.”

Weaving dub, electronica, jazz, Gnawa, hip hop, prog and ritual trance together, the band has formed a singular sound. With Loon and Thrush, the band enters a new chapter: one that honors its past, carries forward the legacy of Brahim Fribgane, while continuing its decades-long exploration into trance, improvisation, transformation and flight.

Loon & Thrush Tracklist

1. Bird Song
2. Loon and Thrush
3. Left Hand of Clyde

4. Softly
5. New Speedway Boogie
6. Second Line
7. Dux Lux
8. Atlas Mountain Hop
9. Like a Silence
10. Level Up Your Soul

Tour Dates

April 18 – Rochester, NY – Three Heads Brewing

April 23 – Woodstock, NY – Colony

April 24 – Albany, NY – The Egg

May 3 – Brooklyn, NY – Brooklyn Bowl

May 9 – New Hope, PA – Dharma Bums

Acclaimed pianist Emmet Cohen releases “ Universal Truth” ... from sports page 3

plains. “‘Universal Truth.’ When Trane talked about his artistry and his calling, his intention was always to seek that universal truth. I interpret that to mean his higher power, his version of God, his connection to the source that connects and calls to every living thing on Earth.”

With Universal Truth, Emmet Cohen celebrates the great discoveries of past masters by making his own search for the endless revelations contained within those simple, profound, vast universal truths.

Tracklisting:

1. Budo
2. Well You Needn't
3. My Funny Valentine
4. Gingerbread Boy
5. I. Eternal Glimpse
6. II. Compassion
7. III. Universal Truth
8. Blue Trane

Jul 8-12: New York, NY - Smoke Jazz Club

July 25: Katonah, NY - Caramoor

Sept 5-6: Washington, DC - DC Jazz Fest

Sept 8-12: New York, NY - Birdland NYC

Sept 18-25: Botti @ Sea

Oct 9: Provo, UT - BYU

Oct 11: Berkeley, CA - Freight and Salvage

Jan 12-17: David Foster at Sea

Jan 17-24: The Jazz Cruise

Jan 24-31: Journey of Jazz Cruise

Feb 12: Boston, MA - Berklee Performance Center

Feb 19-21: Northridge, CA - Cal State Northridge

About Emmet Cohen

Emmet Cohen is widely regarded as a leading jazz pianist of his generation and a defining force in the evolution of the art form. A virtuoso musician, producer, and bandleader, he combines deep respect for jazz tradition with a singular ability to create connection, community, and momentum in the modern era. Cohen has released 12 albums as a leader and is the producer and creative force behind Live From Emmet’s Place, a landmark series comprising over 140 two-hour livestream performances featuring hundreds of musicians spanning generations and reaching more than 100 million views worldwide.

A Mack Avenue recording artist, Cohen has performed in over 40 countries, serves as host of The Jazz Cruise and a member of its programming team, and he has been chosen as Artistic Partner of the 2027 American Piano Awards.

He was named DownBeat Readers Poll Pianist of the Year (2025) and, in 2023, received both Pianist of the Year and Livestream Producer of the Year honors from the Jazz Journalists Association.

CLARENDON COUNTY, S.C. April 12, 2026— Getting away from the crowd on Santee Cooper proved to be the right move for Haywood Anglers duo of Kollin Brown and Cord Shook.

The duo caught a five-bass limit weighing 16 pounds, 1 ounce to claim the 2026 Tackle Warehouse Bassmaster Junior Series at Santee Cooper Lakes title, punching their ticket to the 2026 Tackle Warehouse Bassmaster Junior National Championship at Kentucky Lake in the process.

“It feels pretty good. I’m thankful to be able to come out and fish,” Shook said.

Boat captain Dillon Brown said the duo work well together as a team, and that showed in the results.

“I sat back there and watched them catch those fish, and I was just thinking how good God is,” he said. “They worked really well as a team. When Kollin caught that 5-pounder, that got everyone’s blood pumping.”

Brown and Shook fish highland reservoirs like Fontana Lake and Chatuge most often, a much different setup than Santee Cooper. The duo has some experience on the Low Country fishery, which benefitted them in this tournament.



Kollin Brown and Cord Shook of Haywood Anglers have won the Tackle Warehouse Bassmaster Junior Series at Santee Cooper Lakes with a five-fish total of 16 pounds, 1 ounce. (Photo by Logan Crumley/B.A.S.S.)

The wind generated water movement around the trees, and the duo used that to their advantage. A wacky-rigged worm caught the majority of their bass. When they reached their area, they caught two quality large-mouth to start their day before

landing a 5-pounder. They proceeded to fill out their limit, but when the wind settled down, the bite slowed as well. Late in the day, Brown and Shook ran to a set of mid-lake docks and caught a 4-15, sealing

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H O N O R S

APRIL 30, 2026

VIP Reception: 6-7 PM | Event: 7 PM

Crosstown Theater

1350 Concourse Ave. Memphis, TN 38104