

MUSIC

Fritz's Polka Band's CD is best

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The liner notes in Fritz's Polka Band's new CD "Reflections" proclaim: "Performing an eclectic mix of music since October 1978!"

(Polka) **"Reflections,"** Fritz's Polka Band, independent recording.

The six guys in the Verona-based band led by the father-and-son team of accordion players, Fred and Fritz Scherz, have earned the right to that exclamation point.

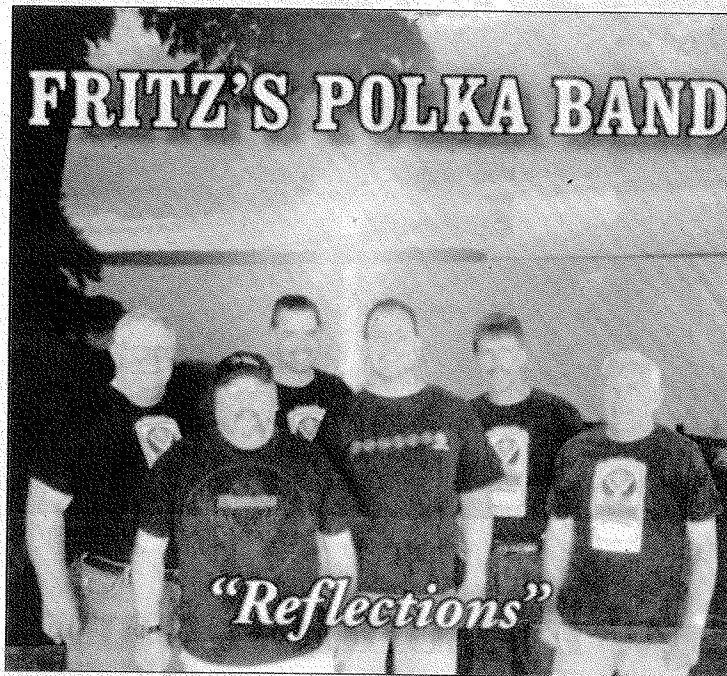
Fans of their lively polka style can take a trip back through memory lane with the 16-photo collage that runs beneath the aforementioned motto. Yes, indeed, that's young Fritz in the first year of the band before he's tall enough to reach dad Fred's chest.

This band is nothing if not hard-working. This is FPB's 15th CD, and it's best.

With Gabe Vaccaro on bass, Tom Campbell and Frank Nelson on guitar and Rick Szczyt on drums, the Scherzes have found a happy and talented polka groove.

The two-accordion texture sounds superb on the instrumental "Scherz's Polka," a winning composition indeed worthy of the family name.

There are joyous celebration songs, like the opening cut "It's a Jager Party," and there are serious ballads, like the introspective "Life on Earth."



FRITZ'S POLKA BAND has released its 15th CD, "Reflections."

And FPB gets an added punch from guest guitarist Rocko Dorsey of Cortland, who adds a fun twang to "It Started with a Kiss" and Bob Kravos of Ohio, who adds solovox on the bonus-cut version of "Walter's Polka," a tribute to polka legend and friend of the band Walt Ostanek.

For pure pleasure, though, the winner is "November Waltz," which tells the tale of the band's happy journey to Cleveland, Ohio, when Fred was inducted into the Cleveland-style Polka Hall of Fame.

Catch a show: Fritz's Polka Band plays at 5, 7 and 9 p.m. Friday at the Syracuse Polish Fest in Clinton Square.

On the Internet: www.fritz-polkaband.com.

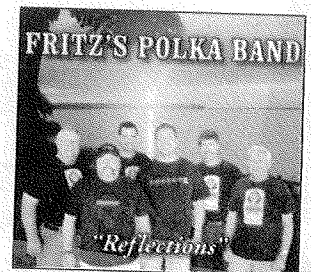
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