Grammy Award-Winning Band Snarky Puppy to Open 2014-2015 Wisconsin Union Theater’s Isthmus Jazz Series

On Thursday, September 18, 2014, at 9 pm, the Wisconsin Union Theater opens the 2014-2015 Isthmus Jazz Series with Grammy Award-winning jazz fusion band Snarky Puppy at the recently renovated Shannon Hall.

The New York-based band has exploded in popularity recently, but has kept its “underground” personality. Led by multi-award winning bassist/guitarist/composer/arranger Michael League, Snarky Puppy seamlessly fuses a deep knowledge of, and respect for, musical tradition with
sonic and conceptual innovation in a way that reaches the most critical - or most carefree - audience. The band is made up of musicians who perform regularly with artists like Erykah Badu, Snoop Dogg, Kirk Franklin, Justin Timberlake, Roy Hargrove, and Marcus Miller among others; it has established a balance of raw funk and sensitive dynamics, relentless rhythm and lyrical melodicism, lush harmony and soulful simplicity and, most importantly, a delicate mixture of composition and improvisation. Over the course of 2013, the band gave close to 200 performances at several world famous events, including North Sea Jazz, Monterey Jazz Festival, Jazz á Vienne, Blue Note Tokyo, and the Melbourne International Jazz Festival. Their latest album was #3 on the iTunes Jazz Charts in 2012, and in April 2014, Snarky Puppy produced a live DVD/album with the 52 piece award winning Metropole Orchestra, featuring an entire new suite of music written specifically for the event.

Snarky Puppy is presented by the Wisconsin Union Directorate’s Performing Arts Committee and Isthmus Weekly and supported in part by a grant from the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of Wisconsin and the National Endowment for the Arts. WORT 89.9 FM is the media sponsor.