

# KENNEDY ADMINISTRATION

WHETHER ACROSS TOWN OR ACROSS THE OCEAN, FOR AN INTIMATE CROWD OF 20, OR FOR A ROARING CROWD OF 20,000. WATCH ANY LIVE PERFORMANCE BY KENNEDY ADMINISTRATION, WITH THE BANDS SINGULAR NAMESAKE AT THE MICROPHONE AND YOU'LL BECOME A FAN FOR LIFE!

A group of New York musical all-stars, **Kennedy Administration** holds down a regular engagement at a popular Greenwich Village nightclub, **Groove**, while racking up milestones internationally. Since 2015, they've sold out performances in **Europe, Russia** and **Asia**, and at their iconic hometown jazz club, **Blue Note**. In March 2018, they played the annual **Java Jazz festival** in Jakarta — a three-day affair with attendance totaling 115,000. In summer 2018, Kennedy Administration opened for **Elton John** at the **Black Sea Arena**.

They'll arrive boasting a self-titled debut album that cracked the **U.S. iTunes top 40** upon its September 2017 release. The 10-track Kennedy Administration, on Germany's Leopard label, showcases the deep chemistry and songwriting talents of these superb musicians, including the vocalist who provides the spark and the soul — and the name.

That would be Kennedy herself. A Michigan native who did her first singing in church, Kennedy grew up with few limits on her listening. Everyone from Anita Baker to Ella Fitzgerald, Sade to Michael Jackson, Dave Matthews to Prince, Kennedy heard and embraced. Since moving east, she has worked with **Eric Benét, Kenny Lattimore, Monifah** and **Cheryl Pepsi-Riley**, among others — her calling card a voice that combines great influences with character all its own.

Along the way she met another New York transplant: Ondre J, a keyboardist, composer and recording artist originally from the Czech Republic, currently a touring and recording bandmate of **Grammy-winning jazz singer Gregory Porter**. The collaboration led to a band, which starting in 2014 led to a memorable run at Groove. The core trio was Kennedy, Ondre and drummer Nathaniel Townsley — a studio and touring pro for **Mariah Carey, Nile Rodgers** and **The Public Enemy** — with a rotating cast on bass and guitar. Whoever sat in, New York's famously hard-to-impress audiences immediately took to this talented band with the inspirational singer.

As word spread and crowds grew, Kennedy Administration added original songs, and a lineup cohered, with Chelton Grey on bass and Dan Muniz on guitar bringing their own sterling roster of name collaborators and top-flight gigs. The band continues to refine and evolve its sound, wrangling jazz, pop, soul, r&b, hip-hop and rock into a heady, unifying whole. And what began as a side gig has grown into a project with a mission: **Make great new music with a spirit of optimism and grit that people everywhere recognize and connect with instantly.**

Make sure to get Kennedy Administration debut **album available for purchase on iTunes.**

**KENNEDY, Lead Singer**

Motor City native Kennedy made her way to New York not too long ago. She carved out a formidable body of work thanks to a vocal style that combines resemblances of significant influences like Ella Fitzgerald, Sade, Anita Baker, a dash of Luther Vandross, and a particular mix of playfulness and seductive poise. In a few short years since coming east, in one of the world's most competitive entertainment capitals, Kennedy has amassed gigs and collaborations with **Lalah Hathaway, Christina Aguilera, Kenny Lattimore, Monifah and Cheryl Pepsi- Riley.**

**ONDRE J, Keys**

Ondre is a celebrated keyboardist, composer, recording artist and bandleader from the Czech Republic. On this side of the Atlantic Ocean, he's also music director and resident organ player at a Gospel Church in Brooklyn. In 2016 he made his first appearance, courtesy of Grammy Award winning jazz singer **Gregory Porter**, on a recording for the venerable **Blue Note** jazz label. His resumé already boasted dates **Glastonbury** and **North Sea Jazz** festivals, an opening slot with **Andra Day** for r&b star **Toni Braxton**, performance with the legendary hip-hop group **Wu-Tang Clan** and a tour in front of total of 70,000 people as keyboardist for French pop singer **Ayo.**

**NAT TOWNSLEY, Drums**

Playing drums in his father's church at the age of three was a natural progression that barely hinted at all this musical prodigy would accomplish. Nathaniel has traveled all over the world, playing a broad range of different genres of music. He utilized his unparalleled skills to record and tour with artists such as **Stevie Wonder, Mariah Carey, Alejandro Sanz, Nile Rogers & Chic, The Zawinul Syndicate, Lalah Hathaway, Jessica Simpson and the Kiss FM Band- Karl Brown Smooth Improvisations**, just to name a few. His keenness and sensitivity to music, people and the world around him, continually elevates him beyond being an extraordinary drummer. Truly, even in silence, Nathaniel's unique touch can be heard through the legacy of his artistry!

**CHELTON GREY, Bass**

Chelton Grey is a musician, composer, music director, and producer who has become a sought after visionary in the music industry. Grey strives to uphold an influential brand through his pursuit of excellence and holistic approach to life. His value is demonstrated through his commitment to understanding the intention of the artist and the heart of the music in order to create, collaborate, and execute. Grey has developed a solid and versatile repertoire, with acts including Michelle Williams, Will.I.A.M, Ludacris, The Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir, and the Greater Allen Cathedral Choir, in addition to the West End and Broadway bound musical 'Marley.' His entry into commercial music commenced while touring with hip-hop recording artist Fabolous and he has not looked back. Since then, he progressed to working with Keith Harris, founder of the Gobo Music Agency, and has musically directed and collaborated with a broad range of musical acts including Mary Mary, Fifth Harmony, Rodney Jerkins, Stanley Brown, Shedrick Mitchell and Jason Michael Webb, to name a few. He is currently the assistant music director for the Greater Allen Cathedral Choir and Michelle Williams.

**DAN MUNIZ, Guitar**

Dan has played with renowned artists (Nona Hendryx, Valerie Simpson, Darius Christian, Ashleigh Smith, Melissa McMillan, MK Groove Orchestra, Brother Josephus & The Love Revolution) at some of the world's most auspicious venues (The Gramercy Theater, B.B King's, The Bitter End, City Winery, Rockwood, SOB's, CBGB, 54 Below, La Poisson Rouge, The Julliard School)

Dan is currently a member of the New York based, jazz-funk-rock-fusion band, Progger. Through four critically-acclaimed releases and live tours supporting acts like Parliament/Funkadelic, Snarky Puppy, Ghost-Note, and The Funky Knuckles, Progger has developed an international following of devoted fans. Their fourth studio album "Dystopia" was released through Ropeadope Records on March 9th, 2018, and word of the band's unique sound and talent are starting to spread around the world. Brooklyn's Crash Chords podcast describes Progger as "gripping... tight as hell... it will lift your heart in a very special way." The UK's Soul and Jazz radio show and webcast calls them "amazing," while Germany's Daily Prog blog calls them "vibrant and renewing." The Boulder Weekly summarizes the Progger sound well: "Smooth chords over dirty funk beats with just a hint of the building, swirling psychedelic sounds of prog rock." Progger will be touring in support of "Dystopia" throughout the year.