

SMOOTH TOAD

"twisted roots & cast-iron croonin'"

Smooth Toad performs "roots music" with merry twists, quirky originals in both traditional & experimental forms, & poetry in lively musical settings: "music for those occasions when ordinary music just won't do."

THE BAND:

Bob Ernst: vocals, percussion, blues harp

Hal Hughes: vocals, fiddle, guitar, harmonica

G. P. Skratz: vocals, guitar, mbira

Bob Ernst: actor/playwright. He is the founder of the legendary theatrical company, The Blake Street Hawkeyes (out of which emerged George Coates & Whoopi Goldberg, among others). In March of this year, San Rafael's Alter Theater presented his work in progress, *The Changer*, to a run of capacity crowds.

Hal Hughes: musician/writer. Hal was a founding member of the Blue Dolphin, a collectively run venue for improvised music in San Francisco, & has worked in music, dance, & theater with Tumbleweed, Overtone Theater, Subterranean Shakespeare, & Nightletter Theater. In September, he lent his fiddle mastery to Curtain Theater's production of *Merry Wives of Windsor*.

G. P. Skratz: poet/performance-artist. Skratz is the author of *Fun*, recent poems (Philos Press, Lacey, WA), the prose-poem collection, *The Gates of Disappearance* (Konglomerati, Gulfport, FL), & ghost-writer of the 3 Stooges bio, *Larry, The Stooge In The Middle* (Last Gasp, San Francisco). The volume, *Everything Else*, collecting his collaborations with the late great Darrell Gray is due out in early 2012 from Poltroon Press.