

The Wild Tchoupitoulas: Mardi Gras's Original Superkrewe



The Wild Tchoupitoulas' The Wild Tchoupitoulas (33 1/3

Book 142) by Bryan Wagner

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

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For over 60 years, the Wild Tchoupitoulas have been a legendary force in the New Orleans Mardi Gras tradition. Known for their elaborate costumes, infectious music, and dedication to community service, the Wild Tchoupitoulas are one of the most respected and beloved krewes in the city.

The Wild Tchoupitoulas were founded in 1957 by a group of young African-American men who wanted to create a krewe that would be both unique and inclusive. The krewe's name is a reference to the Tchoupitoulas Street, a major thoroughfare in New Orleans that was once home to a large African-American community.

From the beginning, the Wild Tchoupitoulas were known for their elaborate costumes. The krewe's signature look is a combination of Native American and African influences, with members wearing feathered headdresses, colorful robes, and beaded necklaces. The krewe's costumes are often so elaborate that they can take months to create.

In addition to their costumes, the Wild Tchoupitoulas are also known for their infectious music. The krewe's band plays a variety of traditional New Orleans music, including jazz, funk, and rhythm and blues. The Wild Tchoupitoulas' music is so popular that they have been featured on several albums and have even performed at the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival.

Beyond their costumes and music, the Wild Tchoupitoulas are also dedicated to community service. The krewe has a long history of working with local organizations to help the less fortunate. In recent years, the Wild Tchoupitoulas have partnered with the New Orleans Recreation Department to provide after-school programs for children in the city's public schools.

The Wild Tchoupitoulas are a unique and important part of the New Orleans Mardi Gras tradition. Their elaborate costumes, infectious music, and dedication to community service make them one of the most respected and

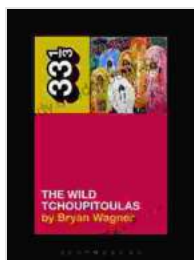
beloved krewes in the city. The Wild Tchoupitoulas are a true testament to the spirit of Mardi Gras and the rich culture of New Orleans.

The Wild Tchoupitoulas Today

The Wild Tchoupitoulas continue to be a vital part of the New Orleans Mardi Gras tradition. The krewe has over 1,000 members and participates in several parades each year. The Wild Tchoupitoulas are also active in the community, working with local organizations to help the less fortunate.

In recent years, the Wild Tchoupitoulas have been recognized for their contributions to the New Orleans community. In 2017, the krewe was awarded the Mayor's Medal of Honor for its work with the New Orleans Recreation Department. The Wild Tchoupitoulas were also featured in the 2019 documentary film "Mardi Gras: Made in New Orleans."

The Wild Tchoupitoulas are a true New Orleans treasure. Their elaborate costumes, infectious music, and dedication to community service make them one of the most respected and beloved krewes in the city. The Wild Tchoupitoulas are a testament to the spirit of Mardi Gras and the rich culture of New Orleans.



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