**Sandcatchers to Release Debut LP on November 3 (Chant Records)**

**Michael Bates (bass), Yoshie Fruchter (oud), Myk Freedman (lap steel), Tim Keiper (drums), with Erik Friedlander (cello)**

**Album Release Show November 2 @** [**National Sawdust**](https://nationalsawdust.org/event/yoshie-fruchter-sandcatchers-album-release/)**, Brooklyn**

**Watch the album trailer** [**here**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oOWcaEMAE6c) **(3:00)**

Sandcatchers is a Middle Eastern-Americana mash-up that grew out of a weekly residency at Cheryl’s Global Soul restaurant in Brooklyn. Their debut LP *What We Found Along the Way* will be released on November 3 (Chant Records).

The quartet – experimental guitarist and composer Yoshie Fruchter (John Zorn’s Tzadik records), Michael Bates, an accomplished jazz bassist with a punk rock background, Myk Freedman, a pioneer of modern lap steel music, and drummer/percussionist Tim Keiper (Vieux Farka Toure, Cyro Baptista) – explores the unprecedented combination of the oud, an instrument with centuries of history beginning in pre-Islamic Persia and Turkey, and the lap steel, a more recent invention with roots in the American South. Together with guest cellist Erik Friedlander, these musicians bring their varying backgrounds, specialties, and improvisational voices together to create a vibrant new sound.

The name Sandcatchers – “catching sand” - references something of an impossibility.  “I like the idea that this band is always searching, never satisfied,” says Fruchter, who studies oud with virtuoso Ara Dinkjian.  “Each member of the band is deeply inspired by history and tradition of their chosen instrument but even more driven to turn that inspiration into music that is new and fresh.”  Fruchter’s religious Jewish background also plays a part in the sound and personality of the band. “I feel like my music is aptly representative of a culture known for wandering. For every moment of beauty we achieve, there’s another one waiting around the corner to try to and chase down.”

Chant Records is founded by guitarist Jon Madof and bassist Shanir Blumenkranz, two longtime members of the downtown New York music scene. Sandcatchers’ *What We Found Along the Way* will be one four albums launching with the label.

**Sandcatchers Tour Dates**

Sept 14  Richmond Hill, ONT  Revival Bar

Sept 16  Guelph, ONT  Guelph Jazz Festival

Sept 17 Toronto, ONT, Schwartz-Reisman Center JCC

Oct 26 Rochester, NY  Bop Shop Records

Oct 27 Ithaca, NY tba

Oct 31 Washington, DC  Bossa Bistro & Lounge

Nov 1 Philadelphia, tba

Nov 2 Brooklyn, NY  National Sawdust

[www.sandcatchers.com](http://www.sandcatchers.com)

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