**Guy LeMonnier ( original TSO member)**

 “I am so excited for the band's future. They have gold on their hands, whether they realize it or not and I am thrilled to be a part of the growth. I am in love with the music and really enjoy performing it”

**Tony Gaynor (original TSO member)**

“Performing with the Wizards has renewed my faith in the spirit of Christmas, and reminded me just how much great music and great musicians, touch the very souls of people…..

Standing on the stage with the Wizards, as the audience erupted in applause, took me back to a my early days with Tso, just before they exploded and became a holiday tradition for family's everywhere…. I'm glad to be doing it again… Here comes the Wizards!”

**Joe Cerisano (original TSO member)**

“Lightening rarely strikes twice but after being a founding member of Trans Siberian Orchestra and being asked to join the Wizards of Winter I feel it has. Last years Christmas tour was a very real and amazing experience and from the crowd's reaction it looks like it's poised to be that way for a long time to come! To be asked to be part of a great show and with all the great people involved makes it even that much sweeter. I'm proud to be a part of the band! “

**Scott Kelly- ( Co-Founder, Composer, Music Director)**

 To watch the band grow from its humble beginnings to what it has now become, brings a huge unending smile to my face. It already has grown beyond our dreams and based upon the audience reaction to our original music, this is only just a start.

There is a warm magical feeling that comes over me when I see and hear the audience sing along to our songs. It is quite indescribable.

Throughout my musical career, I have never performed with such a collectively talented team of people than the group of musicians that currently comprises the Wizards. I am proud to share the stage which each and every one of them.

**Steve Ratchen ( Co-Founder, Bass Guitar)**

Having a theater full of people on their feet, knowing the lyrics to songs you've written or arranged is quite humbling in. We make it a point to stay as long as necessary after every show until we've met, chatted with and accommodated every person who's kind enough to have waited for us. I believe I speak for the entire organization when I say none of us consider it an obligation, but rather a privilege."

**Fred Gorhau (Lead Guitar)**

1- This show, like many others is very much about the fans and the audience.  I feed off the reaction we get from them both during & after the show.

2- There's probably no better feeling I get than when someone tells me that we are their "New Yearly Tradition".  That shows me we earned a fan for life.

3- Playing in this band is a real blast.  There are moments every night, at every show, where things are really firing on all cylinders.  It's like lightning in a bottle.  Very hard to capture that.

**Sharon Kelly ( Co-Founder, Lead Vocalist, Flute)**

“The whole experience of bringing music to people is very rewarding. Especially since we see such a wide range of age in the people that attend our shows.. Our music crosses the generational boundaries.

“I find our young audience so inspiring.  Reaching out their hand to me when I am singing in the audience, seeing them smile, its very humbling. I have had countless school age children come up to me after the show, excited to share with me that they play the flute too. " Its not just a concert/marching band instrument"  I joke with them.  They usually leave saying they hope to get the opportunity to play flute in a "cool" band like the Wizards some day.  Those young people are why this is so meaningful and rewarding to me. “

“ I never anticipated writing and performing our own songs would be so emotional.  They are like one of your own children. You create it, nurture it, protect it and then when ready, you let it fly on its own.  People in the audience, feeling the same raw emotion that inspired us to write the songs is very moving.”