Written by bluesever Wednesday, 21 May 2014 15:59 - Last Updated Wednesday, 21 May 2014 16:03

Cordes et Lames + 1 - Accordion Madness (1989)



1. Fleurette Africaine 2. Joao (for Joao Gilberto) 3. Northwest Highway 4. Lament 5. Frank's Tune 6. Country Trane 7. In case you missed it 8. For Leon & Lee 9. Varis de Paris 10. Trois Temps pour Laurent Dominique Cravic (guitars) Kenny Kotwitz (accordion) Francis Varis (accordion) Pierre Maingourd (bass) Jean Claude Jouy (drums) Jean Michel Davis (drums on 6,8 and 10) Didier Roussin (guitar on 5) Sonia Queiroz, Coaty de Oliveira (percussion on 2)

This is a little-known but superb album featuring the French band "Cordes et Lames" and a guest, American Accordionist Kenny Kotwitz, a student of the great Art Van Damme. "Cordes et Lames" was founded in the late seventies by guitarist Dominique Cravic and Jazz accordionist Francis Varis (both later founded "Les Primitifs du Futur").

They released an eponymous LP ("Cordes et Lames") in 1983, on the French JAMUZ label, which has become a minor collectable among jazz accordion / gypsy jazz aficionados. However, the music played by Cordes et Lames is not the standard "Gypsy Jazz" moulded on Hot Club de France. Their music has more modern influences namely Lennie Tristano, Lee Konitz, Art Van Damme. They actually recorded an album with Lee Konitz in 1988. ("Medium Rare", Label Bleu).

This album was recorded in 1987 and released in 1989 on the EPM label. It has been OOP for as long as I can remember and it is its first appearance in blogland (to the best of my knowledge). --- theboogiemanwillgetya.blogspot.com

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