

Elanor: A Clear Look

Review by Peter de Rop

A young Flemish balfolk band that sound like a seasoned French group that plays musique traditionnelle: that is what Elanor sound like on their first album 'A Clear Look'. The hurdy-gurdy and the bagpipe, in their various guises, dominate this album and the band. Though, in line with the good French and Celtic traditions, sometimes the accordion and at other times the flutes are played with virtuoso. These Elanor members hardly ever play solos: they would rather focus on their (own) melodies, on the groove and the arrangements. At any rate: all instruments on 'A Clear Look', so these include the bass and guitar, convey style and abilities of the highest level. Although we prefer seeing this kind of bands on stage at a folk festival rather than listening to (or having to listen to) a CD. And this last bit is meant as a compliment!