

Les Boukakes Collection

Contributed by Administrator
Monday, 09 August 2004

Formed 9 years ago, LES BOUKAKES is made up of 7 guys : Bachir, the voice of the band. Then come Thierry, the Corsican guitarist, Aki with the keyboards and accordion called the Kurdistan, Bubulle, bass player from the north, Imed, Tunisian derboukist, Pascal, drummer from the south and the Italian of the team, Massimo.

The Exile gave birth to the "Boukake"!

Their name itself is a reply to some of the less than friendly comments they received in their time on the streets, "Boukake" being a phonetic mixture of two typical racist insults. But for them, that did not have anything of degrading, because the "Boukake" was born during the long trip of exile, a rich child of the world and its prohibited loves. Without making ostensible political comments in their songs, this deliberate attitude says something for their resistance to bias and ignorance generally.

After a few years, from the street to bars, from small concerts to festivals, they finally met their audience, sharing the stages with famous bands like FEMI KUTI, MANU DIBANGO, TARAF DE HAÏDOUKS, NATACHA ATLAS, RACHID TAHA, MANU CHAO and others...

In 2001, they recorded the album Makach Mouch'kil (No Problem). That first work got a great reception from the media. The lyrics with oriental melodies harmoniously swing on musics either Rock, Groove, Electronic, Rai, or Gnawa.

But it was in 2004 that their music (raï-rock) was spotted :

They won professional prizes (FAIR, D couvertes Printemps de Bourges..) and an European TV channel, ARTE, chose to follow their development for documentaries.

They celebrated the end of the year with the release of a brand new album "Bledi".

The Raï and Rock Music of that album proves that the combination of Orient and Occident is possible and it can be Happy !

From 2005 to 2007, to share that new album with the audience, the band is on tour with more than 150 concerts in 15 different countries. Notice their participation at the Festival international of Jazz of Montr al, the Pal o festival, the WOMEX 2005, the Sziget Festival, Sakifo Festival, Amsterdam Roots Festival, Timitar Festival Morocco etc...

They have been recently nominated for The BBC Awards For World music 2007.

They just recorded their 3rd album "MARRA" (co-produced with Philippe Eidel and Franck Redlich).

"it's hard not to be seduced by this album's inventive energy