



Bergen Mandolinband: Flotmyr Gumbo LP

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Bergen Mandolinband · André Orvik, violin · Vegard Johnsen, violin · Dorte Dreier, viola · Hans Josef Groth, cello

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Bergen Mandolin Band was started out as street musicians in Bergen, a group of fellow students from the Haugesund area with a penchant for mandolins.

None of the members no longer lives in Bergen, and the first years of numerous home-burned CD-R releases have grown into full-scale album production. On "Flotmyr Gumbo" they mix self-produced song material with traditional North American Cajun and old-time songs. Natured gloom, sore homestead poetry, everyday sadness, drinking songs and lively dance and party music.

Cajun

"We are very pleased with ourselves this time.", says the band. "More than ever, we know that we are approaching the core of what we want to do. This time we have both taken several tunes and lots of inspiration from the Cajun tradition. The Cajun tradition mixes soreness and intensity, thirst and lust for life, but "Flotmyr Gumbo" has probably a different taste than Cajun Gumbo."

Flotmyr is an area near the city centre of Haugesund, perhaps best known as the place where the worn out bus terminal is located, "Both the title and the theme in several of the songs revolve around the mixed relationship we have to the place we come from, the journey away and the impossible journey back again. All that is beautiful and all that is ugly and all that is a dirty reality in our city. "

Release: | Catalogue number: GRLP4392 | EAN: 7 0 3 3 6 6 1 0 4 3 9 2 8 | Price category: 1LPL | Genre(s): Folk Music, Singer/Songwriter

"-Så lenge det er Bergen Mandolinband som kommenterer vestlandstristessen med lystige melodiar og friskt felespel, er ikkje livet så verst likevel. [Dag og Tid, Sigbjørn Apeland]"