**WORLD MUSIC UK REVIEW**

Balkan Alien Sound are a 7-piece Irish band from around Derry and Donegal. Ok. Not exactly Serbia, but who cares these days. With a repertoire that encompasses gypsy, klezmer and balkan musics these guys have been building up a reputation worthy of a place at Womad. I went down to photograph them at the Charlie Gillett Stage and really enjoyed their sense of purpose and fun. They certainly seemed to be having a good time and that’s always infectious. The line-up includes Martin Coyle on bouzouki, Robert Peoples on fiddle, Marc Forbes on bass guitar, Steven O'Carolan on Accordion, Gary Cunningham on electric guitar and Niall Lynch on drums.

I was just about to leave after having spent 15 minutes shooting them - most of the other photographers had just left - when they announced that their singer was coming on now. Oh? I didn’t realize they had one. Ok, fair enough. I’ll snap a few off. And on walks the rather lovely Aideen McGinn.

I’ll just say that I stayed a tadge longer than I should have, for purely professional reasons of course, you know, just to make sure the photos were all in focus, and so on and so forth… ahem. Lovely! Oh, she can sing too.

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(Review by Glyn Phillips - worldmusic.co.uk)