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Les Triaboliques

rivermudtwilight

World Village

★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆

Down the dusty road trudge three sergeants returning from the world music wars. Such might be the conceit of this joint venture between Ben Mandelson, Justin Adams and Lu Edmonds. There are country blues, Cuban crooning and grunting jazz swing like Django Reinhardt working on a chain gang, all within the first three tracks. The instrumentals, on guitar, bouzouki and saz, are sharp, the vocals whispered and crepuscular. But moody great moments never quite cohere into a fully formed album.