

taplas

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LES TRIOBOLIQUES

Rivermudtwilight

World Village 468088 (55m)

LES Trioboliques's lifetime association with world musics sets them apart from the crowd, and gives their sound an authenticity that can usually only be found in the people born into the musical traditions they conjure with.

Justin Adams on guitars steeped in desert blues, chiming kora-like out of Africa. Lu Edmonds on Turkish saz, cümbüs and bow-büs and Ben Mandelson's string sounds on, among others, mandolin, barizouki and laouto. Their pedigree is impeccable. They've played with diverse acts, among them Public Image Limited, The Mekons and Jah Wobble. Standing head and shoulders above the rest is that Ben and Lu created the mighty 3 Mustaphas 3, their own crazed Balkans' world of world music throughout the 1980s and 1990s.

Here they combine perfectly in a freewheeling roll call of styles and textures, while Justin's low-down, evocative vocals are suitably ambiguous so as not to locate the sound in a specific area. Most tracks are self-penned or trad. arr; but particularly enjoyable is their re-working of Nina Simone's *Don't Let Me Be Misunderstood*.

This is right up my darkened, twilit street and, if you fancy an aural journey through the desert, across the delta, over the steppes and into the underground sound of "dusk-core", then order it now.

Neil Pedder