

FolkWorld CD Reviews

V/A "Röseligarte - Neue Schweizer Volksmusik"

Label: Migros; MGB-NV 8; 2009

Stelzhamma "Frisch aussa wias drin is"

Label: ATS records; CD 0690; 2009

Röseligarte is an album which gives an overview of Swiss folk talents of today. Starting with the virtuosic Alp style composition *Mösch* by Hujässler the diversity of this countries tradition is beautifully represented. Dulcimer in the folk-classical composition *De grossartig* by Alberbuebe, accordion-swing by Rampas and Hanneli-musig, a nice and sweet polonaise by Hujgroup with mouth harp! Brass by the Lucerne chamber brass. Dramatic piano and brass by Thierry Lang, stereotype Swiss folk by Oberwalliser spillit, jazz-folk by Heirassa revival and so many other styles. Nice to get an impression of the many sides of Swiss traditional music. Second a group from Austria called **Stelzhamma**, strangely enough their webpage mentioned in the booklet is out of order, hopefully it's on the net again when this review is released. The band plays music from Austria and original compositions inspired by Austrian music. Besides that you will hear some Balkan influences and even some blues. The band searches for new ways of playing, which results in nice new arrangements but occasionally also a bit messy sound. What I like is their free style of playing and improvisation. They are creative and dare to try new things. This makes the album intriguing, but also a bit uncontrolled. Not that it matters, I prefer a band like this who tries and has the guts to think differently, than a band that plays a perfect copy of a traditional tunes that has been played a million times before in exactly the same way. A band I will follow closely in future, they might have enough to grow into one of Austria's leading folk-related bands.

www.musiques-suisse.ch, www.stelzhamma.com

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