

LATE FOR THE SKY

March 2, 2020

(English Translation)

An unusual proposal from California is offered by the duo formed by Fabrice Vignati (vocals, guitar, banjo, originally from Aix-les-Bains in France) and Tracy Vignati (vocals, clarinet, piano), a couple who released three records (a fourth on the way) dedicated to a genre they claim to have invented called "Gypsybilly". Basically, mixing the passion for Rockabilly and Gypsy Music with the addition of Jazz and Country, the duo coined in 2009 the name "Gypsybilly" for this musical genre that nostalgically refers to the past of America and Europe with English and French humor, rhythms, and fun.

Both good instrumentalists with melodic and pleasant voices that sometimes alternate and sometimes flank, are accompanied by a fresh and loose rhythm section using traditional Gypsy instruments (accordion, acoustic guitar, clarinet, violin) and Rockabilly (dry and rhythmic drums, electric guitar, torn bass). Theirs is cheerful, danceable and engaging music with disengaged lyrics, which takes you back to Burlesque or the European night clubs of a few decades ago.

The Vignatis know what they are doing and they manage to produce a disc that brings a smile to faces (without being overly ambitious beyond the invention of Gypsybilly). It is difficult to stand still while listening to "Let's Hit the Road", the nostalgic "Tour Eiffel", the rhythmic swinging country of "Hollywood" or the Rockabilly in "Doin' Twenty-Five". In the swing of "The Little Things You Do" vocal melodies are appreciated while the instrumental "Linguini Shootout" inserts western elements into a Gypsy-Country system.

Between the Stray Cats and Django Reinhardt, The Vignatis lightly complete the abundant 40 minutes of the disc managing to have fun with their deliberately "retro" music.