



*The living tradition N°??,
septembre/octobre 2007*

FRERES DE SAC - Tout n'a qu'un Temps

MusTraDem MTD 733

12 tracks, 56 minutes

This is the second recording by brothers Christophe and Jean-Loup Sacchetti, playing woodwind and squeeze-box respectively. The duo's name translates as "Bag Brothers", which was also the title of their fine debut CD. Christophe is well known as a world-class recorder virtuoso from the French folk fusion group Dédale. Younger sibling J-L has built his own reputation since the last album, and is now a highly-regarded melodeonist and composer. He wrote most of the first half of *Tout n'a qu'un Temps*, which is modern and experimental to my ears: *Zarabia* and the title track are unashamed vehicles for the Sacchetti's outstanding playing, and Simon Jeffes' *Music for a Found Harmonium* nestles comfortably between them in a bare-bones arrangement. Christophe switches to the Berry bagpipes for *bourrées* and a *mazurka* by J-L, still with an edge of experimentation.

The second half is more traditional, drawing on Breton and Scandinavian music as well as central French tunes. The only acknowledged composer is Jean Blanchard, whose *Miel* flows sweetly from pipes and box, followed by well over a minute of applause. *Laridé* and *Dans Léon* play cat-and-mouse with simple melodies, one brother providing a continuo while the other bobs and weaves. *Langdans* is a gorgeous melody, and the album finishes with a bonus extended version of the title track with friends.

Nothing too extravagant, nothing too predictable, just an expertly played and lovingly produced recording of French music for traditional instruments. Very nice. *Tout n'a qu'un Temps* was recorded before a small audience, and there's a bit of a live feel about it. It's available from www.mustradem.com, a fascinating little French label.

Alex Monaghan