

(...from the heady days of August 2001):

REYNARDINE LAUNCHES NEW CD

Folk music's freshest group, Reynardine has just released its first CD which presents a unique blend of vocals and music on a number of classic ballads. Hailing from Drogheda, Reynardine, formed in 1999, features Aideen Morrissey, singer and cellist possesses a voice which can mesmerise an audience; S.J. McArdle plays banjo and mandolin and sings in a gritty, dramatic style. He is currently also enjoying a solo status as a singer/songwriter, having released 'Mr. Heavy-hearted' in 2000. Injecting a bluesy feel into the mixture is lead guitarist, Neil McAvinia accompanied by rhythm guitarist, Garrett Brady. The fifth member of the group is singer Kevin Branigan, a member of another Drogheda folk group, The Sunday's Gate Quartet. Together, the group serves up a concoction which has been described in the Dundalk Argus as 'the mysterious, the magical and the murky side of folk'. Reynardine's first CD contains a bristling reworking of the folk standard 'The Blacksmith', and an arresting rendition of the cowboy ballad 'St. James's Hospital'; Aideen delivers a gutsy 'Eppie Morrie' followed by the haunting 'Moorlough Shore', and an unsettling Scottish tale called 'The Broom of the Cowdenknowes'. It's certainly an auspicious debut CD for this new Irish group.

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