For Immediate Release from **Whaling City Sound**

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Countercultural Experience

Balval’s new opus, *Ten Hand Band*,

Fuses the neo-traditional sounds of Paris with bluesy, eye-opening alt-rock

Balval, France’s favorite neo-gypsy alt-rockers return with *Ten Hand Band*, its third recording. Those familiar with the Parisians’ work will not be surprised by the breadth, depth and adventure in focus on the new recording. Audiences that have not had that benefit will indeed marvel at the feat, for Balval is original to its core.

Singer Awena Burgess, vocalist/violinist Hartog, guitarist Mizrahi, bassist Benjamin Body, and percussionist Patrick Gigon ably demonstrate how a tart gypsy influence can transform into vastly contemporary, even alternative sounds. Each musician in the band commands attention, as Balval reaches for and touches the body and the soul.

*Ten Hand Band* is an aural document of a band finding its footing in a variety of exciting hybrid areas. “Tear It Down” is propulsive rock with heavy guitar and a French accent. A fiddle, swampy creole, and a crude blues guitar sound push the “Balfa Waltz.” “Insomnia” starts on its firm, gypsy foundation but revs up the turbo for a fresh new sound and the same can be said for the exhilarating “Money in the Bank.” “Tell Us, Beautiful Girl,” illuminates Rosalie Hartog’s soaring fiddle laid over a distorted guitar and stomping rhythm. The whole recording ends with the folky

*Ten Hand Band* justifies the anticipation surrounding the Whaling City Sound group. On record and on stage, Balval touches the body and the soul; watch for them live, where their fiery sounds and passionate performances gain a supersonic dimension. WCS, a rising jazz and world music label, is proud to call Balval one of its esteemed artists.