



# Paprika Balkanicus

[www.myspace.com/paprikabalkanicus](http://www.myspace.com/paprikabalkanicus)

*"Paprika Balkanicus had set the night afire!" - The Scotsman*

*"A wild ride - fast, furious and exhilarating!" - The Adelaide Advertiser*

*"These boys won the crowd completely with their charm and virtuosity...a must see." - The Independent*

*"Amazing performance - they hit the audience like a Balkan storm!" - Mio Matsuda/JVC Japan*

Since their debut visit to Australia in 2008, PAPIKA BALKANICUS has been in hot demand all over the world with more than 30 appearances at major music festivals and cultural events. Now in early 2009, they are back; supporting good friends and home-grown heroes THE CAT EMPIRE on their Australian tour, before embarking on a run of their own headline shows on the East Coast.

PAPIKA BALKANICUS first met The Cat Empire at the Edinburgh Festival, on the Australians' debut tour of Europe back in 2002. Many fantastic late night jamming and dancing sessions later, PAPIKA BALKANICUS were invited to stay at Felix's house on their debut Australian tour, cementing a friendship that continues to flourish today.

Described as masters of great atmosphere, PAPIKA BALKANICUS are one of the hottest newcomers in World music. Together for only 3 years, their electrifying live shows, fantastic musicianship and witty stage presence has already won them a substantial following in the UK, Europe, Australia and Japan.

The guys from Romania, Serbia and Slovenia on violin, guitar, bass and accordions play a fiery and passionate blend of traditional and Gypsy music from the Balkans and Eastern Europe. Their traditional Gypsy music is like a rollercoaster of emotions - from gentle, fragile melodies which bring back early childhood memories to thunderous fiery tempos, appropriate for dancing with the Devil.

From silky-smooth stroking tones to lightning-speed furious arpeggios, violinist Bogdan Vacarescu's blurred fingers lure some of the most beautiful and passionate melodies ever written for violin. Next to him Jozef Secnik on bass and Vlad Jovic on guitar provide an intriguing harmonic foundation of frequently odd rhythms with unpredictable solo eruptions.

Flanked by Milos Milivojevic and Zivorad Nikolic - two accordionist extraordinaires - they have seduced huge crowds at numerous International festivals including Glastonbury, WOMAD Charlton Park, WOMAD Las Palmas, Adelaide Cabaret Festival, Spraoi & North side Music Festival (Ireland), Balkan Fever London, Secret Garden Party, Exit (Serbia) and Edinburgh Fringe amongst others.

Beside highly successful tours in UK, Ireland, Norway, France, Spain, Serbia, Japan and Australia, they have also performed at some of the most prestigious concert halls and clubs in the world, such as The Royal Festival Hall, British Library, Tate Modern, Carling Academy Islington, Bruntwood Theatre - Manchester, , Black Box Theatre (Oslo), New Morning (Paris) and Brisbane Powerhouse (AU) to name but a few.

Band members have previously worked with Nigel Kennedy, World Youth Orchestra, Neil Innes, Tommy Emmanuel and have won numerous international awards including The Spirit of the Fringe and a BBC World Music Award.

**Paprika Balkanicus will be setting stages alight across Australia with their own headline tour, from late March. Dates and venues will be announced following the conclusion of each Cat Empire show. Please, visit regulary [www.myspace.com/paprikabalkanicus](http://www.myspace.com/paprikabalkanicus) for updates.**

**Feb 26 - March 22**

Supporting The Cat Empire ([www.thecatempire.com](http://www.thecatempire.com)),  
plus head-line shows at WOMADelaide, Auckland Festival & Gold Coast Arts Centre

**March 25 - April 5**

Paprika Balkanicus head-line shows  
(shows in Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne & Brisbane TBA after the final Cat Empire show in each city)

26.feb.09	19:30	Uni Hall	Wollongong, Australia
27.feb.09	19:45	Enmore Theatre	Sydney, Australia
28.feb.09	19:45	Enmore Theatre	Sydney, Australia
1.mar.09	20:00	National Convention Centre - Royal Theatre	Canberra, Australia
5.mar.09	17:30	Fremantle Arts Centre	Fremantle, Australia
6.mar.09	17:30	Fremantle Arts Centre	Fremantle, Australia
7.mar.09	14:00	WOMADelaide 2009	Adelaide, Australia
8.mar.09	15:00	WOMADelaide 2009	Adelaide, Australia
10.mar.09	18:45	Auckland Festival 2009	Auckland, New Zealand
11.mar.09	18:45	Auckland Festival 2009	Auckland, New Zealand
12.mar.09	19:30	The Tivoli	Brisbane, Australia
13.mar.09	19:30	The Tivoli	Brisbane, Australia
15.mar.09	20:00	Caloundra RSL	Caloundra, Queensland, Australia
17.mar.09	20:00	Gold Coast Arts Centre	Surfers Paradise, Gold Coast, Australia
19.mar.09	19:30	Peninsula Lounge	Moorooduc, Victoria, Australia
20.mar.09	20:30	The Forum Theatre	Melbourne, Australia
21.mar.09	20:30	The Forum Theatre	Melbourne, Australia
22.mar.09	14:00	Moorilla Winery	Berriedale, Tasmania, Australia
25.mar.09	20:00	MORE SHOWS IN OZ TBA !!!	AUSTRALIA
25.mar.09	20:00	The Clarendon Theatre	Katoomba, Blue Mountains, Australia
26.mar.09	20:00	Brass Monkey	Cronulla, Australia
27.mar.09	20:00	Heritage Hotel	Bulli, Australia
3.apr.09	20:00	Riverway Arts Centre	Townsville, Queensland, Australia
4.apr.09	20:00	Tanks Arts Centre	Cairns, Queensland, Australia

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Photos by Kieran Doherty