

## Yonder Mountain String Band: The Europe Bootlegs

A Big Noise Books Film Production

Produced and Directed by: Jack Chester

Cinematography by: Leland Russell

Starring: Yonder Mountain String Band

Adam Aijala, Jeff Austin, Dave Johnston, Ben Kaufmann

Editing and Sound Mix by: Leland Russell

Technical Adviser: Richard Antley

London Technical Adviser: Matthew Gardner

London Liaison: Simon Gardner

Cameras and Sound: Kari Amundson, Jack Chester,  
Artis Gaye, Ben Hines, Kevin Irvin, Craig Judkins,  
Dave Kingdon, Evamaria Lerner, Arthur Maingler,  
Bobby Ray, Leland Russell

Special Thanks to: Galway Arts Festival, Galway Bay FM, Matthew Gardner, Simon Gardner, Roisin Dubh, Elizabeth McDonough, Country Rendez-Vous Festival, Georges Carrier, Centre Des Marche d'Auvergne, BBC and Bob Harris, Hank's Music Shop, Mean Country 1035AM London, The Borderline, Caesar Hotel, Will McCarthy, Cambridge Folk Festival, The City of Amsterdam, Penny Zemp, Ellie Sanders



Nº 9

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION



In the summer of 2003 Yonder Mountain String Band went abroad for the first time and toured Europe for just shy of two weeks. I stole away then film student Leland Russell from his Cal Arts base, rented some Sony PD-150s in London, and set out to document the venture, picking up the rest of our crew along the way in Europe. The first stop was the Galway Arts Festival in Galway, Ireland where YMSB played to a sold out crowd at the Roisin Dubh. From Ireland the band and crew traveled to rural France to take part in a country music festival (Country Rendez-Vous Festival) complete with line dancing platforms and a smattering of misplaced American country culture. Though the band was told before their set that there would be no encore, the crowd and host ended up insisting on two encores. After a few days of press, radio spots, and two shows at the Borderline in London, the mini-tour culminated at the Cambridge Folk Festival. The festival was a smashing success with each of their sets becoming more populated as word spread through the festival grounds of the energy and sincerity of their performance. Our little film crew also found our documenting performance of a perpetually higher quality as the tour went on. The two week gig happened so quickly, that without the 70 hours of raw footage we returned with, sequencing the events in memory would have been impossible. The opportunity was an honor and the Europe tour was an absolute pleasure to film.

-Jack Chester New York, NY 10.19.05

