

# Beyond the Pale

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## 200 word band bio

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**Critically-acclaimed and award-winning**, Toronto's *Beyond the Pale* is one of the most exciting ensembles in the Canadian folk, roots, and world music scenes. Their **explosive acoustic sound** is inspired by a wide range of **cross-cultural influences**, from European folk styles (Klezmer, Balkan, Gypsy, Romanian) to contemporary and North American styles (bluegrass, jazz, reggae, funk, and more). They are known for their **instrumental virtuosity**, infectious energy, and **unique repertoire** featuring both original compositions and inventive arrangements of traditional material. With spectacularly **dynamic and exuberant live performances**, *Beyond the Pale's* unique genre-defying sound has delighted audiences of all kinds at major music festivals, concert theatres, and clubs across Canada, the US, and Europe.

Recording artists for the prestigious Canadian folk label *Borealis Records*, *Beyond the Pale's* most recent CD release "Consensus" is an **exciting and wide-ranging** live set of all-new material. It has met wide critical acclaim and received honours from the *Canadian Folk Music Awards*, *Toronto Independent Music Awards*, and *Ontario Council of Folk Festivals* Songwriting Competition. The group is now at work on two new CDs, one a collection of new original material, and the other a program of reinterpretations of Mozart's music, originally commissioned by CBC radio.

The group features Bogdan Djukic (violin, percussion), Aleksandar Gajic (violin), Bret Higgins (bass), Milos Popovic (accordion), Eric Stein (mandolin), and Martin van de Ven (clarinet). They are frequently joined by guest musicians and singers, including Alex Kontorovich (clarinet/sax), Josh Dolgin (vocals /piano), Vira Lozinsky (vocals), and others.

<http://www.beyondthepale.net>