

★ EXOTERIK

'DON'T SWALLOW'

(Self-released)

Female-fronted Anglo-Irish band Exoterik have got balls, but are certainly not the growling, posturing type.

They simply believe

in themselves and in the sheer power of music. Having secured the services of the inimitable Scandinavian know-how and of cult producer John Fryer, the Leeds based outfit have released a pretty impressive first album, avoiding the trappings of symphonic metal and sub-Metallica riffage. This is a mature, strong release full of tracks imbued with melodic heaviness and an emotionally charged energy - 'Raping the Reverie' is simply majestic. Anneka's confident vocals are taking the lead on all the tracks and promise a strong stage presence. Very promising.

FABIENNE T

