

# OTTAWA CITIZEN



## Trumpeting the jazz of today (CD reviews)

By phum Tue, Mar 30 2010 [COMMENTS\(3\)](#) [Jazzblog.ca](#)

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*"What I wanted to do was to create a record that has all the qualities of the documents of that era [the 1960s] as they relate to our time by creating a palette that referenced the depth and convictions of the 1960s... This dynamic was then coupled with a superimposition of textures from our era, the sounds and textures that define my generation, married with those of the past."*

Trumpeter Christian Scott, in his new CD's liner notes (which could have been much better edited)

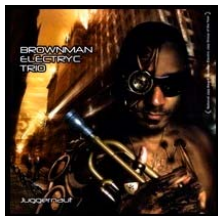
*"That's what my goal was with the group -- to move sonically towards group interaction that was inspired and flavoured by Miles's electric explorations, but still very much rooted in the sounds of today."*

Trumpeter Nick "Brownman" Ali, in the notes to his new CD

Maybe it's a Miles thing. At the very least, it's a bit of coincidence. In the same week, I received discs from two trumpeters who explicitly stress how *au courant* and youthful their music is, layering as they do the sounds of now with the sounds of then. The first disc is Christian Scott's *Yesterday You Said Tomorrow* (Concord Jazz), which is generating lots of jazz-world buzz thanks in part to stories on the 26-year-old New Orleans native in [Allaboutjazz.com](#) and [DownBeat](#), for starters. ...



-- skipping ahead to *Brownman Electryc Trio* review --



The closest Canadian equivalent to Scott might be Toronto trumpeter Brownman, ne Nick Ali. Like Scott, Brownman is a spirited trumpeter who places much stock on being a contemporary player.

However, when you set his latest disc, *Juggernaut*, beside Scott's *Yesterday You Said Tomorrow*, it's clear than Brownman, at the helm of his "Electryc Trio," offers another version of what it means to be a today-minded hornman. A devoted student of Randy Brecker, Brownman plays electric trumpet and much of his trio's material consists of jazz tunes (*Yesterdays*, *Stolen Moments*, 26-2) set to funk and hip-hop beats.

Brownman also composes tunes such as this one, *Evolution Revolution*, which in the performance below features guest rapper Professor D (*YouTube footage*).

*Juggernaut* (Browntosaurus Records) is a live disc, (commendably free of post-production alterations or overdubs), and it shows off Brownman's Electryc Trio in full flight. Bassist Tyler Emond and drummer Colin Kingsmore lay down impeccably thick beats while Brownman does his thing. It's hard to imagine the group being more in the pocket, more energetic.