

**Browntasauras Records recording artist** 





www.Brownman.com

"Brownman... one of the next great voices in the new generation of jazz improvisers." -- Randy Brecker, multiple Grammy winning jazz trumpet legend & long-time mentor to Brownman

Heralded as "Canada's preeminent jazz trumpeter" by NYC's Village Voice and considered one of the most acclaimed improvisers residing in Canada, Brownman Ali, born on the small Caribbean island of Trinidad, is the multiple award winning NYC-schooled protégé to his teacher - Grammy-winning trumpet legend Randy Brecker. In the spirit of supreme trumpet genre-crossing visionaries such as Brecker and Miles Davis, he tirelessly leads and composes actively for no less than 8 ensembles of his own. He is also a musical director and/or featured soloist in countless other groups; testament to his unparalleled diversity of musical vision and skills making him one



of Canada's most decorated jazz artists and a highly in demand session call for both **Universal** and **Sony/BMG** recording studios in forms of music ranging from be-bop to hip-hop. As a featured soloist he has appeared with Canada's leading Latin, urban, hiphop, reggae, island and DJ artists in addition to his foundational jazz milieu. With just under **300** recording credits to his name - many of these albums having won or been nominated for Junos (Canada's Grammy) - he is considered to be one of the most unique and provocative improvising trumpet players on the scene today. He is widely regarded as a vanguard for the evolution of jazz in Canada.

As a leader, he is best known for his work with his multi-award winning latin-jazz-urban ensemble CRUZAO. They have toured Canada's jazz festival and club circuit extensively, winning the 2001 Montreal Jazz Fest's coveted "Grand Prix du Jazz Award" leading to his being signed to the prestigious Justin Time Records label, simultaneous to Brownman winning a CBC-Galaxie "Rising Star" award. The subsequent 2002 release of "Shades Of Brown" would rocket to #1 on Canada's jazz charts and remain there for 3 months as CRUZAO toured internationally. Brownman would be awarded a National Jazz Award for "Composer of the Year" for the tunes he composed on that same recording. Europe welcomed the BROWNMAN AKOUSTIC TRIO in 2002 & 2003 and the BROWNMAN ELECTRYC TRIO in 2004 as the groups toured that continent and recorded 2 records released on European labels. 2005 would see extensive Canadian touring in early months of the year and the later with a South American tour beginning in Cuba. At the personal invitation of legendary pianist Chucho Valdes, he would represent Canada at the Havana Jazz Festival; leading CRUZAO HAVANA comprised of an all-Cuban rhythm section featuring members of the essential Afro-Cuban ensemble IRAKERE performing original Brownman compositions as recorded by CRUZAO. This performance marked the beginning of a two month extensive tour of South and Central America concluding with a gig with jazz saxophone legend GARY BARTZ in Belize and a recording session in Cuba with the luminous timba group CHISPA Y LOS COMPLICES. 2006 was a busy year and included 7 national and international tours, a multitude of recording sessions and appearances with such legends as legendary rapper GURU, pop superstar NELLY FURTADO & NYC Brazilian harmonica icon HENDRIK MEURKENS.

From 2006 to 2010, Brownman was the featured soloist for 4 world tours with the legendary New York City jazz-hip-hop artist **GURU** (of Gangstarr fame) for his **JAZZMATAZZ** ensemble (replacing Donald Byrd in that group), catalyzing a cover story in **CODA** magazine. In Dec 2009 Brownman would launched his own independent record label **Browntasauras Records**, with the **BROWNMAN ELECTRYC TRIO** (2007 **National Jazz Award** winners for "Electric Group of the Year") debut recording *Juggernaut* as it's flagship release along with re-issues of his entire back-catalog from other groups he leads. The 2013 B.E.T. release of *Gravitation* went to #4 on the iTunes jazz charts in the USA. Since 2015 new artists are being signed yearly to the label, including **Nick Maclean, Snaggle, Modus Factor & Socialist Night School.** 

Since returning to Canada from NYC, Brownman has been on the cutting edge of modern music for the last decade, winning multiple awards nationally & achieving international recognition while touring the globe.

Brownman also holds a degree in physics, a minor in philosophy, writes the brass column for Canadian Musician Magazine and is an often called upon international lecturer and clinician on such topics as "advanced jazz harmony", "hip-hop and the modern jazz improviser" & "latin rhythms for the jazz improviser".

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With just under 300 recording appearances & over 6000 live performances to his name, he has performed or recorded with the likes of Wayne Shorter, Randy Brecker, John Scofield, Charlie Hunter, Gary Bartz, Gary Thomas, Soulive, Fertile Ground, Kenny Wheeler, Hugh Fraser, Don Thompson, Kirk Macdonald, Pat Labarbera, Dave Restivo, Dave Young, Stich Jefferson, Quincin Nachoff, Heather Bambrick, Wynston, Kelly



Philosopher Kings, Guru, Jazzmatazz, Mos Def, Jay-z, Missy Elliot, KRS-1, Big Daddy Kane, Kool Herc, K-OS, Kyprios, Rikoshay, Pocket Dwellers, KC Roberts, DJ Dopev, DJ Cutler, DJ Q-bert, Nelly Furtado, Dave Matthews Band, Paul Simon, Moses Mayes, God Made Me Funky, Ashanti, Divine Brown, Grüvoria, One Step Beyond, Kush, Jason Wilson, Tabarruk, D'bi Young, Dub Trinity, Kobo Town, Irakere, NG La Banda, Chucho



Valdes, Danilo Perez, Hilario Duran, Horacio Hernandez, Energia Latina, Chiva, Bestial, Cimarron, Ricky Franco, Fito Blanko, Eliana Cuevas, Luanda Jones, Pavlo, Plan C, Macondo, Pacande, Banda Bella, Dominicanada & far too many more to

## AS A LEADER :

Brownman currently leads and composes for 7 groups of his own, all garnering critical acclaim in their own diverse idioms :

#### CRUZAO

- highly acclaimed multiple award-winning latin-jazz-urbania quintet

## **CRUZAO GRUPO MONSTRUOSO**

- 15-man latin-jazz-urban orchestra permutation of CRUZAO

## GRUVASYLUM

- hip-hop, drum'n'bass and breakbeats... with a jazz ideology

**BROWNMAN ELECTRYC TRIO** 

- electrified award-winning trio in the spirit of Miles Davis' electric years **BROWNMAN AKOUSTIC TRIO/QUARTET/QUINTET** 

- mainstream hard-swinging NYC-style jazz

### MARRÓN MATIZADO

- 11-man highly energized Salsa powerhouse, fusing modern salsa & jazz ARECIBO

- modern deeply exploratory latin-jazz quartet in the spirit of Jerry Gonzalez's Fort Apache Band

## AWARDS & ACCOLADES :

2018 Brownman - USA Song Writing Competition Finalist - "Madness Of Nero" 2018 Brownman - Global Music Award winner - 3 Gold Medals (w/ Nick Maclean Quartet) 2017 Brownan - International Song Writing Competition Semi-finalist - "Madness Of Nero" 2017 Brownman - Caribbean Music Award nominee "Jazz Artist Of The Year" 2017 Brownman - Toronto Independent Music Award winner, "Jazz Group of the Year" (w/ Snaggle) 2016 Brownman - Global Music Award winner - 3 Gold Medals (w/ Snaggle) 2016 Brownman Electryc Trio - Toronto Independent Music Award nominee - "Jazz Group of the Year" 2015 Brownman Electryc Trio - Toronto Independent Music Award winner - "Jazz Group of the Year" 2015 Brownman Electryc Trio - International Independent Music Award winner - "Funk/Jam/Fusion Album of the Year" 2015 Brownman - Black Canadian Award nominee "Jazz Artist Of The Year' 2012 Brownman Electryc Trio - Toronto Independent Music Award winner - "Jazz Group of the Year" 2012 Brownman named "2012 Artist To Watch" by Resonancity magazine 2011 Brownman inducted into the "WHO'S WHO IN BLACK CANADA" National directory 2010 Brownman Electryc Trio - Toronto Independent Music Award nominee - "Jazz Group of the Year" 2010 Brownman Electryc Trio - Artvoice Magazine nominee for "Jazz Act of the Year" 2009 Brownman - named "favorite touring soloist" (w/ Jazzmatazz) by London, UK's Jazz After Dark 2008 Brownman Electryc Trio - Toronto Independent Music Award nominee - "Jazz Group of the Year" 2008 Brownman Electryc Trio - National Jazz Award nominee - "Electric Jazz Group of the Year" 2007 Brownman - NOW Magazine's "Toronto Jazz Trumpet Player of the Year 2007 Brownman Electryc Trio - National Jazz Award winner - "Electric Jazz Group of the Year" 2007 Brownman - National Jazz Award nominee - "Musician of the Year" 2007 Brownman - National Jazz Award nominee - "Latin-jazz artist of the Year" 2007 Brownman - SOCAN National Jazz Award nominee - "Composer of the Year" 2007 Brownman - National Jazz Award nominee - "Instrumentalist of the Year" (flugelhorn) 2006 Brownman - National Jazz Award nominee - "Latin-jazz artist of the Year" 2005 Brownman - NOW Magazine's "Toronto Jazz Artist of the Year" 2004 Brownman & CRUZAO - Independent Music Award nominee - "Jazz Group of the Year" 2003 MARRON MATIZADO - "Best Toronto Salsa Band" (SalsaSPOT) 2002 Brownman - National Jazz Award winner - "Jazz Composer of the Year" 2002 Brownman - National Jazz Award nominee - "Jazz Trumpet Player of the Year" 2001 Brownman & CRUZAO - winner of the Montreal Jazz Fest's "Grand Prix Du Jazz Award" 2001 Brownman & CRUZAO - winner of the CBC Galaxie "Rising Star Award". В m w n С 0

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## QUOTES :

"... one of the next great voices in the new generation of jazz improvisers"

-- Randy Brecker, Grammy award winning trumpeter

"... a great writer, energized trumpeter and thoughtful evolved soloist"

-- John Scofield, legendary jazz guitarist

#### "... uniquely creative and fearless... like a young Miles Davis"

- Guru, legendary hip-hop icon (Gangstarr / Jazzmatazz)

### "... extraordinarily talented... a modernist for sure ... a truly gifted improviser with an original creative voice"

-- Gary Bartz, saxophonist to Miles Davis in the 70's

"... Canada's preeminent jazz trumpeter"

-- Village Voice, New York City

"Awards are nice, naturally, but to dig what Brownman is doing, you've got to see him live. I had a chance to do just that over the summer when Brownman fronted a killer trio ... I came away with a blown mind. This guy's got chops galore, soul to match, and a sense of phrasing that recalls many of the greats, but suggests itself to be his own."

- Buffalo News

"Brownman is the real deal... this abundantly talented young musician was handpicked by the late MC Guru to blow the sinewy lines that made his Jazzmatazz project such a groundbreaking hybrid of jazz and hip-hop... with each appearance the buzz surrounding the bold and electric Brownman style has grown in amplitude." - Art Voice Magazine

"... energy is never in short supply in Brownman's world. This Toronto/Trinidadian trumpeter loves skipping from style to style almost as much as he digs mixing it up with the jazz elite"

-- NOW magazine, Toronto (cover story)

"...deliciously quirky & invigorating... seethes with energy...

-- Toronto Star

"... the most versatile hornman in Canada" -- Chicago Tribune

"... virtuostic, energized and in the spirit of Miles Davis" -- National Post

"... a warm, personable soloist displaying an engaging mix of guirks and lyricism." -- Globe and Mail



# The Electryc company

Trumpeter Brownman and friends take jazz into a new direction on CD Juggernaut

Calling your album Aug- genaut comes with certain responsibilities. The listener should get the distinct impression that when the record button was hit, you played list someone threat.	Rhythres & Rhythres	that come from providing rocal sub-structure, bass and drums can take on very dif- ferent roles and the three of us end up in a sort of dance — or at least that's what my read was with the croum' he	play with these gays?" he says. "It's like we all live in each other's heads, and that's a rate and wooderful thing?" Their version of Oliver Nel- sort's signature piece, Stelen Merwerk is one of eith tracks	for a long time," he adds. "Twe actually be en playing that tune that way for almost a decade, best if's only now that the record button was finally engaged while it happened. Hwing players I cancel, "Let's	kickin' and enjoys making a whole lotta noise in cele- bration of our time here," he says, "And my father — who, as Trype this, is undergoing daily radiation treatment for cancer after major surgery
ened to take your instruments away from you forever. You played with fire and intensity, but overy track was executed with skill and feeling. <i>Insperment</i> is the debut	You can witness this jugger- naut when it plays Trane Stu- dio tomorrow night. Brownman, born Nick Ali, says the tito grew out of Gru-	explains. "So my vision for the second was to just capture that dance. "Moments like that are so fleeting, they occur on stage and then slip, away into the	where this connection mani- feats itself. The trio plays off each other brilliantly and works in tandem to House-fy Nel- son's composition. This	try this with a Deep House King Britt vibe' and them knowing exactly what I mean makes it easy. "We then just together deconstruct the tune and	<ul> <li>is a living reminder that our time on the planet is finite, so we better get busy living.</li> <li>"And I hope that the act of living life to it's fullest poten.</li> </ul>
album from Brownman Elec- tryc Trio, and yes, trumpeter Brownman, drummer Colin Kingunore and bassist Tyler Edmond get full marks for meeting the above-mentioned	variant, a hip-hop/jazz out- fit that he heads. He noticed that when it was time for him to sole in that group, "the rhythm section would exitch to a more interactive jazz.	other and I really wanted to have a snap-shot of what we do on stage and I think this disc is very indicative of that." Best experienced live, the	one's strictly for the dance- floors. "Anyone who's ever gotten down at a dub to that thump of the kick drum in House music knows what I mean?	robuild it in our own collec- tive vision. And that can be said of all the tunes, not just this one." Beownman takes quite a bit offsection what he's deing and	tial, more than anything eles, is what people get out of hear- ing us play? NOTE: Beowean Flortry: This is at Tunne
criteria. Their brand of jazz-funk ain't pretty like, say, incog- nito's. Visceral and edgy, it recalls the music Miles Davis made in the curly '70s.	approach, but in a funkified context." Four years back, he got the itch to explore this dynamic further. "Without the constraints	hree wisely chose to record laggers and live and to capture what Boswaman calls "the by- product of deep three-anan chamistry. "I gotta tell you it's a joy to	Browman says. T wanted to incorporate some of that ele- ment, but against the back- drop of a jazz standard. "Té heen hearing Stolen Moments like that in my head	for his bombastic nature. He doesn't give a dama, always maintaining he wants to be 'a musician of today. "The Browman Electryc Trio is very much alive and	Studio de la conservició p.e.s. 320. 964 Berlauret St. Errol Nazamitifs Brythms N Bryms column appears ency Friday.

"Brownman Electryc Trio's new release **GRAVITATION** is the new standard in electric jazz"

- NPR (National Public Radio), New York

"Brownman Ali's powerful electrified trio captures the essence of the later years in Miles Davis' life, his electric period, without imitation. -- JazzOnline.com

"It's incredible the energy output these three men can generate ... with only three of them on stage my ears would swear they were hearing a whole electrified orchestra".

-- Toronto's NOW Magazine (concert review)

"Brownman Electryc Trio plays with fire and intensity ... every track executed with skill and feeling ... it's visceral and edgy ... it recalls the music Miles Davis made in the early '70s." -- Errol Nazareth, The Toronto Sun

"Guru's Jazzmatazz trumpet player brings virtuosity and panache in jazz together in his Electryc Trio" -- CBC Radio Canada

"Brownman's Electryc Trio is lively, entertaining and hip ... the atmosphere is seriously funky ... the music's muscular and quick, much of it thrilling ... " -- Whole Note Magazine

"It's hard to imagine this trio being more in the pocket, more energetic." -- Peter Hum, The Ottawa Citizen

"Brownman... Ali... Marrón... this young trumpet player has as many names as he has skills" -- Canada Picante Xpress Latin Magazine

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