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Cyro Baptista Quotes

“An assemblage of musicians and dancers in outrageous costumes, banging on drums for all they’re worth – Mr. Baptista’s band is Brazilian carnival crossed with Lower East Side performance art. It make a ruckus, and it’s wild, vivid entertainment.”

The New York Times

“A spellbinding percussion show. There was sword dancing, acrobatic stunts, carnival costumes and through it all, some of the most innovative percussion I’ve ever seen. Thank goodness for musicians who have the courage to really get out there and try to something completely different.”

Richmond Times Dispatch

“Definitely one of a kind.”

Houston Chronicle

“Cyro follows an eclectic muse that helps him balance compositional sophistication with bedrock propulsion.”

New York Magazine

“Performance art for marvelously visceral music, utterly unique: needs to be seen live with so many percussive traditions, Beat The Donkey is maybe a stew, a goulash, a gumbo, paella or stir fry, but is sure is delicious!”

All About Jazz

“Beat The Donkey is a product of unbridled imagination, intense musical knowledge, skill and lust for sheer joy, fusing Brazilian styles with jazz, funk, rock and reggae to a point where unique, genre-less music is made.”

Relix Magazine

“This band has an entertainment jones, and the energy of their attack has a free-for-all physicality that keeps a smile on your face.”

Village Voice

“Beat The Donkey expresses the physicality of music. It is a thunderous, theatrical, multicultural ensemble accompanied by dancers who have the enthusiasm of martial arts students.”

Rochester Democrat & Chronicle