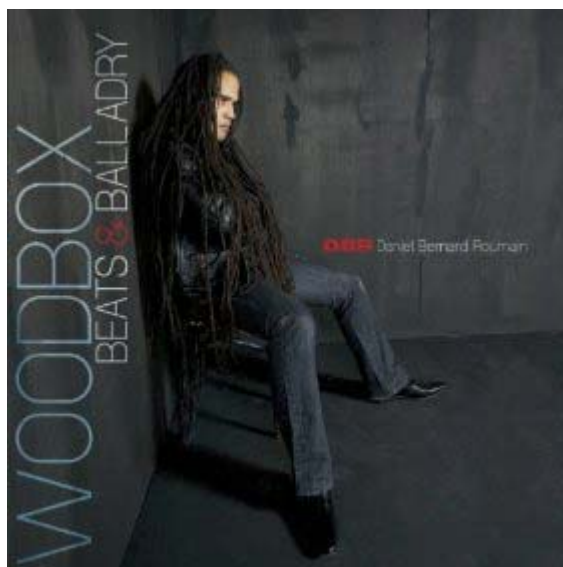




Daniel Bernard Roumain: Woodbox Beats & Balladry

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Daniel Bernard Roumain *Woodbox Beats & Balladry* (Thirsty Ear Recordings)

Those who reduce the warm seductive side of the violin to vampire films and dripping opaque candle wax would be surprised to hear the multi-elegance of Daniel Bernard Roumain's new album *Woodbox Beats & Balladry*. Both classical and hip hop infused, atmospheric and world, Roumain is a mastermind of a violinist and composer. The clarity in sound and execution of play is remarkable. The ability to use the violin in an ambidextrous onslaught of rich sound astounds. "Armstrong" features a throwback slice from the Jackson 5 jam and a sleek violin groove layered between scratches by turntablist DJ Scientific, rich bass and a short funky jazz piano riff. Soft and ambient exotica encompass "Moonshine," showing off pulsating sensual bass rumbles while Roumain's violin vocalizes the most seductive of choruses. Beautiful and drenched in graceful harmonies, "Sonata for Violin and Turntables, Pt. 6" is techno fuzzed while violin mimics a wild electric guitar solo. The Haitian American Roumain plays his own custom made 6 string amplified violin and is also a professor in composition at his alma mater. The somber "Our Country," is a breathtaking version of the patriotic "America." The brilliance in sound and the moody undertones are emotionally attractive at the hands of Roumain's astounding craft. Recognized as Esquire Magazine's "New Face of Classical Music," Roumain has also performed with Lady Gaga on American Idol, written for film and television and is one of New York Resident Magazine's "Top 100 New Yorkers."