

MUSO

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AGAINST THE GRAIN

*Composer Daniel Bernard Roumain defies convention by merging classical music with hip-hop and electronica. He worked with Philip Glass, Ryuichi Sakamoto, and DJ Spooky for his debut album, *etudes4violin&electronix**

Why have you chosen now to record your first solo album?

Circumstance. I was invited by Peter Gordon at Thirsty Ear Recordings to make this album, with these artists. The timing, the musical environment, and my own relationships with the artists and with Peter convinced me that this was the best time to do this work.

Where was the album recorded and how long did it take?

Many of the tracks were recorded two years ago, some just a few months ago. I have many recordings with many different artists that I keep in a 'vault' and that I hope, over time, will all be released.

What is it that appeals to you about fusing so many different genres?

It's nothing I am doing on purpose – rather, I am reflecting all that is the MySpace, YouTube and iTunes generation. We try to see, hear, and respond to

everything that is in the online world.

Philip Glass is involved on the disc. How did that come about?

He is a friend, hero and mentor to me. Last year, after years of performing together, we decided to take a day and record one another's music. It was a wonderful, miraculous day for me! He plays piano and I play violin on a track he composed, from a work that appeared in the film *The Hours*.

What do you think are the highlights of the album?

The tracks featuring both Glass and Ryuichi Sakamoto. I have listened to and have been influenced by their music for years.

Who do you think will buy this album?

I think, and hope, anyone who loves to indulge in great dancing, a great conversation, and a great bottle of wine.

What category do you think it will be filed under in record stores?

Unclassifiable.

FEMKE COLBORNE

CD details: Daniel Bernard Roumain – *etudes4violin&electronix*; Thirsty Ear Recordings; out in June