

Devil's Tale

Fanfare Ciocarlia join forces with Canadian guitar wizard Adrian Raso

Legend has it that the Devil likes to lay in wait at crossroads, all the better to pilfer the innocence and souls of unsuspecting travelers. But not all deals forged at such spots bring ruin and death. Indeed, Fanfare Ciocarlia's latest musical pact approaches brilliance, a far cry from fire and brimstone.

The brass band legends from the remote Romanian village of Zece Prăjini have simmered in countless concert halls around the world. At the end of the 1990s their unique style of play made famous a musical genre that almost no one had ever heard of. Ever since, these Romanians have been constantly on the road, bringing their audiences in Berlin, Memphis and Tokyo to new levels of frenzy. On their dented and beat-up instruments, they make it crystal clear what it's all about: passion and the willingness to take musical risks of any kind. This globetrotting, 12-necked, brass-band hydra has already turned the planet on its head with breathtaking collaborations: legendary shows like "The Gypsy Queens & Kings" and the "Balkan Brass Battle" are just two examples.

Together with their new touring companion – the Canadian guitar and banjo virtuoso Adrian Raso – a different story is now being told, and fêted with consistent and consistently erratic style!

The Romanians and the Canadian first found one another in 2013 at the Metal Works Studio in Toronto, where they proceeded to produce an album over a series of nighttime recording sessions. Since its spring 2014 release the album has been an international sensation. Adrian Raso's background in Western music and Fanfare Ciocarlia's unmistakable Balkan sound fuse into hearty Rock'n'Roll, persistent swamp grooves and nostalgic 30s swing, very much in the spirit of Django Reinhardt. A wild ride from New Orleans, over the Atlantic and onto Paris, and then, untiringly, deep into the Balkans, through the derelict streets of Detroit and back to urbane Toronto. All the while, Fanfare Ciocarlia follows guitarist Adrian Raso on the remotest stylistic tangents with remarkable ease. They assist, heighten the pressure, take the lead, soften the energy, intensify the plethora of sounds and elaborate the ironic diversions. The guitar holds the reins while the tuba and trumpets lead the way. The heart of the music is king!

Listen up! The charm of *Devil's Tale* could bewitch even old Mephisto himself!

Current album: ***Devil's Tale*** (Ranked #1 on World Music Charts Europe and the winner of the German Music Critics' Prize). Released on Asphalt Tango Records.