



## KABATRONICS

Fanfara Tirana meets Transglobal Underground

World Village/Harmonia Mundi

Released on February 25th 2013

1. MONDOMIX (FRANCE) ★★★★★ + MENTION "MONDOMIX M'AIME" "Mondomix M' aime" - "Un travail en profondeur qui évite les effets tape-à-l'oeil et soigne une approche musicale dans le respect des traditions approchées. **Inspiré et heureux.**"
  2. ALIAS (ITALY) ★★★★★ - "Unique! If you miss this record, too bad for you. Here we are in the presence of two giants of no borders music with no ideological barriers, least of all when it comes to play. The marvel at what comes from Albania "committing a sin" with reggae, transgressing at the sound of a sitar, weaving electronics with brass and losing itself in voices coming from very far away in time and space.
  3. IL MANIFESTO (ITALY) ★★★★★ - "A stellar album! 14 resounding tracks! A star that truly shines and glare of its own! To hear, endless times. Especially if with each listen, that star shines more and more."
  4. FROOTS (UK) - "Yes I knew it was going to be good, but perhaps not this good. **Kabatronics is a proper album like wot they used to make:** diverse, consistent, well produced and with a whole that's greater than its many impressive parts."
  5. THE TIMES (UK) ★★★★★ - "A symbol of cultural fusion in 2013 who would fit the bill! Any DJ can turn up the amps to create banger Balkan beats but the mix of ouds, sitars, guitars and brass sounds completely organic here, whether on gentle laments or trouser-shaking floor-fillers."
  6. THE GUARDIAN (UK) ★★★★★ - "An experiment that actually works. The result is a highly entertaining clash of Albanian brass and beats, with unexpected echoes of India or the Caribbean added in. **Epic laments that would make great film music.**"
  7. THE INDEPENDENT (UK) ★★★★★ - "So this great Albanian brass band were in the studio rather than lifted from the grooves of some old vinyl. **There's a real vitality and immediacy to the meaty beats, crunching tubas and mercurial clarinets** that speak lucidly of both past and present."
  8. UKVIBE - V4 (UK) ★★★★★ - "This writer particularly likes the sound of Fanfara Tirana clarinetist and saxophonist Fatbardh Capi who may be deserving of an album as a leader in the future."
  9. R2 - ROCK'N REEL (UK) ★★★★★ - "The result is a musical hybrid that's true to its origins but which is considerably more than the sum of its parts. **This is an album that constantly surprises.**"
  10. OUTSIDERS (ITALY) ★★★★★ - "Kabatronics, is just that, a centrifuge of sounds that **is going to rewrite the 2013 chapter of "world music"**. The new project has perfectly centered the goal. Amazing video of No Guns To The Wedding, traditions intertwined in the sign of delirium and irony. **Sensational.** It's a captivating and danceable album, which hasn't taken away anything from the frenzy these two groups are famous for when they're on stage, as if the walls of the recording studio never existed. Everything moves, nothing is defined. **Now we can say: finally something new.**
  11. EASY VOYAGE (FRANCE) ★★★★★ \*RECOMMENDED ALBUM OF THE WEEK - "Kabatronics, cocktail Albano-Britannique détonant! A écouter par tous les temps, en toutes saisons et en toutes circonstances!"
  12. LES INROCKUPTIBLE (FRANCE) - "Mais quand les promis ont belle gueule, le mariage est heureux."
  13. RUMORE (ITALY) ★★★★★ - "The collision between the two opposite borders of Europe, wanted by the Italian-Albanian Balkan Management (the producer), **works!**"
  14. GLOBALSOUNDS (GERMANY) ★★★★★ - "This collaboration between London and Tirana speaks a language of its own: the original melodies and rhythms dominate, the sequencer prevails sometimes, but it mostly plays a well balanced effect in the background. Interaction is predominant. **Globalized Balkan Fusion for the dancefloor, but with a healthy respect for the original melodies.**"
  15. SONGLINES (UK) ★★★★★ - "The irresistible draw here is Albania's amazing brass band Fanfara Tirana, an 11-strong musical force of real magic. **Fanfara Tirana could stun a badger at 50 paces.** Otherworldly sound of pealing clarinets over flugelhorn, saxes and trumpets, and the strangeness of their rough, gruff harmony vocals. **Kabatronics is a winner.**"
  16. WDR RADIO (GERMANY) \*SUPERTUNES SELECTION - "Here is a record that takes the Balkans out the overdrive, it returns from the fast lane to the right lane. **Very successful project.** Instrumental tracks like "Flowers Lament" bring to new, extraordinary situations."
  17. REFLEX (CZECH REPUBLIC) - "Lots of attempts at merging world music with electronics do not work, this one did, and perfectly. Sometimes you do not know if you listen to reggae, calm chillout, or a Brass Quintet. **Tremendously amusing, simply as TGU. And yes, Fanfara Tirana could raise the dead.**"
  18. JAZZTHING (GERMANY) \*FOCUS SELECTION - This Albanian-British summit actually pours new wine again in the old bottles of Balkan hype.
  19. SOUND AND IMAGE (GERMANY) \*TOP 5 ALBUMS SELECTION - The resulting mixture is highly explosive and pumps into best club style. But also heartbreaking ballads and powerful wedding hymns leave nothing to be desired. **This British-Albanian cooperation is not only highly unusual, it is also still absolutely worth listening to in their uniqueness.**
  20. EASY VOYAGE (GERMANY) ★★★★★ \*ALBUM OF THE WEEK - "An exceptionally well-done fusion. The original melodies go into the ear and some of them directly in the legs - **the spice of life.** Highly creative collaboration and worldmusic of "EXTRAKLASSE". Traditional ethnic sounds sent to the dancefloor, or to your home!"
  21. GIORNALE DELLA MUSICA (ITALY) - The sound of the nineties trip hop marries beautifully with the melancholy of the Albanian Kabà. The result is Balkan music in the "groove", but tinged with dark and reflective emotion. Something different, in short: just the ticket.
  22. ROLLING STONE (GERMANY) ★★★★★ - "A magic carpet ride between London and Tirana."
  23. WNYC RADIO (USA) - **Fabulous record!**
  24. RADIO GROOVALISACION (BELGIUM) \*ALBUM OF THE WEEK - "Superbe collaboration!"
  25. NA MAGAZINE (SWEDEN) ★★★★★ - "The variety is huge"
  26. SOLAR JAZZ MAGAZINE (COLOMBIA) - "Kabatronics is a recording that manages to captivate and entertain without losing the complexity in time. **A unique magic and mysticism.**"
  27. BIRITMOS MAGAZINE (SPAIN) \*RECOMMENDED ALBUM OF THE MONTH - "Something new and different! Splendid! Tremendous! Beautiful! Musical communion between the two bands is total!"
  28. VÄRMLANDS FOLKBLAD (SWEDEN) ★★★★★ - "British world fusion group Transglobal Underground meets Albanian brass band Fanfara Tirana in a violent encounter."
  29. OXFAM (NETHERLAND) - "This **exciting combination** guarantees a **wonderful symbiosis** of Albanian brass masters and the eclectic sound of Transglobal Underground. 'Kabatronics' is a dynamic, energetic, border and cross-cultural company where ideas, melodies and lyrics are exchanged."
  30. MUZIEKWEB (NETHERLAND) - "Recommended to lovers of best Balkan music."
  31. BLOGFOOLK MAGAZINE (ITALY) \*ALBUM OF THE MONTH - "Kabatronics is an album that is **extremely rich, full of energy with a good dose of fun and is infectiously danceable with an approach that is original** and not obvious in the genre of world music. Both acts compliment each other's musical and technical approach with an unmatched intensity."
  32. JAZZTHETIK MAGAZINE (GERMANY) ★★★★★ - "The proud Albanians were not satisfied with Woodpecker or Hoopoe: **'The Eagle Takes Flight'.**"
  33. FOLKER MAGAZINE (GERMANY) - "What is offered is playing on an extremely high level."
  34. MELODIE UND RHYTHMUS MAGAZINE (GERMANY) ★★★★★ - "All the effort was worth it. Successful experiment. **A milestone of Global Dance.** Balkan soul and big beats."
  35. LE JOURNAL DE MONTREAL (CANADA) - "As some wizards, shamans and other "Temporal", they invoke the sun and good weather through music. Fusion Brass Band Fanfara Tirana and British funk/techno Machine Transglobal Underground, everything is there to brighten your spring. Invigorating rhythms, influences from around the world and dance machine..."
  36. LE DEVOIR (CANADA) - "Shots of brass stabs, syncopated lines and restless polyphony. The fanfare remains the fanfare, but in sauce 2.0."
- AMAZON (UK) **Number 1** Most Wished Albums in February 2013 World Music Category
  - AMAZON (UK) **Number 1** in Bestsellers in March 2013 World Music Category
  - AMAZON (IT) **Number 1** in Bestsellers in APRIL 2013 World Music Category and TOP 10 All genres
  - WORLD MUSIC NETWORK (UK) - "No Guns To The Wedding" **Number 1** track in February 2013 World Music Charts and TOP 10 in video charts May 2013
  - WORLD MUSIC CHARTS EUROPE (EU) - "KABATRONICS" **TOP 5** in May and **TOP 10** in April 2013 charts.