



Shawn Baltazor is a strong new voice amongst a thriving eclectic scene of drummers and composers. He attended the renowned Jazz studies program at William Paterson University where he was featured in performance with Wynton Marsalis, Clark Terry, Joe Lovano, Kenny Garrett and Slide Hampton. After graduating with a B.M. Summa Cum Laude from WPU, Baltazor settled in New York City, to actively pursue his musical career.

Baltazor has performed internationally at the Festival International des Musiques Noires d'Abidjan in Cote d'Ivoire, the Jazzablanca Festival in Morocco in 2007, and the Risonanze Festival at the Teatro Fondamenta Nuove in Venice, Italy in 2008. He has performed more locally at the JVC Jazz Festival, the River to River Festival, and the Sonic Circuits Festival, as well as other NY venues including: Jazz at

Lincoln Center's Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola, Aaron Davis Hall, BB King's, the Tribeca Performing Arts Center, PNC Arts Center (NJ), the South Street Seaport, Sweet Rhythm, Smalls, 55 Bar, CBGB's, the Knitting Factory, the Bitter End and more. In 2004, he was a participant in the Staens Institute for Young Artists 100th anniversary of the Ravinia Festival.

In December 2008, Baltazor was commissioned to compose music for a new production, *Timebomb*, by the New York City-based Daniel Gwirtzman Dance Co. He was commissioned again in 2009 to compose the score for another DGDC original production, *Tribe*, which premiered with a live chamber ensemble in October 2009 at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York City. In 2009, teaming up with cymbal makers at Supernateral Percussion, Baltazor developed a new line of hand-made Cymbals, which he currently plays and endorses.

In the spring of 2010, Baltazor embarked on a 5 week tour with the band New Tricks around the United States. In addition to performing in concert halls and Jazz clubs, the band also gave several clinics and workshops at several of the country's premier music schools, such as Oberlin Conservatory and Indiana University. The tour led to the recording of the band's 2nd album, *Alternate Side*, which Baltazor engineered.

Shawn Baltazor currently resides in New York City, where he actively plays and tours with a wide range of musical groups including New Tricks, Eric Reed, Ergo, the Nathan Eklund Group, Beninghove's Hangmen, and Rebecca Frezza.