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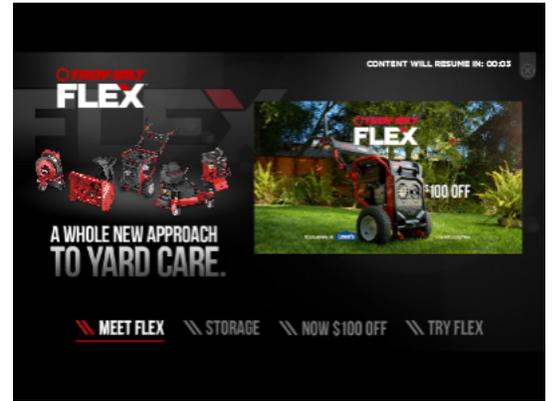
By Mike Greenblatt m.greenblatt@classicalite.com on Dec 20, 2016 01:09 PM EST

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Canada's Snaggle is an alt-jazz must-hear! (Photo : courtesy Browntasaurus Records)

The Long Slog (Browntasaurus Records) by Snaggle is a hoot! Like their American counterparts in Snarky Puppy, Snaggle challenges with differing tempi, alt-jazz solos, funny song titles, inspired group chemistry and groovy experimentation. Randy Brecker loves them and that's good enough for me. Keyboardist Nick Maclean, trumpeter Max Forster, tenor saxophonist Graeme Wallace, guitarist Michael Murray, bassist Doug Moore and drummer Tom Grosset have been produced on this, their sophomore effort, by trumpeter Brownman Ali. The result is a wild ride. Buckle your seat belts, baby. This is some totally original way-out-there stuff, surprising in its dexterity, alluring in its alternative stance. Funky as all hell, and pushed forward by Grosset (who is in the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the "World's Fastest Drummer"), Snaggle aims to confound, delight and blow you away. I'm partial to "Track 5," which is the fourth track on the CD. See? There's no concrete reasoning here. Art is ephemeral. "Snaggle #7" is, inexplicably, the first track and right away you know this ain't any Kenny G oatmeal for folks with no teeth. Just go with it.



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