

# SERIOUS

BEN COTTRELL

## Press Quotes

'If there's a more exciting band playing on the planet at the moment then I've yet to hear them.' Jazz FM Cutting Edge

'Beats & Pieces shook Ronnie's to its low rafters...few bands play work of this complexity with such passionate conviction. Movers and shakers such as [Colin] Towns, Matthew Herbert, Darcy James Argue and [Ben] Cottrell demonstrate that large ensembles remain a vital force in contemporary jazz.' Guardian

'Beats & Pieces dazzled with a glorious, full-bloodied set demonstrating all that's good about big band jazz. The big band tradition is alive and well and living in Manchester.' Jazzwise

'Part heavy groove mob, part sophisticated modern jazz troupe, Beats & Pieces is to the big band tradition what Polar Bear is to the saxophone led quartet.' London Jazz Festival

'...[sounds] rather like Miles Davis doing battle with Danny Elfman on top of the Empire State Building... [the band] love it. The audience love it too.' Miniature Music Press

'...if ever there was a big band that sounded perfect for the 21st [century] young person, Beats & Pieces is it.' Thejazzbreakfast

'Beats & Pieces is no polite youth jazz orchestra and this EP is an invigorating and often surprising listen... packed as it is with youthful exuberance, fiery playing and a high degree of technical skill.' The Jazz Mann

'From its explosive opening bars until its final lingering hum, the Beats & Pieces big band's first EP is nothing less than a bombardment of the senses... the cream of Manchester's emerging jazz talent.' The Sound of Now