

## Rick Lazar Bio

### **Rick Lazar**

Rick was voted *Percussionist of the Year* five times by Jazz Report magazine. A uniquely versatile musician, Lazar is involved in a wide variety of innovative projects. He leads the Juno-nominated global jazz ensemble **Montuno Police** and has produced and released 4 CDs with this group: ***Bang, Juno-Nominated Touch, The Call, and Nomads***. Rick has toured/recorded with such artists as Bruce Cockburn, Barry White, Paul Shaffer, Brian Hughes, Jesse Cook and Loreena McKennitt. Rick is also the creator and artistic director of **Samba Squad** and has written, produced and released 3 CDs with this group: ***Samba Squad, Batuque and Que Beleza***. He is also an educator at York University (ESCOLA DE SAMBA and CUBAN MUSIC courses). Lazar has also developed hands-on workshop techniques, which are being successfully used in the *Samba Kidz* and *Samba Teens* programs. Rick's knowledge of world drums and passion make him a unique percussionist who is first call for a diverse array of artists.