

# itchy-O Press Quotes

“Denver electronic percussion collective Itchy-O appear from nowhere and stir the room into a cacophonous, demonic riot – then disappear just as suddenly.”

**TimeOut Melbourne**

“Itchy-O’s aggregation of 20 to 30 musicians and dancers doesn’t so much “perform” for an “audience” as they do invite everyone who’s there with them to become part of something bigger- much bigger- than the sum of its parts. Itchy-O goes beyond “audience participation” to the point that it’s really difficult to tell who’s putting on the “show”. And that, I think, is the whole point. Itchy-O simply goes beyond. And they insist that we come with them.”

**Boulder Beat**

“Primal futuristic marching band meets Chinese New Year meets guerrilla warfare”

**Fan Quote**

“A 30-plus-piece ensemble from Denver, the Itchy-O Marching Band (IOMB) typically begins their performance by entering the venue from the street. Drums dominate, but there are also synths, vocalists, dancers, guitar and bass, and a prominently featured Theremin. Many of the performers wear amps like backpacks, so they can move freely around the venue during the show. There’s usually a giant, dancing Chinese dragon. There are several of those massive, Japanese taiko drums, which are basically the Steinway pianos of the drum world, both in terms of sound and in terms of how much it must suck to haul them around on tour. They wear black balaclavas and often giant sombreros, which makes them look a little like a gang of anarchist mariachis. It all makes for what looks like a pretty insane, sensory overload live show.”

**[weirdestbandintheworld.com](http://weirdestbandintheworld.com)**

“The itchy-O Marching Band tore down the third wall (and the fourth and the fifth) in an all-enveloping performance that aimed to elevate the conscious mind. Tonight, we would realize all dichotomies are false. Nearly three-dozen performers roared from the stage and the dance floor. They weaved among audience members, making us part of the show. Further blasting away the notion of differences, Itchy-O combined cultural forces: Taiko drums, mariachi getups, pseudo fascist propaganda, Illuminati cultishness, cyberpunk splatter, alien space jams, full-face hijabs, even a Chinese dragon that writhed about the dance floor in wild abandon throughout the entire set. There was solidarity in our collective acknowledgement of the freakishness of our ways – all of our ways. Think 21st century drum circle, where cyborg bulls are slaughtered on the altar of Mystery Science Theater 3000.”

**SF Weekly**

“If the 2000s have taught us anything it’s that marching bands aren’t just for high schools anymore. While many marching bands have sprouted up across the country over the last few years, fans would be hard pressed to find one more genre bending than these guys. While the format for this Denver based band is semi-traditional, the music and instrumentation are anything but. A staggering 32 piece marching band equipped with drums, electronic instruments, and synthesizers may be a puzzling concept to wrap your ears around, yet the band has been lauded for their experimental performances which explore the limits, as well as blur the boundaries, between the entertainer and the entertained.”

**Marquee Magazine**

“It was like what I imagined the inside of the big mothership in Close Encounters of the Third Kind would be like.”

**Fan Quote**

“Like an Appalachian tent revival performing a Day of the Dead ceremony in the year 2500, Itchy-O’s live performances have become infamous for a kind of digital spirituality, a bone-shaking sensory experience of complex instrumentation and feverish exigency.”

**Westword**

“On June 11 at the Uptown in Oakland, the sprawling 30-plus ensemble of brass players (Extra Action), drummers and leggy flag girls and boys seemingly met their unholy match in the form of Denver opener itchy-O Marching Band, whose members delivered loud sheets of throbbing electro-noise and dragged a lion dancer in their wake.”

**San Francisco Chronicle**

“The purple-garbed, studded-masked throng that was Itchy-O then walked to the center of the 3 Kings dance floor amid throbbing electronic sounds, like a party-crashing ritual procession...”

**Westword**

“At 9:15 p.m., and again at midnight, the music dies down as drumbeats and electronic squeals echo through the party and musicians in ski masks, helmets and sombreros stream through the studio’s garage door, followed by dancers in a Chinese dragon costume. As the cacophony of itchy-O, Denver’s avant-garde marching band, builds to a crescendo, filling the room with strobe-light flickers and smoke-machine fog, party-goers crowd in and dance to the frenetic beat. From the vantage point of a second-story loft, Griffith nods his head to the music...”

**Westword**

“From their disguising uniforms to their innovative instruments, visuals, and electronics, itchy-O is not your typical marching band.”

**Colorado Music Buzz**

“In response, people were jumping up and down and dancing like they were at some kind of Voodoo ceremony during Mardi Gras. With pretty much a full drum-corps ensemble playing a hybrid of marching-band music and avant-garde who-knows-what, Itchy-O really brought out the kind of excitement in people that you rarely see at a show.”

**Westword**

“Itchy-O, the masked 32-piece electronic marching band from Denver that pounded its way through the party with the subtlety of a Viking longboat crew on an end-of-season footy trip.”

**Broadsheet Sydney**

“A blazing, 32-member aural assault from the darkest depths of Colorado, Itchy-O is a wholly immersive, musical experience on a massive scale that is right at home at Fantastic Fest.”

**Fantastic Fest**

“If you missed the earth-shattering, life-changing musical stylings of Itchy-O last year, this is your chance to rectify that. Itchy-O is now officially Fantastic Fest family.”

**Fantastic Fest**

“Itchy-O is perhaps one of the most intriguing musical groups in Denver.”

**Westword**

“The stage was awash with drummers, some adorned with giant lit-up sombreros. Others moved through the crowd, masked, wearing speakers on their backs—spooking party goers by emitting screeches of feedback.”

**Noisey**

“This is unlike anything you’ve ever seen.”

**Modern Horrors**