

Prospero

The Rap Guide to Evolution



“Okay, it’s time to reveal my identity / I’m the manifestation of tens of millions of centuries / Of sexual selection, best believe / I’m the best of the best of the best of the best / Of generations of competitive pressure genetically / But don’t get upset, ‘cause we’ve got the same pedigree / You and I will find a common ancestor eventually...”

Baba Brinkman is a Canadian actor and rap artist best known for his award winning one-man show **The Rap Canterbury Tales** (**** Scotsman), which has delighted audiences around the world since 2004 and sparked renewed interest in the work of Geoffrey Chaucer. In 2008 **Dr. Mark Pallen**, author of **The Rough Guide to Evolution**, asked Brinkman if he would “do for Darwin what he had done for Chaucer” and Brinkman happily took up the challenge.

The Rap Guide to Evolution explores the history and current understanding of Darwin’s theory, combining hilarious remixes of popular rap songs with clever lyrical storytelling covering natural selection, sexual selection, evolutionary psychology, and much more.

Dr. Pallen has vetted the entire script for scientific and historical accuracy, making it a powerful teaching tool as well as a laugh-out-loud comedy experience. The show also engages directly with challenging questions about cultural evolution, asking the audience to imagine themselves as the environment and the performer as an organism undergoing a form of live adaptation.

The Rap Guide to Evolution was featured at the Cambridge Darwin Festival in July 2009 where it was performed in front of prominent figures from the world of science including Sir David Attenborough and David Sloan Wilson. Original music from the show can be found online at www.babasword.com

Praise for The Rap Guide to Evolution

*“By boldly making use of hip-hop in a most unusual but still provocative way, Brinkman harmoniously fuses art with evolution.”**** Time Out Hong Kong*

“With lyrics that were sometimes sly, often hilarious, and always smart and thought-provoking, Brinkman married the fast, complex, literate delivery of Eminem with the evolutionary expertise and confrontational manner of Dawkins.” Science Magazine

“A work of genius. Never since Charles Darwin have we had a more eloquent exposition.” Dr Mark Pallen author of “The Rough Guide to Evolution”



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