

DEREK PIOTR - AIRING (CDR by Bitsquare)

The second release for Derek Piotr, following 'Agora' (see Vital Weekly 799 and the remix version in Vital Weekly 811). The first one was co-produced by Antye Greie, also known as AGF, but this new one is all produced by himself. 'Airing', the word, should be read as 'air' and 'ring' - radio waves and bell sounds, in a homage to the first composers of electro-acoustic music, so Piotr plays croatles, cymbals and bells of all different kinds, but also violin, wine glasses, toy piano and zither. His voice, the main instrument of 'Agora', is also present here - 'celebrating conventional musicality', as he calls it. Fifteen relatively short pieces here, which make an odd combination of song structured based composition and more abstract electronics. An odd combination but one that I didn't find easy to access. What is it that Piotr wants with his music? That I found hard to know. Does he want to create atmospheric click 'n cut music, or more serious abstract music, or perhaps also a bit of pop like music? This sort of balancing makes this not an easy album to like. The influence of AGF is still there, although perhaps to a lesser extent, and seems more in favor of the instrumental bits. Its not bad, but it stays too much on one level, and one keeps thinking about some big bang to happen, which never comes. Not bad, but not entirely convincing either. (FdW)

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