

DEREK PIOTR - RAJ (CD, private)

For whatever reason, Derek Piotr (from Poland, then the Uk, now New England) releases his third album 'Raj' privately, and not on his own Bitsquare, but I am not sure why (or perhaps that label wasn't his? Or maybe because it's first real CD?). He uses voice, organ, and black metal noise on this album. The organ is that of the St. Peter's Cathedral. Again Piotr keeps his pieces short and to the point, somewhere between two and a bit minutes and six at the most (only once). This new album seems a departure from his older work in that, although still laptop based, the music is much more than before about rhythm, it's also less abstract than before. It seems that Piotr is more concerned with 'song' based material rather than something that resembles a soundscape of some kind. Still owing much to the world of clicks 'n cuts, the beats have become more beat, and less a collection of indeed click and cut pasted together into a sequential rhythm. Also the use of voice may still resemble a bit of AGF, with whom Piotr on his first release, but more and more he seems to be finding his own voice, literally actually. Maybe the description, with its reference to black metal noise, suggests something different, but this is hardly black metal or noise, or both. These ten pieces are more coherent than on his previous releases, and perhaps also a more something of his own. This is the best Piotr release I heard so far! A major leap forward for him. (FdW)

Address: <http://derekpiotr.com>