

K Meizter - Dark Matters


Monday, October 15 2007 @ 12:00 AM PST

Contributed by: Hoerikwaggo



Artist: K Meizter 

Title: Dark Matters

Label: Old Europa Cafe 

Genre: Dark Ambient

This CD attracted my attention, as K. Meizter is one half of Beyond Sensory Perception, who released the excellent *Pursuit of Pleasure* in 2005. (The significant other is Drakhon, best known for his work with legendary 'black industrialists' Mz.412.) This is his sophomore solo effort and at this stage of his career, comparisons with Beyond Sensory Perception are inevitable, especially as both are safely ensconced within the dark ambient fold. There are differences; whilst "Pursuit of Pleasure" was imbued with a deviant sexuality that would have been the perfect soundtrack to Kubrick's swansong "Eyes Wide Shut", Meizter produces a more conventional (so to speak) helping of dark ambience. A good start, but not unexpected; Meizter could hardly expect to make a name as a solo artist if he merely produced more of the same.

There are also similarities – but it would be extremely surprising if they weren't – but the balance is in his favour and he largely stays away from the dark sensuality that permeated "Pursuit of Pleasure" delivering a slice of dark ambience that is highly varied but nonetheless would not be out of place on the CMI roster.

The occasional percussion lends a ritual flair at times, but the atmosphere remains constantly broody, despite a relatively high level of inert-song variance. The songs are comparatively short, barring the mid-length closer "The Past is a Strange Place". As mentioned earlier the songs are varied, even if internally repetitive – which they should be – ranging from the sparse vacuity of "Internal Features of A Dead Body" through to the ritual percussion and flavour of "The Last Hurrah" and even incorporating some cheap synthpop lines on "The Greatest Obstacle to Enlightenment." Occasional speech samples emerge but they are infrequent, and usually too distorted for words to be discernible.

Meizter may succeed in divorcing himself from his other job, but he has not quite succeeded a producing a future classic. I cannot deny that even casual dark ambient fans may find much to attract their attention, but "Dark Matters" does not expand upon any boundaries, but rather stays firmly and safely ensconced within dark ambient boundaries as established by Raison d'être, penitent and others. His cautiousness has resulted in an album that is considerably above average and engaging –but just more of the same, as welcome as it may be. This may seem like an unusual focus, as there are no shortage of albums in any genre that are faithful but unoriginal representations of a particular style that nonetheless provide a decent listen. However, I get the strong impression that K. Meizter is capable of something more than just another dose of dark ambience and that a classic and original album is something I am sure he is capable of producing. To sum up, Meizter's sonic skyscrapers will contain few surprises for anyone acquainted with this genre, but nonetheless remain an above average entrant –sufficiently above average to justify a purchase.