



9.5/10 Larissa G

---

MEITZER, K. - *Dark Matters* - CD - Old Europa Cafe - 2007

---

review by: [Larissa Glasser](#)

*Dark Matters* is intended as a companion piece to last year's *Traveling Light*, but it stands taller on its own. Meitzer has refined his black ambient orchestration into a release of such sublime dread; it makes one wonder at the science of sound itself.

Overall, the compression of Meitzer's songwriting makes these tracks sound more direct than their predecessors. Although *Traveling Light* is a great release, it doesn't grab me by the short-and-curly like this puppy. Clanging indistro-drone, wailing oscillation, and abysmal sampling are, of course, component to the best dark ambient. But Meitzer's lab of iniquity worms through the soundscape of *Dark Matters* like an amorous cancer. It's all in the execution. Too awesome.

"Sidelights on the Life of Death" is creeped-out as all-ghosting Christ, right down to its rainsticks and descending sound wreckage. Moans issue from infinite caverns, scratches and gasps at the door. Yikes. "The Greatest Obstacle to Enlightenment" stalks the psyche with an insistent, Portishead-y beat, reverb-drenched jibes from faceless clinicians, and a really doomy coda. These are just a taste of a great work that should be experienced as a cohesive, self-contained unit. Essential acquisition. (9.5/10)

Maelstrom Zine Issue 56  
[www.maelstrom.nu](http://www.maelstrom.nu)