

KUOLLEEN MUSIIKIN YHDISTYS

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Eight Studies in Transition, which comes in a cardboard case made to resemble old books, contains four tracks from each artist. The tracks are in a mixed but very logical order, and only the opening track, *Succession*, is clearly identifiable as a K. Meizter piece. The others could be from either one, and they fit perfectly in the company of one another. It seems very likely that the artists' common shared idea has been the use of pieces, both pure and altered, from classical compositions, and turn those pieces into ambient. There are parts from such works as **Musorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*** and **Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf***. The method has functioned extremely well, as the result is something clearly new that still pays clear tribute to the original. (The composers used should have, in my opinion, been therefore properly mentioned somewhere on the covers.) The borrowed pieces have been utilized with obvious talent and extremely good taste. This is far, far removed from common cut up -tomfoolery, and if anything, Eight Studies is genre-wise closest to a pleasantly restrained soundtrack from an imaginary art film. The mood of the album breaks a bit during the sixth track, *The Life Sentence*, but that is the sole exception in an otherwise excellent whole.

A fine, harmonious and balanced album. And especially both original and stylish.

(A special, limited edition of this album also exists, one with a small bonus disc containing one remix track of the other artist's work from both K. Meizter and Horologium, but my review copy did not include that extra material.)

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