

Vital Weekly 738

K11 – METAPHONIC PORTRAIT 1230 A.D. (CD by Actual Noise)

If I'm not mistaken this is the third time, in a matter of a few months, that Pietro Ripabelli, also known as K11, pops up in Vital Weekly. First with his work with Philippe Petit, then solo (Vital Weekly 729 and 731 to be precise). The first was good, but the second didn't blow me away. 'This work has been realized with sound sources recorded within the Assisi lower Basilica in 2005. The concept of this work is related to personal research which 'm conducting about the sound, environment and esoteric dimensions with some interesting cathedrals', he writes on the cover. K11 uses field recordings, radio signals, organ and voice. I am not sure if I should understand this as a work in which he drags that stuff into the cathedral to make a recording, or wether he taped some sounds in the cathedral and at home adds the radio signals, organ and voice; I assume the latter actually. I thought this new work was more interesting than the previous solo work. The humming voices, the natural resonances of the big hall, and then the addition of heavy type of drones from the organ (no doubt plus a lot of sound effects) makes a pretty effective type of loud drone music with an angelic undertone. I am not sure if there is a religious, political or sociologic meaning to all of this, or wether its all just esthetically intended. The humming voices in a big space, which I can relate as being a beautiful thing, without the religious experience.

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