

ZBIGNIEW KARKOWSKI – UNRELEASED MATERIALS

(CD by Fibrr Records)

In the mid to late 90s I frequently saw Zbigniew Karkowski, at concerts and at the office of Staalplaat and at one of those occasions he told me that he thought playing concerts was nice, but that perhaps the best way to get more known was to release lots of CDs, preferable one of each label in the world, maybe taking a cue from Merzbow. In those days there were some more releases than before, but maybe he lost his interest in pursuing such a thing already a little later on. The fact that Karkowski died December last year could mean that there is more interest in releasing work from him. This CD is perhaps a start. Here we have five pieces he recorded in collaboration with others, and a homage, by Ilios. His piece, the shortest here, is a strong monolithic deep bass blast. In the five collaborative pieces (with Daniel Buess, Kasper Toeplitz, Julien Ottavi, Lars Akerlund and Sin:Ned we hear Karkowski ever-lasting love for noise (besides composing other music too) but with various shades. With Ottavi he goes for the all out blast of feedback and white noise, but even here it's not just pure harsh noise wall music. In his piece with Daniel Buess there is percussion to be heard, the instrument of Buess, to which Karkowski adds electronics. In the pieces with Toeplitz (with whom he regularly collaborated as Le Depeupleur) and Sin:Ned there is a fine addition of heavily treated acoustic sources woven into the music. The softest piece here is with Lars Akerlund which is not exactly ambient of course, but just everything reduced and compressed a little bit more than elsewhere, the condensed form their music. Excellent release of a sadly missed noise king.

(FdW)

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