



Drum & Lace
ONDA

Fabrikjuv D/LP

It would be easy to file *ONDA*, the second album by Italian producer Sofia degli Alessandri-Hultquist aka Drum & Lace, under the vague label of cinematic - she has a parallel career scoring film and television (*Dickinson*, *Good Girls*). These tracks lean hard into the textural, and, where they appear, vocals are wordless and decent. But that would imply the LP's music is supplementary to something else, when Drum & Lace's attention to luxurious, sensory sonic detail is such that *ONDA* is entirely its own world. Sounds are always carefully balanced by equal and opposite elements, as on "Whalesong", whose drifting arpeggio nods to Brian Eno's "Deep Blue Day",

Morgan Garrett

Purity

Orange Milk D/LP/AMC

Recorded in response to finding a neighbour's dead body, *Purity* at times uncannily reproduces the bedroom studio claustrophobia of early 1990s lo-fi lone wolves like Lou Barlow recording as Sentriddoh, or Bill Callahan as Smog. Acoustic guitars are less played than daubed, detuned spidery electrics sputter and collapse. But, made in the GarageBand era, *Purity* is both cleaner and dirtier than those Portastudio documents, with its higher resolution recordings spiked with gruesome, grinding digital distortions that push out

percussion of Kanye's "Slow Jams" comes to mind on "Please Allow Me To Begin Again", as NAH triggers cut-up vocal samples that flicker from helium chipmunk soul to chopped 'n' screwed sedation. The bpm counts are relentless throughout, spitting the difference between the hyperactive splatter of Lightning Bolt's Brian Chippendale and the pure velocity of footwork. Originally from Philadelphia, it seems appropriate that NAH recorded *Totally Recalled* in his current base of Antwerp, just over the border from gabber's spiritual home.



Morgan Garrett

outrageous prices, mainly due to its comparative rarity. Another high quality outing for the great Ossie Hibbert, one-time member of *The Soul Syndicate* who, at the time of its original release in 1977, was at the top of his game as producer. Sly & Robbie plus the rest of *The Revolutionaries* laid down the rhythm tracks at Channel One Studios in the mid-70s; these were later voiced elsewhere for Winston Jones's New York based *Flames* label, so the dubs here are mainly sourced from version sides of early *Flames* 45s. The rhythms, as was common with Channel One, are takes on popular hits of the time, including "Natty Chase The Barber" - a lovely flute dub to John Holt's "Ali Baba".

Electronics
by Sam Davies

Annexed

Various

Renraku DL

Mapping Minneapolis label Renraku's lines on the electronic underground map, the 15 tracks on this snapshot compilation are pretty disparate, but they're mostly covered by a Venn diagram comprising dubstep, post-garage, drum 'n' bass, deconstruction and a fondness for fuzzed-up bass and synth pads. *Annexed* is an uneven listen with the occasional misfire, but highlights include the second cut reference with a

into metal textures ("Want To Know", "Cost Of Living"). Garrett's vocals meanwhile span a close-miked intimacy, which feels like someone invading your personal space, and a pure Beefheart yawp, making for an all too high fidelity snapshot of a mind threatening to come apart at the seams.

Gryphon Rue

4n_Obix

Bandcamp D/LP

The simple joy of collage, bringing two disparate objects into awkwardly harmonious proximity, underpins much of this new album by New York producer Gryphon Rue, from the moment the soft pads of "High Priestess" jackknife into a clattering lo-fi break that sounds hastily cut out of an old jazz drum solo. On "Shibboleth" a graffiti spray of synth leaps wildly up and down the register as it describes a Middle Eastern scale over a slow electro clank. "Dividend" dips into eerie, Harry Partch-like bell tones, while "World's Fastest Talking Man" strings escape velocity dialogue samples over honeyed synth burble. Rue's ear for recycling sound gives *4n_Obix* a vibe akin to Daniel Lopatin working strictly with the results of a one-off charity shop haul.

NAH

Totally Recalled

Various D/LP

NAH is a drummer and producer who works with a lo-fi and aesthetic sensibility

<https://www.extrememusic.net/>

<https://screamculture.bandcamp.com/album/purity>