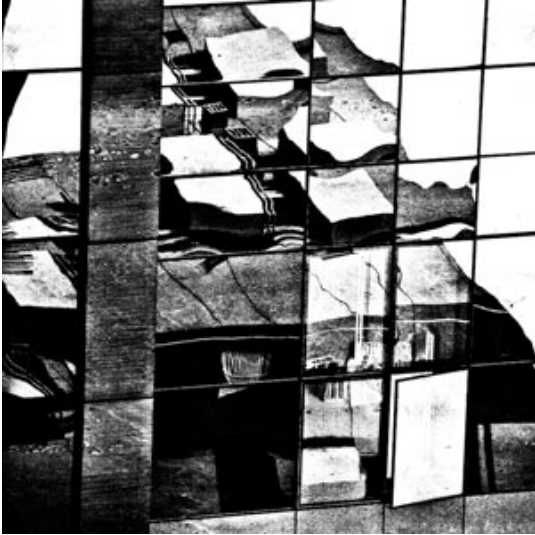


<http://www.normanrecords.com/records/144176-derek-piotr-raj->

## Derek Piotr - Raj (CD)



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7/10 according to [Li'l Biz](#) (*Norman Records*) on Thu 21 Nov, 2013.

Not heard either of Derek Piotr's first two records so I'm a little lost for reference. He was nominated for the Rix Ars Electronica for Digital Music prize last year so his music is definitely recognised within it's field but somehow his output has passed me by. Sorry Piotr lad. His digital cut-up approach makes for a slightly disorientating listen, especially on headphones, but once you settle in hidden rhythms begin to present themselves in the blurz of jarring sample cuts, jittery vocals and broken tones and the leaps in dynamic and atmosphere start to make more sense, becoming all the more enjoyable for it.

Guess that's the whole point of Sound Art type stuff isn't it? Anyway, 'Raj' is definitely industrial in nature and there's a fair amount of digital corruption/abuse going on here but it compensates with soulful and atmospheric moments in such a way that it doesn't become overwhelmingly dark at any point and the stand out moments like 'Defilada (Clubhook)' make the more difficult moments all the more worthwhile. Not an easy listen but the rewards are there if you persevere.