

<http://www.vitalweekly.net/1149.html>

DEREK PIOTR - GRUNT (CD by DPSR)

It's been a while, so it occurred to me, that I last heard music by Derek Piotr. I read here 'Grunt' is already his eighth solo record; the last one I heard was 'Bahar' (Vital Weekly [980](#)), which was his fifth album. Piotr is a man to use voice and computers to process recordings thereof and the result works out in very distinctively different music styles. Sometimes it works out to be ambient, then modern classical or even pop. On this new CD he works with voice, computer but also field recordings (which is news to me) and for this new album the direction seems to be noise. In thirty-nine minutes there are no less than twenty-one pieces, of which the last is a 'redirected' mix by Kevin Drumm of a piece that is called 'Redirect') and there is some massive amplification going here, a pleasant form of distortion and yet it never seems to be going out of hand. The noise that Derek Piotr puts up here is loud but not for the sake of creating pure noise. The computer is used to transform sounds, to create loops, to amplify frequencies and due to the brief character of the pieces and the collage-like form applied to these pieces makes that the whole has an energy that works really well. It's vibrant music even when it stays with the length of one piece a bit the same. It's the rapid succession of pieces that makes this a successful album. One of the traps of noise, to play it for a long time, is a notion that is, luckily, ignored by Piotr. He realizes that the fragmentation of sounds, splintering is perhaps a better word, and cutting up works as noise as equally well, and to my taste, perhaps better. This is altogether a short but powerful album. (FdW)

— Address: <http://derekpiotr.com>