

- **Ramuntcho Matta**, *Matta* (with Mama Milk and Hiroko Komiya). SometimeStudio.

First, there's a slow, but steady pulse (courtesy of the double-bass). Soon, a whole wildlife timidly begins to emerge, every sound pertaining to its renewed existence. Sparse accordion lines passing through space, like a whisper; a discreet, yet decisively-playful guitar pattern being as much felt as it is heard while a vast array of percussions watches over the whole scene in the most careful way.

This live recording brings together to the special talents of multi-artist Ramuntcho Matta, the unclassifiable Japanese duo Mama Milk and Hiroko Komiya whose idiosyncratic approach to percussions (both in her choice of instruments and in her actual playing) completes the ensemble's music.

Recorded in Kyoto in March 2007, this performance consists in several movements which display a relentless sense of creativity that is all the more expressive as it is minimal in its overall shape. Matta's guitar patterns are able to enter your consciousness without you even noticing – which yet again shows that music has nothing to do with technique, the track “Vapor Actos” shining particularly through in that respect.

The music thus shares in the redefinition of the term “free music” (in a harmolodic/Ornette Coleman kind of way) as it discovers its own path as it grows, each participant being able to express themselves fully while contributing to a larger whole. It may explore more melodic terrains here and there (listen to how the track “Far Far Far” gives way to the dreamy, yet fractured song that is “Inner Clouds”) or decide to remain more abstract and intense at times.

More than a testimony to the art of improvisation, this music acts as a genuine lifeform that is so much more than the sum of its parts, so much more than a musical performance *per se*. If music is a language, then it is also a natural environment to us all. No doubt, this CD is a humble and joyful proof of that.

François-Xavier

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