

CD Review

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Could best be described as basic European magpie craziness that takes something from everywhere. On the first track Andreas Schaerers does theatrical talk-singing over a whirl of circus parade music. Then "Dream," a setting of Edgar Allan Poe verse, keeps the theatrical approach but trades the circus music in for sleazy strip-bar Jazz and also tosses in a show-stopping bass and scat vocal duet. So the CD goes, combining cabaret sensibilities with every music style you can think of. There's Hebrew chanting and dance rhythms on "Brabber," a hip hop/funk pastiche on "back of your knee" and paranoid whispering pitted against spitting electronic noise on "Lately he waited." There are a few spots of powerful improvisation mixed in and if you're a fan of the omnivorous slapstick Willem Breuker approach to music, you would probably enjoy this.

Jerome Wilson