

## PAIK

### Satin Black CD – Strange Attractors

Instrumental power trio Paik certainly don't hold anything back. Guitarist Rob Smith, bassist Ali Clegg

and drummer Ryan Pritts lay down a massively low spate of dense drone-scapes saturated with feedback, low-pitched beats and squalid guitars. If Hawkwind's impenetrable space-chug mixed with Big Black's grating corruption resembles your idea of a good time, dig in. The 15-minute title track is bleak, tough and rumbling, one sustained vibration that moves at a glacial pace that will either slowly loosen your fillings or drive your pets to squirm in torment (played at top volume its guaranteed to empty any abode of annoying guests). This is Kevin Shields' worst nightmare brought to fruition. The 11-minute "Dizzy Stars" extends the space rock motif even further, soaked in pallid introspection, alternating between metalized sludge and a strangely melodious shimmer. But those are just warm-ups to "Stellar Meltdown El Oceano," the album's most potent piece. This is the sound of decay, an impudent modulation that barely changes intonation for more than 14 minutes. Rolling industrial noise (the only concession to rhythm) occasionally rises out of the murky depths, but for the most part it's a prolonged, sonic deluge that makes Chinese water torture seem like a walk in a sunny park. *Satin Black* is gripping, unadulterated and grotesquely intoxicating. (Doug Simpson)

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