

C D O F T H E W E E K



TELEMETRY ORCHESTRA

Children Stay Free

Silent Recordings

★★★★★

It's all beautiful in the orchestra pit, I must say. On a par with Stereolab and Broadcast, these guys don't put a foot wrong. Every sound, every beat seems perfectly placed, and as for the vocals...I'm speechless. Telemetry Orchestra take you to psychedelic, amazing places. Say your goodbyes now, because you aint coming back. It's hard to extract standouts from such a superb collection. Opening track *Suburban Harmony* sets the standard, with luxurious bass and beats, and the plaintive and wistful vocals of Charlotte Whittingham. It's non-stop electronic pop bliss after this, and there are moments, such as the lazy country guitar on the appropriately named *Cowboy Sunshine*, and the delightfully pretty final track *Pick Pocket Venus*, which elevate this album to great heights. I think I'm in love.

Cameron Bayley

The Brag: 21.07.03

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If Telemetry Orchestra were a drawing, they'd be a Pop Art illustration tampered within Photoshop, decked with curious shapes and space-age colour. On *Children Stay Free*, the band step away from Clan Analogue (who've released their earlier recordings, such as the 1998 album *Live Better Electrically*), to release an album full of marvel and sophistication. Cowboy Sunshine resembles Yo La Tengo soundtracking life in orbit and on a Western ranch, Wish fires warm helical rounds of electropop, while Shutterspeed exudes the French cool of Laetitia Sadier and Stereolab's refined future-pop melodies. The band's inclusion of singer/songwriter Charlotte Whittingham has definitely been a plus, evident on the excellent track Under The Knife, which melds icy-cool rhythms and gorgeously unfazed female vocals with all the dexterity of Broadcast. You could exhaust all the band comparison possibilities (Mum, Hope Sandoval, early Sneaker Pimps) but it's undeniable Telemetry Orchestra have thoroughly minted their own sound.

—Lee Tran Lam

Tastes like:

Broadcast — *The Noises People Make*

Dntel — *Life is Full of Possibilities*