

RECORD STORE >>> MISC

VARIOUS ARTISTS

★★★½

8-Bit Operators: An 8-Bit Tribute to The Music Of Kraftwerk

Minimal yet oddly multifaceted Kraftwerk tribute.



This is apparently "an 8-bit tribute to the music of Kraftwerk," and many of the tracks (Oliver Wittechow's "Kra-tastic" in particular) do, indeed, sound like King Klang tunes covered by a GameBoy. Others, though, like David E. Sugar's take on "Radioactivity," include guitars and vocals and are

oddy disco-punk. Ultimately, this only serves to hammer home the point that K-Werk's stuff translates into pretty much any idiom. Go dig up a copy of the Balanescu Singing Quartet's *Possessed* if you don't believe it. The only track that really doesn't work is Nulsleep's version of "The Model"—Big Black already disassembled that one's gleaming skeleton in 1987, and Nulsleep have neither the metallic hostility of that cover or the creepy obsessiveness of the original. (You want creepy? Role Model's "Showroom Dummies" features a female vocalist who could give Grace Jones nightmares.) (ASTRALWORKS, astralworks.com) Phil Freeman

★ DELETE IT ★★ STREAM IT ★★★ DOWNLOAD IT ★★★★★ BUY IT ★★★★★★ KEEP IT