

# Dancing About Architecture

rescuing musical virtue in distress.

Home Sheer Promotion Support New Music The Railway Village Voice

MARCH 27, 2019 DAVE FRANKLIN

## What Matters – Sienna (reviewed by Dave Franklin)

The greatest thing about the world, the creative world at least, moving into a post-everything sort of place is the cross-pollination that this enables. Genres are largely things of the past, technology means music has become much more about inspiration and imagination than the more practical issues which often hold it back and even geographical demarcations and cultural pressures are no longer a barrier to an artist making the music that they want.

And given such considerations, as well as my own love of all musical things dreamlike and hazy, it will come as no surprise that I find myself loving everything about this Norway based, Japanese ex-pat who wanders between DJing, the studio and live shows, and who makes the most chilled, subtle and sensual dream-like electronica. But more than that, through this cutting edge alternative dance minimalism Sienna weaves traditional instruments from her own cultural heritage to create the most wonderful blend of occident and orient, past and present, traditional and cutting edge. And isn't the way to unlock the door to the future via such creative keys?

The real charm of What Matters is its ability to follow its own slightly underground path, to swerve fad and fashion, to follow its own instincts and yet arrive at a musical place that, in a more enlightened world, would make Sienna the coolest and most talked about artist of the moment. If only! And unlike her fellow artists who feel it is necessary to land a musical sucker punch, to make a big impact or supply a quick hit, throw away, sugar high to the less discerning pop-picker, this feels like part of a longer game.

What Matters is a song, indeed a sound, which pervades rather than invades, which works its magic over time, through some sort of sonic osmosis. It latches on to the zeitgeist at DNA level and perhaps its greatest achievement might not be to make a big impression, not that it doesn't deserve to, but how it might subtly affect and subvert the future pop/dance sound as a whole. They say that prophets are never honoured in their own town. Thankfully Sienna knows that it isn't always about profit. \*

\*that joke works much better verbally.



### Related

Mind Graffiti - I Am a Rocketship (reviewed by Dave Franklin)  
In 'alt-dance'

Flashback Romance - Lucy Mason (reviewed by Dave Franklin)  
In 'dream-pop'

Garden - Kylie Spence (reviewed by Dave Franklin)  
In 'alt-pop'

ALT-DANCE DREAM-POP ELECTRONIC DANCE MUSIC INDIE-POP UNCATEGORIZED

SIENNA



Published by Dave Franklin

Musician, scribbler, historian, gnostic, seeker of enlightenment, asker of the wrong questions, delver into the lost archives, fugitive from the law of averages, blogger, quantum spanner, left footed traveller, music journalist, zenarchist, freelance writer, reviewer and gemini. People have woken up to worse. [View all posts by Dave Franklin](#)

Previous

Haramacy gives voice to marginalised communities

Next >

Cut and Dried – Ren Daversa (reviewed by Dave Franklin)

### Blog Stats

111,861 hits

### Trending Articles

- Echo Chamber – The Strange (reviewed by T. Bebedor)
- Here I Lie – Jan Prowse (reviewed by T. Bebedor)
- The Code – XIXA (reviewed by T. Bebedor)
- Kept – Troy Petty (reviewed by Dave Franklin)
- Haramacy gives voice to marginalised communities
- Hanging Out in Heaven – Marty Willson-Piper (reviewed by Dave Franklin)
- Garden – Kylie Spence (reviewed by Dave Franklin)
- Cut and Dried – Ren Daversa (reviewed by Dave Franklin)
- Triage – The Gentlemens (reviewed by Dave Franklin)
- Stand Tall – Jason Ringenberg (reviewed by Dave Franklin)

bitsubmit.net/3086

### Tags

bat for lashes baughaus black feathers  
(the) hob.dylan candy.darling church.(the)  
corner.laughers.(the) cure.(the) damien.rice  
david.bowie david.mars dead  
royalties echo.boom generation  
echoglass fassine.gaz  
brookfield george.wilding  
ghost.of.the.avalanche greasy.slicks.(the)  
ignacio.pena jake.martin jamil jim  
johnston karda.estra kate.laugh  
la.davis lion.face lucy.mason manic  
shine.(the) mission.(the) nasty.little  
lonely nelson.king new.model  
army nick.cave nick.tann phil.cooper  
polar.front port.erin portishead  
rhett.repko ruby.confite sarah  
mcquaid shriekback sisters.of.mercy spc  
eco tc&i veldt.(the)  
wasuremono white  
lilac xtc

### Feedback

- Dave Franklin on Cut and Dried – Ren Daversa...  
Dave...
- Ren Daversa on Cut and Dried – Ren Daversa...  
Dave...
- 'Kept' s... on Kept – Troy Petty (revi...  
Troy Petty (revi...)
- The Wanderings of Se... on Mind Graffiti – I Am a...  
I Am a...
- The Wanderings of Se... on Natural Causes – Anton...