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Sienna: Ambience (Abon Records)

What do you get when you cross a 33-year-old Japanese woman with a cutting-edge Norwegian producer? Well, it appears you get Sienna, who has just released her debut EP on that producer's fledgling Abon Records label. Sienna has obscured the title of her release, *Ambience*, so that's it's barely readable on the cover. That's a bit more of an ambient concept than the music, which is very busy, hustling techno-tronica. "Motions" serves up a crisp rhythm track with farting synthesizer and scattered samples that occasionally become annoying. "The Others" is more enjoyable, as it sustains a melancholy nocturnal mood punctuated by soft female vocals and more interesting background snatches. The best track is probably "Frame the Moments," which gets its groove on with an insistent thumping beat and mostly male voices, one of which keeps repeating something about "never meeting expectations." There's an interesting artist operating somewhere in this electronic maze; it would be nice to hear her emerge more coherently on the full-length, whenever that arrives. | **Kevin Renick**