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### **Sienna - Essence**

The best music can lift you out of your everyday life and transport you somewhere else. If I close my eyes while listening to Sienna, I can almost imagine I'm in a trendy wine bar in the financial district. A group of marketing managers guffaw in the corner while the barman eyes me disapprovingly. Undeterred I order a San Miguel and its 4 quid...

Yes Sienna are lounge, chill-out, coffee-table, call it what you will. Music that by its very nature isn't supposed to attract your attention, but instead act like sonic wallpaper. Music to be talked over. In that respect it does everything it set out to do. The vocals are quite nice, I'll give them that, all husky and Marianne Faithfull-y. If you squint your ears you could almost be listening to Boards of Canada.

As the records progresses there are a few weirder moments: some cut-up, glitchy beats and some nice atmospherics. 'Garden of Nostalgia' could almost be off the Cure's 'Disintergration'.

Andy Glynn