



ATIVIN *NIGHT MUTE*

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***Night Terror • Saigon Sleeps • Concentrate • Endless • Double Back
The Game • Drink This • Scout • Blood • Sleep Well***

An intentional homage to the world of horror literature and film, *Night Mute* is Ativin's ten song exploration into the themes of death, hopelessness, and fear. On it, the band has created a concise and harrowing sonic vision rooted in their trademark foundation of dirge and repetition of the guitar/guitar/drums. With emphasis placed on deconstructing the music back to its barest elements, the band has pulled away from the "spacious" and cinematic side of the *Summing the Approach* EP (1999, Secretly Canadian) and last year's *Interiors* (Secretly Canadian). Song titles and lyrical content reinforce the notion that this could be a subtle, disconnected soundtrack for terminally ill patients lying in wait behind closed doors. Guitarists and songwriters **Dan Burton** and **Chris Carothers** relish in the deconstruction of their own music. It may help to think of their dual contributions to *Night Mute* as a metaphor for a severed corpus callosum, as you begin to form a mental picture of the sound therein — two hemispheres of the brain are split in two, scared to death of each other, yet encased in the same brain cage and trapped for all eternity. "Night Terror", "Drink This", "Concentrate" and "Blood" are each meticulously honed razorblade attacks nodding to a return to the Ativin of yore — angular instrumental rockers like those on which the band waged war on *Pills Vs. Planes* (1996, Polyvinyl) and *German Water* (1998, Secretly Canadian). The addition of expert, marksmen style drumming from **Mark Rice (the Impossible Shapes, John Wilkes Booze)** propels Burton's and Carothers' spiraling, schizophrenic guitar interplay into a nightmare space where few, if any, musical acts have gone before.

Taking a look at Ativin's sordid past, one will see that there is more to their music than the late '90s post rock explosion from whence they came. In fact, *Night Mute* shows a stake in the divergent corners of the outsider canon. Echoes of **Durutti Column**, **Unsane**, **Tones On Tail**, **Keiji Haino**, and **Organum** can be heard throughout. Their sober take of the early **Love & Rockets** tune "The Game", for instance, finds Burton front & center at the microphone, slowly reeling in on what feels like a **Philip K. Dick** gothic folktale.

Selling Points

1. Ativin's third full-length follows the release of Dan Burton's "other" band **Early Day Miners**, whose hard touring has created a substantial fanbase for both Ativin and Early Day Miners. Also includes members of **the Impossible Shapes**, **Swords Project** and **John Wilkes Booze**.
2. Their last album *Interiors* was praised in the following publications: *London Sunday Times*, *Alternative Press*, *Modern Drummer*, *Magnet*, *Punk Planet*, *HeartAttack*, *Big Takeover*, *Pitchfork*, *Heckler*, *Resonance*.



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