francisco lópez untitled #228





LP @ 33 RPM [44 min]

Track listing:

A1. untitled #228 part I

B1. untitled #228 part II

(p) 2009 ini.itu #0903 250 copies, hand numbered

- ini.itu is releasing the fourth LP of its catalogue, a new work composed by francisco lópez
- francisco lópez is a sound artist who is active since 30 years and has composed an impressive catalogue, strongly consistent and full of nuances. Trained as an entomologist and ecologist, his attention is acutely focused on the natural sound environments. His reflection on the phenomenology of the act of listening has led him to develop of a form of "absolute musique concrète", paralleling the richness, complexity, slow changes and extreme level dynamics of nature. It also lead him to detach his pieces from narrative developments, referential associations of sounds with reality, and psychological resonances. To paraphrase Gertrude Stein: a sound is a sound is a sound.
- This ini.itu LP presents 2 radically different sides of his approach to composition. Both are nonetheless based on field recordings made in various places of Indonesia: Jakarta, Bandung, Yogjakarta, Bira, Makassar and Tana Toraja:
 - The first side might be francisco lópez at his most hectic yet: the 22 min tracks unfurls an abundance of superpositions / abrupt cuts / slow transitions / resonances / dissonances / shifted sounds. In contrast to many of his works, this one keeps a trace of human activity and presence. It is interesting to note that the voices we hear are ones already diffused through amplification techniques, (announcements in train stations, muezzins calling for prayer), with their inbuilt distortions, degradations, repetitions and incidental multilayering, all processes that francisco lópez develops in his piece. What you basically hear is the multilayered and reworked soundworld of Indonesia.
 - The second side could be described as a **spectral** take on **gamelan**, somehow getting the initial sound rid of its form and keeping only its essence. In other words, what **untitled #104** a classical work in the lópezian canon did to doom metal, **untitled #228** does to gamelan! In a very elegant way, this work retains the melodic and textural elements central to gamelan, making it an extremely unusual piece in lópez's whole catalogue.
- This LP signs the return of francisco lópez to solo vinyl for the first time since untitled #92, published in 2000 by Mego.
- The cover picture was taken in Bantimurung, South Sulawesi, where anecdotically, Alfred Russel Wallace, a famous botanist
 and co-author of the evolution theory with Darwin, worked in the years 1857-1858, describing the fauna, and among them,
 the rare Papilo Androcles¹.

Selective discography:

Untitled Single Piece 1 Drone Records 1996 CD La Selva V2 Archief 1998 Untitled #104 Alien8 Recordings 2000 CD Untitled #92 2000 LP Mego Buildings [New York] V2 Archief 2001 CD Wind [Patagonia] and/OAR 2007 CD Nowhere (Short Pieces 1983 to 2003) Blossoming Noise 2008 10 CD box In De Blaauwe Hand Korm Plastics 2009

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¹ But we are digressing here, aren't we?