

Terrascope <http://terrascope.co.uk/>
Ian Fraser

Mirrors to the Bonfire

These three lengthy ambient explorations come courtesy of the acclaimed Philadelphia/Indianapolis pairing Adam Holquist (onewayness) and Charles Shriner (aka the spell-check bothering dRachEmUsiK).

Brooding and pulsing, 'Your Invisible Power' is minimalist drone mixing electronic wind instruments and synthesis, acoustic guitar and bass to haunting and transcendental effect. The title track 'Par I' is equally horizontal in inclination but imbued of a different mood, reminiscent in a way of those curiously beat-less ECM offerings from decades past. It also possesses a vaguely perceptible Satie quality, while the understated yet profound 'Part II' (of a similar duration of just under 20 minutes) slot the iceberg down to a glacial pace at times barely perceptible through the auditory mist.

In one respect it is all unnerving and uneasy but at the same time strangely calming and fulfilling, especially 'Mirrors to the Bonfire II'. It won't get any parties started. It might even put pay to a few but it is oddly beguiling music ideal for deep space cryogenics followed by a long, slow thaw.