

WI RE

Avant Rock

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By Edwin Pouncey

Afuma – Songs From The Shore

Death and the possibility of an afterlife form the inspirational basis for this alarmingly beautiful set of thoughtful and charging songs from guitar duo Taketo Shimada and Stefan Tcherepnin who, together with drummer David Silver, make up Afuma. The opening “Assisted Suicide” immediately takes you to the core of the album, a 15 minute cosmic ride into the unknown that explodes in the middle with a burst of rock guitar that feels like a blessed transitional release of sorts. Elsewhere “Death Of A Seagull” takes off sounding like an Ennio Morricone spaghetti western soundtrack before taking flight into a psychedelic storm of tangled guitars and squalling synth. Shifting effortlessly from grandiose prog vistas to country rock interludes and a grunge battered finale, with additional shehnai playing from Shimada, Afuma’s death trip is a wild one.

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