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Double exposure (winduptoys)

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Double Exposure
winduptoys
Clan Analogue CA037

reviewed by Michael Hannan

winduptoys is a creative collaboration between Robert Boehm and Jeremy Smith, both electronic musicians with music production backgrounds. The central idea of their art is to make tracks using non-digital electronic devices such as analogue synthesizers, tape machines and programming devices, as well as acoustic musical instruments, particularly percussion. They are nostalgic about the era when “technology was real technology, knobs were real knobs and plug-ins were really plugged in.” They describe their music as experimental glitch-electronica and dub. The dub influence is strong with extreme uses of echo and reverb on certain instruments, typically snaredrum. But unlike classic dub their textures are generally highly complex constructions, not pared back to the basics. They create highly inventive and hypnotic grooves, usually with some engaging long-line melodic elements threading through, and with abstract “glitch” elements overlaid. Very highly recommended.