Cinescape August 9, 2006



## THIS WEEK'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Elia Cmiral takes on a similarly intensive ambient approach in his score for Dimension's latest shocker, PULSE, released on CD by Lakeshore Records. Cmiral, noted for his scores for STIGMATA, BONES, THEY, SPECIES III, and RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE, provides a powerfully atmospheric score for PULSE. The film has to do with an alien technology that uses wireless signals to enter our dimension. Cmiral's score is sufficiently spooky, with eerie synthesized textures and sampled orchestra and choir that builds an interesting and affecting sonic tonality. The score is not a thematic or increasingly developing one, but rather builds a layered progression of sounds and textures and then creates persuasive and affecting sound patterns and rhythms that combine to create a disquieting affect that generates plenty of foreboding and suspense. Introduced by a couple of hard alt-rockers (Intercooler's "Goodness of the Girl" and "Delay The Wait" by Overnight Lows) and concluded by a Latin Rocker from Los Amigos Invisibles, the score on disc comprises just over two dozen fairly short cues, but each one melds nicely into the next one and the listening becomes an effective dark ambiance of intriguingly textured sounds.

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