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Album Reviews

SARAH FIMM, "A Perfect Dream"

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Christa L. Titus

Sarah Fimm's "Be Like Water" launches the odyssey that is A Perfect Dream, a sensual feast of electronic leanings and hypnotic atmospheres that is brewed with alternative-leaning gothic melodies. Her phrasing strongly mimics Amos' on the big-band, scat-happy "Spit Trap Ghetto" and "Alien Boys", but her tone more closely matches Sarah McLachlan's ethereal breathiness at its finest, and Fimm's compositions (interspersed with spoken word, sax, trumpet, and hand percussion) innovate instead of imitate. Lyrically, they tackle themes like the loss of love and life on the dramatic "Virus," "Smoke," and "Shadows and Dust." Given that this is only her second album, Fimm is no doubt ripe with possibility. This is one of the most enchanting discoveries of the year.