

I first encountered the artist known as Pocket Lint in 2021, a regular on the BBC Introducing Feedback Friday Twitter threads known to me for his highly creative music that invokes feelings and scenes.

Disguises

As the track begins the immediate feeling is one of foreboding, as if people are mingling waiting for a story to begin on a wet and humid night.

As the vocals begin they draw my attention immediately as if to say 'listen here, to this story...' The style reminds me of the opening scene in Apocalypse Now, the Doors meets the Moody Blues with shades of Damon Albarn in his prime whilst early REM signals the beginning of late 80s indie music.

The song itself feels haunting and neurotic with a tint of hopefulness yet melancholic at the state of the worlds inhabitants, exhausted by modernity; 'with painted face and tired eyes... it's us in a disguise' is one of the best lyrics I've heard recently, they really spoke to me.

The guitars really work and sound like they are straight out of a Spaghetti Western. The hooks are catchy, strong and all backed up with meaty chords.

Noir

A simplistic but effective sounding piano introduction, minimal and downbeat percussive section, All backed up with weeping guitar and crying strings. The vocals are voices, moving around the listener with reverbs that add a sense of multiple personalities telling a story... as if it's a story being told in the present, the past and future. There is a creepy mid-section with what sounds like a wheezing squeezebox struggling to breathe.

Red Dust

This EP is very well sonically constructed. It all fits together as if we are on a tour of the land of the giants via a time tunnel.

The guitar feedback tone appears sequenced to make slow yearning melodies, long baggy chords... jack hum... all give a sense of disquiet which is brilliantly contrasted with the clarity of the synths, organs, and electric pianos. Just as you think the song is optimistic it returns to the neuroses.

Lyrics are a strength of this EP, as are guitars. The percussion is always there, even if minimally, reminding us to continue to breathe and keep on walking.

Violet Apples

This track means business always driving forward with a slightly militaristic feel. The song ends like a traditional 'round' but in reverse. This all contributes to a feeling that we have reached as deep as we can go and that we have to do something about it.

White Sands.

A beautiful song that begins by reminding me of Joy division but much slower. The Justin Haywood-esque vocals and intonation are stunning. My favourite song on the EP with a sensitive and meaningful lyric 'You're not the same and I'm not the same...'.
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This could easily have been a bonus track on Days of Future Passed – one of my all-time favourite albums. Whilst the previous track seemed urgent this final track seems laid back and accepting, as if there is time to just sit and listen, which is what I recommend you do.