

FILTER REISSUES



★★★★
Messthetics
#101 DIY
London 1, 77-81

★★★★
Messthetics
#102 DIY
London 2, 77-81
MESSTHETICS/HYPED2DEATH

The history of punk's aftermath as it should be rewritten.

Punk inspired loads of adventurers to carve their own path and do it themselves, rather than sign with EMI, Polydor or CBS. The Desperate Bicycles declared "it was easy, cheap, go and do it" in 1977. Then Scritti Politti's first EP bore details of their recording

and productions costs. The first TV Personalities 45, the home-made '14th Floor,' was also inspirational. These two new entries in the Messthetics series (the title borrowed from Scritti Politti) collect a mind-boggling array of mavericks, weirdos and experimentalists. Two well-packaged CDs sport 45 tracks, mostly from rare-as-hell photocopy-wrapped 7-inchers. The Lines, Steve Treatment and The Homosexuals are the stars, while the obscurities include Collective Horizontal Innerpropriates and Dad. Scratchy, barely produced, droning, shouty and arrhythmic, this music is often played by people with no mastery of any instruments. More entries in the series are eagerly awaited.

Kieron Tyler