



STEMBO - "S/T" [12" - [Southern Lord](#)]

At the helm of Stebmo, multi instrumentalist Steve Moore [who has worked with Earth and Sunn O))), among others] delves into new sound territory for those used to the drone and black metal that regularly appears on Southern Lord. That being said, its opening track "Waiting Game", which features high-pitched menacing violin, macabre wailing, truly bizarre drum accompaniment and awkward piano, merely hint at the ethereal sound that only an artist signed to said label could produce.

"Blind Ross" is, essentially, the Charlie Brown theme with clapping hands and jazz drumming, while "Happy Ending" is much sultrier than its name implies [unless you're into that] while "Dark Circles" is hauntingly beautiful. Featuring an array of instruments, it's choppy and interruptive sound coincides nicely with the prevailing piano.

Although many may not be familiar with the resonant side of Moore, his diverse resume points out his experience with a variety of artists and instruments. Once again, he has created music that challenges the listener to open their ears, open their mind, and shut their mouths. - Sarah Kitteringham