

ALTERNATIVE PRESS MAGAZINE

COPERNICUS No Borderline

Not knowing anything about this record, you'd find it pretty weird. Some guy calling himself Copernicus, talking about nothing existing above the atomic level, putting a wacked-out philosophy into rants and raves and other theatrical gestures. Accompanying the guy are no-wave musicians from around the world—Lithuania, Mexico, Germany, Brooklyn—creating spontaneous jazz, funk, industrial and space music settings for each of his ten expostulations.

But if you carefully perused the 28-page booklet that comes with the CD, and listen carefully to the texts, you'd realize that...the guy is nuts!

No, no, sorry, that was my bad angel speaking. Copernicus, *nee* Joseph Smalkowski, is a committed visionary (a visionary who should be committed!) who started releasing tracts as records in 1985, using various musical support to provide emotional context for his philosophy. Simply put, he believes that anything bigger than a subatomic particle cannot truly exist because changes at higher, more complex molecular levels are so rapid. That means everything *and* us. With this knowledge, we can become free to be spontaneous and joyful. No hate. No war. Only love, love, love.

Fact is, this isn't too bad a philosophy—just ask Charlie Manson! (Get *out* of here!) Copernicus has good ends, and a few good lines too. One of my favorites is: "Be In The Real Grasping On To The Gamma Rays Of Nevermore At Every Moment—Where Life And Death Are Just An Ignorant Society's Illusions—Where Our Semen Flows Over The Protons..." Well, you get the idea.

No jokes now. *No Borderline* is an important record. And a hell of a mixer.

(Nevermore, Inc., POB 170150, Brooklyn NY 11217) —Stephen M.H. Brautman