Temples – Sun Structures (2014)

1. Shelter Song 2. Sun Structures 3. The Golden Throne 4. Keep In The Dark 5. Mesmerise 6. Move With The Season 7. Colours To Life 8. A Question Isn't Answered 9. The Guesser 10. Test Of Time 11. Sand Dance 12. Fragment's Light Temples are: James Bagshow - vocals & guitar Thomas Warmsley - bass & backing vocals Adam Smith - keys Samuel Toms - drums

Psychedelia – cracking the mid-forged manacles since 1966. With this narcotically lulling debut from Kettering's Temples we're in the territory of the Beatles 'Tomorrow Never Knows', but of the more sylvan and consoling.

That is, of psych taking some inspiration from nature, from such as the Zombies. On the title track James Bagshaw's vocal is somewhere between a David Crosby dream and a shroud, floating over the music like morning mist over a slowly emerging countryside. The riff does naggingly recall Oasis ' Hindu Times' but there's a nice juxtaposed quality of the massed dirge backing vocals which has something of the genuinely ancient about it. On 'Mesmerize' however, bass runs improvise, with a hollowed out, spiny Tame Impala feel and massively booming guitars. Its coda; drums fugging as if through Benylin, while kraut-scapes fly past like grey time lapse clouds and a backward running tape spool slurps. But on 'Shelter Song', the jangly intro features a drum beat which is blatantly 'Ticket To Ride', as Nuggets guitar is background fuzz, the music resolving marvellously though on the rapid thump of 'Colours To Life'.

There's more of a cheeky half-wink to 'Keep In the Dark', as a most 'Spirit In the Sky' glam honk riff lights up a rickety stomp and there's nerdy delight to the quicksilver switch-back chorus of 'The Guesser', which reminds of the much-missed Ambulance Ltd. But mostly, this record takes a broad retro road many are currently marching down. A psychedelically influenced LP like Warpaint's is basically a record whose jams wouldn't have troubled many in the 70's, but which

tries, tentatively, to push forward - whereas ‘Sun Structures’ seems mostly about hazy, tuneful consolation and the closure of the past. ---Stuart Gadd, artrocker.tv

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