# STILL SINGLE

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## Wayne Horvitz – 55: Music And Dance In Concrete LP (Other Room Music)

Can't say I've paid Wayne Horvitz much attention over the years. His is a name I associate with old John Zorn records, which is not necessarily a bad thing at all. But after a quarter century of living in the Pacific Northwest, it's hardly fair to measure him by his associations. The guy is certainly busy enough, working with standing jazz bands and established classical ensembles, to be measured by his own work. This LP is part of a multi-media endeavor that the keyboardist first undertook when he turned 55. He composed that many musical fragments for a five-piece chamber ensemble, and then recorded the same number of improvisations. These pieces became a bag of sound he could dip into to play alongside dances choreographed by Yukio Suzuki to be performed in an old fort near Port Townsend, WA.

Horvitz didn't skimp on the packaging. The LP, which features 13 pieces assembled from the original sound fragments, comes with a large, full-color booklet and a download that includes 13 more pieces. The music itself is an attractive mix of accessibly tonal string and reed music — there's one theme that reminds me of Prokofiev's "Peter And The Wolf," in a good way — and glassy electronics, all of which are diced and looped. Since looping is involved, nothing develops over too long a span, but each idea exerts enough magnetism to keep me coming back. If only someone had put as much work into the LP, which suffers from a surplus of crackle that does not complement the music and does not abate with repeat spins. Vinyl die-hards aside, I suspect that most listeners will spend the bulk of their time with the download. (http://www.waynehorvitz.net) (Bill Meyer)

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A space for thoughts on music and culture, as written by Doug Mosurock and a select handful of individuals. This is intended as a supplement to our regular feature Still Single, published on Dusted Magazine (please note the updated URL; for the time being, Dusted is also publishing on Tumblr). Updates will run here more frequently, and may feature writing on music not covered in the column. Compact discs are still not accepted for review -- we have more than enough vinyl and the occasional cassette to worry about. Our Twitter feed keeps you apprised of reviews as they're published. It's kept locked and private, because with a name like @stillsingle, everyone thinks it's a dating site. Approvals happen whenever they happen.

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Doug's contact address for all POSTAL mail is as follows:

Doug Mosurock
PO Box 3087
New York, NY 10185-3087

Anyone wishing to send submissions by another carrier (UPS, Fed Ex, etc.) can address it here:

Doug Mosurock
610 5th Ave. #3087
New York, NY 10185-3087

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