

PARTY DAY



SORTED!

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(Optic Nerve)

Early 80's post-punk rediscovered.

7/10

Party Day were formed in 1981 near Barnsley playing post-punk indie rock with gothic overtones. This 31 track compilation gathers together all of their vinyl releases plus unreleased recordings including their debut album 'Glasshouse' from 1985 and the 1986 follow up 'Simplicity'. Like many of their contemporaries they pre-dated the gothic movement but their sound certainly has that feel, with tracks like 'Rabbit Pie', 'Athena', 'Boredom' and 'Flies' having more than a hint of the The Cure circa 'Faith' about them and 'Carousel' sits somewhere between UK Decay and Sex Gang Children. The later songs, particularly those taken from 'Simplicity' from have a more polished, rockier edge than the earlier material with 'Career' venturing into Killing Joke's territory while the anthemic 'Surge' could almost pass as a Skids song. If you've an interest in the 'alternative' bands of that era, Party Day are well worth investigating.

Lee Cotterell