

POWERPLAY

RUSTFIELD

"Kingdom Of Rust"

Genre: Progressive Metal
Independent Release



Tupperware, noun: a range of plastic containers used for storing food. (OED)

Rustfield's drums: see above.

Which is a shame, because this duo, formed from 'an idea in odd tempos' have produced something occasionally different. This has some dark corners, some skeletons in the closet... a love of 80s synths often heard frequently in Balance or Tokyo, and it shows them backing away from a genre and skipping clear of expectation. Yes, there will be sci-fi references, at the top of the shop in fact, with that familiar attack and an uber widdly solo; this is "Among The Fields Of Rust", but wait around and "Waxhopes" will lead with a big bass and whizzy synth, which does get heavier but has to time to find a folky air, too, just to put your head somewhere else. And then "Love Moan" adds a mournful cello and a laid back, unfolding Gilmour of a solo...

They are really only on a slippery slope when they try to be prog metal; all the sounds are there, it's just that we've been shown something different and we may crave it. The nine-minute "Out Of The Blue" is only successful as prog metal because it is ubiquitous, throwing it all in with a free bass run and glacial guitars, speeding and slowing at will.

Rustfield should be celebrated for trying something different, for having elements that put them outside the cosy coterie of colleagues. It's lonely out there, but it's where so much great music lives. Hope they set up home and build an extension.

POWERPOINTS: ①②③④⑤⑥⑦

STEVE SWIFT

