

THE LIST – 22 Sept / 6 Oct 05



Music Records, p.62 The young Gods by Mark Robertson

ROCK
THE YOUNG GODS
Twenty Years
1985–2005
(PIAS) ●●●●●



Switzerland has few musical heroes to celebrate – well, none that I remember but feel free to let me know – but here's a real doozy. An influence on everyone from Nine Inch Nails to Depeche Mode, this band of forward-thinking rock gods – using only drums, sampler and voice – helped sculpt the way electronics were used in rock music.

The lion's share of these 20-track retrospectives are culled from 1989's *L'eau Rouge*, by far their most varied and atmospheric album, but hearing their early stripped-down grind beside their woozy covers of Kurt Weill songs illustrates just how smart these freaks were. A return to live duties is imminent and this record proves it will be more than just an exercise in nostalgia.
(Mark Robertson)