

Wondering Sound.com

Ruben Machtelinckx, *Flock*: An absolutely enchanting release from guitarist Machtelinckx, who adds baritone guitar and banjo to his electric and acoustic. Hilmar Jensson also adds guitar to go along with the reeds of Joachim Badenhorst and Nathan Wouters' bass. But this isn't a guitar-driven jazz-rock fusion. This is serene folk-jazz, not unlike some of Jeremy Udden's Plainville work. Beautiful melodies are matched with tempos that won't sit still but also don't upend the order of things. Badenhorst's saxes and clarinets are moody and glow like moonlight on a snowy landscape. Peaceful music that hints at a vague unease, keeping the ear alert and the music from ever attaining a sleepy quality. Just gorgeous. **Pick of the Week.**