



## **Norman Salant—**

### ***Sax Talk***

C.D. Presents Ltd.  
1230 Grant Ave., #531  
San Francisco, CA 94133

You've probably heard Norman Salant's sax playing, either through his work with Romeo Void or his inspired lunacy with The Residents. On *Sax Talk*, his second record, Salant forges new ground in the sax-pop field, molding a release that is infectious and original.

The album begins with the title cut, as inviting an entrance into a release as you're likely to find anywhere. Amidst incessant drum machines and a danceable beat, Salant's saxophone wails an irresistible hook. From there, Salant embarks on a course sprinkled with more pop as well as the sultry, polished funk of "Europe After Dark," the plaintive balladizing of "Molih Ta," the Far Eastern lilt of "Kiyō" and the moody reflection of "Signature." Salant's backing throughout is excellent and thoroughly modern, and the LP by no means hints of a musician too long in the studio. Maybe it's the obvious heartfelnness of Salant's soloing; maybe this is just a superb LP.

With next to no vocal accompaniment, *Sax Talk* strikes these ears as a quiet masterpiece. Like Stephen Ashman's *Cooler Than Death*, another largely instrumental effort, this album subtly spins its way into the psyche. Whatever your tastes, this is one worth investigating.

By Michael Goldner