

**Aarctica / Aaron Specter - Ocean EP
(Moonbunny / 01)**

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Very few who know Aaron Specter as a Berlin-based ragga and jungle core act know that he is familiar with Elektronika. That's going to change with this record, which collects four tracks on heavy vinyl from a new label he's involved in. A2 and B1 are solo pieces; B2 is a collaboration with Aarctica, a friendly project from New York. A1 is an Aaron Specter remix of a piece of Aarctica's "Pure Tone Audiometry" album that opens the record very nicely with soft vocals over a floating guitar arpeggiated texture. Then, however, Specter's apocalyptic epics, especially A2, follow a blazing sky of clattering percussion until a typical somatic response beat lingers for a while and leaves you alone. Great, simple pathos. B1 also values mood, until all at once the beats give the handle into the hand, up to the Amen. As in the last track - Aarctica's reassuring voice returns - then use the Kopfnickerbeats, heavy but flowing, and again standing in the great distance, I realize what this reminds me somehow: to early Herrmann & Small, in a darker version, Very nice, and that applies to all four

tracks.

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