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MUSIC

Still acting up

A Silence Broken

■ Various Artists ■ Public Record



Twenty years after its rise as the rallying cry of ACT UP, the words “Silence = Death” provide the platform to reappraise the state of AIDS awareness today on this intriguing electronic compilation. Using chanting protesters as source material, eight queer music innovators do an impressive job of turning out tracks that are thought-provoking yet also engaging. Terre Thaemlitz uses sampled jazz vocals and LP surface noise to lend texture to the seductive deep house of “Hush Now,” while Soft Pink Truth (alias Drew Daniel of Matmos) juggles effervescent percussion between stereo channels to create the feather-light industrial romp “The Boy Who Cried Silence Equals Death.” The lesser-known participants are just as noteworthy, and you can’t beat the sticker price: *A Silence Broken* is available as a free download at Public Record’s Web site, www.ultrared.org/publicrecord/directory.html.

—Kurt B. Reighley