

William Fowler Collins

Field Music

SIGE DL/LP

There's an odd, galloping grid of slippery, warped static running through the title track of William Fowler Collins's *Field Music*. According to its press materials, this rhythm has been derived by merging the battlefield patterns of martial drums with "polyrhythms associated with Voodoo ritual". Collins lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico, about an hour from the ranch house shown on the cover of *Field Music*, where the world's first atomic bomb was assembled. The combination of domestic facade and nuclear cataclysm brings to mind Penderecki's mushroom cloud sequence from the eighth episode of *Twin Peaks: The Return*. The last 30 seconds of "How Horrible It Would Be" approach a similarly swarming intensity, only to end abruptly. *Field Music* isn't a soundtrack for the bomb itself, but for the land that bore witness to its inception.