I know nothing of Bênnî. I know nothing about them. I assume they live a post-apocalyptic, tron-lite universe. I assume they assembled reclaimed wires and dials and knobs in such a manner to communicate to our world. I assume synthesizers survived the endtimes. If 80's cinema taught us anything, it's that after the bombs fall and all is lost, all sound that remains is the scuttling of cockroaches and the eeeeeeewBBBBBWWMMMMMP of a synthesizer.

The Return is an homage to 80's sci-fi soundtracks a la Vangelis' Blade Runner. The compositions are also cheesy, but it's near-impossible to make synth music that's not cheesy. And like Vangelis, its performed with such a sense of earnestness that to fight it would be in vain. The narrative of the record follows the title, a story of one lost amongst the stars, returning to what's left of earth. "Ancient Plains" and "In the Shadows" have a hint of influence from the great Angelo Badalamenti, the master of minimalist emotional manipulation. It's a stirring, nostalgic listen from start to finish, rather, from blast off to landing.

Sounds Like:
Sci-fi soundtracks (Blade Runner/Vangelis)

Recommended Tracks:
The Return Pt. 1 - starts slow and builds nicely
The Return Pt. 2 - ditto!

Name:
Nick Kivi
Date Reviewed:
09/10/2018

- Alt [1]
- Angelo badalamenti-core [2]
- daft punkian [3]
- post tron [4]