

A group with Polwechsel's importance must bear up continually to the weight of expectation, and this newest disc certainly does not disappoint. On this outing, founding guitarist Burkhard Stangl is absent, making way for two percussionists, Burkhard Beins and Martin Brandlmayer(...) While Polwechsel's third full-length, Polwechsel 3 (on Dafeldecker's Durian imprint), was a series of harsh juxtapositions and whiplash starts and stops, Archives is glacial. It lurches into life with a clang and a saxophone ripple, but the rest of opener "Datum Cut" consists of echoes and resonances of that first moment. Some of these are probably quite literal, a fair amount of processing clearly in evidence while crystalline tones glow, fade and re-emerge in other registers. It's one of the most beautiful tracks that the group has issued, melding the best elements of improvisation and composition to form a structure that skirts electro-acoustic clichés. (...) Archives of the North a fascinating and challenging listen, partly because of how simple it all seems on the surface.

- *Marc Medwin, Grooves Magazine* -