

babysue®

Minmae

835 (Advance CD, Grey Day, Progressive pop)

Following the career of **Minmae** is like following a winding path through the forest in the dark. You never know exactly *what* to expect from bandleader **Sean Brooks**. He started out several years ago recording extremely esoteric, strange material...but then soon opted for a more straightforward pop sound. But in the past couple of years he has taken to delving into more obtuse territories with oblique arrangements. Which brings us to *835*...a moody and unpredictable album that is bound to confuse a good number of people. One thing is certain...beginning an album with an eight minute psychedelic jam ("Pay More") isn't likely to land Minmae a spot on any of the hipster television programs anytime soon. But what the music may lose in terms of accessibility...it seems to gain in terms of sheer entertainment value. The subtle creativity inherent in tracks like "Let My Friends In" is subtle yet intriguing. Another underground gem from Minmae. (Rating: 5++)

