THE PALE SAINTS: Barging Into The Presence Of God (4AD)

This was one of the few records that actually stayed the distance. Actually made it to the run out groove without being cast into the pale grey waters of the

Thames. Why?

Miles: Because it's different. It shows a bit of imagination. They sound like a band, a real live band. Some enthusiasm for the whole thing. Making a bit of a racket. Martin: People like this should be encouraged. There are no bloody good young bands around, no one's doing anything. Alright, this isn't brilliant but at least it shows some spirit.

It showed rather too much spirit for me, I'm afraid. Regardless of what Steve Lamacq says, no record should ever last longer than three minutes. Ask the

Shangri-La's