

MAXIMUM BLACK FESTIVAL

LONDON FORUM

Berlin-based agency **Puschen** concocted a fairly unconventional bill that tests accepted genre boundaries for audiences – and Terrorizer. The Forum is packed with dreamy-eyed indie types. **Frog Eyes'** aimless dribble makes one wonder if there's a single soul on Earth actually into them. **Six Organs Of**

Admittance, usually a challenging force within psych-folk, seem to get lost in the big space. Their intimate sermons do not translate well to the environment of The Forum.

Dirty Projectors stir things up a bit with some angular, twitchy, shouty post-punk sounding like terrace chants for nerds. Alas, their music seems burdened by reference and perspective. **Stephen O'Malley** is half of a guitar/cello duo with **Alexander Tucker** tonight. Combined with two screens projecting beautiful images of chemical/biological landscapes organising into harmonic, symmetrical shapes, the mighty drone they emit is instantly mesmerising. The uncanny thing is that this incantation of archetypal sights and sounds takes place within the utter and total lack of atmosphere – the venue is buzzing with the incessant chatter. Only a handful are converted. Headliners **Final Fantasy**, basically a projectionist and a violinist playing bittersweet Victorian nursery rhymes, transcend their basement orientation and finally captivate a criminally distracted crowd.

AVI PITCHON