Favourite Albums of 2017

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C. Spencer Yeh - The RCA Mark II (Primary Information)

Contemporary art is so overly reliant on conceit that execution, process, and results figure nary a chicken's cluck. On the flip side, today's music nerds are too dependent on end results, always wondering, "Can I sample this?" or "Will it fit in my new mix?". Yeh's new record makes great music out of a great idea: recording the sounds the now-defunct RCA Mark II synthesizer can still make with busted knobs, corroded wires, etc. It's fidgety and loopy and has 'nothing' to do with the original intentions of the machine: a good reminder that the failure of functionality germs good vitals. Picked by Andrew Choate.