FIRE AND STEEL: 
SOUND SCULPTURES, MOBILES, 
SYMBOLS AND ATMOSPHERICS 
BY STEVE HUBBACK
(ISBN 1-902440-07-2)
Only £12.99 (plus £3 p&p uk)

With a multitude of recordings on FMR, we feel it is about time the visual aspects of Steve Hubbacks works took centre stage. The Welsh-born percussionist who after feeling a little disheartened with the regularities of the traditional drum-set, trained himself in the art of smithing and has over the years produced some of the most beautiful, mind boggling percussion instruments you are likely to see as well as his inspiring mobiles and sculptures (some even float!).

Steve Hubback is a rare phenomenon, a brilliant musician, composer, artist, blacksmith, and shaman, who has forged all these disparate artistic disciplines into a unified whole driven by a deep personal philosophy. A visionary with the spirit and ethos of hebo Harry Partch, Hubbacks personality is equally complex and his work and outlook are always fueled by a wicked Welsh humour and sense of black irony....... Alchemy indeed! Yet nobody could be more passionate about their work and go to such lengths, pain and hardship to create it!

Born in Wales in 1957, Hubbacks original interest was music and in particular modern Jazz, but he soon realised the importance of originality in art and strove to find his own personality in music as a drummer and percussionist. This uncharted and uncompromising path leading him to learn how to Smith so he could design and create all his own instruments. With an equal and unbridled talent for art and form as well as music, the pieces took on life of their own and soon they had fused into equal art/sound objects, where individual definitions had blurred and disappeared altogether.

His nomadic inclinations soon took the better of him and eventually he had moved and lived all over Europe and Scandinavia and expanded still further his work to include mobiles, symbols and atmospherics while at the same time slowly building an enviable reputation with open, creative and astute musicians and art galleries around Europe.

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PAGE2
Now living in Iceland, his work contains a spirituality difficult to comprehend. His sound sculpture is remarkably, sonically pure at the same time as being harmonically rich, while the visual aesthetic have a very special undefinable organic magic and beauty.

This book covers all his work and development as an artist as well as musician, and contains over 150 mono photographs of his pieces as well as 16 pages of colour plates, his own comments on his life and work, plus a complete discography. Thanks and comments are also offered from many of the world class musicians using his instruments around the world.