

At the Speed of Ten Machines, by Voice Box

reviewed by [Louis R. Carlozo](#) in the [May 2, 2012](#) issue

In Review



At the Speed of Ten Machines

By Voice Box

Self-released

Pinning down this Chicago-based group's sound is difficult. But it's easy to name resemblances: the progressive song structure and guitar work of Yes; the spoken-word interludes of Frank Zappa and Ken Nordine; the slithery funk of 1970s David

Bowie. Half the songs on *Machines* stretch out five minutes or longer, but “Great Stone Forest” (at 2:44) sounds like a nocturnal crawl through a far-flung wilderness, anchored by Jim Quinn’s tasty percussion layers.