



# Tracks

By Jeff Rossen

## MARCUS GOLDHABER

**The Moment After**  
(Fallen Apple Records)

You won't find anything terribly adventurous on Marcus Goldhaber's debut album, but what you will find is a fine collection of songs performed in a solid style by a man with an incredibly pleasing voice and inviting laidback style. The set is heavily jazz-influenced, with Goldhaber creating the arrangements with pianist Jon Davis and the input of bassist Paul Gabrielson and percussionist Kyle Struve. Goldhaber's vocals take repeated rests to give the musicians a shot at the tunes as well (in the first four-and-a-half minutes of the opening *Honeysuckle Rose*, Goldhaber only gets through the lyric once), and for those who like their music instrumental as well as voiced, *The Moment After* satisfies that craving quite well.



The relaxed manner of Goldhaber's performance settles ideally into the uncluttered arrangements, and he and Davis seem to enjoy playing off of each other throughout the dozen standards in the set that range from a spry *Walking My Baby Back Home* and portrait-painting *Old Cape Cod* to a just slightly slowed down *You're Gonna Hear From Me* and tenderly rendered *Be Careful, It's My Heart*.

*The Moment After* plays out like a late-night set at an elegant club, and dropping in for the session is highly recommended.

## BABBIE GREEN & JOHN BOSWELL

**Two**  
(Lion and Lark Songs)

Wonder of wonders, miracle of miracles, Babbie has done it once again.

It's been six years since her last set of original tunes, 2000's *Soldiers of the Heart*, but the long wait has certainly been rewarded with musical riches as Babbie Green teams with John Boswell for a musical tapestry that is an instant classic.



With a cover tagline that subtitles the album *Duets ... mostly*, Green and Boswell trade lead vocals and musical harmonizing on 15 songs that look at relationships from a variety of perspectives. But whether it's from a playful vantage point—the Randy Newman-ish title track (words and music by Green), the jaunty *In the Land of Love* (Green), the peh-loving *Kate* (Green)—or with a romantic gleam in the eye—the prayerful *Stars Above Me* (Green), the lovely waltz of sharing in *Here's How It Goes* (music by Boswell, words by Green), the moving simplicity of how one's love can enrich you in *When You Take My Hand* (music by Boswell, words by Julie Last)—or stirring passion, either uplifting or heartbreaking—Green's painful *The Day After You*, the power of love in *Close My Eyes* (music by Boswell, words by Green)—this is the finest collection of new songs since Susan Werner's *I Can't Be New*, which was the best since Green's *Soldiers of the Heart*.

And along with the exceptional tunes found

*Continued on page 52*