

## SOUNDS OF THE CITY BY PAUL CARRUBBA



### WATCH OUT FOR ROCKETS

TELEPATHIC WAR MACHINE

★★★★★

The Wisconsinite-turned-Austinite boys of Watch Out For Rockets are masters at creating deliciously jittery rock 'n' roll. They're also hard working. Their latest EP, *Telepathic War Machine*, is their fourth record in two years. This one doesn't stray too far from the lo-fi poppers' previous work, but that's not a problem when the output is so interesting. Songs range from the psychedelic pop of "Animal Dream" and "Ghetto and Rye" to the angst-ridden title track. Darkly angular with a vocal melody reminiscent of a Renaissance dirge, the latter is the standout track of a standout CD.



### ERIN IVEY & THE FINEST KIND

BROKEN GOLD

★★★★★

Backed by R&B trio The Finest Kind, Ivey transforms from a sweet pop folksinger into a full-fledged chanteuse in *Broken Gold*. On the jazzy opener, "Sorrow No More," the team channels their inner Bill Withers. "Chocolate" finds Ivey singing in both French and English on a tune that oozes with lusty soul. The second half of the disc lets Ivey's folk-pop roots shine. Ballads like "Little Star" and the country-tinged title track breathe with longing, and the up-tempo "You Got Your Wishes Wrong" blends pop with Jamaican-style rhythm. The styles combine easily on a record that is sexy, bittersweet and joyous.

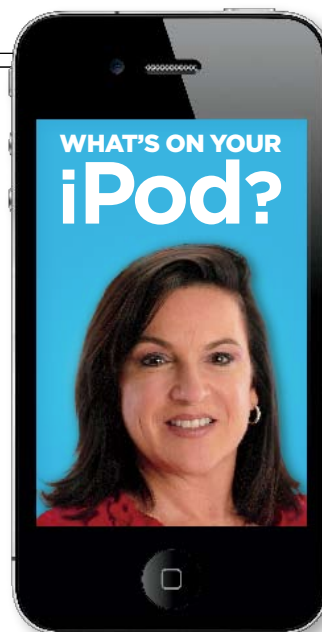


### ADAM AHRENS

PRIZE FIGHT

★★★★★

This is a hard record to wrap your head around. Sometimes it's cool lounge music, other times it's like something out of a dusty Western. It's a ratatouille of styles, but Ahrens makes it work. "Away, Alone, Begin" might be the best song on the CD. If Nick Drake were reared in a cantina, this is what his music would sound like. The oddly titled "Prelude" (found halfway through the disc) and "Farewell to Cheyenne" are outstanding instrumental nods to spaghetti Western scores. Ahrens' spoken-word delivery paired with simple arrangements and a mélange of styles on *Prize Fight* makes for an interesting listen.



### JULIA MCCURLEY

You could call Julia McCurley Austin's own Patti Stanger. The CEO of Something More has a track record of helping people find love. Here's a peek at her favorite romantic songs.

- ▶▶ "Just the Two of Us," **GROVER WASHINGTON JR.:** This song reflects a lot of benefits in being in a relationship.
- ▶▶ "The Best is Yet to Come," **FRANK SINATRA**
- ▶▶ "Just the Way You Are," **BRUNO MARS**
- ▶▶ "Slave to Love," **BRYAN FERRY:** I can't think of a better song that epitomizes the unfiltered sexual attraction possible between two human beings.
- ▶▶ "Show Me Love," **ROBIN S.:** The lyrics make the song.
- ▶▶ "True Companion," **MARC COHN:** Can make you cry more than a Hallmark commercial!

## BEST OF LIVE FEBRUARY



LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBAZO  
*One World*  
Feb. 3



REV. HORTON HEAT  
*Antone's*  
Feb. 12



GEORGE WINSTON  
*One World*  
Feb. 13-15



CADILLAC SKY  
*Stubb's*  
Feb. 18

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THESE AND OTHER SHOWS, SEE PAGE 147.