

LB Collective

Let It Go

Recorded at Nickel and Dime Studios in Atlanta, GA



The soulful, introspective sounds of Atlanta's Laura Benjamin and her group LB Collective are sure to charm listeners. With sounds and lyrics reminiscent of dames such as Fiona Apple and k.d. lang, LB Collective's latest release let it go will capture the hearts of listeners who yearn for moody, abstract, melodies. The piano-playing singer/songwriter carefully weaves a variety of styles and genres into the fabric and substance of this CD. This album begins and ends sounding like contemporary, light pop music, but in between the first and last tunes, Southern, country-fried delicacies abound. The first song, "Oblivion," has a funky, bluesy feel similar to what one might hear in a smoke-filled lounge full of pool tables with patrons sipping on PBR while the wailing Benjamin suggests that maybe she should "fall into oblivion."

The last song "What Would He Think" is the story about a girl growing up and wondering what her late father would think and say about what she has become, and the vocals and style are similar to Celine Dion. Track 5, "With us for Awhile," especially has the potential of becoming a classic country music hit due to its heavy reliance on slide-steel guitar playing and its twangy effects on the guitar. A standout is "Goodbye Pluto." A song with piano, lyrics and vocals similar to Tori Amos, it tells a story about how it was wrong when some in the scientific community decided not to classify Pluto as a planet in Earth's solar system any longer. Other musicians contributing to this delightful CD are A.J. Holz on bass, Steve Mounce on percussion, and Diana Mounce on vocals. This piece also features Doug Kees on guitar and Cameron Hizer on keyboards. (Self-released)

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-James Hester