



## Picks\*

By Brian Stokes

\*Releases that are under the radar, but so great to listen to that consumers will "pick it up" after hearing it!

### Wildbirds "Golden Daze"

"There is a little Kings of Leon in guitarist Nicholas Stuart's raised-by-wolves yelp. But there is far more home-cooked excitement in the choruses and drives of songs such as "421 (Everybody Loves You)" and "Slow Down" - which, of course, doesn't." - Rolling Stone "It's a fabulous mix of music echoing of the past, but more importantly The Wildbirds evokes the swagger of yore. Their songs are wildly contagious, plumped up with exultant melodies, sing-along choruses, bruising rhythms, and the kind of splendid musicianship that will send thousands of listeners into an air-guitar frenzy. All told this is an album for the ages." - Billboard

The Cake Sale "The Cake Sale" - The Cake Sale was devised by Brian Crosby of Irish indie-rockers Bell X1 as a collective and concept album benefiting the Oxfam organization's Make Trade Fair campaign and their other poverty relief projects. With a roll call that includes Gary Lightbody (Snow Patrol), Glen Hansard (The Frames, ONCE), Nick Seymour (Crowded House), Nina Persson (The Cardigans), and solo artists like Gemma Hayes and Josh Ritter, The Cake Sale features an incredible list of talented songwriters and performers who have donated their publishing royalties from the project to benefit Oxfam's worthy global causes.

### Soundtrack "Juno"

The soundtrack album for Fox Searchlight feature film JUNO, blends indie rock stand-outs and classic rock gems to create an engaging musical companion piece to the acclaimed coming-of-age tale. Features tracks by Kimya Dawson, Belle & Sebastian, Kinks, Mott The Hoople, Cat Power, Moldy Peaches, etc. Might turn out to be the best soundtrack of 2008!

### Matt Nathanson "Some Mad Hope"

Another solid album from this under-appreciated singer/songwriter from San Francisco. "Some Mad Hope" is full of heartfelt, acoustic pop gems perfect for fans of John Mayer, Joshua Radin, etc. Currently on tour with Ingrid Michaelson.

### Ingrid Michaelson "Girls and Boys"

Whether you heard about her from Grey's Anatomy, an Old Navy commercial or her recent Billboard Magazine cover, this New York Indie-pop artist is everywhere. Currently touring with Matt Nathanson.

### Vampire Weekend "Vampire Weekend"

Destined to be one of the breakout acts of 2008, this New York indie rock act has already been praised by the likes of David Byrne and the New York Times. Currently out on tour to support their impressive debut album!

### Saviours "Into Abandon"

Highly anticipated new album from this Oakland, CA doom metal act. They've toured relentlessly with The Sword. Like The Sword, the band seems to have chosen metal for the aesthetics; the masturbatory guitar riffs, the dark ambiance and the ferocity.

### Matt Costa "Unfamiliar Faces"

New album on Jack Johnson's Brushfire Records is sure to delight old fans and broaden his audience. His folky, breezy acoustic style should appeal to fans of his label-mates Jack Johnson and Donavon Frankenreiter.