

down to a blueprint; straight-up blues shuffles (*Whole Lotta Gravy*) give way to high-energy rockers (*Easy To See*), and the overall feel is Saturday night at the club, with a few beers at hand in between cutting a rug.

Good work, boys.
– By Tom Murray

Gro Marie Svidal

Eilov (LMP)



Once in a while, a masterpiece comes along. This is one such recording: a

sparkling collection of Hardanger fiddle tunes played by Gro Marie Svidal, an award-winning virtuoso on this instrument.

Svidal grew up in Jølster, western Norway, surrounded by fjords and mountains. It is here that she learned her craft from master fiddlers, steeped in the centuries-old music and dance tradition of the region.

On her second release, *Eilov*,



Gro Marie Svidal

Svidal fully captures the scope of her artistry, in performances brimming with energy and confidence. The program is primarily comprised of several styles of dance tunes (hallings, springars, gangars), with a few reflective interludes.

One such mini-set includes the

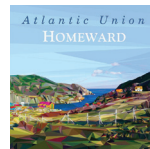
stately wedding march *Sagenslått*, which she then follows with *Stilleslått*, a contemplative song used to accompany the dressing of the bride. Svidal's interpretations of the lively dance tunes radiate warmth and life, and her pristine tone, rhythmic mastery, and distinctive embellishments shine throughout.

Eilov is an excellent introduction to this venerable Norwegian folk tradition, and a stellar musical achievement for Gro Marie Svidal.

– By Barry Livingston

Atlantic Union

Homewards (Independent)



After a decade's hiatus, Atlantic Union has released its third album, *Homeward*, a collection of traditional and original songs about the magnetic pull of home. Based in St. John's, NL, Atlantic Union, first formed in 1997, has reformed with original founding member Sally God-

dard on vocals, guitar, bodhran, and concertina; Dan Rubin on vocals, violin, viola, bouzouki, and guitar; and Jane Ogilvie on Celtic harp, accordion, piano, and vocals. What distinguishes the group is their non-commercial, parlour-room style of singing and playing, unrushed and lovely.

The album begins with *Two Coves and a Bay*, *Loch Tay Boat Song*, and *She's Like the Swallow*, an ethereal Celtic harp instrumental. This is followed by *A Clear and Ancient Harmony*, gently harmonized to the accompaniment of guitar and flute. Next up, *Hush*, *Hush*, a song about the Highland Clearances. The rest of the album includes the tunes *Let Me Fish Off St. Mary's*, Jim Payne's *Waltz Around the Cape*, *The Singing Stone*, *Carolan's Dream*, *Roads Go Ever On*, *A Dram for the Singer*, closing with *Homeward Bound*. A pleasant album for those whose heart's home is in Atlantic Canada.

– By Gene Wilburn

Out Now!

New album from Brock Zeman!

THE CARNIVAL IS BACK IN TOWN

'A Masterpiece' - Billy Bop Belgium - 5 Stars

'A master storyteller at work and near the top of his game' - Gonzo Online - 5 Stars

'Clever turns of phrase & gorgeous melodic elements' - Jeff Robson (UMFM)



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07/22	Boathouse - KITCHENER, ON	08/13	The Ironwood, CALGARY, AB
07/29-31	VIA Rail Travelling Show	08/17	Pottery Road Studio, VERNON, BC
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08/04	House Concert, WINNIPEG, MB		

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