

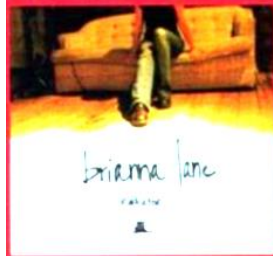
**CD Special  
Ladies Choice**

the new voice of country music...

**Maverick**  
country music magazine

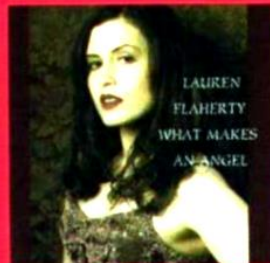
*A roundup of recent female artist releases*

The ladies have been real busy over the past few months and the Maverick offices are bursting at the seams with CDs by a wide mix of female artists, ranging from singer-songwriters to mainstream country wannabes, from home-produced recordings to big-budget studio sessions.



Singer-songwriter **Brianna Lane** grew up in Minnesota, but she's very much a road warrior, spending much of her time touring. She now calls Asheville, North Carolina home, but recorded her second album, *RADIATOR* (Pay My Rent Music PMRM-02) ★★☆☆ in Tacoma, Washington with producer Evan Brubaker, who also plays keyboards and drums. She possesses a strong, distinctive voice, pitched somewhere between sweet precociousness and a smoky edginess. The songs, all self-penned, explore the usual relationship issues, but with a surefooted honesty borne out of her own life experiences. *When I Get There* and *Sad Songs* are deeply moving, whilst *Cowboy Hat* is a little lighter. If you enjoy the music of Tift Merritt or Allison Moorer, then Brianna Lane should be a perfect fit.

Boston's Lauren Flaherty veers more toward rock music on her powerful debut *WHAT MAKES AN ANGEL* (www.laurenflaherty.com) ★★★★★ A florid vocalist she burns rubber on the driving *Show To Me*, slows everything down nicely for



the gorgeous piano ballad *Slowly*, a performance that won critical acclaim from *Billboard* magazine, then turns to modern folk with a live acoustic version of the title song. A neat album that's well worth seeking out.

New Yorker Sonya Heller comes from a musical family, as both her parents were gifted singers. A classically-trained vocalist and musician she embraces folk, pop, jazz and classical strains



throughout *FOURTH FLOOR* (Mosaic Music) ★★★ She keeps the production pretty simple, usually just her own acoustic guitar, bass, mandolin and soft percussion. On the wondrous *Not A Lot To Say* her jazzy vocal is enhanced by Antoine Silverman's violin. Hui Cox's evocative slide guitar adds much to the atmospheric *Can't Get To Heaven*, and she is joined by Melanie DeMore and Ty Stephens on the chorus of *Something Gained, Something Lost* a compelling hypnotically rhythmic song.

**Danielle Miraglia** evokes memories of Bobbie Gentry and Janis Joplin on *NOTHING*



*ROMANTIC* (Label Peeler Records 0419-2)★★★★ her third CD. She possesses a raw, whiskey-tinged voice and marries it to strong, melodic self-penned songs. She bookends the album with two solo numbers—*Snow Globe* and *The Wind*—on which she shows herself to be a persuasive songstress. In-between she's accompanied by some talented studio musicians with the dynamic *Sell My Soul* on which she blows a mean harmonica, the heartfelt *Moment by Moment* with subtle mandolin blending perfectly with piano and organ, and the thought-provoking *You Don't Know Nothin'*, a powerful song about human misunderstanding that is right up Eve Selis street. Highly recommended.



Australian **Marisa Yeaman** made her first visit to Europe this past summer to play a series of gigs in Holland, where she has built a sizeable following for her rootsy, backwoods music. Her first full-length album *PURE MOTIVE* (Deep Pearl Records 0004) ★★☆☆ is a very organic

record made for the sheer enjoyment of making music. She is accompanied by some talented pickers with a musical line-up that includes acoustic and electric guitars, Dobro, pedal steel, Hammond organ, piano, and Marisa's own guitar and accordion. She ranges from intimate confessionals (*Little Girl Lost*) to compelling folksy-type tales (*Solid Ground*) but to each she brings a universality that makes for compelling listening.



Canadian **Carol Jane** has been in Nashville for the past three or four years struggling to raise enough money to record and release her new album, *THE ONE* (www.caroljane.com) ★★★ Waitressing, house-sitting, dog-sitting have all helped to keep her on track and the result is a pleasant slightly bluegrass-flavoured album. The bluegrass influence comes from her parents who played in Canadian bluegrass bands as she was growing up, and her uncle, Dave Stupple, a Hamilton firefighter, who was in a band called Grassworks, and won the Canada Bluegrass Review's award for best Dobro player. Carol is rooted in traditional country as she shows with *Smoked Too Many Cigarettes to Cry* (straight out of the Kitty Wells' heartbreak book) and *If This Guitar Could Talk* (a dead-ringer for Loretta or Wanda).

New York born, Florida-raise **Mary Huddleston** has