



## Martha Berner and The Significant Others

**DYNAMIC, VOCALLY DRIVEN, URBAN FOLK ROCK.**

*"...evokes the vocals of Tori Amos and the musical style of Wilco." –  
The Chicago Tribune*

Ever since the release of her 2005 Machine Records full-length debut *...this side of yesterday* indie-folk singer/songwriter Martha Berner has created quite a buzz in the music world. Not only did that release and her 2007 follow-up EP *Ten Tiny Little Pieces* garner a wealth of press accolades both nationally and abroad, including features in high-profile publications, such as **Magnet, Performing Songwriter, Chicago Tribune, Hear/Say and Out Magazine**, but it also opened the door for worldwide radio play (not only in the U.S., but also abroad on radio stations in Japan, Australia, France, Germany, Italy, the UK, Israel, as well as many other countries). In addition, Martha has made numerous in-studio radio performances throughout the nation, and has also performed live on a number of **FOX, CBS and NBC** television news shows. Her songs "Wait For Me" and "Some Stay A While" have been featured on MTV's popular television show "**The Real World.**" Martha's own upbeat Americana composition "A Town Called Happiness" was also featured along with songs from Neko Case, Joseph Arthur, The New Pornographers, Michelle Shocked and others on a compilation CD entitled *The Voices and Faces Project*. This same song also later appeared on an exclusive CD sampler compiled by Chicago's I-GO Car Sharing alongside other Chicago luminaries such as Wilco, Studs Terkel and Neko Case.

This year marks the return of the dusky alto with her long-awaited full-length follow-up *Fool's Fantasy* along with her new band **The Significant Others**. The entire album was recorded at Chicago's premiere digital recording studio Stranded On A Planet with producer & Significant Others' guitarist Scott Fritz, and was mastered by four-time Grammy Award winner Gavin Lurssen (Robert Plant & Alison Krauss, Cat Power, Tom Waits, Leonard Cohen, etc). While this new material still incorporates the Chicago-based musician's trademark whiskey-and-honey vocals and thought-provoking subjects that stretch across folk, pop and Americana, *Fool's Fantasy* marks Martha's first true band effort - incorporating elements of Stax soul, insurgent country and the unbridled passion of late '60s rock-n-roll.



### For more info on Martha Berner visit:

[marthaberner.com](http://marthaberner.com)

[facebook.com/marthabernermusic](https://facebook.com/marthabernermusic)

### For Media and Interview Requests:

Tony Bonyata

Pavement PR

p: 262.903.7775

e: [bonyata@wi.rr.com](mailto:bonyata@wi.rr.com)

[www.pavementpr.com](http://www.pavementpr.com)

## HERE'S WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT MARTHA BERNER

"Think Natalie Merchant with fewer adult contemporary leanings or Aimee Mann on a folkier trip. Berner's voice can thicken and thin like Joni Mitchell's and it's unmistakably her greatest asset" - MAGNET

"One of indie's finest talents." - TORONTO METRO

"Dramatic, heartfelt and an unusual musical versatility." - NASHVILLE CITY PAPER

"Undeniable vocal talent fused with country sensibilities. With a burning alt. country feel... well, Dylan would have nodded his approval." - WHISPERIN & HOLLERIN / UK

"Martha's live shows are revelatory." - CHICAGOIST

"Heartfelt and wry acoustic folk-rock, that also showcases some fun detours with a full band, including a retro power-pop number." - MADISON CAPITAL TIMES

"A moody, experimental album that hits all the right notes; at once wry, melancholy and celebratory of life's smallest revelatory moments - like grabbing a beer for breakfast." - OUT MAGAZINE

"When Chicago's Martha Berner sings that her heart is breaking into 'ten tiny little pieces' on the titular track of her four-song Ten Tiny Little Pieces E.P. you can practically feel your own heart breaking along with hers. And just as you've used up all the tissues in the house to dry your eyes, Berner puts the sun into "Sunday Morning," a spirited cover of the Velvet Underground classic. Somewhere between these two numbers Berner elevates the mood on 'Down and Out in San Francisco' and eventually breaks through to pop perfection on 'Wait For Me.'" - CHICAGO FREE PRESS

"While tales of frustration, loss and weary introspection heavily dot Martha Berner's songs, they don't overwhelm the Chicago singer's gentle rootsy delivery. Her lyrics are mature and direct, and her melodies would hold up just fine even without the tasteful string and keyboard accents." - THE ONION'S AV CLUB

"Sensitive and literate folk-pop." - GAPERS BLOCK / CHICAGO

"You can't help but be moved by Berner's Ten Tiny Little Pieces EP which includes the emotionally charged title track, as well as a compelling cover of The Velvet Underground & Nico's 1967 pop classic "Sunday Morning." Still, to see is to believe." - CITYVIEW / DES MOINES

"Berner's indie folk-pop benefits from full, well-thought-out arrangements that at times have a George Martin feel. This is a brief EP, but it gives a fair sampling of how Berner uses her burnished contralto to shade a lyric with hope, resignation and sadness." - ISTHMUS / MADISON

"Phenomenal. Martha has a powerful voice that is at the same time both serene and aggressive. This disc radiates with love." - ROOTSTIME / BELGIUM

"Berner lashes together the twang of folk/country, the burn of alternative country and the punch of indie rock." - CINCINNATI CITY BEAT

"Evokes the vocals of Tori Amos and the musical style of Wilco." - THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

"Radio-friendly hooks and melodies..." - ARIZONA DAILY STAR

"A very solid disc with tunes that are peppy, poppy and deliciously sad...has its own distinct hook, with seemingly very little effort." - Richard Milne / WXRT RADIO

"...Wilco-esque glow with the sweetly sung vocals of Natalie Merchant and the darker guitars and imagery of the Indigo Girls." - HEARSAY MAGAZINE

"Americana Folk at its Best." - TOURING THE INDIES

"Martha has a great, rich voice that speaks the poetry of angels... haunting, beautiful and powerful." - READ MAGAZINE

"...unveils soothing vocals, folk-flavored guitars, and witty songwriting across ten compelling cuts." - ILLINOIS ENTERTAINER