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Paper Soul
Paper Soul
Independent



As odd as it may seem, I do not recall having ever knowingly heard Paper Soul before reviewing this CD (and considering how often they play around here, that makes me some kind of deviant). Now, having listened to the disc, I can't say I'm totally

sold on the band, but this self-titled debut is a solid starting block for them. It can best be described as "beer-drinking" music—some solid, clunky guitar riffs, a bit repetitive and nothing that grabs you by the throat and jolts you, but definitely not offensive. High-

lights include "Twilight Rain" and "Recoleta Moon," (featuring Richard Wood on violin). Although Paper Soul would be no doubt more enjoyable live, you certainly could do worse than this disc.

3 1/2 out of 5. - RW.



The Philosopher Kings
famous, rich and beautiful...
Columbia



I love this album! It has been a while since a collection of new material was so dynamically exciting. It is a breath of fresh air to listen to the Philosopher Kings' latest accomplishment.

Gerald Eaton has one of those voices that is actually musical. It is so nice to hear

complex melodies and rich tones, qualities rarely found in pop these days. Styles vary from one song to the next, preventing the listener from losing interest and leaving a strong, artistic impression.

Among my favourite songs are, "Hurts to Love

You," "You Stepped on My Life," and "The New Messiah." However, the whole album is fantastic with only one or two less-enticing moments such as "I am the Man." Some may disagree with that opinion.

4 1/2 out of 5. - KP.

The Mavericks
trampoline
MCA Nashville



A maverick is someone who is unorthodox and independent. The name is very appropriate for this group.

The Mavericks are Raul Malo (vocals, guitar), Robert Reynolds (bass), Paul Deakin (drums), and Nick Kane (guitars). Although they fall into the category of country music, you won't find any twang in these songs. It is their combi-

nation of rock and blues that make this country band truly unique. The Mavericks have a very distinct and recognizable sound. *Trampoline* is their sixth album and this sound definitely prevails -- in all of the songs. If you are a fan of The Mavericks, this album is for you, if not you may find that all of the tracts sound the same. There are some good songs

here though. "Dance the Night Away" is a catchy tune and things get a little jazzy with "Fool #1." Their most recent release "To Be With You" is an excellent song with meaningful lyrics. Overall, this album is for the true Maverick fan, although many just might enjoy their original style in small doses.