



## Beat Street

### The reviews



#### Amarantine

Enya

Reprise/Wea; B000B8QEYC

From the first blanket of choral voices awash in reverb, *Amarantine* is instantly recognisable as a product of Enya, the Irish chanteuse who has created a genre unto herself.

Although it's been five years since her last CD, on *Amarantine* it's as if time stood still.

The triumvirate of Enya, lyricist Roma Ryan, and producer Nicky Ryan work the formula they

perfected on *Watermark*.

Layering her voice in lush choirs pushed along by pizzicato synth strings, swooning orchestral pads, and harpsichord arpeggios.

On tracks like *Less Than a Pearl* and *Drifting*, Enya flirts with a timeless sound born in gothic chants and hymns.

*Amarantine* sounds like it was born in cloistered solitude, self-referentially echoing Enya albums past.

#### Some Hearts

Carrie Underwood

Arista; B000BGR18W

Would American Idol winner Carrie Underwood have landed a major-label recording contract without winning the hugely popular television contest? Probably.

The big-voiced Oklahoman has the pipes, the look, the pedigree, and, most important, the emotional resonance to sustain a professional career.

As an investment in her future, her label eschewed the easy path in putting out an album to take advantage of her publicity, going for a name producer, Dann Huff, to handle half the tracks. It also solicited material from the same top songwriters who stock albums by Faith Hill, Martina McBride et al.

She still surprises in her ability to go head-to-head with country's reigning females.

#### All Dolled Up (DVD)

New York Dolls

Music Video; B000BKDNWG

In the early 70s, rock photographer Bob Gruen and his wife Nadya purchased a portable video recorder. In a period of three years they shot over 40 hours of New York Dolls footage.

Now for the first time ever this footage is unveiled.

This feature length documentary captures the band during early performances in New York at

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Kenny's Castaways and Max's Kansas City, then follows the Dolls on their tour of the west coast, including footage from the Whisky A Go Go, the Real Don Steele Show, Rodney Bingenheimer's E Club and much more.

Intercut with revealing interviews, backstage banter and late night debauchery, this is the definitive document of the New York Dolls.

