



Caught in the Carousel "There will be music despite everything"

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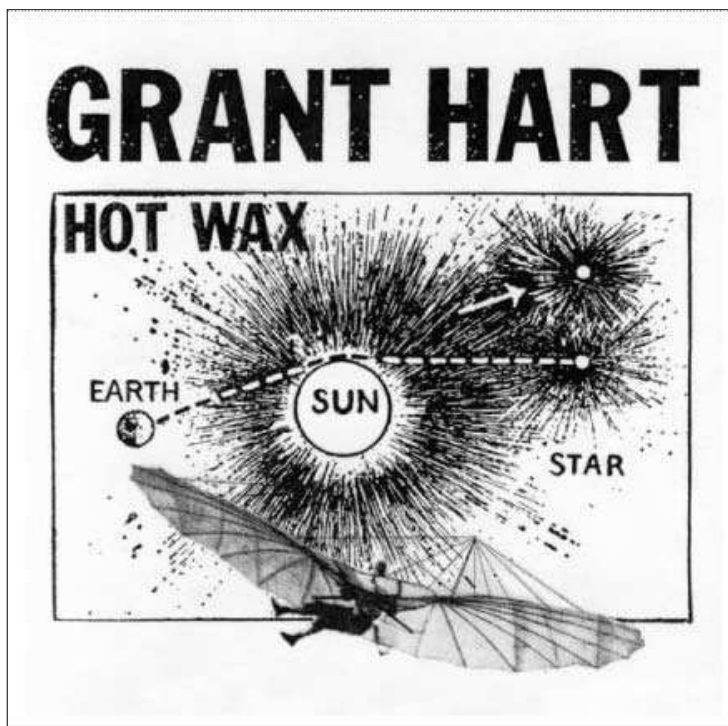
ALBUM REVIEWS ALBUM REVIEW

Reviews are listed by **Band Name** and by solo artist's Last Name. Still having trouble? Try the search box.

## Grant Hart

*Hot Wax*  
Con D'or Records and MVD Audio

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In the fruitful fields of 80's alternative rock bands, one of the names that stands out is the Minneapolis trio, Hüsker Dü. When the three split up in 1987, drummer Grant Hart came out from behind the drum kit to form Nova Mob. The

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band would offer up numerous singles, an EP and two full-length albums, before MEET THE ARTIST disbanding in 1997. 2009 gives us Mr. Hart's 6th solo effort, *Hot Wax*, where once again the listener is treated to his knack for creating magical melodies. The nine tracks of this offering take us through sounds that create vastly different moods. The opening song "You're The Reflection Of The Moon On The Water," has a Doors-esque feel to it. As it builds from start to finish, you can't help but feel Mr. Hart's vocal passion. In the press accompanying the release, he suggests that: "[the song] is one of the most organic rock and roll songs that I have ever written. Its style owes a lot to my devotion for Patti Smith." From there, he takes us through the first-rate "Barbara." I have to say, after multiple spins of the album, this track takes on a feel of something The Beatles might have written; very tight, excellent simplicity to its layers and a lilting melody and horn accompaniment. Next comes the rollicking "Charles Hollis Jones." As he wails, "Chairs for Tennessee Williams," we discover a compelling simplicity with songs that don't necessarily thread together with a common soundscape. The only exception to that is Mr. Hart's sustained ability to find a memorable melody. As the album closes with "My Regrets," we are reminded once again of this great ability to take a darker subject that leaves us feeling...almost triumphant.

[Grant Hart on MySpace](#)

VIVA!!  
3.5 Oi's  
Oi! Oi! Oi! O

—Peter Hamm



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