



### **Joseph Carter III**

#### **In The Now**

Velvet Swan Music 370 W. 58th St. #2I  
New York, NY 10019

**A** regular at the NY guitar show and erstwhile partner to Peter Rogine, Joseph (not to be confused with Brazilian maestro Joe Carter) is forging ahead with his solo career. This follow up to 'Straight Ahead Backwards' features Carter in the role of composer, arranger, producer and featured soloist.

It is hard to pin Joseph's style down. I hear a blues player in most of his work. Cuts like the driving 'Baby Sweets' (to be featured in a future issue of JJG) make this fairly obvious, with his dirty tone and Chicago phrasing. His more modern pieces straddle between jazz and classical music but his lines still contain the phrases and grooves learned in his formative years listening to Clapton, Guy and King. To me this is his strength as a player.

Supported principally by veteran drummer Walter Perkins, pianist Stuart Walters and bassist John Abbey, Joseph uses alternative tonal colours from a guest woodwind ensemble. The Vanguard Players provide the title track with a refreshing interlude that juxtaposes the muted jazz trumpet of Peter Kaufmann. This ability to blend finely crafted modern classical forms and driving jazz raises Carter head and shoulders above many of the younger players content with just reheating the standards. Well worth checking out.

*Reviewed by Andy MacKenzie*