

# Vintage Guitar® Record Reviews

m a g a z i n e

John Heidt

## Joseph Carter III

### *Straight Ahead Backwards*

(Velvet Swan) Here's a really fine CD featuring a guitar player coming out of the tradition of Wes Montgomery, Kenny Burrell, Grant Green, and countless others. Carter plays jazz with a soulful, relaxed feel that keeps your foot tapping, your mouth grinning, and your mind going "oh yeah, what a great solo."

Check out "The King Charles Shuffle." He mixes single-notes, octaves, and dazzling chordal work into a very funky stew. "Just One More Touch" features some very soulful playing that brings to mind one of my favorite players, the late Eric Gale. If you like swinging organ trio stylings, give a listen to "Waiting on You." Joseph starts with simple blues lines that lead into daring runs and hammer-ons. Really nice.

The support from Stu Waters on keyboards, Walter Perkins on drums, and John Abbey, Frank Hansen, and Bill McCrossen on bass is strong and complements Carter perfectly. An excellent CD for fans of jazz guitar. You can write to Velvet Swan at 370 W. 58th Street, Suite 21, New York, NY 10019.