

CMJ New Music Report December 11, 2000

With the varied You Remind Me of Someone, guitarist Pete McCann has created a smart work that showcases his ingenuity as a composer, arranger and player. Early on, McCann delves into panoramic territory first trail-blazed by Bill Frisell. But just as you think the music is getting a bit too predictable, McCann throws listeners a curve ball-going, for example, from the acoustic, bossa nova-like "Falling Grace" to the muscular jazz-fusion workout "Mr. Fritters." Just like he does with the tunes, the band leader mixes his players, rotating reedist Peter Epstein in and out of the lineup, effectively broadening the emotional and sonic range of his musical palette. While some might remember this relatively young guitarist's debut Parable, or his work on the Other Side of Ellington project, You Remind Me of Someone undoubltedly casts aside the album title's euphemism to announce McCann as a guitarist to watch.