



Billie Myers Vertigo CD Courtesy of Universal Records

Once upon a time in 1998, a British singer-songwriter named Billie Myers broke into the mainstream music industry with a smash hit that everyone loved. All of a sudden, she vanished from the U.S. charts. Fans wondered: "Whatever happened to that song by what's-her-name?"

Three years after Myers released her first album, Growing Pains, that featured the popular song "Kiss The



tracks are cutting edge, but all in all, the album is second class compared to her first album. Most of the tracks

Rain," she returns to the music scene with her sophomore album, Vertigo. Unfortunately, her new album does not have the same potential as her first major recording.

The problem with Vertigo is that all the songs sound alike. A few of the tracks

do not have the potential for much radio airtime.

"Should I Call You Jesus" and "Where Romeo Never Dies" are the exceptions to the rest of the album.

"Jesus" touches on religious issues in the tradition of Joan Osbourne's smash hit, "One of Us." In the song, Myers questions the relevance of religion and tries to deliver the message that all faiths are the same. This song is a musical gem and could spawn another hit for Myers. Osbourne's recording earned her a Grammy nomination, but time will tell if Myers can accomplish the same feat with her similar track.

It is a pleasure to listen to the fast-

paced, romantic track "Romeo." This unique, racy song about everlasting love may save Vertigo from instantly ending up on the half-price shelves of album stores.

These songs have cool, hip sounds, but the rest of the CD is rhythmically and vocally off.

Myers is a rising artist whose deep, melodic voice is memorable. Her time away from the recording studio was well spent, touring with musical greats, including Bob Dylan and Sarah MacLachlan. However, after fans hear Vertigo, they may say: "This is Billie Myers? What happened?" (Grade: C+)

-Dewey Badeaux

DJ Feelgood The House Session CD Courtesy of Higher Education/F-111 Records

This is the mixed CD for one who has watched Saturday Night Fever more than once. The real disco dancer, nothing to beat DJ Feelgood's latest production, The House Session. This CD is primarily disco house with some more-traditional house music thrown in.

The mixing is smooth as can be, a trait that seems to represent every artist on the Higher Education label. The most notable aspect of Feelgood's mixing is the superior phrasing. Each song breaks and builds in conjunction with the next, making the mix smooth and undulating.

The album starts slow with some deep house tracks, but really picks up steam with its first great disco song, "Sing it Back" by Moloko. However, the album's biggest flaw immediately follows - Feelgood comes out of "Sing it Back" with a remix of the same song. If people want to listen to a song twice, they will hit the "repeat" button.

The album continues with disco for four more tracks, then moves into hard house, highlighted by DJ Dan's remix of Orgy's cover of New Order's "Blue Monday." This song is catchy and very danceable despite being almost totally different from the original and the cover.

Overall, this is an excellent mixed album with great songs and superb mixing. Closet Donna Summer fans unite. (Grade: B)

-Jason Benjamin

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