

acoustic version does it as much justice as the electric one.

This album is not a mere "greatest hits" package, in which you get all your favorite songs on one CD, recorded the way you heard them the first time. This album gives you insight into songs you've already heard by presenting them in a different light.

TWOLIPS
Sandra Cartolari • PSM Edizioni Musicali Italy

I've spoken with Sandra Cartolari on the phone two times, and her seductive voice all but melted my ears. Then I heard her sing.

Cartolari is an illustrious Italian jazz singer who has recently released *Twolips*, a 13-song libido booster. She's teamed up with three talented musicians—pianist, bassist and trumpeter—and created a record that makes sense both at night and in the morning.

The disc begins smoothly with "Whatever Lola Wants." On this song, Cartolari's voice is liquid, promiscuous, warm and giving, and it blends effortlessly with the solo stand-up bass.

"E Finisce Così," one of the two tracks Cartolari chooses to sing in Italian, is sad and sexy—it makes me wonder why she didn't do more in her own language. Later on the disc, "The Song is You" opens with an incredible solo scat performance before introducing the bass and piano.

Sad and sexy
Sandra Cartolari



PHOTO BY ANNA CIMONO

Cartolari says her songs are "explicitly dedicated to girl-to-girl love."

Twolips is available at It's My Pleasure in Portland.

**PARTY O' THE TIMES: A TRIBUTE TO PRINCE
SOMETIMES: A TRIBUTE TO ERASURE**
Various artists • Cleopatra

There is evil in the music business and its name is Cleopatra.

I've learned to be wary of any record company that sends you every one of its releases when you ask to review a single CD. I've also learned to be wary of any label that releases a studio-fabricated synth experiment called the Spice Squirrels. (Well, OK, it is a little funny, heh heh.)

Cleopatra is slowly gaining recognition for the sheer cornucopia of tribute albums it releases. One has recently been created for Erasure, the wonderful European synth pop group, and another for Prince, that cute little weird guy.

All I know is, if someone were to dedicate a tribute album to me, I would not want it to sound like this crap. Both Erasure and Prince have released their own greatest hits albums and they're great. Go buy them instead.

■ **KATY DAVIDSON** is a Just Out staff writer who plays pop music in a band called *Dear Nora*. She believes in the Y2K.

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