

"One of New York's best pop craftsmen"
...VILLAGE VOICE...



"A nineteenth century Romantic poet inhabits the body of a Beatles 'n' Byrds pop-rocker... Light the candles."
...ALTERNATIVE PRESS...

"They just don't write pop songs like George Usher's anymore — jangly, sparkling and effortlessly irresistible, his music is a throwback to another era, with rich melodies and sugar-sweet arrangements harking back to the glory days of the Beach Boys and the Left Banke (with a tip of the hat to the Byrds as well)...a virtual primer in pop craftsmanship"
...ALL MUSIC GUIDE...

"Veteran tunesmith (and former Bongos/Beat Rodeo/Schramms sideman) Usher is one of America's foremost unsung pop auteurs.... By passing the garage entirely, Usher uses Pet Sounds/Odessey and Oracle – vintage baroque-pop as a jumping off point for his evocatively poetic lyrics, heart tuggingly haunting melodies and complex, yet oddly hummable arrangements. His nimble band deftly navigates the turns and Usher's keening voice is well suited to the sweeping hooks and humanistic sentiments of the tunes..."
...TOWER PULSE...

GEORGE USHER GROUP

'Fire Garden' : Parasol Records : PARCD088 : 795306108825 :



Third album for the Parasol label from New York City pop artist George Usher (a former member of The Bongos, Beat Rodeo, and The Schramms) with his Group, recorded in NYC and mixed in North Carolina with Mitch Easter (at Fidelitorium Recordings). Using a musical vocabulary sure to resonate with folks into the power pop/roots rock sound, Usher scripts classic melodies and storied arrangements recalling the glory days of The Beatles, The Left Banke and The Beach Boys; and the crisp pop lassitude of the latest offerings by Luna. A sublime collection of lyrical pop anthems, shimmering ballads and sepia-toned Americana odes resplendent with Byrds-ian guitar-chiming, and in fact George's vocals have some serious doppelganger action with Byrdsman Roger McGuinn. 'Fire Garden' is Usher's East Coast Power Pop songwriting smarts (akin to fellow guitarpopsmith Tommy Keene) blended with classic California folk rock rootsiness and whip-smart production.

For fans of Beatles (Harrison) : Byrds (McGuinn) : Luna : Zombies : Left Banke : Tommy Keene

ALL MUSIC GUIDE BIOGRAPHY:

Art-pop singer/songwriter George Usher was born in Cleveland, where his early demo recordings gained local radio airplay while he was still in his teens. He had already cut enough demo material to fill out a good 30 albums before he relocated to New York in 1977, soon forming the power-pop band the Decoys; by the middle of the following decade, Usher was a member of the cowpunk outfit Beat Rodeo, appearing on their 1986 LP Home in the Heart of the Beat. A satellite member of the Bongos, during the late 1980s he fronted his own band House of Usher, issuing the LP Neptune as well as teaming with fellow Beat Rodeo alum Steve Almaas in the Gornack Brothers for the acoustic Refund. Subsequently joining the Schramms, in 1996 Usher made his long-awaited solo debut with Miracle School; Dutch April followed two years later. Usher returned in 2001 with the George Usher Group, which also featured guitarist Doug Larcey, bassist Dennis Ambrose and drummer John Bellon, and the album Days of Plenty, which was mixed by Mitch Easter. (Jason Ankeny for All Music Guide)



