



LOVERS

THE GUTTER AND THE GARDEN

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Lovers is the brain child of gifted lyricist and heartbroken hero Carolyn Berk, the doe-eyed, silken voiced vagabond whose intimate tales of love and loss have garnered her overwhelming critical acclaim. Torrents of emotion fill each song on Lovers' sophomore release *The Gutter and the Garden*, but an unflinching, underlying kindness runs throughout. Achingly beautiful string arrangements, subtle vocal harmonies, and layered soundscapes create a perfect musical accompaniment to Berk's breath-taking imagery and nuanced narratives.

The influence of Berk's dual citizenship in both the Northern (Boston) and Southern (Athens, Georgia) regions can be traced in the album's lyrical and musical content. The country-tinged longing of slide guitars and banjo ("The Garden", "Your Handwriting") coexist brilliantly with the eerie winter coldness of icy violins ("The Air You Breathe is Full of Ghosts", "Oh Silent Night").

Once again employing the recording genius of **Andy LeMaster** (**Now It's Overhead**, **Bright Eyes**), and cello guru **Heather MacIntosh** (**Japancakes**, **Bright Eyes**), Lovers have successfully followed their brilliant debut release *Starlit Sunken Ship*, over which the *Boston Phoenix* raved, "Carolyn Berk's songs are full of breathless melancholy and a sinking, infinite sadness. In them you hear hints of the circus-funeral magic-realist run-on folk song of **Neutral Milk Hotel**, the dreamy twilight grandeur of **Mazzy Star**, **Bright Eyes'** last-gasp heartstring soliloquies, and the ghost-haunted majesty of **Magnetic Fields'** loneliest highways. But I'll be damned if Berk isn't a more entrancing spell-caster than any of them."

With *The Gutter and the Garden*, Lovers returns with another album of staggering accomplishment. Carolyn Berk will tour the U.S. and Europe extensively this spring and fall.

ALSO AVAILABLE FROM LOVERS:

Starlit Sunken Ship CD (Orange Twin) OTR09

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