



THE SANTA RITA CONNECTION

Few guitarists achieve the kind of fingerstyle perfection Pete Huttlinger does on this outstanding solo effort. Whether he's flying through the complex changes he's devised for Gershwin's "I Got Rhythm" or gently rhapsodizing on his own "McGuire's Landing" and "Goodbye Chester," he's in total command of his Collings OM1-A. With stunning arrangements of "Sunny" and Stevie Wonder's "Superstition," where he plays the bass line, horn parts and melody simultaneously without breaking a sweat, Huttlinger continues mining the rich vein of Top 40 Covers he began on 2002's Naked Pop. But he's also composed several great tunes, including "Hortensia," "Tommy in the Morning," (written for Tommy Emmanuel), and "Darcy's Guitar," one of the simplest and prettiest melodies in his repertoire. Titled after the "patron saint of impossible dreams" (according to the liner notes), The Santa Rita Connection is a dream to listen to. - Jim Ohlschmidt

