



THE WATSON TWINS

Talking to You, Talking to Me

[Vanguard]

The Watson Twins came to the public's attention singing with Jenny Lewis, laying down harmonies that helped make 2006's *Rabbit Fur Coat* one of the finest alt-country albums of the last decade. But on their second album, the Watsons wisely avoid the Americana sounds that characterized that first impression. They aim instead for the center of a rock-folk-jazz Venn diagram, an overlap beloved by hip housewives and NPR listeners. Within those constraints, *Talking to You, Talking to Me* manages some variety. "Harpeth River" is a restrained take on vintage soul, while the skittering "Modern Man" and "Brave One" skew surprisingly indie-rock. The sisters are keen on trading lead vocals, but they fare better when working in tandem. Each is a fine singer in her own right, but it's those harmonies—cool, blue and a little mysterious—that most justify their jump from sidewomen to headliners. —KP

AS SEEN IN:



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- *M Music & Musicians*

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