with a rhythmic dance beat that you can find prevalent in a lot of new bands like The Rapture, Hot Hot Heat, Liars, and Moving Units.

Foetus

"Love" Birdman www.foetus.org

Definitely demented, but so far out that it's cool, J.G. Thirwell (aka Foetus) always manages to surprise us with a new twisted turn on music. With his new album "Love" he takes a different turn from his past industrial roots bringing in a more tripped out and softer side to some of his past prog, electronic noise. For those that have followed his career Thirlwell has also worked under/with the bands; Steroid Maximus, Clint Ruin, Manorexia, Wiseblood, Baby Zizanie, White Zombie, Nick Cave, Mike Patton, and Kid 606. (U.S. Release date March 2005)

Folk Songs For The Afterlife
"Put Danger Back In Your Life"
Hidden Agenda
www.fortheafterlife.com

Caroline Schutz's voice is dreamy with tinges of sadness. At times it reminds me of Bettie Serveert guest singing on a Mazzy Star album. Capturing different aspects of sweetness and light, Caroline gives lets out her soul to share something truly special and highly emotional. This is definitely a feelings record. It also rocks out on songs like "Death by Melody", where the band take their sweetness in a heavy shoegaze/guitar distortion and go toward Lush direction. Shoegaze bands had such a huge influence on the world that influences are popping up in tons of great indie records. And yes this is a great indie record.

The Forms

"Icarus"
Threespheres
www.threespheres.com

This Brooklyn three-piece takes the art of post punk chanting to a new level. I'm having a hard time comparing their music to anyone. Simply, because The Forms don't really sound like anyone else. They truly have their own sound. Maybe telling you that it was recorded by Steve Albini will give you more of an idea

The Sound of Young New York II Plant www.plantmusic.com

This compilation rules. It has tons of hot bands on here that kids have been dancing to in da clubs in NYC/Brooklyn for the past couple of years. Highlights include: Itchy Revolutions, The Faint, The Stills, !!!, The Voices, and The Glass. A nice mix of post punk, funk, rap, dance, and new wave are what is keeping the kids moving along the floor and Plant has managed to capture it in the compilation series. So what's gonna come on the next album?

Soundtrak

"Soundtrak" EP Acefu www.soundtraktheband.com

NYC via Philadelphia band Soundtrak showcases some of youngest and best talent of the city. Citing influences from The Smiths and Psychedelic Furs, Jorge Gonzalez, singer, fills the songs with highly emotional and engaging lyrics with a soaring vocal style that brings comparisons to Bono from U2 and Greg D. of the Afghan Wigs. Jorge's lyrics contain such strong emotions that pertain to his surroundings that clue you in to his true inner feelings of life that early REM once contained on "Life's Rich Pageant". With such a strong core talent in place you won't be surprised to be hearing more about these guys.

Soviet

"We Are Eyes, We Are Builders" Head Records www.sovietmusic.net

Soviet are one of the only bands to be able to survive Brooklyn's electroclash backlash. Bringing strong comparisons to Depeche Mode, the band make 80's influenced syth, rock/pop that contains tons of catchy tunes. The single "Candy Girl" was a huge hit with the NY club scene.

Spalding Rockwell

"Kate"
Defend Music
www.spaldingrockwell.com

Sex, drugs, and two beautiful models make up