

GO CALL THE CAPTAIN

(MODERN VINTAGE)

This well-traveled New York duo is classically trained singer/pianist **ELEANOR KLEINER** and French bassist/guitarist **ELIE BRANBOUR**. As on their lovely 2007 self-titled mini-LP, their sumptuous music contains bits of jazz, contemporary vocal pop, and Projekt label ethereal influences. But they've added more Mojave 3/Loose Salute country-ish folk and rustic-tinged, old West-inspired Americana that's both expansive and mysterious. And while the album is filled with exquisite piano playing, shimmering acoustics, and haunting strings, it is once again Kleiner's startling voice, alternately sweet and seductive, that impresses most. On stirring, windswept songs such as "Las Vegas" and "Something Might Happen," and the showstopping, Broadway finale-like "The Tallest," she'll send shivers down your spine and goosebumps up your arms. All these attributes cement *Captain* as one of the year's most luminous albums. (mvrecordings.com)