

MARCUS GOLDHABER

SINGER AND SONGWRITER



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'WONDERFULLY IMAGINATIVE' JAZZ VOCALIST PUSHES SONGWRITING BOUNDARIES ON 3RD ALBUM, 'ALMOST LOVE'

NEW YORK – **MARCUS GOLDHABER** has reached beyond his comfort zone as a highly regarded jazz vocalist and come into his own as a singer-songwriter on his third CD, **ALMOST LOVE** (Fallen Apple), due for release Oct. 9, 2012. For the first time in his career, every track is an original – rare territory for even the best of his breed.

The first single, "Love Me Tonight," a song that's both somber and comforting with a hopeful melody and a reassuring arrangement, is available for download NOW at CDBaby.com and iTunes.com. Goldhaber has garnered tremendous critical acclaim on his first two albums, with *PEOPLE Magazine* saying the New Yorker with the youthfully carefree sweet tenor "will have you giddy one moment and melancholy the next and loving every note." And that only fuels his need to continue challenging himself and his audience as he gains a fast reputation among critics and fans for his accessible songwriting and intimate approach to straight-ahead jazz with Chet Baker's cool sensibility, Harry Connick Jr.'s confidence, Art Garfunkel's gentleness, and John Pizzarelli's genial hipness.

Already hailed by *JazzTimes* as a "wonderfully imaginative" artist who *Jazziz* adds is "exciting and fresh," Goldhaber identifies his style as a songwriter on **ALMOST LOVE**. Some of the 13 songs jump and swing and others are more melancholy, while certain ones connect with the listener often unsure of the next step. There are sassy 12-bar blues, romantic ballads, nods to musical theater, and snappy swing tunes, and they all prompt listeners to think about love in ways they may not have considered. Each song introduces a unique perspective toward love, a different journey through love or a moment inside love.

"It took some convincing from **Jon Davis**, my musical director, and **Marcello Pelliteri**, my drummer-producer, for me to believe that a completely original album was the best direction in which to go, and now I can't imagine having done anything differently," says the Buffalo, NY native. "Songwriting will always be a very vulnerable expression for me, but I always think back to the morning I wrote my first tune and it seems to give me the breath of confidence that I need to keep writing."

ALMOST LOVE contains tracks, such as "Love Me Tonight," "I Love You More," and "I Wanna Know" which stretch the jazz boundaries into country-folk-pop and country-pop-Americana flavorings and, on the title track, even a hint of a Celtic vibe. Intentionally or not, they reveal Goldhaber's affections for classic singer-songwriters like James Taylor, Loreena McKennitt, Norah Jones and Tracy Chapman.

"I didn't set out to write a specific style," says Goldhaber. "Sometimes the melody is just there. It's a very inside out process. I get in the character of the person who the song is about and in a sense, they write the song. That character's emotion dictates the way things need to sound, and that translates musically, and obviously lyrically as well. The words tell the music how to sound."

Also anchoring Goldhaber's band on **ALMOST LOVE** are **Martin Wind** (bass), **Joel Frahm** (tenor/soprano sax), **John Hart** (acoustic/electric guitar) and **Erik Friedlander** (cello), with guest appearances by **Joe Magnarelli** (trumpet) and **Lauren Kinhan** of The New York Voices, who shares a duet on "If I Knew Better."

Learn more on Marcus Goldhaber and **ALMOST LOVE** at www.marcusgoldhaber.com.
Get social with Marcus Goldhaber on [Facebook \(marcus.golhaber.1\)](https://www.facebook.com/marcus.golhaber.1) and [Twitter \(@MarcusGoldhaber\)](https://twitter.com/MarcusGoldhaber).

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Online press kit with downloadable jpegs at www.randexpr.com

NOTE:

- FIRST SINGLE, "LOVE ME TONIGHT," AVAILABLE NOW

- [CLICK TO REQUEST A LINK FOR ALMOST LOVE DOWNLOAD](#)

MARCUS GOLDHABER

SINGER AND SONGWRITER

MARCUS GOLDHABER has been called “wonderfully imaginative” (*JazzTimes*) and “exciting and fresh” (*Jazziz*) as he quickly gains a reputation among critics and fans for his accessible songwriting and intimate approach to straight-ahead jazz. His first two albums garnered tremendous critical acclaim, with *PEOPLE Magazine*, in a four-star review of his most recent, saying the New Yorker “will have you giddy one moment and melancholy the next and loving every note.”

On his third CD, **ALMOST LOVE** (Fallen Apple), Marcus will have you thinking about love in ways you may not have considered, and others which bear reminding. He’s written 13 new songs and each introduces a unique perspective toward love, a different journey through love or a moment inside love.

“Some of these songs have been inspired by moments in my life, but I also wanted to write from a place that is equal parts conviction and uncertainty,” says Marcus. “This album explores the paths from possibility to bliss ... heartbreak to acceptance ... anxiety to anticipation ... and denial to rediscovery. Each tune tells its own story and sets its mood.”

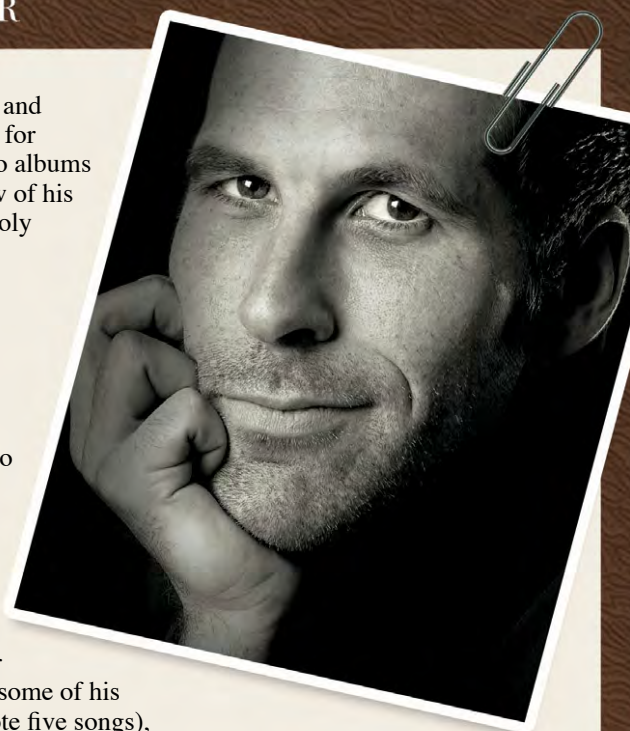
ALMOST LOVE identifies Marcus’ style as a songwriter...some tunes jump and swing and others are more melancholy, while certain songs connect with the listener often unsure of the next step. Marcus had the honor of working on this album with some of his favorite musicians in the world: **Jon Davis** (piano and musical director, who co-wrote five songs), **Martin Wind** (bass) and **Marcello Pellitteri** (drums), who produced the project as well. Extended personnel: **Joel Frahm** (tenor/soprano sax), **John Hart** (acoustic/electric guitar), **Erik Friedlander** (cello). Guest features: **Joe Magnarelli** (trumpet) and singer/songwriter **Lauren Kinhan** of the New York Voices, who sings a duet with Marcus on “If I Knew Better.”

Born and raised in Buffalo, NY, Marcus developed a passion for jazz and the songs of the 1920s, ‘30s and ‘40s alongside a 1928 Ivers & Pond upright piano, on which his mother casually played countless standards. Marcus currently performs in many of the greatest jazz venues in NYC including: Iridium, The Kitano, The Metropolitan Room, The Cutting Room, Sweet Rhythm, Opia, The Friars Club, The Makor/Steinhardt Center, The Carnegie Club, Lenox Lounge and a guest spot with the legendary Les Paul. He also has performed concerts at the 1891 Fredonia Opera House, Pier 92 (NYC), The 2008 Chocolate Show (NYC), Worldwide Plaza (NYC), The AOL Time Warner Center and has maintained extended engagements at both the Benjamin Hotel and The Night Hotel.

On Marcus’ 2006 debut CD, **The Moment After**, (Fallen Apple), he teamed with Jon Davis (piano), Paul Gabrielson (bass) and a tandem of Kyle Struve and Will Terrill on drums. The arrangements were intentionally simple with straight-ahead phrasing to showcase the beauty in the melodies and lyrics, prompting *PEOPLE Magazine* to highlight Marcus’ “no frills approach” with a three-star review, and *JazzTimes* to declare him “a solid saloon style balladeer.” This album also received noteworthy press from *Jazz Improv*, *Hot House Magazine*, and *All About Jazz* as well as several featured spots by Jonathan Schwartz (WNYC & Sirius XM Radio).

Marcus followed his debut in late 2008 with **Take Me Anywhere** (Fallen Apple), which introduced seven original compositions co-written with Jon Davis, and quickly became one of the top selling “Crossover Jazz” records on CDbaby.com (in partnership with Amazon). Once again, Marcus teamed with Davis on piano, but this time with Martin Wind on bass and Marcello Pellitteri on drums. Guest spots included Lieven Venken on drums for “Look for the Silver Lining” and harmonica virtuoso, Hendrik Meurkens on the title track, “Take Me.” This record introduced Marcus as a songwriter and garnered him a four-star review from *PEOPLE Magazine* and high acclaim as *New York Magazine*’s “Retro Pick.”

Marcus has had the privilege of performing with many fantastic musicians and connecting with audiences all over the world. He is ever grateful for his family’s constant love and support and especially for his late grandparents, who raised his mother with music so that she could do the same for him.



“His tone and style are reminiscent of a young Frank Sinatra.”

- *Jazz Improv Magazine*

“Finding the soul in each note with his no-frills approach.”

- *Jess Cagle, People Magazine*

LEARN MORE AT:
MARCUSGOLDHABER.COM



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MARCUS GOLDHABER

SINGER AND SONGWRITER

Artist: Marcus Goldhaber
Current Release: Almost Love
Previous Releases: Take Me Anywhere, The Moment After
Record Label: Fallen Apple Records, LLC
Recommended Tracks: 1,4,7,8
On the Record: Marcus Goldhaber (voice); Jon Davis (piano & organ); Martin Wind (bass); Marcello Pellitteri (drums & percussion); John Hart (guitars - 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 12); Joel Frahm (saxophones - 5, 8, 9, 10); Erik Friedlander (cello - 3, 4, 6); Lauren Kinhan (voice - 9); Joe Magnarelli (trumpet - 6)
Producer: Marcello Pellitteri
Lyrics: By Marcus Goldhaber
Music: By Marcus Goldhaber & Jon Davis
Website: www.MarcusGoldhaber.com
YouTube: www.YouTube.com/MarcusGoldhaber
Facebook: www.Facebook.com/marcusgoldhaber
Street Date: October 9, 2012
Suggested Retail: \$14.99; Album Download \$9.99
UPC Barcode: 8845010481 9
Genre: Jazz Standards/Singer-songwriter
Sounds Like: Chet Baker, Harry Connick Jr., young Frank Sinatra

TRACK LIST

1. **Love Me Tonight** – Music & Lyrics by Marcus Goldhaber -- 4:35
2. **I Love you More** – Music & Lyrics by Marcus Goldhaber -- 4:33
3. **Hide Away** – Music & Lyrics by Marcus Goldhaber -- 5:21
4. **Almost Love** – Music & Lyrics by Marcus Goldhaber -- 3:07
5. **Somebody In Love** – Music & Lyrics by Marcus Goldhaber -- 4:37
6. **I Wanna Know** – Lyrics by Marcus Goldhaber, Music by Marcus Goldhaber & Jon Davis -- 5:18
7. **Last Night I Found A Melody** – Lyrics by Marcus Goldhaber, Music by Marcus Goldhaber & Jon Davis -- 4:23
8. **As Long As I'm With You** – Music & Lyrics by Marcus Goldhaber -- 3:58
9. **If I Knew Better** – Music & Lyrics by Marcus Goldhaber -- 4:14
10. **It Won't Be Long** – Lyrics by Marcus Goldhaber, Music by Marcus Goldhaber & Jon Davis -- 4:08
11. **What If** – Lyrics by Marcus Goldhaber, Music by Marcus Goldhaber & Jon Davis -- 4:25
12. **Let's Be Foolish Together** – Music & Lyrics by Marcus Goldhaber -- 3:35
13. **As Long As I Am Falling In Love** – Lyrics by Marcus Goldhaber, Music by Marcus Goldhaber & Jon Davis -- 4:34

Total Time: 75:11

Personnel

Marcus Goldhaber, voice
Jon Davis, piano & B3 Hammond Organ
Martin Wind, bass
Marcello Pellitteri, drums & percussion
John Hart, acoustic, 12 string & electric guitar (1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 12)
Joel Frahm, tenor & soprano saxophone (5, 8, 9, 10)
Erik Friedlander, cello (3, 4, 6)
Lauren Kinhan, voice (9)
Joe Magnarelli, trumpet (6)

Arrangement for *If I Knew Better* by Marcello Pellitteri.
All other arrangements by Marcus Goldhaber and Jon Davis.

Recorded at Avatar Studios in NYC on March 5th & 6th, 2012
Engineer: Robert Smith
Assistant engineer: Akihiro Nishimura

Mixed at DEFY Recordings in NYC
Engineer: Robert Smith

Mastered by A.T Michael Macdonald at Algorhythms on June 5th & 11th, 2012

Produced by Marcello Pellitteri

Album design and photography by Evf Van den Brulle (evbcreative.com, evbfilm.com, evdphoto.com)

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Note

Lauren Kinhan appears courtesy of Eone Ent. Marcello Pellitteri uses Istanbul Mehmet cymbals, Regal Tip Sticks, Evans drumheads. Joel Frahm plays Roberto's Woodwinds reeds and ligatures exclusively. Martin Wind plays D'addario Strings, Acoustic Image Amplifiers and the David Gage Realist Pick-up

Available online at:
marcusgoldhaber.com,
Amazon.com, iTunes.com,
& Cdbaby.com

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AVAILABILITY

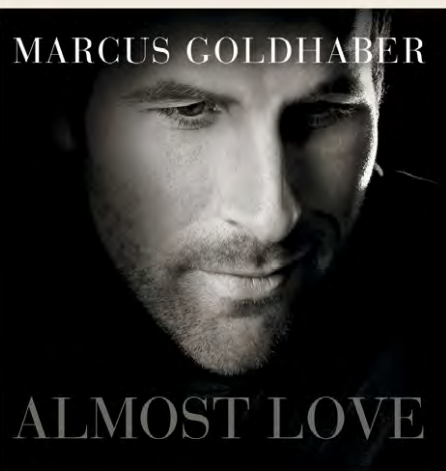
WWW.MARCUSGOLDHABER.COM
WWW.CDBABY.COM
WWW.ITUNES.COM

PAST PERFORMANCES

The Kitano, The Metropolitan Room, The Triad, The Makor, The Cutting Room, The Friars Club, The Hotel Benjamin, The Carnegie Club, Crobar, Iridium, Time Warner Center, Smoke, The Lenox Lounge, Mo' Pitkins, Mannahatta

LICENSING

ASCAP



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A CONVERSATION WITH MARCUS GOLDHABER

Q: Why was “Almost Love” chosen as the title of your new album?

A: While all of the songs on this record seem to have varying perspectives and approaches to love and relationships, they all flirt with an element of hesitancy. “Almost Love,” the song, seems to do this more than the others, but the title on its own also seems to capture the essence of the overall story of the album. When I think about these songs in one setting, this phrase or concept of “Almost Love,” while filled with uncertainty, also embraces optimism and puts everything on the same path toward some kind of calm resolution.

Q: Your new album is a major step forward for you, in that you’ve written all 13 songs – far more than on either of your previous two records. How much does confidence as a songwriter play a part in this, and can you describe the growth you’ve achieved in that area?

A: Songwriting was never something that I thought I would be able to accomplish. I’ve always had lyric ideas and melodies floating around in my head, but I never considered that, one day, I would be able to organize them into songs. Leading up to my first record, I was so obsessed with the writers from the 1920s-1940s and creating fresh melody-based arrangements of their music that I never even thought about creating entirely new songs. Then one morning, at around 3am, I woke up with a partial melody and lyric in my head and I couldn’t get back to sleep. So I rolled over to the piano, thought about how my grandparents loved each other and stayed there until I had completed my first song, “Take Me.” I constantly struggle with confidence when I’m writing, especially after a song is completed. It took some convincing from Jon Davis, my musical director, and Marcello Pelliteri, my producer & drummer,

for me to believe that a completely original album was the best direction in which to go, and now I can’t imagine having done anything differently. Songwriting will always be a very vulnerable expression for me, but I always think back to the morning I wrote my first tune and it seems to give me the breath of confidence that I need to keep writing.

Q: “Almost Love” breaks down love into almost as many facets as there are songs. Each song has its own unique perspective toward love, a different journey through love, or a moment inside love. What is it about love that enables you to explore it from all of these angles?

A: I don’t think it has as much to do with love on its own as it does my experience with love, combined with ideas that come to me about specific situations between two partners or personalities who, more often, end up writing most of the song.

Q: For the first time, you’ve made an album that contains tracks which stretch the jazz boundaries into country-folk-pop, country-pop-Americana, and even a hint of a Celtic vibe. What took you in that direction?

A: When I sit down to write, I never know what’s going to come out. My influences are kinda all over the map. A lot of it is based on how I’m feeling or what I want to hear. Sometimes, I’ll play for hours before a coherent melody or lyric comes to the surface...and then there are those wonderful moments when I sit down and a song just comes out.

Q: As an independent artist, you've taken a unique approach on your music career, looking at it as more than just albums for sale, but as a business as a whole. What projects would you like to see yourself involved with, in the future?

A: Well, I don't know how unique my approach is, but I have many goals as a singer-songwriter, actor, entertainer, etc. Every day, you hear someone say, "the music business is changing all the time now..." and, though it's getting a bit repetitive, I certainly agree. I used to think this transition was overwhelming and even sad as technology seemed to flex its muscles in the music world, slowly driving out the CD and the overall experience of holding anything in your hands, forcing a restructuring/redefining of "the way things are done" and making music more portable. But I think we need to adapt as change occurs. I actually am excited by the many ways people can access music now. Just as artists are always creating new songs, there are constant developments being made on the technical side that are, for the most part, all helping to increase access to music and make the relationship or dialogue between artist and fan more available and authentic. Above all, my desire is to connect with people. The best response I can hope for is to hear that something I created (a performance or a song) spoke to someone else on a personal level, that I created something that another person can relate to. Maybe it helps them out in some way or maybe there is just that connection.



“Goldhaber will have you giddy one moment and melancholy the next and loving every note.”

- **PEOPLE Magazine**

“Like a plate full of comfort food.”

- **All About Jazz**

“Exciting and fresh.”

- **Jazziz Magazine**

“In this world of ordinary singers and underrated treasures, I’m glad there is Marcus Goldhaber.”

- **Jazz Inside**

“Terrific. Wonderfully imaginative.”

- **JazzTimes Magazine**

“As good as it gets!”

- **Midwest Record**

www.midwestrecord.com

“Tasteful and hip, Goldhaber has a gorgeous and sensitive vocal quality...His vocal approach brings the lyric to life!”

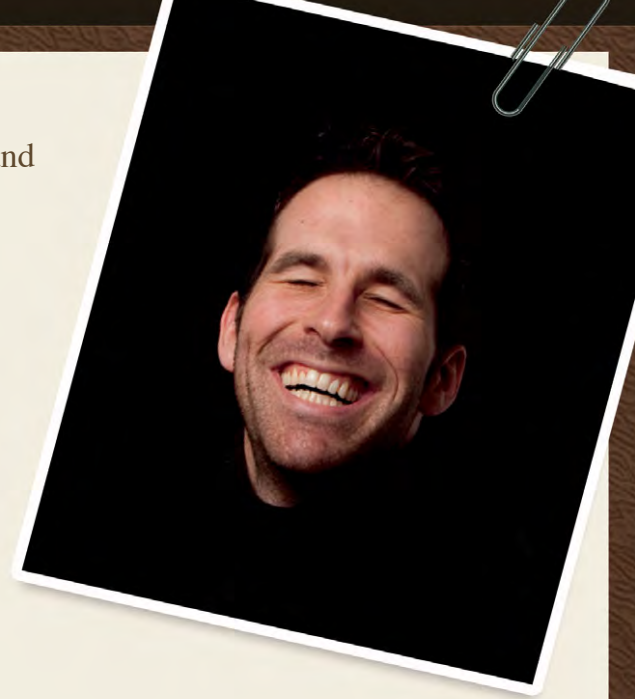
- **Jazz Improv Magazine**

“Marcus Goldhaber has a unique vocal quality unlike any of his predecessors.”

- **John Gilbert, eJazzNews**

“The jazz listening audience is in for a treat! The vocals are expressive, and the musicians are in top notch form.”

- **JazzReview.com**



LINER NOTES FROM "ALMOST LOVE"

MARCUS GOLDHABER

ALMOST LOVE

You can hear the youthful and carefree lilt in his sweet tenor voice, and sense the clear-eyed if bedazzled exuberance of questing lyrics. Happy, yes... smitten, for sure! But certain? Not yet, babe.

Marcus Goldhaber spins heartfelt tales to young adults seeking to figure out that fourth, dominant yet somehow elusive, dimension in their lives. It's a universal malaise whose cure he finds in singing candid messages of simple joys and staying open to fresh experiences.

Born into a musically supportive Buffalo family, Goldhaber's genial tenor carries canny tunes of straightforward sophistication set in easy tempos in a fashionably retro swing style. Marcus' pleasing voice may evoke Chet Baker's cool, Harry Connick, Jr.'s confidence, Art Garfunkel's gentleness. "I love Harry and Chet," he concurs, "as well as Kurt Elling, Kate McGarry, and singers in other styles like Ingrid Michaelson, Tracy Chapman, James Taylor, and Loreena McKennitt."

Easy listening? Yeah, but Marcus hones his special edges, balancing punchy directness with allspice complexity. He echoes the vocal charm and lyric smarts of his first two convincing and well-received albums, by letting us share his twinges of pain and sweet indulgences of emerging love. And he goes for broke with all handcrafted originals in new collaborations with pianist Jon Davis.

"These songs capture states of mind, ways of being receptive to my surroundings," explains Marcus. "Any given moment may make me think of a song. I try to stay in that open space, so I won't miss one. Inspirations come from accessible feelings and appealing experiences. Jon's paintbrush phrasing and well-crafted arrangements coax out the emotions."

Equally impressive are Marcus' craftsmanship and organization. He hits all the spots: sassy 12-bar blues, romantic ballads, nods to musical theater, snappy swing tunes. And most hit the bulls-eye. Drummer / producer Marcello Pelliteri and Davis have assembled exceptional sidemen who capture each tune's spirit. "These are my warriors, guys I look to throughout the creative process. I sing them a song, they give it a shape, expanding my writing. Marcello and I connected when he played my first songs; he shapes, balances, and flavors them objectively." That sassy blues seeks tough love from guitarist John Hart and saxophonist Joel Frahm.

Settle back and relax with Marcus' songs. "When I first saw you, I thought you were pretty... nothing came out and so I walked away," opens "Almost Love" over Erik Friedlander's cello and Jon's swirling piano. "Why do I always take so long to notice something so easy to see?" he asks. A light samba groove and 'Brazil 66' coda frame a satisfying duo between Marcus and purring Lauren Kinhan (NY Voices) that expresses a mutual desire to fall in love. The arching melody of "I Wanna Know" slips smoothly into musical theater. Listen closely, and you might just fall in love, too.

Fred Bouchard
Harwichport, MA

Fred writes about music for Downbeat Magazine, New York City Jazz Record, Boston Musical Intelligencer, and Berklee College of Music webs