## Mp3 Maxfield - 2290 (live Ep)



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At once familiar and forward-thinking; Maxfield combines elements of old country, new folk, jamrock, and more in a song-driven, organic sound. 7 MP3 Songs FOLK: Folk Pop, ROCK: Roots Rock Details: "Simultaneously energetic and introspective, Maxfields live '2290' EP nourishes the ears the soul with attentive songwriting and beautifully crafted musicianship." -- DJ Frederick, WSCS 90.9, New London, NH \*\*\* MAXFIELD is a loose collective of musicians and creative-types who gather to play the music of Stuart Maxfield. In various incarnations, Stuarts brand of music has been on the scene for the past 10 years, supported by a motley cast including his brother Andrew and others. 2290 is the most recent Maxfield recording. Recorded in front of a live audience, the disc features five of Stuarts songs in addition to an unexpected remake of the 90s grunge ballad Stars (by Hum). \*\*\* Heres what a recent newspaper article had to say (4/06): Stuart Maxfield could be called many different things. For one, a master of music-he plays numerous instruments, and well. ... Stuart actually seems unaware of his undeniable musical precocity, which most fully manifests itself through his band Maxfield. He was raised in Salt Lake City, engulfed in music from birth. He started piano at age 4 and picked up the violin, his main instrument, at age 6. After honing a classical foundation, Stuart supplemented his formal training with rock at 13 when his older brother, and pianist/accordion player for Maxfield, Andrew convinced Stuart to learn bass guitar. By high school, Stuart had learned guitar as well. And that's not even the end of his instrument rolodex. "I owe it all to my mom," said Stuart, lounging in an antique armchair that belonged to his great-grandma. "She sat on me, literally, to make me practice the violin. Sometimes it wasn't pretty." The classical influence shows in Maxfield's songs, the melodies of which Stuart writes. However, the four other members of the band are in charge of their own complimentary parts. "I like to play with people who are responsible for their own domain," Stuart said. "I explain to them the vision, but I trust their musicianship

and let them take it the rest of the way." It's apparent in watching Maxfield perform they are simply happy to make and share music with listeners. They're not trying to impress the musical elite; they're not playing in a band to be hip. They're just refreshing, understandable, uncomplicated musicians with a desire to share magnificence as they experience it through a unique musical composite. They use instruments ranging from the standard bass-drums-guitar combo, to the accordion, grand piano, French horn and trombone. "I'm fascinated with the beauty of music and the beauty of sound. I want to make beautiful music in all of its forms," Stuart said. Stuart's songwriting is perhaps most indicative of his musical intentions. Most typically his songwriting occurs when he's removed from the world, when it's quiet and he can hear melodies in his head, he said. He tries to take a universal approach to his songwriting so more people can enjoy the beauty of his music. His result is a satisfying merging of folk, rock and pop with a classical twist... The band's new release, an EP called "2290," contains Stuart's most recent batch of songs. The album was recorded in front of a live audience. [Lisa Ruefenacht, Daily Universe, 12 April 2006]

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