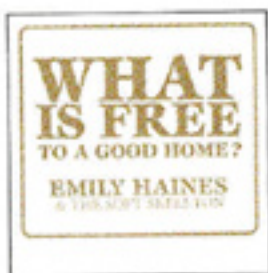


BUST

August/ September 2007



EMILY HAINES

**What Is Free to a
Good Home?
(*Last Gang*)**

Emily Haines' proper solo debut, last year's *Knives Don't Have Your Back*, started as a double disc. And while *Good Home* represents what was leftover from those initial recording sessions, the songs should be treated as anything but. This full-length finds Haines playing with cadence ("Rowboat"), atmospheric effects ("Sprig"), and even dub ("Mostly Waving"). Like tracks on *Knives*, these dolce ballads began as spare piano compositions performed live and distributed online as bootlegs. Literally jazzed up with horns and brush-swept cymbals here, *Good Home* continues Haines' homage to her father, late jazz poet Paul Haines, whose work she draws upon for the album's title and the lyrics of "Sprig." Her own penchant for freeform verse is evident on another standout, the self-aware "Telethon."

[MELODY CARABALLO]