



ROUNDER RECORDS

America's Premier Independent Label

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NOVEMBER 11, 2005

**ROUNDER RECORDS TO RELEASE *TAKE ME BACK*, THE NEW ALBUM
FROM VIRTUOSO FIDDLER, VOCALIST, AND STEP DANCER
APRIL VERCH, FEBRUARY 14**

“Playful and flirtatious, whimsical and wry... a transcendent level of musicianship where hard-earned technique can be safely abandoned.” – *Toronto Star*

Cambridge, MA – Rounder Records is pleased to announce the release of *Take Me Back*, the new studio album from April Verch, on February 14, 2006. Produced by Dirk Powell and recorded in Louisiana, *Take Me Back* finds virtuoso fiddler, vocalist, and step dancer April Verch continuing to broaden the scope of her music while maintaining close ties to the music of her native Ottawa Valley. Performances like “Loggers in the Short Grass” and “Grand Slaque” are an ongoing testament to Verch’s commitment to and mastery of the Canadian fiddle traditions, while interpretations of songs like Julie Miller’s title cut and “All in a Night” (co-written by Claire Lynch and Missy Raines) are marked by more contemporary influences and feature Verch’s captivating vocals.

A performer since early childhood, April Verch launched her professional career by winning the Canadian Grand Masters Fiddle Championship and Canadian Open Fiddle Championship (the first and only female to win both). She has since applied her formidable technique to encompass a wide range of styles. Her previous Rounder albums *Verchusosity* (2001) and *From Where I Stand* (2003) were marked by convincing forays into old-time string band music, Brazilian rhythms, and contemporary instrumentals and originals. *Take Me Back* boasts a similarly eclectic range – including the rollicking bluegrass of “Tennessee Wagoner,” the jazz-influenced “Monarch,” and the original old-time tribute “Tom, Brad & Alice.” Producer Powell (whose previous work includes the *Cold Mountain* soundtrack, the Tim O’Brien Band, Balfa Toujours, and Uncle Earl’s acclaimed Rounder debut *She Waits for Night*) melds Verch’s extensive interests and abilities into a coherent, compelling album. “Unlike many in her position,” Powell explains, referring to Verch’s superior technical skill as a fiddler, “she has arrived at a place where the technique she strived so hard to attain no longer has meaning on its own. It is now a means to an end, and the end in question is the realm of true personal expression.”

Verch and her esteemed acoustic band have toured around the world, winning audiences over not only with technical ability, but also with charm, humor, and boundless energy on stage. February will find Verch and her trio touring across the U.S. in support of *Take Me Back*, with performances throughout the Northeast and Midwest. For a complete itinerary, visit www.aprilverch.com.

Founded in 1970, Rounder Records is America’s premier independent label. Rounder and its Zoë, Heartbeat, Philo and Bullseye Blues imprints have a catalog of over 3000 albums, representing a wide variety of folk, roots, rock, blues, and reggae music.

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Press materials (including high-res photos) are available at www.rounder.com/publicity.