

# TRACKS

The week's new downloads,  
radio tracks and videos

Edited by Mark Beaumont

## A little re-Spekt

Long-awaited release for  
songstress's finest moment

### REGINA SPEKTOR



#### Us (Transgressive)

OK, so this song, exhumed from Regina's recent 'story so far' collection 'Mary Ann Meets The Grave Diggers...' but originally available on 2004's 'Soviet Kitsch' album, may be about to blow out the

candles on its second birthday cake but what better way to banish those New Year blues than by gorging on what must surely be the indie love song of the millennium?

Practically from the off 'Us' mounts a delicious three-tiered assault on the senses - and, indeed, sensitivities. First there's the spine-tingling score, a pirouetting piano-motif counterpointed with implausibly plaintive strings. Then there's the lyrics that initially lull you into a false sense of emotional security ("They made a statue of us/And put it on a mountain top/Now tourists come and stare at us/Blow bubbles with their gum/Take photographs, have fun") before plunging headlong into undefined uncertainty ("We're living in a den of thieves/Rummaging for answers in the pages").

And finally there's Regina's voice. A uniquely intoxicating instrument, it contorts from a coquettish croon into a beguiling banshee wail over a couple of verses, stripping away layers of innocence until only raw nerves are exposed. The way in which she manages to make the hiccupped glottal stop in the word "contagious" sound like a mini-explosion of emotion is almost worth the asking price alone. Take our advice: stick it on repeat play on the stereo, retreat under you duvet and don't make any plans until February. **DS**  
**ON VIRGINDIGITAL AND MAJOR DOWNLOAD SERVICES NOW**

"Track Of The Week?  
Ha! And pigs might fly  
and wear suits!"

TRACK OF  
THE WEEK!

