

## MUSIC REVIEW -- *Girl Like This* by Laura Roppe (September 30, 2008)

Every once in a while, whether you are looking or not, you come across something that makes you sit up and take notice. Whether it's talent of an actor, the voice of a singer, or the overall package of a television show or movie, there is that something that catches your attention. And when an album makes you sit up and take notice, there is probably something contained within it that sets it apart from the rest of the music released by the music industry. "Girl Like This," the new album by singer-songwriter Laura Roppe, is one of those releases that has that certain something that sets itself apart from the rest of the music industry. The combination of Roppe's lyrics, the musicianship of the players that helped in the making of the album, plus Roppe's versatile voice have come together on "Girl Like This," to create the type of music that could make someone stop what they are doing to listen to the music of this talented singer-songwriter. Even before Laura Roppe had put out her debut release of "Girl Like This," she had been getting tons of airplay here in the country and abroad in Europe. Part of the reason for that was due to the airplay that her song, "Mama Needs A Girls Night Out," was getting. After Roppe had made an excellent showing in the Kenny Chesney "Next Big Star Competition" by being named as Runner-Up in the contest, the song became an anthem for mothers everywhere. "Mama Needs A Girls Night Out" is just one of the country songs on Laura Roppe's album. The song is also joined by several other country-flavored tracks such as "Girl Like This" and "Free". "Free" is a track written by Roppe to describe her decision to get back to her roots and her first love: music. Laura had spent much of her youth performing in musicals in high school and even went to college at UCLA to obtain a degree in Theatre Arts. But after graduation, she followed in the family tradition and went into the Law field. Recently, Laura made the decision to return to music. "Free" describes that journey back. Laura Roppe's album, "Girl Like This," is a release that is very much flavored by the country music genre with the first six tracks on "Girl Like This" showing that Laura has a talent for writing country music. However, it's the second half of her new release that proves that Laura truly is a talented singer-songwriter. The second half of Laura Roppe's "Girl Like This" delves into the folk/folk rock side of the singer-songwriter. Laura's song "Can't Take It Back" even sounds like it was taken from a Norah Jones songbook. The song is part folk, part jazz. "Can't Take It Back," like Jones' "Don't Know Why," could end up getting a lot of airplay as a crossover single. In fact, several of the songs on the album could be crossover singles. The folk part of "Girl Like This" by singer-songwriter Laura Roppe contrasted with the country part of the release makes for a great album. And Laura has the type of voice that is perfect for singing both country and folk; she is even able to sing rock music, as well. If you like country music or folk music, this is definitely one release that will make you sit up and take notice. To check out Laura Roppe, go to [www.lauraroppe.com](http://www.lauraroppe.com). You can also find Laura on MySpace at [www.myspace.com/lauraroppe](http://www.myspace.com/lauraroppe). <http://www.myspace.com/mathesonk> Check me out!

**Matheson Kamin**

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