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Break -Up and Beyond - Carrie Ferguson

According to a short bio on her website, singer/songwriter Carrie Ferguson credits the weather she encountered during her upbringing on the northern coast of California with “instilling in her the baseline aesthetic of melancholic optimism that still permeates her music today.” After transplanting to western Mass., Ferguson continued performing music and is perhaps best known locally for her tenure in the Northampton band Plump which lasted from 1998 to 2005. Since then she’s contributed keyboard work to several local groups as well as continuing to perform solo, or with her group The Cherry Street Band. Now, after two years of recording, she’s ready to release her first full-length solo record, *Riding On the Back of the Wind*.

Featuring contributions from fellow Valley musicians Jim Henry, J.J. O’Connell, Mark Schwaber, Chris Scanlon, Maggie Nowinski, Wayne Smith and Emily Breines, the release was originally thought of as a break-up album. However, the record’s tone appears to have changed, and now it explores a wide range of emotions. From loss and heartbreak to hope and jubilation, Ferguson will have something for everyone at her CD release party, which also features Jose Ayerve of Spouse.