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# An Art Pepper jazz retrieval, two Souzas and one from The Physics

New CDs (and vinyl) albums released this week of Tuesday, Aug. 28, include a jazz retrieval recorded live in Seattle in 1981 by Art Pepper, two new albums from brilliant Brazilian jazz singer Luciana Souza and a self-released album by The Physics.

By Paul de Barros

*Seattle Times jazz critic*

## **Luciana Souza, 'Duos III,' 'The Book of Chet' (Sunnyside)**

Souza's transparent clarity is always a pleasure, but when she pairs up with Brazilian guitarists — her usual partner, Romero Lubambo, plus singer-songwriter Toninho Horta and Marco Pereira — she's dazzling. From the bubbly and buoyant — "Tim Tim Por Tim Tim," "Dona Lu," "Doralice" and "Eu Vim da Bahia" — to the pensive and romantic — "Dindi," "Mágoas de Caboclo," "Chora Coração" — Souza takes the listener for a joy ride. The guitars weave in and out like a dance partner as Souza sings in Portuguese (a lyric sheet would have been nice) or scats. "The Book of Chet" evokes a completely different world — the moody, after-hours *longueur* associated with singer-trumpeter Chet Baker's ballads. Though Souza doesn't have Baker's irresistible vulnerability, she turns tunes like "I Fall in Love Too Easily," "The Very Thought of You" and "Forgetful" into touching art songs. "Oh You Crazy Moon" is a heartbreaker. Minimalist electric guitar accompaniment by Larry Koonse is in a league with Barney Kessel's famous backgrounds for Julie London.