

# Entertainment WEEKLY

September 15, 2006



## Shawn Colvin

### These Four Walls

(Nonesuch)

*Folk Rock*

Few singer-songwriters do rueful revenge as well as Shawn Colvin. On this album—her finest since 1996's *A Few Small Repairs*—Colvin alternates between sad breakup ballads (“Venetian Blue”) that never wallow in self-pity and gentle rockers (“Tuff Kid”) that flip the bird at the players in her life.

There's a terrific version of the Bee Gees' 1960s weepie “Words” as well. A literate lyricist in the Joni Mitchell tradition, Colvin deserves to be heard by more than devoted cultists this time around.

**A-** —Marc Weingarten

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**“Summer Dress”**