

THE VICTORY REVIEW

HOWIE NEWMAN:

TRUST ME, YOU'LL LIKE IT

(Major League Records; no #)

Boy, was he ever right! Whimsical Boston troubadour Howie Newman is a scream, particularly if you are 40-something. He has a special talent for expressing those things that we often think but rarely discuss or are too polite to bring up. "Everybody's Talking On the Phone," he observes, but goes on to wonder what the *heck* all these people *have* to discuss. He also grumps, amusingly, about Boston traffic, and about snow. The best, and funniest, songs are about the slow escape of youth – he hates to admit it, but much as he'd like to go see his favorite bands in clubs, 10 o'clock is "Way Past My Bedtime." Neighborhood pick-up ballgames leave the "Weekend Warrior" supine, moaning, and iced. Once rapt interest in an oft-married friend's latest love interests now makes Newman "Skeptical," instead. The temptation is to cut up the lyric sheet (included) and mail the various songs to friends to whom the subjects apply – with the rest staying on the fridge at home. Newman has been getting some spins on Dr Demento and Mad Man Moskowitz, but you gotta get the whole record. Trust me. (Tom Petersen)