

## WILLIE AND LOBO

*Siete*  
Narada-EMI

Whenever any world music albums come into the office, I snap them up before anybody else can get to them. Of course, nobody besides me ever wants them. This particular album features the Latin and Gypsy instrumentals by two very happy people named Willie and Lobo. The music is quite beautiful and is played with great skill. As easily as it can be dismissed for not being conventional pop music, *Siete* can be praised for its energy and its spirit.

-JC

## STEVE EARLE

*Transcendental Blues*  
Epic

For rugged country music, there are only a few artists that can remain true to the genre's roots while breaking ground with new sounds. Steve Earle's latest album contains hard-driving, blues rockers, hillbilly-footstompers, and a rollicking, celtic song that has as much bullocks as the Pogues circa late eighties. The hardcore trubadour is in top form on *Transcendental Blues*.

-SML

## TELEK

*Serious Tam*  
Narada-EMI

Here is yet another entry into the world music category. The music on *Serious Tam* comes from Papua New Guinea. Telek combines the sounds (musical and natural) of his native land with certain pop sensibilities to create a completely new musical experience. The lyrics, sung in several Papua New Guinean languages, are simple but flow easily. This is definitely something worth listening to.

-JC

**L O S  
A M I G O S  
I N V I S I B L E S**  
*Arepa 3000*  
Luaka Bop

The album cover proclaims *Arepa 3000* as "A Venezuelan Journey into Space," but I can't quite understand why. The first track sounds like a Burt Bacharach song, and if you ask me, Burt Bacharach really isn't the ideal model for space music. Nothing on the album is very spacey, unless you count the part where it sounds like Jabba the Hut is doing a guest vocal. There is quite a diverse range of musical



styles, most of which are designed to make you shake your booty. This isn't great music, but some of the songs might just put you in the mood to shake your booty.

-JC

## BLACK 47

*Trouble In The Land*  
Shanachie

Despite having vocals that would make Bob Dylan wince, Black 47

at times is an enjoyable band. Somehow, and God only knows how they do it, they mix punk, Celtic folk music, and occasionally rap, resulting in an unmistakably

Black 47 sound. This fusion is best evidenced in songs such as "Those Saints," "I Got Laid On James Joyce's Grave," and "Bodhrans On The Brain." The big problem with this New York band is that at times they get too caught up in being political...and the otherwise fine "Bobby Kennedy" is historically puzzling. (Jeez, which Kennedy are they singing about? I can't tell.) If having a former member of

Dexy's Midnight Runners in the group will impress you, well, they do.

-ROC

## CHRISTINA AGUILERA

*Mi Reflejo*  
BMG



Finally, in the world music scene, we have young Christina Aguilera. This newcomer is bound to be a major success as she rides on the coat-tails of other great Latin musicians such as Ricky Martin, Jennifer Lopez and Enrique Iglesias. Aguilera's music transcends the conventional concept of Latin music and crosses over into the teen pop style of music that is all the rage these days. "Genio Atrapado" is the best song on the album, although it does sound suspiciously like a song that was getting heavy airplay around this time last year. Keep an eye out for her in the coming months.

-JC

## How Movie-ing

For the past few weeks, Hollywood has been pumping out a ton of bad movies. Instead of talking about movies, we decided to talk about songs from movies. Here is a list of songs of varying quality from movies of varying quality.

**FIGHT THE POWER**  
Public Enemy

MMD: *The song conveys a politically conscious message and it was featured in one of the most stirring films ever, Do the Right Thing.*

**HAPPINESS PIE**  
Bruce McCulloch and the Odds  
ROC: *Brain Candy was a hilarious*

*movie and one of the most hilarious songs in the movie was "Happiness Pie". It was hilarious.*

**QUE SERA SERA**  
Doris Day

JC: *Whenever I see that Shoppers Drug Mart commercial with "Que Sera Sera", I think of Doris Day singing the song in Hitchcock's The Man Who Knew*

*Too Much. Weird, huh?*

**WEIRD SCIENCE**  
Oingo Boingo

JC: *"Before Danny Elfman did scores for movies, he did vocals for Oingo Boingo. This song was the theme to that stupid John Hughes movie (Guess which one)."*