## LEGSYBOY

## eclecuic Legsyland



Is it a cheroot? Is it a beer? Is it a car? No, it's The Coronas, and the Irish rockers' third album Closer To You (Lix Records/ Planet) is a little hit and miss. When

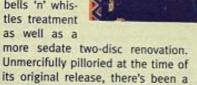
the Gaelic influences infiltrate their indie sound, they are compulsive listening (try album opener 'What you Think You Know'), but the occasional slip into balladry doesn't help the overall cause. Still, if they do manage to take off outside their native Ireland (where they are huge), then you can say Rhythms was on toard first!

The recently encountered two wonderful planists with polar approaches to their craft.

The enigmatic New Age soloist George Winston has released Gulf Coast Blues & Impressions, Vol. 2: A Louisiana Wetlands lenefit (Sony), to draw attention to, and raise funds for, the organisation of the same name (Vol. 1

initially raised funds for Hurricane Obina victims). Winston draws his instration and styling from the great the Orleans players such as Profeste language and James Booker and, while I find a whole album of unacteriorized piano a little too much and The Allmans. Here, Leavell and his friends pay homage to ivory greats like Otis Spann, Skip James, Ray Charles and Leroy Carr, and anyone with a hankering for the blues will be well satisfied – even if Chuck's vocals leave a touch to be desired.

A couple of noteworthy rereleases have passed by this month. Paul & Linda McCartney's Ram (Universal) has received a bells 'n' whistles treatment as well as a



tempering of the vitriol towards it

in recent times, particularly with this remaster, which does sound glorious. It's up to you whether you think the heightened sound experience warrants a reappraisal (although perhaps, unlike me, you may have liked it first time around anyway).

Beatles completists will also want to check out George Harrison's Early Takes Volume 1 (Universal), billed as a companion piece ("featuring 10 previously unreleased recordings") to the superb documentary Living in The Material World Times

land (Sony). I never fully appreciated previously what a ground-breaking record this was. Even forgetting the extraordinary political circumstances it was recorded in, the sheer inventiveness of melding zydeco with African rhythms, and the poetic strength of his lyrical imagery, rightly make this a career high watermark

for Simon; he always was more than just a folkie.

Heard of Adam Miller? It seems the Novocastrian is far better known overseas for his virtuoso finger-picking than he is in his homeland. He has played with the likes of the late Les Paul, Matt Schofield, Adam Levy and Bruce Mathiske, performed at the Montreal Jazz Festival and been lauded by US

magazine Guitar International. Still not heard of him? Delayed (www. adammiller.com. au) is Miller's fourth studio album featuring 13 original acoustic solo compositions. The thing is, you'd



swear there are at least two guitarists playing (either that or he's got seven fingers!) when he weaves his way around his custom made Traugott eight-string acoustic. This is one acoustic album worth turning up LOUD – Adam Miller is one helluva player and it's time we appreciated it.

GEORGE WINSTON