



# 5 of the best . . . Summer sounds



## 1 Beside You: 30 Years of Hits Dave Dobbyn

KIWI music icon Dave Dobbyn is celebrating 30 years in the music business with a comprehensive CD release and a summer tour. Dobbyn won't make it south with his "30 Years of Hits Summer Tour" this month, but southern fans will get the chance to see him with Tim Finn, Bic Runga, Boh Runga and Che Fu when the More FM Winery Tour comes to Millbrook Resort in Arrowtown on February 15. In the meantime, fans can turn to the three-disc retrospective *Beside You: 30 Years of Hits*. Featuring 39 tracks dating back to the days of The Dudes through to the present day, the two CDs include gems like *Be Mine Tonight*, *Outlook for Thursday*, *Just Add Water*, *Loyal*, *Slice of Heaven*, *Welcome Home* and *Hallelujah Song*. Disc 3 is a DVD featuring live archive footage, interviews and classic videos. With his distinctive voice, brilliant melodies and very kiwi outlook on life, Dave Dobbyn is a local favourite for good reason. So, put your feet up, pour a cool drink and let the sounds of home wash over you.

— BRENDA HARWOOD

## 2 The Great New Zealand Songbook: Various artists

**FAVOURITE** New Zealand songs from "the last century and this century" feature in *The Great New Zealand Songbook* collection. Incorporating 40 New Zealand recording artists, including Split Enz, Dave Dobbyn, Opshop, Big Runga, Brooke Fraser, Supergroove, Shihad, The Chills, Dragon, The Muttonbirds, The Exponents, The Feelers, Scribe, Hollie Smith and Goldenhorse, this two CD set will provide perfect sounds for the summer barbecue. Listeners can sing along to hits such as *Dominion Rd*, *Why Does Love Do This To me?*, *April Sun in Cuba*, *Counting The Beat*, *Nature*, *Home Again* and *Not Many*. *The Great New Zealand Songbook* offers a cross section of musical styles and approaches, from the past 30-plus years. The CD set features cover art of the Four Square Man holding a guitar. This art work, by New Zealand artist Dick Frizzell, was commissioned for the release. The set also includes four coloured Frizzell postcards.

— BRENDA HARWOOD

## 3 Holy Smoke Gin Wigmore

RECORDED with The Cardinals, of Ryan Adams and The Cardinals fame, Gin Wigmore's full-length debut album *Holy Smoke*, released this year, guarantees we'll be hearing more from the 23-year-old Auckland-born singer/songwriter. *Holy Smoke's* eclectic blend of songs pay homage to the artist's wide range of musical influences, from the '50s to the '70s, while at the same time retaining a fresh and original sound of their own. Gin twists her raspy vocals effortlessly around aspects of blues, soul, pop music and good old-fashioned rock and roll to create what is probably the hippest sound in the New Zealand mainstream today. *Holy Smoke* is a great introduction to an artist who will no doubt be around for years to come.

— JAMES BOUCHER



## 4 Freak Controller Salmonella Dub

**SYNONYMOUS** with summer in New Zealand, Kaikoura-based reggae-dub-roots outfit *Salmonella Dub* is back with a new album, *Freak Controller*. Released late last month, the album combines the talents of core quartet Andrew Penman (guitar), Pete Wood (guitar), Mark Tyler (bass) and David Deakins (drums) with various contributors, including Whirimako Black, The Mighty Asterix, Paddy Free, Ants and MC Mana. In its 7th studio album, *Salmonella Dub* has gone back to its roots, creating a driving, dynamic and live-feeling album that will have listeners dancing the summer nights away. Although peppered with familiar sounds, such as the band's signature bass, brass and percussion sounds, *Freak Controller* has a fresh energy that is good to hear. The varied contributions of the album's collaborators add to the varied, exciting feel of the music. The two-CD limited edition of the *Freak Controller* package contains a bonus disc, entitled *Outa Control*, featuring four tracks written with guest artists during the album's recording process.



## 5 Salsa Around The World Various artists

*SALSA Around The World* is a wonderful CD which is sure to get you grooving whether you know the right dance steps or not! The CD makes for great summer listening and would be the perfect background to a barbecue lunch or dinner with friends, or as after-dinner party music which is bound to get people on their feet. Salsa originated in the Caribbean, but the songs on this CD are testament to the global appeal of Latin music — there are tracks from a range of countries including Scotland, Japan, Finland and India, each retaining the elements of salsa but incorporating their own flavour as well. Salsa means "sauce", which appropriately describes its spicy style. So, why not spice things up a little this summer and introduce yourself to *Salsa Around The World*?

— HELEN SPEIRS