

## New music

### SOCA

#### Raw Soca

*Soca Rebels featuring Shirlaine Hendrickson (Soca Rebels, SRCD1)*



Soca (the beautiful music genre, not even in post-World Cup Brazil-five-time-champs euphoria to be confused with the beautiful game) is now apparently an international phenomenon. Spawned in tiny Trinidad during the 1970s, mixing calypso with generous influences from Dominican cadence, North American soul, East Indian and Tobagonian rhythms, it has become the carnival/party music of choice throughout the Caribbean, its diaspora and, as this CD proves, Norrköping, Sweden. Recorded live at Norrköping Carnival 2000, Raw Soca lives up to its name, showcasing Sweden's premier (and only) soca band, who acquit themselves well, incorporating steelpan and the obligatory soca brass section as well as idiosyncratic American West Coast lead guitar circa 1968. The album also features five tracks from Trinidad's young Calypso Queen Shirlaine Hendrickson, daughter of veteran calypsonian All Rounder. This may not be a classic but should certainly revive rave memories for those who jumped up, waved their hands and got on BAD at Norrköping's Y2K carnival. Eat your heart out, the rest of the world. (SL)