



### Jennifer Warnes *The Well* Impex

Jennifer Warnes? Some will know her from her seventies hit 'Right Time of the Night' while others will be more familiar with her duet with the Righteous Brothers' Bill Medley on 'The Time of My Life' from the film 'Dirty Dancing'. The cognoscenti will also know her from her critically acclaimed LP release, 'Famous Blue Raincoat', her album of Leonard Cohen songs.

This album, originally released in 2001, scores in three ways: as a creative project, sonically and as a piece of art. As a vehicle for her carefully crafted songs, 'The Well' is haunting, spiritual, lilting and innovative with a story to tell.

As an object in itself, the album is a work of beauty. Presented within a wooden box, custom made for the album, with updated artwork and a numbered brass plaque positioned on the front, the package contains the album which spans three discs and a 12-page, large format book that features lyrics, notes plus words of wisdom from Warnes herself on each and every track. You also receive a piece of art presented on a card with a pearlescent finish with an article on the flip side penned by Texas author, Brad Buccholz, about 'The Well'. The box set includes the original album

plus three bonus tracks: 'La Luna Brilla', 'Fool For the Look (In Your Eyes)' and a Bob Dylan cover of 'Born In Time'.

Sonically, the album has been mastered on an all valve-based system via Bernie Grundman, known for his long term work with the now defunct Classic Records record label. Mastered onto 45rpm discs, the album has that valve 'glow' that coats the music with a rich analogue warmth. A dynamic recording, the vinyl provides an appreciably low, powerful bass with detailed upper frequencies. Easily the best recording of the album out there.

### Gary Numan *80/81* Vinyl 180

Gary Numan was one of the pioneers of the synth pop revolution in the early eighties but has remained an icon throughout with alt-indie bands naming him as an influence during the nineties and, more recently, goth-flavoured industrial rock outfits utilising his more contemporary style as a scratching post. This new box set takes us back to those early, classic dark, clinical, robotic times, however.

Resplendent in a magnificent five disc boxed set, the contents include the album, 'Telekon' spread over two discs and the 'Living Ornaments '81' live album which has been

presented as a three disc set. Each of the discs has been packed within their own heavyweight sleeves with card inners. On a picky point, it would have been nice to have seen the records contained within soft plastic bags too to protect them from paper scratches.

Numan fans will be pleased to see that 'Telekon' has not only been remastered from the original analogue tapes but it is released for the first time as a double album, featuring the singles: 'We Are Glass' and 'I Die: You Die'. These singles initially failed to appear on their sister album because of budget cuts.

'Living Ornaments '81' has also been remastered. Recorded on the last night at Wembley Arena on 28 April 1981 and supposed to be, at least at that time, Numan's farewell to live performance, the songs feature many hits and classics from his early albums plus the then forthcoming single 'She's Got Claws' from the album 'Dance'.

Sonically, Vinyl 180's (vinyl180.com) the box set offers excellent dynamics with plenty of opportunities to hit the ear with brisk upper midrange synths and deep bass impact. Well mastered and pressed, the set offers both clarity and oodles of detail that will satisfy any Numan fan who has an eye for audiophile quality.

**PR**

