

Music Feature

Jennifer Warnes: *Famous Blue Raincoat*. Shout/Impex three 45rpm LPs and 24k Gold CD.

For *Famous Blue Raincoat* Jennifer Warnes set the stakes high, with arrangements that thoroughly re-imagined songs by Leonard Cohen. In her own words, “We took poetry put to simple music and reframed it in this extremely luxurious context.” Co-produced by Warnes and Roscoe Beck and mastered at Bernie Grundman Mastering, the 1987 release received instant praise from the audiophile community. This was, it seemed, one for the ages, so when bootleg CDs began to surface it was all the more annoying. Fortunately the audiophile reissues include Cisco’s 180 gram 45rpm 3-LP set (which Warnes describes as “shockingly perfect”) and the Cisco/Impex (still in print) 24-karat gold CD. Don’t overlook, however, the original LP, used copies of which can still be purchased for a modest sum. After all, that’s what all the fuss was about in the first place. **Jeff Wilson**

