

***dirty* impound**

Ron's Pick of the Week:

Larry Carlton & Robben Ford: *Unplugged* (335 Records, Inc.)

If you were to ask my guitar playing Uncle George who his two favorite pound-for-pound guitarists are, the man who essentially educated me on about 75-percent of the music I've listened to in my lifetime would most likely tell you Larry Carlton and Robben Ford. So the thought of these two titans of titanium strings coming together for an on-record jam session is just a mind-blowing notion for not only my dear uncle but anyone who has followed the careers of these legendary axes. Following up their previous union *Live in Tokyo* (2006), Carlton and Ford teamed up once again – this time in an all-acoustic setting – for a recent gig at the New Morning Jazz Club in Paris, France, the meat of which comprises this most excellent live set on Carlton's own 335 Records, Inc. imprint (released march 12). Backed up by famed French sidemen **Fifi Chayeb** (bass) and **Claude Salmieri** (drums), the two guitar masters intertwine their distinct jazz and blues styles in a veritable Master Class of a performance highlighted by such winning material as the seven-minute opening burner NM Blues 08, Ford's hard driving blues number *That Road*, a great version of Carlton's 1978 gem *Rio Samba*, and a supremely laid back cover of Screamin' Jay Hawkins' *I Put A Spell On You*. Hey Uncle, this one is definitely for you! (Ron Hart)

