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Leonard Cohen's Lonesome Heroes

America's Music Legacy: Country & Western/Rock 'N Roll/Rhythm &

Blues/Gospel

Michael Schenker Group: Live in Tokyo: 30th Anniversary

Eric Sardinas and Big Motor: Live

The covers of the DVDs in MVD's **America's Music Legacy** series are a tad misleading in that the photographs suggest a more archival approach to the classics of country, rock, R&B and Gospel than what's contained therein. That material was recorded between 1983 and 1985, in some cases two decades after the artists first laid down the original tracks.

If the singers had seen their better days a quarter-century ago – several continue to tour and produce fresh music today – the stories behind the songs are eternally young. Among the artists represented in the four newly released DVDs are Razzy Bailey, Patti Page, Moe Bandy, Jerry Lee Lewis and Ricky Skaggs from the country realm; rockers Bo Diddley, the Coasters, Chubby Checker, the Diamonds and Little Anthony; R&B greats Sam Moore, Sheer Delight, Brook Benton, Scatman Crothers and Mary Wells; and Gospel stars Mahalia Jackson, the Chambers Family, Linda Hopkins, Mel Carter, Andrae Crouch and the Winans. Each performer's artistic roots can be traced to earlier pioneers and cross-pollinated genres.

- Gary Dretzka