

# Hear and Now

WORLDLY TUNES YOU CAN TAP YOUR TOES TO

>> "... a cooler full of Euro chill-out tracks ..."



## VARIOUS ARTISTS

*Euro Groove*

### Putumayo

"Various artists" all too often translates to "Who?" The Putumayo Presents series, however, takes the worry out of the equation with carefully selected and well-sequenced sets. This cooler full of European chill-out tracks is a perfect summertime sampler that includes German group Jazzamor's "Nuit Magique" sung in French over a Latin rhythm, and England's Chumbawamba departing from its Anarcho-punk roots with a rendition of "Jacob's Ladder."



## MONSTER ISLAND

*Dream Tiger*

### Book Beat

Monster Island is made up of various band members who have been lurking in the Detroit underground — like Cary Loren from Destroy All Monsters and Matt Smith from the Volebeats and Outrageous Cherry. This reissue from 2001, sounds like the B-52s without the frenzy. Former Godzuki singer Erika Hoffman plays the quirky good witch on a few psychedelic folk-rock songs, all of which use ethnic (oud, sitar) and oddball (toy piano, water harp) instruments to conjure their otherworldly vibe.

## CACHAO DESCARGAS

*The Havana Sessions*

### Yemaya

The Montecristo and vintage Chevy are optional with this collection from noted Cuban musician Israel "Cachao" Lopez and his band. Think romantic streets of Havana as they were 50 years ago ... Bongos, congas, and timbales pair up with Cachao's riffing on the upright bass, creating a blend of Afro-Cuban rhythms that only increase in sensuality when they're joined by the flirty trumpet. Plan on closing out the evening in the bedroom after these rumbas, mambos and cha-chas.



## IN FLIGHT RADIO

*The Sound Inside*

### Last Broadcast

In Flight Radio is nothing like the rubbish you'll hear on an airplane radio system. This Brooklyn-based band has a sound reminiscent of the Cowboy Junkies or Coldplay: slow, seemingly earthbound songs that rely on a female lead vocalist to give gravity the slip — singer Peira takes off smoothly on every song.

