

Releases

To order any priced CD/DVD with free UK p&p, call the Observer Music Service on 0870 836 0713

POP | WORLD | JAZZ

Novalima

Coba Coba (Cumbancha)



Peruvian music isn't all Andean pan pipes. Novalima are a cosmopolitan, cutting-edge troupe whose blurring of their country's bitter racial divide, incorporating the music of "Afro-Peru", has created a stir. This third album is a polished fusion borrowing freely from folk, salsa, highbrow poetry and ghetto dancefloor. Sinuous, compulsive rhythms are at their heart, but the group stretch out into reggae (Puede Ser) and Afrobeat (Se Me Van) with a variety of vocalists, including a Cuban hip-hop duo. British producer Toni Economides adds a sheen of electro-modernism to a truly international affair. **NEIL SPENCER**