



THE ALBUM

REVIEW

BY DOMINIC AL-BADRI, JOHN POTTER & BRAD QUINN

Various Artists

Dirty Laundry: The Soul of Black Country (Trikont)



The influence of Afro-Americans on the development of country music has long been whitewashed by the American music establishment, and those who think black country begins and ends with Charley Pride need to think again. This splendid compilation clearly shows the link between the worlds of soul and country, and includes such gems as James Brown's "Your Cheating Heart," Betty Lavette's killer soul-jazz version of "What Condition My Condition Is In," Bobby Womack's "Bouquet of Roses" and even the Pointer Sisters' Grammy-winning, country classic "Fairy Tale." There's plenty of ore still in this mine, for sure.

DA-B