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PRODUCT EVALUATION TEAM PET Picks Prime CDs

By Tim Boxer

Daniel Cros: Las vueltas que da la vida is the fifth album by singer/composer Daniel Cros. The 12 songs identify with key moments in his career: percussion studies in Havana, songwriting studies in the U.S., and collaboration with Cuban musicians in Barcelona, where he makes his home. The album was released by his own label, Rosazul. When he first collaborated with Cuban musicians, he found it quite unsettling. It was "both enriching and exhausting because some of them have a chaotic, unpredictable way of behaving. But today things have settled down as I work with more organized and serious musicians." The result: solid soul-stirring sound. (*EarthSync*, \$9.99 at

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/album/las-vueltas-que-da-la-vida/id342664846>)



Laya Project is full of native music from the lands affected by the 2004 tsunami. The album was recorded over two years in folk communities in Thailand, Sri Lanka, the Maldives, India, Myanmar, Thailand and Indonesia. These are the heartfelt songs of ordinary people in remote villages who were happy to share their music with the world beyond. Very moving. (*EarthSync*, \$17.99 at <http://www.earthsync.com/store-in.asp?catalogid=24>)

