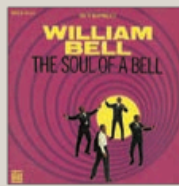


# a cellarful of soul

**MARK RAISON** discovers a treasure trove of vintage soul releases



**WILLIAM BELL** had been with Stax from '60 but it took until '67 before the label granted him an album, **The Soul Of A Bell** (★★★★, Stax/Speakers Corner LP). Spanning the intimacy of his

earliest songs, including the churchy prototype southern soul masterpiece 'You Don't Miss Your Water', to the echoey ballroom bounce of 'Eloise' and 'It's Happening All Over', the sequencing flows as naturally as a river. Pipe smoking Bell's unhurried elegance never made him one of soul music's more flamboyant stars but every household owning *Otis Blue* should have *The Soul Of A Bell* filed nearby.