



Byron music label in first Grammys win

A TOUCH of Cajun, a splash of Cuban and a sprinkling of Byron Bay passion have secured Australia's first Grammy for an independent music label.

Bluesfest director and the owner of Aim Records, Peter Noble, has been on cloud nine since one of his proudest artists, Terrance Simien, collected a Grammy for Best Zydeco or Cajun Music Album on Monday.

The win was Mr Noble's proudest achievement in more than 30 years as owner of the Byron Bay record label.

He said he learnt of the award on the Grammy internet site on Monday where he noticed the familiar name.

"I was really kicking myself when I found out (Simien) won. I wish I could've gone but if he hadn't won then I would've lost a week in preparing for the festival," said Mr Noble.

"I only released four CDs last year and two of the four were nominated."

Simien won the award for his 2007 album, *Live! Worldwide*, in the first Grammy category for Cajun and Zydeco music.

Aim Records was also nominated for a Best Tropical Latin Album Grammy for *Greetings From Havana* from Cubanismo.

Mr Noble spoke to Simien on Monday and said there was only 'laughter' at both ends.

"He was just ecstatic and he was just laughing on the phone," he said.

Mr Noble said Simien would likely be out in Australia next year for Bluesfest. He also said he would be the first one to rub the gold statue.



Byron Bay's AIM Records, owned by Peter Noble, had a surprise Grammys win with artist Terrance Simien