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**CRUSADERS RETURN TO JAZZ SCENE**  
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FOR EVERYONE IN THE BUSINESS OF MUSIC

# musicweek

## Burger departs Sony in global restructure

by Ajax Scott

Sony Music Europe chief Paul Burger has become the highest-profile international casualty of the major's ongoing restructuring with the news that he is to leave the company after 26 years.

Sony last week confirmed his departure alongside news that it is to shed around 1,000 jobs worldwide — around 10% of its workforce — as part of the strategic overhaul instituted by new worldwide chairman and CEO Andrew Luck. The changes, which look set to be the most extensive since Sony Corp purchased CBS in 1988 to create Sony Music, are expected to save around \$100m (£63m) annually.

Around 370 of the positions being cut are understood to be in the company's international operations outside the US, with a further 350 coming from the company's US head office and label operations and around 300 coming from manufacturing in the US and abroad.

Sony Music International president Rick Dobbin is expected to assume Burger's responsibilities as part of an expanded role. Prior to



**Burger: 26 years at Sony**

returning to the US, Dobbin built up considerable experience overseeing continental Europe for PolyGram before its purchase by Seagram. Beyond confirming Burger's departure no further details of any other changes in Europe had been revealed as Music Week went to press. In recent months there have been widespread rumours about the future of the London-based international marketing office and its possible relocation to New York.

One senior UK source says, "We haven't heard anything official. We're all just keeping our heads down and getting on with it." The UK company is expected to escape most of the cuts following a gradual

reduction in headcount over the past 18 months and a restructuring last year.

Burger joined the major, then CBS, in 1977 to work in sales and marketing at its Israeli affiliate. After spending time in the company's European regional office which was located in Paris at that time, he was appointed president of Sony Music Canada in 1989, where he played a key role in the development of Céline Dion's career.

He moved to London in 1993 to take up the post of chairman and CEO of the UK company, and was promoted to head Sony's European music division in October 2000. Among other changes expected to be confirmed in the US is the promotion of Columbia chief Donnie Ienner to oversee a consolidated Sony Music America. Working closely with him will be executive VP Michele Anthony while Will Botwin is expected to be promoted to take full control of Columbia and Epic president Polly Anthony will take over Epic following the expected retirement of label chief Dave Gletco.



Capitol is promoting "higher than ever visibility" for Radiohead (pictured) with extensive touring surrounding the release of their sixth album, the 14-track Nigel Godrich-produced *Hail To The Thief*. On June 9, *First Single There There*, which is delivered to radio in mid- to late April, will be released on May 26, accompanied by a partly animated video featuring Thom Yorke. Capitol Music UK president Keith Wozencroft says MTV specials and live concert footage are also in the pipeline. "We have the more traditional tools we have not had for while — the single, the video and a lot of visibility," says Wozencroft. "The band will be more visible than they have been for many years — the album works fantastically well and they are very keen to get out there." Radiohead, who opted for a far less traditional promotion for their last two albums, *Kid A* and *Amnesiac*, start a seven-date tour of the UK and Ireland in May in Dublin on May 17, followed by a series of key festival appearances in the UK and Europe.

## Zomba to retain own UK identity

BMG has confirmed that Zomba's record and publishing units in the US and UK are to remain as separate "independent" operations with their own identities under the integration plan finalised following the major's \$2.74bn (£1.75bn) buyout of the indie group at the end of last year.

Zomba Records UK managing director Steve Jenkins will now report to Jive/Silvertone US president Barry Weiss, who will in turn report to BMG chairman Rolf Schmidt-Holtz and COO Michael Smellie. The plan was confirmed as BMG unveiled a 10% decline in revenues to \$2.7bn (£1.95bn) for the year to the end of December.

Though some back-office functions will be consolidated in the UK and US, no senior management changes are expected there. In contrast, in the 19 other territories where BMG and Zomba both have offices, it is expected that most Zomba



**Aguilera: strong seller for BMG**

units will be assimilated into BMG. Pinacole managing director Tony Powell says that distribution will also remain unaffected in the UK, Germany or Benelux countries. "I have no knowledge of any changes," he says.

Meanwhile, BMG unveiled a 58% improvement in operating earnings before income, tax and amortisation (EBITA) of €125m (£86m) for the year on the back of strong sales by artists such as Christina Aguilera and Avril Lavigne.

## HMV shocked by Pryde's sudden departure

HMV is vowing it is firmly 'business as usual', despite being rocked by the sudden departure of Europe managing director David Pryde.

Staff are still coming to terms with the unexpected news that Pryde had resigned for what is being explained as "personal reasons". He had been with the company all his working career, having joined as a graduate trainee 18 years ago.

The company stresses his departure is "absolutely not business- or performance-related".

HMV, viewed as one of the most solid businesses within the UK music industry, moved immediately to plug the gap by replacing Pryde with Steve Knott, managing director of sister operation Waterstone's. Knott, who formally takes up the job on April 14, is a familiar face around the business, having previously spent nine years working at HMV in the UK and Germany.

HMV Group chief operations offi-



**Pryde: 18 years with HMV**

cer Brian McLaughlin, whom Pryde succeeded in the role at the beginning of 2001, says the board were "very shocked" when he told them the news last Monday.

"From a personal point of view my relationship with David goes back a long, long time so I feel very sad about it," he says. "In terms of what it means to HMV there will be a similar feeling because he's well known by so many people and there's no question about it, he made an enormous contribution to HMV."

Pryde's sudden exit will also prompt a rethink at retail association Bard, where he had been deputy chairman and was widely seen as a likely successor to Virgin Entertainment Group's Simon Wright when he steps down as chairman later this year. However, Bard director general Bob Lewis says the organisation will not be facing a GP-type scenario where a chairman cannot be found. "It's not a problem," he says.

McLaughlin, who will act as Waterstone's managing director until a replacement for Knott is found, says he was pleased that he could turn to someone so experienced to head the UK operation. "Steve will carry on the strategy that HMV has been pursuing for a number of years," he says. "David carried on from me and Steve carries on from him. Does this mean a change of direction in the business? Nothing could be further from the truth."

## newsfile

**HASSIVE ATTACK'S DEL NAJA CLEARED OF PORN ALLEGATIONS**  
Detectives dropped an internet porn inquiry into Massive Attack frontman Robert Del Naja (pictured) last week. Del Naja was arrested last month as part of Operation Ore, the crackdown on child porn. Avon & Somerset Police announced on March 21 that all enquiries relating to his arrest for internet pornography have now been dropped and no charges will be brought. At the time of his arrest, Del Naja strongly denied the allegations and asked people not to judge him prematurely.



**RADIO ONE COMMISSIONS SOMEHIN' ELSE FOR SIX WEEKLY SHOWS**  
Someh'in' Else is partially filling the gap left by Wise Buddha. Broadcast a demise last year after winning commissions for six weekly Radio One shows. The independent production company, which already produces the station's weekly Gilles Peterson programme, will from this week resume responsibility for The Brezbeek, The Essential Mix, The Radio One Rock Show, Fergie, Judge Jules and Seb Fontaine.

**MUSICIANS APPREASD BY BILL AMENDMENTS**  
Musicians were encouraged by another amendment to the Licensing Bill last week that will exempt plaintiffs or other performers from playing unadvertised gigs in places such as restaurants or hotel lobbies. The Second Reading of the Bill in the House of Commons last Tuesday saw culture secretary Tessa Jowell support a House of Lords motion to exempt incidental live music when it is not combined with other entertainment.

**MUSIC CHOICE EUROPE UNVEILS FINANCIAL RESULTS**  
Music Choice Europe's preliminary results for the year ended December 31, 2002 revealed an operating loss of £8.2m, compared with a loss of £15.3m the previous year. The digital audio broadcaster reported a 22% year-on-year increase in turnover for the year to £3.9m and claimed its subscriber base has grown by 27% to 1.4m. Newly installed CEO Margot Daly described 2002 as a "demanding year" for the company. Chief executive Simon Bazalgette and chief financial officer Jonathan Apps both left in February.

**POLYDOR TO RELEASE OST OF LLOYD WEBBER'S TELL ME ON A SUNDAY SHOW**  
Polydor is renewing its relationship with Andrew Lloyd Webber's Really Useful Records with the release (pictured) of a new recording of the musical Tell Me On A Sunday featuring Denise Van Outen in the starring role. The album will come out on April 14, the day before a new production of the musical opens at London's Gielgud Theatre.

**BOOSEY & HAWKES SAYS 'WEEKS' AWAY**  
Boosey & Hawkes could be sold "within weeks" after sealed bids for the group were tendered by High Court. Music Sales and EMI last week. There is expected to be a further round of due diligences, but Boosey chief executive Richard Holland says he is now actively considering "indicative offers" and discussions with potential bidders are entering their final stages.

**AIM AND RADIO ONE CONSULT INDIES OVER PLATINUM FEARS**  
Aim and Radio One are set to hold talks today (Monday) following protests from independent labels and pluggers about changes to the playlist system which they fear will reduce their access to mainstream producers. Aim CEO Alison Wenham and board member for media Guy Holmes were due to meet with Radio One's editor of music policy Alex Jones-Donely to clarify the latest changes.

## m w playlist

**THE CRIMINALS - White Russian Galaxy**  
A Double Dragon Anthology. Just one of many excellent songs already penned by these newcomers, who are already attracting interest from some of the best ears around (single, May 12)

**LEE CABERNA - Shake It (Creedence)** Among all the hype, this was one of the genuine gems in the Middle (single, 10c)

**ATHLETE: Vehicles & Animals (Parlophone)** A lovely collection of songs make up this strong debut (album, April 7)

**WAYNE WONDER - No Letting Go (VP/Atlantic)** This version of the diawl rhythm featuring one of Jamaica's best vocalists has been an anthem in the clubs for months (single, 10c)

**YEAH YEAH YEAHS: Cover To Tell (Polydam)** One album that could live up to the praise now given to it (album, April 23)

**PLANET FUNK: Non Zero Summer (Bustle/Loose)** This version of the diawl rhythm featuring one of Jamaica's best vocalists has been an anthem in the clubs for months (single, 10c)

**DON LETT'S PRESENTS: The Mighty Trojan Sound (Trojan)** Powerful truth through the vaults by the man who did more than most to turn a generation on to roots rockers (album, May 5)

**TINDERSTICKS: Don't Even Go There EP (Beggars Banquet)** Four wonderfully soulful songs from the ever-deadened 'Sixties (single, May 5)

**THE ROOTS - The Seed (Universal)** With vocalist Cody Chetru TT sounding spookily like Terence Trent of Arty, this will be boosted by their recent live shows (single, out this week)

**CERYL MATTHEWS: Cough In The Middle (Blanco Y Negro)** This upbeat swinger is the highlight from Matthews' self-written debut Cockroach (album, May 16)

## PPL rewards promotion to

PPL has promoted its director of member and performer services Clive Bishop in recognition of his success at reunifying performers with their money.

Bishop is taking on the newly-created job of director of operations at the collection society in a move which consolidates for the first time the distribution functions and the IT department. Bishop, who was handed the task of developing the **CastCo** project in 2001, says, "The operation is simple. We get money, work out who it belongs to and then pay it out. To make this process easier we are combining the functions."

The move means Bishop will now be in charge of around 50 people - 30 from the member and performer services department, and some 20 more from IT. Bishop has been instrumental in developing and launching **Royalties Reunited**, which has identified around 5,000 performers who are owed money for their

## Bishop with promotion to



Bishop: newly-created role part in performing on tracks.

"I want to look at all systems especially in the digital age because the emphasis has to be in getting money in and getting it out quickly," he says, adding that "several million pounds" still need to be distributed to performers who have not registered with PPL.

PPL chairman and CEO Fran Newkirk says Bishop's promotion is another plank in the changes he has introduced over the past two years. "I want our record company members and the performers to see how far we have come in reshaping the organisation," he adds.

## Commercial radio powers ahead in Sony Awards

## SONY RADIO AWARDS 2003 MUSIC CATEGORIES

The music programming award, daily sequences: **Five Star Kiss (Kiss 100)**; **Johnnie (Radio Three)**; **Mid Morning with Gideon Coe (GEMusic)**; **Music: Response (Xfm)**; **Jonathan Walker (Radio Two)**. The music programming award, single programme: **Dominic Monaghan - The Who Special (Virgin Radio)**; **Complicité Arts Centre**; **Classical Music With Stephen Fry (Classic FM)**; **Jonathan Ross (Radio Two)**; **The Selector (BBC5)**; **Virgin Superstars (Virgin Radio)**. The breakfast music award: **2CR FM's Morning Show (Radio 2)**; **Mary O'Connor (BBC Radio 2)**; **Chris Moyles (BBC Radio 1)**; **Special Award: Alex, England, Music: Arco Motown (BBC Wales)**; **Best Player Award (Radio One)**; **First Hand (BBC Wales)**; **Jack & Jill (May 10/12)**; **Mark Lennox (Radio 2)**; **Paul Gascoigne (Radio Two)**; **Tim Westwood (Radio One)**.

pleased for the station because we've always kept our faith in the specialist sector, in developing talent and we've got something back for it," he adds.

But against an improved commercial radio showing this year, BBC station Radio 2 continues to set the pace after grabbing six music nominations, although this is slightly down on last year. It is also shortlisted for UK station of the year, which it has won three out of the last four years. Competition here comes from Radio 4 and Classic FM.

Sister BBC station Radio One does a similar music nominations, including Tim Westwood for the music

broadcaster award. BBC digital station 6Music marks one year on air by being shortlisted as digital station of the year alongside Onward Radio and Saga Radio, while BBC digital services BBC7 and BBC Asian Network are challenging for the station award alongside Kiss, Real Radio and Xfm.

BBC Radio Ulster, May 10/13 and BBC Radio 4, May 10/13, are shortlisted for station of the year with a 1m plus audience, while BBC Radio Leeds, Lincs FM and Pirarte FM compete in the 300,000 to 1m category. The under 300,000 section has BBC Radio Forth, FM103 Horizon and Spire FM.

## Music and DVDs help to reposition Woolworths

Music and DVD products are playing a key role in efforts by Woolworths to reposition itself on the High Street following its demerger from Kingfisher two years ago.

For the year-ended February 1, the entertainment division, which includes distributor Entertainment UK plus the music operations of Woolworths and MCV, posted a 26% rise in pre-tax profits to £23.4m (£8.5m) on turnover up 30% to £1.3bn (£1.0bn). Overall, Woolworths returned pre-tax profits of £38.0m (compared with a £46.4m loss a year earlier) on sales up 6.5% to £2.7bn.

More specifically, MCV recorded like-for-like sales growth of 7.0%,



Izard: solid result while improving DVD sales helped UK increase sales by nearly 27%.

Richard Izard, Woolworths Entertainment commercial director and MCV managing director, says, "It's a solid result, and with the new team in place this year, it gives us a good springboard for next year."

Woolworths and MCV head of commercial Jim Batchelor adds that Woolworths may have previously underestimated the taste of its shoppers, but a broadening of the product range at stores has helped increase sales in recent months.

"Woolworths have always had a good heritage in pop, but now we are in R&B and nu-metal and kids are coming in to stock up on stuff by bands like Sum 41. I think we have done well at increasing availability and improving display," he says.

Batchelor adds that the move to merge the buying teams and other commercial functions of MCV and Woolworths while retaining their separate brands will save costs.

# Sky challenges Emap and MTV with new interactive channels

by Ajax Scott

Sky has both Emap Performance and MTV family in its sights as it prepares for the launch of its three music channels in two weeks' time.

The Murdoch-owned broadcaster's offering, which enables viewers to select videos from a pick list of 50 for each channel using text, telephone or the Sky Digital red button, appears to pose the strongest threat to Emap's video-based channels. However, it also significantly ups the ante in the broadcaster's ongoing negotiations with Viacom to reduce the fees it pays to carry the MTV family of channels on its platform.

Sky's music television head Lester Mordue, says the new channels – *Flame* (aimed at 15- to 16-year-old girls), *The Amp* (25- to 29-year-old males) and *Scuzz* (15- to 19-year-old males) – are expected to increase the overall audience for music TV by attracting viewers from

other lifestyle channels as well as rival music outlets.

However, he insists his channels, which will play around 12 videos per hour, with each promo interspersed with interstitials such as channel idents, cartoons, artist interviews or other short pieces of programming, will be different from what is currently on offer. "MTV is going with a lot of longer-form, half-hour shows than us and the other channels are back-to-back videos," he says.

Content partnerships are being secured with third parties including Xfm, which will provide content for *The Amp*. In addition to bringing the format of its Music:Response evening radio show to the TV screen six nights a week, the Capital-owned station will broadcast a Sunday afternoon chart weekly featuring 20 of the most popular songs voted by Xfm listeners and *The Amp* viewers.

Significantly, the new channels



Mordue: aiming for different service

will appear at the bottom of the menu of music channels available on the Sky Digital platform rather than leapfrogging above them – a move which would have provoked complaints from rivals about abuse of position. Instead, the channel is hoping to build profile by cross-promotion elsewhere on Sky as well as through external events such as Scuzz sponsoring a stage at Donnington.

Interactivity will be key to the new channels, with features ranging from selecting videos and sending messages on-screen to clicking

on everything from artist reviews and tour dates to make-up tips. With video selections charged at 50p per clip (25p less than Emap charges for its channels), this could provide a healthy revenue stream, although the broadcaster still expects to derive three-quarters of its revenue from advertising. Further down the line, it is looking at other opportunities such as branded compilation CDs and live events.

Details of the launch come as Emap Performance last week revealed that its digital TV advertising revenues jumped by 16.5% during the past year, albeit from what group chief executive Tim Schoonmaker admits is "a low base". These past 12 months have been the first since we've had all these services broadcasting for a whole year. The distribution increased substantially over the course of the year as we went onto NTL and Telewest," he says.

## mw comment DANCE IS DEAD – LONG LIVE DANCE



If dance is dead, then what is Room 5 doing at number one?

Yes, the track has been rocket-powered to the

top of the singles chart by the Lynx ad (ad agency BBH does it again), but it's success shows that there is life in the old dog yet. In classic style, the record was picked up by Positiva for a modest five-figure sum and is now set to crash up on the charts in Europe. More notably, it is the first house-style track (excluding the likes of So Solid and DJ Sammy) to top the chart since Roger Sanchez's Another Chance in July 2001.

Of course dance isn't dead. What has come crashing to earth with a bump is an over-extended dance industry that had lost touch with its roots. There are some excellent records around (even if few have Top 10 potential) and some healthy boutique labels, not to mention thousands of leaving bars and small clubs all over the country. A reality check can work wonders.

It's not every day you get talking to the girl on the supermarket checkout, but the one who was swiping my groceries last week happened to be singing along to Cheryl Crow's Anything But Down piped over the tannoy.

She couldn't talk long to mention that she now had her own copy after finding it on KaZA. And no, she had no plans to buy a (legal) copy since she could burn it onto a CD at the college she attends part-time.

This was a particularly timely reminder of the predicament in which the business finds itself in the week when the BPI wrote to universities asking them to help stop illegal downloading.

My checkout friend clearly liked her music, and had gone to the effort of tracking down a song that was five years old. Blocking her from downloading any of her other favourites will doubtless reinforce her already negative perceptions of the fat cats running the record industry. More significantly, it could also lose the industry a potential music consumer who is simply not in the habit of going into record shops.

It is a tricky balance to strike. The request to universities that they help prevent students from using college networks to download illegal files is a sensible one. But it will inevitably provoke a backlash from an important group of consumers. Moreover, as Julie Anstruther's like KaZA are fantastic tools for enabling fans to discover music.

Ultimately the only solution to the problem is coming up with legal, user-friendly alternatives to the likes of Progress so far has been agonisingly slow. Only if it speeds up will it be possible to continue tapping into the enthusiasm of music fans like the girl in the supermarket. Otherwise she will just move on to other forms of entertainment. Ajax Scott  
ajax@musweek.com

Influent clothes designer Fee Doran aka Mrs Jones, who styled Kylie Minogue's iconic Can't Get You Out of My Head video, has lent her support to the campaign for Mute Records ad Goldfrapp's (pictured) forthcoming single Train. The video for the single, which is released on April 14, was featured heavily in her autumn and winter 2003 collection show, which took place in London last week. Doran was the stylist on the video shoot, and also made the clothes and accessories, many of which were included in the show. Train is the introductory single from Goldfrapp's second album *Black Cherry*, which is due for release on April 28. The single is B-listed at Radio One and Xfm, where it is Zoe Ball's single of the week. Goldfrapp will support the release of *Black Cherry* with a UK tour, which starts in Birmingham on May 18.



## Exclusive cuts drive pot for War Child charity CD

The music industry's response to the war in Iraq resulted in the *War Child* (Monday) when plugging out! The Partnership services the humanitarian record Hope to TV and radio stations across the country.

The effort to help raise a target £1m for War Child to aid the children of war-torn Iraq started in earnest last Thursday morning when a meeting was called to finalise the track listing for *Hope* (see box) and artwork from four ideas submitted by graphic designer Nick Robinson. Later in the day the album was set for cutting at Sony Music Studios in central London.

Jason Guy, brought in at short notice by WEA London managing director John Reid to handle marketing, says Monday is a key day for *Hope* because the plugging team will present the record to radio stations, including Radio One. It will be released on April 21, not April 14 as previously planned. "There's some huge names on the record, from

### TRACK LISTING

Travis – The Beautiful Occupation;  
Avril Lavigne – Knockin' On Heaven's Door; Sir Paul McCartney – Calico Skies; David Bowie – Everyone Says Hi; George Michael – The Grove; Ronan Keating – In the Ghetto; Lee Ryan of Blue – Stand Up As People; Beverley Knight – Love's In Need Of Love Today; Moby – Nearest; New Order – Vietnam; Basement Jaxx and Yellowman – Love Is The Answer; Spiritualized – Hold On; The Charlatans – We Go To Have Peace; Beth Orton – O-H Child; Tom McEwan – Border; Song Bitts Brazil – The Wolf Covers Its Tracks; Yusuf Islam – Covers Train

newer acts such as Avril Lavigne to David Bowie, and they have all written exclusive tracks for it so this is something people are going to want to hear and buy," he adds.

## BPI urges universities to block illegal online music downloads

The record industry took its fight against piracy to the doors of universities this week, contacting hundreds of academic institutions with guidelines on how to "avoid the risks" of copyright theft on their computer networks.

The BPI issued letters on behalf of the IFFI warning of injunctions, damages, costs and possible criminal sanctions\* against institutions and their heads where systems are used for illegal downloading of music. The guide also warns the practice exposes systems to viruses and jams internet bandwidth.

BPI executive chairman Peter Jamieson says, "This guide underlines the problems of copyright abuse in the academic environment and explains why it is in the interests of colleges and universities to protect their computer systems." Universities & Colleges Information Systems Association's executive secretary Martin Price says his organisation will be seeking a

## Publishers in dispute over Spirit In The Sky

A dispute has broken out over the biggest-selling single of the year to date with both Warner/Chappell and Westminister Music claiming they own the publishing rights to Gareth Gates' remake of Spirit In The Sky.

The track, which was a chart-topper for its writer Norman Greenbaum in 1970 and for Doctor And The Medics in 1986, reached number one last month for Gates featuring The Kamas.

*Spirit In The Sky* was originally published by US company Great Honesty but Westminister Music says it has administered the rights for the song since the early Seventies. However, Warner/Chappell argues that it administers the copyright under a deal it struck with Great Honesty.



Jamieson: move in colleges' interest meeting with the BPI and vice chancellors organisation Universities UK.

"Most universities already have pretty strict rules guiding users of their IT services," says Price. "But we don't want to take on the role of policing what happens on the internet – that's impossible to do."

Meanwhile, the UK record industry hailed a declaration by five MEPs on piracy and counterfeiting in the European Union as an "Incredibly Important" step in coordinating a united approach to fighting the crime.

# Nashville provides creative spark for Matthews' post-Catania debut set

by Martin Talbot

Of the many talents which emerged from the Brit-guitar fever of the Nineties, few were so warmly embraced by the British public as Cerys Matthews.

And, chances are, few will produce as personal and affecting a record as the first solo album from Matthews, *Cookahoop*, which arrives on May 19 this year.

Two years after recording the last Catania studio album, Matthews' debut is also something of a surprise. Recorded in Nashville, with Bob Dylan's slide guitarist Buckley Baxter as producer, the album spans the range from folk, country, pop and, even, Welsh hymns.

As her A&R man for more than a decade, Blanco Y Negro founder and managing director Geoff Travis, acknowledges, the driving force behind this dramatic change in direction was Matthews herself.

After writing with Graham Gouldman, Matthews joined the 10cc legend at a songwriting retreat in Nashville a year ago. Sampling the taste of Nashville, she co-called Baxter — of whom she was aware as a slide guitar collaborator of Bob Dylan, Steve Earle and Ryan Adams — last June, and turned up at his studio, in the mountains outside Nashville, a day later.

"I knew Buckley had been working with Ryan Adams," says Matthews. "I was looking for someone who was going to help get me started. I want-



Matthews: turns to folk and country for new album

ed the album to be recorded as live."

Set up in a log cabin with no running water, she was set to work writing songs. Soon, her original plan to record an album of traditional folk songs — from a list of 76 she had compiled — was jettisoned as Matthews' confidence built amid the peace and tranquility of Tennessee.

"The A&R itself was very much between Cerys and Buckley," says Travis. "Bucky takes a great deal of credit. He encouraged her that her own songs were great. Cerys has always been a great writer, but it's all

about the confidence.

"Now, the album is about 70% written by her. Her own pop instincts have come through."

Matthews, who is currently unpublished after Catania's previous deal with Sony/ATV expired, recalls: "After I left the band, I went back to songs I had been collecting over the years. But when I was bringing out these traditional folk songs, Bucky turned to me and said, 'It's up to you. You can do these songs, but if you want to keep doing this, you want to keep writing.' He totally

## COOKAHOOP CREDITS

**A&R:** Geoff Travis, Jeanette Lee (Blanco Y Negro)

**Key songwriters:** Matthews, Roger Cook, Hugh Cornwell, Fred Ball, Hadrian Gerrard, Kotchum Secor, Rennie Sparks, Lewis Harrison (1872), Buckley Baxter, Antony Genn, James Stallard, Martin Slattery, Joe Strummer

**Musicians (selection):** Buckley Baxter, Ken Coomer, Eric Darken, Jim Hoks, Glenn Wolf, Lloyd Green, Byron House, Richard Bennett

**Producer:** Buckley Baxter. **Recorded and mixed:** Chad Brown at Three Trees Studio, Tennessee

**Mastered:** Andrew Mendelson, Georgetown Masters, Nashville, Tennessee

encouraged me to do that."

As it turns out, the record's stand-out moments are Matthews' compositions, including the affecting *Caught In The Middle*, *The Good In Goodbye* and *Only A Fool* — splendid songs sung in Matthews' fractured, fragile, vocals which seem early at home within the country-folk arrangements fashioned by Baxter.

The team of musicians brought together by Baxter were crucial in creating such an authentic Tennessee sound. "The musicians playing on the record make me band," enthuses

Travis. "There was a real buzz about this record."

The record has the deep potential to, at the very least, reinvent Matthews. Travis refuses to think beyond this. "Our expectations are always just to try and help people make brilliant records," he says. "Anything is possible. It is something that we love and that's very exciting. It is chapter two."

Matthews prefers not to dwell on the past, although she does acknowledge how her life has turned around following an "amazing year."

"After the band, I was in two minds as to whether I wanted to perform and do music in this sort of arena. I wasn't sure about how I should proceed. Doing it, getting involved in releasing records is not all about making music."

Clearly preferring to leave some details private, she confirms murmurs that the phone calls of encouragement included one from Bob Dylan, who she had met at Cardiff Arena last year.

Certainly, Travis is confident of Matthews' ability to deal with the acclaim and profile which could return with this new record, as she lives a new life near Nashville, following her marriage in February this year to American filmmaker Sam Fiddle.

"I think of Jarvis Cocker and Cerys Matthews in the same bracket," he says. "She touches a chord in the public imagination. People love her. We don't have many artists like her."

# Success not too complicated for The Matrix

by James Roberts

As the creators of all of Avril Lavigne's hits to date — *Complicated*, *Sk8er Boi* and new single *I'm With You* (released this week) — the two-thirds British writing and production team *The Matrix* are quickly finding themselves thrust into a new world where artists from all over the world are knocking on their door wanting to work with them.

But having struggled as songwriters and performers for more than 12 years, no-one can accuse *The Matrix* of being an overnight success story.

"It does take a while getting used to success," says Lauren Christy, a British musician who now resides in Los Angeles, who is *The Matrix*'s song with her Scottish husband Graham Edwards and St Louis-born musician Scott Spock. "It's strange finding ourselves in meetings with record companies. We like to remember that we don't have to keep trying to convince them about what we can do."

Before the decision to become full-time writers, Spock and Edwards played together in a band called *OldHead*, while Christy pursued her solo career. "Then I got to that point in my life when I realised the chances of actually making it as a performer were quite small," admits Christy. "That was around four years ago, when I was decided to change the focus to penning tracks for other people. One of the



The Matrix: after penning Avril Lavigne's hits, Edwards (l), Spock and Christy (r) are lining up work in the UK

first songs created after that point was *This Year*, which went on to be recorded by Christina Aguilera on her Christmas album.

One of their next projects was a handful of songs for *Bonan Hearing*, which were released as *Singles*. *The Matrix*'s contributions for both artists, and others, were not singles in their own right, but the trio — who are managed by Los Angeles-based producer manager Nancy Robertson at World's End Productions — noticed things changing around them. "The fact that our showee had names of that calibre on it started opening more doors for us," says Edwards.

Their new path eventually led

them to the door of Arista Records, which introduced them to Avril Lavigne, who was sounding very different back then to how she does now. "She had those two styles going on," says Edwards. "One was a country *Farm* hillbilly sound and the other was thrash metal, neither of which really worked." After meeting the teenager, the trio began to form the songs that would go on to drive one of the biggest-selling albums of recent years, *Let Go*.

"When she came to us it was just one of many things we were working on. We never knew it was going to be the one that would really take off," says Christy.

Despite the success of the songs, the *Matrix/Lavigne* relationship is currently a delicate one. In the March edition of *Rolling Stone*, Lavigne was quoted as claiming it took her "maybe two hours" to write *Complicated*, yet Christy says, "Avril would come in, sing a few melodies and change a word here or there." Although the split of the songwriting is legally clear — it is split *two ways* between Christy, Edwards, Spock and Lavigne — the team feels Lavigne is trying to pull her own state her writing pen far her own state. "We have all our own writing sessions on tape, so we know exactly who did what," says Christy. Although the situation means the

two parties are unlikely to work together on the follow-up to *Let Go*, *The Matrix* have plenty of work to keep them busy. In fact, they are already talking to Robbie Williams about his new material and are due to take a break from their LA studio to set up residence at London's Sphere studios later this month to work with *Busted*, *Sophia Ellis Bexter* and *Sugababes*. "It was always my goal to come back to the UK to work with artists on this level," says Christy.

"But the trio have plenty to keep them busy until they arrive in the UK. They are currently finishing a number of tracks for *Britney Spears*' forthcoming album. In addition, Junsu will see the release of Liz Phair's new album, on which *The Matrix* have worked on five tracks. Ricky Martin's next album has also received *The Matrix* production status and is to be scheduled soon.

But all these projects do not mean that other business has been forgotten about. The trio are working equally hard on setting up their own publishing company, World Matrix, which will be administered through their current publisher BMG. Australian duo *Wizard Of Oz* are among the first signings to the venture. This is clearly something that Christy feels passionate about.

"It means we can introduce the next generation of writers and producers, which really means something to me to help others achieve success," she says.

# Simply Red and Universal sign deal for activity beyond Europe

By Paul Williams

SimplyRed is plotting the rollout of its mould-breaking project beyond Europe after inking a licensing deal with Universal Music International.

The self-financed Simply Red album *Home*, which bypasses the usual route of an artist signing to a record company, last week hit stores across the continent in a release strategy mainly utilising a network of independent labels used by Ministry of Sound Germany.

The linkup there followed the success Ministry had previously enjoyed through a similarly structured set-up for local artist Koxo Neko, which resulted in him selling more than 600,000 copies of his double album in Germany alone.

From there former Warner Music Europe marketing director Rainer Focke brought in to the Simply Red project's international consultant, and Mick Hucknall's co-manager Ian Grenfell then travelled around Europe last November looking at potential



Hucknall: focus now outside Europe label partners, although they mainly opted for the ones Ministry was already working with.

The beauty of the concept was that we were able to handpick our strategic partners in local territories, always with a view that we wanted to retain our copyrights on this project. What we were doing was giving them the distribution and marketing and it's a short-term agreement but we keep full control," says Focke.

"However, attention now is also turning to outside Europe following the

striking of a deal with Universal to handle the project in Australasia, Latin America and South East Asia. Universal is also the major wish-in-Europe involved in the project, last week issuing the album in France.

Focke says talks are now underway between Universal and SimplyRed.com about plans to promote and release the album outside Europe. The push here will follow a three-week European tour that begins on May 11.

"Universal are definitely getting plans together for Mick [Hucknall] to travel outside of Europe and this week we're meeting up with their Latin American head of marketing about what we can do because Brazil and Mexico have traditionally been strong markets for Mick," says Focke.

Ahead of its release elsewhere, the album on the continent appears to be matching its strong start in the UK where yesterday (Sunday) it was expected to debut inside the top

three. The leadoff track Sunrise has already become a big sales and airplay hit in a number of territories, including topping Italian radio's countdown, reaching three in the equivalent Spanish chart and going Top 10 in the Netherlands. It also debuted in the German sales Top 20 after one week's release.

Focke says having a strong radio single was the first key to succeeding with this project. "As we connected to radio we looked at TV appearances. You have to have an artist visible in the market, especially after a bit of an absence. And, as we went along, press interviews were added," he says.

The US remains a consideration for the album, even though Simply Red's profile there has sharply declined since the heyday of the Eighties when they twice topped the *Billboard* Hot 100. Focke says SimplyRed.com is in "loose talks" about a Stateside set-up but adds the US "was never the main priority".

## US Chartfile SALES DECLINE BY 15% ACROSS US

Retailers across the US reported a slump in business last week as the Iraq war got under way, and the record industry was hit as hard as any, with sales of the Top 200 albums sliding by 2.5% week-on-week. Even 50 Cent's *Get Rich Or Die Tryin'* was not immune to the downturn but, with sales of 234,000, it tops the chart for the fifth time in a seven-week chart career, while gliding past the 3.5m sales mark. Norah Jones remains runner-up with *Come Away With Me* selling a further 175,000 copies to take its cumulative total to nearly 5M.

There was little appetite for new music, with just two new entries in the Top 50 — rockers (Hed) Planet Earth (pictured) entering at number 33 with *Blackout* and the veteran Alvin Ailes posting a number 37 debut with the latest disc, *Hittin' The Note*. The chart's most notable climber is the soundtrack to Eminem's movie 8 Mile, which sells prints 29-10 with a 53% spike in sales generated by the publicity surrounding the movie's DVD release.



Friday continues to prosper, with *A Rush Of Blood To The Head* selling a further 45,000 copies at it climbs 15-14. Their single *Clocks* hits another high on the Hot 100, where it improves 44-42.

Danial Bedingfield (pictured) returns to both the singles and albums charts. His latest single *If You're Not The One* debuts on the Hot 100 at number 55. That easily beats the number 77 debut of his only previous US hit *Gotta Get Thru This*, which eventually reached number 20, and sparks a revival in sales of his album, also titled *Gotta Get Thru This*. The album debuted and peaked at number 41 last September, but has been absent from the chart since November. It re-enters this week at number 153, with sales of just under 6,500 taking its overall tally to 222,000.

Former Brits School pupils *Floetry* also close the file, with their single *Say It's Moving* 72-64 on the Hot 100, while their Fleetie album improves 85-72. It could bring its total sales to date last week to nearly 15,500 copies to 311,000.

Finally, the Dixie Chicks are really beginning to suffer from Natalie Maines' anti-Bush rant ("Just so you know, we're ashamed the President lives in the United States from Texas") as the Iraq war ignites another wave of patriotism. The group's *Home* album dips 4-7 this week, with a 42% dip in sales. In the Hot 200, *Landslide* has tumbled 73-10-43 in the past fortnight, while the follow-up *Travelin' Soldier* has dipped 25-52-97. On the Country singles chart *Travelin' Soldier* has fared even worse. Number one a fortnight ago, it has now fallen out of the chart.

Alan Jones

## US majors turn on to UK act Virginia

Unsigned UK band Virginia have sparked the attention of two major Stateside labels on the back of growing interest for their single *Carry Me Home* at US radio.

The trio, whose debut album, *Virginia*, was issued on online label Warmfuzz, have seen their latest track playlisted by the adult contemporary network FMQB, which has 250 radio stations. The track has climbed 40-37-31 on the network's adult contemporary chart following around 925 spins across the US.

Warmfuzz founder Ian Shaw says, "It is classic adult contemporary. It is just good music and A/C is still an important market in the US."



## Gut secures deal to handle Tommy Boy in UK & Ireland

Gut Records has signed a second deal with a US label after agreeing to handle Tommy Boy's releases in the UK and Ireland.

Under the deal, Gut — which at the end of last year joined forces with US-based Artistdirect to look after UK distribution and administration for its label Music — will be responsible for marketing, synchronising and distribution (via *Intactco*) for Tommy Boy.

The deal reunites Tommy Boy founder Tom Silverman and Gut chairman Guy Holmes, who handled releases from the US label in the Eighties as part of a licensing deal when he was Island's head of promotions.

"It's about people working with a common interest at the end of the day, which is about putting out good music and doing it in an interesting way," says Holmes.

He adds that Silverman, whose revival of the Tommy Boy name follows Warner taking full control of the label's catalogue last year, has put together a "warmed roster" under the new operation. Its first UK release will

## Graham departs London office for fresh BMI role in New York

BMI London office chief Phil Graham is leaving the UK after 17 years following his elevation at the performing rights group to a newly-created job in New York.

Graham is one of two senior executives being moved up at BMI following last year's elevation of Del Bryant to become executive vice president.

Bryant's move last November created two new posts in the US, which are being split between Graham and Ron Soloveid. Graham, who has most recently European writer/publisher relations VP, will become senior writer/publisher relations VP. He will direct and oversee the writer and publisher activities in BMI's seven offices.

Graham, who will take up the new post in the summer, says that he will continue to oversee the London office, though executive writer/publisher relations Brandon Bakshi will take on more responsibility for day-to-day issues. "At the end of the day no-one is replacing me. The new job is a great challenge and great

## Graham departs London office for fresh BMI role in New York



Graham: taking up post in summer opportunity," he adds.

BMI president and CEO Frances Preston says, "Phil will bring to his new position a talent to make and retain relationships with our writers and publishers."

At the same time Ron Soloveid is being promoted to senior VP international after only eight months in the organisation.

In his new position, Soloveid, a 30-year industry veteran who was most recently VP of international at BMG Music Publishing, will oversee all of BMI's international activities, particularly the company's relationship with foreign performing rights organisations.



Holmes: varied Tommy Boy roster

be Miami dance producers Murk's club tune *Allight*, to be followed by an album later this year, while there will also be albums from Disco D, FannyPack, Kristine W, Faith Trent and Malcolm McLaren plus the third *Queer As Folk* soundtrack.

The Gut deal is the first of a series of European distribution tie-ups that Tommy Boy is looking to put in place, while it has centralised its manufacturing in Germany via *Optimal*. Meanwhile, Holmes says Gut aims to have a third label deal in place by the end of the year, although this time with a UK or mainland European company.

CLASSICAL news

by Andrew Stewart

SONY TARGETS CROSSOVER FOR MULLIGAN

Simon Mulligan, who can list such luminaries of the classical music world as Yehudi Menuhin, Alexis Weissenberg and Lynn Harrell among his mentors, could be on the verge of a successful crossover career with the release of his debut solo album under Sony Classical's UK imprint. Mulligan's (pictured) Piano rolls out on April 7, its contents reflecting the breadth of the musician's tastes and enduring desire to break down conventional genre boundaries.



The opening track recalls the British artist's collaboration with leading Hollywood composer Michael Kamen on the Band Of Brothers OST. Other tracks include the Aria from Johann Sebastian Bach's Goldberg Variations, Mulligan arrangements of Eric Clapton's Tears in Heaven, Sting's Fragile, the slow movement from Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata, such keyboard favourites as Debussy's Clair de Lune and Chopin's Nocturne In E-flat Major, and the Andante from Shostakovich's Second Piano Concerto.

"Some of the repertoire ideas have been in my mind for years, while others were added as snap decisions," says Mulligan. "For example, I decided to add a string part to Walton's Touch Her Soft Lips And Part from Henry V, which has just a great series of chords. I see no reason why that shouldn't appear in a different guise for piano and strings." Mulligan adds that the final selection of tracks was influenced by their common ability to touch and move an audience.

"I think I have a good feel for the type of music people like to hear," he says, "and my recital programmes have always reflected a breadth of styles. I love looking

at neglected works by familiar composers and interesting pieces by neglected composers, which most pianists ignore completely. Audiences like to be engaged with what they're hearing, so I regularly blur the edges between classical, jazz and other types of music."

Piano is backed by a Classic FM radio campaign together with press advertising in the Guardian, Independent, Observer, Financial Times, BBC Music Magazine, Classic FM Magazine and Gramophone. The title will also benefit from an extensive online campaign and press features in the Sunday Express, Sunday Times and specialist classical titles.

CLASSICAL BRITS SCHEDULED FOR MAY

Although this year's Classical Brit Awards have yet to secure a corporate sponsor, the annual event appears well placed to deliver a strong show at the Royal Albert Hall on May 22.

Universal acts Andrea Bocelli and Bryn Terfel have confirmed that they will perform, while ITN's Katie Derham has agreed once again to serve as host for the gala evening. The show will be televised on the ITV network on June 1 with highlights broadcast live on Classic FM. Classical guitarist Dominic Miller, long-time collaborator with Sting, is also on the bill.

Classical Brit Awards chairman Rob Dickens remains upbeat about the event he created in 2000. "The Classical Brit Awards have become one of the most important events in the classical music calendar, attracting the crème de la crème of classical music world," he says.

Andrew Stewart  
(AndrewStewart1@compuserve.com)

ALBUM of the week



RUTTER: Requiem; Arise, Shine; Come Down, O Love Divine; Musica Del Donum; Two Blessings; Two Organ Pieces. Choir of Clare College, Cambridge/Brown



Naxos appears set for strong sales with the release of this disc of familiar and recent works by master tunesmith John Rutter. The budget label's parent company Select did excellent business last year as distributor of a compilation of Christmas carols drawn from the catalogue of a composer's own imprint, Collegium. With the backing of a Gramophone Editor's Choice listing, a national poster campaign, full-page ads in the May Issues of Gramophone, BBC Music Magazine and Classic FM Magazine, and related PR, this disc could well match the six-figure sales routinely generated by Rutter releases.

REVIEWS

For records released up to 14 April 2003

**PONCHIELLI:** La Gioconda, Domingo, Urmana; Munich Radio Orchestra/Victi (EMI Classics 5 07453 2 (3CD)). Hamilcare Ponchielli's opera has served as an impressive vehicle for the great divas of the recording age, not least Maria Callas, while all too often falling flat in performance on disc. This new recording from EMI Classics may not have all the answers to the opera's dramatic twists and turns, but it does score over most of its rivals thanks to admirable casting and thrilling sound. Plácido Domingo here makes his first studio recording of the role of Eric, greatly adding to the three-disc set's marketability.

**GERMAN: Welsh Rhospody; Coronation March and Hymn; Three Dances from Neil Gwyn, etc.** Band of the Welsh Guards/Shannon. Specialist Recording Company SRC 104). Impressions of a lost age of Empire, unshadowed by the First World War's destruction, are strongly present in this

attractive compilation of arrangements and pieces for military band by Edward German, one of the most popular composers to emerge in the late Victorian period. The Band of the Welsh Guards, on fine form throughout, touch the heart with an impassioned reading of German's Welsh Rhospody.

**HANDEL: Rinaldo, Freiberger Barockorchester/Jacobs (Harmonia Mundi HMC 901798.98 (3CD)).** Recorded last

August following performances in Innsbruck and elsewhere, this Rinaldo comes fresh from the stage to the recording studio and registers a thrilling impact as a result. René Jacobs encourages his young cast to heighten the opera's emotional temperature and introduce improvised trills and graces to the musical mix. US counter-scholar Lawrence Zazzo, a former choral scholar at King's College, Cambridge, stamps his mark on the role of Guffredo, while Vivica Genaux shapes a moving interpretation in the title role. The album's UK release is supported by ads in Gramophone and BBC Music Magazine.



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# SINGLE

## of the week

**BLUR:** Out Of Time (Parlophone CDR6606). Blur's post-Coxon/Gorillaz material has

been the subject of much speculation of late, but wisely they have opted for a concise, fluid ballad which capitalises on Damon Albarn's knack for writing memorable singles. A satisfying whiff of experimentation greets this single, which will neatly set the stall for their album *Think Tank*, released on May 5. Radios One and Two have added it to their playlists, and the poignant video is generating TV exposure.



# ALBUM

## of the week

**RUN-DMC:** Greatest Hits (Arista 74321986002). Delayed due to the



untimely death of **Jim Master Jay**, this best of from the Queens rap acts shows their pioneering place in hip-hop history. Breaking into the mainstream with *Raising Hell*, they have continued to score hits thanks to remixers like Jason Nevins and Jackin' Lee. All these are included here, along with many of their best-known cuts, highlighting their unique rhyming style and sparse yet hard-hitting beats.



## SINGLE reviews



**MADONNA:** *American Life* (Maverick/Warner 9362426142). "This type of modern life is not for me," sings Madonna on this first single from her new album of the same name. Production from Music Man Mirwais cleverly blends stuttering digital sounds with acoustic guitar and a radio-friendly chorus. Interest will be high and the track is

Asisted at Radio One, but whether the brooding will warm to the superstar's whingeing lyrics is open to question.

**MAFFIA:** *All Over* (Independent 50109MS). The shinning lights from the So Solid Crew arrives in solo mode with a single that makes little compromise to pop trends. Mafia has gone to her core audience with a UK garage track boasting great hooks and strong production.

**WEA WEAS66CD15.** Irish boy band D-Side have already been whipping teenage fans into a frenzy after scooping the best new act tour slot on the Smash Hits tour last year. They now deliver a slick, uptempo pop number for their debut single — written by the team behind S Club's "Don't Stop Movin'" — which topped The Box chart last week.

**ANDREA DORIA:** *Bucci Bag* (Southern Fried EC838CD5). Norman Cook's label Southern Fried has won the A&R race to sign this slice of electro-house. With a camp vocal based around designer brands and a massive drum roll, its across-the-board club appeal will be boosted by a bass-heavy remix from Playgroup's Trevor Jackson.

**ROBBIE WILLIAMS:** *Come Undone* (Chrysalis CDCH55151). Feel's failure to hit number one was identified by some as the beginning of the end for Robbie, and then Escapology promptly sold more copies in five weeks than any other record managed all year. It is hard to sell singles when everyone has already bought your album, and accordingly Come Undone's chart prospects are somewhat academic. Radio will be unable to refuse (it is Assisted at Radio One), and the controversial video will do no harm to the song's profile.

**FLOETRY:** *Floetic* (Dreamworks/Polydor 4507752). These two Brit school albums, which have written for Grammy, release their first single from their Jammy-nominated debut album, which has already been in the top 20 in the US. Their beats are wonderfully lazy and their lyrics are articulate, but they may be too smooth for mainstream UK tastes.

**AALIYAH:** *Don't Know What To Tell Ya* (Blackground/Independent 501073MS). Taken from the greatest hits album I Care 4 U, this sounds a bit like work in progress. That said, it is still head and shoulders above most other R&B releases out there, and is Blasted at Radio One.

Timbaland, as ever, supplies the edgy production and Aaliyah's voice just serves to remind us all that the world has lost. **MALACHI:** *Just Say You Love Me* (Mercury 0779072). The Fame Academy line-up's vocal quality is firmly in evidence on this ballad from his debut album.

Unfortunately, the song is bland and burdened with over-slick production. His album (released on April 28) contains a range of covers from U2 to Van Morrison. **LIONEL RICHIE FEAT. ENRIQUE IZQUIERDA:** *To Love A Woman* (Mercury 7790822). This potentially lucrative collaboration between two generations of love gods falls far short of its A-list billing. A meandering MOR offering with more than a nod to Etton and Prince's recent hit, *To Love A Woman* is C-listed at Radio Two but is unlikely to return them to their chart-topping form.

**INTERPOL:** *Say Hello To The Angels* (NME/Matador 00104). This double A-sided single is the second via Matador, and includes two standout tracks from the NY-based act's critically-acclaimed debut album *Turn On The Bright Lights*. Whether it is their gifted vocal voices or tight guitar/keyboards/drums regime, this dapper three-piece stand out from the crowd right now and deliver rich rewards.

**PLUMMET:** *Damaged* (Serious/Mercury 0772782). A well-produced yet ultimately formulaic pop/rance offering, Damaged was extended exposure on the UK's dance radio shows, as well as a healthy WM Club Chart placing and an Assisted on Radio One — sufficient exposure to ensure a Top 10 hit for this Miami-based producer.

**VENUS HUI:** *Big Beautiful Sky* (BMG VHM0009). Hailing from Nashville and topped more by some quarters of the industry, Venus Hui's wide-eyed take on electro-pop is more reminiscent of early Nineties rave than the future of dance. To follow their support slots for Mew and Gus Gus with a 15-date UK tour starting this week. **JAY-Z:** *Excuse Me Miss* (Roc-A-Fella/Mercury 779119). Produced by the Neptunes and featuring Pharrell Williams vocals, this will be another hit for the Jiggs Man, even if not as big as his recent duet with his now ex-girlfriend. It is C-listed at Radio One.

**GOLDFRAPP:** *Train* (Mute CDMMTE 291). This is the first new material from Goldfrapp since the success of *Felt*. Mountain. Train reveals a darker side to the duo, with a seductive chorus wrapped in dirty electro squelches. Remixes from Ewan Pearson and U 2 Trainsmithers are causing a stir in clubland.

**THE KILLS:** *Fried My Little Brains* (Domino RU1545CD). This is not the choicest track from *The Kills' Keep On Your Mean Side*, an album which seems to have excited music critics more than music buyers so far. However, this male/female duo might change that with this taunt and brooding slice of blues-rock.

**BRENDAN BENSON:** *Metarief* (V2 VV85021793). Taken from Benson's *Lapelo* album, but given a new twist by Fred De Buze's mix, this wistful tale of unrequited love instantly gets stuck inside the listener's head. Benson embarks on a UK tour in April.

**IAN MCDULLOUGH:** *Sliding* (Cooking Vinyl FRCD148). The Echo's The Bumpy Area's Electrification frontman returns to the solo arena, this being the first solo outing without musical partner Will Sergeant for more than 10 years. This heartfelt track precedes album *Sliding* and seems tailor-made for Radio Two.

**INME:** *Neptune* (Music For Nations CDKU201). Following the Top 20 success of their debut album *Overgrown Eden* early in the year, the Essex trio are sure to continue to make inroads with this, their fourth single, which is C-listed at Radio One. The band's Astoria gig this month is already sold out and InMe are one of the main attractions at next weekend's Kerrang weekend.

## ALBUM reviews



**CAM'RON PRESENTS THE DIPLOMATS:** *Diplomatic Immunity* (Roc-A-Fella/Mercury 632112). After featuring on Maniah Carey's latest offering *Oh Boy*, Cam'ron returns with his crew and their furious lyrical stylings on *The Diplomats' debut album*. Harlem's finest do some dubious gangsta posturing and make allusions to Ground Zero, al-Qaida and the Taliban while breezily sampling everything from Starship's *We Built This City* to a string of O'Jays classics on this hip-hop double-helping.

This week's reviewers: David Baird, Phil Brooke, Joanna Jones, Owen Lawrence, Nick Tesco, Simon Ward and Adam Woods.



**NICOLAÏ DUNDER:** *Tranquil Island* (Virgin CDVIR182). This Swedish former footballer's first ex-Scandinavian release was recorded with Will Oidham and his brother in their home town of Louisville, Kentucky. More upbeat than most of Oidham's own output, parts of *Tranquil Island* have an easy swing which evokes the Stones' country moments. The influence of the folk canon is also much in evidence, from Leadzly to Tim Hardin to the Basement Tapes.



**YEAH YEAH YEAHS:** *Date With This Night* (Dress Up/Polydor 0657442). This is the third UK single from the New York three-piece, who emerged as one of the buzz acts of 2002. Mixed by Alan Moulder, *Date With This Night* is a gritty punk-beat, which stomps and struts impressively thanks to Karen O's urgent vocals and the rhythmic effects extracted from Nick Zinner's bass guitar. It is C-listed at Radio One.

# ALL THE CHARTS EXPOSURE

8 APRIL 2003

## RADIO ONE

	Artist	Title	Weeks on chart	Peak
1	IN DA CLUB 50 Cent (Interscope/Polygram)	26794	30	36
2	MAKE LUVE Room 5 feat. Oliver Cheatham (Positive)	27154	31	35
3	MOVE YOUR FEET Junior Senior (Mercury)	25038	31	32
4	SCANDALOUS Miss Tee (Telstar)	24735	29	31
5	BEING NOBODY Richard X & Liberty X (Virgin)	25728	32	30
6	CRY ME A RIVER Justin Timberlake (Jive)	27960	19	26
7	CLOCKS Colby (Parlophone)	18817	29	28
8	BEAUTIFUL Christina Aguilera (RCA)	18500	21	24
9	HEY MA Corinne Bailey-Rae (Mercury)	14636	22	21
10	THE BOYS OF SUMMER The Zutons (Real Gone Music/Island)	17728	22	20
11	TM WITH YOU Arty Lavigne (Arista)	17371	22	20
12	MESMERIZE Ja Rule & Busta Rhymes (MCA/Universal)	15680	17	20
13	ALL THE THINGS SHE SAID Missy Elliott (Polygram)	16102	23	19
14	EPLÉ Rokyoko (J&J Sound)	14024	25	19
15	SING FOR THE MOMENT Lionel Lin (Intercept/Pop)	13422	18	19
16	LESSTIES OF THE SIZE AND FAMOUS (Cherry Red/Island)	12722	22	18
17	AMERICAN LIFE Madonna (Maverick/Warner Bros)	34012	0	17
18	CAN'T STOP Red Hot Chili Peppers Warner Bros	12587	19	17
19	SOMEWHERE I BELONG Linkin Park (Warner Bros)	12718	17	18
20	OUT OF TIME Blur (Parlophone)	10523	10	17
21	THEY'RE NOT THROUGH (New Line/Island)	13587	14	16
22	BUMP, BUMP, BUMP Rick & P Diddy (Jive)	12324	12	16
23	MIDNIGHT ON ICE (J&J)	12245	13	16
24	U MAKE ME WANNA BLISS (Intercept)	13360	13	15
25	SATISFACTION Love (Ruff Ryters/Intercept)	11248	13	15
26	DAMAGED The Roots (World Circuit/Nonesuch)	12961	14	15
27	STOLE YOUR KISS (New Line)	11278	14	15
28	SHAPE Sugababes (Universal Int'l)	9277	12	14
29	ALLI HAVE (New Line Int'l, LL Cool J (Epic)	10103	17	13
30	EL SALVADOR Adele (Parlophone)	8415	12	13
31	PROVIDER NU10 (Jive)	8316	19	13

Most played tracks on MTV UK/Media Research Ltd w/e 30/3/03. Source: MTV UK

## ILR

	Artist	Title	Weeks on chart	Peak
1	MAKE LUVE Room 5, Oliver Cheatham (Positive)	61739	28	23
2	BEAUTIFUL Christina Aguilera (RCA)	62826	27	26
3	MOVE YOUR FEET Junior Senior (Mercury)	56750	25	25
4	BEING NOBODY Richard X & Liberty X (Virgin)	61871	25	25
5	U MAKE ME WANNA BLISS (Intercept)	49317	20	21
6	SCANDALOUS Miss Tee (Telstar)	41095	14	18
7	CLOCKS Colby (Parlophone)	42001	17	28
8	I BEGIN TO WONDER Carolee Marshall (London/Island)	41554	17	28
9	CRY ME A RIVER Justin Timberlake (Jive)	32097	14	19
10	SUNRISE Simply Deep (Simple Plan)	32626	14	15
11	TM WITH YOU Arty Lavigne (Arista)	1909	13	15
12	ALLI HAVE (New Line Int'l, LL Cool J (Epic)	32881	14	15
13	TNIGHT Westlife (Jive)	21761	10	15
14	SHAPE Sugababes (Universal Int'l)	21697	14	12
15	BIG YELLOW RAY (Sony Music/Various Artists/Parlophone)	26871	12	12
16	STOLE YOUR KISS (New Line)	23001	13	16
17	ALL THE THINGS SHE SAID Missy Elliott (Polygram)	27442	13	16
18	THE BOYS OF SUMMER The Zutons (Real Gone Music/Island)	20728	11	17
19	OUT OF TIME (New Line Int'l, LL Cool J (Epic)	19057	10	17
20	THEY'RE NOT THROUGH (New Line/Island)	1700	9	17
21	BE MINE David Gray (J&J/East West)	14165	8	14
22	MESMERIZE Ja Rule & Busta Rhymes (MCA/Universal)	15218	8	17
23	I CAN'T READ YOU David Bendry (Polygram)	11331	8	17
24	COME UNDONE Robbie Williams (Chrysalis)	16225	8	17
25	YOU'RE A SUPERSTAR Love (Ruff Ryters/Intercept)	16778	7	17
26	CRY ME A RIVER Justin Timberlake (Jive)	15434	7	17
27	BORN TO TRY David Beckham (Epic)	11418	7	17
28	FEEL BEZBE BIZBE (GSM)	11618	7	14
29	I CAN'T READ YOU David Bendry (Polygram)	16477	7	13
30	DONT WORRY ANYONE (Parlophone)	1689	9	17

Most played tracks on ILR w/e 30/3/03. Source: ILR

## TOP 10 GROWERS

Rank	Artist	Title	Weeks on chart	Peak
1	AMERICAN LIFE Madonna (Maverick/Warner Bros)	154	531	1
2	BE MINE David Gray (J&J/East West)	807	517	1
3	MAKE LUVE Room 5 feat. Oliver Cheatham (Positive)	2569	512	1
4	COME UNDONE Robbie Williams (Chrysalis)	507	449	1
5	SCANDALOUS Miss Tee (Telstar)	2020	352	1
6	I CAN'T READ YOU David Bendry (Polygram)	534	327	1
7	CANT NOBODY KISS YOU Richard X & Liberty X (Virgin)	689	315	1
8	YOU SAID NO (Busted) (Universal Island)	1438	264	1
9	TNIGHT Westlife (Jive)	509	282	1
10	RISE & FALL Craig David (Wildstar)	252	274	1

Most played tracks on Top 10 GROWERS w/e 30/3/03. Source: ILR

## TOP 10 MOST ADDED

Rank	Artist	Title	Weeks on chart	Peak
1	AMERICAN LIFE Madonna (Maverick/Warner Bros)	38	14	
2	BE MINE David Gray (J&J/East West)	10	10	
3	WHEN I SEE YOU Macy Gray (Epic)	10	10	
4	KNOCKOUT Triple Eight (Polygram)	9	9	
5	COME UNDONE Robbie Williams (Chrysalis)	7	7	
6	CANT NOBODY KISS YOU Richard X & Liberty X (Virgin)	7	7	
7	DO IT WITH MADONNA The Andrews Sisters	7	7	
8	I CAN'T READ YOU David Bendry (Polygram)	6	6	
9	FAVOURITE THINGS Big Brother & The Holding Company	5	5	
10	IT'S JUST DUBS TO Me Revolution (Multiple)	5	5	

Most added tracks on Top 10 MOST ADDED w/e 30/3/03. Source: ILR

## TOP 10 PRE-RELEASE

Rank	Artist	Title	Weeks on chart	Peak
1	FM WIT YOU Arty Lavigne (Arista)	31.40	31.40	
2	BE MINE David Gray (J&J/East West)	30.41	30.41	
3	LOVE DOESN'T HAVE TO HURT American Kitten (Innocent)	29.71	29.71	
4	WHEN I SEE YOU Macy Gray (Epic)	29.51	29.51	
5	COME UNDONE Robbie Williams (Chrysalis)	28.07	28.07	
6	AMERICAN LIFE Madonna (Maverick/Warner Bros)	25.20	25.20	
7	I CAN'T READ YOU David Bendry (Polygram)	18.22	18.22	
8	DO IT FOR LOVE Hal & Oates (Sanctuary)	17.25	17.25	
9	SATISFACTION Love (Ruff Ryters/Intercept)	16.20	16.20	
10	DAMAGED Plumett (Sybers/Mercury)	13.75	13.75	

Most played tracks on Top 10 PRE-RELEASE w/e 30/3/03. Source: ILR

## MTV

	Artist	Title	Weeks on chart	Peak
1	BEING NOBODY Richard X & Liberty X	V2	1	1
2	MAKE LUVE Room 5 feat. Oliver Cheatham	Positive	1	1
3	THE ONE Shaggy	Epic	1	1
4	RISE & FALL Craig David feat. Sing	Wildstar	1	1
5	FM WITH YOU Arty Lavigne	Arista	1	1
6	SOMEWHERE I BELONG Linkin Park	Warner Bros	1	1
7	SCANDALOUS Miss-Tee	Telstar	1	1
8	CLOCKS Colby	Parlophone	1	1
9	COME UNDONE Robbie Williams	EMI	1	1
10	CANT NOBODY KISS YOU Richard X & Liberty X	Columbia	1	1

Most played tracks on MTV UK/Media Research Ltd w/e 30/3/03. Source: MTV UK

## THE BOX

	Artist	Title	Weeks on chart	Peak
1	YOU SAID NO BUSTED	Universal	1	1
2	ALL OVER LISA MAFIA	Independiente	1	1
3	SPIRIT IN THE SKY GARTH GIBBS	S	1	1
4	U MAKE ME WANNA BLISS	Innocent	1	1
5	WEEKEND SQUAD	Shedfield/Telstar/EMI	1	1
6	COME UNDONE	Robbie Williams	EMI	1
7	THE LONG GOODBYE	Rena Keating	Polygram	1
8	DONT LET ME GO	David Sandford	Mercury	1
9	SPEECHLESS D-SIDE	Blacklist/EMI/VEVA	1	1
10	MAKE LUVE ROOM 5	Oliver Cheatham	Positive	1

Most requested tracks on The Box, w/e 30/3/03. Source: ILR

## VH1

	Artist	Title	Weeks on chart	Peak
1	BIG YELLOW RAY	Various Artists	1	1
2	CANT STOP	Rick Ross	Warner Bros	1
3	CLOCKS	Colby	Parlophone	1
4	SHAPE	Sugababes	Island/Int'l-Island	1
5	SUNRISE	Simply Deep	simpley.dee	1
6	STOLE YOUR KISS	Richard X & Liberty X	Columbia	1
7	FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH	The Confines	Stockpile/Polygram	1
8	BEAUTIFUL	Christina Aguilera	RCA	1
9	PAIN KILLER	Tinie Turner	Source	1
10	COME UNDONE	Robbie Williams	EMI	1

Most played tracks on VH1 w/e 30/3/03. Source: VH1

## STUDENT CHART

	Artist	Title	Weeks on chart	Peak
1	CLOCKS Colby	Parlophone	1	1
2	OUT OF TIME Blur	Parlophone	1	1
3	PAIN KILLER Tinie Turner	Source	1	1
4	IN DA CLUB 50 Cent	Interscope/Polygram	1	1
5	THE BITTER END Pigeon	Hat	1	1
6	SOMEWHERE I BELONG Linkin Park	Warner Bros	1	1
7	MOVE YOUR FEET Junior Senior	Mercury	1	1
8	GET HIGH IN ROOM 5	Room 5 feat. Oliver Cheatham	Interscope/Polygram	1
9	BANDAGES Hal & Oates	B-Uniquis/Sub Pop	1	1
10	GOSSIP FOLKS Missy Elliott	EastWest	1	1

UK student chart for 30/3/03. Compiled by Student Broadcast Network, based on UK student radio chart returns.

## CD UK

**Performances:** You Said No Busted, Namie Alon, Robbie Williams, Jay M. Marsh, Boy (I Need) Your Mariah Carey, Move Your Feet Junior Senior, Fantasia Barré, Room 5 feat. Oliver Cheatham, We Are Good Adele, Girls Aloud, Find It Now 6/2/03

## POPWORLD

**Performances:** Love Me Not Atomic Atomic, Don't Have to Take It Off The Donnas, Interview: Tom Hanks, Lisa Marie Presley, Wayne Williams, Missy Elliott, Triple R, David Bendry, Videos: Cant, No, Nobody Kissing, Find It Now 6/2/03

## SMASH HITS

**Performances:** You Said No Busted, Namie Alon, Robbie Williams, Jay M. Marsh, Boy (I Need) Your Mariah Carey, Move Your Feet Junior Senior, Fantasia Barré, Room 5 feat. Oliver Cheatham, We Are Good Adele, Girls Aloud, Find It Now 6/2/03

## TA DUNGY

**Performances:** All Over Lisa Mafia, I Should Know Sunday

## TOP OF THE POPS

**Performances:** Weekend Squads, Boy (I Need) Your Mariah Carey, Tonight Westlife, In Da Club 50 Cent, Clocks Colby, Make Luve Room 5 feat. Oliver Cheatham, Find It Now 6/2/03

**Saturny Performances:** Love Doesn't Have to Hurt American Kitten, Speechless D-Side, Find It Now 5/3/03

## RADIO ONE PLAYLISTS

A-LIST	B-LIST	C-LIST
<p><b>1</b> CRY ME A RIVER Justin Timberlake  <b>2</b> BEAUTIFUL Christina Aguilera  <b>3</b> CANT STOP Red Hot Chili Peppers  <b>4</b> MOVE YOUR FEET Junior Senior  <b>5</b> SING FOR THE MOMENT Lionel Lin  <b>6</b> CLOCKS Colby  <b>7</b> SCANDALOUS Miss-Tee  <b>8</b> BEING NOBODY Richard X &amp; Liberty X  <b>9</b> MAMA MAMA MAMA MAMA MAMA MAMA  <b>10</b> SHAP Sugababes  <b>11</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>12</b> ALLI HAVE (New Line Int'l, LL Cool J (Epic))  <b>13</b> TNIGHT Westlife  <b>14</b> SHAP Sugababes  <b>15</b> BE MINE David Gray  <b>16</b> I CAN'T READ YOU David Bendry  <b>17</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>18</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>19</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>20</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED</p>	<p><b>1</b> PROVIDER (Zee 2 edit) NERD  <b>2</b> I HAVE A FEELING  <b>3</b> LL COOL J  <b>4</b> I CAN'T STOP  <b>5</b> MAMA MAMA MAMA MAMA MAMA MAMA  <b>6</b> SHAP Sugababes  <b>7</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>8</b> ALLI HAVE (New Line Int'l, LL Cool J (Epic))  <b>9</b> TNIGHT Westlife  <b>10</b> SHAP Sugababes  <b>11</b> BE MINE David Gray  <b>12</b> I CAN'T READ YOU David Bendry  <b>13</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>14</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>15</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>16</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>17</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>18</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>19</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>20</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED</p>	<p><b>1</b> MAKE ME WANNA BLISS  <b>2</b> THINKING ABOUT YOU  <b>3</b> ALLI HAVE (New Line Int'l, LL Cool J (Epic))  <b>4</b> TNIGHT Westlife  <b>5</b> SHAP Sugababes  <b>6</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>7</b> ALLI HAVE (New Line Int'l, LL Cool J (Epic))  <b>8</b> TNIGHT Westlife  <b>9</b> SHAP Sugababes  <b>10</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>11</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>12</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>13</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>14</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>15</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>16</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>17</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>18</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>19</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>20</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED</p>

## RADIO TWO PLAYLISTS

A-LIST	B-LIST	C-LIST
<p><b>1</b> CLOCKS Colby  <b>2</b> WHAT DOES REMEMBER  <b>3</b> ALLI HAVE (New Line Int'l, LL Cool J (Epic))  <b>4</b> TNIGHT Westlife  <b>5</b> SHAP Sugababes  <b>6</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>7</b> ALLI HAVE (New Line Int'l, LL Cool J (Epic))  <b>8</b> TNIGHT Westlife  <b>9</b> SHAP Sugababes  <b>10</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>11</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>12</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>13</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>14</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>15</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>16</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>17</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>18</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>19</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>20</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED</p>	<p><b>1</b> A LITTLE LIKE YOU  <b>2</b> I CAN'T READ YOU  <b>3</b> I CAN'T READ YOU  <b>4</b> I CAN'T READ YOU  <b>5</b> I CAN'T READ YOU  <b>6</b> I CAN'T READ YOU  <b>7</b> I CAN'T READ YOU  <b>8</b> I CAN'T READ YOU  <b>9</b> I CAN'T READ YOU  <b>10</b> I CAN'T READ YOU  <b>11</b> I CAN'T READ YOU  <b>12</b> I CAN'T READ YOU  <b>13</b> I CAN'T READ YOU  <b>14</b> I CAN'T READ YOU  <b>15</b> I CAN'T READ YOU  <b>16</b> I CAN'T READ YOU  <b>17</b> I CAN'T READ YOU  <b>18</b> I CAN'T READ YOU  <b>19</b> I CAN'T READ YOU  <b>20</b> I CAN'T READ YOU</p>	<p><b>1</b> MAKE ME WANNA BLISS  <b>2</b> THINKING ABOUT YOU  <b>3</b> ALLI HAVE (New Line Int'l, LL Cool J (Epic))  <b>4</b> TNIGHT Westlife  <b>5</b> SHAP Sugababes  <b>6</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>7</b> ALLI HAVE (New Line Int'l, LL Cool J (Epic))  <b>8</b> TNIGHT Westlife  <b>9</b> SHAP Sugababes  <b>10</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>11</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>12</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>13</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>14</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>15</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>16</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>17</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>18</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>19</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED  <b>20</b> YOU SAID NO BUSTED</p>

## CAPITAL RADIO

**Performances:** American Life Madonna, Rise & Fall Craig David, We Are Good Adele, Girls Aloud, Find It Now 6/2/03  
**Favourite Things Big Brother & The Holding Company, Rise & Fall Craig David, Sing, My Love & P Diddy, Damaged Plumett, Bump Bum Bump Bump & P Diddy, Move Your Feet Junior Senior, Room 5 feat. Oliver Cheatham, We Are Good Adele, Girls Aloud, Find It Now 6/2/03**



### SINGLES COMMENTARY

by ALAN JONES



Proving that dance music is still very much alive and kicking, Room 5's Make Luv single sold more than 111,000 copies last week to debut at number one with a handsome 71% lead over Gareth Gates feat. The Kumars' Split In The Sky, which dips to number two after two weeks at the top of the chart. Although singles sales last week were nearly 28% below their level for the same week in 2002, the \$90,000 singles sold represents their second best tally thus far in 2003 – and the number one single was topped the 100,000 sales mark for three weeks in a row, a feat not achieved until May last year.

Sales of Split In The Sky were off 44% last week, to a little over 65,000 copies, bringing the record's 20-day tally to 456,000, some 138,000 more than the year's second biggest hit, All The Things She Said by LATU.

Westlife have had more number ones in the 21st century than any other act (six) but can't make it seven this week, as Tonight has to settle for number three with sales of 49,000.

### MARKET REPORT



Figures show the 10 companies by % of total sales of the Top 75, and cumulative group shares by % of total sales of the Top 75.



It is the group's 14th consecutive Top Five hit, a tally which includes 11 number ones. Mariah Carey's second Def Jam single Boy

### SINGLES FACTFILE

Just three weeks before the 10th anniversary of its maiden release – Void by Exotexis – EMI's Positiva imprint registers its fifth number one with Room 5's Make Luv. Positiva's first number one since Spiller's Grooveset in August 2000, Make Luv is the work of Belgian-based Italian DJ Vito Lucente (pictured) and features the vocals of Ivor Cheatham, apparently re-recorded from his 1983 number 38 hit Get Down Saturday Night. With apologies to DJ

Oz2, DJ Sammy and their ilk, Make Luv is the first certified dance hit to top the sales chart since Roger Sanchez's Another Chance in July 2001. Originally licensed from PIAS, it was first promoted for the Winter Music Conference in Miami last year (it was selected for *MVA's Miami Beachplugging 2002 CD*) and built profile at Ibiza last summer. Its release was then held back to capitalise on its use in the current Lynx deodorant ad.

debut Def Jam album Charmbroceat, which peaked at number 52 last November, compared to the number 10 peak of Gitter, her only release for Virgin. However, while Gitter has thus far sold only 49,000 copies, Charmbroceat has quietly sold 72,500, and re-enters the chart this week at number 149.

Although Coldplay's second album A Rush Of Blood To The Head has sold more than 1,500,000 copies, creative marketing of the album's third single Clack's earns it a place in the Top 10 this week. In My Place, the introductory single from the album, reached number two last August. The Scientist reached number 20 in November, and this week Cloaks debuts at number nine, primarily because the single's first fans bought the CD version for exclusive live tracks and the DVD version for two new songs. Ironically, with albums more suitable for Mother's Day taking precedence, A Rush Of Blood To The Head sides 2-7 on the album chart despite upping sales 14% week-on-week.

### INDEPENDENT SINGLES

This Week	Title	Artist	Label ( distributor )
1	WEEKEND	Queen & Vangard	Sheffield Tunes/Ecol UK 0147315110 (V)
2	FLASH	Nehala NEBC001 (AOD)	
3	CRY ME A RIVER	Justin Timberlake	Jive 055632 (P)
4	THE REAL HEIGHT	Billy Clynx	Beggars Banquet BBR0462 (P)
5	LET ME FLY	Darren Styles/Mark Breeze	Nakimuz BOKUK (AOD)
6	I CAN'T STOP	Sandy Rivera	Defected DFTD03R (V)
7	TAKIN' HOLD	Sam Le More	Underwater H0202X (P)
8	T-10/10 THE TENTH PLANET	Distorted Minds	Kass KA050MP (SRD)
9	TOGETHER	Artificial Funk feat. N. Ellison	Skinz SKINT120Z (DMV/P)
10	BLACK DOLLAR BILLS	Hope Of The States	Seeker SEEX001 (V)
11	MOP FIRE	Bad Company UK/Raw/Itl DC	Refrigerator BCR0400ZCD (SRD)
12	SOFT LIKE ME	Saint Genesis	Minty MINTY021 (V)
13	NO RETURN	Solar Factor	Platipus PLP1401N (DMV/P)
14	EPL	Rockspop	Wall Of Sound WALLD080V (V)
15	SALT IN THE WOUND	Carpenter Bombers For Peace	Jungle JUNG066Z (SRD)
16	TRANSFORMATION	Mukoh	Banzai UKB020AZ (DMV/P)
17	FAMILIAR FEELING	Mokyo	Echo ECC0213 (P)
18	LOVE STORY (VS FINALLY)	Lajo & Bushwackel	XL XL1514CD (V)
19	TRUJE	Samy G feat. Angel Blu	V2/J-2 JAD0213R3 (DMV/P)
20	DOWN AND UNDER (TOGETHER)	Kid Creme feat. MC Shurikano	Itak NIBEX13CD (P)

All charts © The Official UK Charts Company 2003

### hit40 UK

This Week	Title	Artist	Label
1	MAKE LUV Room 5 feat. Ivor Cheatham	Positiva	
2	SPILT IN THE SKY Split In The Sky & The Kumars	EMI	
3	TONIGHT I MISS YOU NIGHTS Westlife	Mercury	
4	MOVE YOUR FEET Justin Guarini	Virgin	
5	BEING NOBODY Defected & Vito Lucente	Virgin	
6	SCANDALOUS Mis-Teeq	Solar	
7	BEAUTIFUL Christmas Apollonia	RCA	
8	CLODS Clods	Parlophone	
9	MAKE ME WANNA BOY (IF YOU WANT IT)	Mercury	
10	ALL I HAVE Jennifer Lopez feat. LL Cool J	Epic	
11	SUNRISE Simple Plan	Interscope	
12	IN DA CLUB 50 Cent	Interscope/Polygram	
13	I BELIEVE IN WONDER Come On George	London	
14	BORN TO TRY Blue October	Mercury	
15	CRY ME A RIVER Justin Guarini	Mercury	
16	WEEKEND Scissor	Deaf/Itak/Itak/Itak	
17	MISERABLE As Puka & Anandri	Mercury	
18	THE BOYS OF SUMMER 30 Seconds to Mars	Capitol	
19	BUMP, BUMP, BUMP 30 Seconds to Mars	Epic	
20	ALL THE THINGS SHE SAID David	Interscope/Polygram	
21	SHAPE Sigheles	Universal Island	
22	STOLE Kelly Rowland	Columbia	
23	I'M WITH YOU Avril Lavigne	Arista	
24	GOSSIP FOLKS Missy Elliott	Epic	
25	BE YELLOW Tatu	Capitol	
26	SING FOR THE MOMENT En-ener	Interscope/Polygram	
27	BOY (IF YOU WANT IT) Justin Guarini	Mercury	
28	KA CHIKKI Shina Sun	Motown	
29	I CAN SEE	Columbia	
30	SOMEWHERE I BELONG Linkin Park	Warner Bros	
31	INCREDIBLE (WHAT I MEANT TO SAY) Diddy	Motown	
32	FEEL Hobbs Williams	Decca	
33	IF YOU'RE NOT THE ONE David Bedingfield	Polygram	
34	LOSE YOURSELF Eminem	Interscope/Polygram	
35	LOVE DOESN'T HAVE TO HURT Alicia Keys	Interscope	
36	YOU'RE A SUPERSTAR Lee Ann	Atlantic	
37	SKIER BOI Avril Lavigne	Arista	
38	BEAUTIFUL Snow Day	Capitol	
39	COME UNDONE Robin Williams	Decca	
40	THE ZEPHYR SONG Red Hot Chili Peppers	Warner Bros	

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### The Music Week Cup 2003

The Music Week Cup returns. Make sure you come out on top by entering your team today.

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ALBUMS COMMENTARY

by ALAN JONES



Linkin Park's 2000 debut album *Hybrid Theory* was a slow starter, selling just 238 copies on its first week in the shops but spinning off four hits of growing magnitude – One Step Closer, Crawling, Papercut and In The End – as it matured into a monster hit, reaching its peak position of number four exactly a year after its release, and topping the 1m sales mark a couple of weeks ago. Their eagerly awaited follow-up, *Meteora*, was

ALBUMS FACTFILE

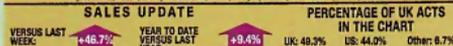
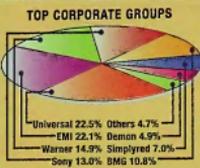
released last week and sold more than 93,000 copies to debut at number one. The album is also expected to enter the US chart at number one next week, with sales projections there suggesting it may debut with first-week sales around 10 times their UK level. Although *Meteora* is Linkin Park's second album proper, a remix set, *Reanimation*, reached number three last August and has thus far sold nearly 150,000 copies.

A combination of new albums by Linkin Park, Simply Red and Celine Dion and Mother's Day gift-buying boosted the albums market by 47% last week to a year's best total of 3,249,000, of which artist albums accounted for 2,520,000. Both figures are the highest yet of 2003, and compare more than favourably with last year's Mother's Day/Easter figures. Mother's Day fell three weeks earlier last year and produced an 11.5% jump in sales to 2,723,000, while the last week in March last year was actually Easter week and produced a 38.2% increase in sales to 3,053,000. Last week's tally was thus 6.4% above the same week (Easter week) last year and 19.3% above the Mother's Day week for 2002.

Although Linkin Park take the albums chart prize this week, Simply Red's Home album ran Linkin Park a close second, selling more than 87,000 copies. Although Mick Hucknall and his cohorts have had five previous number ones, it represents a major return to favour



Figures show top 10 companies by % of total sales, and corporate group shares by % of total sales of the Top 75 artist albums



following the relative failure of their last album it's Only Love, which debuted and peaked at number 27 in 2000, with first week sales of

less than 19,000 and a cumulative total of 134,000. It was to be their last album for Warner Music – and it probably hasn't

escaped their notice that their debut SimplyRed.com/Ministry Of Sound album is kept off the top of the albums chart only by another Warner Music act.

A year ago to the week after her last album A New Day Has Come debuted at number one with sales of 89,000, Celine Dion's follow-up One Heart has to settle for fourth spot after selling more than 73,500 copies. A New Day Has Come was Dion's first regular album since 1997, so One Heart's release so soon after may be viewed as surprising. But, despite the fact that it is its first four weeks at number one, A New Day Has Come was Dion's least successful regular album since her breakthrough, selling just 389,000 copies.

Mick Hucknall isn't the only Mancunian to stage a triumphant return to the chart this week – The Hollies do too. The Sixties veterans' Greatest Hits album, which marks their 40th anniversary, grew in strength through the week to debut at number 21.

COMPILATIONS

Every year thus far in the 21st century, the number one album on Mother's Day has been an album specifically tailored to the day – but not this year. Although usual contenders New Woman and All Woman have new volumes ranked second and third this week, the winner of this year's tussle is The Very Best Of Cold Feet. Universal Music TV's compilation of tracks heard in the recently completed and extremely popular TV drama/comedy rode a 52.4% increase in demand last week to sell more than 52,000 copies and safely secure its third week at number one. New Woman 2003 sold fractionally under 50,000 to debut at number two, while The Very Best Of All Woman 2003 improved 4.3 weeks sales of 32,000.

Although New Woman 2003 therefore fails to emulate New Woman 2002 in topping the chart, its sales last week were higher than

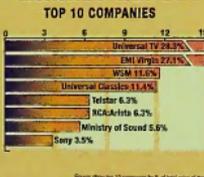
the 43,000 which won the latter the crown last year. Both New Woman and All Woman albums date quickly one Mother's Day has gone, as shown by the fact that New Woman 2003's cumulative sales of 85,500 indicate that it has sold fewer copies in the year since its debut than it did in its first week.

One interesting aspect of the struggle between the two series is that although New Woman invariably gets the higher chart placing it does so by being released a week later, while All Woman profits from spreading the bulk of its sales over two weeks instead of one. The Very Best Of All Woman 2002 sold 95,000 copies, nearly 10,000 more than New Woman 2002, despite peaking lower. That pattern may alter this year, however, as The Very Best Of All Woman 2003 has sold 5,000 copies fewer than All Woman 2003 despite getting a week's start on it.

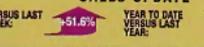
INDEPENDENT ALBUMS

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label (distributor)
1	1	DANIEL IN BLUE JEANS	Daniel O'Donnell	DMG TV DMGT007 (DX)
2	2	JUSTIFIED	Jason Timberlake	Echo 526272 (P)
3	3	20 MILES PER HOUR	Aphex Twin	Warp WARP010 (V)
4	4	MELODY AM	Reykjavik	Wall Of Sound WALL002 (V)
5	8	THINKING IT OVER	Liberty X	Y2/Y2V11702 (DMGTV)
6	5	CHOCOLATE FACTORY	R Kelly	Epic 825502 (P)
7	3	BABY I'M BORED	Evon Dardo	Setsanta SET0014 (V)
8	17	SONGBIRD	Eva Cassidy	Bliss Street/HOT G21005 (HOT)
9	15	IS THIS IT	The Strokes	Rough Trade/RTRAD02 038 (P)
10	7	COMFORT IN SOUND	Feeder	Echo ECHO014 (P)
11	10	STATUES	Melanie	Echo ECHO014 (P)
12	NEW	MUSIC FOR THE MATURE B-BOY	DJ Forcast	Genuine GEN0002 (V)
13	12	SPIRIT OF THE IRISH	The Dubliners	Dansbury TVS2AN03 (P)
14	11	KEEP ON YOUR MIND SIDE	The Kills	Schematic WIGG0214 (V)
15	19	GUESS WHO'S BACK	50 Cent	Full Circle FC02003 (V)
16	18	BUENOS HERMANOS	Ibrahim Ferrer	World Circuit WCR005 (NNP)
17	NEW	LOST HORIZONS	Moby	Mute CDSTUMM202 (V)
18	16	LAST SUPERSTARS	Lemon-Jelly	Impostant FRYAL FRY0106 (V)
19	13	YOU CAN FEEL ME	Har Mar Superstarz	B Unique BUN004 (X)
20	NEW	WHITE BLOOD CELLS	White Stripes	XL Recordings XLCD 151 (V)

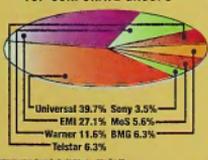
MARKET REPORT



Figures show top 10 companies by % of total sales, and corporate group shares by % of total sales of the Top 75 artist albums



TOP CORPORATE GROUPS



THE YEAR SO FAR... TOP 20 SINGLES

TW	UK	Title	Artist	Label
1	1	SPRINT IN THE SKYS	GARETH GATES FEAT THE KUMARS	S
2	1	ALL THE THINGS SHE SAID	TATU	INTERSCOPE
3	2	STOP LIVING THE LIFE	DAVID DEDDINGTON	MERCURY
4	3	SOUND OF THE UNDERGROUND	GHIS ALAUX	POLYGRAM
5	4	LOSE YOURSELF	EMINEM	INTERSCOPE
6	10	BEAUTIFUL	CHRISTINA AGUILERA	RCA
7	5	STOLE	KELLY ROWLAND	COLUMBIA
8	7	OH MY A RIVER	JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE	JIVE
9	8	YEAR 2000	BUSTED	UNIVERSAL
10	6	IF YOU'RE NOT THE ONE	DANIEL BEDINGFIELD	POLYGRAM
11	11	MOVE YOUR FEET	JUNIOR SENIOR	INTERSCOPE
12	12	MAKE LOV	ROD'S A FEAT. UVERNA CHERATHAN	EPIC
13	9	'03 BONNIE & CLYDE	JAY-Z FEAT. BEYONCE KNOWLES	ROC-A-FELLEX/JAM
14	19	THE BOYS OF SUMMER	DJ SAMMY	DATANOWS
15	14	ALL I HAVE	JENNIFER LOPEZ FEAT. L. COOL J.	EPIC
16	11	CHEEKY SONG (TOUCH MY BUM)	CHERYL GIBLS	MULTIPLY
17	12	THE OPERA SONG (BRAVE NEW WORLD)	JURORO VRIES FEAT. CMC	DIRECTION
18	13	BORN TO TRY	DELTA GOODREM	INTERSCOPE
19	18	IN DA CLUB	50 CENT	DIRECTION
20	13	MUNGHAN TO BACK ME	PANJABI MC	INSTANT KARMA

© The Official UK Charts Company 2003. Last week's position represents chart debut unless otherwise stated.

# OFFICIAL CHARTS 05/04/2003

music week

## SINGLES

### 1 MAKE LUV

Ronni 5 feat. Oliver Chubbson

Positive

- 2 SPIRIT IN THE SKY Gareth Gates feat. The Kumars S
- 3 TONIGHT/MISS YOU NIGHTS Westlife S
- 4 SCANDALOUS Mis-Teeq Telstar
- 5 MOVE YOUR FEET Junior Senior Mercury
- 6 BEING NOBODY Richard X Vs Liberty X Virgin
- 7 ALL I HAVE Jennifer Lopez feat. LL Cool J Epic
- 8 IN DA CLUB 50 Cent Interscope/Polyd
- 9 CLOCKS Coldplay Parlophone
- 10 SUNSHINE Simply Red SimplyRed.com



- 11 BORN TO TRY Delta Goodrem Epic
- 12 WEEKEND Scooter Sheffield Tunes/Etel UK
- 13 U MAKE ME WANNA Blue Innocent
- 14 BEAUTIFUL Christina Aguilera RCA
- 15 MESSMERIE La Rule feat. Ashanti Murder Inc/Mercury
- 16 BUMP BUMP BUMP BJK feat. P Diddy Epic
- 17 BOY (I NEED YOU) Mariah Carey feat. Cam'ron Def Jam/Mercury
- 18 SOMEWHERE I BELONG Linkin Park Warner Bros
- 19 I CAN NAs Columbia
- 20 GOSSIP FOLKS Missy Elliott feat. Ludacris Elektra



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## ALBUMS

### 1 METEORA

Linkin Park

Warner Bros

- 2 HOME Simply Red SimplyRed.com
- 3 COME AWAY WITH ME Norah Jones Parlophone
- 4 ONE HEART Celine Dion Columbia
- 5 DANIEL IN BLUE JEANS Daniel O'Donnell DMG TV
- 6 BALLADS - THE LOVE SONG COLLECTION Boyzone Universal TV
- 7 A RUSH OF BLOOD TO THE HEAD Coldplay Parlophone
- 8 GREATEST HITS Tom Jones Universal TV
- 9 STRIPPED Christina Aguilera RCA
- 10 LET GO Avril Lavigne Arista



- 11 SLEEPING WITH GHOSTS Placebo Hit/Wygn
- 12 BACK IN THE WORLD Paul McCartney Parlophone
- 13 BY THE WAY Red Hot Chili Peppers Warner Bros
- 14 JUSTIFIED Justin Timberlake Jive
- 15 UP! Shania Twain Mercury
- 16 GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' 50 Cent Interscope/Polydor
- 17 MALAGA Malachuk Gush Mercury/Universal TV
- 18 ANGELS WITH DIRTY FACES Sugababes Island/Uni Island
- 19 THIS IS ME... THEN Jennifer Lopez Epic
- 20 NEON NIGHTS Danni Minogue London



# music week

# CLUB CHARTS 05/04/2003

## COMMERCIAL POP TOP 30

2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Label																												

## UPFRONT CLUB CHART TOP 40

2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Label																												

## URBAN TOP 30

2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Label																												

## PRE-RELEASE AIRPLAY TOP 20

2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Label																		

## Sign up to the Friday Dance

...to the Friday Dance...  
...to the Friday Dance...  
...to the Friday Dance...

## Sign up to the Friday Dance

...to the Friday Dance...  
...to the Friday Dance...  
...to the Friday Dance...

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# COOL CUTS CHART

as featured on the *Urban Weekly* magazine in the UK on every 10 days

- |    |    |    |    |     |
|----|----|----|----|-----|
| 1  | 3  | 10 | 17 | 24  |
| 2  | 4  | 11 | 18 | 25  |
| 3  | 5  | 12 | 19 | 26  |
| 4  | 6  | 13 | 20 | 27  |
| 5  | 7  | 14 | 21 | 28  |
| 6  | 8  | 15 | 22 | 29  |
| 7  | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30  |
| 8  | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31  |
| 9  | 11 | 18 | 25 | 32  |
| 10 | 12 | 19 | 26 | 33  |
| 11 | 13 | 20 | 27 | 34  |
| 12 | 14 | 21 | 28 | 35  |
| 13 | 15 | 22 | 29 | 36  |
| 14 | 16 | 23 | 30 | 37  |
| 15 | 17 | 24 | 31 | 38  |
| 16 | 18 | 25 | 32 | 39  |
| 17 | 19 | 26 | 33 | 40  |
| 18 | 20 | 27 | 34 | 41  |
| 19 | 21 | 28 | 35 | 42  |
| 20 | 22 | 29 | 36 | 43  |
| 21 | 23 | 30 | 37 | 44  |
| 22 | 24 | 31 | 38 | 45  |
| 23 | 25 | 32 | 39 | 46  |
| 24 | 26 | 33 | 40 | 47  |
| 25 | 27 | 34 | 41 | 48  |
| 26 | 28 | 35 | 42 | 49  |
| 27 | 29 | 36 | 43 | 50  |
| 28 | 30 | 37 | 44 | 51  |
| 29 | 31 | 38 | 45 | 52  |
| 30 | 32 | 39 | 46 | 53  |
| 31 | 33 | 40 | 47 | 54  |
| 32 | 34 | 41 | 48 | 55  |
| 33 | 35 | 42 | 49 | 56  |
| 34 | 36 | 43 | 50 | 57  |
| 35 | 37 | 44 | 51 | 58  |
| 36 | 38 | 45 | 52 | 59  |
| 37 | 39 | 46 | 53 | 60  |
| 38 | 40 | 47 | 54 | 61  |
| 39 | 41 | 48 | 55 | 62  |
| 40 | 42 | 49 | 56 | 63  |
| 41 | 43 | 50 | 57 | 64  |
| 42 | 44 | 51 | 58 | 65  |
| 43 | 45 | 52 | 59 | 66  |
| 44 | 46 | 53 | 60 | 67  |
| 45 | 47 | 54 | 61 | 68  |
| 46 | 48 | 55 | 62 | 69  |
| 47 | 49 | 56 | 63 | 70  |
| 48 | 50 | 57 | 64 | 71  |
| 49 | 51 | 58 | 65 | 72  |
| 50 | 52 | 59 | 66 | 73  |
| 51 | 53 | 60 | 67 | 74  |
| 52 | 54 | 61 | 68 | 75  |
| 53 | 55 | 62 | 69 | 76  |
| 54 | 56 | 63 | 70 | 77  |
| 55 | 57 | 64 | 71 | 78  |
| 56 | 58 | 65 | 72 | 79  |
| 57 | 59 | 66 | 73 | 80  |
| 58 | 60 | 67 | 74 | 81  |
| 59 | 61 | 68 | 75 | 82  |
| 60 | 62 | 69 | 76 | 83  |
| 61 | 63 | 70 | 77 | 84  |
| 62 | 64 | 71 | 78 | 85  |
| 63 | 65 | 72 | 79 | 86  |
| 64 | 66 | 73 | 80 | 87  |
| 65 | 67 | 74 | 81 | 88  |
| 66 | 68 | 75 | 82 | 89  |
| 67 | 69 | 76 | 83 | 90  |
| 68 | 70 | 77 | 84 | 91  |
| 69 | 71 | 78 | 85 | 92  |
| 70 | 72 | 79 | 86 | 93  |
| 71 | 73 | 80 | 87 | 94  |
| 72 | 74 | 81 | 88 | 95  |
| 73 | 75 | 82 | 89 | 96  |
| 74 | 76 | 83 | 90 | 97  |
| 75 | 77 | 84 | 91 | 98  |
| 76 | 78 | 85 | 92 | 99  |
| 77 | 79 | 86 | 93 | 100 |

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# Charts email service providing extended information three days before it appears in print.

For more information on the upfront dance charts contact Scott Green on 020 7921 8365 or [scott@musicweek.com](mailto:scott@musicweek.com)

- TOP 10 BREAKERS**
- |    |  |                     |
|----|--|---------------------|
| 1  | DESTINATION (JURGEN VRIES MIXES) D18 feat. Roc-A-Mella                 | Double F Double R   |
| 2  | BOX TO THE BRITON (JOHN MOSS MIXUP TO NO GO) (NASTY BOYZ MIX) Pem Ego  | All About The World |
| 3  | EVERYBODY NEEDS (JAYDES) Toppa   | White Label         |
| 4  | IT'S TRICKY ZODIAC PAPER PAPER 2003 (JAYDES) Run-DMC Vs. Jackin' Lee   | BNJ                 |
| 5  | BODY SWEETIE (JAYDES) M Gee feat. Mica Paris                           | Sung City           |
| 6  | SAY YES (JAYDES) Bull & Martini  | Azuli               |
| 7  | SUNRISE (JAYDES) Rely  | Nero                |
| 8  | EMOTIONAL ROLLERCOASTER (ORIGINAL SOUNDZ) (VASQUEZ MIXES) Vivian Green | Columbus            |
| 9  | YOUR LOVIN' (JAYDES) Estate feat. Iceberg Slim                         | A.L.O.              |
| 10 | DON'T WANT TO MISS A THING (ORIGINAL SOUNDZ) (JAYDES) Pappa            | Milky               |
- © Music Week

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After many successful releases in 2002, here are a few of our key releases to look forward to in the coming weeks...

Justin Timberlake	Rob Dougan
in Chrome	Grease Amalida
Ultra Kate	Sam Obernick
Ultra Kate	Sam Obernick

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# CHART COMMENTARY

It's neck-and-neck - or rather neck-and-neck-and-neck-and-neck - at the top of the Upfront Club Chart this week, with the top two records separated by a margin of just five spins. In the unprecedented second season, The Weekend Express has taken 12 points (17%), while the new release, whose Change The World was the chart entry last week at number four, Meanwhile, runs-up-to-Repeat from 10th place with just five spins. The fact that so closely pursued by Plummet, Astral and Saffron Hill. The fact that so many records were in contention means that no record has a particularly high penetration, but the overall effect of having five such contenders at once makes it difficult for the rest. Armin Van Buuren is one of those to suffer, his Yet Another Day disc drifting 6-8 even though it increased its points tally by more than 16%. We should also note that while Dino Lenny is the Upfront Club Chart champion, when the Upfront and Commercial Pop charts are added together, his record ranks only fifth, with Astral's New And Forever (number three Upfront, number two Commercial) emerging as the victor.

While debuting atop the OCC sales chart, Room 5's Make Luv continues to impress with its tenacity on the Upfront Club Chart. The record spends a seventh week in the top 10 this week - an extremely rare achievement. Since its debut on February 22, the record has moved 6-6-4-2-3-7-10. Meanwhile, the highest new entry to the Top 40 this week is Tomcraft's Loneliness. It debuts at number seven, having been serviced on a Data label promo, but it is far from a newcomer on the Top 100, having debuted at number 50 on November 30 last year as an import on Germany's Kosmo label. It was re-released in the chart ever since - a period of 17 weeks - and was ranked 72nd last week.

For the third week in a row, hip hop records account for the entire top five on the Upfront Chart; for the sixth week in a row, there is no change in the top four; and for the sixth week in a row, the number two record is beautifully soooop good! But most impressive of all, in Da Club by 50 Cent is number one for the second week in a row. It's no coincidence that its peak coincides with the most widely accessible range of its challengers, suggesting that we may finally see a change at the top next week.

# COMPILATIONS

## 1 THE VERY BEST OF GOLD FEEL

Universal TV

11 LATE NIGHT SESSIONS

2 NEW WOMAN 2003

VeggieTales

12 CHICAGO (OST)

3 THE VERY BEST OF FALL WOMAN 2003

Teaser TV/ABC

13 THE VERY BEST OF MTV UNPLUGGED 2

4 SONGBRIGDS

NSA

14 THE VERY BEST EPISODE HOUSE BREAKDOWN

5 SUPER 70S

VeggieTales

15 TOP OF THE POPS SPRING 2003

6 CAPITAL GOLD SOUL LEGENDS

VeggieTales

16 CLUB MIX 2003

7 THE VERY BEST OF RELAXING CLASSICS

Decca

17 TRACEA NATION - FUTURE

8

9 CHICK FLICKS - THE SEQUEL

Ultraviolet/NSA

18 SMOOTH JAZZ 2

10 HEARTBEAT LOVE SONGS

Universal TV

19 TOP OF THE POPS SPRING 2003



- 18 21 KA-CHING! Shania Twain Mercury
- 14 22 I BEGIN TO WONDER Danni Minogue London
- 13 23 BEAUTIFUL Snoop Dogg Capitol
- 17 24 THE BOYS OF SUMMER DJ Sammy Deaf/Ministry Of Sound
- 15 25 BANDAGES Hot Hot Heat B.Ungue
- 19 26 ALL THE THINGS SHE SAID Yatu Interscope/Polydor
- 15 27 FLASH Queen & Yungard Nebula
- 22 28 SING FOR THE MOMENT Emmem Interscope/Polydor
- 21 29 SHAPE Sugababes Island/Universal
- 23 30 CRY ME A RIVER Justin Timberlake Jive
- 31 EL SALVADOR Athlete Parlophone
- 25 32 WORK IT Velly feat. Usjin Timberlake Universal
- 27 33 YEAR 3000 Bustid Universal
- 20 34 PROUDER/APPEARANCE NERD Virgin
- 28 35 LOSE YOURSELF Eminem Interscope/Polydor
- 36 HELP ME MAMA Lemonchicet Supertone
- 24 37 THE BITTER END Placebo HalfVirgin
- 34 38 IF YOU'RE NOT THE ONE Daniel Bedingfield Polydor
- 39 LETTERS TO YOU Finch MCA/Universal
- 31 40 LIFESTYLES OF THE RICH AND FAMOUS Good Charlotte Epic
- CHRISTINA AGUILERA: Fighter (RCA) June 2
- THE CHEEKY GIRLS: Take Your Shoes Off (MultiPLY) May 5
- GIRLS ALLOUD: No Good Advice (Polydor) May 12
- MADONNA: American Life (Maverick) April 14
- RADIOHEAD: There There (Parlophone) May 19
- DAVID SNEDDON: Don't Let Go (Mercury) April 21
- STEREOPHONICS: Madame Heiga (V2) May 19
- TATU: Not Gonna Get Us (Interscope/Polydor) May 12
- JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE: Rock Your Body (Jive) May 12
- ROBBIE WILLIAMS: Come Undone (EMI) April 14

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**music week**  
DIRECTORY 2003

- 21 GREATEST HITS The Hollies EMI
- 28 22 THINKING IT OVER Liberty X V2
- 21 23 ONE LOVE Blue Innocent
- 26 24 GOLD Ella Fitzgerald Verve
- 20 25 BUSTED Bustid Universal
- 18 26 VERY BEST OF - EARLY DAVS & LATTER DAVS Led Zepplin Atlantic
- 25 27 GREATEST HITS - HISTORY VOL 1 Michael Jackson Epic
- 24 28 SIMPLY DEEP Kelly Rowland Columbia
- 29 29 THE GREATEST HITS 1970-2002 Elton John Mercury
- 27 30 UNDER CONSTRUCTION Missy Elliott Elektra
- 29 31 MISSISSINDA2TOD Pink Arista
- 23 32 THE EMINEM SHOW Eminem Interscope/Polydor
- 51 33 UNBREAKABLE - THE GREATEST HITS VOL 1 Westlife S
- 17 34 ETHER SONG Turn Bikes Source
- 35 PANDEMONIUM BXX Epic
- 48 36 BIOGRAPHY - THE GREATEST HITS Les Stefani Arista
- 19 37 REASON Melanie C Virgin
- 39 38 ESCAPOLORY Robbie Williams EMI
- 33 39 HOME Dive Chicks Epic
- 22 40 SPIRIT OF THE IRISH The Dubliners Sanctuary
- KEY UPCOMING RELEASES
- BLUR: Think Tank (Parlophone) May 5
- THE DANDY WARRIORS: Welcome To The Monkey House (Capitol) April 19
- EELS: Shoarmany (DreamWorks/Polydor) June 2
- GIRLS ALLOUD: the (Polydor) May 26
- MADONNA: American Life (Maverick) April 21
- MARVIN HANSON: The Golden Age Of Gershwin (Interscope/Polydor) May 12
- MIS-TEED: Eye Candy (Telstar) March 31
- DAVID SNEDDON: Seven Years - Ten Weeks (Mercury) April 28
- STEREOPHONICS: You Gotta Go There To Come Back (V2) May 19
- THE WHITE STRIPES: Elephant (XL) March 31



# THE OFFICIAL UK CHARTS SPECIALISTS



5 APRIL 2003

## MIDPRICE

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label (Distributor)
1	3	SINGS IN A MINOR	Alicia Keys	J 7423120892 (BMG)
2	2	THE MAN WHO	Travis	Independents 1509653 (EMI)
3	6	SILVER SIDE UP	Nickelback	Rounder 1294892 (U) 4
4	1	ALL RISE	Blue	Independent 1294892 (U) 4
5	5	RIGHT NOW	American Idol	Innovative CD2596 (E)
6	8	TRACY CHAPMAN	Tracy Chapman	Elektra 75967472 (F) 2
7	7	THE VERY BEST OF	The Pogues	WSM 85784795 (E) 2
8	9	LOST SOULS	Doves	Heavenly HVN785C (E) 2
9	11	O BROTHER, WHERE ART THOU? (OST)	Various	Mercury 770095 (U) 2
10	4	JAGGED LITTLE PILL	Alicia Morrison	Maverick 85649992 (E) 2
11	4	CAMINO PALMERO	The Calling	NCA 7423121016 (BMG) 2
12	10	LOVE IS HERE	Suzanne	Chrysalis 35962 (E) 2
13	16	GREATEST	Duran Duran	EMI 492292 (E) 2
14	25	RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE	Rage Against The Machine	Epic 472242 (TEN) 2
15	15	WHAT HIT?!	Red Hot Chili Peppers	Parlophone 60941307 (E) 2
16	14	NOT THAT KIND	Anastacia	Epic 474142 (TEN) 2
17	23	GRACE	Jeff Buckley	Columbia 679232 (TEN) 2
18	19	LONDON CALLING	The Clash	Columbia 695432 (TEN) 2
19	17	THE RISE & FALL OF ZIGGY STARDUST... LIFE THRU A LENS	David Bowie	EMI 521000 (E) 2
20	17	LIFE THRU A LENS	Warren Williams	EMI CCM48127 (E) 2

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## BUDGET

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label (Distributor)
1	4	DREAMING	David O'Donnell	Crimson CRIM204 (EUK) 2
2	2	BIG HITS FROM THE BIG O	Ray O'Brien	Crimson CRIM204 (EUK) 2
3	5	GREEN GRASS OF HOME	Tom Jones	Black Box BB203 (UK) 2
4	1	THE BEST OF ANDREW LLOYD-WEBBER	Various	Crimson CRIM204 (EUK) 2
5	2	PURPLE HAZE	Jim Hendrix	Black Box BB204 (UK) 2
6	8	THE MAGIC TOUCH	Platters	Black Box BB275 (UK) 2
7	1	LADY IN A TRAMP	Ray Charles	Black Box BB283 (MAG) 2
8	7	THE WINDY ROVER	The Dubliners	Black Box BB211 (OX) 2
9	7	THE ALTERNATIVE ALBUM	Various	EMI Gold 581402 (E) 2
10	10	FAMOUS TUNES	Various	Black Box BB204 (OX) 2

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## R&B SINGLES

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label Cat. No. (Distributor)
1	1	SCANDALOUS	Mis-Teeq	Telstar CDSTA33319 (BMG) 5
2	3	IN DA CLUB	50 Cent	Interscope/Polydor 4978741 (U) 2
3	5	ALL I HAVE	Jennifer Lopez feat. LL Cool J	Epic 677092 (TEN) 4
4	2	U MAKE ME WANNA	Brian McKnight	Innovative SMC004 (E) 2
5	1	BOY (I NEED YOU)	Def Jam 977862 (U) 2	
6	1	ICAN	Mariah Carey feat. Cam'ron	Columbia 672385 (TEN) 2
7	4	BUMP BUMP BUMP	BXK feat. P Diddy	Epic 678452 (TEN) 2
8	1	BEAUTIFUL	Snoop Dogg	Capitol CDCL842 (E) 2
9	6	MESMERIZE	Jay-Z feat. Ashanti	Murder Inc/Mercury 677992 (U) 2
10	8	GOSP FOLKS	Missy Elliott feat. Ludacris	Elektra 573027 (TEN) 2
11	7	PROVIDER/APOANCE	NEIO	Virgin VUS20283 (E) 2
12	10	SING FOR THE MOMENT	Eninnor	Interscope/Polydor 4978742 (U) 2
13	12	CRY ME A RIVER	Justin Timberlake	Virgin 925432 (VP) 2
14	11	WOKIT	Nelly feat. Justin Timberlake	Universal MCT34072 (U) 2
15	9	MIDNIGHT	Lucy Liu	WEA WEA364202 (TEN) 4
16	13	LOSE YOURSELF	Eninnor	Interscope/Polydor 4978742 (U) 2
17	14	STOLE	Kirk Rowland	Columbia 678182 (TEN) 4
18	15	HEY MA	Cam'ron feat. Juste Justice	Roc-a-fella/Mercury 673742 (U) 2
19	15	IT'S OKAY	Des'ree	Sony Music 673645 (TEN) 2
20	16	'93 BONNIE & CLYDE	Jay-Z feat. Beyoncé Knowles	Roc-a-fella/Mercury 677102 (U) 2
21	17	GIMME THE LIGHT	Sean Paul	Atlantic ATO14602 (TEN) 2
22	18	MUNDIAN TO BACK HE	Panjabi MC	Showbiz/Intant Kama KARMA290 (U) 2
23	23	DILEMMA	Nelly feat. Kelly Rowland	Universal MCT34072 (U) 2
24	19	HIT THE FREWAY	Toni Braxton	Arista 687260271 (BMG) 2
25	21	FEEL ME	UK Urban Culture (MCA) CD2483 (E) 2	
26	21	MAKE IT CLAP	Busta Rhymes feat. Split 7	Epic 6871662 (E) (BMG) 2
27	24	STREET LIFE	Leelee Jean	Virgin VUS1261 (E) 2
28	22	PARADISE	Blondie feat. America	Def Jam/Mercury 683782 (U) 2
29	25	THOZ3 MANSION	2Pac	Interscope/Polydor 4978742 (U) 2
30	26	FABULOUS	Jae	Warner Bros 675680 (TEN) 2

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## COUNTRY

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label (Distributor)
1	1	TOPI	Shania Twain	Mercury 17042 (U) 2
2	2	HOME	Dixie Chicks	Epic 590632 (U) 2
3	4	COME ON OVER	Sheryl Crow	Mercury 170612 (U) 2
4	3	CRIMINAL MINDS	Be Good Tanyas	EMI 581462 (E) 2
5	7	YESTERDAY'S MEMORIES	Daniel O'Donnell	Rosetta ROSC2022 (IND) U) 2
6	5	THE MAN COMES AROUND	Johnny Cash	Lost Highway 704392 (U) 2
7	10	DEEPER STILL	Be Good Tanyas	Sancery SAN1212 (U) 2
8	6	BLUE HORSE	Be Good Tanyas	Network 30242 (U) 2
9	9	HALOS & HORNS	Dolly Parton	Secretary SAN126 (U) 2
10	11	WIDE OPEN SPACE	Dixie Chicks	Epic 489422 (TEN) 2
11	8	NEW DEFINITION	Alison Krauss & Union Station	Rounder ROUCD 095 (PRM) 2
12	12	TURNED ANGEL	Laura Rimes	Carb/London 5046611362 (TEN) 2
13	14	JERUSALEM	Steve Earle	Epic 590632 (TEN) 2
14	13	GOLD	Ryan Adams	Lost Highway 710252 (U) 2
15	20	LIVE LAUGH LOVE	Daniel O'Donnell	Rosetta ROSC2022 (IND) U) 2
16	15	FLY	Dixie Chicks	Epic 0491512 (U) 2
17	19	I NEED YOU	Laura Rimes	Carb/London 50781632 (IND) U) 2
18	17	CRY	Faith Hill	Warner Bros 556246982 (TEN) 2
19	16	FAILER	Kathleen Edwards	Zoe ZOE0205 (PRM) 2
20	18	THIS SIDE	Nick Cirkel	WEA 02741812 (TEN) 2

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## ROCK

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label (Distributor)
1	1	METEDRA	Lil'Jon Park	Warner Bros 592484612 (TEN) 2
2	1	BY THE WAY	Red Hot Chili Peppers	Warner Bros 592484612 (TEN) 2
3	2	VERY BEST OF - EARLY DAYS & LATTER DAYS	Led Zeppelin	Atlantic 756788195 (TEN) 2
4	4	ONE BY ONE	Foo Fighters	RCA 7423120432 (BMG) 2
5	3	AUDIOLAVE	Audiolove	Epic/Interscope 510235 (U) 2
6	5	BEST OF	Whitesnake	EMI 581242 (E) 2
7	8	COMFORT IN SOUND	Feeder	Echo ECHO042 (U) 2
8	6	GREATEST HITS II & III	Queens	Columbia 528262 (E) 2
9	7	RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE	Rage Against The Machine	Epic 472242 (TEN) 2
10	6	THE ESSENTIAL CLASH	The Clash	Columbia 9510982 (TEN) 2

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## DANCE SINGLES

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label Cat. No. (Distributor)
1	1	MAKE LOVE	Ronan Keating, Oliver Cheatham	Positive 1271187 (E) 2
2	2	STOP STOP STOP	Sandy Rivers	Defected 07FD038 (U) 2
3	3	FLASH	Queen & Vengado	Nebula NEB7041 (ADD) 2
4	5	MOVE YOUR FEET	Junior Senior	Mercury 015891 (U) 2
5	1	WONDERING WHY	MJ Cole	Talkin Loud 077921 (U) 2
6	4	BEING NOBODY	Junior X vs Liberty X	Virgin 0011 (E) 2
7	7	SAY YES	Six & Mariah feat. So So Brown	Azul AZN1719 (M) (TEN) 2
8	8	THE TENTH PLANET	Kasey Kaso (KASO) (E) 2	
9	9	TAKIN' HOLM	Sam La More	Underwater H02022 (U) 2
10	10	CAN YOU FEEL (WHAT I'M GOING THRU)	Shelina	Data/Ministry Of Sound DATA391 (M) (TEN) (M) (TEN) 2
11	8	TOGETHER	Artificial Funk feat. N Eason	Skinn SKINTEK3 (M) (M) (M) (M) 2
12	11	WEEKEND	Scotter	Sheffield Sound/Edel UK 01421815 (U) 2
13	10	HUM	Matt Kneale meets Lee Kenny	Kingsize KS18 (SD) 2
14	6	MR FIBE	Bad Company UK/Rovell Du	BC Records BC2R/KOOL (SD) 2
15	15	REVOLUTION	Stephanie Mills feat. Combs	Kinky Vinyl KINK02 (ADD) 2
16	12	DOWN AND UNDER (TOGETHER)	Kid Crems feat. MC Shurakano	Ink INK18E13 (U) 2
17	12	NO RETURN	Platipus EPLAT001 (M) (M) (M) (M) 2	
18	13	TEMPER	DJ Truuche	Junior BR022 (ADD) 2
19	7	TRAPPED DIFFERENCES	Guy Sevier	Tidy Tows TIDY10118 (ADD) 2
20	20	FREE LET IT BE	Stuart	Product/Interscope POT07 (M) (TEN) (M) (TEN) 2

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## DANCE ALBUMS

This	Last	Title	Artist	Label Cat. No. (Distributor)
1	1	26 MIXES FOR CASH	Aphex Twin	Warp -WARP002 (U) 2
2	2	NICK WARREN - REYKJAVIK	Various	Global Underground 0264VIV/GLOUG04 (U) 2
3	3	LATE NIGHT SESSIONS	Various	Ministry Of Sound -MOS0206 (M) (M) (M) (M) 2
4	1	MELDOY AM	Robyn	Walt Of Sound -WALT002 (U) 2
5	1	THE SOUND OF MOVEMENT - BRYAN GEE	Various	Movement -MOV0022 (SD) 2
6	2	STATUES	Melissa	Echo ECHL144/ECHM04 (U) 2
7	3	180TH WINDOW	Moskva	Virgin V2867 (E) 2
8	4	MUSIC FOR THE MATURE B-Boy	DJ Format	Genuine GEN0201 (U) 2
9	4	D DON'T DONT STOP THE BEAT	Junior Senior	Mercury 675201 (U) 2
10	6	ANGELS WITH DIRTY FACES	Sugababes	Island/Uni-Island -I08121 (U) 2

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## MUSIC VIDEO

This	Last	Title	Label Cat. No.
1	1	GARETH SATES FEAT. THE KUMARS - Spirit In The Sky	S 87653029 (U) 2
2	2	PAUL McCARTNEY: Back In The US - Concert Film	Captiva 477890 (U) 2
3	3	DAVID BOWIE: Ziggy Stardust And The Spiders From Mars	EMI 4923679 (U) 2
4	2	NORAN JONES: Live In New Orleans	Blue Note 48019 (U) 2
5	5	DANIEL O'DONNELL: Shades Of Green	Positiva 8202481 (U) 2
6	6	QUEEN: Greatest Video Hits - 1	Parlophone 6852949 (U) 2
7	7	LED ZEPPELIN: Song Remains The Same	Warner Bros 5501390 (U) 2
8	7	VARIOUS: The Last Waltz	MGM 73735 (U) 2
9	15	ABBA: The Definitive Collection	Polydor 0174459 (U) 2
10	16	BLUE: One Live Live Tour	Shelco 58104 (U) 2

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11	11	MICHAEL JACKSON: Video Greatest Hits - History	SMI Columbia 501228 (U) 2
12	12	WESTLIFE: Unbreakable - The Greatest Hits - Vol 1	S 747159 (SD) 2
13	13	ZWAN: Many Stars Of The Sea	Reprise 8928482 (U) 2
14	20	ROBBIE WILLIAMS: Live At The Albert	Chrysalis 485053 (U) 2
15	18	DAVID BOWIE: Best Of Bowie	EMI 4923679 (U) 2
16	10	MICHAEL JACKSON: History On Film - Volume II	EMI 501392 (U) 2
17	4	BRIAN WILSON: Do You	Siriusway SV1730 (U) 2
18	12	Ruths And Hums	Cine Video VHF230 (U) 2
19	17	THE CLASH: Wayback To The World	SMI Columbia 208552 (U) 2
20	13	RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS: On The Map	Warner Music Video 728330 (U) 2

## STORE OF THE WEEK

# SNV MUSIC

### STORE DETAILS

The store was opened at the present location in Barnstaple, Devon, in July 1993 by Martin and Liz Sawyer. At that time the town was in the process of expanding and the new shopping centre, where SNV is based, was being built. At that time there was very little competition and this allowed the Sawyers to build a strong market presence. The store sells merchandise as well as CDs, and has launched a website.

**Store size:** 93 sq m  
**Music stocked:** Metal, punk, thrash, death metal, hip hop  
**Areas of specialisation:** Rock and merchandise  
**Local competition:** Our Price, Woolworths, major supermarket chains

### SNV Top 10:

1. **Linkin Park** - Meteora (Warner Bros)
2. **Placebo** - Sleeping With Ghosts (Mut)
3. **Cradle Of Filth** - Damnation And A Day (Epic)
4. **ARI** - Sing The Sorrow (DreamWorks)
5. **Audiotape** - Audiotape (Epic)
6. **Turin Brakes** - Ether Song (Source)
7. **50 Cent** - Get Rich Or Die Tryin' (Interscope)
8. **Sugarcoat** - Start Static (Epitaph)
9. **Coldplay** - Rush Of Blood To The Head (Parlophone)
10. **Cave In** - Antenna (RCA)

### MARTIN SAWYER, CO-OWNER

"We still stock chart material though we don't carry anywhere close to the amount we used to, given the competition in the pop area from the supermarkets. That said we obviously stock chart material that fits our customer base. Linkin Park and Cradle Of Filth are our kind of band and their albums are doing very good business. We're also doing well with the new Placebo album - their back catalogue has always sold consistently here.

When we first opened it was the era of the big hair bands like Bon Jovi and Def Leppard who don't sell in anything like the same quantities these days, though Iron Maiden, from the same period, still sell well. These days the demand is for harder music. We didn't start out as a rock store. We originally had more of a cross-section, but we finally realised that our knowledge of the rock scene was better than anyone else's in the area so it was a natural progression to move into specialising.

Merchandise is something we've done well with, though it is cyclical. It did well when we opened, but with the dance scene in the mid-1990s the whole thing dropped off. Then, about three years ago, it started to pick up again and has seemed to have peaked again. The high point was Christmas 2002 when our metal was fresh. Now that the music is fading, so is the fashion.

There's not a lot around here for teenagers. There are a couple of local pubs that put on bands and a hall that tends to play safe. We try to support the local acts by stocking their CDs and T-shirts. We tend to be the Saturday meeting place for the local rock crowd, though



SNV website helps drive merchandise sales during the week our customers tend to be more mainstream. We've been here long enough to build up a solid rapport with people who were our first customers and have moved on taste-wise. We have been running a loyalty scheme for the past 10 years that gives people discount on their purchases. It starts at 5% but if people are buying a lot then we can give them a bigger discount.

Music seems to be in a lull at the moment, as if waiting for a scene or band to focus on. Singles have pretty much disappeared and the fact that supermarkets can sell chart albums at 99p squeezes the indie's margins mercilessly. On the upside, there are still people who want personal attention or advice, people who really care about music, and these are our customers. You can only ever get that sort of service with an independent."

**Address:** 8 Garmon Walk, Barnstaple, Devon EX31 1DJ  
**Tel:** 01271 323382  
**Fax:** 01271 327017  
**E-mail:** snv@snv2000.com  
**Website:** www.snv2000.com

## NEW RELEASE COUNTDOWN

### ALBUMS

- This week**  
**Ruby Amanfu** Smoke & Honey (Polydor); **Des'ree** Dream Soldier (S2); **Mis-Teq** Eye Candy (Telstar); **Pink Floyd** Dark Side Of The Moon - 30th Anniversary Edition (EMI); **The White Stripes** Elephant (XL)
- April 7**  
**Attila** Vehicles & Animals (Parlophone); **The Donnas** Spend The Night (EastWest); **Smog** Slupper (Domino); **Luchina Williams** Walk Under Tears (Lost Highway); **Yo La Tengo** Summer Sun (Matador)
- April 14**  
**Cream** At The BBC (Polydor); **Roo-DMC** Greatest Hits (Profile/Arista); **Scuder** The Stadium Track Experience (Sheffield Tunes/Edel UK)
- April 21**  
**Grand Prix Football Club** Shampoo Victims (Arista); **Madonna** American Life (Maverick); **Kym Marsh** Standing Tall (Polydor); **MJ Cole** Cut To The Chase (Talkin' Loud); **Verloren** Hope (WEA)
- April 28**  
**Goldtrap** Black Chryx (Mute); **Macy Gray** The Trouble With Being Myself (Epic); **Jan McCulloch** Stieling (Cooking Vinyl); **David Sedaris** Seven Years - Ten Weeks (Mercury); **Yeah Yeah Yeahs** Fever To Tell (B-Nuque)
- May 5**  
**Abs 2t** (B); **Brian Tusk** (Parlophone); **Four Tet** Roudins (Domino); **Gang Starr** The Owens (Virgin)
- May 12**  
**Marilyn Manson** The Golden Age Of Grotesque (Interscope/Polydor); **The Pretendees** Loose Screw (Eagle); **Various** A Decade Of Dance (Postiva)

## IN-STORE NEXT WEEK: FROM 7/4/03



**Press ads** - Bach, Atomic Kitten, Richard X vs Liberty X  
**In-store** - Athlete, Pink Floyd, Atomic Kitten, Richard X vs Liberty X, NERD, David Bowie, Celine Dion, Placebo, Run-DMC, Malachi, Abi Goo, Paul McCartney, Bangles, Placebo, Y4K, Mo'Nique - Me C, Turin Brakes, Idlewild; **Windows** - Placebo, Paul McCartney



**Singles** - Daniel Bedingfield, Kym Marsh, Erasure, Run-DMC, Malachi; **Albums** - Meatloaf, Lighthouse Family, Ultimate Smokey Album, White Label Euphoria, X List, Kitch Lounge Riot, Athlete, Jayhawks, Ja Rule



**Windows** - White Stripes, The Osbourne Series  
**1. In-store** - Jayhawks, Hot Hot Heat, Velvet Underground, Pink Floyd, Mis-Teq, Des'ree. Songs: 2 for £22 and two for £10 on CDs, DVDs from £7.99 and three for two on books and CDs; **Listening posts** - Lucinda Williams, White Stripes, The Beatles, Celine Dion, Robbie Williams



**In-store** - Channel 2, Autocure, Jacques Lu Cont, Smog, All Tomorrows Parties 3.0, Yo La Tengo, Aidan Smith, Jay Alanzi



**In-store** - Daniel Bedingfield, David Gray, Richard Ashcroft, Erasure, Marc et Stripes; **Press ads** - Kym Marsh, White Stripes, Jay Z, Spiritualized



**Main promotion** - Easter sale; **Listening posts** - Very Best Classical Chiffout, Very Best Of Slaves; **Windows** - Osbourne Series 1, West Wing Series 2; **In-store** - X List, Kitch Lounge Riot



**Select listening posts** - The Detroit Experiment, Blood Brothers, Desert Island Discs, Katatonia, **Sainsbury's**: Mojo recommended retailers - Friends Of Dean Martinez, Biju Barton, Blues Traveler, State River Widening, Howe Gelb, John Doe; **Album** - Joe Jackson Band



**Albums** - White Stripes, Meatloaf, Annual Spring 2003, Urban Flaws 2; **Press ads** - Hits 55



**Sainsbury's Albums** - Classic FM Hall Of Fame Gold, Kitch Lounge Riot, Simon Mulligan, White Label Euphoria Level 2, Rodigan Kids Presents 25th Anniversary, Lighthouse Family, Queens Of The Stone Age, Classical Chiffout, X List



**Albums** - Now Dance 2003, Reggae Love Songs, Mis-Teq, Shania Twain; **Singles** - Avril Lavigne, Atomic Kitten; **In-store** - Mis-Teq, White Stripes, Pink Floyd, Hot Hot Heat, Mariah Carey, Daniel Bedingfield, Nas



**In-store** - Trojan campaign, Proper boxed sets campaign; **Windows** - Neros



**Singles** - Harry, Kym Marsh, Queens Of The Stone Age; **Windows** - The X List, Kitch Lounge Riot; **TV ads** - Harry, D'Side; **Press ads** - Sandy Rivera, Miami XL, Autocure, Bob Sinclar, Queens Of The Stone Age



**In-store** - Avril Lavigne, Atomic Kitten, No Doubt, Now dance, Mis-Teq, Pure R & B, The Annual 2003



**Offer** - David Gray; **Albums** - Atomic Kitten, Classical Chiffout, In-store - David Gray, Atomic Kitten, Classical Chiffout, Urban Flaws 2, David Gray, Daniel Bedingfield, Kym Marsh, 56k

### SINGLES

#### This week

- April**  
**Aria** Little Things (Universal); **Atomic Kitten** Love Doesn't Have To Hurt (Interscope); **Celine Dion** I Drove All Night (Epic); **The Donnas** Take It Off (EastWest); **Eve** Satisfaction (Ruff Ryders/Interscope); **Avril Lavigne** I'm With You (Arista)
- April 7**  
**Daniel Bedingfield** I Can't Read You (Spindrift); **David Gray** Go Myra (HTF/EastWest); **Kym Marsh** Cry (Universal); **Queens Of The Stone Age** With The Flow (Interscope/Polydor); **Run-DMC** feat. **Jackie Lee** It's Tricky 2003 (Profile/BMG)
- April 14**  
**Blair** Out Of Time (Parlophone); **D-Side** Speechless (Blacklist/Edel/A&E); **Jay-Z** Excuse Me Miss (Roo-A-Fella/Mercury); **Madonna** American Life (Maverick); **Robbie Williams** Come Undone (EMI); **Yeah Yeah Yeahs** Dead With The Night (B-Nuque)
- April 21**  
**Bhangra Knights** With Hisuan Husan (Postiva); **Gusted** You Said No (Universal); **DMX X** Bonie Boy II To Ya (Def Jam/Mercury); **Macy Gray** When I See You (Epic); **David Sedaris** Don't Let Go (Mercury); **The White Stripes** Seven Nation Army (XL)
- April 28**  
**Craig David** feat. **Sine Rise** & **Fall** (Wildstar); **Good Charlotte** Boys & Girls (Columbia); **Groove Armada** Easy Peppery; **Ronan Keating** The Long Goodbye (Polydor); **Dino Lenny** Vs **Housemartins** Change The World (Edel); **Kelly Rowland** Can't Nobody (Columbia)

### May 5

- The Cheeky Girls** Take Your Shoes Off (Multiply); **The Dandy Warhols** We Used To Be Friends (Capitol); **Electric Six** Gay Bar (XL); **Feeder** Forget About Tomorrow (Echlo); **Kelly Osbourne** Dig Me Out (Epic); **Styphanie Soul** Reply (Profile)
- May 12**  
**Bon Jovi** (re: Mercury); **Foo Fighters** Here It All (RCA); **Girls Aloud** No Good Advice (Polydor); **Junior Senior** (re: Mercury); **Sean Paul** Get Busy (Mercury); **Timberlake** Your Body (Jive)

## SALES WATCH: BOYZONE

**BOYZONE: BALLADS - THE LOVE SONG COLLECTION (UNIVERSAL TV)**

**LW Chart position:** 6  
**Pie chart** show sales by retailer type and retailer



**Geographical region** respectively for sales week to the end of March 23, 2003.  
**Source:** Official Charts Company.



...DIARY...DIARY...

Plianist and composer Andrew Hill embarks on a major UK tour in May, Creator of celebrated album Point of Departure, arguably one of the best jazz records of the Sixties. Hill will tour with an Anglo-American band featuring Gregory Tardy, Ron Horton, Nasheet Waits, Denys Baptiste, Tony Kofi and Jason Yarde

(pictured) among others. The tour kicks off in Manchester on May 20 and concludes at the Bath International Festival on May 24 after taking in London, Basingstoke and Birmingham. For full details visit

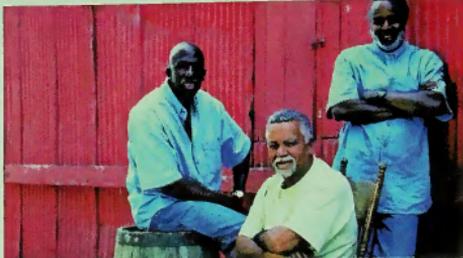
www.cmntours.org.uk... The Association for Recorded Sound Collections, the leading body of the world's music libraries and collections, has just announced the nominations for its 2003 awards for excellence. Included are two titles from the Continuum jazz list, Oscar Peterson's A Jazz Odyssey (edited by British author Richard Palmer) and John Clifton's Roy Eldridge: Little Jazz Giant. The winning title will be announced at the annual ARSC conference at Philadelphia in May... The Barbican's Only Continuo series is currently underway. From April 21-22, the London venue presents trumpeter Terence Blanchard (pictured) in a performance of the film music of Spike Lee. A long-standing collaborator of the controversial American filmmaker, Blanchard has composed many Lee scores over the years. His quintet will be joined by a chamber orchestra and guest vocalist Dianna Reeves... American saxophonist Steve Coleman has completed his second album for French imprint Label Bleu. On The Rising of 64 Paths features flautist extraordinaire Magic Malik as well as regular Coleman collaborators Sean Rickman, Anthony Tidd and Reggie Washington and will be released in the next month or so...

# CRUSADERS END 13-YEAR HIATUS WITH NEW ALBUM

Joe Sample, Wilton Felder and Six Hooper of veteran jazz-funkers The Crusaders have re-united for their first studio album since the bad split in the early-Eighties. The initial breakup in itself came several years after the departure of Wayne Henderson, the fourth founding member of the Texan group, but even with only three-quarters of the original lineup on board, new album Rural Renewal, out now on Verve, is very much a return to the snappy, groove-heavy Seventies sound that peaked commercially with the chart smash Street Life.

What Rural Renewal lacks in innovation it makes up for in feeling with Sample's bulky, buttery rhodes and Felder's dry, muscular tenor imparting a bluesy charge to proceedings. According to Sample, Rural Renewal — which is produced by long-time Crusaders' collaborator Stewart Levine and features a stellar cast of sidemen including Arthur Adams and Ray Parker Jr — does not mark a reunion so much as a continuation. After several years of solo projects, the pianist was ready for a challenge.

"I suppose that I really wanted to feel the buzz of something new and it felt as if now was the time to get something back together," says Sample. "The last time [the three of us] worked together as The Crusaders was in 1982 and shortly after, I guess, the bottom fell out of everything. I mean, in both our personal lives as well as the music industry. That was when Six Hooper left the band and there were all kinds of problems. Wilton and I stopped playing as the Crusaders in 1990 and I went



The Crusaders: three of the four founding members have reunited

on to Warner Bros. Everybody thought that I left The Crusaders. Well, I have been the president of The Crusaders corporation since 1982. I really didn't leave The Crusaders, they left me. I was the president of an organisation that wasn't functioning."

Rural Renewal shows that, despite their trials and tribulations over the years, The Crusaders have lost none of the R&B vocabulary of their Texas heartland. "We wanted to keep the harmonies to a minimal sophistication and still emphasise the feeling," Sample explains. "All the other guys that I was associated with in the Sixties and Seventies, we loved to hear music that could touch us. To be frank, we're not very fond at

all of new Rhythm and Blues or R&B. The nature of our music is spirit, soul and groove. I don't think that a lot of today's very manufactured R&B and even smooth jazz has that."

But to a large extent artists such as the Crusaders, along with Grover Washington Jr and Bob James, paved the way for today's smooth jazz artists. "It's true that smooth jazz is an outgrowth of what The Crusaders and other bands had produced in the late Sixties," says Sample. "Although there was nothing smooth about what we were doing. The whole point was to make music that balanced jazz and rhythm & blues."

Kevin Le Gendre (klegchesprint@aol.com)



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**DVD1023**

**Swing Era**

**DUKE ELLINGTON**

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**DVD1024**

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**DVD1028**

**Swing Era**

**DUKE ELLINGTON**

Includes recordings with Duke Ellington and His Orchestra, Duke Ellington and others.

**DVD1029**

**Swing Era**

**DUKE ELLINGTON**

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## REVIEWS

STEVE LACY/ANTHONY COX/DANIEL HUMAIR: Work (Sketch SNE33028). This is a trio record par excellence. On Work, the centrifugal force of the ensemble

determines just about everything that is played. And what an incredible group of players is present: soprano sax giant Steve Lacy, one of Europe's great American expatriates, the veteran French drummer Daniel Humair and the forty-something American bassist Anthony Cox. The combination of Humair's forceful yet elastic drumming and Cox's flickering, percussive basslines is captivating, creating an Africanised barrage of sound on some tracks. With Humair as a shifting anchor, Cox

and Lacy move around with blithe assurance, intermittently coming back to the safe shores of the blues, all the while surging into the choppy waters of free improvisation. Confident enough to play the spaces as well as the notes, Lacy, Cox and Humair have created – in a way not dissimilar to Henri Texier's Les Remparts D'Argile – a resonant, very physical language using the most precise and detailed vocabulary. This could well be the first classic of 2003.



OMAR SOSA/GUSTAVO OVALLES: Ayaguna (Ota OTA1010). Barcelona-based Cuban pianist Omar Sosa is one of the most important new voices in globally-inflected jazz; the

term Latin jazz is too limiting to describe him as his music is greatly coloured by African and North African rhythms too. He made his live debut in London last year amid high expectations and, if truth be told, he did not quite produce the magic that characterises several superb albums such as *Sentir*, *Spirit Of The Roots* and *Prietos*. This live start with percussionist Gustavo Ovalles provides reassurance that Sosa can more than deliver the goods on stage though: it is simply a great performance from start to finish.

Sosa's music can sometimes be top-heavy, such is the ambitious range of his influences, but in this pared-down setting he sounds superb; both eloquent and passionate, pumping out languid, fluent rhythms and then breaking them up into staggered, at times duo-like showers of chords. Ovalles' crisp yet measured accompaniment is spot on.



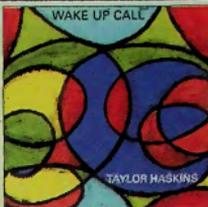
LAURENT DE WILDE: Stories (Warner 0927497322). The Franco-American pianist's last album was the grandly-titled *Time For Change* and marked the

former neo-bopper's entry into the world of electronics and state-of-the-art production. It had some OKish moments, but the record's rather anachronistic jurgisms fell

## ALBUM of the month

TAYLOR HASKINS: Wake Up Call (Fresh Sound FSNT145 CD). Haskins has played with lesser-known musicians, which may well count for his relative obscurity, but this breathtaking debut should soon put paid to that. Built around Haskins' deeply emotive, at times mournful writing and vivid trumpet playing, *Wake Up Call* manages the far from easy feat of referring many different idioms while retaining a distinctive identity. At times you're listening to cinematic, ambient rock with better harmonic content. At others, electronic funk comes into the frame but with more melody. In other words, *Wake Up Call* gives us a very skilled, synthesising reflection of everything that is good about popular music today without falling into pastiche. Holding it together is the finesse of the leader that clearly shows the influence of Kenny Wheeler; he plays with a self-facing, chamberlike sensitivity at times, but his lines are so beautifully constructed and well-placed that the understatement is never less than powerful. Even when Haskins gets funky, he retains a quality of statement that perfectly serves his arrangements. In fact, it seems Haskins is not interested in solos, such is the richness of the union lines and themes of *Wake Up*. Strong support from Andrew Rathbun, Guillermo Klein, Ben Monder and Ben Street is the icing on the cake. If you liked Andrew Rathbun's *Jade* and Reid Anderson's *The Vestness Of Space* then you'll love this. A major statement on behalf of the vibrant post-modernism of independent contemporary jazz.

well short of any definition of a worthwhile and possibly new template. The change didn't wanna make us hustle. That said De Wilde's live performances were infinitely better than what came out of the studio and life on the road also brought a fortuitous encounter with producer/multi-instrumentalist Smadi, who programmes on several tracks and co-produces this new album. This is a clear step forward from *Time For Change* and shows De Wilde to be much more balanced in his negotiation of improvisation and beats than on the previous set. The rhythmic content – still heavily drum & bass-inflected at times – is much stronger, the programming and production punchier and the writing more emotionally charged. It will be interesting to see where De Wilde goes next.



## REISSUES

Universal has a superlative batch of LPR catalogue titles this month, led by saxophonist Archie Shepp's classic *Attica Blues* and Albert Ayler's *Music Is The Healing Force Of The Universe*. The former is a politically-charged classic that has lost none of its power some 30 years after its release, and the latter is perhaps even more poignant than Shepp's record in this dark hour for international relations. *The Healing Force Of The Universe* was the most spiritual offering from Ayler, the original enfant terrible of the avant-garde. Other LPR reissues to look out for are Dorothy Ashby's Afro-harping, Gabor Szabó's *High Contrast*, Jim Hall's *Live And By Brown's Jazz Cello*.

Meanwhile, Sony has split its four-CD *Louis Armstrong* box set of 2001 – *The Hot Seven* – into single CDs. As for *Blue Note*, its April schedule includes a hefty bout of vaulting: *Nat Adderley's Soul Of The Bible*, Eddie Gale's *Black Rhythm Happening* and Gary Bartz's *Music Is My Sanctuary* are the pick of the bunch.

## Playlist



OMAR SOSA/GUSTAVO OVALLES – *Trip In The White Scar* (Ota).

Enchanting piano and percussion duet that sounds like Lee Perry putting Chucho Valdes through the echo chamber.

TAYLOR HASKINS – *Wake Up Call* (Fresh Sound). Blinding and individual piece from the trumpeter's outstanding debut.

STEVE COLEMAN – *Eight Base Probing* (Label Blue). Monstrous, oozy groove from the American saxophonist's forthcoming album.

JEFF PARKER – *Like Coping* (Delmark). Chicago Underground Quartet guitarist on fine minimalist form on the title track of his long-awaited solo debut.

Co-written and

composed by

Smadi.

With collaborations

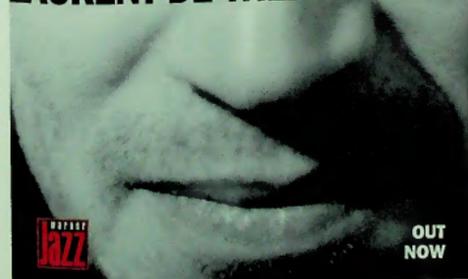
by singer Malia

and flautist

Oriando Maraca

Valle.

## LAURENT DE WILDE STORIES



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# RECOMMENDED CATALOGUE NEW RELEASES

**MEAT LOAF: Bat Out Of Hell 25th Anniversary Edition**  
*(Atlantic/Clevedon International/Legacy)*  
 9085835. One of the biggest selling albums of all time, Bat Out Of Hell will be 25 years old this year. But that's not the mark occasion, Sony has packaged the 2001 expanded edition - which adds three bonus discs to the original disc set - and upgrades the sound - with the live disc Of Hell DVD. "Bat" is a landmark rock album, full of bombastic, Wagnerian arrangements of Jim Steinman tunes and OIT vocals from Meat Loaf. Not to mention some brilliant tongue-in-cheek lyrics and catchy melodies. It sold 50,000 copies last year, and its phenomenal appeal can only increase thanks to this new edition.

## SINGLES

1	AKI KANE BEAT SABA Afrobeat/Ethio	CD	145498 KUN	145498 KUN
2	ALAN MATHIAS NATURALISM	CD	DM 12959	
3	ALAN MATHIAS NATURALISM	CD	DM 12959	
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**VARIOUS: Chartbusters 3**  
*(Ace CDCHD)*  
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**VARIOUS: 80's**  
*(Decade/Degoold)*  
 Decade is a low-cost, price-quality label collaboration between Demon and Ministry Of Sound that has released more than 50 albums since 2001. This is one of the best to date, featuring 150 tracks in a single of single new CD. Each disc contains 10 tracks, allowing the inclusion of full-length and rare 12-inch mixes such as Thinking About You Love Delirium by Tinashe and the cult favourite Hat The Day's Gone And I Haven't Earned A Penny by Kenny Lynch. Yes, Tarby's pal, Shannon Mal Tai, Freez, Imagination, the Jones Girls and Dynasty are all here too in an excellent compilation, which really captures the spirit of Eighties dance music.

**VARIOUS: Kitsch Lounge Riot (BMG TV 74321971282)**  
 Cut club night Kitsch Lounge Riot has scored regular sold-out nights in London, Edinburgh and Birmingham, and this three-disc set is a musical statement of what the club is all about. With individual discs devoted to kitsch, Top Christian's powerful Avenue 8, Ayleen's Birmingham (Downtown), Louisa Simons's Feeling Good, Gunter Kalman's Daydream) and not (Blondie's) Call Me, Edwin Starr's Star) is both a worthy reminder for those who have attended the club and a testament to its own right. Alan Jones

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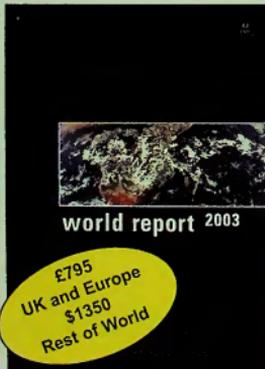
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## OFF THE RECORD

## TEAMWORK NOT EGOS: THE KEY TO MY SUCCESS RUNNING BMG UK



When I came to BMG UK three years ago, I was pretty certain that the company I was going to work for was responsible for not breaking my Swedish artists. I soon realised that it wasn't BMG, not even the industry, but the attitude of the whole island that worked against any foreign act trying to make it in the UK.

You simply see things differently than the rest of Europe (I still hear people say 'Europe and the UK) and you still think that you dominate the world.

The UK marketplace is the most sophisticated in Europe, and some of the people working in the music companies here are the best I've come across in my career. They do deserve every penny they make. At the same time, we are paying mediocre people much more than most brilliant 'mainland' Europeans will ever see. It doesn't really make sense.

One hit and you're a genius, one failure and you're history - and that goes for artists and personnel. Surely there must be room for developing both artists and employees; give them time to make mistakes, learn from them and come back with a better proposition.

If we in the record companies don't allow artists to grow, we will perish. There has to be a healthy balance between out-of-the-box hits and long-term development.

I was very lucky to be "given" a company that had already learnt an important lesson. Lucky, because I could never have taught BMG UK what Richard Griffiths did, and that was "how to plan", to go through every detail, to be on top of every issue and have the knowledge of the marketplace.

What has made BMG UK a great company (and trust me, it isn't last), however, Richard Griffiths or myself, but the way of people willing to take the risk of changing directions, willing to look and find new avenues to promote and market music. Add to that amazing release schedules and you get results. In a highly competitive, declining market we delivered the best results the company ever had. Because we're geniuses? No, it is because we allowed ourselves to make mistakes and worked as a team instead of working on inflating our egos.

Hasse Bretholtz leaves his post as BMG UK and Ireland chairman/CEO this week to start a management, production and publishing venture in his native Sweden

● Off The Record is a personal view

## THE BIG QUESTION

## CAN BANG FIND ROOM IN THE INDIE ROCK MAGAZINE MARKET?

Polly Birkehead, head of press V2

"I'm not quite sure what demographic gap they want to bridge - they say they are going for a different audience from the NME, but it seems to be quite similar, it looks great, the first issue has a great cover and it is pretty exciting, so it looks, pretty promising. Q has gone quite mainstream, so maybe this will fill that gap for a more alternative monthly."



Dave Henderson, EMP Performance rock managing director

"They're going to have a real job surviving because they haven't any ads. You're not going to pay £3-30 if it hasn't got a CD and it's too obscure. Some of the ideas are good, but they're really going to struggle. They're up against the NME and the NME is falling." Jim Batchelor, Woodwards and MVO head of commercial

"There always needs to be a point of difference and we are not short of entertainment and music titles. I don't know where Bang will fit in and I suppose consumers will judge whether they will get anything else from it that they can't get elsewhere."

Sharon Tobitt, BMG press officer

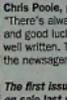
"Bang is a welcome addition to the news-stands. It's got a quality team of writers behind it with a good sense of humour. I like the design, feel and layout with cool photography and creative use of illustrations. The £1 launch price will obviously introduce readers to the magazine."

Rob Partridge, Coalition PR founder

"We applaud any new entry in the music market. There's an imperative of widening the business for music appreciation as well as possible."

James Hopkins, SPR press officer

"It is always good to have alternative avenues for all the special things that are often too leftfield to penetrate the mainstream. There are lots of good magazines and great music journalists in this country, and Bang's agenda, enthusiasm and writers should be welcomed with open arms."



Chris Poole, press officer

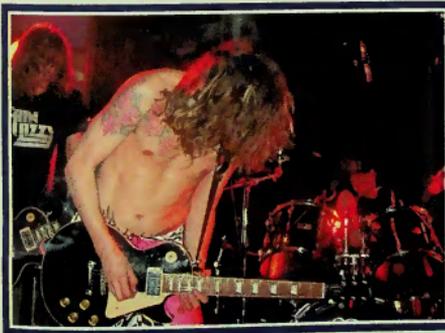
"There's always room for a good read. It's a difficult climate and good luck to them. But I think there will be room if it is well written. The difficulty I have is being able to find it in the newsagent."

The first issue of Future Publishing's Bang magazine went on sale last week

## DIARY

Remember where you heard it: Scrub the Ivors Live concert from your diaries this year. The event was due to debut at London's Royal Albert Hall on May 23 but the day after the songwriting awards, but organisers have now postponed it until next year because they say the Iraq war could send their security and insurance costs sky high. However, despite having six acts already in place, it is understood there would also be internal concerns about the quality of the line-up the event had secured... The name's up for one leading PR and promotions outfit, which is about to be rebranded as part of efforts to widen its remit... Ex-Chrysalis heavyweight Steve Lewis was relaxing in the sunshine last week reading Great Expectations - rather apt as he weighs up a new business move in the industry... Lewis's onetime colleague Chris Wright was expected to be among more than 70 people of the late indie Chrysalis Records, including staff, artists and managers, due to meet for a reunion in the Big Apple last Saturday. The company's co-founder Terry Ellis was also among those expected to turn up at the shill-ign in Manhattan alongside a host of former employees... Resolution of an empty MD post plus one of the longest-running sagas of label negotiations of recent times seem finally to be in the home straight. No wonder one of the key protagonists brought a holiday... Could it be that the BPI is being brought kicking and screaming into the touchy-feely noughties? Dooley hears that management bods from the trade org de-camped to the West Country last Friday for an "away-day" in a venue that was particularly familiar to one of them. Reports that Andrew Yeates and Peter Jamieson were seen walking on hot coals while singing the BPI company song were unconfirmed at the time of going to press... The White Stripes unleash their splendid Elephant album on the tour this week and to mark the occasion their label XL Recordings has painted its entire office red and white (seen right, with the XL staff) in honour of the LP...

Just down the road Mark Jones was touched, if not a little bemused, when Scissor Sisters - who, after a lengthy courtship, finally opted to sign with Polydor rather than his Wall Of Sound imprint - sent him an endearing note accompanying a big Harrods food hamper... He's been trying to get on the cover of a magazine for years and now he's finally achieved it. But GQ lost out on the exclusive, as Telstar managing director Jeremy Marsh gave the scoop to London's Evening Standard Homes & Property magazine, who snooted around the Marsh country pile last week in the name of stylish country living... Marsh has also been busy in his role as fund raising committee co-chairman of Nordoff Robbins Music Therapy organising a Silver Cef concert set for May 15 at Manchester Arena. The lineup already includes Blue, Atomic Kitten, Liberty X and Busted along with Telstar turns Craig David and Mee-Tue... It could all turn nasty at April 9's Music Radio Conference when Radio One's Wes Butters, Hit 40 UK's Neil Fox and Smash Hits Chart's Mark Goodier fight it out over who hosts the most important Sunday evening chart countdown...



They're enough to make any party go with a bang. So that's exactly why The Darkness (pictured) took time out from negotiating one of the biggest record deals in the world - ever... - to launch Bang magazine at London's 93 Feet East last Tuesday. The new Future Publishing monthly music title makes its debut with a cover features on The Flaming Lips. Guests at the bash were wowed with a variety of neat tricks courtesy of some magicians and enough free booze to ensure that by the time The Darkness took to the stage late into the evening, everyone thought they were watching Queen circa 1976.

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