



08.10.05/£4.25

**In this week's issue: Newcomer primes CD swap service;
Indie retailers discuss the market Plus: the charts in full**

MUSICWEEK



CMP
United Business Media

65 million album
sales worldwide

Enya

Amarantine
Produced by
Nicky Ryan
The new album
21.11.05

A Day Without Rain achieved worldwide sales of 13 million.

UK	2x platinum
Australia	3x platinum
Belgium	1x platinum
Canada	9x platinum
Denmark	1x platinum
France	2x gold
Germany	2x platinum
Holland	2x platinum
Italy	3x platinum
Japan	5x platinum
Spain	2x platinum
Sweden	1x platinum
US	6x platinum

Five years after **A Day Without Rain**, Warners is proud to release **Amarantine**, Enya's fifth studio album.

Marketing Campaign

Posters:

National 96 sheet campaign including Cromwell Road

Press:

Full page ads in Hello, Marie Claire, Red, Easy Living, Radio Times plus 20x3 colour ads in Independent, Guardian, Sunday Times, Evening Standard, Daily Express and Telegraph

TV:

Female ABC1's 30" commercial to appear on ITV/GMTV/Channel4/Sky News/UK Gold/UK Living/Classic FMTV

Radio:

30" commercial to appear on Magic, Classic FM, LBC





Interview W 20

MUSICWEEK



Legal threats hit file-sharing clients

P2P firms under attack

Downloads

by Nicola Slater

The music industry was last week hailing one of the most significant weeks in the battle against illegal file-sharing services, as three of the web's largest peer-to-peer clients toppled like dominoes.

After the RIAA issued written warnings three weeks ago to owners of seven US-based P2P clients, WinMX, LimeWire and eDonkey last week either closed their doors, or announced that they are seeking to legitimise their businesses.

The warnings, issued on September 13, came in the light of the summer's Grokster judgement, which gave US courts the power to sue and demand damages from owners of P2P clients. In the letters, the RIAA stated, "We demand that you immediately cease-and-desist from enabling and inducing the infringement of RIAA member sound recordings."

MetaMachine CEO Sam Yagan, who is responsible for the deployment of the eDonkey application, told an RIAA committee last week, "I am not here as an active participant in the future of P2P, but rather as one who has thrown in his towel and with no interest in replaying past issues."

A BPI source suggests that P2P may be at a tipping point. Simon Biggs, a lawyer with Wiggins,

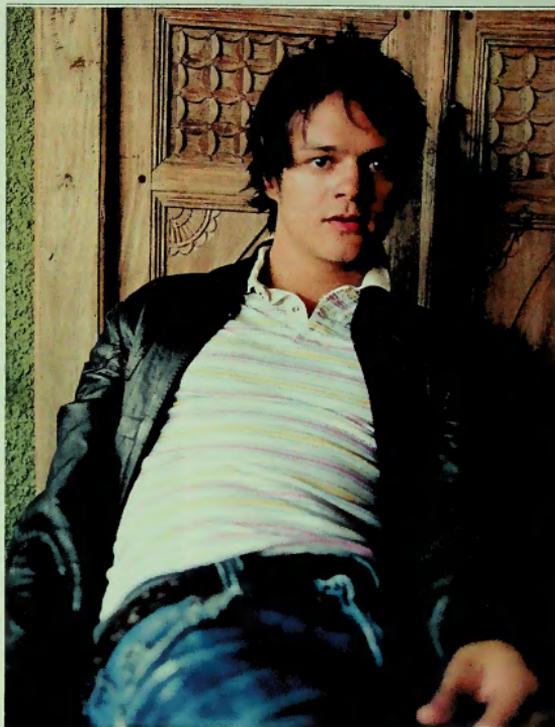
which has been working on the BPI's actions against serial uploaders, adds, "The Grokster and Kazaa cases make it far harder to monetise an unlicensed service - hence several P2P operators are now making a hasty retreat."

"P2P won't die but may well fast become a legitimate alternative as the record industry's success forces companies in this area to seek out appropriate licences and adopt available filtering techniques."

Universal Digital Services Division director Rob Wells adds a word of caution. "It might contribute to a slowdown in illegitimate transactions and potentially be a catalyst to bring legitimate P2P services forward," he says. "But to say that these developments might mark the end of P2P is a little premature."

Indeed, P2P traffic is expected to migrate to lesser-known clients following the closure of the "big-name" services, which, according to Big Champagne data, can attract up to 2m simultaneous connections.

File-sharing advisory website Styck.com has already listed its preferred P2P alternatives including BitTorrent sites such as OpenNap, FileTopia and DirectConnect. However, the founders of the original BitTorrent client are also currently raising \$6.75m venture capital, suggesting that they are seeking ways to go legitimate. nicola@musicweek.com



Cullum sits pretty after iTunes push

Jamie Cullum's growing global profile was underlined last week, after an exclusive pre-release deluxe download of his Catching Tales album topped iTunes Music Store charts in the UK and Europe.

The album was yesterday (Sunday) due to enter the Top Five of the albums chart.

Cullum's virtual album was made available on iTunes a week before the release of the physical album last Monday; the specially-prepared digital bundle included live audio and video performances from Ronnie Scott's jazz club, the video for the single Get Your Way and a downloadable CD booklet.

Its success follows a similar US campaign for Cullum's Twentysomething album, which was promoted by the retailer with

a free download of the track All At Sea. Cullum's manager, Marc Connor at Airm International, says that 35% of consumers who downloaded the track went on to purchase the digital album.

The digital version is one of a range of formats for the album, which, in addition to a single-disc version, was also issued as a deluxe limited-edition physical release, with a DVD documentary and extended sleeve notes.

Swap shop sets sights on CDs

New venture Swopex launches website offering consumers the chance to swap used DVDs - and CDs are next **p4**

Downloads help slow chart down

MW's analysis of the effects of including downloads in the chart highlights that many singles have a longer chart life **p6**



Voices from the counter culture

MW gathers independent retailers for a Bard-backed summit to hear their views on the state of the market **p7**

For the latest news as it happens, log on to MUSICWEEK.com



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Managers back publishers over online royalty dispute

The Music Managers' Forum has nailed its colours to the mast over the battle of online royalties, backing the publishers in their impending copyright tribunal battle with the record industry.

The UK managers' association is highlighting its position for the first time, in full page advertisements in *Music Week* and the *NME*, as it launches its Know More Campaign, an initiative to encourage greater understanding of the business among bands and managers.

In its ad, the MMF states, "Artists/writers: your income is under attack!"

"Did you know the BPI has actually joined forces with the music service providers and the mobile phone networks in an

attack on the music writers' collection society in order to reduce the money paid to artists/writers by at least 30% on digitally distributed music? No more - it's time to move."

The advertisement adds, "The MMF intends to intervene on behalf of its members and their artists/writers and challenge the record industry against this latest injustice and discuss how the industry as a whole must change."

The MMF declined to comment on the campaign launch ahead of a "summit" meeting at the In The City conference in Manchester today (Monday), but the move is understood to represent a stepping-up of the organisation's campaigning role. Details of the new initiative are also available at

www.know-more-campaign.com.

The announcement comes as the MCPS-PRS Alliance continues talks with record industry association the BPI to postpone the deadline by which the publisher/writers' association is due to deliver its response. MCPS-PRS was due to deliver its response to the BPI's Copyright Tribunal referral today (Monday), but is understood to be seeking a two-month extension.

The BPI says the MCPS-PRS is using delaying tactics, which it suggests threaten the development of the digital music business. It says that although the alliance should have responded within 28 days, the BPI agreed extra time to respond until this week.

BPI chairman Peter Jamieson says, "We are surprised that after all this time the alliance is still not confident enough in its case to explain why it believes that its scheme is reasonable and to put this explanation before the tribunal."

"Such delaying tactics can hardly help build confidence in the emerging download market. Undermining this exciting new market does nothing to help songwriters and composers. Alliance chief executive Adam Singer would do his members and the wider music industry a service if he spent more time preparing his case, and less time engaging in a divisive and time-wasting press war with the music community."

"If he is confident in his case, he should bring it before the tribunal. If, as we suspect, he is not, then he should return to the negotiating table."

In a terse statement, a MCPS-PRS spokesman responded, "There is nothing in this tribunal process that is stopping anyone from buying an iTunes or that is preventing the 100 companies we have already licensed from building the online music market."

The BPI referred the MCPS-PRS Alliance to the copyright tribunal at the end of June over its licensing for the online world; it was joined in the action by online services AOL, iTunes Music Store, MusicNet, Napster, RealNetworks, Sony Connect and Yahoo!.

Download service boss set to tell labels to temper their urge to cash in on mobile bonanza

Monstermob urges realistic pricing

Mobile

by Martin Talbot

Monstermob CEO Martin Higginson is urging the record industry to be realistic about the revenue they seek from the new mobile music download business, insisting that the burgeoning business could be forced underground.

Higginson will this week confirm Monstermob's plans to launch the first mobile download subscription service in the UK on December 1, offering users unlimited, mobile downloads for an all-in price of £3 a month.

But he believes unrealistic demands from the record industry could force such services to falter at birth, leaving consumers with the choice between overpriced legitimate services, or free illegitimate ones.

Higginson is due to make a keynote address at the In The City

conference in Manchester today (Monday) in which he will accuse certain record companies of demanding as much as £1 a track for mobile downloads.

The £1 fee per track for mobile compares to 30p or so for PC-based downloads, he adds, with labels expecting to cash in on the mobile business because of the high prices which ringtones have been able to fetch in recent years.

Mobile downloads are already being pegged at almost twice the price of a PC download, at around £1.50 each, he says. This results in VAT of just over 22p, 12p in MCPS royalties and 33p in network fees, leaving each mobile retailer with a 17p loss per download.

Higginson says that he believes labels view the arrival of the mobile music market as "an opportunity to fill their boots with short-term cash", a strategy which he believes will send the business illegitimate.



Higginson: In The City keynote speech

"They are going to force the people with mobile phones underground again and into illegal music," he says. "That is not where we see the future, or the labels see the future."

"If you go into the high street to try to buy a phone today and ask the shop assistant how to put

music onto it, you will be told not to bother with across-the-air downloads," he says. "Instead, you are being encouraged to go buy and piece of software and do it yourself. That is what is going on."

With projections indicating that 3bn mobile phones will be owned worldwide within five to six years, the potential for this market will dwarf that of the PC download business, he says. Such an explosion will leave mobile penetration at double the rate of the internet, he says, with 1.6bn web connections expected within the same timeframe. Already, there are 1.6bn mobile phones on the planet, compared to 16m iPods.

Higginson says Monstermob is in talks with several of the major record companies, ready for the December 1 launch of the service.

The Monstermob download service will differ from those currently on the market in the UK both because it offers downloads

as part of a subscription package, but also because it will be accessible by any mobile phone user, regardless of their network, and without the need for a 3G phone.

The tracks downloaded under subscription will be subject to a "fair use" restriction, although it is yet to be determined whether this will follow a Napster-style system, which sees tracks time out shortly after a subscription expires.

The service will also allow consumers to subscribe for short periods of time, hence the decision to peg the price at a "per week" rate. Higginson believes mobile music services will begin to explode next year, with Nokia's N91 phone set to be the first phone with significant capacity on the market. While Sony Ericsson's Walkman phone can hold around 130 tracks, the 4GB N91 has a capacity equivalent to a Mini iPod, around 3,000 tracks.

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THE MUSIC WEEK PLAYLIST



GIRLS ALOUD
Biology
(Polydor)
This is a strong step forward from Girls Aloud. A catchy, fresh sound that harks back to girlies era girl groups (single, November 31)



WOLF/MOTHER
Mine's Eye
(Modular)
The first single from Wolfmother's debut album is a psychedelic bane with Black Sabbath and Pink Floyd influences (single, November 31)



RHYMERFEST
WEST
(Brand New/Sony BMG)
Jays Walks producer secures strong guest spot from West on this debut solo single (single, December 5)



LORRAINE
Saved (unsigned)
Part Pat Stone Boys, part Aha, this Danish trio are attracting a flurry of A's attention and rightly so - they pen strong pop tunes and look great. Won't be unsigned for long



MADONNA
Confessions On A Dancefloor
(Warner Bros)
Madonna has delivered one of the albums of her career. An hour-long dancefloor filler with four strong hits (album, November 14)



THE STROKES
Juicebox (Rough Trade)
The Strokes have delivered a dark riff-heavy tune quite unlike anything they've done previously (single, December 5)



PARSLEY SOUND
FEAT. AMALA P. The Love
(Destructible)
Welcome return from the pastoral due to a signed to promising new London indie (single, October 31)



SEEING SCARLET
Ugly Girl/Never Good Enough
(Northern Sky)
This pop-filled indie single signed to off-art-rock into mainstream and alluring (single, October 31)



SIMON WEBBE
No Worries
(Innocent)
The second single from Webbe's debut solo album is one song that will sound great on the air. Untempo, R&B-pop (single, November 7)



DJ DAZ
The Wash Song
(unsigned)
Having secured a release in several European territories, the king of the shamelessly cheesy dance hit is coming to the UK. So bad it's good

Swopex aiming to undercut eBay with new service

Swapping website to target music next

Online

by Jim Larkin

Consumers are to be offered the opportunity to swap used CDs at a cost of just 99p, through the launch of a new online service which is bidding to take on both eBay and illegal file-sharing sites at the same time.

Swopex is the brainchild of Simon Miller, a former Universal Music executive who hit upon the idea just 12 weeks ago. Users submit a list of their unwanted CDs, which are each given "swap credits" depending on how desirable they are.

When someone wants to obtain one of the titles, they are charged 99p, have swap credits deducted and an e-mail is automatically sent to the owner who then sends the CD directly to the recipient.

The service is initially being launched as a DVD swapping site at the end of the month and will then progress to offer video games, CDs and books.

The idea grew out of Miller's own experiences selling CDs on eBay, finding it surprisingly expensive and then deciding it would be more efficient for people to swap rather than share unwanted items.

"It's like swapping unwanted presents, or a dating agency for people who've got stuff they no longer want," says Miller. "I think of it as retro peer-to-peer file-sharing, although instead of getting a digital file, you get a CD through the post, and it's much cheaper than eBay."

Joining Miller at Swopex is Martin Turner, who was involved



[The service] is like swapping unwanted presents... for people who've got stuff they no longer want

Simon Miller, Swopex

in establishing Compuserve, as well as a third as-yet-unnamed director. All three were senior executives at music download specialist Peoplesound, Turner as COO and Miller as business development director.

They have been approached by three UK venture capitalist companies, but Miller says they have chosen to resist their backing for at least three months, as it is still unclear how much outside funding will be needed, since the only areas it will need to expand in are programming, marketing, editorial content and customer service. At the moment, just five people are employed by the company.

"There's substantial private investment behind us, but we want to prove the business properly

before going to outside finance providers," says Miller. "It could be a company that doesn't need that much money behind it."

Miller has held plans for the service and believes the real catalyst for success will be the introduction of computer games to the proposition. "We'll be dealing with all of the products you can imagine in the entertainment world and more," he says. "We've committed to video games by the end of October, and this will be a killer application because the cost of these games when they're new is enormous, but once you've completed them or had enough they're useless."

Swopex was given a soft launch last Tuesday, focusing purely on DVDs. Within 24 hours, a number of top line titles were available, such as Donnie Darko (valued at one swap credit), Beethoven (two credits) and Gladiator (three credits).

Miller worked at Universal Music in the Nineties, when he was tasked with developing means of exploiting catalogue online.

The creation of the website follows the move by Virgin Megastore to enter the used CD market. It is currently running trials, offering customers the chance to bring in unwanted CDs which it then cleans up and sells for as much as £9.99.

Despite Miller's comparison with peer-to-peer file-sharing, Swopex has no legal issues to deal with, suggests the BPI's anti-piracy unit head David Martin, so long as the service is not allowing for the swapping of pirated material. jimswopexweek.com

THE BOY LEAST LIKELY TO

Indie pop darlings The Boy Least Likely To are poised to perform to their biggest audiences yet as they hit the road with James Blunt for 17 dates on his UK tour this month.

It is the latest chapter in a grassroots climb for the duo, who originally released their debut album, *The Best Party Ever*, on their own imprint, The Young To Do, in February. To date, the album has sold 5,000 units in the UK and the US, with US sales driven through retailers such as Amazon.com.

Other Music & Fingerprints in Los Angeles. Benley says online awareness has driven a lot of the international interest in the

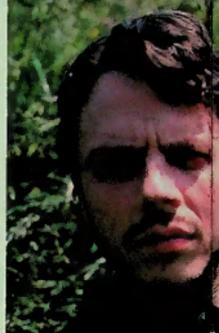
band. "In June, we had an amazing review in Pitchfork Media and started getting bombarded by e-mails from the US," he says. "It was at that point that we captured the US."

The band has now signed to V3, effectively becoming the first non-pip signing to the label. Their album will be re-released on October 17. The band's second single, *Paper Cut*, was released on September 26.

Benley says they are working towards SXSW next year at which point the album will receive a full US release. "We're developing the plot with 19 - next year we'll release *Be Gentle With Me*, the single which will take them to the next stage."

CAST LIST: Management: Simon Bentley, Simple Management, Frost Dan Stevens, Daring Department, A&R: Cheryl Robson, 19, Marketing: David Howell, The Giggle Picture Radio; Ian White, Music: TV Nashville Miriam, Rom to Run, Live agent: James Alderman, Free Trade. Distribution: Absolute.

SNAP SHOT



iPod speculation fires up Aim Digital Day

Speculation surrounding the imminent launch of a video iPod dominated the corridors at last Wednesday's Aim Digital Day, which attracted more than 150 independent labels.

Between presentations by 23 digital companies - ranging from Napster and iTunes through to Snopac, Vital:Plus Digital and MusicNet - delegates met to compare notes and discuss new developments in the digital space.

And, although iTunes' Meriam Lockshin, who heads label relations from Luxembourg, declined to comment on the speculation, delegates from all quarters suggested that video for download on iTunes' 16 music stores could become a reality within a month.

One label source said discussions have been continuing for a matter of weeks over the new launch, which could potentially allow promos and "video podcasts" to be downloaded from iTunes and replayed either on a viewing on the new iPod screen or TV.

Talk of new developments was also sparked by Vital:Plus Digital head Adrian Pope, who during the company's presentation, revealed

that the distributor is in advanced negotiations with a mobile company to provide a "new package" designed to profit those in the independent sector. Vital is expected to lift the lid on its new initiative within the next fortnight.

The event, at London's Wood Green Chocolate Factory, also saw delegates discussing the digital success of the Help: Day In The Life album, which has sold 6,000 full-length digital copies, making it the biggest-selling download album yet. All of the parties instrumental in its delivery - including 7 Digital, Vital:Plus Digital and Video-C, plus online retailers such as the War Child website, Napster and iTunes - agreed that its success marks yet another key development for the digital industry in moving music fans away from illegal P2P on to legitimate download services.

A raft of companies used the day to "soft launch" services to the industry. Juice Mobile outlined its mobile fan club technology, while digital service provider Rightstrouter hinted it is planning a service for smaller independent labels called Label Stable.

Sanctuary talks fizzle out

Sanctuary announced on Monday that it had withdrawn from discussions about a possible sale of assets or investment in the company, after a summer-long offer period which saw it hold talks with Warner Music, EMI and EMI's founder Jon De Mol, among others.

It is understood that the group had still been in discussions with as many as half a dozen potential investors as recently as last week. Despite the decision, Sanctuary executive chairman Andy Taylor does not rule out divestment of non-core operations, as the company looks to bring in revenue and cut costs. Taylor denies reports that the company could make up to 100

redundancies, insisting that the company's review period is still ongoing.

Taylor says he hopes to have finalised plans within the fortnight, before executing them within a matter of two or three months. "We are finalising the plans at the moment," he says. "I hope we will be able to conclude things within a few months at the most."

"We will have a lot of it done and implemented in weeks, but to get it all totally done and on track should be done by Christmas."

The move came a few days after Taylor told *Music Week* that he has no need to sell any part of its business, but that it was looking for

investment to help drive the next stage of its growth. In his statement last Monday, Taylor voiced his confidence that Sanctuary "is fundamentally a robust business".

The board is continuing a fundamental review of its business, addressing cost structures, the performance of revenue generating assets, premises and accounting policies.

In his statement, Taylor added, "The board are determined to steer the company, which has an extremely strong roster of artists and a strong 30-year track record, and back to a profitable trading position and back to sustainable long-term growth."



Brits notch up nods on MTV Awards shortlist

Coldplay, Gorillaz, James Blunt and U2 spearhead a strong British performance in the nominations for this year's MTV Europe Music Awards.

The two EMI acts claim five nominations each - Coldplay are nominated for best group, best rock act, best album (*X&Y*) and best song (*Speed of Sound*), while Gorillaz are nominated for best group, best pop act, best album (*Demon Days*) and best song (*Feel Good Inc.*).

The most-nominated artist otherwise is Gwen Stefani, who picked up four nominations, while Blunt and U2 claim three nominations each.

MTV announced initial details of the line-up for the awards last Tuesday, with Coldplay, Foo Fighters, Green Day, Robbie Williams and the Black Eyed Peas confirmed as performers.

The event, sponsored by LG Mobile and Replay Blue Jeans, will comprise 29 individual categories. All categories, with the exception of best video and Free Your Mind, will be voted for by MTV audiences.

MTV Networks International President, creative, Brent Hansen is confident that the decision to stage this year's event in a pre-existing venue will allow the MTV Europe Music Awards to take a new creative direction.

The ceremony, which has for the past two years taken place in specially constructed auditoriums,

will this year be staged at the former Expo '98 site, the Atlantic Pavilion in Lisbon, on November 3. "Every year we've got to look at reinventing what we do," says Hansen. "For the past two years, the event has had a very intimate feel, which is wonderful from a television perspective, but this year we'll be able to deliver something really special."

"Having the ceremony in a fully functioning venue will offer more physical opportunities for staging each live performance with its own integrity. The awards will feel less like a procession than a lot of award ceremonies," he adds.

The awards will be hosted by Sacha Baron Cohen, in character as Borat Sagdiyev, the Kazakhstan TV journalist renowned for his faux-naïve interviewing techniques. It is the second time Baron Cohen has hosted the MTV Europe awards; he previously led the ceremony in Frankfurt in 2001 as Ali G. Hansen is confident the Borat character will translate well across Europe. "The Ali G show was bought in Germany following Cohen's success in hosting the awards as Ali G," he says.

"Although Borat doesn't have a presence in every market, and there will be people watching who speak English as a second language, I think people will get the character. Our intention will not be to offend anyone, but he'll certainly be on the edge and, being MTV, we'll certainly push it."

Bullish HMV opens more new stores despite tough summer

Retail

by Martin Talbot

HMV remained bullish last week, opening two new stores in the face of trading figures for the summer showing business in the UK and Ireland down 9.2% over the summer.

The retailer opened a 6,000 sq ft store in Stratford, east London, on Monday, and another in Hammersmith, west London, on Wednesday, illustrating its continued confidence despite the figures, for the first 21 weeks of its financial year which began on May 1.

The store openings are among 25 new openings planned for this current financial year; HMV has already opened 15 new stores since May, including a 6,500 sq ft store in Harrods.

According to last week's statement, the company saw overall turnover since May 1 down 3.7% on the same period in 2005, but it was the like-for-like figures which were most troubling. Like-for-like sales declined 4.0% in May and June, before then slumping by 11.5% in the weeks from the beginning of

July, through to September 24, leaving the chain with overall like-for-like trading of 9.2% for the period.

HMV chairman Steve Knott concedes that business over the summer has been "very difficult", because of a combination of nervousness following the London bombings of July 7, lack of consumer confidence generally and a dearth of strong titles.

He stresses that HMV is not the only chains to be suffering. Highlighting new figures showing declining sales at Next, he adds, "When you see the really good retailers having a negative year-on-year performance, it does make you sit up and take notice."

"It has been very difficult. People don't seem to want to spend discretionary money," he says. Knott adds that the July 7 bombings had left consumers more wary of larger stores in big cities and shopping centres, than of outlets in smaller towns and suburbs.

"The bombings have pushed people more to the supermarkets too, because that is the one place you have to go every week and they are perceived as safer places than

city centres."

But he believes that Christmas shopping will see consumers turning back to stores such as HMV, which can offer more range. He identifies albums by Robbie Williams, Madonna and Franz Ferdinand and DVDs such as *Sin City* and *Little Britain 2* as titles which will drive business.

Internationally, HMV's Asia Pacific operation grew turnover by 6.6%, while its Canadian company grew by 7.7%, leaving total business down 3.8% for the 21-week period. In turn, Waterstones' business was down 6.4%.

Hours after it issued the trading statement - which coincided with last Wednesday's AGM - HMV announced that it has agreed to sell its 32-store Australian subsidiary to Braxin Limited for a total of £1.7m (AUS\$4.0m).

The trading statement showed HMV Asia Pacific to be one of the company's best-performing divisions during the summer, with like-for-like growth since May 1 of 6.6%. It was also the only division to perform better in the second half of the summer.

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The inclusion of digital sales in the singles chart has helped extend the Top 40 lifespan of many releases

A sense of stability returns to the chart

Charts

by Paul Williams

James Blunt's *You're Beautiful* is notable not only as the chart debut to finally reach pole position, but as the signal of a fundamental shift in the nature of the singles chart.

In an era when number one new entries have become an almost weekly occurrence, the Atlantic release took a staggering six weeks from its chart debut to finally reach pole position, only then to hang around the top of the chart for more than a month.

Blunt's huge smash has been joined in its chart endeavours by a host of other singles defying typical singles chart trends by climbing from their debut positions, while the Top 10 itself has seen a number of tracks measuring their stays in months rather than weeks.

"News of the singles chart's death was greatly exaggerated," says Radio One's head of mainstream programmes Ben Cooper, who believes the slower chart in which tracks are sticking around for much longer has helped to make his station's Top 40 programme far more intriguing. "A record you've heard on the radio for something like six weeks going in the chart and then tumbling down the chart the following week in spectacular fashion wasn't an interesting listen," he says. "Certainly now there's an added interest in the chart because you're leaving a bit of stability."

The renewed stability of the chart could be attributed to a range of issues, including the lower sales needed to sustain a Top 10 place today or a reduction in the number of big titles throughout the summer. But many highlight



Blunt: six-week rise to the top spot highlights slower nature of singles chart

that the shift has occurred following the launch of the combined physical and digital singles chart.

Indeed, new *Music Week* research indicates that, since the

We've noticed with digital sales they tend to peak in the fourth week

Max Lousada, Atlantic Records

combined chart's launch, Top 10 runs have slightly extended, while stays in the Top 40 have risen sharply and nearly two-and-a-half times as many singles have climbed the chart as was the case during the same period a year ago.

In the first five months of the combined chart's life, no fewer than 51 releases made upward chart moves, compared to only 18

records in the equivalent 23 weeks in 2004. This phenomenon appears to reflect the increasing trend among labels of making releases available to buy digitally at the same time they are serviced to radio. Such strategies allow their popularity to grow gradually, rather than simply eroding pent-up demand until the track is finally released physically weeks after first broadcast.

The stand-out example is Blunt's *You're Beautiful*, whose six-week progress to number one in July gave it the slowest rise to the summit in more than six years. It was also the first song to debut outside the Top 10 and then ultimately climb to number one since *Boom Boom Boom* by the Outliers Brothers in July 1995.

Atlantic Records managing director Max Lousada firmly believes the new combined chart must take much of the credit; he

believes it has allowed releases such as his company's Blunt single to grow in popularity on a week-by-week basis rather than simply experience a massive sales impact in week one, before then sliding away. Around a third of the single's sales were achieved online.

"Although the trend for physical sales is to peak in week one, we've noticed with digital sales they tend to peak in the fourth week, partly because there are so many platforms on which you can sell music online," he says.

The trend is also illustrated by *Shot You Down* by the Audio Bullies featuring Nancy Sinatra and Gorillaz's *Feel Good Inc*, which improved on their original entry points, while other hits by the likes of Mariah Carey, Kelly Clarkson, 2Pac and Will Smith halted initial falls by climbing again. Pussycat Dolls' *Don't Cha* was also due to record its fourth week in the top five this week, after three weeks at the summit.

Such stability has seen the average stay in the Top 10 rise from 2.3 weeks in 2004 to 2.6 weeks in the same period in 2005, while the combined chart has been operating. While most hits reaching the Top 10 are still staying there for just a week, the figures highlight a slowing of this trend, with 48.8% of all Top 10 entries lasting only seven days in the first five months of the combined chart's life, compared to 52.3% during 2004's same timeframe.

Virgin Records marketing director Mark Terry is convinced digital's slowing effect on the sin-

We're seeing records grow from a download perspective before being released physically

Mark Terry, Virgin Records

gles chart has been a "significant factor" in the success of his company's Audio Bullies single, which moved 8-10-7-3-3-5 in its first six weeks on the chart. "It has extended the life of records," he adds. "We're seeing records grow from a download perspective before being released physically."

However, some believe that the significance of download data should not be overstated. Pussycat Dolls' *app*, it seems, such stability appears to be dissipating with the long summer evenings, as the singles market moves deeper into the busy autumn period; in one week during September, Oasis' *The Importance of Being Idle* led nine new entries in the Top 10 while, after a period in which there were just six different chart-toppers in the opening 18 weeks of the combined chart, four different tracks led in five weeks.

Virgin Retail head of music Joe McNicholas says downloads played a part in bringing stability to the chart in the summer, but also points to "seasonal factors", which helped to slow it down.

Gorillaz: *Feel Good Inc* (Parlophone)
Audio Bullies: *Shot You Down* (Source)
2Pac: *Feel Good Inc* (Gusto)
Eminem: *Relapse* (Interscope)

Daniel Warner: *Bad Day* (Warner Bros)

"August is always the lowest month in the market," he says. "There's no point in releasing singles until people return from holiday and are buying again."

But whatever the perceived benefits of adding download data to the singles chart, it remains a thorny issue, almost five months after their introduction. Debate continues about the rule which ensures that download release's sales can only count towards the chart once it is accompanied by an equivalent physical release, a rule which was designed to avoid leaving high-street retailers with gaps in their chart walls where a non-physical single has charted.

Ironically, the rule received most profile when - in the early weeks of the combined chart - it was actually broken. Parlophone craftily manoeuvred around the rule by releasing a limited-edition seven-inch of Gorillaz' *Feel Good Inc* at the same time as its download. Digital sales picked up gradually as consumers became aware of the track through radio and TV airplay and other exposure, and the track moved 23-21-22-20, before racing to number two as the full physical release impacted. Such was the furor resulting from Parlophone's tactic that no other record company has since followed suit.

McNicholas believes it may now be time to review the rule, pointing to the Franz Ferdinand track *Do You Want To*, which only debuted on the combined chart a week ago, despite having previously logged three weeks on the download countdown.

"If I were Domino or Vital I would not be too pleased," he says. "It's only just a new entry in the combined chart yet has had more than 16,000 downloads already not eligible for the chart."

Instead, McNicholas believes the fairest way would be for all release dates to be brought together, so singles would become available physically and digitally at exactly the same time they go to radio. "You would have a slower build for the chart and a bigger impact for longer," he says.

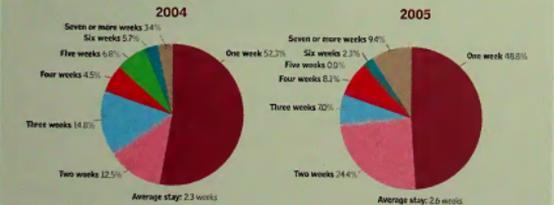
HMV head of music Phil Penman maintains that the entire issue needs to be kept in proportion, with physical business continuing to dominate the market, with the vast majority of sales within the Top 75 continuing to come via the high street.

"We mustn't lose sight of the needs of all music buyers, including the large number of people who haven't got into downloading yet, and, as such, it remains vital they retain the option of purchasing a physical version of a song at the same time as it's made available to buy digitally," he says.

Whatever the verdict on the current state of the singles market, there is little denying that 2005 has seen a more intriguing singles rundown than for many years. Few could argue against the benefits of that.

patrick@musicweek.com

Length of stay in the Top 10



Source: IVM research. The charts reflect weeks 16 to 38.

michael ball music

The superb new album featuring Michael's own fantastic interpretations of **The Show Must Go On**, **Fields Of Gold**, **Bridge Over Trouble Waters** and **Everlasting Love**.

Michael will be promoting his new album throughout October.

TV

Major TV appearances confirmed for October.

Radio

Radio 2 interviews with Jonathan Ross and Steve Wright. Also Radio 4 (Loose Ends), Capital, Classic FM.

Press

Confirmed interviews and/or features in: Sunday Times, Mail on Sunday, Sunday Express, Daily Express, What's On In London, with more to come.

Marketing

National TV and press advertising and continued press support throughout the fourth quarter.



Released 17 October 2005



ROUND TABLE PARTICIPANTS
Kim Bayley is the general secretary of Bard.

Mike Dillon owns The Record Factory in Palsley, a well-

established local shop that sells a wide range of releases. It also does wholesale and internet sales.

Tim Ellis is head of operations at What

Records in Nuneaton. Established in 1981, the shop has a strong reputation, particularly in the fields of indie and rock. The shop also has a website.

Tony Crist opened Albion Sounds in 1993 in the West Sussex town of Shoreham by Sea. In March 2004 he took the operation online via his website and eBay

Counter culture talks back

On the eve of Bard's inaugural Indie Retail Conference, *Music Week* gathered together some of the most established record dealers from across the country to discuss the state of the market, the challenges they face in the mid-Noughties and the music that is getting them excited in the weeks leading up to this year's crucial Christmas period. Here, we present some of the highlights of that "Indie Retail Summit" – but to view the full text, subscribers can access the transcript at www.musicweek.com.

Music Week: So, with a couple of months to go, how do you feel about the Christmas schedules? **Paul Quirk, Quirk's:** The schedule looks exciting. Even though we've had some good albums earlier in the year, I think there's some good stuff for Christmas. I also think there's some good stuff for indies as well. But – there's always a big but – the acts that the indies may have broken last year have become mainstream this year. **Chris Maskery, Pinnacle:** There's been a downturn in high-street retailing anyway.

Nigel House, Rough Trade: But don't you think CDs are a good price? **Tim Ellis, What:** CDs are a great price, but I've just had another specialist retailer open up next door so my takings are down. I'm selling the Franz Ferdinand, prior to release, at £7.99, but I'm not going to sell many, even at £7.99. This might reflect downloading or it might reflect a lack of money in the system. If I look at the trend over the past four years, it doesn't bode well.

Quirk: But I think we're coming into a period where you cannot gift-wrap a download, can you? A physical CD is a present. The price is right on CDs at the moment. As independents not only do we have done well for back catalog stuff, but we've done well for back catalogue. With a lot of this new stuff, maybe these other guys can't touch you because they don't know about it. Lots of what we will see tomorrow [at the Bard Retail Conference] you won't see in supermarkets.

House: That's what you've always got to look for, those new interesting hot things that other retailers won't have.

Richard White, Chalky's: Also, five years ago another retailer opened in my town. And I worked and I worked and I worked. Everything I did – promotions, advertising, window displays, in-store promotions, pricing – didn't work. Eventually what did work was, I went for a two-for-£20 deal. I put a poster in the window and a banner across the front of my shop, saying "New CDs £12.99, two CDs for £20". In that very first week, November five years ago, my takings jumped by 50%.

MW: So how can independents compete with supermarkets and specialist retailers?

Quirk: There has always been a problem with the

On the front line: (clockwise from above) Rough Trade, Quirk's and What Records

The acts that the indies may have broken last year have become mainstream this year

Paul Quirk, Quirk's



independents that we give away our window space, our in-store space, our chart space for nothing. What we need to do, to be shrewd, is we should say "Okay, we are 800 independent shops, do you want to do business with 800 of them, or 400 of them, or 200 of them? We're going to charge you for that because we can guarantee that." We could say to the record companies, "We have 500 shops, we will do a display of X. What's it worth to you?" But we can't do that individually. We can only do that collectively.

House: The other thing that we do well with is sourcing, is getting stuff in before, upfront copies, which is a development thing. We haven't really done much with Pinnacle, but with Vital, we've done a few hits like the Cagobdaby album that came out earlier this year. We had that a month or six weeks upfront and that's this year's Mylo – we have done hundreds of that.

White: I think we should concentrate on what we are doing ourselves. We've done very well with the last Katie Melua album, the new one's coming and what people are saying is that the market is saturated now. I always say that the bigger the album, the less I sell. Because the garages, the supermarkets and everywhere you go, the albums are there, so then we just say, "Okay we've done that, time for the next one."

MW: How important is customer service for indies?

House: What you have to do is make sure that your customers want to come back because you are giving them something that another retailer can't give them. You go into some specialist and it's like a supermarket: nobody knows what's there, you can't find it. So you've got to give them something that you can't get there.

Maskery: People do like that customer service angle. It's little things, like if you are behind the counter and someone comes up to you and wants to know where something is, rather than just pointing you can actually go out with them. You say, "Here it is Mr Punter" and point it out.

MW: Nigel, one of the things Rough Trade has done is set up the Albums Club – can you explain how that works?

House: What we have set up is a subscription

venues. The shop specialises in seventh vinyl.

Nigel House is the co-owner of Rough Trade Records, a London independent retail legend, with

stores in Covent Garden and Portobello Road.

Chris Maskery is the commercial director at Franchise, the UK's biggest

independent distributor.

Bard deputy chairman **Paul Quirk** runs Quirk's records in Ormskirk, where he sells a broad range of

releases, from chart to specialist.

Richard White is managing director of Chaly's in Banbury. His shop sells mainly chart releases.

For Music Week: publisher Alex Scott, editor Martin Talbot, retail consultant Ben Cardew

For a full transcript of the MW/Bard Indie Retail Summit, visit Musicweek.com



do compete on the price. My philosophy is sell it at this price and I will sell a lot more. We sell more at the cheaper price, so in the long term we make money.

MW: What would improve your ability to compete?

Quirk: I would like to have exclusives limited to independents that give us the ability to have something different. We did really well with the War Of The Worlds with a book. We can cater for that market, which our opposition can't do and maybe, if a company is doing a lot of limited editions, and would say, "Okay, that's going to be the general one, but independents you can do that," that would be a bonus.

Ellis: I know exactly what I want: sale or return. Because I think that eats into my profit, what I am left with. Basically if I could return everything, particularly singles. With singles, you go on predictions, where are they going to go, and predictions can be wrong. Sometimes it isn't your market through no fault of your own.

White: To me it's all about communication. It's all about just being there for the independent retailers as possible. Being upfront, letting them know what is going on and just giving us a product.

MW: Tony, you made the decision after 21 years of running a record shop to close your store and sell seven-inch singles online. Why?

Tony Grist: I tested the water on eBay with that, that was the other. That was increasing and the number of people coming through the shop was decreasing. I was only in a small town; it was pouring money down the sewer so I thought, "Well, I will have to go for this. I either pour money down the sewer, or I have to change and try this full time." It's taken about a year to get this right. I'm never going to make a fortune. It's hard work, but I don't mind hard work.

MW: Who do you see as your direct competitors?

Grist: My competition has changed, since I got rid of my store. I'm a virtual store so, I suppose my competition might be other people, other indies who might want to go down the same route as I have done. Give their store up and do what I do.

Quirk: I am probably very, very insular here. My competition is in my town. I have Tesco, Woolworths, a sweet shop and it's a major problem to me. That is my major competition, physically. Not physically, the internet is my biggest problem, people coming in and telling me more than I know or more than they think I know, or telling me what the price is on the internet. That is a big problem.

Dillon: The Jersey-based internet sales. Hopefully the Government will see something about that shortly.

Ellis: My main competitor is the counterfeits, four for £10. I was speaking to a guy earlier who I know sells stuff illegally at work and he was saying that there are about 20 guys that do it. He makes about £100 a week. If they're selling four for £10 that's 40 CDs, if the other 20 guys are selling it that's 800 CDs. You work out: that's about £8,000 just coming out of the economy of the Coventry area.

White: Listening to everything we've said tonight, it sounds like we are all fighting against this massive monster, which is competition, but I just think competition is good for anyone and I think we have all got to really work for it. It's all about what your perception of running a business is, how much money you want to make, how you want to go for what you



record club. It's a bit like a wine club or a cheese club. Each month you get sent CDs, according to what your preferences are. We charge £14 a CD for these CDs, but they come with listening notes that describe what you have got and why you are getting it and so on, and it comes special delivery. And people want that. In a way, there is too much choice out there: you go to HMV and if you want Top 10 stuff it's fine, but if you want something different, something extra, people want the kind of choice taken away from them.

MW: Core music fans, traditionally indie customers, are downloading a lot of music. How is it affecting you?

Quirk: I think it is affecting indies quite a lot, because people who are really interested in music and want to be the first are now downloading. The guy who came in maybe twice a week spending £50, now comes in once a fortnight buying two or three things.

White: I do understand what you are saying, but I have never seen that. But then I have always gone against the big boys, I was never really an independent, I've always gone for chart products and I have always competed against the big boys.

MW: A lot of you are saying you still compete on chart product and increasingly independents are moving towards more specialist areas - and that's understandable. But, if you have a super-market three doors down from you, how do you set about getting a balance between being a specialist and competing on chart?

White: It's all about how much money you want to make. Like I said before, when another specialist came to town I realised that there were other sources to pick up product. So effectively I sell my product now for £10, I'm making more money now, my margins are bigger than when I was selling at £12.99, because I am buying them at that much cheaper price. Record companies do look after independent retailers, they try to give us special discounts because we can't compete on certain things. They are saying, "Here you are. We give you these terms, you can compete on the price." But, unfortunately, not enough independent retailers

Indie retailers' top festive tips (far right): Franz Ferdinand and The Killers

You have to make sure that your customers come back because you are giving them something that another retailer can't give them

Nigel House, Rough Trade

are doing really. Maybe, it's almost like I aspire to be HMV - I love going in there. To me that is competition.

MW: What is your favourite album of the year so far and what do you think is the next big album?

Quirk: My favourite album of the year was Athlete. I'll give you a quick reason: the day they went to number one we were actually doing a big promotion with the band, who were doing a live performance in Liverpool. We had 100 of our customers there on that particular day and they were tremendous. Forthcoming, well I'll wait until I've seen it tomorrow [at the Bard Indie Retail Conference], but okay - Sigur Ros.

Maskery: My favourite album of the year, a completely personal opinion, is a guy called Steven Lindsay; and I also love the new Elbow album. I think the Arcade Fire album is absolutely fantastic and I think that the next Arcade Fire single, Wake Up, which the BBC are using it to promote their autumn releases and it's just a single, I think could ignite the album.

White: My personal favourite and something that I have sold a lot of is The Killers' album Hot Fuss. My big album for this year, on the back of the first album, is the Franz Ferdinand album.

Ellis: A band called The Junipers from Leicester. They are unbelievable. The guy is so prolific, he's written 100 songs since Christmas and 50 of them are spot on, fantastic. The biggest seller, if I look at what I personally like, I would go along with Franz Ferdinand. They have come in at the same place they have left off.

Grist: In the past two weeks, the album I have played the most is My Chemical Romance. As for forthcoming albums, I haven't heard anything, but I think maybe Kate Bush.

House: My favourite was Sufjan Stevens' Illini-noodle. That's a personal favourite. My tip for 2006 would be Cagedbaby or The Boy Least Liked To.

Dillon: My 2005 album was KT Tunstall. Her new single is just awesome. For Christmas the big seller will be Franz Ferdinand. The Franz Ferdinand album is probably the biggest seller for us in the past couple of years. But there is always something that turns up out of the blue.

Transcription by Ben Cardew

Website launch set to boost music publisher

Boosey & Hawkes has launched an overtly commercial classical music ringtone website, offering paid-for downloads of everything from Mozart and Beethoven to James MacMillan and Ned Rorem.

Booseytones.com went live shortly before indicative bids were posted by potential buyers of the restructured publisher, which has seen its profits more than double to £6m in the past year alone.

The website, billed as "classical ringtones for the discerning phone", offers 300 true tone and 45 polyphonic pieces, each available at a one-off download price. The project has been developed in partnership with Music Solution (TMS), a specialist company creating and selling ringtones into mobile networks and through websites, mobile applications and print media.

There are many new opportunities becoming available to us thanks to advances in technology," says B&H managing director John Minch. "We have a rich cat-



Minch: classical ringtones on offer

alogue, plus a high level of expertise in business-to-business marketing of our music copyrights across a wide range of media, from ballet companies and opera houses through to advertising agencies and film production companies.

"Now we intend to apply these skills and widen the reach of our catalogue through new technology, including the mobile telephone networks, while continuing to develop the company's core classical music business."

The company's ringtones website is linked to the full music information resources of www.boosey.com, providing deep-level customer support to

what B&H believes to be the largest selection of classical ringtones on the web.

Toccata rolls out new imprint

Martin Anderson, known to the classical world as a journalist and tireless proprietor of the Toccata Press, has launched an impressive extension of his publishing activities with the launch of Toccata Classics, a label devoted to the exploration of works new to CD and the issue of premiere recordings. The new initiative rolls out this month with six titles reflecting Anderson's broad-ranging musical passions.

First recordings of substantial compositions by Havergal Brian and Heinrich von Herzogenberg, including the former's song-cycle *The Soul of Steel*, are offered in company with an album devoted to the works of young British composer Matthew Taylor and Alexander Kazhev's transcriptions for cello and piano of sonatas by Mozart. The first volume in Kevin Bowyer's complete survey of Alkan's organ works and an album of trio sonatas by the

17th-century Norwegian composer Georg von Bertouch complete the Toccata Classics launch package.

"One marketing approach that Toccata Classics will take is, I think, unique; it's certainly novel," says Anderson. "Because we can promise that virtually everything to be released on the label will not duplicate material already in listeners' collections. The Toccata Classics Discovery Club will allow its members to sign up for the kinds of music they particularly enjoy and to receive those discs in those categories at mid-price instead of the full-price label Toccata Classics will wear in the shops. As far as I'm aware, no CD label has yet devised a mechanism for retaining customer loyalty in this manner."

Toccata Classics, which already has 30 discs in the can, is set to record the complete symphonies, string quartets and piano music of the prolific Anton Reicha and what Anderson describes as a "substantial chunk" of the 700-plus motets by Lassus previously unrecorded. Toccata Classics will be distributed in the UK by RSK Entertainment.

andrewstewart1@tiscali.co.uk

Mozart - Complete Sacred Music
Various soloists; Concertus Musicus Wien/Harnoncourt. (Warner Classics 256-6 62337-2 (13CD)).



Warner Classics' deep catalogue can stand comparison with the finest in Mozart, allowing

the major label to compile a formidable budget-priced series of nine attractively packaged boxes in anticipation of the 250th anniversary of the composer's birth next January. The box devoted to Mozart's sacred music captures the interpretative insights of Nikolaus Harnoncourt, whose period-instrument Concentus Musicus Wien apply a vibrant palette of tonal colours to works familiar and practically unknown. The 90-disc anniversary edition is backed by double-page ads in the specialist classical press.

Mahler

Symphony No.6. Budapest Festival Orchestra/L. Fischer (Charnel Classics OCS SA 22905 (5ACD)). Mahler became music director of the recently opened Budapest Opera in the late 1880s, establishing his reputation as a thrilling conductor and making several public breakthroughs as a



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composer. The exceptionally fine Budapest Festival Orchestra and its visionary leader, Ivan Fischer, clearly have Mahler's music in their bloodstream, as this compelling new surround sound recording (the first to be made in Budapest's acclaimed Palace of the Arts) from Channel Classics makes clear from first note to last.

Beethoven

Violin Concerto; Two Violin Romances
Vengerov; LSO/ Rostropovich. (EMI Classics 336 4032).



Following broad speeds and crafting phrases of Klemperer-like intensity, Maxim Vengerov and his great accompanists, Mstislav Rostropovich and the London Symphony Orchestra, present a performance of Beethoven's Violin Concerto unashamedly individual and wholeheartedly romantic. This is distinctly old-fashioned music making, deeply personal and committed to expressive communication. As such, it should fire critical debate and stimulate consumer interest.

Fuchs

Piano Trios Nos. 1&2. Gould Piano Trio. (Quartz QTZ 2028).



The Gould Piano Trio follows on from its impressive Brahms disc on the Quartz label

with a cracking album of world premiere recordings of works by Robert Fuchs, whose pupils included Mahler and Wolf and whose music genuinely deserves to reach beyond the specialist classical audience. These young British performers get to the heart of Fuchs's style, responding naturally to its blend of overt display and soul-searching.

Mozart

Flute Concertos. Bezaly; Ostrobothnian CO/Kargas. (BIS BIS-SACD-153901 (SACD)).



Israeli-born flutist Sharon Bezaly's BIS discography has drawn rave reviews in recent years, most recently for her strikingly programmed Nordic Spell album. She stamps her elegant interpretative mark on Mozart's popular flute concertos for her latest release, without force or mannerism. Finnish composer Kalevi Aho's sensitive cadenzas add to the attractiveness of Bezaly's work. The surround

sound disc is slipcase packaged complete with a weighty perfect-bound BIS catalogue.

Smetana

Ma vlast. LSO/C. Davis. (LSO Live LSO 0516 (SACD)).

Sir Colin Davis and the London Symphony Orchestra performed Smetana's defiant Czech Ma vlast (My Homeland) at the Barbican on May 10 and 15, sandwiching repeat outings for the work as part of the Prague Spring Festival. The trip to the Bohemian capital contributed to the overall success

of the latest LSO Live release, which underlines the lyricism of Davis's way with Smetana and the imaginative response of the LSO's players to one of the great national treasures of Czech music.

Allegri

Miserere. etc. Tallis Scholars/Philips. (Gimell GIMSE 401).

Thanks to a bit of fast thinking, freelance producer Steve Smith kept the sessions for this seminal early music disc on course when EMI's Classics for Pleasure label threatened to pull the plugs. The

ALBUM OF THE WEEK

Schubert

The Complete Songs. Various artists; Graham Johnson. (Hyperion CD544201/40 (40 CD)).

In 1987, accompanist Graham Johnson began what grew to become the first complete recording of Schubert's 600-plus songs. The project's bare statistics would be sufficient to establish its place in recording history. But the majesty of performances by Johnson and 60 singers is what defines the lasting importance of Hyperion's investment. This budget-priced reissue presents the songs in the order in which they were written – a masterstroke of catalogue exploitation.

album, crowned by an ethereal reading of Allegri's legendary Miserere, was licensed to CFP and provided the nucleus of what became Gimell Records, run since the mid-Eighties by Smith with admirable success. A quarter of a century after the original release, Gimell's greatest hit is reintroduced into the market at the budget retail price of £5.99. 'Had the original licence period been just a few weeks longer,' Smith observes, 'we would have earned a silver disc for sales.'

EMI
CLASSICS

Maxim Vengerov returns with a glorious account of Beethoven's ever-popular Violin Concerto, accompanied by the London Symphony Orchestra, conducted by his lifelong mentor Mstislav Rostropovich.

'... as so often with Vengerov, the sheer polish of the playing - and the charisma of the player - commanded attention... the violinist's legion of fans were well satisfied: he received a prolonged standing ovation.' *The Times*

out on cd 17th october

www.emiclassics.com
www.vengerovbeethoven.com

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HMV figures highlight the tough market conditions ahead for the autumn trading period

Is a credit backlash on the horizon?

EDITORIAL MARTIN TALBOT



When a juggernaut like HMV is finding business tough, the market must be difficult. So, for all the warning signs, when HMV announced figures down almost 12% in July and August, it prompted one of those double-take moments straight from a Laurel & Hardy movie.

But there is no stopping Steve Knott and his team, as they forge ahead by launching more sparking new stores, in new locations. A total of 25 new stores in this current financial year is substantial evidence that confidence in Wardour Street is still high.

And that is perhaps understandable. If you delve further into HMV's figures, you discover that the 21-week period covered by these latest figures (some 40% of the year) accounts for just 30% of annual turnover and a tiny 5% of operating profit.

The key period is the next three months. And HMV feels characteristically upbeat about that – as do many of the retailers who contributed to this week's "indie retail summit" discussion (see p8-9).

That should not be a surprise either. Of course, football has been down right across the retail sector over recent months, consumer confidence knocked by the recent spat – and continuing coverage – of bomb-

ings in London and the accumulated effect of those ever-mounting credit card bills.

But consumer confidence is a fragile beast and, wandering through independent stores, as well as chains such as HMV, Virgin, Woolworth and WH Smith over the past week, the arrival of new promotional sales and some big releases have been working their magic.

But complacency would be unwise. The credit issue was always going to hit, sooner or later. As the internet bubble demonstrated at the corporate level just a few years ago, there is no such thing as free money.

And, just like that very different bubble, the credit boom has been a timebomb waiting to explode, this time with so-called "discretionary" sectors – such as music and DVDs – likely to be first to feel the pinch.

Of course, most consumers view Christmas excess as more of a necessity rather than a luxury, so talk of an uplift over the coming weeks is well placed. We can all be confident of another strong Christmas this year.

But the real impact of a credit backlash is likely to be felt after the festive season, when life returns to normal and reality bites. Then we will be in a better position to know how tough business really is.

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Digital will provide rich opportunities for radio

VIEWPOINT RALPH BERNARD



In this age of multi-channel television, the internet and the iPod, why is it that over 85% of the population regularly listens to radio? And why is radio the last entertainment medium people say they would give up?

Over the past 70 years and more, radio, the original "wireless" medium, has passed through two golden ages. The first, in the Thirties, was overtaken by television in the Fifties, but radio soon fought its way into a second golden age in the late Fifties, Sixties and early Seventies, experimenting with everything from pirate stations to

Despite challenges, radio is about to enter its third golden age

commercial pop, with pioneers like Capital Radio bringing new personalities and styles of presentation to the airwaves.

Today the battle for listeners' time is fought on many fronts, countering waves of new entertainment choices from the many weapons of mass consumption available in the 21st Century. Despite these challenges, radio, strong and defying all doom-sayers, is about to enter its third golden

age. Digital radio is the foundation of this age, with the potential of an undreamed-of choice of channels and the chance to experiment to offer the listener a true choice of formats to suit every taste.

I am focusing on this third golden age of radio in a lecture this week in aid of the Motivation Charitable Trust. Motivation is a charity working to enhance the quality of life of people with mobility disabilities in developing countries.

Motivation's innovative way of designing low-cost and appropriate wheelchairs inspired me to think about how creativity in radio has always happened on the edge of the mainstream: the first mass market digital radio set was developed by Pure Digital, rather than one of the major manufacturers. New listening formats such as Fun Radio, My Kind of Music and Chill have also come from the edge of the mainstream, where we can experiment with new creative ideas that are the lifeblood driving the new golden age.

Ralph Bernard is the new chief executive of GCap Media. He is giving a lecture at The Royal Geographical Society, Kensington Gore, London SW7 tomorrow (Tuesday). Tickets are £12 and available by calling 01275 464031 or e-mailing events@motivation.org.uk

Is swapping CDs for a 99p fee a legitimate service?

The big question

A new online venture, Swopex, which launched last week, enables people to swap CDs for 99p. But is this a legitimate business service or a form of file-sharing tantamount to piracy?

Steve Kincaid, Virgin Megastore

"There is always a market for second-hand goods, no matter what the product is. However, I would question the business model and they appear to have undervalued certain product."

Ed Wallis, Music And Goods Exchange

"It seems like quite a useful way to get rid of CDs that you don't want and get something that you want instead. It's hardly piracy – it's no different from what we, as a second-hand exchange shop, are doing. However, it doesn't seem to be something you should do with a new release: it's more something you might do with a CD that's just at the back of your cupboard and you'd be embarrassed if your mates saw it."

Tom Rose, Reveal, Derby

"How they police the quality of the goods, the authenticity of the products and the damaged items they will receive sounds like something I would not like to

attempt for just 99p. That said, I don't feel it is piracy. Retail, artist and label have by this stage of the game had their share of the sale. If the customer wishes to get another disc (that could be damaged, faulty or even an illegal bootleg), then I feel confident retailers will not have too much to pry about."

Sushela Wrasid, Beans, Croydun

"I wonder if it might actually fail. I think people want to see the goods and the quality before they buy. Beans is bringing back browsing in the old style – a real second-hand CD shop."

David Wittle, Mr Bongo WorldWide

"If people like it, it will thrive; it's a good idea. It's not piracy, it's the sale of second-hand goods, but just easier to use than eBay. Why should we be questioning an innovation like this? It harks back to the whole music business's fear of downloads, surely that taught us to embrace new ideas?"

Adam Cox, Asda

"I think that people with more time than money will always want to find ways of trying to get music as cheaply as possible – and this helps to provide for that. Our focus should be on making sure that we identify what entertainment product it is that our customer wants and ensure that we provide for that."

Q editor **Paul Rees**, the man who helped the title back to market leadership, talks about the winning formula behind the mag and next week's Q Awards

Quickfire

Why do you think Q is now bigger than *Top Of The Pops* and *Smash Hits* magazine?

We had a difficult time during the four or five years following Britpop, when the magazine was trying to find out what its identity was, and all along I think the answer was to stick to what we've always done and talk about good music. It was also a period when pop was big – and when pop is big, Q suffers. But in the last year we've redesigned, started talking about downloads and, above all, about good music, regardless of when it was made.

Pretty much all the rock magazines did really well in the recent ABCs. How, if at all possible, can they maintain their popularity?

Well *Uncut* wasn't well up, but the *NME* did well and *Kerrang!* did really well. It's a cyclical thing. With bands like Kaiser Chiefs and Franz Ferdinand around, music magazines will go well. You can make the best magazine in the world, but no-one's gonna buy it if they're not interested in the music. A couple of years ago when it was all about pop, people were more interested in Justin Timberlake than in bands and now that's changed.

There's been talk in some quarters recently about a golden age of music journalism in the Seventies and Eighties. How do you think today's writers measure up to their counterparts?

The people saying this are usually people in their fifties who are bitter and twisted, going on about how things were better in their day. Yes, there were good writers but, if you actually pick up a mag from those days, you realise there were a lot of



bad writers too. There was a lot of self-serving rubbish, where articles go on for 25 pages before even meeting the band. There's been a change in styles. I don't think writers like Nick Kent would work as well these days because people don't want to read about the writer. People like John Harris, Johnny Davis and Miranda Sawyer are brilliant writers and easily as good as anyone from this 'golden age'.

Q was repositioned last year to cater for the download age. Has the speed with which digital music has taken off in the last 12 months surprised you yet?

No, it hasn't. We took an awful lot of time thinking about it and realised it was important to avoid doing what *Rip & Burn* did and think no-one wants to read about music but about how to download it. But I think this is only the beginning of digital music and it's a pivotal moment in the way

people listen to music. Things are changing so fast that you can't stand still any more and that's going to influence magazines. It used to be good enough to have a redesign and a rethink every three or four years, but now I think magazines need to do this every 12 months.

Despite all your redesigns, will music list features always be integral to what you do?

Q really invented that and people love them. Q had a pop at us for doing so many of them and then went on to do one themselves. But if you speak to anyone with an interest in music, there's a fascination with them. And I think they're a big reason for the success of the iPod, because it enables the consumer to go about making their own lists.

The music industry isn't exactly short of awards ceremonies. How do you go about making sure yours is one to remember?

We're different because some of the key awards are voted for by readers. People ask how certain acts have won and you think, "Well, could it be that they've sold millions of records and people love them?" Also, they're quite short, unlike something like the Brits that go on all night and you have trouble keeping your eyes open. Our awards are about celebrating music and entertaining people.

Who's your money on to come out with this year's Eton moment [when he launched into a tirade against Madonna for miming]?

Ha ha, well there's one band that I'd put my mortgage on to do something. They're not fully confirmed yet so I can't say who, but let's just say it won't be Chris Martin or James Blunt. Q is Britain's highest circulation music magazine and its annual awards ceremony takes place next Monday. Oasis, Coldplay, U2 and Green Day are all nominated.

Diary

DOOLEY'S DIARY



A&Red up to the eyeballs

Remember where you heard it: Warner Music's most senior global A&R execs flew in to Manchester last week for the major's second International A&R summit. Live highlights included sets from UK signings Plan B (6/9) and Warner/Chappell/Atlantic's Paolo Nutini. However, the show-stealer, as ever, was Seymour Stein, who treated the crew gathered together at his beloved Yang Sing restaurant to an a cappella rendition of his favourite Chinese folk song, accompanied by a stunned waitress... Meanwhile,

Atlantic boss Max Lousova was due to skip in The City at the weekend in order to attend to the small matter of his wedding. And who better to provide musical accompaniment than a certain James Blunt... Talking of whom, Blunt was at MTV's bash for its European Awards nominations last week and proved he may not be quite the clean cut housewifely favourite you imagine, by changing the lyrics to one of his songs from "We're flying high" to "We're fucking high". Now what can be possible of Blunt's... Word also reached Dooley of Miami's nickname when he was in the forces. Suffice to say it rhymes and that Dooley is simply too classy to repeat it here... That Black family is taking over the world, it seems. With dad Donny West into hip hop, following Kanye West's use of his Diamonds Are Forever song, son Cive is now

managing US rapper The Game. And, as if that wasn't enough, his other son – and brother to Cive – Grant Black is celebrating a Top three single with Sony 4 Lovers, the Liberty X feat. Rev Run of Run DMC hit, after inking a new publishing deal with independent Good Grooves Sons... We all know how hit and miss those "lists" can be, but Outside Organizations' Alan Edwards and LD Publicity's Bernard Doherty were chipping last week after being named among the key music PRs to make the PR Week Top 100 of the most influential PR figures in the business, along with Henry's House's Julian Henry... One of the giants in

the digital music sector is expected to move into the world of music video next month... It's not just the Namt that Apple is having problems with. Out of 23 companies presenting at last week's *AIM Digital Day*, Apple was the only company to have problems getting its *PowerPoint* to work... A major-affiliated publisher has emerged triumphant in the publishing battle to sign Grace, the deal for the artist – who was signed by Jamie Nelson at Parlophone last month – was close to completion on Friday... Meanwhile, several executives are 'doing backflips' over Denmark's Lorraine who performed their second UK show in London last week... Just when you thought it was safe to forget your past, news arrives that Sparis has signed with GUT Records. The LA-based outfit will release their new single *Click* in November with the album, *Hello Young Love*, to follow in January 2006... As Robbie Williams performed his first warm-up gig at Paris Baccarat venue last Thursday, who received a nice, warm namecheck? A certain former EMI chairman, of course. The Robster paid tribute to the then London-based Frenchman Jean François Nicoli, who now runs continental Europe for the major and who signed him back in summer 1996. "I was drinking and doing drugs and he signed me," he said, gratefully. "I wouldn't have signed me..."



Few acts reach platinum, let alone double platinum. And then there are the likes of Jeff Wayne, the man who turned *War Of The Worlds* into a rock opera and is still selling units in its 30th year. To mark the album's achievement in selling another 400,000 units this year – in advance of next spring's live shows – and turning nine times platinum, Sony BMG last week cracked open the champagne, screamed "Uuaaahhh!" and gave the great man an appropriately huge disc. Pictured are (centre) Jeff Wayne Music Group managing director Damian Collier, Jeff Wayne himself and Sony BMG chairman and CEO Bob Stringer, flanked left by Sony BMG's Richard Story and Luke Southern, and right by Phil Savill and Darren Henderson.



Laura Michelle Kelly is making the move from the West End to, well, the West End having signed a worldwide songwriting agreement with EMI Music Publishing UK. The star of *Mary Poppins*, who last month became the first signing to Mark Collen's Angel label, will be A&Red by managing director Guy Moot and director of operations and A&R administration Fran Mahan. Kelly recently won an Olivier Award for best actress in a musical – so her album, which is expected next year, should be a real treat. Stay tuned. Pictured are Myles Moot, Laura Michelle Kelly, Collen, Michelle De Vries and Jon Crawley (both from Visionary Management).



Tony Blair wasn't the only one last week proving his credentials as a "dunage mucker". EMI Group chairman Eric Nicoli (left) was at the Labour Party Conference where he bent the ear of creative industries and tourism minister James Purnell (right) over the issue of extending copyright support for the music industry. Nicoli was spearheading a campaign organised by the BPI, PPL and British Music Rights in which the creative industries are attempting all this season's party conferences to press their case for more support. Purnell viewed the meeting as very positive. This week, BPI chief Peter Jamieson has the pleasure of visiting Blackpool to perform a similar role at the Tony Conference.

Classified

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HR Assistant - Entertainment Co. Experienced administrator to provide back up to hectic HR department. You should possess strong communication skills both verbal and written and be able to work on your own initiative. MS Office. £20k-£25k

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MUSICWEEK

Club Charts 08.10.05

The Upfront Club Top 40

Position	Artist	Title	Label
1	DANNI MINOGUE & THE SOUL SEEKERS	PERFECTION	Mercury
2	RACHIEL STARR	TILL THERE WAS YOU	Mercury
3	D.O.M.S. FEAT. TECHNOTRONIC	PUMP UP THE JAM	Mercury
4	SIMPY RED	PERFECT LOVE	Mercury
5	CREAM VS. THE HOXTONS	SUNSHINE ON YOUR LOVE	Mercury
6	NATE JAMES	THE MESSAGE	Mercury
7	ITGA	YOU GONNA WANT ME	Mercury
8	OLAV BASSOSKI FEAT. MICHIE ONE	WATERMAN	Mercury
9	KIRSTY HANKSHAW	REACH FOR ME	Mercury
10	ROBBIE RIVERA FEAT. JESUS JONES	RIGHT HERE	Mercury
11	CONJURE ONE	EXTRAORDINARY WAY	Mercury
12	MERCURY DANDE	—	Mercury
13	JENN CINEMA	COOL RAIN COME SHINE	Mercury
14	CHOSEN FEW	THE AFTER PARTY	Mercury
15	DAVE MCCULLUM	BLITCH	Mercury
16	STEVE BARK & MOSQUITO FEAT. STEVE SMITH	LOVIN' YOU MORE	Mercury
17	SUGARBABES	PUSH THE BUZZON	Mercury
18	SHAMAM JAY	PUSH YOUR BODY	Mercury
19	THE MODERN JANE	FALLS DOWN	Mercury
20	TOM NOVY	YOUR BODY	Mercury
21	K-PRESS 2 FEAT. KURT WAGNER	GIVE IT	Mercury
22	ROTHSOPH 49	PERCENT	Mercury
23	SOULSHAKER FEAT. LOBRANE BROWN	HYPNOTIC EXOTIC GAMES	Mercury
24	BOB SIMCLAR FEAT. GARY FINE	LOVE GENERATION	Mercury
25	PANAMAARAA	LOOK ON THE FLOOR (HYPRONOTIC TANKO)	Mercury
26	UTADA YOU MAKE ME WANT TO BE A MAN	—	Mercury
27	VORTEX IN MY ONE EARS	—	Mercury
28	ROWETA AND I'M TELLING YOU I'M NOT GOING	—	Mercury
29	BODYROCKERS	ROUND & ROUND	Mercury
30	DJ BOMBA & J. PAULI FEAT. SANDY LAMB	ESUMA (DON'T)	Mercury
31	BASEMENT JAMX	DO YOUR THING (2005 REMIXES)	Mercury
32	KUBU KULTURE	7.2	Mercury
33	DOGUELLIA	WITHOUT YOU	Mercury
34	ANDY BELL	COOLZY	Mercury
35	SEX ON MONDAY	BRING BACK THE LOVE (HOLD ME DOWN)	Mercury
36	HARD-FL	HARD TO BEAT	Mercury
37	RICKY MARTIN FEAT. FAT JOE & AMERIE	I DON'T CARE	Mercury
38	CHALOTTA	CHURCH CALL MY NAME	Mercury
39	LUMA TO NEEM AI	—	Mercury
40	VARIOUS BOSS SAMPLER (UP SAMPLER)	—	Mercury

Danni does the double

by Alan Jones

Perfection (Turn Me Upside Down) by Danni Minogue & The Soul Seekers remains at number one on the Upfront Chart this week, while also advancing to pole position on the Commercial Pop Chart. It's not that unusual for records to top both charts simultaneously – the last record to do it was Freemasons' Love On My Mind on 20 August – but it was a rare feat for a record to remain atop the Upfront Chart for more than a week. Minogue manages it this week even though support for Perfection (Turn Me Upside Down) declined by more than 12% and is only the second artist to retain her title this year, the previous example being Shapeshifters, who reached number one 19 February and remained there on February 26 with Back To Basics.

Outta Control by 50 Cent returns to number one on the urban chart after an absence of three weeks, during which three both the Pussycat Dolls and Kanye West have taken turns on top. Outta Control was number two throughout the period and its return to number one provides 50 Cent with his 19th week atop the chart this year.

Finally, due to a recurrent error in the last three weeks' New York born Japanese singer Utsa's first 19 single You Make Me Want To Be A Woman has been erroneously omitted from the Upfront Club Chart for the last three weeks. The track debuted at number 33 on September 10, with its details all present and correct. On subsequent charts, when it should have been number seven, number six and number 25, it has somehow been replaced on the printed chart by Ernesto vs. Bastian's former number one Dark Side Of The Moon. I'm not quite sure how the bogus information made its way onto the database but the track – which appears in charts by Junior Jack, Tom Neville and Bloodsly – is restored to its correct position and falls a notch to number 26. Our apologies to Utsa, to Mercury Records who will be releasing the track here on October 10, and Power Promotions/Parazzzi, who have been handling club promotion of You Make Me Want To Be A Man. Known as "Hiker" to her Japanese fans, Utsa has been a very successful singer in Asia since recording her debut album Precious at the age of 12 in 1996.

Alan Jones



Danni Minogue: Upfront and Commercial chart queen

50 Cent: returns to number one on Urban Chart

TOP 10 UPFRONT CLUB BREAKERS

Rank	Artist	Title	Label
1	DAVE MCCULLUM	BLITCH	Mercury
2	ITGA	YOU GONNA WANT ME	Mercury
3	THE MODERN JANE	FALLS DOWN	Mercury
4	SHAMAM JAY	PUSH YOUR BODY	Mercury
5	CONJURE ONE	EXTRAORDINARY WAY	Mercury
6	CHOSEN FEW	THE AFTER PARTY	Mercury
7	ROBBIE RIVERA FEAT. JESUS JONES	RIGHT HERE	Mercury
8	CONJURE ONE	EXTRAORDINARY WAY	Mercury
9	CONJURE ONE	EXTRAORDINARY WAY	Mercury
10	CONJURE ONE	EXTRAORDINARY WAY	Mercury



COMMERCIAL POP TOP 30

Rank	Artist	Title	Label
1	DANNI MINOGUE & THE SOUL SEEKERS	PERFECTION (TURN ME UPSIDE DOWN)	Mercury
2	SIMPY RED	PERFECT LOVE	Mercury
3	BOB SIMCLAR FEAT. GARY FINE	LOVE GENERATION	Mercury
4	D.O.M.S. FEAT. TECHNOTRONIC	PUMP UP THE JAM	Mercury
5	RICKY MARTIN FEAT. FAT JOE & AMERIE	I DON'T CARE	Mercury

20	13	COOLPLAN FIX YOU	Parlophone
21	16	NEW ORDER WAITING FOR THE SIRENS CALL	London
22	16	DAVID GRAY THE ONE I LOVE	Arista
23	19	JESSICA SIMPSON THESE BOOTS ARE MADE FOR... COLOMBA	Capitol
24	19	BEDOUIN SOUNDCLASH WHEN THE NIGHT FEELS... <i>At Home/Popstar</i>	Popstar
25	19	MS DYNAMITE JUDGEMENT DAY	Big Brother
26	20	OASIS THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING IDLE	Elektra
27	20	EDITORS BULLETS	AMM
28	22	THE BLACK EYED PEAS DON'T LIE	Badman
29	23	NICKELBACK PHOTOGRAPH	Mercury
30	18	BON JOVI HAVE A NICE DAY	Innovative
31	21	SIMON WEBBE LAY YOUR HANDS	XL
32	18	BASEMENT JAXX DO YOUR THING	Sirius
33	18	X-PRESS 2 FEAT. KURT WAGNER GIVE IT UP	8 Underground
34	18	KAISER CHIEFS I PREDICT A RIOT/SINK THAT SHIP	Servant
35	18	ANDY BELL CRAZY	Interscope
36	25	GWEN STEFANI COOL	Sirena
37	23	JAMES Y P NOOKIE	Def Jam
38	18	BOBBY VALENTINO TELL ME	Nonesuch
39	15	HARD-FI LIVING FOR THE WEEKEND	Arista
40	33	JAMES BLUNT YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL	

21	15	PUSSYCAT DOLLS POD	AMM
22	16	NEIL YOUNG PRAIRIE WIND	Reprise
23	16	THE DEAD 60S	Delmark
24	24	HARD-FI STARS OF OCTV	Nonesuch
25	16	SHERYL CROW WILDFLOWER	AMM
26	12	QUEEN & PAUL RODGERS RETURN OF THE CHAMPIONS	Capitol
27	35	DAMEN RICE O	BMG/Int'l Star
28	19	THE STONE ROSES THE STONE ROSES	Shirley
29	20	OASIS DON'T BELIEVE THE TRUTH	Big Brother
30	18	BOB DYLAN THE ESSENTIAL	Columbia
31	22	FOO FIGHTERS IN YOUR HONOUR	RCA
32	14	BASEMENT JAXX THE SINGLES	XL
33	25	MARIAH CAREY THE EMANCIPATION OF MIMI	Def Jam
34	27	THE KILLERS HOT FUSS	Island
35	38	CHARLOTTE CHURCH TISSUES AND ISSUES	Sony BMG
36	16	GOLDIE LOOKIN' CHAIN SAFE AS FUCK	Arista
37	23	MCFLY WONDERLAND	Island
38	48	DAMIAN 'JIR GONG' MARLEY WELCOME TO JAMROCK	Universal
39	30	RAZORLIGHT UP ALL NIGHT	Virgin
40	28	DANIEL POWTER DANIEL POWTER	Warner Bros.

1	ACQUATIC LOVE	V2
2	THE VERY BEST OF NOW DANCE	Virgin/EMI
3	DANCE PARTY	Sony BMG/Debut
4	HELP - A DAY IN THE LIFE	World
5	MASSIVE R&B - VOL. 2	Sony/BMG/Int'l Star
6	NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC! '01	EMI/Universal
7	MY FIRST ALBUM	V2
8	ULTIMATE DISNEY PRINCESS	Walt Disney
9	GOLDEN OLDIES	Virgin/EMI
10	VERY BEST OF BACK TO THE OLD SKOOL	Mercury/Int'l Sound
11	FLOORFILLERS 4	Universal TV
12	FESTIVAL	Universal TV
13	BIG TUNES 3 - LIVING FOR THE WEEKEND	Mercury/Int'l Sound
14	DEATH ROW PRESENTS A HIP HOP HISTORY	Universal TV
15	HED KANDI THE MIX 50	Red Bull
16	POP JR	Universal TV
17	DRIVETIME	Universal TV
18	A LIFETIME OF ROMANCE	Sony BMG/Int'l Star
19	URBAN HEAT	Universal TV
20	BREAK UP SONGS	Universal TV

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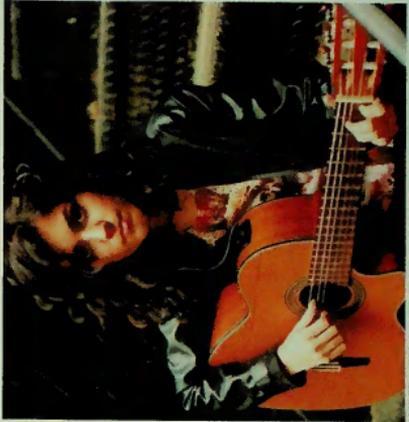
FORTHCOMING

KEY SINGLES RELEASES

LEE WAIN I'VE GOT YOU ON MY MIND	OCT 10
SHIRLEY BASSEY I'VE GOT YOU ON MY MIND	OCT 10
UBI ALI BECAUSE OF YOU ISLAND	OCT 10
ALEX PARKS LOOKING FOR WATER POLYDOR	OCT 17
FATH HALL LIE WE NEVER LOVED... WEA	OCT 17
MICKY T I WANNA HOLD YOU ISLAND	OCT 17
BACKSTREET BOYS JUST WANT YOU TO BE A MAN	OCT 24
CRAB DAVID DON'T LOVE ME NO MORE UJA	OCT 24
SORRY NUMBER SEVEN	OCT 24
KATE BUSH KINGS OF THE MOUNTAIN EMI	OCT 24
SUPERGRASS LOW C PROBABLY	OCT 24
TEXAS CANT RESIST MEMORY	OCT 24
WESTLIFE YOU HOUSIE ME UP SONY BMG	OCT 24
THE CORONERS I'VE GOT YOU ON MY MIND	OCT 31
PAHREL WILLIAMS KISS STEFANI	OCT 31
CAN I HAVE IT LIKE THAT VIRGIN	OCT 31

KEY ALBUMS RELEASES

ALEX PARKS UNPLUGGED SONY BMG	OCT 10
LUBERTEL UNPLUGGED SONY BMG	OCT 10
PAUL WELLS AS IS NOW V2	OCT 10
RICKY MARTIN LIFE SONY BMG	OCT 10
SUGABABES TALKER IN WAVE WAVES ISLAND	OCT 10
TATU DANGEROUS AND MOVING POLYDOR	OCT 10
DEEPFUR MODE PLAYING THE ANGEL AME OCT 17	OCT 17
RODNEY 'THEIR LAW' - THE SINGLES AL OCT 17	OCT 17
RODNEY 'THEIR LAW' - THE SINGLES AL OCT 17	OCT 17
STEVENS COME AND GET IT	OCT 17
SIMPLY RED SIMPLIFIED SIMPLY RED OCT 17	OCT 17
KATE BUSH KINGS OF THE MOUNTAIN EMI OCT 24	OCT 24
STARSAILOR ON THE OUTSIDE REANIM OCT 24	OCT 24
THE CARIBBEAN SUPER EXTRA GRAMMY POLYDOR	OCT 24
ALEX PARKS HONESTY POLYDOR	OCT 24
ALEX PARKS HONESTY POLYDOR	OCT 24
ALEX PARKS HONESTY POLYDOR	OCT 24



KATTIE MELUA: HITTING THE RIGHT NOTE



SUGABABES: PUSHING ALL THE RIGHT BUTTONS

PRE-RELEASE AIRPLAY TOP 20

Rank	Artist/Track	Label
1	60S SINGLES LIVE (COMPILATION)	Sony
2	COLORED PEOPLE (LIVE)	Sony
3	ROLL WITH ME (LIVE)	Sony
4	THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA (LIVE)	Sony
5	LETTER 2 U (LIVE)	Sony
6	ADRENALIN (LIVE)	Sony
7	BLACK FALCON (LIVE)	Decca
8	DOE LANE (LIVE)	Decca
9	THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA (LIVE)	Sony
10	THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA (LIVE)	Sony
11	THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA (LIVE)	Sony
12	THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA (LIVE)	Sony
13	THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA (LIVE)	Sony
14	THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA (LIVE)	Sony
15	THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA (LIVE)	Sony
16	THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA (LIVE)	Sony
17	THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA (LIVE)	Sony
18	THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA (LIVE)	Sony
19	THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA (LIVE)	Sony
20	THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA (LIVE)	Sony

These charts are also available online at musicweek.com

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- YAKU Will About My Interscope
- Ricky Martin "Don't Care" Sony/BMG

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COOL CUTS CHART

Rank	Artist/Track	Label
1	DEEP BLUE SPACEMAN (DUBS)	London
2	COBAIN WE WITNESS THIS PROLOGUE	BMG
3	RAW MCDONALD'S	WVA
4	AMERICAN DREAM (THE HEAVENLY CHANCE)	Sony BMG
5	4-20 (DUB)	BMG
6	RECKLESS Y REMIXIONS (AT THE CONY)	London
7	MAN DANCE & MICHIGAN (AM WHAT YOU WANT)	BMG
8	FRANZ FERDINAND (DO YOU WANT TO DANCE)	BMG
9	DOZZILLA (W/IT YOU)	BMG
10	PERVA (LIVE)	Meridian
11	HICKOK (W/IT YOU)	Meridian
12	INDIANATE TWINS (LEVIN) STRANGE	Sony
13	RAMMSTEIN (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
14	RAMMSTEIN (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
15	RAMMSTEIN (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
16	RAMMSTEIN (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
17	RAMMSTEIN (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
18	RAMMSTEIN (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
19	RAMMSTEIN (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
20	RAMMSTEIN (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian

URBAN TOP 30

Rank	Artist/Track	Label
1	50 CENT FEAT. MOB DEEP (GUTTA CONTROL)	Meridian
2	KANYE WEST FEAT. JAMIE FOXX (GOOD DANCE)	Meridian
3	PASSION DOLLS FEAT. BOSTA (BOWS DOWN)	Meridian
4	JARNAINE (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
5	REHAB (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
6	TONY VALE (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
7	RICKY MARTIN (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
8	OLIVIA (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
9	MARSHALL MATTHEWS (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
10	JAMIE FOXX (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
11	SCANDAL (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
12	BOB WYLAND (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
13	BOB WYLAND (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
14	BOB WYLAND (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
15	BOB WYLAND (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
16	BOB WYLAND (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
17	BOB WYLAND (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
18	BOB WYLAND (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
19	BOB WYLAND (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
20	BOB WYLAND (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian

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Rank	Artist/Track	Label
1	SHARADES (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
2	SHARADES (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
3	SHARADES (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
4	SHARADES (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
5	SHARADES (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
6	SHARADES (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
7	SHARADES (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
8	SHARADES (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
9	SHARADES (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
10	SHARADES (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
11	SHARADES (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
12	SHARADES (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
13	SHARADES (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
14	SHARADES (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
15	SHARADES (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
16	SHARADES (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
17	SHARADES (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
18	SHARADES (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
19	SHARADES (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian
20	SHARADES (LIVE AT THE ROOF)	Meridian

ARTISTS...MANAGERS... YOUR FUTURE IS BEING DECIDED BY RECORD COMPANIES & MUSIC SERVICE PROVIDERS WITHOUT CONSULTING YOU!

A MAJOR RECORD DEAL CAN BE A MAJOR DEBT

Did you know that paying off the debt may mean that you have to sell in excess of £1.5 million copies of your album before you receive any recording royalties?

Did you know that last year the ring tone business in the UK was £180m in a £1.9billion market and growing?

Did you know that last year in Japan the ring tone business was worth over £686m in a £2billion market and growing?

BUT Did you know on a £3 true tone, the artist gets an average of 11.2p?

Did you know iTunes have sold more than £500million downloads but on a 79p iTunes digital download but the artist gets on average 4.5p?

Did you know that VPL collected over £7.5m worth of revenue last year from the broadcast of music videos but artists don't receive any income?

Did you know that many analysts believe that the future lies in subscription models yet record companies cannot account to artists fully for the models at present?

ARTISTS/Writers: YOUR INCOME IS UNDER ATTACK!

Did you know the BPI has actually joined forces with the Music Server Providers (AOL, Yahoo, Apple iTunes, Napster) and the mobile phone networks (Orange, Vodafone, O2, T-Mobile) in an attack on the music writers collection society (MCPS/PRS Alliance) in order to reduce the money paid to artist/writer's by at least 30% on digitally distributed music?

NO MORE - IT'S TIME TO KNOW MORE

The Music Managers Forum (MMF) intends to intervene on behalf of its members and their ARTISTS/Writers and challenge the record industry against this latest injustice and discuss how the industry as a whole must change

KNOW MORE! come along to a summit meeting at the "In The City" Conference, 2pm the Midland Hotel, Peter Street, Manchester, Monday 3rd October

Join the Campaign and

KNOW MORE!

Join the MMF (www.ukmmf.net)

- Fighting for a fair future for the artist

sign up at... www.KNOW-more-campaign.com

Datafile

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Week 40

Upfront p18 TV & radio airplay p21 New releases p28 Singles & albums p24

FAST CHART

SINGLES

NUMBER ONE
SUGABABES PUSH THE BUTTON Island
Island girls Sugababes land their fourth
number one single, perfectly setting up
their acclaimed fourth album *Taller In
More Ways*, which is out next week
(October 10). First-week sales of 79,282
for *Push The Button* were nearly seven
times those of the trio's last single,
Caught In A Moment, which debuted at
number eight with 11,633 sales last year.

ALBUMS

NUMBER ONE
KATIE MELUIA *PIECE BY PIECE*
Dramatico
With sales more than twice as high as
runner-up David Gray, Katie Melua's
second *Dramatico* album is the first
chart-topper on an indie label since
Bastement Jaxx's *The Singles In April*.

COMPILATIONS

NUMBER ONE
ACOUSTIC LOVE wsm
Acoustic Love brings together 38
reflective singer-songwriter types –
including James Blunt, Daniel Powter,
Bob Dylan and Paul Weller – and comes
up trumps, with first-week sales of
25,980 earning it a number one debut
ahead of *The Very Best Of Now Dance*.

AIRPLAY

NUMBER ONE
ROBBIE WILLIAMS *TRIPPING* Chartists
Making a late dash to the top of the
airplay chart, with an audience of
68.197m, Robbie's new single *Tripping*
nevertheless still logged only the sixth
highest tally of plays last week, and still
has some growing to do.

THE SCHEDULE

ALBUMS

THIS WEEK
The Beta Band *Greatest Hits (Regal)*;
Noise Next Door *Play It Loud* (Warner
Bros.); *Me Dyanite*, Judgment Days
(Polydor); Franz Ferdinand *You Could
Have It So Much Better* (Domino);
Leftfield *A Final Hit* (Hoard Hands); The
Go! Team *Thunder, Lightning, Strike*
(Mercury Industries); *New Order* (The
Singles) (London).

OCTOBER 10
Sugababes *Taller In More Ways* (Island);
Ricky Martin *Life* (Sony BMG); Tatu
Dangerous *And Moving* (Polydor); Paul
Weller *As Is Now* (V2); Rialto *Band
Swords* (Island); Liberty X *(Virgin)*;
Faith Hill *Fareilles* (Warner Bros.); Alicia
Keys *Unplugged* (Sony BMG).

OCTOBER 17
Michael Ball *Music* (Universal); Boards
Of Canada *The Canyoneer* (Headcase)

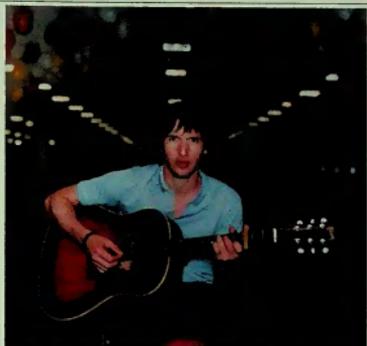
The Market

Downloads lead upturn in sales

by Alan Jones
Close of business on Saturday
marked the end of the third
quarter's trading – and figures for
both the week and the quarter were
encouraging.

Singles sales topped the 1m
mark last week, at 1,026,061, a
total which included 453,016
physical sales – the highest for 17
weeks – and 593,036 downloads,
the top tally logged since data was
incorporated into the chart 25
weeks ago. The 1m mark hasn't
been breached since Christmas
week 2002. Even more
impressively, singles sales have
topped 900,000 for four weeks in
a row – their longest run above
that level since October/
November 2001.

In the third quarter as a whole,
10,970,763 singles were sold – of
which 4,608,804 were physical
sales. In the same period of 2004,
there were 5,894,989 physical
sales but no downloads, which
means the market increased by
86.1% year-on-year for July to
September. The physical sector
alone dipped by 21.82% – but two
formats enjoyed growth in terms
of their share of the market and
actual sales. DVD singles
recorded a modest 1.74% increase
in sales to 123,783, while that old
waxhorse the seven-inch single
rocketed 76.77% to 299,491 sales,



Blunt: plenty to celebrate after strong sales in the third quarter

representing a 6.5% share of the
physical market, compared to
2.5% in quarter three, 2004.

Albums are selling as
downloads too, of course, but
those sales are currently not
recorded. Despite this and reports
of tough market conditions from
HMV, physical sales of albums
improved last quarter, compared
to 2004, albeit by only 1.36%.
33,374,481 sales in the quarter
bring 2005's running total to
100,071,950 – a little shy of last
year's 100,434,261.

It will be tough to beat last
year's eventual total of
163,408,650 because the fourth
quarter of 2004 was a 14-week
quarter, making up one of our
occasional 53-week years which
are needed to correct calendar

drift which would otherwise
occur on account of the fact
that 52 weeks is not a year but
364 days.

A quick note about this week's
album chart, where the top five
albums, for the first time ever, are
all by British solo artists, with
Katie Melua leading the way from
David Gray, James Blunt, Jamie
Cullum and KT Tunstall. Melua's
album's 120,549 sales are the
highest for a number one album
in nine weeks.

Finally, the Pussycat Dolls
could count themselves unlucky
not to be number one, as the
39,812 sales Don't Cha added to its
tally last week were the highest
for a number two single for
19 weeks. Don't Cha's cumulative
sales are now 234,775.

KEY INDICATORS

SINGLES

Sales versus last week: +13.7%
Year to date versus last year: +39.4%

MARKET SHARES

Universal	44.6%
Warner	14.6%
EMI	9.5%
Sony BMG	9.5%
Others	21.7%

ALBUMS

Sales versus last week: +10.0%
Year to date versus last year: +3.9%

MARKET SHARES

Universal	26.5%
Warner	23.2%
Sony BMG	16.7%
EMI	11.7%
Others	21.9%

COMPILATIONS

Sales versus last week: +9.0%
Year to date versus last year: -15.7%

MARKET SHARES

Universal	25.0%
EMI	20.8%
Warner	20.4%
Sony BMG	9.5%
Others	24.3%

RADIO AIRPLAY

MARKET SHARES

Universal	24.8%
EMI	22.3%
Warner	18.6%
Sony BMG	17.6%
Others	16.9%

CHART SHARE

Origin of singles sales (Top 75):
UK: 60.3% US: 35.6% Other: 4.1%
Origin of albums sales (Top 75):
UK: 61.3% US: 36.0% Other: 2.7%

For fuller listings, see musicweek.com

NEW ADDITION



One-Two Skunk Anansie
frontwoman Skin will release her
second solo album, *Fake Chemical
State*, early next year. The album
will be preceded by a download
only single on November 7 titled
Alone In My Room. The track was
recorded in Ibiza and will be
released one week ahead of a
16-date UK tour.

SINGLES

THIS WEEK
Ricky Martin *I Don't Care* (Sony BMG);
Precious *Mute*; Robbie Williams
Tripping (Parlophone); George Michael
John And Elvis Bundle (Sony BMG);
Starscoller (Crossfire) (EMI)

OCTOBER 10
U2 All Because Of You (Island); Lee Ryan
Turn Your Car Around (Brightshot);
Stephen Fretwell *New York* (Polydor);
Tiga *You Gonna Want Me* (Pias)

OCTOBER 17
McFly *I Wanna Hold Your Hand*; Faith
Hill *Like We Never Loved At All* (WEA);
Alex Parks *Looking For Water* (Polydor);

Santana *Im Feeling You* (Sony BMG);
Arab Strap *Dream Sequence* (Chemical
Underground); Happy Mondays
Playground Superstar (Big Brother); The
Paddingtons *Sorry* (Mercury);
Backstreet Boys *Just Want You To Know* (Sony
BMG)

OCTOBER 24
Craig David *Don't Love Me No More* (Im
Sorry) (Warner Bros.); Backstreet Boys
Just Want You To Know (Sony); Audio
Bullys *Im In Love* (Source); Kate Bush
Kings Of The Mountain (EMI); Nine Black
Alps *Just Friends* (Island); Texas *Can't Resist*
(Mercury); Westlife *You Raise Me Up*
(Mercury); Green Day *Jesus Of
Suburbia* (WEA)

OCTOBER 31
Kaiser Chiefs *Modern Way* (Polydor);
Pharell Williams/Gwen Stefani *Can I
Have It Like That* (Virgin)

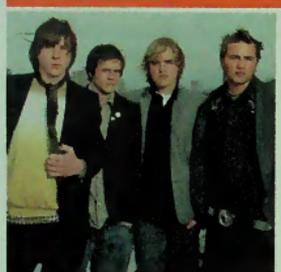
ALSO OUT THIS WEEK
SINGLES
Bakes: Ring A Ding Ding (Rough)
Yonisi Doherty: Yonisi (Capitol)
Yonisi Doherty: Yonisi (Capitol)
Pase Paso (Polydor)
Hot Chip: Barcelona

EP (EM)
ALBUMS
Alter Ego: Transformed (Virgin)
We Are Scientists: With Love And Squares (Virgin)
Blackhead: Downward Science

Everything You Do (Tough Cookies)
Amusement Parks On Fire: Backlot EP (V2)
Animal Collective: Feels (Fat Cat)
Stuckhead: Downward Science

(Ninja Tune): The Cardigans: Super Extra Cowly (Polydor)
Nerz: Lovecraft (Groland)

Records released 17.10.05



Singles

Arctic Monkeys

I Bet That You Look Good On The Dancefloor (Domino RUG212CD)
Despite releasing just one limited-edition single in their young career, Sheffield's Arctic Monkeys have already emerged as one of the most hotly tipped acts of 2005 and their first single for Domino is expected to deliver them straight into the Top 10. The demo version of this track has been available via the band's website for months, but that won't stop fans buying the official release by the truckload.

Backstreet Boys

Never Gonna Give You Up (2005)
Backstreet Boys demonstrated in June that a three-year absence from the charts matters little when they notched up their 14th Top 10 hit with *Incomplete*. This follow-up is an equally strong effort, produced by Max Martin and possessing a rocky edge of which *Bon Jovi* would be proud. The band play two nights at Wembley Arena later this month.

Olav Basoski feat. Michie One

Waterman (Positiva CDTV224)
This is a lively, if deeply unoriginal, club update of Sister Nancy's reggae classic *Bam Bam*. It is set to be huge, with massive support from clubland pushing it into the top three of *MDW's* Upfront Club Chart, while Radio One have B-listed it.

Happy Mondays

Pleasure Superstar (Big Brother BLDSD334)
Taken from the *Goal!* soundtrack, this is the first new material from the Mondays since the 1992 single *Sunshine And Love*. Sadly it sounds rather ill-thought-out, with Shaun Ryder competing against a sloppy, Primal Screaming rock backing.

The Kooks

Sofa Song (Virgin VSCD11904)
The second single from the feisty guitar band is a debut, and is sure to build on great tune EddieX Guns Top 40 success. The band will look to raise their profile on the MTV2 *Bandwagon* tour later this month.

SINGLE OF THE WEEK

Mfly
I Wanna Hold You

Island MSC740436
The third single from current album *Wonderland* is a distinct return to the good-time boy-meets-girl hi-jinks of Mfly's first album. Crammed with Sixties harmonies and wide-eyed innocence, it could well give the quartet their third consecutive number one. Radio One has B-listed it and it is receiving heavy support at MTV Hits and *The Box*, which could help spark fresh interest in the gold-selling album.

friendly offerings is huge, and on this evidence there is no reason why Parks can't go on to join the ranks of Blunt and Melua.

TiFa

You Gonna Want Me (PIAS DF18043CDM)
Taking its inspiration from an Altern 8 track, this cut from Montreal's electro-house star has an old-school rave feel. Vocals from Scissor Sisters' Jake Shears add an irresistible Eighties edge to proceedings, while co-producers Soulwax contribute a polished pop sheen.

Albums

Boards Of Canada

The Campfire Headphase (Warp WPCD12)
Boards Of Canada have upheld their high standards with *The Campfire Headphase*. Their sublime sound has an extra dimension this time around with the addition of treated guitars and live percussion on a bunch of tracks, giving their digitally-recorded music a more organic feel. Previous album *Geogaddi* reached the Top 30, and this evocative, transcendent album will surely repeat its success.

Vashti Bunyan

Loisiffering (FatCat FATCD38)
Some 35 years after its predecessor *Just Another Diamond Day* was released, and encouraged by the current folk scene's respectful namedropping of the album, Bunyan has recorded this magical follow-up. Recorded with Max Richter and benefiting from guest spots from the likes of Adem and Devendra Banhart, it is a suitably dignified, enigmatic sister album to Bunyan's near-mythical debut.

Dangeroom

The Noise And The Mask (Lex LEXCD36CD)
This collaboration between MF Doom and Gorillaz producer Danger Mouse lives up to its billing, and then some. This inventive, intelligent and funny set consolidates these two artists' reputations as two of contemporary hip-hop's more inspiring acts.

Depeche Mode

Playing The Angel (Mute SUM2M60)
Over a career spanning 25 years, Depeche Mode have – while continually evolving – managed to build one of the most consistent catalogues in modern music. This Ben Hillier-produced set possesses an edge and urgency that put it up there with their best, and tracks such as *John The Revelator*, *I Want It All* and *Precious could give* *Violator's* highlights a run for their money.

Faith Hill

Fireflies (Warner Bros WB487942)
The sixth album from huge US star Hill is more MOR country-rock filled with gentle tales of heartbreak and sadness. It will doubtless be huge in the Midwest, but it is difficult to see it transferring to the UK with quite the same degree of success.

Le Volume Courbe

I Killed My Best Friend (Honest Jon's HJRC14)
This first album of original material for Honest Jon's is from French musician Charlotte Marionneau, who has crafted a set that evokes Nico and at times a more wistful *CocoRosie*. Featuring the likes of Kevin Shields, Hope Sandoval and Primal Scream's Martin Duffy, this is no light piece of fluff – it certainly sits in the mind.

Louis XIV

The Best Little Secrets Are Kept (Atlantic 7567938252)
San Diego's Louis XIV are stars in waiting, as with this work they have dropped a killer debut that delivers on all the right notes. Crammed with sex and sleaze and with influences ranging from Iggy Pop to T-Rex, it has enough thrills and spills to enable it to truly stand out from the pack.

My Morning Jacket

Z (ATO 6267676942)
The Kentucky five-piece's second major-label album is a dramatic departure from 2003's critically acclaimed *It Still Moves*. *Reverb* and guitar solos are kept to a minimum, while keyboards and brevity come to the fore. That said, with *What A Wonderful Man* and *Off The Record* they

ALBUM OF THE WEEK
Simply Red
Simplified

Simplyred.com SRA002CD
Simply Red's second self-released album combines classic hits such as *For Your Babies* and *Handy Back The Years* re-recorded with a Cuban twist, alongside a bunch of new tracks, including the hip-swallowing single *Perfect Love*. Mick Hucknall's honeyed vocals are suited to the album's Latin flavour, and it is sure to be a hit with the 2.5m fans who bought 2003's double-platinum album *Home*. A sister album, *Amplified*, follows next spring.

have written two potentially huge rock-driven hits. All in a fantastic and brave record that deserves the widest possible acclaim.

The Prodigy

Their Law – The Singles 1990-2005 (XL XLCD190)
This single's set features the cream of The Prodigy's four studio albums, containing 15 tracks that have set dancefloors alight worldwide. The band embark on their biggest-yet UK tour in November.

Starsailor

On The Outside (Heavenly 342274)
The slightly grittier feel of single *In The Crossfire* – and its oblique promo – have raised hopes for this album. It is certainly a grower, with James Walsh's vocals sounding more and more appealing with every listen. Fans will certainly embrace it as a continuing evolution of the four-piece's sound, which should find a wider audience, given the right exposure.

Rachel Stevens

Come & Get It (Polydor 9673340)
The ex-S Clubber has now carved out a singular niche in electro-style glam pop. Consequently, her second solo album is pleasingly light on ballads but rarely deviates from the formula of the Richard X-produced single *Some Girls*. The Cure's *Lullaby* is even sampled at one point. Her single *I Said Never Again* (But Here We Are) is steadily climbing the UK Radio airplay chart, including a B-listing at Radio One.

Variuos

John Peel – A Tribute (WSM WSMCD226)
As the title suggests, this 40-track, two-CD set serves to commemorate the UK's ultimate tastemaker. From Seventies eccentricities through to Nineties pioneers, this diverse selection of well-chosen tracks are a joy to hear. The project has been carefully curated by Peel's wife Sheila and his four children, while proceeds will go to three charities.

This week's reviewer: Dugald Baird, Paul Brink, Ben Gater, Stuart Clark, Chris Franks, Martin Talbot, Nick Tesco, Simon Ward and Adam Webb.

Robbie Williams takes the top spot from KT Tunstall, as James Blunt and Sugababes rise into the top five. Barbra Streisand and Kate Bush also make strong upwards moves

The UK Radio Airplay

RADIO ONE

Wk	Artist Title/Label	Pos	Last	Wks	Score
1	HARD-FI LIVING FOR THE WEEKEND NECESSARY	20	26	18(1)	
2	KANYE WEST FEAT. JAMIE FOXX GOLD DIGGER RCA/REPLA	25	25	18(1)	
3	THE WHITE STRIPES 'I DO DOBELL' WEA	21	23	36(3)	
4	KT TUNSTALL SUDDENLY I SEE RELENTLESS	20	23	36(3)	
5	THE PUSSYCAT DOLLS FEAT. BUSTA RHYMES DON'T CHA A&M	26	23	19(2)	
6	GORILLAZ DARE PERIPHERAL	23	22	13(1)	
7	MYLO VS MIAMI SOUND MACHINE DOCTOR PRESSURE BIG BROTH	28	22	32(1)	
8	FRANZ FERDINAND DO YOU WANT TO DANCE	22	22	13(1)	
9	ROBBIE WILLIAMS TRIPPING CHRYSLIS	14	22	13(1)	
10	BOB SINCLAR FEAT. GARY PINE LOVE GENERATION DEFECTED	26	21	13(1)	
11	SEAN PAUL WE BE BURNIN' WEA/REPLA	20	22	35(1)	
12	ROLL-DEEP SHAKE A LEG RELENTLESS	31	21	13(1)	
13	FOO FIGHTERS DUA A&M	36	20	16(2)	
14	X-PRSS 2 FEAT. KURT WAGNER GIVE IT UP! SONY	19	19	13(1)	
15	CHARLOTTE CHURCH CALL MY NAME SONY BRG	24	18	13(1)	
16	OASIS THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING IDLE BIG BROTHER	20	18	12(1)	
17	DAVID GRAY THE ONE I LOVE ATLANTIC	38	17	12(1)	
18	MS DYNAMITE BURNING HOT DAY WEA	36	16	12(1)	
19	SUGABABES PUSH THE BUTTON ISLAND	36	15	12(1)	
20	BEDOUIN SOUNDCLASH WHEN THE NIGHT FEELS... B&B/REPLA	25	15	10(1)	
21	JAMES BLUNT HIGH ALABAMA	7	14	12(1)	
22	PIERRE L'HERMITE FEAT. OWEN STEFANI CAN I HAVE IT WEA	13	14	7(1)	
23	RIHANNA PON DE REPLAY DEF JAM	20	13	12(1)	
24	STARSAILOR... IN THE CROSSFIRE MERCURY	11	12	8(1)	
25	PENDULUM SLAM BANG/REPLA	30	10	7(1)	
26	MARIAH CAREY FEAT. JERMAINE DUPRI GET YOUR NUMBER OUT WEA	5	10	7(1)	
27	EDITORS BLOODS KAPOW	30	10	5(1)	
28	GOLDIE LOOKIN' CHAIN YOUR MESSUS IS A LUTTER ATLANTIC	31	9	7(1)	
29	AUDIO BULLIES TM IN LOVE SOURCE	3	9	7(1)	
30	RAZORLIGHT KIRBY'S HOUSE VERTIGO	4	9	6(1)	
31	BLOC PARTY TWO MORE YEARS WEA/REPLA	8	9	5(1)	
32	KATERS CHEFS I PREDICT A RIOT B&B/REPLA	11	9	3(1)	

© Nielsen Music Control. Entries ranked by total amount of plays from 00:00 on Sep 25, 2009 to 24:00 on Sat 1 Oct 2009.

INDEPENDENT RADIO RADIO

Wk	Artist Title/Label	Last	Wks	Score
1	DANIEL POWTER BAD DAY WEA/REPLA	25(1)	10(1)	33(1)
2	THE BLACK EYED PEAS DON'T LIE A&M	17(1)	10(1)	19(1)
3	KT TUNSTALL SUDDENLY I SEE RELENTLESS	17(1)	10(1)	25(1)
4	GWEN STEFANI COOL INTERSCOPE	19(1)	10(1)	30(1)
5	THE PUSSYCAT DOLLS FEAT. BUSTA RHYMES DON'T CHA A&M	25(1)	10(1)	31(1)
6	ROBBIE WILLIAMS TRIPPING CHRYSLIS	15(1)	10(1)	29(1)
7	COLOPLAY FIX YOU HYPHENOX	19(1)	10(1)	22(1)
8	SUGABABES PUSH THE BUTTON ISLAND	13(1)	10(1)	28(1)
9	OASIS THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING IDLE BIG BROTHER	17(1)	10(1)	24(1)
10	JAMES BLUNT YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL ATLANTIC	30(1)	10(1)	29(1)
11	DAVID GRAY THE ONE I LOVE ATLANTIC	17(1)	10(1)	38(1)
12	LIBERTY X SONG 4 LOVERS WEA/REPLA	17(1)	10(1)	25(1)
13	CHARLOTTE CHURCH CALL MY NAME SONY BRG	17(1)	10(1)	32(1)
14	GORILLAZ DARE PERIPHERAL	17(1)	10(1)	37(1)
15	JAMES BLUNT HIGH ALABAMA	15(1)	10(1)	32(1)
16	RIHANNA PON DE REPLAY DEF JAM	19(1)	10(1)	19(1)
17	MYLO VS MIAMI SOUND MACHINE DOCTOR PRESSURE BIG BROTH	19(1)	10(1)	28(1)
18	KATERS CHEFS I PREDICT A RIOT B&B/REPLA	17(1)	10(1)	17(1)
19	CHARLOTTE CHURCH CRAZY CHICK SONY BRG	17(1)	10(1)	13(1)
20	GREEN DAY WAKE UP WHEN SEPTEMBER ENDS REPERC	19(1)	10(1)	19(1)
21	FRANZ FERDINAND DO YOU WANT TO DANCE	14(1)	10(1)	12(1)
22	BOOYEROCKERS LIKE THE WAY WE LIVE WEA/REPLA	14(1)	10(1)	13(1)
23	SEAN PAUL WE BE BURNIN' WEA/REPLA	19(1)	10(1)	12(1)
24	LEE RYAN TURN YOUR CAR AROUND WEA/REPLA	19(1)	10(1)	11(1)
25	KELLY CLARKSON BEHIND THESE HAZEL EYES WEA	14(1)	10(1)	19(1)
26	JEM WASH I SOW MY SEEDS WEA	17(1)	10(1)	17(1)
27	MARIAH CAREY FEAT. JERMAINE DUPRI GET YOUR NUMBER OUT WEA	11(1)	10(1)	22(1)
28	KANYE WEST FEAT. JAMIE FOXX GOLD DIGGER RCA/REPLA	12(1)	10(1)	13(1)
29	FREEMASONS FEAT. ANITA WALKER LOVE ON MY MIND WEA/REPLA	14(1)	10(1)	11(1)
30	BASEMENT JAXX DO YOUR THING WEA	19(1)	10(1)	17(1)

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Wk	Artist Title/Label	Pos	Last	Wks	Score			
1	2	4	0	ROBBIE WILLIAMS TRIPPING CHRYSLIS	17(1)	21	68(2)	21
2	1	8	19	KT TUNSTALL SUDDENLY I SEE RELENTLESS	19(1)	9	66(5)	5
3	3	8	2	THE PUSSYCAT DOLLS FEAT. BUSTA RHYMES DON'T CHA A&M	17(1)	6	48(28)	1
4	12	3	0	JAMES BLUNT HIGH ALABAMA	10(1)	65	46(9)	21
5	10	5	1	SUGABABES PUSH THE BUTTON ISLAND	16(1)	19	42(10)	6
6	7	11	6	DANIEL POWTER BAD DAY WEA/REPLA	20(1)	5	41(4)	0
7	15	9	23	DAVID GRAY THE ONE I LOVE ATLANTIC	12(1)	1	40(13)	15
8	4	10	11	GORILLAZ DARE PERIPHERAL	13(1)	17	37(9)	22
9	6	10	26	OASIS THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING IDLE BIG BROTHER	17(1)	4	37(2)	20
10	8	9	36	GWEN STEFANI COOL INTERSCOPE	13(1)	6	37(2)	11
11	9	10	28	THE BLACK EYED PEAS DON'T LIE A&M	19(1)	10	36(5)	9
12	14	4	10	CHARLOTTE CHURCH CALL MY NAME SONY BRG	12(1)	15	34(8)	6
13	5	10	29	COLOPLAY FIX YOU HYPHENOX	17(1)	7	30(6)	50
14	13	7	9	MYLO VS MIAMI SOUND MACHINE DOCTOR PRESSURE BIG BROTH	10(1)	35	30(3)	26
15	11	7	14	FRANZ FERDINAND DO YOU WANT TO DANCE	9(1)	9	30(5)	27
16	10	6	1	KANYE WEST FEAT. JAMIE FOXX GOLD DIGGER RCA/REPLA	7(1)	37	30(2)	10
17	21	5	3	SEAN PAUL WE BE BURNIN' WEA/REPLA	8(1)	11	27(8)	3
18	24	2	0	RACHEL STEVENS I SAID NEVER AGAIN (BUT HERE...) PROSODIC	4(1)	13	26(4)	15
19	16	2	40	JAMES BLUNT YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL ATLANTIC	13(1)	19	26(7)	25
20	37	4	1	KATIE MELUA NINE MILLION BICYCLES DORLAND	2(1)	37	25(7)	30
21	25	5	38	HARD-FI LIVING FOR THE WEEKEND NECESSARY	5(1)	24	25(5)	21
22	34	1	0	SIMPLY RED PERFECT LOVE SIMPLY RED	4(1)	16	24(6)	46
23	18	9	26	RIHANNA PON DE REPLAY DEF JAM	10(1)	1	23(2)	29
24	26	3	0	BOB SINCLAR FEAT. GARY PINE LOVE GENERATION DEFECTED	5(1)	30	22(4)	35
25	19	11	34	KATERS CHEFS I PREDICT A RIOT B&B/REPLA	10(1)	6	22(5)	32

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INDEPENDENT RADIO RADIO

Wk	Artist Title/Label	Last	Wks	Score
1	DANIEL POWTER BAD DAY WEA/REPLA	25(1)	10(1)	33(1)
2	THE BLACK EYED PEAS DON'T LIE A&M	17(1)	10(1)	19(1)
3	KT TUNSTALL SUDDENLY I SEE RELENTLESS	17(1)	10(1)	25(1)
4	GWEN STEFANI COOL INTERSCOPE	19(1)	10(1)	30(1)
5	THE PUSSYCAT DOLLS FEAT. BUSTA RHYMES DON'T CHA A&M	25(1)	10(1)	31(1)
6	ROBBIE WILLIAMS TRIPPING CHRYSLIS	15(1)	10(1)	29(1)
7	COLOPLAY FIX YOU HYPHENOX	19(1)	10(1)	22(1)
8	SUGABABES PUSH THE BUTTON ISLAND	13(1)	10(1)	28(1)
9	OASIS THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING IDLE BIG BROTHER	17(1)	10(1)	24(1)
10	JAMES BLUNT YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL ATLANTIC	30(1)	10(1)	29(1)
11	DAVID GRAY THE ONE I LOVE ATLANTIC	17(1)	10(1)	38(1)
12	LIBERTY X SONG 4 LOVERS WEA/REPLA	17(1)	10(1)	25(1)
13	CHARLOTTE CHURCH CALL MY NAME SONY BRG	17(1)	10(1)	32(1)
14	GORILLAZ DARE PERIPHERAL	17(1)	10(1)	37(1)
15	JAMES BLUNT HIGH ALABAMA	15(1)	10(1)	32(1)
16	RIHANNA PON DE REPLAY DEF JAM	19(1)	10(1)	19(1)
17	MYLO VS MIAMI SOUND MACHINE DOCTOR PRESSURE BIG BROTH	19(1)	10(1)	28(1)
18	KATERS CHEFS I PREDICT A RIOT B&B/REPLA	17(1)	10(1)	17(1)
19	CHARLOTTE CHURCH CRAZY CHICK SONY BRG	17(1)	10(1)	13(1)
20	GREEN DAY WAKE UP WHEN SEPTEMBER ENDS REPERC	19(1)	10(1)	19(1)
21	FRANZ FERDINAND DO YOU WANT TO DANCE	14(1)	10(1)	12(1)
22	BOOYEROCKERS LIKE THE WAY WE LIVE WEA/REPLA	14(1)	10(1)	13(1)
23	SEAN PAUL WE BE BURNIN' WEA/REPLA	19(1)	10(1)	12(1)
24	LEE RYAN TURN YOUR CAR AROUND WEA/REPLA	19(1)	10(1)	11(1)
25	KELLY CLARKSON BEHIND THESE HAZEL EYES WEA	14(1)	10(1)	19(1)
26	JEM WASH I SOW MY SEEDS WEA	17(1)	10(1)	17(1)
27	MARIAH CAREY FEAT. JERMAINE DUPRI GET YOUR NUMBER OUT WEA	11(1)	10(1)	22(1)
28	KANYE WEST FEAT. JAMIE FOXX GOLD DIGGER RCA/REPLA	12(1)	10(1)	13(1)
29	FREEMASONS FEAT. ANITA WALKER LOVE ON MY MIND WEA/REPLA	14(1)	10(1)	11(1)
30	BASEMENT JAXX DO YOUR THING WEA	19(1)	10(1)	17(1)

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The UK Radio Airplay

Robbie Williams takes the top spot from KT Tunstall, as James Blunt and Sugababes rise into the top five. Barbra Streisand and Kate Bush also make strong upwards moves

Wk	Artist Title/Label	Pos	Last	Wks	Score			
1	2	4	0	ROBBIE WILLIAMS TRIPPING CHRYSLIS	17(1)	21	68(2)	21
2	1	8	19	KT TUNSTALL SUDDENLY I SEE RELENTLESS	19(1)	9	66(5)	5
3	3	8	2	THE PUSSYCAT DOLLS FEAT. BUSTA RHYMES DON'T CHA A&M	17(1)	6	48(28)	1
4	12	3	0	JAMES BLUNT HIGH ALABAMA	10(1)	65	46(9)	21
5	10	5	1	SUGABABES PUSH THE BUTTON ISLAND	16(1)	19	42(10)	6
6	7	11	6	DANIEL POWTER BAD DAY WEA/REPLA	20(1)	5	41(4)	0
7	15	9	23	DAVID GRAY THE ONE I LOVE ATLANTIC	12(1)	1	40(13)	15
8	4	10	11	GORILLAZ DARE PERIPHERAL	13(1)	17	37(9)	22
9	6	10	26	OASIS THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING IDLE BIG BROTHER	17(1)	4	37(2)	20
10	8	9	36	GWEN STEFANI COOL INTERSCOPE	13(1)	6	37(2)	11
11	9	10	28	THE BLACK EYED PEAS DON'T LIE A&M	19(1)	10	36(5)	9
12	14	4	10	CHARLOTTE CHURCH CALL MY NAME SONY BRG	12(1)	15	34(8)	6
13	5	10	29	COLOPLAY FIX YOU HYPHENOX	17(1)	7	30(6)	50
14	13	7	9	MYLO VS MIAMI SOUND MACHINE DOCTOR PRESSURE BIG BROTH	10(1)	35	30(3)	26
15	11	7	14	FRANZ FERDINAND DO YOU WANT TO DANCE	9(1)	9	30(5)	27
16	10	6	1	KANYE WEST FEAT. JAMIE FOXX GOLD DIGGER RCA/REPLA	7(1)	37	30(2)	10
17	21	5	3	SEAN PAUL WE BE BURNIN' WEA/REPLA	8(1)	11	27(8)	3
18	24	2	0	RACHEL STEVENS I SAID NEVER AGAIN (BUT HERE...) PROSODIC	4(1)	13	26(4)	15
19	16	2	40	JAMES BLUNT YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL ATLANTIC	13(1)	19	26(7)	25
20	37	4	1	KATIE MELUA NINE MILLION BICYCLES DORLAND	2(1)	37	25(7)	30
21	25	5	38	HARD-FI LIVING FOR THE WEEKEND NECESSARY	5(1)	24	25(5)	21
22	34	1	0	SIMPLY RED PERFECT LOVE SIMPLY RED	4(1)	16	24(6)	46
23	18	9	26	RIHANNA PON DE REPLAY DEF JAM	10(1)	1	23(2)	29
24	26	3	0	BOB SINCLAR FEAT. GARY PINE LOVE GENERATION DEFECTED	5(1)	30	22(4)	35
25	19	11	34	KATERS CHEFS I PREDICT A RIOT B&B/REPLA	10(1)	6	22(5)	32

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INDEPENDENT RADIO RADIO

Wk	Artist Title/Label	Last	Wks	Score
1	DANIEL POWTER BAD DAY WEA/REPLA	25(1)	10(1)	33(1)
2	THE BLACK EYED PEAS DON'T LIE A&M	17(1)	10(1)	19(1)
3	KT TUNSTALL SUDDENLY I SEE RELENTLESS	17(1)	10(1)	25(1)
4	GWEN STEFANI COOL INTERSCOPE	19(1)	10(1)	30(1)
5	THE PUSSYCAT DOLLS FEAT. BUSTA RHYMES DON'T CHA A&M			

Katie Melua comes out on top in a week which sees her go head-to-head with male counterpart Jamie Cullum, as David Gray and James Blunt stay in the top five

The Official UK

TOP 20 MUSIC DVD

THE WEEK	ARTIST/TITLE	LABEL/CATALOGUE NO.
1	ABBA ABBA THE MOVIE	Virginia (VNU)
2	JIMI HENDRIX LIVE AT WOODSTOCK	Universal (UIC)
3	U2 RATTLE AND HUM	CDC Video (P)
4	RAT PACK GREATEST HITS	Delta (BLM) (D)
5	PINK FLOYD LONDON 1966-1967	Snappe Music (P)
6	MATT MONRO A PORTRAIT OF	Dotem (D) (P)
7	ABBA GOLD	Parlophone (P)
8	JOHNNY CASH THE MAN IN BLACK - HIS EARLY YEARS	Ubu (VNU)
9	BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN VH1 STORYTELLERS	Columbia (S)
10	AC/DC FAMILY JEWELS	East (S) (P)
11	BON JOVI THE CRASH TOUR	Universal (UIC) (D)
12	BLONDIE LIVE	DVO (VNU)
13	JAY-Z FADE TO BLACK	CDC Video (P)
14	THE EAGLES FAREWELL TOUR - LIVE FROM MELBOURNE	Warner Music Video (VNU)
15	FOO FIGHTERS EVERYWHERE BUT HOME	RCA (S) (P)
16	QUEEN LIVE AT WEMBLEY STADIUM	Parlophone (D)
17	MICHAEL JACKSON LIVE IN BUCKHAREST - THE DANGEROUS TOUR	Epic (S) (P)
18	DEAN MARTIN LEGENDS IN CONCERT	DMG (S) (P)
19	ALISON MOYET ONE BLUE VOICE	Sony (S) (P)
20	PINK FLOYD CALIBURN: THE MAKING OF THE DARK SIDE OF THE MOON	Epic (S) (P)

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TOP 10 R&B ALBUMS

PROGRESS	ARTIST/TITLE	CATALOGUE NO.
1	KANYE WEST LATE REGISTRATION	Roc-A-Fella (R)
2	VARIOUS MASSIVE BEATS VOL 2	Sony BMG (S) (P) (D)
3	GOLDIE LOOKIN' CHAIN SAFE AS FUCK	Atlantic (P) (D)
4	JOHN LEGEND GET LIFTED	Columbia (S) (P)
5	KANDI KOOL SWEET HOME	EPY (P) (D)
6	PUSHYCAT DOLLS PCD	BMG (S) (P)
7	MARJAH CAREY THE EMANCIPATION OF MIMI	Sir (S) (P) (D)
8	WHITNEY HOUSTON THE GREATEST HITS	Arista (S) (P)
9	SO CENT THE MASSAGE	Interscope (D)
10	KANYE WEST THE COLLEGE DROPOUT	Roc-A-Fella (S) (P) (D)

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TOP 10 INDIE ALBUMS

PROGRESS	ARTIST/TITLE	CATALOGUE NO.
1	KATIE MELUA PIECE BY PIECE	Domino (P)
2	THE WHITE STRIPES GET BEHIND ME SATAN	XL (P) (D)
3	BASEMENT JAXX THE SINGLES	XL (P) (D)
4	THE KILLERS HOT FUSS	Lizard King (P)
5	ANTHONY & THE JOHNSONS I AM A BIRD NOW	Bough Trade (P)
6	ARCADE FIRE FUNERAL	Bough Trade (P)
7	BLOD PARTY SILENT ALARM	Wichita (P)
8	PENDULUM HOLD YOUR COLOUR	Boniville/Konig (S) (D)
9	FRANZ FERDINAND FRANZ FERDINAND	Domino (P) (D)
10	ELBOW LEADERS OF THE FREE WORLD	XL (P)

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TOP 10 INDIE SINGLES

PROGRESS	ARTIST/TITLE	CATALOGUE NO.
1	PAUL WELLER COME WHATS GO	XL (P)
2	JO OMEGA IMAH DREETS GO	Sony (S) (P)
3	FRANZ FERDINAND DO YOU WANT TO	Boniville (P) (D)
4	ANDY BELL COAST	Sony (S) (P)
5	KATIE MELUA NINE MILLION BICYCLES	Domino (P)
6	BASEMENT JAXX DO YOU WANT TO	XL (P) (D)
7	R-SPICE 2 FACE UP/IT WAGNER GIVE IT	XL (P) (D)
8	PENDULUM SCAM TOWN HERE	Boniville/Konig (P)
9	BOYSSOPP 9 FUSION	Ward (S) (S) (P) (D)
10	ART BRIT COOZ WEEKEND	Warner (S) (P)

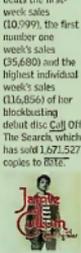
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NEW MUSIC WEEK ONLINE TOO

All the sales and air-play charts published in Music Week are also available online every Sunday evening at www.musicweek.com



L. Katie Melua *Piece by Piece* (Domino) **1**
Born in Georgia 21 years ago, Katie Melua took British nationality recently and becomes the ninth homegrown chart champ in a row this week as she storms to peak position with her second album, *Piece by Piece*. Following the success of the single Nine Million Bicycles, *Piece by Piece* sold 120,000 copies last week. That beats the first-week sales (10,999), the first number one week's sales (35,680) and the highest individual week's sales (115,656) of her blockbuster debut disc *Call Off The Search*, which has sold 1,671,527 copies to date.



J. Jamie Cullum *Have You Eyes For You and Fascinating Rhythms* (XL) **2**
Cullum became the first homegrown jazz singer to have a million-selling album in the UK as his 2003 major-label debut *Twenty-something* passed into seventh place last week and earned 38,290 buyers to earn a number four debut. *Twenty-something* had a quieter debut at number 22, and didn't reach its number three peak for 19 weeks. *Catching Tales* includes Doves cover Catch The Star, stand-out 11 guitar

Have Eyes For You and Fascinating Rhythms, as well as a clutch of self-written songs.

THE WEEK	ARTIST/TITLE	LABEL/CATALOGUE NO.
1	KATIE MELUA PIECE BY PIECE	Domino (P) (D)
2	DAVID GRAY LIFE IN SLOW MOTION	Atlantic (S) (S) (P) (D)
3	JAMES BLUNT BACK TO BEDLAM	Atlantic (S) (S) (P) (D)
4	JAMIE CULLUM CATCHING TALES	XL (P) (D)
5	KIT TUNSTALL EYE TO THE TELESCOPE	Konink (S) (P) (D)
6	BON JOVI HAVE A NICE DAY	Mercury (S) (P) (D)
7	BARBRA STREISAND GUILTY TOO	Columbia (S) (S) (P) (D)
8	KANYE WEST LATE REGISTRATION	Roc-A-Fella (S) (P) (D)
9	KELLY CLARKSON BREAKAWAY	RCA (S) (S) (P) (D)
10	HAYLEY WESTENRA ODYSSEY	Decca (S) (P) (D)
11	SEAN PAUL THE TRINITY	WIPAC (S) (S) (P) (D)
12	COLDPLAY X&Y	Parlophone (S) (P) (D)
13	IAN BROWN THE GREATEST	Mercury (S) (S) (P) (D)
14	THE CORRS HOME	Atlantic (S) (S) (P) (D)
15	FAITHLESS FOREVER FAITHLESS - THE GREATEST HITS	Cherry (S) (S) (P) (D)
16	KATISER CHIEFS EMPLOYMENT	U Music (P) (D) (S) (P) (D)
17	GORILLAZ DEMON DAYS	Parlophone (S) (P) (D)
18	HIM DARK LIGHT	WEA (S) (S) (P) (D)
19	DANIEL O'DONNELL TEENAGE DREAMS	Mercury (S) (S) (P) (D)
20	JACK JOHNSON IN BETWEEN DREAMS	Nonesuch (S) (P) (D)
21	PUSHYCAT DOLLS PCD	BMG (S) (P) (D)
22	NEIL YOUNG PRAIRIE WIND	Mercury (S) (S) (P) (D)
23	THE DEAD 60S THE DEAD 60S	Columbia (S) (P) (D)
24	HARD-FI STARS OF CCTV	Decca (S) (S) (P) (D)
25	SHERYL CROW WILDFLOWER	Mercury (S) (S) (P) (D)
26	QUEEN & PAUL RODGERS RETURN OF THE CHAMPIONS	Parlophone (S) (P) (D)
27	DAMIAN RICE	DMG (S) (S) (P) (D)
28	THE STONE ROSES THE STONE ROSES	Silverline (S) (S) (P) (D)
29	OASIS DON'T BELIEVE THE TRUTH	Epic (S) (S) (P) (D)
30	BOB DYLAN THE ESSENTIAL	Columbia (S) (P) (D)
31	FOO FIGHTERS IN YOUR HONOUR	Columbia (S) (P) (D)
32	BASEMENT JAXX THE SINGLES	RCA (S) (S) (P) (D)
33	MARJAH CAREY THE EMANCIPATION OF MIMI	XL (S) (P) (D)
34	THE KILLERS HOT FUSS	Epic (S) (S) (P) (D)
35	CHARLOTTE CHURCH TISSUES AND ISSUES	XL (S) (P) (D)
36	GOLDIE LOOKIN' CHAIN SAFE AS FUCK	Sony (S) (S) (P) (D)
37	MCFLY WONDERLAND	XL (S) (P) (D)
38	DAMIAN 'JR GONG' MARLEY WELCOME TO JAMROCK	Universal (S) (P) (D)

ARTISTS & SINGLES	DAVID GRAY 14	BOB DYLAN 30	FOO FIGHTERS 31	HAYLEY WESTENRA 10	KIT TUNSTALL 5
ALBUMS	DAVID GRAY 14	BOB DYLAN 30	FOO FIGHTERS 31	HAYLEY WESTENRA 10	KIT TUNSTALL 5
SINGLES	DAVID GRAY 14	BOB DYLAN 30	FOO FIGHTERS 31	HAYLEY WESTENRA 10	KIT TUNSTALL 5
ALBUMS	DAVID GRAY 14	BOB DYLAN 30	FOO FIGHTERS 31	HAYLEY WESTENRA 10	KIT TUNSTALL 5
SINGLES	DAVID GRAY 14	BOB DYLAN 30	FOO FIGHTERS 31	HAYLEY WESTENRA 10	KIT TUNSTALL 5

Albums Chart

Chart compiled from actual sales figures for Saturday week ending 1st June 2003. For more information visit www.bpi.co.uk. Copyright © 2003. Produced with BPI and BPIE cooperation.

Rank	Weeks on Chart	Artist	Album Title	Label
39	30	64	RAZORLIGHT UP ALL NIGHT	Virgin (80464) NI
40	28	6	DANIEL POWTER DANIEL POWTER Rabbit Heart	Warner Bros (932485) (E) NI
41	70	16	THE MAGIC NUMBERS THE MAGIC NUMBERS	Mercury (84133) (E) NI
42	33	87	SCISSOR SISTERS SCISSOR SISTERS	Phonix (8960) (E) NI
43	31	45	GWEN STEFANI LOVE ANGEL MUSIC BABY	Interscope (71897) (E) NI
44	41	54	GREEN DAY AMERICAN IDIOT	Reprise (78038) (E) NI
45	51	52	KASABIAN KASABIAN	RCA (84056) (E) NI
46	17	2	THE WHITE STRIPES GET BEHIND ME SATAN White Stripes	ML (8196) (E) NI
47	26	4	ANTONY & THE JOHNSONS I AM A BIRD NOW	Virgin (8196) (E) NI
48	37	18	THE BLACK EYED PEAS MONKEY BUSINESS	A&M (8196) (E) NI
49	49	30	JOHN LEGEND GET LIFTED	Columbia (8196) (E) NI
50	67	4	BOB DYLAN NO DIRECTION HOME (OST) No Direction Home	Columbia (8196) (E) NI
51	39	6	GOLDRAPP SUPERNATURE	MCA (8196) (E) NI
52	30	15	MYLO DESTROY ROCK N ROLL	Mercury (8196) (E) NI
53	11	2	STATUS QUO THE PARTY AIN'T OVER YET The Party Ain't Over Yet	Sanctuary (8196) (E) NI
54	46	29	50 CENT THE MASSACRE	Interscope (8196) (E) NI
55	50	2	MARY DUFF THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION The Ultimate Collection	BMG (8196) (E) NI
56	73	67	FRANZ FERDINAND FRANZ FERDINAND	Island (8196) (E) NI
57	45	63	GREEN DAY DOOKIE	Reprise (8196) (E) NI
58	0	0	ELO ALL OVER THE WORLD - THE VERY BEST OF The Very Best Of	Capitol (8196) (E) NI
59	NEW	0	RYAN ADAMS & THE CARDINALS JACKSONVILLE CITY NIGHTS Jacksonville City Nights	Capitol (8196) (E) NI
60	40	32	JEM FINALLY WOKEN	AR (8196) (E) NI
61	32	4	THE ROLLING STONES A BIGGER BANG A Bigger Bang	Virgin (8196) (E) NI
62	0	0	KATE BUSH HOUNDS OF LOVE Hounds of Love	EMI (8196) (E) NI
63	57	3	LED ZEPPELIN PHYSICAL GRAFFITI Physical Graffiti	Swan Song (8196) (E) NI
64	53	6	CRAIG DAVID THE STORY GOES The Story Goes	Warner Bros (932485) (E) NI
65	0	0	KATIE MELUA CALL OFF THE SEARCH	Decca (8196) (E) NI
66	55	8	KANO HOME SWEET HOME Home Sweet Home	Mercury (8196) (E) NI
67	61	15	DAVID GRAY WHITE LADDER	BMG (8196) (E) NI
68	0	0	PATRICK BUANNE THE ITALIAN The Italian	Columbia (8196) (E) NI
69	70	29	PHIL COLLINS HITS	Virgin (8196) (E) NI
70	34	3	PAUL MCCARTNEY CHAOS AND CREATION IN THE BACKYARD Chaos and Creation in the Backyard	Parlophone (8196) (E) NI
71	45	18	SAM COOKE PORTRAIT OF A LEGEND Portrait of a Legend	Universal (8196) (E) NI
72	6	2	THE ROLLING STONES LIVE LICKS	Virgin (8196) (E) NI
73	64	28	STEREOPHONICS LANGUAGE SEX VIOLENCE OTHER? Language Sex Violence Other?	EMI (8196) (E) NI
74	3	3	ELBOW LEADERS OF THE FREE WORLD Leaders of the Free World	XL (8196) (E) NI
75	56	10	THE VERVE THIS IS MUSIC - THE SINGLES 92-98 This Is Music - The Singles 92-98	Virgin (8196) (E) NI

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red: New entries Green: Re-entries Blue: Re-entries Yellow: Re-entries Orange: Re-entries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red: New entries Green: Re-entries Blue: Re-entries Yellow: Re-entries Orange: Re-entries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red: New entries Green: Re-entries Blue: Re-entries Yellow: Re-entries Orange: Re-entries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red: New entries Green: Re-entries Blue: Re-entries Yellow: Re-entries Orange: Re-entries
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14. The Corrs
 Breaching their string of six straight Top 10 albums, The Corrs' Home debuts at number 14 with sales of 23,572. As its title suggests, the thrabile Irish siblings' latest album has a distinctly traditional Irish flavour, and features songs such as My Lagan Love, Old Hag and Dhragh of The Day. Its start is appreciably worse than last album Borrowed Heaven, which opened at number two with 57,896 buyers just 16 months ago, and was dented number one status by Kanye's Hopea And Feels, which sold a mere 834 copies more.



30.50. Bob Dylan
 It was Bob Dylan week at the BIC, with BBC2 and BBC4 both screening many Dylan-related programmes to mark the 40th anniversary of his TV portrait of Martin Scorsese's revealing documentary No Direction Home. Perhaps because it shows clear of definitive versions of his best songs, No Direction Home's soundtrack was not the main beneficiary of a surge of interest in Dylan releases. It topped a 54.6% one week-on-week to move 67-50, but was overtaken by The Essential, a 2001 release which boosted a 740,000 re-bait to re-enter the chart at number 30.

TOP 20 COMPILATIONS

Rank	Artist Title	Label
1	VARIOUS ACUSTIC LOVE	WETA (E) NI
2	VARIOUS THE VERY BEST OF NOW DANCE	Virgin (8196) NI
3	VARIOUS DANCE PARTY	Sony BMG (8196) NI
4	VARIOUS HELP - A DAY IN THE LIFE	Warner (E) NI
5	VARIOUS MASSIVE R&B VOL 2	Sony BMG (8196) NI
6	VARIOUS NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC 61	BMG (8196) NI
7	VARIOUS MY FIRST ALBUM	WETA (E) NI
8	VARIOUS ULTIMATE DISNEY PRINCESS	Walt Disney (E) NI
9	VARIOUS GOLDEN OLDSIES	Virgin (E) NI
10	VARIOUS VERY BEST OF BACK TO THE OLD SKOOL	Mercury (E) NI
11	VARIOUS FLOORFILLERS 4	ANJ (E) NI
12	VARIOUS FESTIVAL	UMG (E) NI
13	VARIOUS BIG TUNES 3 - LIVING FOR THE WEEKEND	Mercury (E) NI
14	VARIOUS DEATH ROW PRESENTS A HIP HOP HISTORY	Universal (E) NI
15	VARIOUS HED KANDI THE MIX 50	Mercury (E) NI
16	VARIOUS POP JR	Universal (E) NI
17	VARIOUS URBAN TIME	Universal (E) NI
18	VARIOUS A LIFETIME OF ROMANCE	Sony BMG (E) NI
19	VARIOUS URBAN HEAT	Universal (E) NI
20	VARIOUS BREAK UP SONGS	Universal (E) NI

TOP 10 DANCE ALBUMS

Rank	Artist Title	Label
1	FATLIPS FOREVER FAITHLESS - THE GREATEST HITS	Cherry (E) NI
2	MYLO DESTROY ROCK N ROLL	Mercury (E) NI
3	BASEMENT JAXX THE SINGLES	XL (E) NI
4	SOULWAX NITE VERSIONS	WETA (E) NI
5	DEPECHE MODE REMIXES 81-04	Island (E) NI
6	VARIOUS HED KANDI THE MIX 50	Mercury (E) NI
7	THE CHEMICAL BROTHERS SINGLES 93-03	Virgin (E) NI
8	ROKRSOPK THE UNDERSTANDING	Mercury (E) NI
9	PENIDULM HOLD YOUR COLOUR	Mercury (E) NI
10	ROKRSOPK MELODY AM	Mercury (E) NI

TOP 10 ROCK ALBUMS

Rank	Artist Title	Label
1	HIM DARK LIGHT	BMG (E) NI
2	FOO FIGHTERS IN YOUR HONOUR	RCA (E) NI
3	GREEN DAY DOOKIE	Mercury (E) NI
4	GREEN DAY AMERICAN IDIOT	Reprise (E) NI
5	FOO FIGHTERS THE COLOUR AND THE SHAPE	RCA (E) NI
6	COHEED AND CAMBERGIA GOOD APOLLO T'M BURNING STAR - IV VOL 1	Columbia (E) NI
7	QUEEN & PAUL RODGERS RETURN OF THE CHAMPIONS	Parlophone (E) NI
8	FOO FIGHTERS FOO FIGHTERS	RCA (E) NI
9	DISTURBED TEN THOUSAND FIERS	Reprise (E) NI
10	FOO FIGHTERS THERE IS NOTHING LEFT TO LOSE	RCA (E) NI

THE YEAR SO FAR: TOP 20 COMPILATIONS

Rank	Artist Title	Label
1	VARIOUS NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC 61	BMG (E) NI
2	VARIOUS NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC 60	BMG (E) NI
3	VARIOUS HAPPY SONGS	EMI (E) NI
4	VARIOUS GATECRASHER - CLASSICS	Mercury (E) NI
5	VARIOUS POP JR	Universal (E) NI
6	VARIOUS RENAISSANCE - THE CLASSICS	Reprise (E) NI
7	VARIOUS FESTIVAL	UMG (E) NI
8	VARIOUS DRIVING ROCK BALLADS	EMI (E) NI
9	VARIOUS 80 ROCKS	EMI (E) NI
10	VARIOUS CLUBLAND 7	ANJ (E) NI
11	VARIOUS TENAGE KIDS	EMI (E) NI
12	VARIOUS R&B ANTHEMS 2003	BMG (E) NI
13	VARIOUS MASSIVE R&B	Sony BMG (E) NI
14	VARIOUS FLOORFILLERS 3	ANJ (E) NI
15	VARIOUS THE ALBUMS 5	EMI (E) NI
16	VARIOUS ESSENTIAL R & B - SPRING 2003	Sony BMG (E) NI
17	VARIOUS CLUBLAND X-TRAXE HARDCORE	ANJ (E) NI
18	VARIOUS CROSSCOUNTRY - CLASSICS	EMI (E) NI
19	VARIOUS POP PARTY 2	BMG (E) NI
20	ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK BRIDGE, JONES - THE EDGE OF REASON	Island



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MUSICWEEK

Bard Indie Conference Brochure

Autumn 2005



In association with



Introduction



Dear colleague, A very warm welcome to the inaugural Bard Indie Conference, which I hope will become a regular and important fixture in our industry calendar.

The members of the Bard Council are delighted that the major record companies and distributors have joined us to present their Q4 release schedule, and we extend our sincere thanks to the representatives from Universal, Sony BMG, EMI, Warner, Pinnacle and Vital for what, I'm sure, will be an interesting and entertaining day.

Bard has worked very hard to make the idea of an event such as this a reality and I am pleased that the major record companies have also realised the huge potential benefits to the music business by supporting such an event.

In what is proving to be a tough year for both the retail sector in general and music retail in particular, it is highly encouraging to see the quality of this year's new releases from all labels and across all genres.

I sincerely hope that you will greet the record company representatives who have travelled to be here with us, with the appropriate level of enthusiasm and appreciation.

Finally, music was always intended to be fun, so I hope you enjoy the conference and would like to wish everybody a successful trading period over the next three months and into the new year.

Steve Knott,
Chairman, Bard

Big albums bring c

To mark the first Bard Indie Conference in Birmingham, *Music Week* has produced this comprehensive guide to the biggest and best releases of the autumn ahead. In partnership with the six key suppliers – EMI, Pinnacle, Sony BMG, Universal, Vital and Warner – we have brought together details of all of the biggest albums being served up ready for this Christmas. They include albums by Robbie Williams and Kate Bush on EMI, Pinnacle's Katie Melua and Paul Weller, Sony BMG's Will Young and Il Divo, Universal's Ms Dynamite and Jamie Cullum, Vital's Franz Ferdinand and The Prodigy, not to mention Madonna and The Darkness from Warner Music. But don't take our word for it – check out all of the details over the next 12 pages and see what Christmas has in store for you this year.

September can mean only one thing – the final days of preparation for the crucial fourth quarter are over. The talking is past; the business is about to begin.

And, in 2005, for all the talk within the general retail sector of store traffic declines, rising consumer debt and the internet shopping boom, a healthy dose of optimism pervades the music community.

Richard White, managing director of the Banbury retailer Chally's, speaks for many when he says, "I am always confident and this year looks like being on a par with previous years – it is looking very good. There is some very good product coming through."

Entertainment UK's music controller Paul Ludlum is equally upbeat. "The breadth of the slate is

encouraging," he says. "We are optimistic that the slate for Q4 can show a similar performance to last year overall, which would be a great result for the physical market."

Paul Quirk, of Quirk's Records in Ormskirk, agrees. "It does look as if there is plenty in the schedules for indies," he says.

"A lot of indies will be focusing on a lot of releases that are not in the charts, but for those of us on the high street there is plenty to work with."

Certainly, no market sector appears to have been left untagged as Christmas approaches. There are returning stars, including Robbie Williams with *Intensive Care*, Kate Bush – with *Aerial*, her first studio album for 12 years – *David Gray's Life In Slow Motion*



Six of the acts set to make an impact in the fourth quarter: (clockwise from top left) Robbie Williams

and Will Young's new album, Sheryl Crow's *Wildflower*, Texas with *Red Book*, Madonna with *Confessions On A Dancefloor*, Westlife with *Face To Face* and many more.

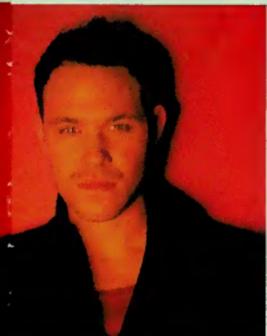
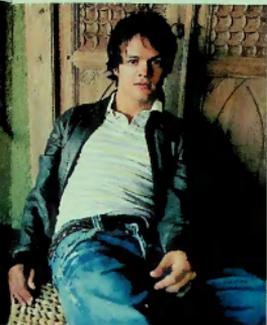
There are also plenty of second albums to whet the appetite, in the form of Kanye West's *Late Registration*, Franz Ferdinand's *You Could Have It So Much Better*, Ms Dynamite's *Judgement Days* and *The Darkness's* new studio album, not to mention Katie Melua's *Piece By Piece*, Il Divo's *Ancora* and Jamie Cullum's *Catching Tales*.

These are not the only titles targeting the so-called "mature market" either; further titles beckon from G4, as well as Katherine Jenkins' *Living A Dream*, Bryn Terrell's *Simple Gifts*, Hayley Westenra's *Odyssey* and *The Choirboys*.

On a pop tip, Sugababes return with *Taller In More Ways*, Busted front man James Bourne returns with new band *Son Of Dork*, as does Simon Webbe post-Blue, while newcomers to the field are emerging in the form of the Pussycat Dolls and former *S Club* member Jo O'Meara.

And Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without the usual string of greatest hits, this year led by packages such as the Prodigy's *Their Law: The Singles*, Mariah Carey's *The Best Of*, New Order's *Singles*, Destiny's *Child #1s*, *Leftfield's Never Forget* and *Anastacia's Pieces Of A Dream*. Inevitably, new editions of established compilations favourites such as *Now!* and *Pop Party* are also set to hit the market.

Colour to autumn retail



Williams, Jamie Cullum, Franz Ferdinand, Alanis Morissette, Will Young and Katie Melua

EMI Music commercial SVP, sales, Mike McMahon says, "There is a lot of optimism within the business compared to previous years. We have our Robbie album and a Kate Bush album, so it's shaping up to be a really strong quarter for us. But if you look at the schedules, it does look as if it is going to be a very big Christmas for everyone."

Vital sales director Richard Sefton is also confident that the calibre of his company's key records will enable the distributor to compete this Christmas. "The expectation is that Franz Ferdinand will be a Top 10 album for Christmas," he says. "And Beggars are going on TV with their key albums. While it is a tough market, the upside is that retail and suppliers are working harder and more

imaginatively to ensure a successful Christmas."

Such confidence could well come from the fact that the Christmas season is being prepared further and further upfront, as each year goes by. It is no exaggeration to suggest that Christmas 2005 could be the best set-up yet.

"We feel very confident about this autumn," Universal chairman and CEO Lucian Grainge explained at the start of the summer. "We have been setting up the autumn releases schedule probably since as early as February or March. Our releases really are right across the whole genre spread."

Pinnacle sales director Chris Maskery concurs. "With retail bringing forward Christmas presentations earlier every year, infor-

mation on forthcoming releases is required further upfront so that Christmas can be planned," he says. "It means that we have to gather all the release information from our labels earlier than ever to satisfy these requirements."

McMahon adds that while discussions with retail partners may have begun as late as September and October some three years ago, those discussions are now beginning in July and August.

"Every year, the consumer is moving later and later in terms of Christmas, so our preparation with retail and marketing campaigns is having to be planned further and further upfront," he says.

The fact is that preparing for what is the most important sales season of the year is crucial; getting things wrong in the final three

months of the year does not bear thinking about, for any retailer, label or distributor.

On average, the October to December period has accounted for 41% of annual sales over the past three years, an average of 99m album units each year. December is particularly crucial and both suppliers and retailers will be working hard to maintain the profile of already available albums in the market, as Christmas approaches.

Since the turn of the millennium, the Christmas market has been increasingly dominated by brand new titles which are released in the fourth quarter and targeted squarely at the December season. Although Christmas 2000 saw a high level of recurrences make an impact in the market - 21 of the Top 40 albums in Christmas week had been released prior to the key final quarter - the years which have followed have seen an increasing reliance on brand new titles.

Last year saw a more divergent market. While albums by Keane, Scissor Sisters and Maroon 5, boasting more than six months on the clock, held places in the Christmas week Top 10, the rest of the market was dominated by brand new titles. Indeed, despite the impact of these three veteran titles, the Top 20 biggest selling albums in Christmas week could claim a combined total of 239 weeks on the chart, far fewer than any previous Christmas week in the previous five years.

Indeed, 2000's Top 20 accounted for almost twice as many chart weeks - 475 in total, compared to 2004's 239 weeks.

But the signs are that this year's Christmas season will be lit up by albums with similar staying power to Keane, Scissor Sisters and Maroon 5. Who would bet against the likes of Coldplay, Gorillaz, Kaiser Chiefs, Gwen Stefani, Faithless and Jamie Blunt seeing their way through this year's festive season?

Even aside from those already established albums, other big-name titles with a genuine chance this festive season are being set up good and early, by acts including Barbara Steisand, Kanye West, David Gray and others.

Quirk says albums which were released earlier in the year, and already have a head of steam behind them, including titles by Coldplay, Athlete, Kaiser Chiefs and others have plenty of potential yet, while McMahon indicates that his company's campaigns for albums by the likes of Coldplay, Gorillaz, KT Tunstall and Magic Numbers will form a central part of marketing activity this autumn.

Vital product director Ian Dutt agrees. "We are going to do lots of work on representing and re-positioning acts we already have," he says, highlighting Oasis's Don't Believe in Truth, as well as recent albums from Royksopp, Basement Jaxx and The White Stripes, alongside the company's Mercury-nominated albums from Kaiser Chiefs, Maximo Park, M.I.A. and the Go Team.

In turn, Proper is to re-promote two albums in the wake of Mercury nominations: folk singer Seth Lakeman's Kitty Jay (I Scream) and jazz four-piece Polar Bear's Held On The Tips Of Fingers (Babel). And Pinnacle believes that one of its biggest releases for the autumn will be a repackaged version of The Killers' Hot Fuss (LK), include the promo videos, Glastonbury live footage, an extra track and remixes.

And, of course, every year also sees at least a couple of late floesures from a previously unexpected quarter, either in the form of a surprise hit or a brand new title which was confirmed late in the planning.

But even if no such surprises emerge, there is no doubting the strength of the schedule which is already confirmed.

Expecting more might be considered greedy.

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Massive albums from big stars such as Robbie Williams and Kate Bush, as well as the release of the Live 8 DVD, top EMI's menu for this autumn

EMI cues up feast of fresh albums

October 3

John Cale

Black Acetate (EMI)

John Cale is never one to stand still when he could be breaking new territory. His new album, *Black Acetate*, is a much harder contemporary rock album than its predecessor, taking Cale's talent in a new direction. The album is preceded by the single release of *Perfect*, a radio-friendly, guitar-driven anthem, on October 17.

John Lydon

The Best of British £1 Notes (Virgin)
Lydon's The Best of British £1 Notes brings together all of the star's finest moments, including songs from the Sex Pistols, Public Image Limited and several collaborations. A special edition includes a bonus disc of 12-inch mixes and additional tracks, while a companion DVD, released on the same day, features all the videos. This will be an essential document of one of the most influential figures in UK music.

October 17

Depeche Mode

Playing The Angel (Mute)

Depeche Mode return with the release of their 11th studio album, *Playing The Angel*. Fresh, urgent, innovative and compelling, it is already being hailed as one of the

albums of their career. The album, which will be preceded by a single, *Precious*, on October 3, will be available on CD and a deluxe edition CD, with bonus DVD featuring a 5.1 mix of *Playing The Angel*, videos, studio footage and a picture gallery. The timing couldn't be better: as the incredible success of 2004's remix album, *Remixes 81-04*, showed, interest in the band has never been bigger, with many new acts, including *The Killers* and *The Bravery*, drawing on Depeche Mode as an influence. The band recently announced a world tour, which starts in the US this November, before coming to Europe in early 2006.

The Kooks

Sofa Song (Virgin)

After their energy-fuelled Eddie's Gun hit the charts in July, *The Kooks* will be releasing their new track *Sofa Song* on October 17. The band will also be embarking on the MTV2 tour in October and supporting *The Subways* throughout the autumn.

Starsailor

On The Outside (EMI)

Starsailor release their third album, *On The Outside*, on October 17, preceded by lead single *In The Crossfire* on October 3. Recorded in LA with Rob Schnapf (Beck, The Vines,

Elliott Smith), the new album captures the essence of the band in a live-sounding record. The band's two previous albums have now sold in excess of 1.5m copies worldwide and this set looks poised to eclipse that.

We Are Scientists

With Love And Squalor (Virgin)
"Lucid, discerning people with amazing taste and salacious physiques." That is how *New York* three-piece *We Are Scientists* describe their fans. In fact, anyone who recognises sharp songwriting when they hear it, or is a sucker for a compulsive chorus, will be a fan. The band's first single, *Nobody Move, Nobody Get Hurt*, is three minutes of dark pop joy, and follow-up *The Great Escape* (October 3) is a US take on monochrome post-punk. Their debut album, *With Love And Squalor*, is released on October 17.

October 24

Robbie Williams

Intensive Care (EMI)

Robbie Williams' long-awaited new album, *Intensive Care*, will be his first long-player in collaboration with songwriting partner Stephen Duffy. Naturally, expectations are high, fuelled by lead single *Tripping*, a ska-tinged pop gem with typically big chorus,

due for release on October 3 and sure to be a big hit. The album will be launched with a live concert in Berlin, which will be cinecast across Europe.

October 31

Audio Bullys

Generation (Virgin)

Audio Bullys return with *Generation*, the follow-up to their acclaimed debut album *Ego War*. Packed with hooks, *Generation* sees Tom and Simon widen their palette without losing their dancefloor roots. The album will be preceded by the second single, *I'm In Love*, released on October 24.

Gemma Hayes

The Roads Don't Love You (Virgin)

This is the second album from acclaimed Irish singer-songwriter Hayes. The set is a step on from her Mercury-nominated debut *Night On My Side*, with a new depth to Hayes' songwriting that showcases her potential.

November 7

David Bowie

The Platinum Collection (EMI)

Recently voted one of the world's most influential artists, Bowie's popularity shows no signs of waning. *The Platinum Collection* brings together all of his hits from 1969 to 1987 in a three-CD



Robbie Williams: highly-anticipated new album will

collection, available at a special price. With a marketing spend of £400,000, it will be advertised through terrestrial and selected satellite TV ads.

Kate Bush

Aerial (EMI)

Some 12 years after her last studio album, *Bush* returns this autumn with a new single, *King Of The Mountain*, on October 24 and a new double album, *Aerial*, on November 7. It has been worth the wait: *King Of The Mountain* is a blissfully melancholic addition to her catalogue, with a delicate electronic production that updates her sound for 2005 without betraying her roots.

Various

Live 8 DVD (EMI)

November 7 will see the four-DVD release of one of the most important music events in history. *Live 8* took place on July 2 2005 in nine cities around the world and featured the biggest names in music including U2, Paul McCartney, Coldplay, Robbie Williams, Elton John, Madonna, The Who, Duran Duran, Pink Floyd, Black Eyed Peas and many more.

November 21

Korn

Album (Virgin)

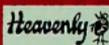
Korn, the influential metal band from Bakersfield, California, release their eighth studio album on Virgin. The four-piece, who



Depeche Mode: 11th studio album is poised to be one of the best of their career



Kate Bush: first studio album for 12 years already has fans in a frenzy



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Already out

Athlete

Tourist (Parlophone)



2005 has been a phenomenal year for Athlete. The band started the year with top five

single *Wires and High Light*. The band recently embarked on a UK tour culminating in two sell-out shows at Brixton. Another sold-out UK tour follows in October and November.

Clor

Clor (Parlophone)



Brixton's Clor have been winning praise for their eponymous

debut album. With great songwriting and an adventurous spirit that sets them apart from the indie pack, they are sure to win more fans with new single, *Good Stuff*, released on October 10.

Coldplay

X&Y (Parlophone)



With 6m copies sold to date, including 1.5m in the UK, X&Y has taken Coldplay to new

heights of success. But with a sold-out arena tour lined up for December, a new TV ad to hit our screens in the run-up to Christmas and the release of the Live 8 DVD set further, it would seem that the sky is the limit. Two single releases – the heart-breaking *Fix You* and the Kraftwerk-inspired *Talk a Piece in the New Year* – should make X&Y an essential gift purchase, cementing their reputation as Britain's biggest band. The album is also sure to feature highly in the end-of-year polls.

The Dandy Warhols

Odditorium Or Warlords Of Mars (Parlophone)



The Dandy Warhols have been the name on everyone's lips, following their appearance in the documentary *Dig*. The band's new album, *Odditorium Or Warlords Of Mars*, their best to date, will see the attention back where it should be: firmly on the music. The band will be touring the UK in October.

Doves

Some Cities (Heavenly/EMI)



After a summer spent touring the world's festivals, Doves return to action in the UK with

the September 12 release of *Sky Starts Falling*, their third single from their number one album. The promo video, featuring some unlikely aircraft control techniques, has secured heavy rotation on the MTV network.

Goldfrapp

Supernature (Mute)



Goldfrapp's third album has made them the pop breakthrough of the year,

charting at number two in the UK chart, on the heels of top five single *Oh La La*. Their October UK tour is already sold out and the press can't get enough of Alison's domineering appeal. A new single, *Number One*, is released on October 3.

Gorillaz

Demon Days (Parlophone)



Gorillaz' second album, *Demon Days*, will receive a further boost on

November 21 with the release of their single *Dirty Harry*, the follow-up to the number one *Dare*. There will be a TV push to promote the album in the run-up to Christmas.

Richard Hawley

Coles Corner (Mute)



Hawley released his first album for Mute, the *Coles Corner*, on September 5. As the excellent

reviews attest, *Coles Corner* is a step forward from his previous albums, filled with nostalgia, emotion and romance. Having won over many fans during his support slots with Nancy Sinatra and REM, expectations will be high.

LCD Soundsystem

LCD Soundsystem (EMI)



When LCD Soundsystem's debut album was released in January, the reviews were

universal in their praise, helping the album to a Top 20 slot. Never once to rest on their laurels, they followed this with the hit single *Dad Punk Is Playing At My House* and a summer of festival appearances. A new single, *Tribulations*, is released on September 26.

The Magic Numbers

The Magic Numbers (Heavenly/EMI)



For many people *The Magic Numbers'* harmony-laden tunes were the

summer, as the band triumphed in a run of festival shows. Their album has now gone platinum and is set for another boost with the release of their single, *Love's A Game*, on October 24.

Paul McCartney

Chaos And Creation In The Backyard (Parlophone)



2005 is shaping up to be a big year for Paul McCartney. September 12 sees the release

of *Chaos and Creation in the Backyard*, his first studio album in four years. *Fine Line* is the first single taken from the album and this month achieved Top 20 success to high acclaim, with playings at Radio Two, Xfm and 6Music.

Roll Deep

In At The Deep End (Relentless)



In a market still dominated by US artists, Roll Deep are a shining example of UK

innovation and style. Their single, *The Avenue*, showcased a brilliantly commercial side to the group's production skill and reached number 11 in the charts. Their second single, the salsa-influenced *Shake A Leg*, looks set to repeat that success.

The Rolling Stones

A Bigger Bang (Virgin)



A Bigger Bang is the first new studio album from the Stones in eight years. It is widely

regarded as the freshest and most urgent sounding, and probably the best Stones album since *Some Girls* in 1978. The debut single from the album, *Streets Of Love*, entered the chart at 15 and the album has gone gold.

Shout Out Louds

Howl Howl Gaff Gaff (EMI)



Sweden's Shout Out Louds won great acclaim for their performance at

May's Coachella festival, with some crowning them the band of the weekend. Debut album *Howl Howl Gaff Gaff* is a brilliant introduction to the band's multi-faceted indie pop, proving that you can still dance with a broken heart.

Sigur Ros

Takk... (EMI)



Sigur Ros's fourth album, *Takk...* ("thanks" in Icelandic), is set to justify all the amazing

claims laid at their door. Huge and intimate, orchestral and feather-light, *Takk...* is the sound of a band operating at the very top of their game. Written, produced and performed by the band in their Icelandic studio, it has a hypnotic feel, buoyed by a strong focus on melody.

Following a trio of live dates in July, the band return to the UK for more shows in November. *Takk...* is released on September 12, with a single, *Hoppipolla*, to follow on November 7.

Supergass

The Road to Rouen (Parlophone)



Supergass's sixth album was an inspired shift from the band, moving from the

buzzsaw pop of old to showcase a new maturity and songwriting depth. Following their acclaimed acoustic tour and Somerset House date, the band are back on the road for a nationwide electric tour in October. There is also a new single, *Low C*, released on October 24.

KT Tunstall

Eye To The Telescope (Relentless)



Since she grabbed the spotlight with her show-stealing performance on

Later, KT Tunstall has gone from strength to strength. Her Mercury-nominated album, *Eye To The Telescope*, has sold 450,000 copies to date and, with two more singles lined up in the near future, Under the Weather on November 15 and Another Place to Fall on February 2, together with a 20-date tour, this can only grow.

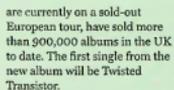
The Warlocks

Surgery (Mute)



The Warlocks' feedback-soaked psychedelic rock has been winning fans

wherever they appear. Their new album, *Surgery*, is bigger, fuller and sicker than ever before, reminiscent of the Jesus & Mary Chain at their fuzzy best. With a UK tour planned for November and TV spot campaign with MTV2 on release, Britain can look forward to a psychedelic autumn.



will be launched with a live concert in Berlin

are currently on a sold-out European tour, have sold more than 300,000 albums in the UK to date. The first single from the new album will be *Twisted Transistor*.

November 28

Chas And Dave

Great Hits (EMI)

With a Liberties support slot and Glastonbury performance to their name, 2005 has been a vintage year for Chas & Dave. Now the release of their *Greatest Hits* on November 28 should see them breaking through to a whole new generation of fans. The album features all of their biggest hits on one CD for the first time, from *Ain't No Pleading You* to *Snooker Loopy*, plus new Abbey Road studio recordings of live favourites.

November

Peter Kay

The Best Of (EMI)

In November, EMI releases an audio greatest hits from one of Britain's best-loved comedians. *The Best Of Peter Kay* is a mix of music and dialogue, along the lines of the soundtrack to *Kevin And Perry Go Large*, and also includes several reissues. The release, which ties in neatly with the autumn DVD release of *Max & Paddy's Road To Nowhere*, will be backed by a big TV campaign.

The Universal group lights the fuse on a high-octane list of releases from artists such as Ms Dynamite, Jamie Cullum, Sugababes and Bob Marley

Universal albums primed to explode

September 26

Sheryl Crow
Wildflower (Polydor)
Sheryl Crow is back to her best with the release of her new studio album, *Wildflower*, her first since 2002's *C'mon C'mon*. Its 11 tracks combine soaring choruses, heartfelt lyrics and lush orchestration. The first single from the album, *Good is Good*, is released on September 19.

Jamie Cullum
Catching Tales (U.C.)
From the Neptunes to your mum, everyone loves Jamie Cullum. Previous album *Twentysomething* made Jamie the biggest-selling UK jazz artist at the age of 25, with sales of more than 2m copies worldwide, and new long-player *Catching Tales* is set to eclipse even that. Trilled by the fearsomely funky *Get Your Way*, written with hip-hop producer and Gorillaz member Dan The Automator, the album broadens his musical horizons without betraying his jazz roots. Other tracks on the album include a beautiful cover of Doves' *Catch The Sun and Back To The Ground*, featuring Ed Harcourt.

Hayley Westenra
Odyssey (U.C.)
In her native New Zealand, Hayley Westenra is nothing short of a sensation: her debut album, *Pure*, became the country's best-selling album ever and she was recently appointed New Zealand's ambassador to Unicef. Her new album, *Odyssey*, shows a new maturity and depth to her voice.

October 3

Paul Anka
Rock Swings (Globe/UMTV)
As a singer, Paul Anka has sold more than 15m albums across a 40-year career. As a songwriter, he has authored some 900 songs, 150 of which have been recorded by other artists, including My Way and Puppy Love. On September 19, Universal released a new set from the Canadian superstar, titled *Rock Swings*, a set of classic rock songs, including Van Halen's *Jump* and Ozasis'

Wonderwall, performed in the Anka swing style. But it is his take on Nirvana's *Smells Like Teen Spirit* that is taking radio by storm, after receiving its premiere on Chris Moyles's *Radio One* show.

Ms Dynamite
Judgement Days (Polydor)
After a debut album that made her the UK's foremost R&B artist, expectations are high for the return of Ms Dynamite. Her new album *Judgement Days* is certain not to disappoint, combining heartfelt, often angry, lyrics with sparkling production. The album is preceded by the double A-sided single, *Judgement Day/Father*, on September 26.

October 10

Bratz
Bratz Rock Angelz (UMTV)
Over the next two months, Universal is preparing itself to take leading toy line Bratz into the charts, with the release of a single, album and DVD. The debut single, *So Good*, released on October 3, is a rocky number, reminiscent of Avril Lavigne and an excellent trailer for the album, *Bratz Rock Angelz*.

Sugababes
Taller In More Ways (Island)
Sugababes are one of a selected group of pop acts to have matured in line with their original audience. The trio's new album, *Taller In More Ways*, sees them collaborating with songwriters including Dallas Austin, Cathy Dennis and Johnny Rockstar, as well as long-time writing partner Brian Higgins. The lead single, *Push The Button*, is already huge with radio and looks set for a top five chart position when it is released on September 25. Ugly, the second single from the album and another Dallas Austin collaboration, is a more sedate ballad that deals with the insecurities of adolescence in a poignant way, reminiscent of TLC's classic *Unpretty*.

Bryn Terfel
Simple Gifts (U.C.)
Welsh bass baritone Bryn Terfel is

one of the most charismatic - not to mention successful - opera singers of our time. His new album, *Simple Gifts*, is a collection of classic songs, given his unique treatment. It includes *Parisi Angelicus*, a duet with countryman Aled Jones.

October 17

Aled Jones
New Horizons (U.C.)
Aled Jones has released 16 albums to date, all of which have gone platinum or gold. Jones' new album, *New Horizons*, released on October 17, includes *Jesu*, Joy of Man's *Desiring* and *Edelweiss*.

October 24

Various
Dancing in the Streets: Motown's Greatest Hits (UMTV)
Dancing in the Streets: Motown's Greatest Hits is a two-disc collection of hits from one of the world's greatest labels, released to tie in with the West End show of the same name. Initial copies of the album come with a limited Christmas CD.

Various
Pop Party 3 (UMTV)
After selling 800,000 copies last Christmas, the third in the multi-platinum *Pop Party* series is back. Due for release in late October, *Pop Party 3* will feature some of the hottest new tracks from Sugababes, Rachel Stevens and McFly, as well as some of the biggest party hits. It will also again feature the hugely popular karaoke CD element.

October 31

Blink 182
Blink 182 - The Greatest Hits (Island)
The founders of the US punk pop explosion, Blink 182 inspired a generation of bands with their catchy tunes and scatological humour. *Blink 182 - The Greatest Hits* is released on October 31 and will be massive this Christmas. The album includes two brand new tracks alongside all the old favourites.

Andrea Bocelli
Aria: The Opera Album (U.C.)
UCJ is to repromote this album

from Andrea Bocelli - widely regarded as the world's greatest tenor - this autumn, with two bonus tracks, including for the first time ever on CD, the unforgettable live Pearl Fishers duet with Bryn Terfel, taken from the Classical Brits 2003 performance. This release showcases Bocelli's impressive range, while also collecting together some of the greatest opera arias ever written.

Katherine Jenkins
Living For A Dream (U.C.)
At the tender age of 26, Katherine Jenkins has already won over a predominantly rock audience at the Cardiff tsunami benefit concert and performed for a TV audience of billions at Live 8 Berlin. Now the former school teacher is to release her best album yet, *Living For A Dream*, including a stunning Italian-language cover version of *I Will Always Love You*.

Texas
Red Book (Mercury)
Texas return with a new album, *Red Book*, which has been described as "White On Blonde plus". Certainly, *Red Book* is reminiscent of the band's biggest seller, but it is also so much more, as the gorgeous duet with the Blue Nile's Paul Buchanan, Sleep, will attest.

November 7

50 Cent
Get Rich Or Die Tryin' (Polydor)
With his second album, *The Massacre*, 50 Cent has become, arguably, the biggest hip-hop artist in the world. His biopic *Get Rich Or Die Tryin'* hits cinemas in the new year, but for those who can't wait, Polydor will release this soundtrack, preceded by a new single.

The Choirboys
The Choirboys (U.C.)
Formed after talent scouts visited schools and churches across the UK, the Choirboys are the world's first choir boy band. The trio's eponymous debut album includes such traditional choral numbers as *Pie Jesu*, and interpretations of rock tunes,



Set to go off with a bang: (clockwise from above)

such as Eric Clapton's classic *Tears In Heaven*.
Dire Straits/Mark Knopfer
Private Investigations: The Best Of Dire Straits And Mark Knopfer (Mercury)
With global sales of more than 117m units to date, there can't be many people who have never played some sly air guitar to a Dire Straits classic. Mercury is to build on this year's *Brothers In Arms* re-release with this best-of collection.

Keane
Strangers DVD (Island)
With 5m records sold worldwide over the past 18 months, Keane have been the biggest-selling UK band of recent times and an incredible live draw. On November 7, Island is to release the band's first DVD, *Strangers*, featuring a documentary and a full-length concert filmed in Chicago earlier this year.

Kubli
Mother (Mercury)
The holy-tipped Kubli release their second single, *Wicked Soul*, on October 31. The band is the brainchild of Henry Collier and it is his stunning voice that really sets them apart. Their debut album, *Mother*, is released on November 7.
Bob Marley
Africa Unite - The Singles Collection (Island)
Africa Unite - The Singles Collection collects all of Marley's

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Ms Dynamite, Jamie Cullum and Sunbambas are all set to release albums on Universal imprints this autumn

singles in a unique package. It includes Slogans, a recently discovered and previously unreleased track, featuring Eric Clapton, which will also be released as a single in October.

Various
Steve Wright's Sunday Love Songs (UMTV)
The Steve Wright's Sunday Love Song series has sold more than 1m copies to date. Volume five features the usual mix of classic and current cuts, including Kean's Somewhere Only We Know and Maroon 5's She Will Be Loved.

Various
Clubland 8 (UMTV)
Clubland is the UK's number one dance brand, with 5m units sold to date. For Clubland 8, AATW and Manifesto have again worked together to collect clubland's biggest tunes.

Barry White
White Gold (UMTV)
Barry White was enjoying an incredible career revival at the time of his tragic death, with a new generation of fans discovering his music. White Gold, a career retrospective, will delight both newcomers and veteran fans.

November 14

U2
Vertigo/2005 - U2 Live From Chicago (Island)
U2's Vertigo tour was acclaimed

by many as their best yet, with the band playing to 3m people at 105 shows around the world. This DVD documents their worldwide achievement.

November 28

Girls Aloud
Album (Polydor)
Last Christmas, Girls Aloud sold half a million albums in four weeks. This year, with a new album coming on November 28 and a massive arena tour, the girl group are sure to beat that. A live DVD will follow the album release.

Slade
The Very Best Of Slade (UMTV)
Everyone loves a bit of Slade during the festive season. But, with the release of The Very Best Of Slade, Universal will prove that Slade are for life, not just for Christmas. Featuring six number one hits, the album comes in one- or two-CD packages.

November

Son Of Dork
Album (Mercury)
Son Of Dork take the Busted template and put a fire under it. Not surprising really, the band is the new project from Busted mastermind James Bourne. The act's debut single, Ticket Outta Loserville, is a spiky punk-pop gem which will whet appetites for the forthcoming album, before its November release.

December 5

Diana Krall
Christmas Songs (UJ)
Grammy-winning jazz vocalist Diana Krall's new album, Christmas Songs, is co-produced by Tommy LiPuma and this set of Christmas songs will warm anyone's heart in the run-up to the festive season. Songs include Let It Snow, Santa Claus is Coming to Town and Jingle Bells.

2006

Vittorio Grigolo
In The Hands Of Love (Polydor)
Italian tenor Vittorio Grigolo is Polydor's first classical music signing, after hot competition for his signature. Grigolo, who at 23 became the youngest Italian tenor to sing at La Scala in Milan, was a founding member of Il Divo and is bidding to repeat their chart success. His debut album, In The Hands Of Love, released in early 2006, includes an interpretation of Stevie Wonder's All In Love Is Fair, alongside original compositions.

Lady Sovereign
Public Warning (Island)
Impish London MC Lady Sovereign was recently named as one of the world's hottest properties by *Blender* magazine in the US. Expectation is at fever pitch for her debut album, Public Warning, which is due for release in early 2006.

Already out

Bon Jovi

Have A Nice Day (Mercury)
Bon Jovi are unquestionably rock superstars, unleashing hit after hit for some 20 years



now. And they are not about to stop rocking now: their new album, Have A Nice Day, is packed with air guitar anthems, tender ballads and everman rockers.

Mariah Carey
The Emancipation Of Mimi (Def Jam)



Mariah Carey is already the biggest-selling female artist of all time and shows no sign of stopping. Her current album, The Emancipation Of Mimi, may well prove to be her biggest yet. The double A-side single, Get Your Number/Shake It Off (featuring Jermaine Dupri), is released in the UK on October 3, with a fourth set to follow in December.

Kaiser Chiefs

Employment (B-Unique/Polydor)
From opening Live 8 Philadelphia in front of 1m people to laying waste to the



summer festivals, Kaiser Chiefs have had an amazing year. Their album is already three times platinum and, with a new single, Modern Day, out on October 31, it can only get bigger, as more people discover their punk pop appeal. A DVD, also called Employment, is out in November.

Damian "Junior Gong" Marley
Welcome To Jamrock (Island)
The youngest son of Bob Marley, Damian "Junior Gong" Marley, has a ferocious talent that is all his own. His single,



Welcome To Jamrock, was one of the hits of the summer and proved massive at this year's Notting Hill Carnival. The hard-hitting album of the same name is packed with more potential hits.

McFly

Wonderland (Island)
McFly's second album, Wonderland, shot straight to number one in the UK,



confirming their reputation as the country's biggest boy band.

The band have just wrapped their first Hollywood film, Just My Luck, in which they co-star with Lindsay Lohan and release their third single from the album, I Wanna Hold You, on October 17.

Pussycat Dolls
PCD (Polydor)



Pussycat Dolls' debut single, Don't Cha, was a huge hit on both sides of the Atlantic. The emancipation pop hits, clubbers and an urban crowd. Their album, PCD, released on September 12, has a similar swagger. With a new single to follow in November, the Dolls are set to cement their reputation as a great urban pop act.

Rihanna

Music Of The Sun (Def Jam)



You know you're hot when Jay-Z delays his return to the US to introduce your work to a

UK audience. Such was the case with R&B sensation Rihanna. UK audiences will already be familiar with her number two single, the summer anthem Pon De Replay, but there is even better to come, as album Music Of The Sun illustrates.



Gwen Stefani
Love. Angel. Music. Baby (Polydor)
Gwen Stefani surprised many with the sophisticated electro hip-hop of her



debut album Love Angel Music Baby, proving that there is far more to her than just the ska punk pop of No Doubt. The album, which is three times platinum in the UK, has already spawned four massive hit singles, with a fifth single on the way before Christmas.

Kanye West

Late Registration (Def Jam)



Kanye West's second album was a massive hit on both sides of the Atlantic with

both press and record-buying public alike. And not without reason: Late Registration is a massive advance on his debut, both in production and West's microphone skills. The album features some incredible guests, from Jamie Foxx to Jay-Z, but the emphasis is firmly on West's diamond-hard beats.

Already out

Alkaline Trio

Crimson (Vagrant)
Goth-punk veterans Alkaline Trio's brilliant third album, *Crimson*, released in June through Vagrant, was a big favourite with radio, receiving plays from Radio One's Zane Lowe and XM's Ian Camfield, and earning them the front cover of *Big Cheese* magazine.

Basement Jaxx

The Singles (XL)
The incredible success of Basement Jaxx's *The Singles* came as a shock to the "dance is dead" naysayers. To everyone else, it served as a reminder of the fantastic pop edge the band possessed. From Romeo to new singles *Do Your Thing*, released on September 26, the album is classic Jaxx. There will be a new studio album early in 2006.

Black Mountain

Black Mountain (Jagjaguwar)
Black Mountain take in everything from the muscular power of Black Sabbath to the more experimentalism of the Velvet Underground. Their debut album, *Black Mountain*, released in July, has picked up radio play from DJs as diverse as Steve Lamacq and Rob da Bank. *The Guardian* called it "one of the year's greatest albums".

CocoRosie

Noah's Ark (Touch and Go)
Noah's Ark is the second album from the Cassidy sisters, Bianca and Sierra, better known as CocoRosie. The follow-up to 2004's *La Maison de Mon Reve*, it features Antony – without his Johnsons – and French rapper/beatboxer Spleen.

Jamie Lidell

Multiply (Warp)
Jamie Lidell's debut album *Multiply* is a 21st Century soul marvel, breaking new ground with its combination of glitchy electronics and silky vocals. With the title track due for release on October 3 and a growing swell of press attention, there will be a lot more people lending an ear to its idiosyncratic charms.

Maximo Park

A Certain Trigger (Warp)
Part of the burgeoning North East scene, Maximo Park combine angular guitar lines with great pop tunes. Their Mercury-nominated debut album *A Certain Trigger* won them a devoted fanbase and their new single, *Apply Some Pressure*, out on October 24, should give them their third Top 20 hit.

M.I.A.

Arular (XL)
M.I.A.'s Mercury-nominated debut album *Arular* caused a flurry of interest on both sides of the Atlantic, becoming one of

year's most eagerly-awaited releases. Luckily, it didn't disappoint: fusing hip-hop attitude with influences as diverse as grime, reggae and shanty house, it was a colourful highlight of the summer months.

Oasis

Don't Believe The Truth (Big Brother)
Widely hailed as their best for 10 years, Oasis's sixth album, *Don't Believe The Truth*, delighted both press and fans. The album has already spawned two number one singles and, with *Let There Be Love* set for a pre-Christmas release, there could well be room for one more this year.

Pitbull

M.I.A.M.I. (TV)
Pitbull is one of the hottest urban artists in the US, combining three of the most successful genres: crunk, rap and latin. His debut album *M.I.A.M.I.* includes the US hits *Culo*, *The Nastys*, *Dammit Man* and *Torna*.

Royksopp

The Understanding (Wall of Sound)
Royksopp's gorgeous second album *The Understanding* was a bold advance on their million-selling debut *Melody AM*. Featuring vocals from the band themselves alongside a host of collaborators, it combined dancefloor sensibility with pop nous. The deep new single, *49 Percent*, will be followed by their single *What Else Is There*.

The Shortwave Set

The Shortwave Set's The Debt Collection is a classy selection of chill out folksy ballads. It includes the brilliant single *Is It Any Wonder*, a big favourite of XM's Laura Laverna, whose support led to it being put on the *Xfm* playlist.

Various

Dream Brother – The Songs Of Tim & Jeff Buckley (Full Time Hobby)
This album of Tim and Jeff Buckley covers brings together the cream of the current indie/folk scene to salute two lost geniuses. Featuring The Magic Numbers, Stephen Fretwell, Stefan Stevens and Matthew Herbert, all songs are exclusive to this release.

Martha Wainwright

Martha Wainwright (Drowned In Sound)
While her father, Loudon III, has the history and her brother, Rufus, enjoys the headlines, Martha is the musical jewel in the Wainwright crown. Her debut album, released in April, caused quite a stir among fans of intelligent folk music. New single *Far Away* is released on November 14 and she is on tour nationwide from November 1.

The first singles package from the Prodigy and the highly-anticipated Franz Ferdinand are just two of the jewels in indie Vital's forthcoming autumn

Vital gets set for sparkling autumn

September 19

Dendra Barnhard
Criples Crow (XL)
Dendra Barnhard's third album for XL, the dreamy *Criples Crow*, is his best yet, combining elegant psychedelia with strong pop hooks. With a UK tour scheduled for November and serious attention from press, it could be his breakthrough.

December

Everyone In Position (Beggars Banquet)
Oceasize's second album *Everyone In Position* has already picked up support from *NME*, *MTV2* and *Kerrang!* among others. It is easy to see why – the album, recorded with Dan Austin (Doves, Cooper Temple Clause), is an emotional beat.

September 26

Millionaire
Paradise (PIAS)
Millionaire have some friends in high places: their second album, *Paradise*, was produced by Queens Of The Stone Age frontman Josh Homme, who also invited them on tour in 2003. They will be supporting the mighty Foo Fighters at one of their Earls Court dates in December, so watch out for them.
Soulsail
Nite Versions (PIAS)
For anyone who caught *Soulsail*

live at the summer festival, or has enjoyed a DJ set from their 2 Many DJs alter ego, *Nite Versions* will be a real treat. The album is a continuous mix of tracks inspired by and taken from the *Soulsail* debut album *Any Minute Now*. It includes the mighty DFA collaboration *Another Excuse*.

Various

War Child: A Day In The Life (Independent)

War Child: A Day In The Life will undoubtedly be one of the most important releases of this year. It features original Help artists Radiohead and the Manic Street Preachers, as well as the cream of new British talent, including Kaiser Chiefs, The Magic Numbers, Razorlight and an exclusive track from Coldplay.

October 3

David Ford
I Sincerely Apologise For All The Trouble I've Caused (Independent)
Former Easyworld singer David Ford was the first signing at Independent from former Hut Records boss David Boyd. Ford will promote his debut album, which offers hints of classic Tom Waits – with a club tour in October.

Franz Ferdinand
You Could Have It So Much Better (Domino)



The follow-up to their massive, 3m-selling debut album, Franz Ferdinand's *You Could Have It*

So Much Better is set to be one of the autumn's biggest releases. Recorded in Scotland and New York, the album shows a whole new side of the band, from the epic *Walk Away*, to the glam stomp of *Limited Edition Do You Want To?* A lead single of the album will be available, with a bonus DVD featuring the making of the album, the video for *Do You Want To?* and a photo gallery. The band will be on the cover of six magazines at the time of the album's release, including *Q*, *NME* and *The Big Issue*.

The Go! Team

Thunder, Lightning, Strike (Special Edition) (Memphis Industries)
The Go! Team's Mercury-nominated debut *Thunder, Lightning, Strike* was one of the word-of-mouth successes of 2005. To celebrate, Memphis Industries is releasing a special edition of the album, featuring two new tracks, *Hold Yer Troop* and *Close and live favourite We Just Won't Be Defeated*.

Various

Goal! OST (Big Brother)
On October 3, Big Brother releases the eagerly awaited soundtrack to *Goal!*, the new film from director Danny Cannon (CSI). Pride of place among the 14 tracks goes to the first new track from the Happy Mondays in five years, *Playground Superstar*, and an exclusive song from Oasis, Noel Gallagher's *Who Put The Weight Of The World On My Shoulders?*

October 17

Boards Of Canada
The Campfire Headphase (Warp)
The *Campfire Headphase* from Boards Of Canada is a return to the band's psychedelic roots, featuring layers of live instrumentation and their



Arctic Monkeys: hotly-tipped Sheffield band release album on Domino next year

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fourth quarter schedule

for
album

characteristic rich melodies. The band is incredibly influential, recently winning praise from Beck, who called their remix of Broken Drum "my favourite I've ever had done".

October 31

Test Icicles

Album (Domino)

Test Icicles are three metal-loving kids from London, who cite Slayer, Slick Rick and Lightning Bolt as their influences. The band's debut single, *Boa vs Python*, released in August, sounds like a collision between early Beatie Boys and Pantera.

October

Prodigy

Their Law: The Singles 1990-2005 (XL)

From their early beginnings in the waves of Essex, who would have thought that Prodigy would develop into one of the biggest bands in the world? That they have done so is a tribute to their excellent production skills, world-boating way with a hook and a host of punk rock attitude, right up to their fourth album, *Always Outnumbered, Never Outgunned*. A new singles collection, *Their Law: The Singles 1990-2005*, will include rare tracks and previously unreleased mixes.

November

Interpol

Articles Limited Edition (Matador)
Interpol's second album, the pop noir masterpiece *Antics*, was a quiet sensation in the UK. With a limited-edition double-pack, including DVD, to be released in November, a new load of fans are set to discover its gothic charms.

January 23 2006

Bonnie "Prince" Billy
Album (Domino)

Bonnie "Prince" Billy is one of the most revered names in American alternative music. His 2005 release, *Superwolf*, in collaboration with Chavez frontman Matt Sweeney, won universal praise for its melancholy songwriting excellence and a new



Reflecting on success: (clockwise from above) Mercury 2004 winners Franz Ferdinand, the Mercury 2005-nominated Gal Team and The Prodigy are set to release albums



collaborative album with Tortoise is scheduled for January 23.

February 2006

Be Your Own Pet

Album (XL)

Young Nashville punks Be Your Own Pet write gleaming pop songs of a maturity that belies their tender years, coming across like a mixture of Blondie and the Buzzcocks, with just a hint of Television. The band was one of the hits of this year's South By South West festival, leading to a flurry of interest in the US and UK. Debut single *Damn Damn Leash*, released in March by XL, picked up multiple plays from Radio One's Zane Lowe, who declared Be Your Own Pet "the band I'm most excited about in 2005". A new single is due in January, with an album to follow a month later.

Coldcut

Sound And Mirrors (Ninja Tune)
Cut-up pioneers Coldcut return in February 2006 with *Sound And Mirrors*, their first album since 1997. Lead single *Everything is Under Control*, features Mike Ladd and Jon Spencer.

Tiga

Sexor (PIAS)

Montreal main-man Tiga returns on October 10 with the first single from his forthcoming debut album *Sexor*. You Gotta Want Me features Jake Shears on vocals and was co-produced by Soulwax. The album will be released in February.

X-Press 2

Album (Skint)

Taken from the album, X-Press 2's current single, *Give It*, is a collaboration with Kurt Wagner from Lambchop that even manages to top their huge hit *Lazy*. A sublime cut of soulful house that has already been playlisted at Radio One, *Give It* is sure to be a big hit on both dancefloors and charts alike.

2006 tbc

Arctic Monkeys

Album (Domino)

No band in Britain is hotter than Arctic Monkeys right now. Every date they play is packed with screaming fans, who have queued round the block, and their debut single, *Five Minutes with the Arctic Monkeys*, sold out within hours of release. New single (*I Bet That You*) *Look Good On The Dancefloor*, their first with Domino, is a classic slice of punky British pop that looks set to give them their first taste of chart success. An album will follow in early 2006.

The Blood Arm

Album (City Rockers)

With a retro feel to their pop melodies and a disco sheen to their indie sound, *The Blood Arm* are a steady combination of Franz Ferdinand, *The Doors* and their own sense of attitude. Their second single, *Say Yes*, released in May, became an indie dancefloor favourite. Their debut album will be released early in 2006.

Dizee Rascal

Album (XL)

All over the world, Dizee Rascal is recognised as an icon of British urban music and the poster boy of grime. Debut album *Boy In Da Corner* was nominated for the Shortlist Prize in the US and won the Mercury Music Prize in the UK and the dazzling follow-up, *Showtime*, kicked up a storm. A new album is due in April 2006.

Embrace

Album (Independent)

Embrace's follow-up to the double-platinum-selling *Out Of Nothing* hopes to build on the band's previous success and is packed full of the melodic hits for which they are famous. Expect the first single early next year.

Fatboy Slim

Greatest Hits (Skint)

For many people, Fatboy Slim is dance music incarnate. After a summer of brilliant live and DJ appearances, early 2006 will see the release of his greatest hits package and it is sure to be massive. From *Rockafella*, *Skank to Praise You*, everybody needs a bit of Fatboy in their life.

Infadets

Album (Wall Of Sound)

Since signing to Wall Of Sound, Hacking's Infadets have been making waves with their punky dance rock. *Give Yourself to Me*, their first release on Wall Of Sound, soundtrack the jellyfish 3 mobile advert and the band's debut album is due soon.

Sway

This Is My Demo (All City Music)
Sway's *Up Your Speed* (remix) was a highlight of the recent *Run The Road 2* compilation and will be his first record for All City Music, following two blistering mix tapes. The hugely talented MC, who was nominated for two awards at this year's Mobos, has toured with Dizee Rascal and collaborated with Mike Skinner and the Mitchell Brothers. His debut album, *This Is My Demo*, featuring production from Terror Danjah and Wonder, will be released early next year.

Towers Of London

Album (TVT)

This year saw punk rockers Towers Of London ditch and outrage audiences in equal measures; several venues have banned them, but many more have invited them back. Their debut album, out early 2006, builds on their anarchic live skills.

Scott Walker

Album (4AD)

Reclusive genius Scott Walker is currently recording a new album, due for release in Q1 2006.

One's to watch

Two Gallants, Cinematics, Red Jeton, Diefenbach, Ralfie Band, Early Years, The Pipettes, Alloy Mental, Goose, Ivories, Parisman, Guillemites, Lords of Altamont, The Answer, White Rose Movement, Default, Marco Hernandez, Caged Baby, Sunshine Underground.



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The return of Madonna, The Streets and Enya join Warner Bros' rapidly-growing repertoire of high-profile albums

Warner Bros set to shine

September 26

Him
Dark Light (Sire/Warner Bros)
Finnish rockers Him have not only sold more than 3m records to date worldwide, but they also have one of the strongest, most fervent fanbases anywhere. Their fans have been patiently waiting for more than two years for new material from their heroes – and now the wait is over. Dark Light, the new album, hits the stores on September 26, which was preceded by the single, Wings Of A Butterfly, on September 12. The band return to the UK for live dates in January.



Madonna: innovative fragrance campaign makes musical history

October 3

New Order
The Singles (London)
This is the first time New Order have allowed their entire stunning back catalogue of hit singles to be released together, in the process showing just how influential they have been in shaping the sound and image of popular music. From Blue Monday, Regret and World In Motion to modern-day classics such as Krafly, The Singles is a monument to the ongoing legacy and appeal of one of the world's greatest bands.

November 7

Alanis Morissette
The Collection (Warner Bros)
Having sold more than 45m albums in her career, Morissette releases The Collection, a career-spanning "best of", on November 7. Including the hits Ironic, Hand In My Pocket, Head Over Feet and Thank You, the album also contains a recording of one of Morissette's favourite songs, Seal's Crazy. With major TV appearances and a heavyweight advertising campaign planned to support the release, this is set to be a must-have album for the autumn.

November 14

Madonna
Confessions On A Dancefloor (Warner)
Madonna is back with a bang, making history with the release of

her new album Confessions On A Dancefloor on November 14. Madonna is also the face of the new Motorola ROKR Tunes phone, and the ringtone of her new single Hung Up launches on September 19, making it the first ringtone from an icon that pop music to be released before a physical single. Backed with a heavyweight TV, radio and online advertising campaign, this will be followed by a worldwide airdate and download of Hung Up on the October 17, and commercial release date of November 7. Hung Up is a huge anthemic disco-infused track. The album, produced by Stuart Price – aka Jacques Lu Cont – and mixed by Mike 'Splice' Stent, brings the original queen of dance music back to where she began and kicks it up a few extra notches with 12 delicious tunes of pure unapologetic dance music.

November 21

Enya
Album (WEA)
Since making her WEA debut in 1988 with Watermark, Enya has sold more than 65m albums worldwide and has won three Grammy Awards. Her eagerly-awaited new album, released on November 21, looks set to continue her astonishing record



Enya: first album in five years follows 13m-selling A Day Without Rain

as one of popular music's biggest-selling and most respected artists. The release will be supported by a massive, heavyweight, above-and-below-the-line marketing campaign through 2005/2006.

Fort Minor

The Rising Tied (Machine Shop/Warner Bros)
Linkin Park's Mike Shinoda has enrolled a host of hip hop's most talented artists – including Jay-Z, Common and John Legend – for his eagerly-anticipated solo project, Fort Minor. Linkin Park's Warner Bros imprint Maching Shop will issue their debut album, titled The Rising Tied, on November 21. Although entirely produced by Shinoda, the Linkin Park MC/producer enlisted the assistance of Jay-Z as executive producer for the creation of the album. The duo had previously worked together on the hugely successful mash-up release, Collision Course.

April 2006

The Flaming Lips
Album (Warner Bros)
In April, The Flaming Lips release the long-awaited follow-up to Yoshimi Battles The Pink Robots. Yoshimi, by far their most successful album to date, was hailed by everyone as a classic album, with *Uncut* naming it as its album of the year. The album

Already out

Craig David

The Story Goes (Warner Bros)
After revolutionising the world's perception of UK urban music and emerging as one of the most innovative British artists in years, Craig David is officially back. Having sold more than 12m albums to date, his new album *The Story Goes* has already sold 1m copies in UK/Europe and Australasia within two weeks. The first single, All The Way, has been a massive sales and airplay hit across Europe, reaching number three in the UK and is followed by the beautiful Don't Love You No More on October 24. Major TV performances and across-the-board radio airplay will ensure a second hit single and *The Story Goes* album as big seller through to Christmas.

Kano

Home Sweet Home (679)
Kano has been making serious noise in the underground grime circuit for a while now.

However, judging by the success of his debut album, *Home Sweet Home* and his four Moby nominations, he won't be an underground star much longer. His current single Nite Nite, featuring The Streets, has been playlisted by Radio One.

Green Day

American Idiot (Reprise/Warner Bros)
Green Day, the winners of seven awards at this year's MTV VMAs, have now sold more

than 1.4m copies in the UK and nearly 10m worldwide, of their American Idiot album, spawning the hit singles American Idiot, Boulevard Of Broken Dreams, Holiday and Wake Me Up When September Ends. The band has just won the much-coveted best band on the planet award at this year's Kerrang! Awards. On November 16, the band release their live CD/DVD package, recorded at their sell-out shows at Milton Keynes Bowl in June, preceded by the nine-minute epic single Jesus Of Suburbia.

will be preceded by a single in late March.

2006

The Streets

Album (679)
Mike Skinner, aka The Streets, is set to follow up his groundbreaking million-selling album A

My Chemical Romance

Three Cheers For Sweet Revenge (Warner Bros)



2005 has definitely been a good year for My Chemical Romance: their debut Warner

Music album, *Three Cheers For Sweet Revenge*, has now sold more than 1.5m copies worldwide (and has gone gold in the UK), they have graced the cover of endless magazines, twice played two shows in one day (first at the Astoria in the summer and then at the Reading/Leeds Festivals) and walked away with two awards at the prestigious Kerrang! Awards – best video for Helena and best album. They end 2005 with the reissue of their live favourite, *I'm Not OK*, and an already sold-out UK tour, which will all help to push the album to its expected platinum status by Christmas.

Daniel Powter

Daniel Powter (Warner Bros)



Daniel Powter has had a phenomenal year with the massive hit single Bad Day.

Not only a number one hit across Europe throughout the summer, it also became the number one airplay song in the UK for four weeks. The album debuted at number five and has shipped more than 200,000 units already. The second single from the album is *Free Loop* on October 31. Powter will return to the UK for major promotion at the end of October, where he will also perform with Sheryl Crow at the Hammersmith Apollo.

The Subways

Young For Eternity (Warner Bros)



The Subways are one of the most exciting breakthrough acts of 2005.

Their debut album, *Young For Eternity*, has been embraced by fans and critics alike and looks set to cement their place within the British rock/roll elite. The US is also succumbing to their charms, the band being handpicked to perform on the next series of the popular teen drama *The OC*.

Grand Don't Come For Free with a brand new album this spring. He has been gearing up for the release with a sold out show at London's Britton Academy and numerous domestic and international festival appearances. Expect the first single in the spring of 2006.

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Dancehall king Sean Paul and rock titans The Darkness are poised to give Atlantic a successful final quarter

Atlantic rocks into autumn

September 26

The Corrs
Home (Atlantic)
With more than 20m records sold worldwide, The Corrs are one of the most successful acts of all time and this looks set to continue with the release of their fifth studio album, Home. It is a record which is held close to the band's hearts, compiled through a songbook of the late Jean Corr, and brought to life by the band's urge to bring new interpretations to traditional Irish songs. Home is an album of untimely beauty and showcases The Corrs' talents to perfection.

Sean Paul
The Trinity (Atlantic)
After 2003's 6m-selling, Grammy Award-winning *Dutty Rock*, Sean Paul returns with his new album *The Trinity*. Working with some of the hottest young producers on the Jamaican dancehall circuit - including Steven "Lenky" Marsden, Don Corleone and Snowman - The Trinity is hotly tipped for worldwide glory. Featuring the massive single *We Be Bernin'* and with a massive marketing, poster and TV onslaught, Sean Paul looks set to remind people that the dancehall king is back.



James Blunt: lighting up the chart with massive-selling album

October 17
Louis XIV
The Best Little Secrets Are Kept (Atlantic)
San Diego-based Louis XIV are set to release their major-label debut on October 17. The UK story really began to gather pace

in June and July this year, when the band visited our shores for a triumphant headline tour, a trip that also saw the band pull off a rip-roaring performance at T In The Park, earning them the "best band of the festival" accolade from Scottish radio station Beat 106. Louis XIV will be hitting the UK again in September as special guests of The Rakes on the NME Freshers Tour and a performance on Friday Night With Jonathan Ross is also confirmed for September 30.

November 28
The Darkness
Album (Atlantic)
The Darkness's *Permission To Land* became one of the biggest albums of 2003, selling more than 3m copies worldwide, spawning three Top 10 singles and earning the band a few Brits on the way. Now the rockers from Lowestoft are back with a brand new album. Bigger and louder than *Permission To Land*, The Darkness's new album will make air guitars the essential accessory on its release at the end of November.



Sean Paul album sales will be driven by the massive single *We Be Bernin'*

Already out

James Blunt
Back To Bedlam (Atlantic)
 James Blunt's *Back To Bedlam* is the success story of 2005, with more than 1.5m copies sold and six weeks at the top of the albums and singles chart. With a huge marketing push, a UK tour and two singles all on the way before Christmas, *Back To Bedlam* is well on course to be one of the biggest-selling albums of the year.

Death Cab For Cutie
Plans (Atlantic)
 Plans is Seattle quartet Death Cab for Cutie's fifth album, but in many ways it is an album of

firsts. It is their first for Atlantic Records, their first recorded on 48-track, their first recorded on the East Coast. The album debuted at number four in the US *Billboard* album chart, selling more than 90,000 copies. In the UK a single, *Soul Meets Body*, is released on October 10 and the band will be touring Europe in 2006. The press reaction to DCFC has already been excellent.

Tracy Chapman
Where You Live (Elektra)
 Chapman's seventh studio includes guest appearances by musician/producer

Mitchell Froom and Chiefti Peppers bassist Flea, who plays on the album's first single, *Change*. The set also marks the latest stop in a musical journey that began with Chapman's debut, released in 1988, which earned three Grammy Awards and yielded the classic single, *Fast Car*.

Missy Elliott
The Cookbook (Atlantic)
 Elliott's sixth studio album follows the 2003 gold-certified *This Is Not A Test* and boasts a superb guest list including Pharrell Williams, Fantasia, Mary J Blige, Slick Rick and the UK's very own M.I.A. Production comes courtesy of Missy Elliott, alongside some of the hottest beat-makers around, including Timbaland and The Neptunes. Missy's new single *Teary Eye* showcases her singing ability and will push *The Cookbook* to greater heights.

Funeral For A Friend
Hours (Atlantic)
 Welsh rockers Funeral For A Friend's second album, *Hours*, came out in June. It has

already spawned two hit singles and seen the band play for more than 30,000 fans on their sell-out UK tour. Having recently been crowned Best British band by *Kerrang!*, the band return to the UK in November to headline the *Best Of Chaos* arena tour. History will be released as a single to coincide.

Goldie Lookin Chain
Safe As Fuck (Atlantic)
 2004 was a monster year for Welsh rappers Goldie Lookin Chain: their Greatest

Hits album went gold and spawned such anthems such as *Your Mother's Got A Penis* and *Guns Don't Kill People, Rappers Do*. In 2005 the GLC look set to continue this winning formula with *Safe As Fuck*, more than 14 tracks of rapping genius including the new single *Your Missus Is A Nutter*. With festival appearances already completed and the marketing campaign underway, GLC are well on their way to even greater things.

David Gray
Life In Slow Motion (Atlantic)
 Gray has been hailed as one of the best singer-songwriters of our time, with Ivor Novello

awards, Brit and Grammy nominations. His sales figures speak for themselves: more than 10m records sold worldwide and *White Ladder* currently the second biggest-selling album of the decade. First single *The One I Love* has been an across-the-board hit and the album is already well on the way to being one of the year's key releases.

Hard-Fi
Stars Of OCTV (Necessary/Atlantic)
 Staines dub rockers Hard-Fi have had a phenomenal year: a Top 10 single, sell-out tours, a Mercury Music Prize nomination and a gold-selling album. With a new tour lined up for October and December and the authentic *Living For The Weekend* released at the end of September, Stars Of OCTV looks set to feature among the best albums of 2005.

The return of heavy hitters such as Will Young, Westlife, Il Divo and Destiny's Child adds extra sparkle to a glittering line-up from Sony BMG

Sony BMG wheels out the big guns

September 26

Dead 60s

Dead 60s (Deltasonic)
This highly anticipated debut album includes the trio of killer singles, *Loaded Gun*, *Last Resort* and *Riot Radio*. After a successful summer on the festival circuit, the band are special guests on the *Stereophonics' UK tour*. The fourth single, *Ghostface Killer*, will be released in December.

Mew

Mew And The Glass Handled Kitts (Epic)
Championed by the likes of Michael Stipe and Bono, this eagerly-awaited second album is preceded by the release of the single *Special* on September 19. The Danish band undertake a major UK tour through September and October, with the next single *Why Are You Looking Grave* due for release on November 21.

October 3

Leftfield

A Final Hit (Hard Hands)
A great legacy to a truly groundbreaking group, this album offers tracks from their two albums, plus a host of movie and ad soundtracks. The DVD element will include videos to such tracks as *Swords*, *Dusted* and *Africa Shox*.



Il Divo: November 7-released album includes duet with Celine Dion

October 10

Mariah Carey

The Best Of (Sony BMG)
This fourth-CD set includes all Carey's hits on one double CD, plus all the remix tracks on another, making this the ultimate Carey release. It features every one of her hits, including the collaborations with Luther Vandross and Boyz II Men.

Alicia Keys

MTV Unplugged (J)
Worldwide superstar Alicia Keys rekindles the *Unplugged* format with a stunning live performance featuring Adam Levine, Mos Def, Damian Marley, all the hits and a few surprises.

Ricky Martin

Life (Columbia)
First single *I Don't Care*, featuring Fat Joe and Amerie, is released on October 3. Other collaborators include Will.i.am, Scott Storch and Daddy Yankee. Martin is in the UK extensively to promote single and album.

October 17

Rick Astley

Portrait (Sony BMG)
Eighties singing sensation Astley returns after a 12-year absence with a collection of classic songs in this new album. It includes 13 songs which he grew up listening

to including *Vincent* and *Cry Me A River*.

Michael Bolton

The Very Best Of (Sony BMG)
This greatest hits package features the superstar's biggest hit singles, as well as acclaimed covers of soul classics such as *(Sittin' On) The Dock Of The Bay*. The 17-track CD is accompanied by a bonus 10-track DVD of his best promo videos, available for the first time on DVD.

Various

Relaxing...Classic FM (Sony BMG)
Classical compilations come and go, but one brand prevails. *Relaxing...Classic FM* is the essential classical gift purchase. These four CDs are packaged in a rigid slipcase oozing quality and finished with a new design, recalled successfully on *Classic FM's Music For Range*.

October 24

Destiny's Child

#1s (Columbia)

#1s is the highly anticipated greatest hits package from *Destiny's Child*, the world's biggest-selling female group. Pop icons, fashion trendsetters and global superstars Beyoncé, Kelly and Michelle have sold an incredible 50m albums worldwide. The album will contain all their classic hits such as *Independent Women Part 1*, *Survivor* and *Bootylicious*, plus new tracks including the first single *Stand Up For Love*.

Joseph McManners

In Dreams (Sony)
Discovered through a BBC talent search in 2004, 12-year-old McManners won the role of *The Little Prince* over 25,000 children. His debut album *In Dreams* includes *Bright Eyes* and *Where Is Love*.

Various

So Amazing - An Alistair Tribute To Luther Vandross (J)
A dazzling line-up of superstar artists salute the greatest male R&B singer of all time. Among the stars covering

the Vandross classics on this album are the likes of Elton John, Usher, John Legend and Stevie Wonder.

October 31

Burt Bacharach

At This Time (Sony BMG)
The iconic Burt Bacharach steps once again into the spotlight with this superb collection. Featuring Elvis Costello and Chris Botti, beats come supplied by the one and only Dr Dre. A perfect fusion of all things cool.

Santana

All That I Am (J)
100m albums on, Carlos Santana is at it again with an outstanding array of soon-to-be familiar songs, featuring Mary J Blige and Big Boi as well as Aerosmith's Steven Tyler on the first single *Just Feel Better*, released on November 7.

Rod Stewart

Thanks For The Memory...The Great American Songbook #4 (J)
Songbook #4 is the fourth and final instalment of Stewart's Grammy-winning venture into the Great American Songbooks. His profile will be raised by major press features, the final dates of his *Songbook Tour* in November and December...and of course he will soon become a dad again. The album includes three tracks as a teaser for next year's solo project.

Westlife

Face To Face (S)

After 7m albums sold in the UK and 12 number one singles to date, this album will see Westlife returning to what they do best. The first single, *You Raise Me Up*, is released on October 24, the second released on December 19. The band are hailing this as their strongest album ever.

November 7

Anastacia

Pieces Of A Dream - The Greatest Hits (Epic)
Pieces Of A Dream is the long-awaited greatest hits album from Anastacia - the hugely successful female solo artist with 20m



Building blocks of success: Sony BMG's autumn sales

global sales under her belt from just three studio albums. Released on November 7, the album features all the smash hit singles from *I'm Outta Love to Heavy On My Heart*, plus brand new material including lead single *Pieces Of A Dream*, and will be fully supported by a UK promo trip.

Il Divo

Ancora (Syco)
Il Divo stormed into the chart last year when their debut album entered at number one, staying in the top five until Christmas, before going on to sell more than 1m copies in eight weeks. Since then, the album has sold more than 4.2m copies round the world.

November 7 sees the global release of *Ancora*, which includes a duet with Celine Dion and unique interpretations of classic songs.

Elvis Presley

HiStory (RCA)
This collection features every possible fan favourite on a new set, presented in a three-CD jewel case plus a deluxe eight-panel digi-album featuring 90 tracks.

CD1 is the million-selling *Elvis: 30 #1 Hits*, CD2 is *Elvis: 2nd to None* and disc three is a new collection of all his hits not featured on his first two CDs, including 14 more UK Top 10 hits. **Savage Garden** *Truly Madly Completely* (Columbia) This greatest hits set features

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Shakira is boosted by releases from (clockwise from above) Westlife, Shakira and Destiny's Child

Affirmation, To The Moon And Back, Truly Madly Deeply, I Knew I Loved You and more. A new single from Darren Hayes, So Beautiful, is released on October 29.

Stock, Aitken & Waterman Gold (PWL)

For a defining period in the latter Eighties, there were no better producers in popular music. This double album showcases the songs that defined their era and is accompanied by a standalone DVD. Gold also has some amazing rarities, including Kylie's Japanese smash Turn It Into Love.

Luther Vandross

Greatest Hits (Sony BMG) This is the first time both Vandross's classic Epic and J catalogues have been combined on one definitive tracklisting. Features all the big hits plus duets with Janet Jackson (The Best Things In Life Are Free) and Mariah Carey (Endless Love).

November 14

Eurythmics

The Ultimate Collection (RCA) The UK's most successful duo, the Eurythmics are back together for the first time in five years. Dave Stewart and Annie Lennox got back in the studio in August 2005, following the critically acclaimed and emotive Live 8 performances from Lennox. New material on the album includes

the single I've Got A Life, released on October 31.

Take That Never Forget (RCA) This set offers the first completely revitalised new Take That compilation for eight years, plus remixes and live tracks. Promotion with ex-Take That members will secure major editorial and primetime TV. A DVD will also be released.

November 21

Shakira Oral Fixation (Epic) Shakira's last English-language album, Laundry Service, sold 900,000 copies in the UK. A single is released on November 14 and she will be in the UK for an extensive promotional set-up.

Outkast My Life In Idilewild (Zomba) My Life In Idilewild is yet another eclectic mix of contemporary music presented as only Outkast can, and follows their acclaimed first two albums. Southern genius.

System Of A Down Hypnotize (Columbia) Part two of the rock album of the year is released in November, following the successful June release of Mesmerize, which has now sold more than 170,000 copies. A single of the same name will be released on November 7.

Various The R&B Annual (Sony BMG) This set will round up the biggest R&B hits in a year which has been

dominated by the genre. Including massive hits from 2Pac and Elton John, Mario and Lemar, this is the one-stop R&B gift purchase for Christmas.

Will Young Album (S) Having currently sold more than 2.5m albums with his first two records, Will Young spent the first six months of 2005 touring the UK, including a two-week sell-out arena tour. Earlier in the year he was nominated for three Brit Awards, including best song. The eagerly-awaited third album will not disappoint his legions of fans. Again produced by Steven Lipsone, the first single, Switch It On, is released on November 14. Single two is a ballad rivaling Leave Right Now, called All Time Love, to be released early next year.

November 28

G4 G4 and Friends (Sony BMG) This follow-up to G4's double platinum debut album features duets with Cliff Richard, Robin Gibb, Lesley Garrett, Johnny Mathis and more. The album includes current and classic pop covers and traditional opera and hymns. A massive gift purchase.

Jamie Foxx Unpredictable (Sony BMG) Multi-faceted artist and Oscar winner Jamie Foxx releases his much-anticipated album, featuring Snoop Dogg, Kanye West and 50 Cent.

Already out

Charlotte Church

Tissues and Issues (Sony BMG) Church's first single, Crazy Chick, spent four weeks at the top of the airplay chart, entering the sales chart at number two. Call My Name, released on September 26, is the addictive follow-up single. The third single, Moodswings, will be released on December 12. The album has reached gold status.

Kelly Clarkson Breakaway (RCA)

Clarkson is the biggest-selling female artist in the US this year, with 4m records sold. In the UK, the album is now past 200,000 sales and growing fast. The first single, Since U Been Gone, spent seven weeks in the Top 10 after its top five debut. The second single, Behind These Hazel Eyes, is now set to repeat this success. The third single will be out on December 12, with an eight-day promo trip confirmed.

Editors

The Back Room (Kitchenware) One of the most critically-acclaimed albums of the year continues to pick up fans everywhere. With the album already silver, the third single, Bullets, is released on September 26. The Editors play a sold-out UK tour through September and October and are confirmed as the main support on Franz Ferdinand's UK tour.

Faithless

Forever Faithless - The Greatest Hits (Cheeky) The first greatest hits album from the stadium dance band is the eighth biggest-selling album of the year. It has spent more than 18 weeks in the top five and is set to continue its chart run for the rest of the year. The Live At Alexandra Palace DVD is released on October 3.

Foo Fighters

In Your Honour (RCA) This has been hailed as the definitive Foo Fighters album. Preceded by the single, Best Of

Foo Fighters

You, it entered the album chart at number two, selling more than 160,000 copies in the first week. A third single, Resolve, will be released on November 21.

Jamiroquai

Dynamite (Sony BMG) Jamiroquai's sixth album, Dynamite, has been hailed as a classic. After Feels Just Like It Should and Seven Days in Sunny June, the third single from the album, Don't Give Hate A Chance, will be released on November 14.

Jem

Finally Woken (RCA) Jem's Finally Woken has been a soundtrack to 2005 and contains the massive hits They and Just A Ride. The third single, With I, was a Top 10 airplay single ahead of its September 12 release. A fourth single is scheduled for December. **John Legend** Get Lifted (Columbia) Get Lifted is the platinum debut album from John Legend, hailed as the soul album of the year, featuring Used To Love U and Ordinary People. His next single, So High, released on November 7, is a remix featuring the legendary Lauryn Hill.

Mylo

Destroy Rock & Roll (Breastfed) Re-released on September 12, this album contains the hits plus three new tracks including the mighty Doctor Pressure - a mash-up of Mylo's Drop The Pressure and Miami Sound Machine's Doctor Beat.

Lee Ryan

Bright Side (Bright Side) Lee Ryan has established his solo career with ease. His first single Army Of Lovers was a Top 10 army record, while his album, released in August, has passed gold status. The second single, Turn Your Car Around, released on October 10, has already picked up substantial TV and radio play and is set to give him another major solo hit.

Barbra Streisand

Guilty Too (Columbia) Legendary singer Streisand has at last reunited with producer/songwriter/vocalist Barry Gibb for the eagerly-awaited album Guilty Too. The album comes 25 years after the pair's first multi-platinum album, Guilty, which sold 20m units worldwide. Gibb composed nine stunning new songs for the album, which also includes Letting Go, a song written for Guilty but never previously recorded.

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New albums from Katie Melua and Paul Weller are just two highlights of Pinnacle's packed line-up for autumn

Pinnacle aims for new peaks



Facing a bright future: albums from Katie Melua and Paul Weller lead Pinnacle's autumn schedule

September 26

Betty Lavette
I've Got My Own Hell To Raise (Anti)
After a 44-year career, this new collection features songs written solely by female artists. The legendary Lavette adds a measure of gravitas to the likes of Lucinda Williams' Joy and Dolly Parton's Little Sparrow. An appearance on Later With Jools Holland is already confirmed.

Katie Melua
Piece By Piece (Dramatico)
Following her five-times-platinum debut album, Melua's new album is preceded by the single Nine Million Bicycles which is already on heavy rotation with Terry Wogan and playlisted by Radio Two. The album includes a startling interpretation of The Cure classic Just Like Heaven, featured in the Hollywood film and soundtrack of the same name.

October 3

Bullet For My Valentine
The Poison (Visible Noise)

Bullet For My Valentine's self-titled mini album and incendiary live shows were enough to secure a spot at Download 2005 and be named best British newcomer at this year's Kerrang! Awards. Their full-length debut is

packed with Metallica-esque riffs, the unadorned power of Iron Maiden and compelling Funeral For A Friend-style melodies.

Black Label Society feat. Zakk Wylde
Kings Of Damnation Era 98-04 (Spitfire)

This double CD features tracks spanning Wylde's career available for the first time on CD with a bonus disc of cover versions.

The Fall
Fall Heads Roll (Slogan)
This new album mixes unadorned garage rock, distorted industrial repetition and churning electronics. It is easily Mark E. Smith's co's best album of the past 20 years.

Jo O'Meara
Relentless (Sanctuary)
O'Meara was the unmistakable voice of S Club, a band who raked up album sales of more than 14m, 11 top five UK hits and four UK number ones. Her solo album will be accompanied by TV advertising and the single What Hurts The Most.

Rowetta
Rowetta (Gut)
The last woman standing and popular favourite from 2004's X Factor, Rowetta presents a surprisingly diverse collection of cover songs and three self-penned originals. Produced by Ian Levine, it is sure to cement her popularity in the nation's heart.

October 10

Paul Weller
As Is Now (V2)
Three years on from Illumination and a year since his acclaimed covers album Studio 150, As Is Now is a dazzling return to the form which made Wildwood and Stanley Road central texts to Britpop a decade ago.

Silver Jews
Tanglewood Numbers (Drag City)
It is pretty uncommon for a band that doesn't tour or promote to be so revered, but the Silver Jews have managed to do just that.

This is their first album in more than four years and features Steve Malkmus, Will Oldham and Bob Nastanovich.

October 17

Dangerdoom
The Mouse & The Mask (Lex)
This is the long-awaited collaboration between Danger Mouse (producer of Gorillaz' Demon Days and the infamous Jay-Z/Beatsles mash-up, The Grey Album) and MF Doom (one of the most talented and prolific MCs in the world, having released 15 albums in the past three years).

Chris Rea
Blue Guitars (Jazzee Blue)
Beautifully presented as a deluxe A4 size book, Rea's latest release on his own label combines text, prints of his oil paintings and 11 CDs of brand new original music, as well as a DVD, all of which

Already out

Antony & The Johnsons
I Am A Bird Now (Rough Trade)
Critical acclaim for this album has been deafening and it was silver-certified on

word of mouth. Now promotion ramps up following the Mercury Music Award. The single, You Are My Sister, will coincide with live dates in December.

Arcade Fire
Funeral (Rough Trade)
One of the best live bands in the world today, Arcade Fire stole the show at the Reading Festival and do so wherever they have played. Funeral will certainly be in all the best of 2005 lists.

Art Brut
Bang Bang Rock And Roll (Fierce Panda)
Art Brut are heralded as one of the most unique and entertaining of the new wave of British rock bands. After dazzling crowds at countless festivals they head into the autumn with a single, Good Weekend, and a tour throughout September and October.

Blackalicious
The Craft (Anti)
Following a tour and show-stealing performances at Reading and Leeds, this album has catchy hooks, sing-along choruses and is Chief Xcel and Gift Of Gab's most commercially accessible album to date.

Bloc Party
Silent Alarm (V2)
The Mercury Music-nominated album is repackaged with the addition of the new single Two More Years and a DVD containing superb live footage.

Crazy Frog
Crazy Hits (Gut)
Now certified gold, this hit-packed album contains A&F and loads of other can't-get-them-out-of-your-head megahits including Popcorn, Pump Up The Jam and the Theme From Dallas – in short, all the sounds that have made

Crazy Frog the inescapable icon of 2005.

Daniel O'Donnell
Teenage Dreams (Rosette)

The third in his Jukebox series, O'Donnell has had 22 chart albums and is the only artist

with an album chart entry in each of the past 17 years. This release coincides with a UK tour including shows at Manchester's MEN Arena and two sold-out nights at the Royal Albert Hall.

Echo & The Bunnymen
Siberia (Cooking Vinyl)

The Bunnymen's first album in four years is the crystallisation of everything that has made the band so wonderful during their 26-year career. They follow their summer festival appearances with a tour in October.

The Killers
Hot Fuss (Repackaged) (LK)

Currently the third biggest-selling album the year and one of the

delights of the festival season, The Killers' Hot Fuss is to be reissued in a special edition, including promo videos, a Glastonbury live footage, an extra track and remotes.

Simple Minds
Black & White (Sanctuary)
Reunited with producer Bob Clearmountain, Simple Minds return with an album that recalls their work in the Eighties, when the band at their authentic best.

Featuring the Radio Two-playlisted single Home, the band is already confirmed for Friday Night With Jonathan Ross.

Status Quo
The Quo Ain't Over Yet (Sanctuary)

To celebrate the release of their latest album, The Quo will be on our screens at the end of September in an inspired Coronation Street storyline, rocking all over Les Battersby's wedding.

Brothers, Bonnie 'Prince' Billy on his own name, Will Oldham is one of the most enigmatic and inspired songwriters in the world today. This glorious live album includes 10 classics.

Scheduled for early 2006

Feeder
Greatest Hits (Echo)
Lostprophets
New album (Visible Noise)
Paul Oakenfold
New album (Perfecto)
The Strakes
First Impressions Of Earth (Rough Trade)

Autumn release checklist

September 19

Devendra Banhart - Cripple Crew (XL)
Oceanic - Everyone In Position (Beggars Banquet)

September 26

Betty Lavette - I've Got My Own Hell To Raise (Anti)
Dead 60s - Dead 60s (Delatonic)
Hayley Westenra - Odyssey (UCJ)
Hitt - Dark Light (Sire/Warner)
Jamie Cullum - Catching Tales (UCJ)
Katie Melua - Piece By Piece (Dramatic)

Mew - Mew And The Glass Handled Kites (Epic)
Millinaire - Paradisiac (PIAS)
Sean Paul - The Trinity (Atlantic)
Sheryl Crow - Wildflower (Polydor)
Soulwax - Nite Versions (PIAS)
The Corrs - Home (Atlantic)
Various - War Child: A Day In The Life (Indiependente)

October 3

Paul Anka - Rock Swings (Globe/UMTV)
Black Label Society feat. Zakk Wylde - Kings Of Damnation Era 98-04 (Spitfire)
Bullet For My Valentine - The Poison (Visible Noise)
David Ford - I Sincerely Apologise For All The Trouble I've Caused (Indiependente)
Franz Ferdinand - You Could Have It So Much Better (Domino)
John Cale - Black Acetate (EMI)
John Lydon - The Best of British 21 Notes (Virgin)
Jo O'Meara - Relentless

(Sanctuary)

Leftfield - A Final Hit (Hard Hands)

Ms Dynamite - Judgement Days (Polydor)

New Order - The Singles (London)

Rowetta - Rowetta (Gut)

The Fall - Fall Heads Roll (Slogan)

The Go! Team - Thunder, Lightning, Strike Special Edition (Memphis Industries)

Various - Goal! OST (Big Brother)

October 10

Alicia Keys - MTV Unplugged (J)
Bratz - Bratz Rock Angelz (UMTV)
Bryn Terfel - Simple Gifts (UCJ)
Mariah Carey - The Best Of (Sony BMG)
Paul Weller - As Is Now (V2)
Ricky Martin - Life (Columbia)
Silver Jews - Tanglewood Numbers (Drag City)
Sugababes - Taller In More Ways (Island)

October 17

Aidan Smith - Fancy Barrel (Analogue Catalogue)
Aled Jones - New Horizons (UCJ)
Boards Of Canada - The Campfire Headphase (Warp)
Chris Rea - Blue Guitars (Jazzee Blue)
Dangerdoo - The Mouse & The Mask (Lex)
Depeche Mode - Playing The Angel (Mute)
Feeder - Greatest Hits (Echo)
Lothrop - New album (Visible Noise)

Louis XIV - The Best Little Secrets Are Kept (Atlantic)
Michael Bolton - The Very Best Of (Sony BMG)
Paul Oakenfold - New album (Perfecto)

Rick Astley - Portrait (Sony BMG)

Starsailor - On The Outside (EMI)

The Koolhaas - Sofa Song (Virgin)

The Strokes - First Impressions Of Earth (Rough Trade)

Various - Relaxing...Classic FM (Sony BMG)

We Are Scientists - With Love And Squalor (Virgin)

October 24

Destiny's Child - #1s (Columbia)
Joseph McManners - In Dreams (Sony)
Robbie Williams - Intensive Care (EMI)
Various - Dancing in the Streets: Motown's Greatest Hits (UMTV)
Various - Pop Party 3 (UMTV)
Various - So Amazing: An Allstar Tribute To Luther Vandross (J)

October 31

Andrea Bocelli - Aria: The Opera Album (UCJ)
Audio Bullys - Generation (Source)
Blink 182 - Blink 182 - The Greatest Hits (Island)
Burt Bacharach - At This Time (Sony BMG)
Gemma Hayes - The Roads Don't Love You (Virgin)
Katherine Jenkins - Living For A Dream (UCJ)
Rod Stewart - Thanks For The Memory...The Great American Songbook #4 (J)

Santana - All That I Am (J)
Test Icicles - Album (Domino)
Texas - Red Book (Mercury)
Westlife - Face To Face (S)

October tbc

Prodigy - Their Law: The Singles 1990-2005 (XL)

November 7

50 Cent - Get Rich Or Die Tryin' OST (Polydor)
Alanis Morissette - The Collection (Warner)
Anastacia - Pieces Of A Dream: The Greatest Hits (Epic)
Barry White - White Gold (UMTV)
Bob Marley - Africa Unite: The Singles Collection (Island)
Bonnie "Prince" Billy - Summer In The Southeast (Drag City)
David Bowie - The Platinum Collection (EMI)

Dirk Straits/Mark Knopfler - Private Investigations: The Best Of Dirk Straits And Mark Knopfler (Mercury)
Elvis Presley - History (RCA)
Il Divo - Ancora (Syco)
Kate Bush - Aerial (EMI)
Keane - Strangers DVD (Island)

Kubb - Mother (Mercury)
Luther Vandross - Greatest Hits (Sony BMG)
Savage Garden - Truly, Madly, Completely (Columbia)
Stack, Aitken & Waterman - Gold (PWL)
Gemma Hayes - The Choirboys - The Choirboys (UCJ)
Various - Live 8 DVD (EMI)
Various - Steve Wright's Sunday Love Songs (UMTV)
Various - Clubland 8 (UMTV)

November 14

Eurythmics - The Ultimate Collection (RCA)
Madonna - Confessions On A Dancefloor (Warner)
Take That - Never Forget (RCA)
U2 - Vertigo/2005 - U2 Live From Chicago (Island)

November 21

Enya - Album (WEA)
Fort Minor - The Rising Tied (Machine Shop/Warner)
Korn - Album (Virgin)
Outkast - My Life In Idleness (Zomba)
Shakira - Oral Fixation (Epic)
System Of A Down - Hypnotize (Columbia)
Various - The R&B Annual (Sony BMG)
Will Young - tbc (S)

November 28

Chas And Dave - Greatest Hits (EMI)
The Darkness - Album (Atlantic)
G4 - G4 And Friends (Sony BMG)
Girls Aloud - Album (Polydor)
Jamie Foxx - Unpredictable (Sony BMG)
Slade - The Very Best Of Slade (UMTV)

November tbc

Interpol - Antics (Limited Edition) (Matador)
Peter Kay - The Best Of (EMI)
Son Of Dork - Album (Mercury)

December 5

Diana Krall - Christmas Songs (UCJ)

All release dates are subject to change

Notes



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